



**NORTH AMERICAN
WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION**

"The Voice of Resource Law Enforcement"

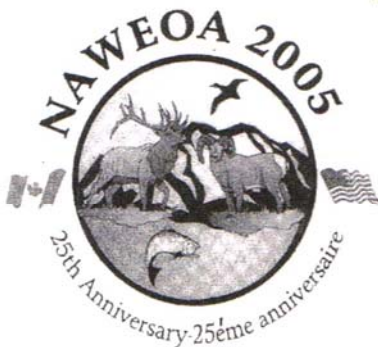


**2005
NAWEOA CONFERENCE
JULY 10 – 17, 2004
PENTICTON, BRITISH COLUMBIA**



British Columbia N.A.W.E.O.A. 2005

Hosted by
British Columbia Conservation Officer Service,
Department of Fisheries & Oceans Canada – Pacific Region
Environment Canada – Canadian Wildlife Service



SPRING 2005
43rd Edition Newsletter

NAWEOA AWARD APPLICATION

Name of Person to Receive Award: _____
(Surname) (First Name)

Address: _____
(Street) (City) (State/Province) (Code)

Jurisdiction: _____

Title: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Award Category (check): Award of Appreciation _____
Award of Valor _____
Lifesaving Award _____
Torch Award _____

Certificate of Award _____
Certificate of Retirement _____
Officer of the Year _____

Criteria: _____

(Please attach pages if necessary)

I need this certificate by (date): _____

Award to be presented at NAWEOA Annual Conference Yes _____ No _____

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

Make additional copies as needed:

Nominating Person:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Title: _____

NAWEOA
POB 22
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648 USA

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

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

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

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

NAWEOA
POB 22
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648 USA

____ Individual Membership (\$20 per year)

____ Affiliated Organization Membership (\$200 per year)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Kurt Bahti



THE TRAIL AHEAD

The last 25 years has been a long and sometimes pretty tough trail for NAWEOA. It has been the persistence and tenacity of a large number of game wardens, men and women, who have brought us to where we are now. It's hard to believe that it was 25 years ago, a quarter of a century, when NAWEOA was first brainstormed from the recognition of a need for such an organization. We are blessed that those founding fathers had the good old-fashioned "stick to it" qualities, and those are the same qualities we see in our membership today. It has been your hard work that has made us a nationally known organization of professionals. We are being recognized world wide now with members in Europe and Australia. We have been approached about the possibility of creating an international organization. It is mind boggling to think how far we have come from the original 16 officers who sat down to discuss the possibilities.

The trail behind us has been full of challenges. There have been steep sections where we had to scramble, washouts we had to plan a new route around and also some flat

easy riding parts. I know we still have more of the same on the trail in front of us. There are projects we need to complete as well as new ones on the horizon. Where do the ideas for new ones come from? The needs of the membership. We are all dedicated to professionalism in our field. NAWEOA provides training opportunity at our summer conferences and by monetary help to agencies and officer associations who conduct specialized training. If you have any training that would be beneficial to wildlife officers and you need some seed money to get started, talk to your jurisdictional representative for help.

We have just passed another anniversary of an event that we will never forget. In 1981 Claude Dallas murdered two Idaho Wardens, Bill Pogue and Conley Elms. Dallas was just released after 22 years in prison. Twenty-two years for taking the life of two men who had dedicated their lives to wildlife and their families. We will never forget the manhunt, trial, escape and re-incarceration of Dallas. Nor will we forget how some revered the psychopath and supported him during his lawless career. Pogue and Elms will be remembered for being top officers who gave their all for their profession. They will be remembered in the Memorial Garden of the North American Game Warden Museum for all to see. We will all wonder where Dallas will go and if he'll return to his old ways. We also know that Dallas is not one of a kind. There are others out there like him. We need to remember from the terrible lesson of 1981 and be hyper-observant when we are doing our jobs. Train like your life depends on it, because it does.

Our profession has evolved over time from the work being done in rural and very remote areas of North America in years past.

Now it is even in dense urban areas with nuisance wildlife calls, environmental crimes and a myriad of other calls that demand our attention. NAWEOA will evolve with the times. We will do that with your help by telling us what you need to do your job better and safer. Teddy Roosevelt said he wanted "Game Protectors" who had "courage, resolution and hardihood who can camp out in the summer or winter; who can go on snowshoes if necessary; who can go through the woods day or night without regard to trails." We need to add to those qualifications; navigating our biggest cities (where I find it more difficult to navigate), our marine and fresh waterways, our highways, knowledge of watercraft and off road vehicles along with all the other lands and equipment we deal with everyday. We now have to be watchful for drug growers/traffickers and felons in the remote wilderness and on the roads and trails we travel. We must be ever vigilant. New technology helps us but knowledge gained through training and experience will make sure we get to the end of our careers in one piece. Train like your family depends on it, because they do.

My two year term is close to an end. A new President will be elected at the summer conference in July. I wish the new President all the luck and support from the members. I will be around for the next two years as Past President. I want to thank everyone for the honor of serving you as President. Especially, I want to thank my fellow board members, including our newsletter editor and webmaster, as well as the museum board members and the IGW team. They have all done an incredible job in their positions but it truly seems like it was more of a family than a board. It has been one heck of a ride. Be careful out there. You are the best of the best.

Game Warden Museum Proposal to NAWEOA Board

At our winter executive meeting in North Carolina, a proposal was put forth by Dave Grant, Vice President of the Game Warden Museum Board. The proposal was a request to have NAWEOA fund the educational and interpretative room at the new Museum building. The proposal stated that for a \$50,000 commitment the room would be named the NAWEOA Room.

NAWEOA currently has 3 years left on its original commitment to the Museum building fund. That commitment amounts to \$5000 US and \$5000 Canadian annually with an additional \$1,000 US added towards operating funds. When this commitment is fulfilled NAWEOA members will have donated \$100,000 over 10 years to the building of the Game Warden Museum.

As this additional funding proposal would be another major contribution by NAWEOA, the board has advised the Museum that they will take this proposal under advisement. One of the things that the board will be looking at is the income from our next conference. Once those figures are known, NAWEOA will be in a better position to accurately assess the amount and our ability to meet a new commitment. We want to assure our members that the executive is committed to supporting the Game Warden Museum, but we need to do so in a prudent manner, one that maintains NAWEOA's flexibility to meet the new challenges of the future.

Kurt Bahti, President

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.

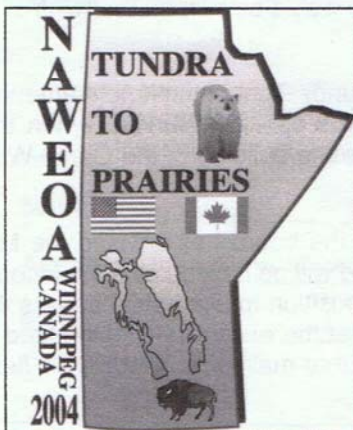
Certificate of Appreciation

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 2004 NAWEOA patch. Only 500 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, 2002, 2003 and 2004 patches are \$7.00 US each.

SPECIAL!!

While supplies last – Buy 1 each of 1996 through 2004 for \$35.00 US!!
Prices include shipping and handling. Make check payable to and send order to:

WCO George A. Wilcox
POB 480
Millville, PA 17846

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Doug Forsdick

NAWEOA would like to extend a thank you to the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries, Marine Patrol for hosting the 2005 NAWEOA Winter Meeting. Board members attended the winter meeting at the North Carolina Justice Academy in Salemburg in March of 2005. Colonel Joe Lynch and several other Marine Patrol officers went above and beyond the call of duty to host the meeting. Many of the officers within the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries attended the meeting, which was a tremendous opportunity for the board to interact with local officers. As a result of the assistance provided by the Marine Patrol, NAWEOA will provide their officers with a NAWEOA membership for the coming year.

Board members discussed an array of issues including yearly budget, awards, a museum update and conference reports past and future. During the winter meeting on Thursday March 24, 2005 two NAWEOA Lifesaving awards were presented. Officer Neil Kendrick of the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries, Marine Patrol was recognized for his actions of December 24, 2004 related to the initiation and follow up of a search for a young man who had fallen in a local river. Officer Patrick Browne of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Division of Law Enforcement received his award his actions related to the resuscitation of an individual in distress.

The state of North Carolina has two primary natural resource law enforcement agencies that are charged with enforcing the natural resource laws in the state. These agencies include North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Division of Law Enforcement and the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries, Marine Patrol.

CALL FOR ELECTION

This summer at the NAWEOA conference in Penticton elections will be held for positions on the executive board. A number of positions are open for a two year term, although the Regional Directors can serve two terms in that position. The positions to be elected this year are:

President *	(must be from Canada)
Vice President *	(must be from the United States)
Region 4 Director	(western United States)
Region 5 Director	(central United States)
Region 6 Director	(southeast United States)
Region 7 Director	(northeast United States)

(* A candidate for the position of President or Vice-President must be either a current or past executive board member.)

A candidate for Regional Director must be a regular member in good standing residing in that Region, or in the case of the Federal Agencies, they may run in the Region to which the Federal agency has been assigned NAWEOA jurisdiction (e.g. United States Fish and Wildlife Service is assigned to Region 6, National Marine Fisheries is assigned to Region 7, etc.). For a list of duties associated with these positions, please contact me for more information.

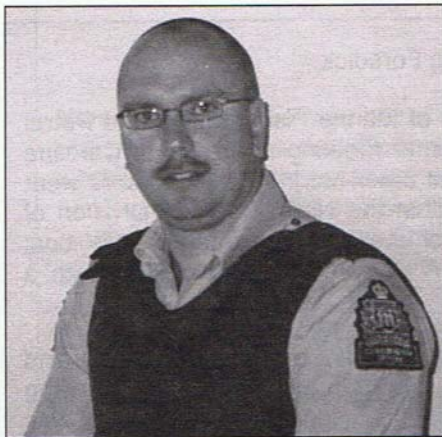
I will accept nominations from now until the nominations close, likely July 14, 2005 at the conference. You can nominate persons at the conference or send them to me before the conference. Persons nominated need not be present in Penticton, but candidate speeches will be held during a NAWEOA business session. If the candidate is not present an alternate may deliver their speech. In addition, all nominations submitted for election must be seconded.

The elections will be held July 15-16 at the conference with all regular members at the conference eligible to vote. The winners will be announced at the banquet on Saturday night.

We require a photograph of all nominees to post on a bulletin board at the conference. You can send me a digital photo or a regular photo by mail.

If you have any questions whatsoever or want to submit a nomination, please contact me at 306-628-3900 or e-mail me at: wrishko.family@sasktel.net. Thank you.

Kerry Wrishko, NAWEOA Past President



Region 1 Report by Kevin Schoepp

Greetings from Region 1. It has been a very busy year on the NAWEOA Board. Whether it's reviewing policy, approving applications or liaising with the upcoming conference committee, the emails never end. It is a privilege though to serve as Region 1 Director and I must thank the Jurisdictional Representatives from Region 1 for their support.

I wouldn't feel right if I didn't pass on condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of the four fallen RCMP officers from Alberta. The last few weeks have been a difficult time for law enforcement in our country, in particular the RCMP. I'm also mindful that for our brother officers in Alberta, be it the RCMP, municipal police or our Fish and Wildlife colleagues, it is especially difficult as this tragedy has hit so close to home. May law enforcement on our continent never see such a devastating loss again.

I also want to pass along my congratulations to a number of officers from Region 1 that have recently retired; all the best to BC Conservation Officers Heinz Leuenberger, Roy Slavens and Al Charbonneau and to Parks Canada Wardens Scott Ward and Dan Couchie. On behalf of NAWEOA and all Fish and Wildlife Officers across North America please accept a heartfelt thank you for your many years of service and for your dedication our natural resources.

Brian Petrar, Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) – Saskatchewan reports from the Prairie and Northern Region that the fall of 2004 was a busy time for all CWS staff, especially in the Prairies. Waterfowl season brings about 10,000 non-resident hunters and an equal number of resident hunters to Saskatchewan for the best waterfowl hunting in the world. Along with the great hunting opportunities comes the temptation to some unethical individuals to break the law.

Federal officers worked closely with provincial conservation officers in Saskatchewan and Alberta as well as our counterparts with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in conducting both hunter inspections in the field as well as border and airport checks for hunters heading home. A violation of note was the discovery of

over 230 upland game birds taken by 3 non-resident hunters at a border check that also revealed 43 other violations over a two day period.

The diversity of items that are traded and transported in and out of Canada regularly is amazing! The last few months has had our officers inspecting live orchids from the continental U.S. and Hawaii, wildlife trophies from Africa, commercial tropical wood shipments from Central America, live tropical fish, reptile leather products, butterflies, spiders, seashells, ivory and cacti wood from the U.S.

One of our officers from Alberta was part of the Canadian delegation that attended the fall 2004 meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties in Bangkok, Thailand. He provided enforcement expertise and advice to the group of mostly scientific representatives.

One case of note that was concluded last fall was the conviction of 4 hunters from North Carolina who were fined a total of \$27,000 on 9 counts under the Saskatchewan Wildlife Act and the Migratory Birds Convention Act. They had over \$10K of hunting gear forfeited and donated \$4K to the federal Environmental Damages Fund to be used by SASKTIP. The charges were the result of a joint Canada/Saskatchewan/U.S. investigation targeting illegal hunting and guiding activities in northeastern Saskatchewan.

Parks Canada Warden, John Niddrie reports on two significant wildlife poaching cases this past season. A trophy bighorn ram was poached in Banff Park. The case is still under investigation and no one has yet been charged. In Jasper a large trophy elk was poached. In this incident the suspect was apprehended at the scene and charged under the National Parks Act. The case will go to trial this spring.

The warden service is still under review; jobs and priorities continue to change, with fewer resources for enforcement. There is wide spread concern over a new uniform and flash that has recently been approved by head office, yet not shared with the warden staff that will be wearing it. Prototypes will be field tested this spring.

Rich Elson, President of the Society of Pacific Region Fishery Officers, advises of doom and gloom on the DFO front. Recently we heard from our senior managers about the most extensive cuts to the Fishery Officer ranks in history. Details are sketchy but it appears that the Prairies, Territories and Ontario will all lose up to 50 Fishery Officers. A handful may remain at the end of the cuts, which are expected to take place over three years. The impact on the Pacific Region (BC and the Yukon) is yet to be clarified but perhaps up to 24 officers will be affected. The creation of a new position titled "Habitat Stewardship and Monitoring Officer" would offset some of the losses. Let's hope that prior to implementation we can collectively bring some sense to the forefront and have the aggressive program slowed, halted or reversed. If you don't think this is right perhaps a call or letter to your MP would be in order. More info on the overall plan is available at

<http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca>. For those left standing after all this, we will persevere as foot soldiers in the war against fish and fish habitat destruction!

The Yukon Conservation Officers Association President Kirby Meister reports that the winter has been normal for us. Our agency has teamed up with Parks Canada to host a Bear Conference in Whitehorse in April 2005. Top bear experts from the western part of the continent were on hand.

Steve Carlson, President of the Alberta Game Warden Association, and his crew are busy promoting the first ever Alberta Game Warden Association 2005 Calendar as a fundraiser to help raise funds for their "Memorial Fund". They have also offered to donate \$3 to NAWEOA for each calendar sold via a NAWEOA contact. For more information check out the advertisement on the NAWEOA website at www.naweo.org or contact Alberta Fish and Wildlife Officer Kyle Juneau directly at kyle.juneau@gov.ab.ca.

Other news from Alberta includes the report that as the result of a seven year investigation Alberta Wildlife officials have cracked a ring of alleged poachers whose reach might have stretched into Ontario and Washington State. Six Albertans face more than 40 charges as a result of two undercover operations that began seven years ago. The men from central and southern Alberta are accused of illegally selling eagle feathers and meat from deer, elk and moose. Wildlife officials executed four search warrants at homes and businesses, seizing a truck and animal parts last week. Dave Ealey, a spokesman for Alberta Sustainable Resources, said investigators are sorting through how much meat and feathers were trafficked. More suspects in Alberta, Ontario and Washington State are being interviewed and further charges are expected. "This is an extensive network we're dealing with here," Mr. Ealey said. All six face trafficking charges under the Wildlife Act.

Steve Dobko the new President of the Saskatchewan Association of Conservation Officers has been extremely busy in response to one of the most stressful years in history for officers in the department. 2004 began with the budget announcement that eliminated 18 officer positions after losing 6 positions in 2003. To compound things the department went through a reorganization that saw movement of 8 officer positions from the field level to various program branches. Several officers faced job loss and bumps into other government agencies, involuntary transfers and office closures. When you add it all up in the last two years we have lost 32 officer positions from the field. Morale is low especially with the seasonal officers who see this change as further delays in proceeding with their careers. It seems like we consistently train good young officers and after a few seasons watch them head to other agencies such as city police or RCMP. Some of the announced changes were eventually reversed due to a huge public outcry. Public support for conservation officers has been good, most members of the

officers has been good, most members of the public feel that more officers are needed in the field.

On the brighter side of things the provincial officers association (SACO) is currently in the final stages of signing a MOU with HOFNOD ("Hooked on Fishing not on Drugs"). Most U.S. readers will be familiar with the organization. SACO will be the first Canadian organization to introduce this program into Canada.

We have also been busy working towards the implementation of an association lawyer who would assist members with additional legal support in civil litigation, use of force incidents, etc.

