



**NORTH AMERICAN
WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION**

"The Voice of Resource Law Enforcement"



26th Annual NAWEOA Conference

July 16 - 22, 2007 ~~~ St. Paul, Minnesota



"Meet ya on the Mississippi"

Hosted by
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Minnesota Conservation Officers Association
Minnesota Game Warden Foundation

Spring 2007
47th Edition NAWEOA Newsletter

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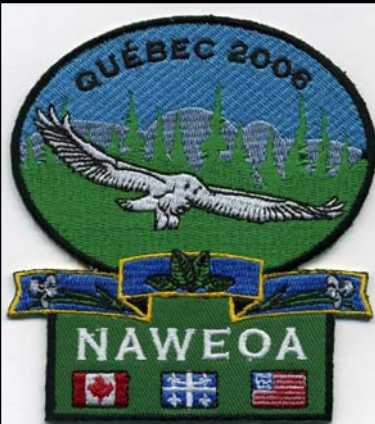
Visit NAWEOA's website:

<http://www.naweo.org>

for loads of information

**Contact your Jurisdictional Representative
for passwords to the protected site**

- ~ Read/post interesting court cases
- ~ Link to the summer conference host sites
- ~ Link to other fish and wildlife websites
- ~ Browse Officer Memorials
- ~ Learn about NAWEOA memberships, executive board members, constitution and by-laws, awards
- ~ Buy NAWEOA merchandise
- ~ and much more!!