Our Vice President Doug Forsdick provides us with the following update from the British Columbia Conservation Officer Service (BCCOS). The BCCOS has announced that they will be hiring 15 seasonal Conservation Officers throughout the province. The hiring will occur in the next month and the officers will up and running by June. The BCCOS sent out representation to the memorial service for the four RCMP officers murdered in Mayerthorpe.

Charles Eustace Estlin, retired Chief Conservation Officer, passed away on December 4, 2004. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Esmee, and daughters Sally and Judy and their families. Charlie was born in 1918 and began his career with the province in 1942 as a Provincial Police Constable. After postings to New Westminster, Victoria and Burnaby, he joined the Game Department on August 14, 1950 the day before it was announced that the Provincial Police were disbanded. Charlie was the Game Warden in Courtenay until 1956 when he was promoted to Inspector of "B" Division, headquartered in Nelson. It was here that Charlie realized a boyhood dream and learned to fly. He obtained his own Piper Super-Cruiser and flew around his Division to conduct his duties.

In 1962 he was promoted to Victoria to assume the position of the first Chief Conservation Officer. Charlie continued to fly and often flew enforcement patrols and game counts with district Conservation Officers and biologists. Although his title changed to Chief Protection Officer and then Chief of Enforcement and the position evolved from one of line authority to an administrative staff position, Charlie's dedication to service and to his fellow CO's never faltered. Biologists ran the Branch, often to the detriment of the working Conservation Officer, but Charlie worked tirelessly to better the lot of his fellow Conservation Officers.

Charlie was a true gentleman and a dedicated enforcement officer. He retired in 1978 with 35 years of service. In retirement he gave up flying and took up boating in its place. Charlie Estlin is now gone in body, but will remain in spirit, as his legacy continues to this day. Thank you Charlie for your service to the people of British Columbia and to your fellow Conservation Officers. We will miss you. (Thanks to Gerry Lister for this tribute.)

Senior Conservation Officer Steve Wasylik recently presented Lt. Colonel Ken Jyrkkanen, Commanding Officer of the Rocky Mountain Rangers (RMR) in Kamloops with a mounted stone sheep in appreciation of the support the members of the RMR have given the Conservation Officer Service. The RMR allows the CO's to use its J.R. Vicars Armory for self defence training for conservation officers from all over the province. The sheep was seized in the early 1990's and was illegally harvested near Dease Lake. The symbol on the RMR crests and hat badges displays a Rocky Mountain Big Horn sheep and the addition of the stone sheep to the Vicar's armory completes the RMR's collection of the four sheep species found in BC.

Last but certainly not least, I know that Rick Hoar, Chairman for the 2005 NAWEOA Conference would remind us all to get online at www.naweo2005.com and register for this year's conference. I know that the conference planning committee (which includes members from the Conservation Officer Service of British Columbia, Environment Canada - Canadian Wildlife Service, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada - Pacific Region, the Society of BC Conservation Officers and the Society of Pacific Region Fishery Officers) has been working extremely hard and is excited about hosting and welcoming us all to this years conference. See you there!

NAWEOA Retirement Certificates

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

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and your Regional Rep.

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NAWEOA EXECUTIVE

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Webmaster	Robin Brandenburg	352 Hwy. M, Steelville, MO 65565	webmaster@naweo2005.org			



Region 2 Report by Earl Simmons

Hello to everyone, I hope this report finds everyone in good health and spirits. At the time of writing this report we are preparing for the winter executive meeting in North Carolina. I am looking forward to sitting down with the rest of the NAWEOA Board to work on many issues that will shape the direction of your association. Al Meyers, 2004 Manitoba Conference Chair, reports a profit of 128K, which is outstanding and indicative of the hard work by Manitoba.

With the help of Dan Shewchuck I would like to report that the Nunavut Wildlife Officer Association has joined NAWEOA. This is great and is one more jurisdiction towards getting every one on board across North America. As well they are donating a seized Polar Bear hide to the museum. Thank you to Officer Darin Conroy for your help.

Russell Brandon was just elected as the new president of the thirty-five member Nunavut Officer Association, taking over from outgoing President, Seeglook Akeagok. Russell reported that March 2005 was a very exciting month for the newly formed Department of Environment within the Government of Nunavut. Wildlife Officers from all regions of the 2.1 million square kilometre (810,000 square miles) territory arrived in Iqaluit, Nunavut's capital, to attend the annual Wildlife Officers Conference. The Nunavut Wildlife Officers Association (NWOA) held their annual meeting during the conference. Elections were held and a new president, secretary, and representatives from the three regions were appointed. The Association was very pleased to receive a print by Bill Peters from the North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association. The print will be framed and auctioned at a fund raising function. NWOA, in turn, has donated a Polar Bear hide to the Game Warden Museum. The Association also attended a memorial for the four fallen RCMP Officers posted in Alberta.

Nunavut has a new "made in Nunavut" Wildlife Act that respects the principles, objectives, and goals described in the Nunavut Land Claim Agreement, and intended to sup-

port a long-term, sustainable, renewable resource economy consistent with the principles of conservation and Inuit Qaujimajatuqngit (IQ). Within the context of the Wildlife Act, IQ means traditional values, knowledge, behaviour, perceptions, and expectations of the Inuit. The guiding principals and concepts of IQ are defined within the Act and proper interpretation is fundamental to the application of the Act. Under the new Act, Nunavut Wildlife Officers will now be called Conservation Officers and the newly issued uniforms reflect the new department name as well as the title.

The Minister of Environment and the Assistant Deputy Minister recognised the opportunity to meet and greet the Nunavut Wildlife Officers. The Minister reaffirmed his support and understanding of the large role that these officers fill as front line representatives of the GN in the new territory of Nunavut. The Minister went on to say that he is committed to officer education and training, solving infrastructure problems, and to address the myriad of budgeting and capital equipment concerns expressed by the Officers.

The Minister was happy to announce that he has completed his initiative to staff all communities with at least one officer and is committed to having multiple staff in each station. This is reflected in the department's new officer training program. Three officer trainees will come on board this year. The department now has the largest complement of staff since 1999.

Bruce and Lydia Ward who are the Jurisdictional Representatives for Ontario report that their milder winter is winding down and there have been a few updates to relate. Hunters will enjoy expanded opportunities this spring when Ontario's wild turkey season extends from a half hour before sunrise to a half hour after sunset (instead of ending at noon as in previous years). The walleye and northern pike fishing regulations previously covering northwestern Ontario have been expanded to northeastern Ontario fishing divisions as well, thereby doing away with the slot size regulations in the northeast (except for Lake Temagami) so check before you wet a line.

Regrettably we learned that Ontario is going the next step (CO's ceased delivering hunter safety exams in 1998) and removing the practical component from privatized Provincial Hunter Safety Examinations.

The move towards CO's enforcing the Canada Shipping Act and sections of the Liquor Licence Act during the normal course of our duties are still on track. Specialized internal marine training sessions are anticipated for field officers to come up to speed with the required licensing of persons operating vessels.

Head office enforcement branch now has a Promotions and Marketing position and Christine Martin (wife of former NAWEOA president Gary Martin) is in the position.

Officers are again anxious as our Collective Agreement winds down and our Union

continues to negotiate with our employer this spring. Being on strike twice in one career is more than enough for anyone.

Richard Labossiere, Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) Manitoba tells us that he and Trevor Wyatt were busy this past fall on migratory bird patrols in the province and they conducted two border blitzes at Emerson in October - one on the Canadian side and one on the U.S. side. These resulted in numerous charges under the MBCA and a few under WAPPRIITA. Total fines on the Canadian side for the two day blitz was over \$4,000 and numerous wildlife products were forfeited to the crown.

Richard has most recently been involved in the "Space For Habitat" program, which uses satellite imagery to assist in the protection of remote wildlife habitat on Federally Protected Areas in Canada.

Gerry Brunet of Ontario CWS reports that In January 2005 members of the Public Service Union of Canada (PSAC) including CWS Wildlife Officers voted to accept a Treasury Board offer to increase wages approximately 10 percent over a 4 year period.

In February 2005 the CWS - HQ Intelligence Section hosted a one week Cyber Crimes Course for Environment Canada Wildlife and Pollution Officers at the Canadian Police College in Ottawa, Ontario. Also in attendance were a small contingent of provincial resource officers from Alberta and Prince Edward Island. The course instructors were two retired Edmonton Police Officers recognized as cyber crime experts. Parties interested in this type of training can contact Graham Ridley, Chief of National Intelligence for CWS at graham.ridley@ec.gc.ca

On March 26, 2004 Mr. Choo-Sin (William) Chang, age 64, a resident of Richmond Hill, Ontario, pled guilty to one charge of unlawfully possessing black bear gall bladders at his place of business in Toronto, and one charge of unlawfully exporting black bear gall bladders from Canada to the United States. He was fined \$32,000 plus a mandatory victim surcharge of \$8,000.

The charges stemmed from an investigation initiated by Quebec Conservation Officers, and involving CWS Wildlife Officers in Quebec and Ontario, and Ontario MNR Conservation Officers. In November 2002, over 200 federal and provincial officers executed search warrants at over 60 locations in Ontario and Quebec including Chang's place of business. These operations effectively dismantled a large bear gall bladder poaching and trafficking network operating from Quebec.

Julie Horvarth, National Capital Commission (NCC), advises that in 2003 four individuals were found in possession of a total of 99 lbs. of wild leeks in Gatineau Park. Wild leeks are listed as 'vulnerable' under the Quebec threatened and vulnerable species act. Recently one of the individuals was found guilty and fined \$2,800.

Two NCC Conservation Officers recently finished a new navigational methodology for aerial beaver inventories. It is based on the combination of geometric and computer tools and includes the use of a GPS (Global Positioning System) receiver connected to a portable computer. It also uses navigation software interrelated with digital maps in order to navigate in real time.

Due to budget cuts in our section, the NCC will not be sending a representative to the annual conference this summer in Penticton.

Peter Jowett who is the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Jurisdictional Representative for Central and Arctic regions will be transferring to Alberta in the spring. Peter's replacement as the JR will be Ray Thibadeau. Thank you Peter for all your help and I look forward to working with Ray. Unfortunately Peter's last report has some very bad news about huge cuts on

the prairies to DFO. This is very unfortunate especially most of these jobs were just created.

Peter explains that DFO announced recently several changes that reflect the new federal budget. A most dire one for fishery officers is that there will no longer be officers located in the prairies and Ontario. Forty new Stewardship and Monitoring officers will do parts of their job. They will reduce the need for traditional enforcement by being more proactive in informing people of the law. What that means to us is **YOU'RE FIRED!**

Over the next 3 years there are to be 80 officers. Of the 56 officers in our region 50 will be cut, the remainder will come from the coasts. This is sad indeed for us but what is even more tragic is the blatant disregard this Government has for resource protection.

Anyone in need of highly trained skilled officers?

In some courts we are seeing smaller fines being levied. DFO is considering

remediation of damaged habitat as the guilty party's responsibility and requesting a large fine for deterrence. Unfortunately some courts are considering the often very expensive cost of remediation as being punitive enough.

Rick Cline will be stepping down as President and JR for the Manitoba Officer Association at the annual convention in April, in Thompson.

A big thank you Rick for all your work and in hosting NAWEOA 2004. Rick reports that officers are feeling the extra pressure and workload as a result of 10 officer positions cut from an already lean force of fewer than 130 officers. These officers not only enforce fish and wildlife laws but also are responsible for all forestry, forest fire suppression, park operations, staff supervision and land management. Basically if it happens on the Manitoba landscape, NROs look after it.

NAWEOA 2006: A UNIQUE EVENT

In 2006, Québec will host the 25th annual conference of the North American Wildlife Enforcement Officer Association (NAWEOA), the meeting of those individuals responsible for wildlife enforcement in North America. In order to allow for everyone to reap the maximum benefit from this experience, the event will be offered in French and English.

From July 17 to 23, several hundred participants from Canada, the United States and some European countries will come together under the theme *bonjour Québec...naturellement*. (Hello Québec...Naturally). This theme combines the charm of a unique city in North America with the calm of a vacation resort and the wonderful parks which surround it.

In collaboration with its partners, l'Association des agents de protection de la faune du Québec (AAPFQ) (Quebec Wildlife Conservation Officer Association) is currently preparing a program linking three aspects of the work of Wildlife Conservation Officers: protection, education and prevention. Those attending will have the opportunity to exchange ideas on the practical considerations of the profession, to launch new projects, to share different views, to work together to find solutions to real-life problems and finally, to enhance the profile of the profession. The program will also include several social, sports, cultural, family activities, etc.

Come join us at this unique event!



Bonjour Québec...
naturellement
Naturally

NAWEOA 2006



Region 3 Report by Bob Penton

Well, is it that time of year again, where does the time go. I hope everyone is doing well, I would like to thank the North Carolina Marine Patrol and their officers for their hospitality at the winter meeting, great group of Officers and not bad cooks either, welcome aboard.

We have a report from **Colin Cheater in Newfoundland & Labrador** which is very positive for their Officers. Colin says "Hi!" from the Snowy Rock, trust everyone had a good winter and spring so far. This past summer the provincial government implemented a very successful Anti-Poaching campaign targeting the inland trout and salmon rivers in our province. This is a Federal responsibility; however, due to pressure from user groups within the province and the apparent lack of enforcement effort from the federal government, our Premier got personally involved and set aside funding to conduct the program. The province appointed 20 Conservation Officers to patrol rivers and conduct undercover operations. The program resulted in 180 charges being laid and ATV's, boats, motors, nets and vehicles were seized. Some of these cases have all ready gone before the courts and fines of \$5,000 and up have been imposed. Already there has been a commitment to go ahead with this program again this year.

Vehicles that are 10 years old and older or have too many miles on them to count will be replaced this year, needless to say any new equipment is a welcome sight. On a very positive note Conservation Officers in Newfoundland & Labrador will be carrying sidearms. This was announced by our Minister just days after the provincial budget was announced. Information presented to the minister on assault statistics and job reality shocked him and helped him make the right decision.

Bob Yorke from New Brunswick wanted to thank the Manitoba officers for the time they showed the officers from New Brunswick at last years Conference.

As of September 2004 all Game Wardens in the province became Conservation Officers. This move was a long time coming and

the beginning of more changes to come. The Department is looking to specialize the enforcement in the province. As it is now officers could be doing forest management today and enforcement tomorrow. The results of studies should be completed in September 2005.

On April 9, 2005 will be our Annual Meeting. This meeting will be held in the Miramichi and a new executive will be elected.. Four Officers will be heading to BC to the Conference after having their names drawn. These lucky officers will be sponsored by the department.

Dougald MacNeil sends greeting from **Nova Scotia** and as in many jurisdictions, off-highway vehicles have presented a challenge to Nova Scotians. Unnecessary deaths, injuries and property damages as a result of off-highway vehicle use and abuse dictated that something must be done. In April of 2003 the Provincial Voluntary Planning Board accepted a request from the government to conduct a review of off highway vehicle use in Nova Scotia.

The review covered public and user safety, liability insurance, environmental damage, unauthorized use of private and public lands and enforcement systems. A 12 member panel set out to study the issues over the following months. The task force chair, David Bellefontaine, said, "The panel reflects the range of interests affected by off highway vehicle use," and he spoke highly of the diversity and competency of the group. A public awareness and consultation process was initiated, with stakeholder meetings held throughout the province.

In the recommendations the Department of Natural Resources was to be the lead agency for the enforcement task force. The task force also recommended that the government establish a permanent integrated enforcement task force, solely dedicated to the policing of off-highway vehicle activity. Subcommittees are currently reviewing the 39 recommendations in the advance of going to Cabinet. When all these plans will become reality is not certain, but hopefully we will have a positive decision s made as soon as possible. On another note, CEOANS celebrated its 20th anniversary in Dartmouth on February 11-12 with a terrific convention. Some serious business, but lots of smiles, comradery, and laughter. Great to see Casey, Art and Hugie, always in the game. DNR Officers will be driving new look vehicles within the next few weeks.

Quebec COs and their partners are very busy preparing to host NAWEOA members from across the continent in 2006. Anybody who has worked on a conference knows that Claude, Michel and all their colleagues are in for a busy year. And we are in for some great Québecois hospitality.

As well Michel Morin sends us information about 2 major investigations that wrapped up late in 2004. In Operation White Fox in the Abitibi - Temiscaming region over 175 charges have been laid for offenses ranging from hunting moose and caribou during the

closed season, to selling meat from game animals and black bear parts.

In Operation Silk conducted along the north shore of the St. Lawrence River more than 40 suspects are facing charges of illegal taking and selling of salmon and trout, hunting moose during the closed season and commercializing wild game. Stay tuned for the results!

Advertisers Wanted for International Game Warden!

Do you know of a company or organization that might be interested in advertising in NAWEOA's magazine **International Game Warden?**

If so, why not pass on their name and contact information, or better yet, approach them yourself. Their ad will reach Conservation Officers all across the continent.

**For more information contact
Doug Silversides,
email
advertising@igwmagazine.com**

A Montana game warden came upon a coyote caught in a trap. He returned to his office and called an Alberta game warden and told him one of his coyotes was caught in a trap.

"How do you know it's one of our coyotes?" asked the Alberta game warden.

"Well," replied the Montana game warden, "he's already chewed off three of his legs and he's still trapped!"

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.naweo.org/private.

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

International Trade of Antlers by Gerry Brunet, Past Region 2 Director

Attendees at the NAWEOA Annual Conference in Winnipeg were treated to a presentation titled '*International Trade of Antlers*' on Thursday, July 22, 2004 given by Fred Herbel, a Wildlife Investigator for the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGF).

Fred is stationed in Jackson, Wyoming. Fred attended the University of Wyoming and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Wildlife Management and is certified as a Wyoming Peace Officer. Fred has been employed as an enforcement officer for 30 years with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, 19 years of that as a Wildlife Investigator. Prior to becoming an investigator Fred was a Game Warden stationed in Jackson and has 25 years experience in dealing with the wildlife trade.

Fred's presentation provided an overview on the antler trade within the state of Wyoming and profiled the history of the wildlife trade and game laws in that state. After presenting the history, he discussed modern game laws within the state and concentrated on the trade of elk antlers from the Jackson herd, a herd unit of 13,500 elk. He discussed today's legal auctions, the buyers and sellers, the prices, the volumes of items sold, and some of the uses for the antlers.

Jackson Hole is surrounded by five different mountain ranges and lies adjacent to Yellowstone and Teton National Parks. The valley floor is approximately 30 miles long and 20 miles wide and only 3 % of the area is private, the balance is Federal land. The National Elk Refuge (1912) managed by the USFWS is located in the area. Prior to 1966 Refuge personnel picked shed antlers. Since 1966 a special use permit has been issued to Boy Scouts to pick up the antlers for legal auction. In 1968, the price obtained for antlers was less than \$1.00/lb. Wyoming has 29 years of auction records showing an average price today of \$7.71/lb. with a high of \$14.07 in 1989 and a low of \$1.65 in 1974. The potential average number of antlers collected is 2,298 and the average weight of antlers collected from the Refuge is 10,570 lb.

All winter range areas adjacent to the town of Jackson and the Refuge are closed to human activity during the winter months so collection of antlers and all other activities are prohibited during that time. The Refuge opens annually on May 1st and the Boy Scout Auction (BSA) is held on the 3rd Saturday in May. While early auctions only lasted one day and offered only shed antlers picked up by the Boy Scouts, the event has evolved into a weeklong event taking place at Teton Village the week before the 3rd Saturday of May. Today there are numerous private parties buying and selling antlers throughout the weeklong event. All antlers must be tagged as per guidelines set by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

Some interesting statistics about the auctions included:

2004 Boy Scout Auction (BSA)

- Bidders from 32 Different States
- 175 Registered Bidders
- 52 Actual Buyers at the Boy Scout Auction
- Total Gross Sales \$64,399.25

2003 & 2004 Summary of Tags

- 2004 & 2003 WGF game tagged items for 60 different individuals
- 2004 WGF issued 502 tags, not including Boy Scout antlers
- 2003 WGF issued 360 tags.



Wyoming Game and Fish (WGF) maintain the following data: records of all items tagged, specific identifiers of each individual (DOB, SOC), names from mailing lists held by organizers (WGF, BSA and Rotary Club), and information from game tag affidavits.

Any officer having a file linked to the antler trade that may be associated with the Wyoming auctions is encouraged to contact Wildlife Investigator Herbel. Fred is very knowledgeable regarding the history of the antler trade in Wyoming and he has an extensive collection of information and intelligence about the buyers and sellers frequenting auctions hosted in Wyoming. His presentation profiled buyers and sellers from various states including Idaho, Montana, Colorado, Utah, Missouri, Indiana, Pennsylvania and Oregon, to name a few. This intelligence may assist officers from other jurisdictions with future 'antler trade' investigations. In such cases, I would encourage you to contact Investigator Herbel at Wyoming Game and Fish, P.O. Box 67, Jackson, WY 83001.

I would like to thank the Manitoba organizing committee for inviting Mr. Herbel to attend the conference, and thank Fred for an informative presentation on the *Trade of Antlers* in the state of Wyoming.



Region 4 Report by Lorraine Doyle

Arizona - Rob Young reports that Arizona Game Ranger Lodge, FOP # 71, recently attempted to seek legislation that would grant all law enforcement officers in the Arizona Game and Fish Department an across the board raise of between 15%-18%. The Department at the same time requested FOP's support for legislation seeking fee increases for hunting, fishing and hunt permits. Chances were slim to none that both bills would pass so the Game Rangers decided to lend their support for the fee increases and scrap their bill. If successful, the "fee increase" bill will provide revenue for salary increases for many more Department employees than just the officers. The decision to forgo the "officers only" plan was not an easy one to make because the FOP sponsored bill had gathered much early support from some prominent state legislators and had a decent chance of succeeding. This important legislation is but another example of the Arizona Game Rangers working in concert with their Department for the betterment of all employees.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department continues to struggle to fill job openings for their Wildlife Manager (Game Warden) positions. The past year has been one of much transition with many retirements and transfers from this position. Currently 6 cadets are in training at the Police Academy, and it was a struggle to get them on board. This is a continual problem with tough, stringent, requirements from AZ POST to even get in the door. By early summer there will be 6-8 more slots to fill, and the Department continues to struggle finding acceptable candidates for these jobs.

California - Lorraine Doyle: Lots of changes in California in the last year. We

finally have gone to straight line supervision to our chief in Sacramento. Of course this could change back if the administration changes. With straight line we now have districts instead of regions. As some of the supervisor positions become vacant, those positions change to a warden position and may be moved to fill holes in coverage. We have had about 30 officer retirements in 2004, and expect about another 30 in 2005. Seven officers left the department for other reasons.

Our academy has merged with those of two other departments, State Parks and Forestry and Fire Prevention. We are still without a contract and our contribution to health care has gone up. Our dispatch system has been changing in an attempt to save money. Our radio equipment, including repeaters, is aging. Limited funding means that old equipment is not being replaced. Obviously this is an officer safety problem. Combine bad/old equipment, new dispatchers who are not familiar with Fish and Game, and new call signs and you often get frustration and officer safety issues.

There isn't enough room for all the good cases. I know our forensic lab is swamped with wildlife cases. Then a stray tiger and escaped chimpanzees ran amok.

Our department issues permits for wild animals but now has allowed the permittee's veterinarians to inspect housing.

Colorado - Randy Hancock reports that Colorado District Wildlife Managers (DWM) have been exempt from the requirements of FLSA for the past 15 years, meaning they are paid a set monthly salary independent of how many hours they work. The majority of wildlife officers in Colorado have liked this system because of the flexibility and independence. An officer decides when and how much to work. The officers always had the ability to take time off whenever they wanted for family activities, etc.

This past fall, the federal government was asked by someone within the department to do a review of the status of DWMs to see if they still should be exempt from overtime. Some wildlife officers are now balking at being exempt. Even though they are not required to work over 40 hours per week, many officers felt they were pressured into working extra hours without compensation. The FLSA ruling on status of the DWM position is expected any day. It may mean a major shift in the way DWMs will have work.

Idaho - Dan Hislop reports that last year ICOA continued its big push to have officers' pay brought up to state policy levels; 90% of all officers were below policy for our pay grade. The effort paid off in a raise for almost all department employees and most officers of about 3% but it still left most officers behind.

This year ICOA officers made a second presentation to state legislators (CEC) to get us to department policy pay levels 4+%. The Committee for Employee Compensation CEC hears presentations from the directors of state agencies, yet ICOA was the only voice for Fish and Game employees. The Governor has recommended a 1% raise for all state employees and that is what we will probably get. Our medical insurance is increasing almost 2% so many paycheques will go down next year.

A former State Police Officer now legislator introduced a bill to allow Conservation Officers with 15 or more years to retire with their duty weapon like other State Law Enforcement Officers. We'll see if this makes it to the Governor's desk.

Matt O'Connell is the editor of the first ever Idaho Game Warden magazine, an ICOA production. The magazine will be published in the spring and fall and funded by local business advertising.

Officers in the Panhandle Region got a lot of extra duty this fall; besides hunting seasons we helped the US Border Patrol with "Operation Stone Garden". This was a national border protection detail that was put together because of heightened radio traffic from possible terrorists. No terrorists were found but a number of good wildlife cases were made. If this opportunity comes around again I would encourage all states with an international border to work on it.

Greg Wooten Senior Conservation Officer from Fairfield was called up to active duty for Army National Guard about a year ago and is currently stationed Texas. Greg is a trainer preparing troops to go to the Middle East. While Greg has been gone the officers in the Magic Valley region have been covering his patrol area and they recently learned that Greg stay has been extended to at least January 2006.

Many officers from around the country sent e-mail and letters to our Chief Jon Heggen when they heard that convicted murderer Claude Dallas was released from prison in February. Jon forwarded many of the comments to the

officers and they were greatly appreciated. In January 1981 Dallas murdered Conservation Officers W. Conley Elms and Bill Pogue because he had been caught with a poached deer and illegal bobcats. It was stated that Dallas was planning to live in Nevada but I would not be surprised if he tried to cross the border into Canada and work his way up to Alaska. Be safe and wear your vest.

Montana Our long drought continues. The snow pack is so weak here in mid-February that some ski resorts may close this month! Another easy winter.

Famous artist Larry Zabel has made a Grizzly Bear print for our association to help raise funds. The prints will be available in the fall. Larry has made similar donations to our Tip-Mont program.

We are in the middle of our bi-annual 90-day legislative session. The biggest concern is our request for an across the board license increase. We are also requesting 2 new warden regional investigator positions and 2 new warden trainee positions. We all will get a decent pay raise for the first time in 3 years, knock on wood. With all that is going on we are really just waiting and watching.

We have hired a number of new officers. Derek Fagone came up here from Florida, Aaron Berg from Livingston, MT., Chris Crane from GA, Ahane Brozovich from Whitehall, MT. and Lee Burrows from Lavina, MT. In addition 2 retired wardens passed away this last fall, Russ Marchington from Hamilton and Henry Presinger from Stanford. Warden K.D. "Pinkey" Sears passed away. He was the warden in West Yellowstone for 30 years.

We got some Homeland Security money this last year that helped get us all some more overtime money, update our old radios and purchase some respirator and toxic protection suits.

Nevada - Steve Tomac reports that Nevada is being sued by a non-resident outfitter who is claiming discrimination against non-resident hunters in our big game tag allocations. In the past, Nevada has allocated approximately 10% of the available big game tags to non-resident hunters. The outfitter has claimed that this practice is a violation of Interstate Commerce. This poses several issues in Nevada that could have far reaching implications. Currently, we are not sure how this will affect this year's big game drawing, which is fast approaching. I will keep you posted.

Nevada, like many other states is in a poor financial situation with a large budget shortfall. There are several vacant Game Warden positions that are not being filled due to the lack of funds. Short term relief does not look promising, however, our Legislature is in session and may have some solutions presented to them.

Our Wardens have had a very busy winter with heavy snowfall hitting most of the Northern part of the State. Fur prices have been high, resulting in an increase in trapping activity. Nevada bobcats are large and highly sought after, fetching some of the highest prices in the market. Many trapping cases have been made on a variety of violations ranging from trap visitation to illegal baiting. Several other investigations are in the charging and prosecution phase for violations that occurred during the past hunting season. These include guiding without a license and felony charges of killing big game without a valid tag. Even as the ice is still on the northern lakes, preparations are underway in the southern areas for boating and fishing activity to start picking up with the rise in spring temperatures.

Oregon - Dave Rzewnicki reports that we are still hurting for employees in the Fish and Wildlife Division of the State Police. It seems that there is no longer a waiting line to get into the Division like there was in the old days. Now we are trying to recruit people directly into the Division.

The State Police budget seems to be killing us. The Governor promised new Slot Machine Lottery revenue, but that seems to be slowly eroding. Education has its eyes on the money. The State Police will take second fiddle to education every time. There is now some talk about a surcharge on car insurance as a source of funding, but that seems to be eroding also. Not sure where we are going to end up. I am afraid we will be left without a chair when the music stops. Think good thoughts about our budget.

We finally seemed to be recovered from layoffs a few years ago and graduated a new recruit class in January 2005 and perhaps another in September. We lost an arbitration decision on our contract and are in the middle of a 2-year pay freeze. Along with that, the Legislature took away the vast majority of our retirement benefits, the ones that the state agreed on contractually with us over the last 20 years, and we took them to court.

Unfortunately, the Supreme Court has an interest in the State budget and any money that would have to pay us back, so we got a few benefits back, but very few. Needless to say, things are still tough here, and I am not sure the forecast looks all that good.

There have been two additions to the Division brass. First Capt. Bruce Carne, is a long time member of the Div. and should be an exciting and welcome addition. Lt. Walt Markee should also bring some new ideas and a breath of fresh air. Hope to see everyone in BC.

Wyoming After 30 years of service, Sheridan Game Warden Terry Cram has retired. Cram began his career in 1974 serving as a fisheries biologist aide in Laramie and a warden trainee in Sundance. In 1976 Terry was assigned his first warden district in Gillette where he patrolled until April of 1978 when he transferred to Sheridan.

After a 33 year wildlife law enforcement career, including 26 years patrolling the Jackson high country, Doug Crawford has retired. Crawford began his career helping the Pinedale fisheries crew during the summers of 1969 and 1970. Doug served his country as a military policeman in the Wyoming Army National Guard during 1970-75.

After 30 years of state service, Russ Pollard of Casper retired in November of 2004. Russ began his Game and Fish career in 1974 as a special deputy warden in Laramie. In addition to serving the Sportsmen of Wyoming, Russ did a tour in Vietnam as a U.S. Marine and continues in his military service as the Chief of Security Forces for the Wyoming Air Guard in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Thanks for your service to our country Russ!

Dennis Almquist of Pinedale has retired after patrolling western Wyoming for 34 years. Dennis began his Game and Fish career as the Riverton game warden in 1971. Dennis is known for his extensive knowledge of the wilderness area in his district and for his diligence in patrolling mule deer winter ranges.

**Courage is
resistance to fear,
mastery of fear –
not absence of fear.**

- Mark Twain



Region 5 Report by Levi Krause

Texas by Scott Haney: Greetings from Texas and we're looking forward to seeing everyone in BC. By the time you read this we should have a new Director of Law enforcement. Col. Jim Stinebaugh retired and we are in the process interviewing for a new Colonel. Currently in the running are five Majors (Regional Directors), three from Headquarters staff and one who had retired and wants to return to the fold. The interviews took place February 22-23 with a start date of March 1.

We also began a new Training Academy January 3 with a graduation date set for June 2005. This year's class of 39 includes an Asian, 3 African Americans, 10 Hispanics and 12 females.

South Dakota by Dave Bartling:

South Dakota is in the process of putting together a strategic plan for Conservation Officers to enhance their communications with landowners and sportsmen. Game, Fish and Parks is also reviewing and revising their Field Training Officer program (FTO) for newly hired Conservation Officers. The current FTO program, which started in 1994, incorporated mostly law enforcement tasks and training. A "new" state of the art Reno Field Training Method is under development and will be implemented shortly. The desire is to incorporate concepts of "community-oriented policing" into conservation law enforcement work. Some other objectives for the Communication Improvement Plan are for each officer to initiate quality landowner contacts and document each contact. Conservation Officers' current duties are being reviewed in hopes that some may be eliminated so more time will be available to communicate with landowners and sportsmen.

Indiana by Jay Baker Approximately 90 Indiana Conservation Officers have just been issued and trained on the use of Mobile Data Devices (Laptop computers). This will allow Officers to access BMV records and NCIC records directly via wireless internet. Hopefully they will eventually be able to access Indiana's new "Point of Sale" hunting and fishing license system with these new devices.

In early November, Indiana Conservation Officers Jahn and Schuetter arrested 3 males on 2 counts each of illegal taking of deer and 2 counts each of casting the rays of light from a motor vehicle in search of wildlife while in possession of a firearm. Officer Jahn had received a complaint on the subjects from the Turn-In-A-Poacher Hotline and was in the process of investigating the subjects when Officer Schuetter observed them spotlight and kill an opossum with a metal pipe. The subjects were participating in a "Possum Bashing" contest an activity that unfortunately is starting to become popular with high school and college age subjects. The contestants compete against each other and see how much wildlife they can kill without regard to seasons, methods of take, or other laws. After Schuetter's initial arrest of the pair, he and Jahn compared notes and went to interview the subjects. They admitted illegally killing at least 40 deer over the previous year and a half. Consent was gained to search the residence of one of the subjects and parts from two illegal deer were found. All 3 subjects pled guilty to all charges and are awaiting sentencing.

Kansas by Greg Salisbury: Things are chugging right along in Kansas. We added two more K-9 dogs and now each of our 5 regions has a Labrador Retriever. We continue to make several big game cases every fall. You might have seen the news release from Western Kansas involving Kansas Wildlife and Parks and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Farmer uses plane to hunt/herd deer. Farmer busted and has to purchase plane from Fed's for \$95,000. Side note: farmer and ranch hand also slapped with \$15,000 fine each.

Kansas is gearing up for our annual in-service training in late March. Enjoyed having NAWEOA Regional Director Levi Krause at last years in-service. Working the Kansas Legislature to pass the Interstate Wildlife Compact. Several officers went to the state capital recently to lobby our legislatures on this very important issue.

Officer Jason Barker of Wichita had an interesting workday a year ago December. He was leaving the regional office when a call of an armed bank robber came over his radio. He was close to the bank and went to assist. Jason ended up finding the suspect and chasing him over a 6' fence into a backyard. The suspect was very uncooperative and Jason held him at gunpoint until a Wichita P.D. officer assisted him with the arrest. O.C. spray was used and a short struggle took place before the subject was cuffed. He still had the stolen money on his person when arrested. Good job Jason!

On a somber note we lost Officer Rod Albright to a heart attack last October. Rod was a longtime officer from South-central Kansas.