SOUVENIR PATCHES AVAILABLE

← Only three hundred **2006 NAWEOA conference patches** were produced. The cost per patch (including shipping and handling) for all patches from 2001 through 2006 is \$7.00 US.

~~~~~ 1996 through 2000 patches are only available from the Game Warden Museum ( [www.gamewardenmuseum.org](http://www.gamewardenmuseum.org) ) ~~~~~

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NAWEOA**

**Mail to:** WCO George A. Wilcox

P.O. Box 480

Millville, PA 17846

*It is with great sadness that we report these line-of-deaths*

*Quebec  
Wildlife Protection  
Officer  
Richard Cayouette*

The Quebec Wildlife Protection Officers are going through a difficult time. They have just learned of the death of Wildlife Protection Officer Richard Cayouette in the line of duty. Officer Cayouette died on March 1, 2007, when he was struck by a snowmobile as he was finishing a snowmobile patrol in the Chapais region in Northern Quebec. He was transported by helicopter to hospital where he was pronounced dead.



Officer Richard Cayouette worked for the Wildlife Protection Service for 9 years. Originally from Chibougamau, he worked at the local office. Officer Cayouette was involved in his community and in the Quebec Wildlife Protection Officer Association where he served as the regional representative. He leaves to mourn his wife, Sonia Mailhot, his two daughters aged 8 and 11, as well as his family and a large circle of friends.

The funeral of Officer Richard Cayouette took place on Tuesday, March 6, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. at the Reine du Rosaire church in Chibougamau.

Messages of condolences may be mailed to the family at:

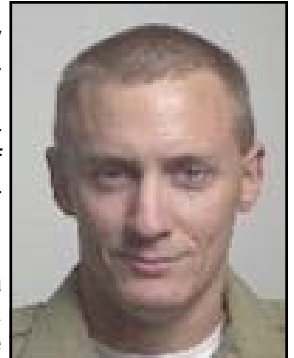
Service de la protection de la faune de Chibougamau  
Attention Madame Sonia Mailhot  
951, boul. Hamel  
Chibougamau, Quebec, Canada G8P 2Z3

Messages of condolences may be forwarded by fax or mail to Officer Cayouette's colleagues at:

Service de la protection de la faune de Chibougamau  
951, boul. Hamel  
Chibougamau, Quebec, Canada G8P 2Z3  
Fax: (418) 748-3491

*Texas  
Parks and Wildlife  
Game Warden  
Justin Hurst*

Game Warden Justin Hurst, 34, of El Campo was killed early Saturday, March 17, 2007 following a high-speed pursuit involving Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Wharton County Sheriff Deputies and Department of Public Safety troopers.



The pursuit occurred after a Texas Game Warden spotted a suspect who was believed to be illegally hunting from the road. As the warden approached the vehicle it fled.

After a lengthy high-speed pursuit down county roads that lasted for nearly an hour, the suspect's car was stopped and gunfire was exchanged. Hurst was reportedly shot at least twice. Despite CPR, medical aid at the scene, and the use of an air ambulance, Hurst succumbed to the injuries.

The incident is under investigation by the Texas Rangers.

Hurst went to work for Texas Parks and Wildlife in August 1995 as a biologist and graduated from the game warden academy in August 2002. He was first assigned to Brazos County, but transferred to Wharton County in early 2004. Hurst is survived by his wife, Amanda, and son, Kyle Hunter, age 4 months, his parents, Allen and Pat Hurst of Bryan, a brother, Greg Hurst of Denver, Colorado, and in-laws, Larry and Jeanie Wilcox of Denton, Texas.

Funeral services for Hurst were Wednesday, March 21 at 11 a.m. at the First Methodist Church in El Campo.

Memorial fund donations may be made to Operation Game Thief, c/o Justin Hurst Memorial Fund, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX, 78744.

The Houston 100 Club is also accepting donations for the family at: 100 Club Survivor's Fund 1233 West Loop South, Suite 1250, Houston, TX 77027-9107.



## President's Report by Doug Forsdick



Hello all. Hope that winter has been good for you and I am sure you are anxiously awaiting spring after a record-setting winter in many parts of our countries.

Just a reminder to everyone that we have some top-notch conferences on the horizon with Minnesota scheduled for 2007, Montana for 2008, New Brunswick for 2009, and Pennsylvania for 2010. Each conference host committee has given the NAWEOA board a status report and I can assure you that everyone is in for conferences to remember. There are some top-notch speakers booked and some great social events planned. The Saskatchewan Association of Conservation Officers (SACO) has formally requested

the opportunity to make an early bid presentation for 2011 at the summer conference in 2007. The board has approved this request, so if any other jurisdiction is interested in 2011, you will need to make your bid this summer at the conference.

I want also to remind NAWEOA members of the fund raising that the Newfoundland Officers Association is currently undertaking to help support long-time Newfoundland Officer and past NAWEOA board member Brent Cole. Brent was injured in a serious motor vehicle accident with a moose in October of 2006. He has a long road to recovery, but Brent is a fighter and with the support of his fellow officers and those of us within NAWEOA, he will succeed. A very special thank you to Brent's friend and co-worker Barry White for spearheading the effort to raise funds to help Brent and his family with unexpected expenses. For more information please take a look at the NAWEOA website. To make a donation, please contact Barry White at: [barrywhite@gov.nl.ca](mailto:barrywhite@gov.nl.ca).

As indicated in other reports, I