Officer Mike Hopper from Goodland was assisting the local P.D. locate a stabbing suspect last November and was attacked by the knife wielding subject. Thankfully Mike responded as he had been trained. The old say-

ing "Don't bring a knife to a gunfight" held true in this case. Mike shot the man who was airlifted to Denver. The subject was charged accordingly and the Department strongly supported Mike. Kansas is celebrating 100 years of Wildlife Conservation and this is the first instance of a Kansas Game Warden shooting someone. That is about all the news from Kansas for now. Good luck and keep your powder dry!

Oklahoma by Carlos Gomez: Well, there's an old saying "Everyone likes progress, but it's the change they have trouble with." That phrase certainly applies to Oklahoma.

The state has seen its turkey populations grow from a few budding flocks trapped and transplanted around the state. Our deer herd in that same time has grown six-fold to what is now a 100,000 deer annual harvest. Most everything else is flourishing as well and that gives us the impression that we must be doing a pretty good job. But, hold the phone! It's kind of like the franchise that outsold its own ability to manage and the 'mega-chain' that found itself in chaos. Presently, some of our turkey flocks in western Oklahoma are like vast oceans of black feathers generating depredation complaints from landowners who may not believe they should have to open their land up to hunters in order to save a crop. With a successful reintroduction across the state, we're pressed to find anywhere to send them! Turkey check stations have now been eliminated in the west half of the state despite cries to keep them as an enforcement tool. Many of us believe that this opens the door for immeasurable some managers would like to eliminate the deer stations as well.

Our Colonel (chief of law enforcement division) just retired, making way for Larry Manering to take the reins. He was the captain of the NE region of OK and brings a positive and aggressive attitude to address the challenges facing our law division. He faces some daunting issues, such as a budget shortfall currently forcing wardens statewide to cut driving by 25%. That allows some officers to travel about 50 miles/day and most are spending a lot of time at their home/office to answering cell phone calls.

Finally, many of you have heard by now that we lost one of our longtime leaders when Randall Reigh, Captain of District 5, died of cancer. Randall fought a brave battle and was well known in NAWEOA circles having represented OK for a long time at those conferences.

Our association and its magazine have recently banked \$100K with operating capital to spare and with its growth a legislative lobbyist and attorney have been retained. A new "warden-booster" program is in the planning stage that reportedly might double our association budget.

Illinois by Jeff Baile: POs have been working a hunter harassment complaint on the Shelby/Effingham County line. The officers received a complaint of a bow hunter who believed he was being harassed. On one occasion

the bow hunter heard 8 rounds fired into the woods that he was hunting and had threatening notes left on his vehicle. After working a detail trying to catch the subject, officers made an arrest on a subject who met the description and had a loaded 8 shot revolver loaded and uncased in the vehicle stopped near the hunter's vehicle.

A District Sergeant acting on a tip from a local feed store of two Vermont subjects in camo purchasing 15 lb. of shelled corn resulted in the arrests of 5 Vermont bow hunters. Numerous charges have been filed as a result of their illegal hunting activities. Two record book bucks and one doe were seized as well as four bows and two tree stands. A third, the

largest of the three bucks, had already been exported to Vermont, however due to the seizure of the camera used by the hunters, evidence has been obtained and charges will be filed on that deer taking as well.

Hope to see you all in B.C. in July.

Past President's Report by Kerry Wrishko

When Pat Brown, our newsletter editor, called for the spring newsletter submissions, I hadn't really considered writing anything until I realized that my term on the NAWEOA executive will end this summer at the conference in British Columbia. It will mark a tremendous change in my life, as I have served on the NAWEOA executive since 1994, except for a one year break. There will be other new faces on the executive this summer and that is a healthy thing for any organization.

I just wanted to spend a minute and share with you my thoughts on how far NAWEOA has come since 1994. Over the past 11 years, we have had our leadership come from Nova Scotia (Art Redden), Wyoming (Rick Pallister), Ontario (Gary Martin), Colorado (Randy Hancock) and Arizona (Kurt Bahti). But, at least 18 other jurisdictions or agencies have had representation on our executive.

Since 1994, I believe NAWEOA has honored 33 fallen officers through our fallen officer memorials. Far too many, by anyone's standards.

Our annual conferences continue to be a highlight for many members. Since 1994, we have been to Nova Scotia, Pennsylvania, Saskatchewan, Colorado, Ohio, Missouri, New York, Nebraska, Indiana, Newfoundland-Labrador, Manitoba and soon, British Columbia.

NAWEOA has increased its profile in countless ways. NAWEOA has attended meetings with the North American Chiefs Association and the Canadian Chiefs Association. Presentations have been given to senior officials in Indiana, Ontario and Florida to name a few. NAWEOA has supported several officers associations in matters of pension and pay benefit issues. In the case of officer safety across the continent, NAWEOA was present and supportive as Manitoba, Saskatchewan and most recently, Newfoundland-Labrador officers were issued sidearms.

Over the years, NAWEOA developed several tools to help spread the NAWEOA word: a colour brochure, a video and a computer power point presentation are just some of the tools that have been used to promote NAWEOA since the mid 1990's.

In 1994, most NAWEOA business was done with an occasional telephone call and the regular postal service. With the advent of e-mail, communication has never been so instantaneous. Executive members can attest to the fact that the amount of NAWEOA business that is undertaken in a week is unbelievable, and requires a dedication of time unprecedented in NAWEOA's history.

The Game Warden Museum and Education Center is nearing completion of construction. This project will promote the profession of Conservation Officers, Game Wardens, Marine Officers and others that was could not have been fathomed when the NAWEOA forefathers met in Montana in 1980. The Museum will also serve as a memorial for all of our brethren who have given the ultimate sacrifice in the course of their duties.

In 2002, NAWEOA made the decision to buy the International Game Warden magazine. This bold move, while seemingly risky at the time, has turned out to be a tremendous success. This is the only trade publication dedicated to natural resource law enforcement and our duties, and is a very enjoyable read for everyone.

Our NAWEOA newsletter has also grown, from about 24 pages to almost 40, with full color front and back pages. We have also started to translate a portion of it into French, to accommodate our members from the French part of Canada. As the demand for more space continues to grow, NAWEOA will certainly have to consider options to meet the membership needs.

The NAWEOA web page, found at www.naweo.org is probably not used to its fullest potential yet. But, as more members find the web site, you will soon agree that the web site is home to everything you want to know about NAWEOA, especially as it relates to membership, finances, fallen officers and all of NAWEOA's other programs and services. If you have not yet checked out the web site, you will find it is extremely easy to navigate and provides an abundance of important information. The web site also serves the public, by answering questions about careers in natural resource law enforcement and general matters about poaching.

This summer will mark NAWEOA's 25th anniversary as an organization. While the first half of those years were special, as we all watched NAWEOA become established, there is no doubt the last 10 years have seen NAWEOA expand beyond belief.

Where will NAWEOA go from here? I know that NAWEOA is a membership organization, so whatever ideas or initiatives the members want, NAWEOA will endeavour to meet their needs.

I have been proud to serve on your Association executive. I will continue to support NAWEOA as much as I possibly can in the future. And, I cannot wait to see what the next 10 years brings us. Have a great summer and hope to see many of you in Penticton in July.



Region 6 Report by Bill Brace

This is one of the reports that no one likes to write or talk about.

On March 2 between 0400 and 0445 hrs. Sr. Agent Jim Matkin, of the Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife and Fish Resources, lost his life in an automobile accident. Goodbye, Jim

The following is by Sr. Agent Joe A. Chandler, Jr.: "On Saturday, March 4, 2005, agents of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries gathered at Forest Lawn Funeral Home in Pineville, to say goodbye to Sr. Agent Jim "Big Country" Matkin, who was killed in an automobile accident on March 2 while en route to meet other agents in Region 4A for a work assignment.

Jim was a graduate of academy class #13, and had been working on the Statewide Strike Force since then.

Jim was my friend. We attended the academy together. We began our careers together, and it's sad that we didn't get to finish them that way. Jim had the largest heart of anyone you're ever likely to meet, and would bend over backwards to help someone out. At the funeral, Sr. Agent George Robinson, who worked frequently with Jim on the Strike Force, gave part of the eulogy. George told of how Jim purchased groceries for a hunter he had checked who had nothing. This was just the kind of guy he was. It was a rare thing indeed for Jim to not have a smile and a handshake for everyone he came into contact with, and he never met a stranger.

Jim was good-natured and took ribbing lightly. You really had to work at it to irritate him, which was a good thing since Jim was a pretty large individual. His body was not nearly so large as his heart, though. I don't recall any task given to him that Jim balked from. When he was given an assignment, he put every effort into bringing it to a successful conclusion. While it didn't always work out for him (same as everybody else) I never say Jim Matkin give less than full effort to anything.

It broke my heart to speak with agents George Robinson and Ray Thomas. I stood guard with them over the casket in the wee hours of the morning of the day of the funeral. We spoke mostly of Jim, and I got a chance to

hear some really entertaining stories about things that happened while they were working together. Jim was on the Strike Force, so he wasn't home a lot. I didn't have the opportunity to work with him nearly so much as George and Ray. And it apparently wasn't wasted time. Jim made quite an impression on these two, and George was forced to stifle tears most of the night because his friend was gone. Jim wasn't just their co-worker. He was their friend.

If a man's friends are a measure of his worth, then Jim was a valuable man. Rarely have I seen the depth of friendship expressed by depart this life, there will be men, and it was humbling. A person can only hope that when they depart this life, there will be men like George and Ray to remember them fondly. A person's highest aspiration should be to leave behind a life that people want to remember, and to be a positive influence on those with whom they have contact. Jim succeeded wildly in this. Mr. and Mrs. Matkin, you can be proud of Jim. And be proud of yourselves. You raised a good man.

And that's the point of all this. Forget for a moment that Jim Matkin was an active enforcement agent, representing this department with honor and courage. Forget the cases he made, or didn't. Forget any mistakes he made or accolades earned with this department. But remember this, because this is the most important, if not the only important thing: Jim Matkin was a good man. I'm a better man for having known him. Rarely have I seen anyone handle adversity with more grace and character. He never badmouthed those who mistreated him, and he tried to be a friend to all. I can honestly say that if you couldn't get along with Jim Matkin, it was probably your fault.

I was proud to be at the funeral home that day. I was proud I could stand with the agents present that day, to perhaps be a source of comfort for the family. I was proud of the agents who attended, because they realized that even if they didn't know Jim personally, he was a representative of this department, which is a pretty small, elite group of individuals who do a tough job, and are forced by necessity to perform in a harsh environment and rely on one another for help. We're all we've got, a lot of the time. But mostly, I was proud because I was there to say goodbye to a good man. He will be missed."

Officers of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Section have become members of NAWEOA. We want to welcome them and hope we can both prosper and grow from this union.

Kaven Ranson of West Virginia reports that in any given year, the WV Law Enforcement Section will retire several officers and face the long process of hiring new officers and sending them to the Basic Police Course at the West Virginia State Police Academy. This past year has been no different. The Section consists of 124 conservation officers and 12 support personnel.

The Law Enforcement Section has been planning for a new radio system to serve all the officers in the state for several years. This year brought that plan to fruition. The West Virginia Legislature appropriated two million dollars and all the necessary radio equipment was purchased and it is almost ready to go.

Since September 11th, 2001, the Law Enforcement Section has spent a great amount of time on types of enforcement we've never done in the past. The Law Enforcement Section is the primary agency for boating enforcement. As a result of these assigned duties, the Section has been on continuous patrol on the Ohio River in the Bellevue Pool by special request of the U. S. Coast Guard. Since 9/11, conservation officers have worked more than 8,000 hours on Homeland Security, at an estimated cost of \$231,369, and expended approximately 133,825 vehicle miles and 1,793 boat hours at a cost of \$108,000. In June 2004, the Law Enforcement Section was awarded a Homeland Security grant in the amount of \$760,000. This grant will be used to purchase new all-weather patrol vessels and outfit all officers with foul weather gear and night vision equipment.

The Law Enforcement Section purchased 17 additional ATV's with trailers, which will be distributed around the state so each sergeant's area will have two machines. In the fall of 2003, our department safely and successfully transitioned to S&W .45 calibre semi-auto pistols.

The mandatory Hunter Education Program in West Virginia continues to be a success. During FY 2004, a total of 8,554 students graduated from 318 classes held statewide. This represents an increase in classes and graduates from last year. Volunteer instructors remain the backbone of the Hunter Education Program. Continuing with the alternative audience philosophy, instructors conducted several "Special Needs" classes and special hunts for the physically challenged. The hunt at Snowshoe during December 2003 was filmed by a professional film crew and will be used for tourism and training shows. This year, 10 individuals participated with a 100 percent success rate.

West Virginia has more than 58,000 boats registered, representing more than 100,000 residents and many nonresidents who take advantage of the recreational opportunities on the waters of this state. Operator inexperience and lack of training contribute to the number of accidents each year on. Also contributing to the accident rate is the number of persons operating watercraft under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Each year, a boating safety class is offered in each of the 55 counties, however few take advantage of them. In 2004, 30 classes were taught and 337 students successfully completed the course.

We also want to say "go for it" to Kentucky Conservation Officer Association. They are in the process of joining NAWEOA.

I have talked with Chris Campion and assistant chief Craig Hill of the Alabama Dept



Field Notes

Spring 2005

RHODE ISLAND - A SMALL STATE WITH A MIGHTY HEART

Here's some trivia for you. What is Rhode Island's proper name? It is the longest name in the union, "Rhode Island and Providence Plantations". What area size of land does it encompass? At twelve Hundred square miles and just over 400 miles of coastline, it is the **smallest state**. How about population? It has 1.1 million people who are served by **37** full time Environmental Police Officers. What did this lesser sized group of Game Wardens just do for the Museum? They just gave **\$1000.00 for a memorial plaque** to honor their fallen officers. Now here's the best part. How many officers do they have to put on their plaque? Zero, zilch, nada, no one. Their officers feel so supportive of the museum and the Memorial that they have purchased without having a name to put on it. The Museum will be affixing a removable label that will indicate that this jurisdiction is "Blessed to have no Fallen Officers and dedicate this plaque in honor of the Officers who have made the Ultimate Sacrifice". Their contribution was sponsored by the RI Conservation Officers Assoc., the Little Rhody Lodge of the FOP and Local 2881 of AFSCME Council 94. **RHODE ISLAND WE APPLAUD YOU.**

LIMITED TIME OFFER ~ PAVING STONE SPECIAL ~

The Game Warden Museum wishes to offer your Association an incentive offer on Paving Stones. Starting July 1st 2005 up to July 31st 2006 the museum is offering an opportunity for your Association to get a free paving stone with your choice of inscription. **That's right**, a free paving stone for your association. If ten paving stones are sold in your Association's state or province, the Game Warden Museum will give your organization a free paving stone complete with inscription. Use the free paving stone to honor a fallen hero, to recognize a retired founding member of your organization, or to thank an honorable friend of Game Wardens in your state or province. Check out the paving stone ad in this edition of field notes for more ideas or visit the website at . Contact any board member for more information or call your jurisdictional rep to get in touch with the Museum. Remember this is limited time offer of sell ten and get one free so get a start on your sales now. Don't forget that the profit for these stones is dedicated to the Memorial Gardens honoring our fallen heroes.

Paving Stones

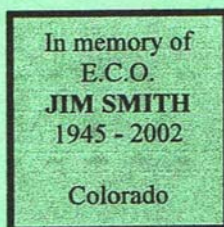
...we 're building it One Square Foot at a Time

- ☞ Paving stones are age, weather and traffic-resistant black polished granite, sized 12" x 12" ☞
- ☞ Engraved paving stones provide plenty of room for personal inscription in memory, honor or thanks ☞
- ☞ Each sponsored stone will be placed on the museum grounds for public appreciation ☞
- ☞ Paving stones can also include an engraved logo ☞
- ☞ Stones may be sponsored by individuals, families, organizations or businesses ☞

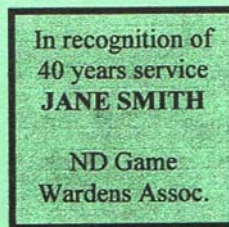
Examples of Engraved Paving Stones



**Recognize
 Outstanding
 Achievement**



**Memorialize a
 fallen Officer**



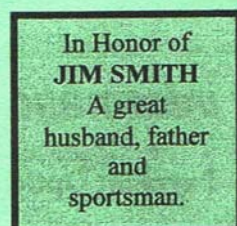
**Honor an officer
 upon retirement**



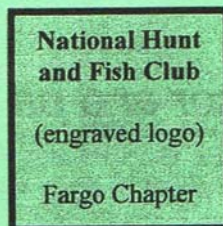
**Thank support
 staff**



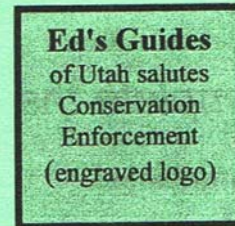
**Show family
 support of the
 profession**



**Honor a family
 member**



**Demonstrate
 support through
 wildlife groups**



**Celebrate
 partnerships**

- A letter of confirmation and receipt will be sent out upon receipt of your order
- A gift acknowledgement card is available upon request
- Museum staff will assist visitors in locating their sponsored paving stone at the museum site
-

Sponsor a Paving Stone

1. Circle the type of paving stone you wish to sponsor

PAVING
STONE
(no engraving)
\$100

ENGRAVED
PAVING
STONE
\$150

ENGRAVED
STONE
W/ LOGO
\$250

2. Print your full inscription in the 75 character spaces below,
including punctuation and space between words

____ _

____ _

____ _

For logo engraving, attach a clean, original copy and provide contact information for our engraver.

Point person for logo: _____ Contact number: _____

3. Complete the sponsor and payment information

Sponsor Information

Name _____

Address _____

Payment Options

Visa or MC
_____ exp. ____/____/____

Authorizing
signature _____

☐ I am also interested in membership.

☐ I wish my donation to remain anonymous.

Your gift is considered a tax-deductible contribution as
defined by US and Canadian charitable contribution guidelines.

Checks payable to NAWEMMEC.

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Valley City ND 58072-0028
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Thank you for supporting the North American Game Warden Museum

The Tragic Death of William E. Shoemaker

William Shoemaker was a big man – well over six feet tall and more than two hundred pounds. He worked extremely hard and long hours, as was the norm for men of his era to do – first as the owner of a grist mill, later as a construction worker, and finally in 1901, he realized his dream and his love of the outdoors by becoming the first game warden ever hired in Bradford County.

To say that as the first warden ever in Bradford county Shoemaker was not well liked would be an understatement. Warden Shoemaker was the first to arrest and charge persons for violating the recently enacted game laws which, up until then, had generally been ignored. When the public found out the warden was paid by receiving one half of the fines collected, they revolted. Those few who were convicted of an offence refused to pay a fine, part of which would go to the hated warden. Instead they went to jail where generally sympathetic local jailers would release them almost immediately. His market garden crops were boycotted or sabotaged.



Warden Shoemaker was accused three times of drawing his weapon during arrests and even of shooting an accused person. He was assaulted by hunters while doing routine enforcement checks. Obstacles were continually put in his way by the public – who viewed Shoemaker as the villain and the hunters and anglers as the heroes of the day.

On the evening of August 25, 1921 William Shoemaker, who was accompanied by his son at the time, arrested two men for spotlighting and spearing fish from the banks of the Wyalusing Creek. As he returned to his vehicle with one of the poachers, the second person grabbed Shoemakers gun and shot him in the back. The bullet hit warden Shoemaker in the neck severing his spine. He died in hospital almost a month later.

The killer was never convicted of murder – his story being that he was attacked by the Warden and only acted in self-defence. This despite the fact that the evidence presented at the trial proved that the warden had been shot from behind. In serving a short jail term for manslaughter the killer was even given bail that Christmas so that he could spend time with his family!!

On the same day, in the same courtroom, another man received the same penalty as did Shoemakers's killer for stealing a car!!

His son, who was with him at the time of his murder, was also warden and was appointed as district fish warden the day after his father's shooting – the start of a very long and prestigious career in conservation.

NOTE: Warden Shoemaker was an officer first with the Pennsylvania Game Commission and then later spent most of his tragically shortened career with the Fish Commission – but he is representative of many of the heroes of our profession who have given their lives to the protection of our natural resources. We want to tell the stories of all of our fallen heroes at the Game warden Museum. Please help us by supporting the Museum and by sharing any materials that you may have that tell the stories of our fallen officers. Contact us at the Game Warden Museum website.

of Conservation And Natural Resources. They are trying to get their officer association back up and going. We wish good luck to them.

Florida has paid its dues for all its officers under a certain rank. Thanks to Officer Hampton Yates for all his assistance in the past. Hampton also has sent in the following report.

The first item is an excerpt from the Tampa Tribune 5 Feb. 05: Martin Grossman who killed a state game officer with an execution-style shot to the head moved a step closer to the death chamber when a federal judge rejected his latest, and possibly last, full-blown appeal.

The mother of slain Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission Officer Margaret "Peggy" Park said she was heartened to learn of U.S. District Judge Elizabeth Kovachevich's Jan. 31 ruling in the more than 20 year-old murder case.

Peggy Park, 26, was a two-year veteran law enforcement officer when she was slain the night of Dec 13, 1984. She encountered Grossman, then 19, and another man shooting a handgun that Grossman had stolen during a burglary. He begged her to not turn him in since he was probation for other felonies. He stole her flashlight striking her 20 times on the head and wrestled her gun away. With his accomplice holding her down, he shot her in the back of her head.

Grossman never won an appeals court ruling and was the subject of an execution warrant signed by then Gov. Bob Martinez in 1990.

Only in Miami - Recently FWC Officers in the South Region received the opportunity to work on the set of CSI Miami, which is a spin-off of CSI. The episode, which aired Monday, February 21, highlights FWC as the lead agency of enforcement in the Everglades. The story line is based on a large fire that takes place in the Florida Everglades. Numerous officers were used as extras and filmed in the background of certain scenes. Patrol boats, airboats, ATV's, and trucks were used. You might even see an FWC helicopter take off or a swamp buggy in one of the scenes.

During the evening of January 9, Florida Officer Kelly Hite investigated an incident in which a migrant farm worker was bitten by a 7 foot alligator, while swimming in a farm pond in Manatee County. In addition to catching the alligator responsible for the bite, Officer Kelly Hite and Officer Mark Clements assisted Alligator Trapper Agents Chad Wright and Buddy Parks with catching a 13 foot 9 inch alligator from the pond. The four men used a small boat to hook the gator, which took 5 hours to land. Trapper Agent Wright stated the levianthan weighed 850 lbs, and confirmed it was the largest he has ever caught in his many years of trapping for the FWC. (Is that assistance to the trappers 'Gator Aid? - Editor)

Officers Warren Walsingham and Neal Goss, Jr. observed a suspicious vehicle enter a wooded and pasture area near Vernon FL after dark. After a brief time, Officer Walsingham followed the vehicle on foot and inadvertently

walked up on two subjects, prone, scoping out some deer. One was in his thirties and the other a teenager. After about three minutes, Officer Walsingham squatted between them and whispered to the adult with the scoped rifle, "Have you got him yet?" He responded, "No, be quiet, don't move." Officer Walsingham stated, "Well, hurry up, get him." The man responded, "He's moving, be quiet...he walked off." The man then turned and realized an officer was next to him and the one he had been conversing with. The officers did not observe an artificial light nor had a deer been taken after hours. The officers warned the subjects on the latter. A week later Officer Walsingham apprehended the duo again with a gun and light at night and charged them with the misdemeanors.

We will have had our winter meeting in North Carolina by the time you get this. We are thrilled that the NC Marine Patrol has joined as a group thanks to Colonel Lynch. We have some good news from N.C. already. NAWEOA presented the lifesaving award to Patrick Browne, a N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission master officer at the meeting. We also presented a life saving award to Neil Kendrick from N.C. Marine Patrol. Chris Champion from the Alabama Dept of Conservation and Natural resources will receive his life saving award at a later date in Alabama.

All of you be safe and have a good year. See you in Penticton.

NAWEOA Conference Liaison Position

At the 2005 winter executive meeting, it was decided there was a need to create a new position to work for NAWEOA and the executive. The working title is a Conference Liaison Position. A full job description, including duties, obligations, qualifications and compensation for the position, can be found on the NAWEOA web site at www.naweo.org

However, to summarize: This position will act as the direct liaison between the NAWEOA executive and all summer conference organizers. Further, they will administer the NAWEOA conference hosting agreement, the conference planning guide, chair meetings between past and future conference hosts, assist with coordination of future conference bid presentations, and review all conference financial statements.

Candidates must be a regular member in good standing of NAWEOA, have good computer skills and home access to the internet, should have served on a previous conference planning committee and attended at least three NAWEOA conferences. They are expected to attend each annual NAWEOA conference and winter executive meeting. They are fully reportable to the NAWEOA executive. They shall be compensated at the same rate as members of the NAWEOA executive for meetings. Remember this is a summary only - visit the web site for more detailed information.

Interested candidates are asked provide a letter electronically, outlining their skills and abilities to the NAWEOA president Kurt Bahti at kb2@theriver.com by June 1, 2005. Any questions may be sent to Kurt at the above noted email address.



Region 7 Report by Marion Hoffman

Hi everyone, well it's that time of year again when winter is on the run and spring is just around the corner. I wanted to take a moment to thank all of you for making my time as the Region 7 Director such a pleasure. Having served 2 terms as the NAWEOA Director for Region 7, I must now vacate this position at this year's summer conference. It is my hope that some of you will give serious consideration to stepping up and running for this position. It has truly been a wonderful experience for me. I look forward to seeing everyone in Penticton, BC.

Ryan Healy Jurisdictional Rep from **Connecticut** reported that they recently held their annual awards ceremony. At that ceremony Commissioner Gina McCarthy of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) awarded thirteen State Environmental Conservation Police Officers with medals for outstanding performances and service. The Commissioner presented DEP's Shikar-Safari Club Environmental Conservation Officer of the Year, Medals of Meritorious Service, Achievement, Lifesaving, Outstanding Service and the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators Boating Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Awards. All recipients also received a "Certificate of Commendation" from Governor Jodi Rell. See list of award recipients on our Awards page.

Maine recently honored Game Warden Bill Livesey as their Warden of the Year. From the fall of 2003 to December 2004, Warden Livesey was the primary case agent in a large scale special investigation in Western Maine. He gathered evidence and intelligence on an extensive network of night hunters, deer drivers, and all out wildlife poachers.

Livesey also detected resource violations that had occurred in the states of New Hampshire and New York. Due to the unpredictable and sometimes dangerous nature of the suspects involved, a multi-agency task force was assembled. Wardens from Maine and New Hampshire as well as special agents

from United States Fish and Wildlife Service, officers of the Bridgton Police Department, Oxford County Sheriffs Department personnel and Maine State Police, totaling more than 100 law enforcement officers, were used what was later determined to be the largest operation of its kind in warden service history.

Michelle Weigand of the **Michigan Dept. of Natural Resource-Law Enforcement Division** announced that 18 recruit Conservation Officers will be graduating from the Dept's. 22 week academy on March 11, 2005. The next step for the new Conservation officers will be 18 weeks of Field training. After the field training phase the officers will fill vacant positions throughout Michigan.

New Jersey announced that they recently graduated four new Conservation Officer recruits from the Cape May Police Academy. In April, another Conservation Officer recruit will be graduating from Burlington County Police Academy. Their assistance will be greatly appreciated by the other officers in the field. We wish them well in their new careers.

Conservation Officers in New Jersey recently received a new contract that affords them an 18.2% pay increase over four years. Top pay for an Officer with 11 1/2 years on the job will be \$74,900 with uniform allowance. Way to go, New Jersey! Hopefully this may lead to more candidates being interested in the job. New Jersey requires a 4 year degree in Wildlife Biology or a related environmental degree and 1 year of experience.

New Jersey Chief Of The Division of Fish and Wildlife's Bureau of Law Enforcement Rob Winkel retired after 30 years of service to the Division. Also retiring was Capt. Mark Stullenbeger of the southern region with 25 years of service. Good wishes to you both for a long and healthy retirement. Deputy Chief Mark Dobelbower has been appointed Acting Chief.

New York reports there are currently 32 ECO recruits in the academy class, which is scheduled to graduate June 3. The Division of Law Enforcement is upgrading their boat fleet. They will be receiving 2 additional Safeboats this year for Marine and Great Lakes enforcement. In addition to the Safeboats, DLE will also receive 6 24' boats for use on New York's larger inland lakes. A 4 year plan for replacement of mobile radios is being worked on.

New Jurisdictional Rep Erin Czech from Pennsylvania Boat and Fish Commission reported that PA Governor Edward G. Rendell has signed House Bill 2155 into law, providing much needed operating revenue for the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) through modest increases in the fees charged for fishing licenses and boat registrations. These increases will provide the funding needed to continue the training school for the 17th class of Waterways Conservation Officers scheduled to graduate this summer. In

addition, the Fish and Boat Commission is planning on hiring officers for the 18th class which will begin in July of 2006. Training is planned for a Deputy Waterways Conservation Officer Class this summer as well.

The Pennsylvania State Civil Service Commission has issued a Test Announcement for the examination of Wildlife Conservation Officer Trainee for the **Pennsylvania Game Commission**. Tom Grohol states that applications are being accepted until the first 900 are received or until April 1, 2005, whichever comes first, after which the announcement will be suspended. Enrollment for the 27th Class at the Game Commission Ross Leffler School of Conservation is anticipated for early 2006, with graduation in 2007, however the potential impact of budget constraints may effect the scheduling of the Class. In order for the agency to meet future anticipated hiring needs, it is critical that the testing proceed and an eligibility list be established.

Five Pennsylvania Game Commission Wildlife Conservation Officers earned places in the Governor's Twenty for 2004, an honor reserved for the top law enforcement handgun marksmen in Pennsylvania. The Officers are: WCO's Thomas Littwin and Gary Packard (retired) assigned to the commission's Bureau of Law Enforcement, Harrisburg, Steven Bernardi, Land Management Group Supervisor Southcentral Region, Guy Hansen, Wildlife Conservation Officer York County, and David Carlini Wildlife Conservation Officer Clearfield County.

Rhode Island reports they are presently in the process of hiring 11 new officers who will bring them to a full complement. They are also reporting the purchase of a 27' Boston Whaler Patrol Boat and a 30' Rigid Hull Inflatable Patrol Boat. Both purchases made possible through funding with National Marine Fisheries and Boating Safety Grants. Using Homeland Security Grant money RI has purchased body armour for all Division members. With additional grant funds they have purchased Swarovski field glasses and digital cameras.

RI is also replacing 8 patrol vehicles this year. Their fleet now includes the Chevrolet Silverado series and the Ford Explorer. The 4WD option is a must for patrol Officers. The blizzard of 2005 that struck New England in January caused many health professionals to be unable to respond to their job posts. RI DEM and the Division of Enforcement were at Emergency Management Headquarters from the beginning of the storm. Patrol vehicles were fueled and weighted down and ready to go for any level of response.

Officers transported over 300 Health Care professionals as well as administrators, politicians, and even Governor Donald Carcieri to and from their places of employment. Some Officers worked up to 18 hours straight through after their patrol shift and some were

called in at the last minute before the storm hit and worked an 18 hour shift as well.

RI patrols of fishing ports have yielded cases of State and Federal violations. One notable case involving Sgt. Ethier resulted in a violation of the Magnusen-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and Marine Mammal Protection Act. A \$15,000 fine and a 6 month sanction on a fishing vessel permit were the result.

RI Officers also have authority for assault and weapons statewide. The following incident verifies it. While on patrol of his Up-land area on December 21, 2004, Officer Morrissey observed a male subject get out of his vehicle, wave a collapsible baton at another driver in a separate car and verbally assault him. During this case of "road rage" Officer Morrissey progressed in his use of force continuum to disarm the subject. Eventually he disarmed the subject using his sidearm without any injury to the assailant. This incident

reached the national level and was featured on national nightly news programs. Local Police arrested the male subject

Greg Eckhardt reports from Vermont that David LeCours was recently promoted to the rank of Major within the Law Enforcement Division of Vermont's Fish and Wildlife Department. Major LeCours is now second-in-command of the Division.

Vermont sends best wishes to new retirees Paul Fink, LT Richard Hislop, and Gordon Marcelle. Their experience and professionalism will be missed by the general public and the warden force alike. Vermont welcomes 2 new wardens to their ranks. Justin Stedman is currently in the field training (FTO) part of his training and Jason Bacheldor is presently in week 5 of the 16 week Vermont Police Academy. Upon completion of their respective FTO periods, each will be assigned to his own District somewhere in the state. Good luck to both!

Many Vermont wardens had interesting cases this past year, but due to space limitations, their names and type of case will only be included here. They include Dave Gregory, 600 pounds of meat seized from an illegal moose kill; Russ Shopland, closed season trapping violation which resulted in the seizure of 8-10 illegal traps; Sean Fowler, arrested two brothers for killing an illegal moose and then shooting the antlers off to make it "legal"; George Scribner, arrested two individuals for trying to take deer with a blowgun; and Meira Selby (with assistance from Travis Buttle), arresting two individuals who were caught in the act of shooting a bear over bait. Several wardens were also involved in many successful search and rescue operations, including Don Isabelle, George Scribner, Bob Lutz, Carl Wedin, and LT Doug Lawrence.

See you all in B.C. this summer!

NAWEOA PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

25 th Anniversary Logo ball cap - camo	18.00
25 th Anniversary Logo Runner cap - black	17.00
25 th Anniversary Logo Runner cap - dk grey, taupe & beige	15.00
25 th Anniversary Logo denim shirt - ladies only S-M-L (sized small)	55.00
25 th Anniversary Logo t-shirt - youth	18.00
25 th Anniversary Logo t-shirt - adult (**adult XXL 20.00)	19.00
25 th Anniversary Logo golf shirt	30.00
25 th Anniversary Logo polar fleece vest	35.00
Old Logo t-shirt	16.00
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Denim Shirt Old Logo (long or short sleeve)	26.00
Journals of Wildlife Enforcement Vol. I	4.00
Journals of Wildlife Enforcement Vol. II	3.00
Video (Innovative Sentencing)	5.00
Souvenir Convention Photo CD	5.00
Bill Peters Owl Print	35.00
2 1/2" Case Knife (NAWEOA engraved)	30.00
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ATTENTION FUTURE CONFERENCE HOSTS!!

Is your Association or Agency thinking of hosting a NAWEOA Conference?

Currently we need folks to volunteer for 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010.

If this sounds like something that you want to get involved in, it's time to get ready! It is not too early to start planning. This July in Penticton the executive will be accepting bids for these conferences.

If you want more details about what is entailed in presenting a conference bid please contact any member of the Executive and 2005 Conference Chair Rick Hoar so he can schedule time for your presentation.