would sincerely like to thank Steve Tomac, Don Klebenow, and the other Nevada Wardens for their efforts in hosting the NAWEOA winter meeting in Boulder City, Nevada. They both worked tirelessly and made the meeting a real success. As well I would like to thank the Chief Game Warden in Nevada, Rob Buonamici for his support of NAWEOA and assistance in hosting the winter meeting. We realize that without his support we would not have been able to hold the meeting in Nevada.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Wisconsin Conservation Warden Association for their very generous donation of \$1000.00 to the NAWEOA Fallen Officer Fund. The funds were raised at the 2006 International Association of Wildlife Investigators meeting which was held in Cable Wisconsin in June of 2006.

This is a brief report as we have some great reports from the jurisdictions and there is only so much space in the newsletter. Be safe out there, take care, and I look forward to seeing everyone in Minnesota.

### **NAWEOA Executive Board Elections**

**There will be elections for all the United States Director positions at the summer meeting in Minnesota. There will also be elections for the positions of President (US officer) and Vice President (Canadian officer). You must be an active voting member of NAWEOA to be eligible for any of these positions.**

**Please send your nominations to Past President, Kurt Bahti, at HC 1 Box 1500 Patagonia, AZ 85624. The nominations must be made by a member in good standing and seconded by a NAWEOA member in good standing.**

**Being on the executive board of NAWEOA is a demanding, but rewarding, job. You must be able to attend the summer conferences as well as the winter executive meetings during your term. There are thousands of business emails to deal with each year (which means that a computer and internet service are necessary) as well as added duties. To find out more about the duties of each position, please visit the NAWEOA website under the Constitution and Bylaws.**

**If you have any questions, you may contact any Board member.**

## Vice President's Report by Marion Hoffman



As Vice President of NAWEOA, I would like to take a moment to thank our hosts for the 2007 Winter NAWEOA Executive Board Meeting. The State of Nevada Department of Wildlife and the Nevada Game Wardens Association extended their hospitality to the NAWEOA executive board, our future NAWEOA Conference hosts and the President of the Game Wardens Museum

at our recent meeting. Special thanks to Nevada Game Wardens Steve Tomac and Don Klebenow for all their logistical assistance and to Chief Ron Buonamici for his support of the meeting.

The winter executive meeting is a crucial meeting time for NAWEOA. Much of the budget planning for the upcoming fiscal year takes place at this meeting. Many topics were discussed including updates on future conferences, awards submissions, and the status of the museum, IGW and regional issues. I would also like to thank the NAWEOA Directors for all their hard work through the year.

In closing just a reminder to you regarding the awards that NAWEOA offers to deserving candidates each year. Please take a moment to check out the NAWEOA website at [www.naweo.org](http://www.naweo.org). There you will find a link to the award site which contains a description and the criteria for each award category. We appreciate your interest in the awards program and would like to

ask, if possible, that award nominations be submitted electronically via the website. If you have any questions regarding awards, please do not hesitate to contact me at [vpresident@naweo.org](mailto:vpresident@naweo.org). Stay safe everyone. I'm looking forward to seeing you in St. Paul, Minnesota, for NAWEOA 2007.

**Western Association of Fish &  
Game Agencies, Flagstaff, AZ  
July 7—12, 2007**

**Association of Fish and Wildlife  
Agencies, Louisville, KY  
Sept. 16—21, 2007**

**Southeastern Association of Fish &  
Wildlife Agencies, Charleston, WV  
Oct. 21—24, 2007**

**Midwest Association of Fish &  
Wildlife Agencies, Madison, WI  
Dec. 9—12, 2007**

## Past-President's Final Report by Kurt Bahti



I first went to a NAWEOA conference in Reno, Nevada, when they co-hosted with California. I knew then that I wanted to be involved with this group.

I went the next year to Kerrville, Texas, but then missed several years due to lack of money and the demands of a young family.

When I got involved with NAWEOA again, I jumped in (or was drug in) with both feet. I coordinated a winter executive meeting in Arizona with our officer association and have been involved as Director, President and finally now in my last few months as Past President.

I must admit I will miss it. Don't get me wrong, I'll still be involved and active. I encourage everyone to look at their level of participation in NAWEOA. We all got in this business for our love of the natural resources. That is what this organization is all about -- support for the men and women with our calling in life. Most of you have only seen the business meetings at the conferences and are not aware of the flurry of activity amongst the board all year long.

The first winter meeting Arizona hosted was a real eye opener for me. The agenda was extensive and all related to support for our chosen profession all across North America. The next summer I was honored by being elected as director of Region 4. The accomplishments I have been a small part of during my time on the Executive Board makes me feel very proud of the organization and those who have taken on the extra duties to make these dreams happen. I can tell you that you will never be part of a group of people that are more dedicated in your life.