2004 OFFICER EXCHANGE 'On the Road in Colorado'

by Gerry Brunet (CWS Officer, Ontario)

Everyone who attended the 2004 NAWEOA conference in Manitoba will remember the officer exchange draw. Who would have predicted it? Three of the four names drawn were members of the existing Board of Directors. I know how fortunate I was to have been drawn as the Canadian exchange officer. I approached District Wildlife Manager (DWM) Randy Hancock of the Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW) with the idea of doing my exchange trip in Colorado. Hailing from Ontario, in central Canada, I wanted to experience Game Warden work in mountainous terrain, on horseback, and working with game species not found at home. Randy accepted and did not disappoint!!

On September 22, 2004 I traveled from Ontario to Denver, CO. USFWS Inspector Tracy Ellis greeted me upon arrival. Tracy works at Denver airport and provided a tour of the USFWS office on site. We were joined by USFWS A/Ast. SAC Roger Gephart, who drove me to the USFWS National Eagle & Wildlife Property Repository in Commerce City, CO where I was given a tour by Supervisory Wildlife Specialist Bernadette Atencio. The eagle repository receives, inspects, and inventories 1500 Bald and Golden Eagles per year from across the U.S. The repository fills requests from Native Americans for whole eagles and/or their parts for religious and cultural purposes. The property repository represents the final warehousing site for all items forfeited to the USFWS nationwide. There is an impressive inventory of exhibits of both domestic and exotic species used for training and education. Roger relayed me next to his office in Denver, where I met USFWS SAC Gary Mowad and Colorado DWM Tom Howard. Tom relayed me to Idaho Springs, CO. On the way Tom provided much information about the local area, including stories about the first confirmed mountain lion fatality in 1991 for which he was lead investigator for DOW.

DWM Ron Oehlkers and I logged a long day on September 23 patrolling mostly for mountain goat and sheep hunters in the area around Idaho Springs. We had a good day spotting mule deer, goats, sheep, and elk. One highlight was checking an Indiana hunter who held the Governor's tag for sheep. He paid US \$75,000 for the tag at auction. He was paying \$15,000 US in guiding services and he was on his third trip to Colorado in fall 2004 searching for a trophy Colorado ram. I learned how deceptively close sheep look in mountainous terrain by stalking them for some photographic opportunities. It took 1¼ hours to get within 75 yards of 3 rams, but I was rewarded with some very nice photos. In the morning, Ron and I attempted to reach the peak of Mt. Evans (14,264'), which has the highest paved road in the northern hemisphere. We made it to the tree line (~11,500'), but snow accumulations prevented us from going further.

On September 24 DOW Wildlife Technician Ralph Matzner relayed me to Denver where both the DOW NE Regional office and the State office are located. Here I met and worked with many of the staff from the regional office in the morning. Special thanks to Customer Service Representative Leland Flores who ensured my time here was well spent. I learned about the Colorado licensing system, how chronic wasting disease testing is performed, assisted in processing a 9 year old ram's head at the mandatory check station on site, and had a tour of the hunter safety building and indoor shooting range. Around noon DWM Tim Woodward tore me away from the regional office to attend at the DOW State office where John Bredehoft, Chief of LE, and Eric Harper, Ast/ Chief of LE, provided a tour. We managed a brief introduction and discussion with DOW Director Bruce McCloskey.

In the early afternoon, DWM Woodward relayed me east from Denver onto the 'plains of Colorado' where I met DWM Bill Miles. Bill took me to the DOW Area Office in Brush, Co. An Area Office meeting was ongoing so I was introduced to each member and then Peter Walker, DOW's Senior Fish Pathologist was kind enough to provide me a tour of the fish pathology labs. That evening Bill and Patty treated me to dinner at their residence.



Gerry with hunter and harvested antelope, Brush/Ft. Morgan, CO
(Photo by DWM Bill Miles)

Bill and I rose early on September 25th to patrol for antelope hunters from the Brush/Ft. Morgan area north to Peetz, CO (near the Nebraska border). We observed many antelope and checked some hunting parties. Our excitement rose when we witnessed a hunter shoot from his vehicle at some antelope. After completing a vehicle stop we learned the hunter had been granted a vehicle permit. We had a great day working the hunt. Bill was very knowledgeable about the area: the wildlife, plants, farming (crops and cattle), crude oil pumps, coal carrying trains, and windmill power fields, etc. We saw a lot of different wildlife and Bill had some fun introducing me to a bull snake. Later Bill and I rendezvoused with 6 other DOW officers to work an antelope decoy in the Peetz area. Hunters were in the area and had a real antelope not been harvested just 'around the corner' from our set up, I am confident we would have seen some action. I learned that working 'on the plains' is not all it's cracked up to be if you are sitting in fields laden with barrel cactus plants. The patrol ended at Byron Gillham's residence where all officers and the Gillham family enjoyed a BBQ. DWM Jack Wieland then relayed me southeast to his residence in Holyoke, CO.

On Sunday, September 26 after breakfast and a visit with the Wieland family, Jack and I departed for the Wray State Hatchery in Wray, CO. Here, Superintendent Jeff Lee treated me to a tour of the entire facility. Wray is a warm water hatchery rearing walleye, tiger musky, channel catfish, bluegills, black bass, fathead minnows, and grass carp. Having completed the tour, Jack relayed me to Brush, and from there DWM trainees Laura Grissom and Crystal Petersen relayed me to Denver to meet DWM Ty Petersburg for relay to Kenosha Pass. Wildlife Technician Charles Blake drove me the rest of the way to Buena Vista, where Randy and Laurie Hancock reside. Buena Vista is located in the Arkansas River Valley and looking west offers a great view of the Collegiate Peaks mountain range (the Continental Divide), separating the east and west slopes of Colorado. That night the Hancock family and I enjoyed dinner and a great visit.

First thing on September 27 Randy and I made our final preparations for a 2 day horseback patrol, and Randy purchased me a 1 day fishing license. After picking up the horses (Hummer, Spirit and Cookie) we relayed to Middle Cottonwood River, in the Collegiate Peaks Wilderness Area. Randy and I rode a good part of the day passing Mt. Yale, had lunch on the trail, and crossed Browns Pass to our final destination, a high mountain lake known as Kroenke Lake (11,500'). Here we made sure the horses were taken care of, and set up camp for the night. We successfully fished for cutthroat trout (catch and release). Fishing was interrupted by a fairly heavy snow squall so we ate dinner (shrimp, steak, and vegetables) sitting around a campfire. After dinner, when the snow squalls stopped we fished some more until we called it a night around 8:30 PM. The contacts made that day were with hikers, climbers and campers.

On September 28 Randy and I woke to bull elk bugling around our campsite and a heavy fog that burned off with the morning sun. We had breakfast, broke camp and packed the horses. By 10:30 AM we were on the trail riding our last leg of the patrol. We returned to the Hancock residence by 3 PM. What a great patrol and I have a newfound respect for horses! We processed a 3+ yr. old mountain goat in town by 4 PM, had dinner and attended the Buena Vista Middle

School by 7 PM for a hunter education class. Randy presented to the class on Wildlife Management and Wildlife Laws and Regulations.

The next morning Randy and I attended at Area Office #13 in Salida, where I met some of the staff and I obtained another 1 day fishing license. We obtained a float boat from DOW yards and relayed to the Arkansas River in Salida. For the remainder of the day we floated the river downstream to Howard, checking trout anglers as we went. Between anglers I wet a line myself boating a few brown trout. What a fishery, what a day! I spent that night visiting with the Hancock family and packing.

On September 30 Randy and I relayed across the Continental Divide, to Silverton, CO. With Randy acting as tour guide, this was a very scenic drive passing through Monarch Pass, Gunnison, Blue Mesa Reservoir, Montrose, Ouray and Red Mountain Pass. The Oak Brush, found on the west slope, along much of this route was impressive, displaying crimson red colours. At Silverton we tied up with AWM Patt Dorsey for lunch. Patt relayed me to Durango, Co in the SW corner of the state. Along the way we picked up some Blue Grouse wings deposited in a drop box by hunters for survey purposes and toured an area northeast of Durango devastated by the July 2002 Missionary Ridge Fire. We stopped at the Durango DOW office and toured a museum on site profiling the various animal and plant communities that exist in Colorado. Patt and her spouse Lyle, together with 2 DWM's, hosted me at their residence that night.

The next day Patt, DOW Habitat Biologist Chris Kloster, and I toured Mesa Verde National Park with NPS Ranger Don Whyte. The park, an archeological site, is located in the high plateau country of SW Colorado and offers a unique look at the world of the Mesa Verde people (Ancestral Puebloans). Completing our tour late in the afternoon, Chris relayed me north along the western boundary of Colorado to Grand Junction, CO. Here I met DWM Shaun Deeney. Shaun had received a call from a local rancher upset with a known violator he thought was illegally hunting on his property. Shaun had already been to the complainant's property and when I arrived we attended at the suspect's house to conduct an interview. Completing the interview Shaun and I went to his residence and visited with his spouse Tina.

Shaun and I spent the morning on October 2 checking migratory bird hunters. We patrolled two different State Wildlife Areas and laid 1 charge, and a number of warnings. I was surprised to learn that farming in this area includes fruit farms and vineyards. In the afternoon Shaun and Tina relayed me to Rifle, where I met DWM Perry Will who relayed me a short distance until we met my next host, DWM Jim Haskins of Haydon. Jim traveled a very scenic route home known as the 'Flat Tops Scenic Tour' running alongside the White River (a trout river) and crossing over the Ripple Creek Pass (10,343'). In parts, this was one of the more picturesque areas of Colorado. The road is bordered by private ranch lands and two National Forests, and runs through rolling hills with conifers and aspens in fall colours. Reaching Hayden, Jim and I checked some waterfowl hunters. That night Jim and his wife, Dana, and their family treated me to dinner and lodging.

Jim and I awoke at 5 AM on October 3 to work with DOW Wildlife Researcher Rick Hoffman and DWM Mike Reid as part of a trap and transfer program for sharp-tailed grouse. We attended at reclaimed mining lands where known leks exist. Three separate leks were monitored with Jim and I watching one. As the sun rose it was exciting to watch the grouse on the lek. Seven grouse were captured in total that day. We transported the birds to Craig, and processed them (i.e. sexing, weighing, taking blood and fecal samples, and radio collaring). DWM Reid then transported the grouse to a release site in SW Colorado. These birds brought the number of grouse captured in fall 2004 to 34. The objective was to capture 40 males in the fall and return in the spring (2005) to trap females. I understand 42 grouse (2 females : 40 males) were trapped and released by October 5.

That afternoon I teamed up with DWM Gene Abram of Kremmling, and we worked his patrol area through the Routt National Forest checking trout fishermen, small game hunters, and elk hunters starting to make camp for the approaching elk season opening on October 9. I lodged at Gene's house that night, after a Mexican dinner



Gerry on horseback patrol with Cookie at Collegiate Peaks Wilderness Area, Buena Vista, CO (Photo by DWM Randy Hancock)



L-R DOW Ast/Chief L.E. Eric Harper, Gerry, Chief L.E. John Bredehoft and A/Head Public Services Scott Hoover, Denver, CO (Photo by DWM Tim Woodward)

with Bob (DWM) and Martha Thompson at their residence in Kremmling.

On October 4 Gene and I quickly dismantled some of the grouse wing survey boxes and signs in his area and attended at the DOW office in Hot Sulphur Springs. Here I met up with my next host, retired DWM (and past NAWEOA VP) Jerry Claassen, of Grand Lake. Jerry and I attended part of an officers' meeting held that day and then toured Rocky Mountain National Park. Jerry was a great tour guide. We managed to see some wildlife including: sheep, mule deer, and a lot of elk. The highlight was seeing some impressive bulls bugling and challenging each other. I stayed with Jerry and Debbi for 2 nights.

My last day in the field on October 5 was spent with DWM Michael Crosby of Parshall. Mike and I patrolled his patrol area by vehicle looking for moose hunters or elk hunters entering the area to set up camp for the approaching elk season. In the afternoon Mike and I positioned ourselves to view some aerial winter range fertilization that was occurring in the Kremmling area. Two fixed wing aircraft dropped granular ammonium nitrogen fertilizer to stimulate the growth of important winter browse plants (e.g. sage brush, mutton grass, etc.) for mule deer, elk and sage grouse. Mike explained Colorado has all kinds of summer range, but they need to manage areas for winter range. I managed to snap some good photos of the planes dropping fertilizer.

Jerry drove me to the Denver IA the morning of October 6. As we passed through Winter Park and crossed through the Berthoud Pass (11,315') it was snowing. From Denver I flew home to Brantford, Ontario.

There you have it, the trip of a lifetime and so many people to thank! I wish to thank NAWEOA, the Colorado DOW, and CWS for allowing me to make this trip. As well, I want to thank all the staff and family members of the Colorado DOW, USFWS (Denver) and NPS (Mesa Verde) for treating me so well and displaying the true meaning of hospitality. Lastly, I am forever indebted to Colorado DWM and friend Randy Hancock for the planning, time, and work he invested to making this trip run so smoothly.

Gerry (Gerald) Brunet
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2004 OFFICER EXCHANGE

Marion's Awesome Newfoundland/Labrador Adventure

by Marion Hoffman (New York State Environmental
Conservation Officer)



Marion with Howard Lavers and Baine Pilgrim in Newfoundland

Well what can I say? For those of you who were at the Manitoba Conference last year you'll remember the look of surprise on my face when my name was called as the lucky U.S. winner of the Officer Exchange Trip. Of course, you will probably also remember the look on my face, and those of a few of my fellow board members, when the next 2 names called were all current NAWEOA executive board members. My alternate for the trip was NAWEOA Secretary/Treasurer Steve Kleiner. I must admit I had a twinge of guilt having been picked over Steve, who works so tirelessly for this organization. But it was only a momentary twinge! I was already in full steam ahead mode, planning my trip back to beautiful, awesome, Newfoundland...and this time I was going to make sure I saw some of Labrador too!

Before I go any further with this report, let me acknowledge all those folks who made this trip possible. First, my thanks to the families that hosted me. The list includes Marilyn Pike and her husband Len and their baby Julia, Brent and Mary Cole and their son Christopher, Howard Lavers and his children Christina and Jeremy, Nish and Verna Dobbin, Bill and Amanda Duffett and their children Charlene and Pamela, Hollis and Lynn Yetman and Hillary and Justin, Baine Pilgrim and his dad, Earl and Bob Penton. Also, thanks to Jim Maloney and Tony Porter of Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Environment and Conservation. And of course, last but not least, my thanks to NAWEOA for sponsoring this wonderful program. OK, now on with my trip.

Day 1 found me flying from Albany, New York into St. John's, Newfoundland and meeting up with Marilyn Pike and her family. Since I was only spending the night with Marilyn and didn't arrive until late that night, there wasn't much time for sightseeing. However at the St. John's conference, I had pretty much covered the city. In speaking with Marilyn that night we discussed how the Conservation Officers of the province were the only ones in North America that were not armed. I am happy to report since my trip that that problem has been remedied. Congratulations to the Officers of Newfoundland and Labrador, your long fight has finally paid off!

The next morning found me up early and on my way to meet Brent Cole in Clarendville. After meeting up with Brent, we patrolled our way back to Gander, where Brent is headquartered. On the way, Brent took me to the site of the Arrow plane crash

disaster. In December 12, 1985 a plane bearing 248 members of the United States 101st Airborne crashed shortly after takeoff from Gander Air Force Base. All souls on board perished. At the site is a beautiful statute known as Silent Witness. It depicts a soldier holding the hands of two small children. There are small flags placed throughout the grounds indicating where members' remains were found. A cross was made from parts from the plane also stands at the site. Even though this was a site of sadness, it also instilled a sense of pride and brotherhood with my Canadian brothers and sisters.

The rest of the day saw us checking live traps that Brent had set trying to alleviate a fox and mink problem they were having at the Canadian airbase. That night, I had my first taste of bear sausages. Now, I've had bear meat before, and never really liked it. Let me tell you, there's nothing like bear sausages. Wow! Also Wow, was the fact that Brent and his wife Mary surprised me with a birthday cake at dinner. I won't tell you what birthday it was, but let's just say I haven't really been celebrating them in recent years. This one I definitely will remember!

The next day was jam-packed. Brent had planned for us to patrol to Terra Nova National Park, and then come back for a helicopter patrol of the area. Due to weather conditions, we decided to hang loose about Gander, and hope that the ceiling rose enough to get us up in the helicopter. I sure didn't want to miss the chance for my first helicopter flight! While waiting about for a change in the weather, Brent and I visited his office. While there I checked out their evidence cooler and found 19 salmon marked and tagged for evidence. Brent had just returned from a weeklong patrol targeting salmon poaching. Since the fisherman was a repeat offender he could be facing up to \$3,000 to \$9,000 in fines and jail time. Among the charges he was facing were netting in inland waters, possession of untagged salmon, and fishing without a license.

At long last the call came from the airport. Pilot Jeff Maloney was willing to take us up. He indicated we had about a 2 hour window so off we raced to the airport. All I can say is helicopter flying is the way to go. It was truly amazing! I had a one on one with a bald eagle who just happened to pass by, as well as seeing my first caribou herd and checked out a couple of moose. We checked out the Gander River and got up close and personal with Mt. Peyton. Jeff was a wonderful pilot and after the first episode of me making fish faces and noises when he did banked sharply to the left, he kept her flying nice and level. Once my helicopter trip was over, Brent and I did a truck patrol of some forest access roads just east of Gander. This is where another highlight of my trip occurred. We came across a truck that had pulled off to the side of the road. The hunter in it was talking on a cell phone as we approached. I'll never forget the look on his face and his words to his wife, "Honey, you're not going to believe this, there's a New York State Environmental Conservation Officer pulling up next to me, I've got to go." I politely asked to see his license, and had a good laugh when I told him I was just slightly out of my jurisdiction. After patrol we arrived back at Brent's house for a traditional Thanksgiving meal. Not only did I get to celebrate my birthday with some great friends, but I also got to celebrate the traditional Canadian Thanksgiving. I can truthfully say that I have never had the opportunity to celebrate two Thanksgivings in one year. Boy, do I have a lot to be thankful for!

Day 4 Brent handed me off to Bob Penton for a trip across the island to Corner Brook where I was to meet up with Howard Lavers. On the way we stopped into the Springdale office where I was introduced to staff there. Upon arrival at the Corner Brook Office I came face to face with Officer "Lusty". Long story, but if you were at the Newfoundland/Labrador Conference you will know who I mean. We also stopped on the way for supplies. Bob wanted to make sure I had everything I needed for my trip so he purchased the biggest bottle of Jagermeister he could find

for me. Late that day I met up with Howard Lavers who was to transport me through Gros Morne National Park to his home in Port Saunders.

I spent day 5, 6, 7 and part of 8 with Howard Lavers and his partner Nish Dobbin. On the first day, Howard, Nish and I patrolled to Sally's Cove near St. Paul's to set a trap for a nuisance bear that had been causing problems in the area. It was fun to see all the old locals come out and inspect the trap to make sure the guys were doing it right! From there Howard and I went off for a backcountry patrol where I was overwhelmed by bald eagle sightings. There were literally dozens of eagles in trees in every direction. Amazing! We also checked some moose hunters in the area and then headed back to Howard's. When you win the exchange trip they tell you that if everything goes right, you will be living with and participating in your hosting officers' lives. Well I did just that, not only did I patrol with Howard, but I also did Bingo duty with him that night.

Next day, we were up early and on our way to meet up with Baine Pilgrim and his partner Alvone Sutton for a boat patrol on Canadian Bay and the Cloud River. Well, in New York I certainly don't get to check out boats whose purpose is to harvest glacial ice. We did that day. We also checked out a few hunters' cabins and a boatload of hunters who had been out harvesting Murres. The highlight of this day was meeting well known Canadian author, Earl Pilgrim. Baine took me to his dad's cabin on the Cloud River. What a spectacular place! Thank you Baine, and thank you Earl for making me feel so welcome.

Day 7 was devoted to a trip to L'Anse aux Meadows and Quirpon. L'Anse aux Meadows is a National Historic site commemorating the first Viking settlement in North America, circa 1000 AD. I had a great time exploring the site and got some great pictures of Howard and Nish in Viking garb. I also met the local legend, Job Anderson. Job has the distinction of being the guy who had a polar bear break into his house one year, and lived to tell about it. Later that evening, Howard received a call about an illegal moose kill at Plum Point. We piled into Howard's patrol truck and off to the scene we raced. Unfortunately, the investigation could not be completed that evening and I was leaving the next morning for Labrador.

Day 8 found me winging my way across the Strait of Belle Isle to the "Big Land". After landing in Happy Valley/ Goose Bay I met up with Bill Duffett, with whom I would spend the next couple of days. My first stop was to the Hudson Bay Trading Post. From there we went to a wonderful interpretative museum dedicated to the history of the Inuit people. Day 9 found Bill and me meeting up with Hollis Yetman and patrolling our way up the Trans-Labrador Highway to Churchill Falls. These folks' interpretation of a highway is a little different than mine. The

Trans-Labrador Highway from Goose Bay to Churchill is 300 km of dirt! Along the way I was introduced to pine martin trapping, again, something that I have not experienced back in NY. A highlight of this trip was my meeting of Lawrence Mugford, an 81 year old trapper who the boys know very well. They got Lawrence to show me his traps and snares. We also stopped off at the patrol cabin at the Cash River for lunch. Once we arrived at Churchill Falls, we took a tour of the plant. This electric plant provides much of the power for the entire Northeast United States. It truly is an amazing place. Security was high.

On the trip back to Goose Bay, the next day, Hollis and Bill filled me in on the different Caribou herds and their battle to enforce the hunting regulations when the migration begins. Day 11 was jam-packed. I was leaving Labrador that afternoon to fly back to St. John's to spend the night before heading back to New York. Bill arranged to have a helicopter pick Hollis and me up and take us up over Muskrat Falls on the Churchill River. While patrolling from the helicopter we got to see a "huge" bull moose. Biggest one I saw while I was there. Once we returned from the helicopter patrol it was a boat patrol up the Churchill River to Lake Melville and Mudd Lake. Bill wanted to show me his new cabin he had built before I left. It is an absolutely beautiful place.

Later that day it was back to St. John's for another overnight stay with Marilyn and the next morning back to New York. This report only hits some of the highlights of my trip. I have many photos and a lot more to tell, but you all will have to wait to for my presentation in at this year's conference. See you there!

Marion Hoffman MJFishcop@aol.com

New York State Environmental Conservation Officer



Marion with Hollis Yetman and Bill Duffett in Labrador

EXCHANGE TRIP WINNERS

In the last newsletter, a list was published listing all of the officer exchange winners since 1983. Thanks to everyone who helped to "fill in the blanks". However, we still have a few holes. I am hoping somebody can help these blanks:

- 1989 Ron Brooks of Texas went to _____????
- 1990 Who was the winner from Canada and where did he/she go???? (Idaho conference)
- 1990 Who was the winner from the United States and where did she/he go???? (Idaho)
- 1993 Who was the winner from Canada and where did he/she go???? (South Dakota conf)
- 1994 Who was the winner from Canada and where did he/she go???? (Nova Scotia conf)
- 1998 Who was the winner from Canada and where did she/he go???? (Ohio conference)

I have information that John Mombourquette of Nova Scotia might have won, but not sure when or where he went. If you can help fill in these blanks, it will help to ensure NAWEOA's historical records are complete.

You can e-mail me at Wrishko.family@sasktel.net or call 306-628 3900. Thanks for your help.

Kerry Wrishko, Past President

Recognizing The Good Guys

This page recognizes the outstanding officers in various jurisdictions. If you don't see your officers listed then **contact your Jurisdictional Rep** (do not send directly to the Editor) and make sure that next year they don't get overlooked. This is your page, folks, help make it complete!

REGION 1

Saskatchewan Conservation Officers, Ken Costley and Ian Riendeau are 2004 Conservation Officers of the Year.

Saskatchewan Conservation Officer Al Debusschere is 2005 Conservation Officer of the Year.

REGION 2

Ontario Conservation Officer Dan Smith is Officer of the Year.

REGION 3

Nova Scotia's Mike Hunter received the Arthur H Eisenhower Officer of the Year Award.

New Brunswick Rick Nash is 2004 Shikar-Safari Wildlife Officer of the Year.

REGION 4

California Officer Mike Conely is the National Wild Turkey Federation Officer of the Year.

Idaho Senior Conservation Officer Mark Rhodes is Shikar-Safari Officer of the Year.

Idaho District Conservation Officer George Fischer is National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) Officer of the Year.

Wyoming Game Warden Bob Trebelcock is Shikar-Safari International 2004 Wildlife Officer of the Year.

Wyoming Game Warden Terry Cram is the Wyoming Game Wardens Association 2003 Officer of the Year.

New Mexico Sergeant Leon Redman is Shikar-Safari Wildlife Officer of the Year.

Alaska Trooper Todd Machacek is Shikar-Safari Wildlife Officer of the Year.

REGION 5

South Dakota Officer Dave Bartling is 2004 Shikar-Safari Wildlife Conservation Officer of the Year.

North Dakota District Game Warden Mike Raasakka is 2004 National Association of State Boating Law Administrators Officer of the Year.

North Dakota District Game Warden Corey Erck is 2004 Shikar-Safari Wildlife Conservation Officer of the Year.

Texas Game Warden Marcus Collins is 2004 Shikar-Safari Wildlife Officer of the Year.

REGION 6

Florida Charles "Chuck" Collins is Shikar-Safari Club International 2004 Conservation Officer of the Year.

Florida Officer Grant Burton is Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission's 2005 Officer of the Year.

Florida Major Paul Hoover won the Guy Bradley Award.

REGION 7

Connecticut Officer Todd Chemacki is the Shikar-Safari Club International and the Northeast Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs Association Officer of the Year.

Connecticut Conservation Officer Edward Pyznar and Conservation Officer Jason Williams are Boating Law Enforcement Officers of the Year presented by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators.

Connecticut Special Conservation Officer Foster Clarke, Conservation Officer Joseph Ruggiero and Conservation Officer John Hey received Medals for Meritorious Service.

Connecticut Conservation Officer James Kane received the Life Saving Award Medal.

Connecticut Conservation Officers Bruce Gagliardi, Ryan Healy, Anthony Rose and Michael Tavares received Medals for Outstanding Service.

Maine Game Warden Bill Livezey is Maine Warden of the Year.

Maine Game Warden Paul Farrington received the Meritorious Service Award.

Maine Game Warden Wayne Carter and his canine, Buddy, received the Search and Rescue Canine Case of the Year Award.

Maine Warden Jeff Spencer and his canine, Bridger, received the K9 Conservation Law Enforcement Case of the Year Award.

Maine Warden Alan Dudley, Warden Mark Merrifield, Warden Mike Favreau, and Warden Durward Humphrey received Exemplary Service Awards.

Maine Lieutenant Bill Allen of Unity received Supervisor of the Year Award.

Iowa Conservation Officer Brad Baker received Colonel's Award for providing distinguished service to the Maine Warden Service for assisting Game Warden Sergeant Mike Marshall in the days following a fatal car accident which claimed the life of Mike's wife.

REGION 7 (cont'd)

Michigan Lt. David Purol is Shikar-Safari Club International 2004 Conservation Officer of the Year.

Michigan Conservation Officer Glenn Gutierrez is Shikar-Safari Club International 2005 Wildlife Enforcement Officer of the Year.

New Jersey Officer Greg Honachefsky is New Jersey Officer of the Year for 2004.

New York Environmental Conservation Investigator Stephen Canfield is the North East Conservation Law Enforcements Chiefs Association (CLECA) Officer of the Year.

New York Tech Sgt. Richard Matzell is Shikar-Safari Club International Officer of the Year.

New York Officer Kenric Warner is the National Wild Turkey Federation/NY Chapter's Officer of the Year.

New York Captain Gary Bobseine is New York State Rifle and Pistol Association 2004 ECO of the Year.

New York ECO Brian Shea is New York State Rifle and Pistol Association 2003 Environmental Conservation Officer (ECO) of the Year.

Pennsylvania Game Wildlife Conservation Officer David L. Myers is Shikar-Safari International Wildlife Conservation Officer of the Year.

Pennsylvania Game Wildlife Conservation Officer John Denchak is Northeast Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs Association (CLECA) Officer of the Year.

Pennsylvania Game Commission Northeast Region Director Barry Warner is Pennsylvania Trappers Association Conservationist of the Year.

Pennsylvania Game Commission Land Management Group Supervisor Richard Skubish is National Wild Turkey Federation's Pennsylvania Land Management Officer of the Year.

Pennsylvania Game Conservation Officer Rodney P. Ansell is National Wild Turkey Federation's Pennsylvania Wildlife Officer of the Year.

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Waterways Conservation Officer Larry Furlong won the 2004 BUI Top Gun Award.

Rhode Island Officer Anthony "Tony" Rosa is Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs Association (CLECA) Officer of the Year.

Rhode Island Officer Daniel K. White is NABLA Officer of the Year.

Rhode Island Officer Christopher A. Duguid is Shikar-Safari International Wildlife Officer of the Year.

Vermont Senior Warden Greg Eckhardt is Warden of the Year.

Proposed Constitution Amendment

Pursuant to Section 8.2 of the NAWEOA Constitution, notice is hereby given of the intent to amend Section 1.4 (c) of the NAWEOA constitution regarding Honorary Members. The section currently reads:

"Honorary members may only be elected to this position by the membership at an annual meeting. Honorary members are elected to this position for life."

The amended section would read:

"Honorary members may be elected to this position by the executive board or by the membership at an annual meeting. Honorary members are elected to this position for life."

Background: Currently, there are only 19 Honorary Members. The majority are past presidents. They have received this honour in appreciation for their work for NAWEOA. Occasionally, another person may "go above and beyond" in their work for NAWEOA. It would be most fitting if an Honorary Membership could be bestowed upon them, as a surprise, at an annual conference, without having to be elected by the general membership at the annual conference. The proposal is to allow the NAWEOA executive board to elect candidates, in addition to any brought to the floor at the annual conference.

This proposed amendment will be voted on at the annual conference this July in Penticton, BC during one of NAWEOA's business sessions. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.



NAWEOA 2005



PREAMBLE

The British Columbia Conservation Officer Service, Environment Canada Wildlife Enforcement, Canadian Wildlife Service and Fisheries and Oceans Canada -Pacific Region are proud to invite you to NAWEOA 2005 in Beautiful Penticton, British Columbia! 2005 is the 25th Anniversary of NAWEOA and the 100th centennial of the BC Conservation Officer Service, so we're planning an exceptional get together that will celebrate both milestones. We have world class speakers and a varied array of activities that will keep you both entertained and enlightened for the entire week. We recommend you plan to take at least a few vacation days outside of the NAWEOA festivities, to explore our beautiful province. Here are just a few of the many web sites that can help you to decide where to spend your time:

www.hellobc.com www.tourism.bc.ca www.travel.bc.ca
www.gov.bc.ca/bvprd/bc/home.do

And don't forget to check out the Vacation Planner Section on our website -www.naweo2005.com.

Penticton is a summer paradise situated at the southern tip of Lake Okanagan, and the northern tip of Skaha Lake. This area provides some of the best waterskiing and parasailing opportunities in the province, along with ample fishing, camping, hiking and biking, touring, shopping ...you name it!

The planning and organizing of this event is heading full steam toward providing you and your family with a memorable experience. We are looking forward to hosting you in Beautiful British Columbia.

For Registration details check out our website at www.naweo2005.com or call the Toll Free line at 1-800-663-1900. We'll see you all in Penticton in 2005!

Rick Hoar
Chairman, NAWEOA 2005

About Penticton

The City of Penticton is located centrally in the South Okanagan just 40 miles (66 kilometers) from the British Columbia, Washington State border. Penticton can be easily accessed by ground or air transport. The distance from Seattle, Washington is 315 highway miles (505 km); Spokane, Washington is only 236 miles (377 km). Air travel from Seattle, Washington is with Horizon Air into Kelowna International Airport, which is a 45 minute shuttle to Penticton. Travelers from Calgary, Alberta fly directly into Penticton Airport located just 6 km (4 miles) from the convention centre and the city's downtown core.

Driving Distances

All distances are in kilometres (miles)
from Penticton

Banff	542	(335)
Blaine, WA	374	(231)
Calgary	670	(414)
Edmonton	965	(588)
Jasper	670	(414)
Kelowna	68	(42)
Prince George	707	(436)
Seattle, WA	500	(309)
Spokane, WA	365	(225)
Vancouver, BC	395	(244)
Victoria	433	(267)

WIN A PAIR OF CUSTOM MEINDL BOOTS!

Be one of the first 200 participants to purchase a full registration and you are automatically entered.

NAWEOA 2005 EXHIBITOR BOOTH SPACE

The Exhibitor Committee for NAWEOA 2005 in Penticton invites applications from businesses interested in showcasing their goods and services at the 24th Annual Convention. The fee per table is \$500 +taxes (CAD). If you are interested or know of potential exhibitors, please visit our website at: www.naweo2005.com or contact: Rich Elson elisonr@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca (250) 561-5510, Phil Taylor taylorp@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca (250) 561-5530

SOCIAL AGENDA

Wine Tours and Tasting

Tours and tasting at three award winning Estate Wineries. Date: July 10-12, 14 & 17 Price: Package includes stops at 3 wineries, return transportation, professional wine guide. \$55.00 per person. www.hillsideestate.com www.winegrowers.bc.ca www.redroosterwinery.com

Cathedral Lakes Hike Return bus ride to base camp. Tour ride to top of Mountain, buffet lunch, hiking with tour guide. Good hiking boots or walking shoes are a must. Date: July 12 and 14 Price for adults: \$130.00 per person Price for youth (age 4 to 12): \$90.00 per person Children 3 and under are free Site: www.cathedral-lakes-lodge.com

River Rafting (3 hr bus ride there and back)

4 hours of river rafting with Kumsheen River Rafting, riverside lunch, return bus transportation from Penticton in an air-conditioned coach, 27km of river, 15 heart-thumping rapids. 12 people per raft. Paddle Rafting. Expect to get wet. **Note: A risk of liability waiver MUST be signed before raft departure. Waiver will be handed out on bus trip there. ** Date: July 11, 12 & 14 Price: \$155.00 per person. Children under 10 years old are not permitted. For more information: www.kumsheen.com

Golf Tournament – shotgun start, best ball format, lots of prizes and steak/chicken BBQ to end it all.

Kettle Valley Steam Railway – 2.5 hour historic train ride, BBQ lunch, return bus transportation from Penticton.

Summerland Agriculture Tour / Fish Hatchery / Research Centre – 1.5 hour tour of each facility, return bus transportation, professional guide, 47 seats, \$42.00 per person.

Okanagan Desert Center – tour of center, 2 hours at each stop, return bus transportation to Penticton, professional guide - \$50.00 per person.

Attention all "Closet Artists"! We will be holding an artistic exhibition and contest in four categories: (1) photography-flora and fauna; (2) Artwork (sketches, paintings, drawings, etc.); (3) Carvings & Sculptures (wood, clay, ceramic, soapstone); (4) Open Crafts (wildlife calls, quilts, jewelry boxes, knives, etc.). For details and deadlines visit our website at www.naweo2005.com.

WARDEN SKILLS

Register your team of 6 for the Warden or Junior Warden Skills competition. An elimination event may be required to reduce the number of teams competing on Friday. Date: Friday, July 15, 2005. Price: Before June 30, 2005, registration is included in your registration fees. After June 30, 2005 registration is \$60.00 per team over and above your registration fees, and registration can only occur at the convention. Please make sure you have indicated your desire to participate in the Warden Games on the registration form, before you send it in. Junior Warden events are free for ages 5 to 17.

BANQUET

Banquet Date: July 16, 2005. Note: The deadline date to register for the banquet is June 20th, 2005. Attire for the evening is casual summer dress suitable for attending a dinner and dance occasion.

Accommodation Options – Don't miss out. Book Early!

For travel arrangements to attend the NAWEOA 2005 Conference, please e-mail sales@okres.bc.ca. Okanagan Reservations saves you precious time and money by looking after all your travel needs. Their free service is available throughout the Okanagan Valley and the interior of British Columbia. For all your travel needs including airfare and car rentals to and from Penticton. Please email booking requests to jsommerfeld@thomascook.ca or call Marlin Travel at 250-493-6777.

Penticton Lakeside Resort & Casino

On Okanagan Lake, the Penticton Lakeside Resort has been selected as the conference hotel for NAWEOA 2005. A full service resort hotel, all rooms have balconies, standard rooms, executive suites, jet tub suites, Convention Centre, licensed fine dining, cocktail lounge, pub, beach, indoor pool, whirlpool, fitness centre, hair salon. Small pets.

Other Accommodation

Park Royal RV Park Tel. 250-492-7051

Direct booking, Full hook-ups, pull-through campsites, 30-amp service. Three blocks to the convention centre.
Email: parkroyalrv@shaw.ca

Southbeach Gardens Tel. 250-492-0628

Penticton Hostels - 2 km. from convention centre

Double Diamond Hostel - 32 km from convention centre, located at the Apex Mountain Resort Ski Hill.

Events, Activities & Tours

Wine Tours.....	\$55.00
Cathedral Lakes Tours.....	Adults - \$130
	Youth 4-12 yrs - \$90
Summerland Agriculture, Hatchery & Research Centre Tour (47 Seats).....	\$42/person
Kettle Valley Railway	\$60.00
Shopping Excursion.....	\$40.00
River Rafting	\$155.00
Golf Tournament.....	\$75.00
Okanagan Desert Tour.....	\$50.00
Channel Tube Float	\$15.00
Female Officer endeavors.....	\$35.00
Lying on the Sunny Beach.....	Free

*Note: Date and Times are subject to change as events become scheduled. We will confirm your event registration at that time. See Website for more information: www.naweo2005.com

NAWEOA 2005 BUSINESS AGENDA PRESENTATIONS

Wednesday, July 13

- 0700 hrs Grand March, Formation
 0730 hrs Group Photo
 0830 hrs Opening Ceremonies
 1100 hrs Rick Hansen – Motivational Speaker
 Ballroom #1 (1700 seats) spouses welcome
 1145 hrs Armorial Bearing Ceremony with the Lieutenant
 Governor of British Columbia
 1900 hrs Officer exchange reports

Thursday, July 14

- 0830-1200 hrs Dr. James Reese -Stress Management
 Ballroom #1 (1700 seats) *spouses welcome
 1300-1630 hrs Dan Holt – Rural Surveillance
 Salon B & C (800 seats)
 1300-1630 hrs CO Myron Zukewich -Undercover Officer
 Selection and Training - Theatre (443 seats)
 1700 hrs Female Officer Rendezvous
 1930 hrs Bid presentations
 2100 hrs Wine and Cheese

Friday, July 15

- 0830-1015 hrs David Toddington -Intelligence Gathering
 Salon B & C (800 seats)
 0830-1015 hrs Dr. Val Geist -Mule Deer Management
 Theatre (443 seats)
 1300 hrs Warden and Junior Warden Skills
 1800 hrs BBQ

Saturday, July 16

- 0830-1200 hrs Dr. Peter Bell Intelligence Analysis (workshop)
 Ballroom #2 (1600 seats -breakout rooms avail.)
 0830-1200 hrs CO Kelly Dahl -Wildlife Decoys -(workshop)
 Hospitality area (Limited to 300 seats)
 0830-1000 hrs John Cliffe and Judge Bourassa – Crown Prosecutor, Environmental Law
 Theatre (Limited to 200 seats)
 0830-1000 hrs Idaho CO Tony Latham -Firearms Evidence
 Salon B & C (Limited to 200 seats)
 1030-1200 hrs John Cliffe and Judge Bourassa – Crown Prosecutor,
 Environmental Law
 Theatre (Limited to 200 seats)
 1030-1200 hrs Idaho CO Tony Latham -Firearms Evidence
 Salon B & C (Limit to 200 seats)
 1300-1430 hrs CO Jim Corbett – Predator Attack
 Theatre (Limited to 400 seats)
 1300-1430 hrs Randy Forsyth -Wildlife Officer, Non-toxic Shot
 Salon B & C (Limited to 400 seats)
 1300-1430 hrs Peter Morrison - Flyfishing
 Hospitality area (Limited to 400 seats)
 *spouses welcome
 1500-1630 hrs CO Jim Corbett – Predator Attack
 Theatre (Limited to 400 seats)
 1500-1630 hrs Randy Forsyth -Wildlife Officer, Non-toxic Shot
 Hospitality area (Limited to 400 seats)
 1500-1630 hrs Cst. Laurie White -In the Line of Fire
 (Motivational)– Salon B & C
 (Limited to 800 seats) *spouses welcome
 1900 hrs Auctions, Banquet & Dance

SOCIAL AGENDA

Sunday, July 10, 2005

Wine Tours and Tasting

Monday, July 11, 2005

Cathedral Lakes Hike
 Kettle Valley Railway
 Wine Tours and Tasting
 River Rafting (3hr bus there and back)
 Shopping Tour

Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Wine Tours & Tasting
 Golf Tournament
 River Rafting (3hr bus there and back)
 Kettle Valley Railway
 Cathedral Lakes Hike
 Okanagan Desert Tour

Wednesday, July 13, 2005

Hospitality Evening

Friday, July 15, 2005

Warden & Junior Warden Skills
 BBQ

Sunday, July 17, 2005

Non-denominational church
 service.
 Executive Meeting

FAMILIES AND RETIREES

Thursday, July 14, 2005

- Wine Tours & Tasting
- Kettle Valley Railway
- Shopping Tour
- Okanagan Desert Tour
- Summerland Agriculture, Fish
Hatchery and Research Centre
- Channel Tube Float
- Cathedral Lakes Hike

Saturday, July 16, 2005

- Okanagan Desert Tour
- Summerland Agriculture, Fish
Hatchery and Research Centre

HOW TO REGISTER

Go to our website, www.naweo2005.com and decide which activities and guest speakers you would like to attend. Complete the on-line form or call 1-800-663-1900.

CANCELLATION POLICY FOR ACCOMMODATION

At time of booking a major credit card is required. If for some unfortunate reason, you cannot attend, a written notice of cancellation must be received 30 days prior to arrival. Thirty days or less, you will be charged for one night hotel room plus tax. *All Rates DO NOT include 8%Hotel Tax or 7%GST, total 15% Tax. *International guests can claim a 7%GST Rebate from Canada Customs when leaving Canada. *Rates are based on single or double occupancy -\$20.00 per extra person per night per room. *If paying for the conference by cheque one night's hotel room deposit must be included

REFUND POLICY

*All refunds are subject to a \$25.00 CAD administration fee.

CHEQUE PAYMENT POLICY

*If paying by cheque, cheques must be received in the office of Okanagan Reservations Inc.-1801 Main Street, Penticton, BC V2A 5H2 -Canada -NO LATER than JUNE 01 ,2005. *Please make all cheques payable to 'Okanagan Reservations Inc.' and in Canadian funds. No cheques will be processed after that date. *Only credit cards will be accepted after JUNE 01,2005 *NSF cheques will be subject to a banking administration fee.

CANCELLATION POLICY FOR TOURS

If for some unfortunate reason you find that you have to cancel your tour, refunds are based on the number of days prior to departure that we have received **written** notice of your cancellation;
More than 30 days prior to departure, we will refund your payment less an administration fee of \$20 CAD per person per tour.30 days or less but more than 7 days prior to departure; you will receive a 50%refund. Less than 7 days to departure, you will receive no refund. *If a tour does not attain its minimum number, the tour will be cancelled by JUNE 10, 2005. All money will be refunded. *No cancellations will be accepted after JUNE 10,2005

TORCH RUN REGISTRATION

This is a worksheet only. Do not send this worksheet in but please use it to prepare for the on-line or phone-in registration process.

Family (4 or more)-\$70 /Adult -\$20 /Youth -\$14

Name	Family/Adult/Child	T-Shirt Size Adult Child	Entry Fee
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Address: _____

Total:\$ _____

REGISTRATION WORKSHEETS

This is a worksheet only. Do not send this worksheet in but please use it to prepare for the on-line or phone-in registration process.

NORTH AMERICAN WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ANNUAL CONFERENCE, PENTICTON, BC JULY 10-16, 2005

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Delegate Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Prov./State: _____ PC/Zip: _____

Country: _____ Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Years of Service: _____ Agency: _____ Position: _____

Voting Member: Yes: _____ No: _____ For voting status, contact your NAWEOA Rep.

Spouse /Guest Name (if attending): _____

Youth Name (if attending): _____ Age: _____

Youth Name (if attending): _____ Age: _____

Are you a retiree? Yes: _____ No: _____

Are you planning to get a copy of the group photo? Yes: _____ No: _____

Will you be participating in the Warden Skills? Yes: _____ No: _____

Are you bringing a candidate for Junior Warden Skills? Yes: _____ No: _____

If you are attending from outside of Canada information on tax refunds is available at

<http://www.ccra-adrc.gc.ca/visitors/>. Application forms will also be available at the conference.

Registration: Note registration must be completed before June 30, 2005 - After that, registration can only be done at the conference.

Early Bird Draw: The first 200 delegates that sign up for a full registration will have their names entered into a draw for a pair of custom fitted Meindl Boots (www.ajbrooks.com)-The boots will be presented to the winner at the convention!

Working delegates check here _____

(Working delegates are working at the convention and are only required to pay for special activities -conference registration fees are covered)

ATTENDANCE

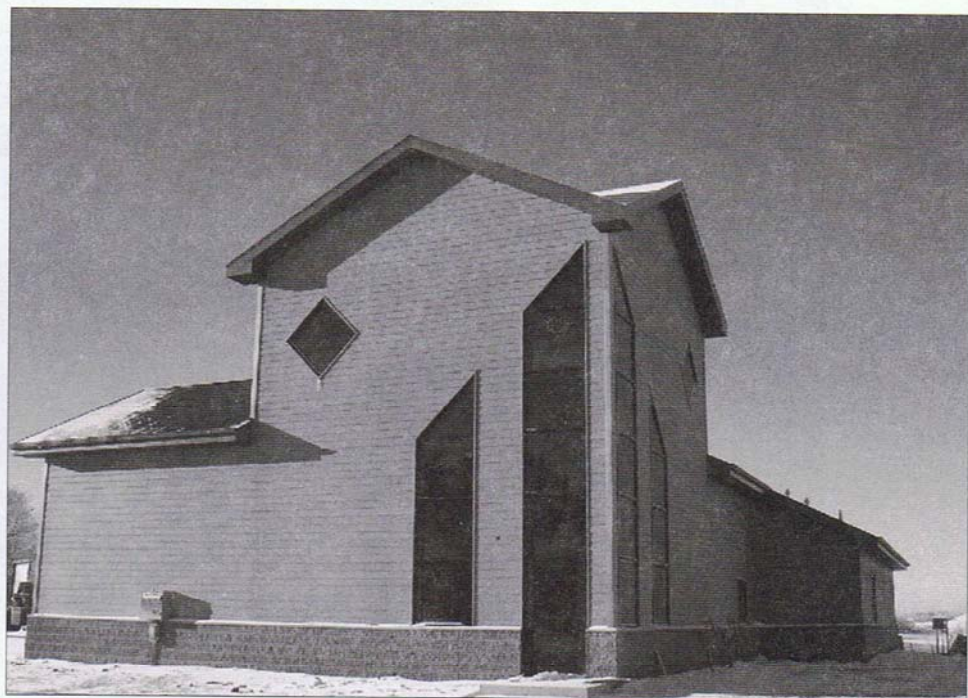
Number Attending	Before 05/15/2005	After 05/15/2005
_____ Full registration NAWEOA Member -Includes all Day Passes	\$165.00	\$200.00
_____ Full registration non-NAWEOA Member -Includes Association		
_____ Member and All Day Passes	\$190.00	\$225.00
_____ Spouse -Includes all Day Passes	\$100.00	\$125.00
_____ Youth (5-17) Banquet NOT included	\$40.00	\$50.00
_____ Student registered in a Resource School or retiree	\$125.00	\$160.00
_____ registration reduced by 25%(NAWEOA member)		
Sub Total:	\$ _____	\$ _____

DAY PASSES:

Number of Passes Required	Details	Before 05/15/2005	After 05/15/2005
_____	Banquet*Only -Saturday July 16 (cut off date is June 20th, 2005)	\$60.00	\$75.00
_____	July 13, 2005 — Opening Ceremonies, Uniform & Photo Day		
_____	Speakers as scheduled below)	\$75.00	\$95.00
_____	July 14, 2005 (speakers as scheduled)	\$75.00	\$95.00
_____	July 15, 2005 (Warden Skills &Speakers as scheduled)	\$75.00	\$95.00
_____	July 16, 2005 (Banquet*&Speakers as scheduled)	\$75.00	\$95.00
Sub Total:		\$ _____	\$ _____

* Note: The deadline to register for the banquet is June 20, 2005. Banquet date is Saturday, July 16, 2005.

The North American Game Warden Museum Update 2005



Construction of the North American Game Warden Museum at the International Peace Garden is underway! Construction was to begin in early May but due to extreme precipitation and moisture levels it was delayed until mid June. Phase 1 of the museum has moved ahead quickly since the "Celebration Day" during the NAWEOA Convention held this summer in Winnipeg.

Phase 1 will consist of display space, an interpretive room for educational programming, a storage/workroom for the preparation of display materials, a gift shop, a reception area and office for our interpreters, totalling just over 4200 square feet in area. Construction of Phase 1 is expected to be completed by early December 2004. Construction of Phase 2 will begin in the coming years adding additional display space and a Board Room, which will bring the total area of the Museum to approximately 6200 square feet.

There is still a lot of work and fundraising left to do before the Museum will be complete. Become involved!

The Museum belongs to all Wildlife Enforcement Officers in Canada and the United States. Contact a Museum Board Member or your NAWEOA Director to see how you can help bring the Museum to completion. For further info please check out our the Game Warden Museum website at www.gamewardenmuseum.org. For those of you who attended the Museum Celebration Day last summer, you will be pleased to know that the foundation now has a building on it. As the pictures show we have made real progress despite battling the weather all year. It seemed it rained every chance we had to make progress on the site. We are extremely pleased to say that weather is no longer a factor as we are working inside the building now. In fact, by the time you read this, the drywalling and painting should be complete. It is an awesome building to walk into and look up to the tower ceiling and across to the Peace Towers.

At the time of this writing a group of us have traveled to the RCMP museum to meet with their curator to get a sense of how to proceed with our exhibit design. It is satisfying to

know that we have come this far and are now looking to the display aspect of our Museum. We will be holding a fall meeting at the Peace Garden and displays and exhibits will be a major point of discussion. If you have items you would like to donate to the museum, please visit the Museum website at www.gamewardenmuseum.org. You will find an email address to make your items available, or if you prefer get in touch with your NAWEOA Jurisdictional Rep. They know how to find us.

We intend to hire summer staff this year to set up temporary displays and offer some programming. This will buy us some time to get more permanent displays built and still offer a meet and greet for summer visitors.

Do you have an idea for a display? Do you have a display that meets our mandate and would you like to loan it to the Museum on a temporary basis? Would you like to spend a week at the museum attending to your display and promoting your agency or jurisdiction? We would welcome hearing from you via our website or by contacting one of the board members or a jurisdictional rep.

The financial needs of the Museum are ongoing. We welcome fundraising ideas and initiatives at the jurisdictional or agency level. Please check out the ongoing fundraising activities at the conference in British Columbia and on the website. Look for paving stones, memorials, membership and other fundraising efforts and make your contribution. We really do appreciate it.

On a final note the Museum Board wishes to thank the NAWEOA family for its generous and heartfelt support. We have come so far and it is largely because the Game Warden family stepped up to the plate. It seems that at every convention the support for this project is unwavering. The officers who gave the ultimate sacrifice are the pillars of strength for our Museum and because of your support their legacy will live on.

For further info please go to the Game Warden Museum website at <http://www.gamewardenmuseum.org>.



Quebec Officers removing a live moose from swimming pool.

NAWEOA

Pat Brown - Editor
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