I would encourage you to take a look on the NAWEOA website which was recently redesigned by our dedicated webmaster, Rob Brandenburg. Browse through the minutes of the winter and summer executive meetings and you will get a taste of the

work that is going on behind the scenes. Is it a bunch of work? Absolutely! Is it worth it? Absolutely! Encourage your officer association to be involved in NAWEOA and have an active Jurisdictional Representative that keeps your members informed of what is happened in **YOUR NAWEOA**. Give feedback and input on your issues to your Regional Director on a regular basis. Your members should be receiving many email contacts from your Director to keep you informed. That chain of communication must work and is the backbone of NAWEOA.

OK, I'm off my soapbox and back with my feet in the dirt. I want to thank the NAWEOA members for giving me the chance to serve for those six years. It has been one of the best experiences in my life and I hold no regrets for the tens of thousands of emails, hundreds of hours sitting on my keester in front of a computer or at a meeting table instead of my saddle. I've been able to work with some remarkable and dedicated people and have made many fast friends over the years in both our countries.

Adios mi amigos! If you ever come to Arizona, you have a place to stay. Keep your powder dry and your nose into the wind and your eye on your six.

# REGION 1 REPORT



**Region 1 Director Kevin Schoepp**

*Hello everyone! I hope that in your part of the continent the winter doldrums are fast exiting and spring-like temperatures are beginning to arrive. Thanks to all the membership in Region 1 for the support you continue to provide to this great association and a big thanks to our J-Rep team who are extremely important in disseminating the information.*

*At this summer's conference we can expect to see a significant turnover on the NAWEOA Executive Board and I would just like to say a big thank you to all those on the board who will be leaving. The friendship and camaraderie that has been shared by you all has contributed to the fantastic experience of being on the board. To those who may be thinking of getting involved, you will never regret it for a moment. It does require a firm commitment and is busy at times but there isn't a better organization around! Take care all!*

**NAWEOA President Doug Forsdick** advises **British Columbia** is currently undergoing a re-organization that will see a flat-lined zone concept rather than the current district concept. As well, the rank of Senior Conservation Officer will be eliminated and replaced with an Operations Manager position. The re-structuring is planned to start any time.

Conservation Officer and workshop coordinator Joe Caravetta is calling the four-day *Wildlife Human Attack Response Training Workshop*, held in and around Fernie, B.C., a big success. With participants from across Canada and the United States, the workshop provided specialized training, information sharing and network-

ing opportunities for specialists who investigate and respond to wildlife attacks on humans.

The workshop was well attended, with representatives from the following jurisdictions: Alaska, Alberta, British Columbia, California, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, the Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan, and the Yukon. Members of the US National Park Service, Parks Canada, and B.C. Parks were also on hand. "We had 71 people participate," said Caravetta, "including a person from Nunavut as related to polar bear attacks on humans."

A critical part of the workshop's success was the combination of classroom-based training and wildlife attack scenarios. On "Scenario Day", local Conservation Officers and emergency services, including ambulance services, the RCMP and the regional coroner, staged seven different field-based exercises, adding an important element of realism to the workshop. Local actors played living victims, media and relatives (see photos).

There are plans to carry on the training every two or three years, with a different jurisdiction hosting each time.

The BC Conservation Officer Service is also partnering with the [B.C. Conservation Corps](#) to promote its violation-reporting hotline. Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, the [Report All Poachers and Polluters \(RAPP\)](#) program offers a toll-free hotline and web-based service to report known or suspected poachers and polluters - anonymously and without risk of confronting the offender.

Staffed by members of the B.C. Conservation Corps, the "RAPP Mobile" will attend various locations throughout B.C.'s interior during the busy angling season. This project is part of a larger educational initiative to raise awareness about the RAPP hotline which provides British Columbians a safe and effective means to report poaching and polluting.

The RAPP program is based on the principle that someone other than the criminal has information that can solve the crime. Just like the police use Crime Stoppers, the Conservation Officer Service needs the public's assistance to help catch persons who break environmental protection laws.

**Howard King, Fish and Wildlife Officer** from Alberta advises that the **Alberta Game Wardens Association** has initiated a fundraising event for Brent Cole from Newfoundland. With the assistance of Conservation Officers and Environment Officers in Alberta I have no doubt that the

fundraiser will be a huge success.

The Alberta Game Wardens Association has always been willing to jump to the front with fundraising initiatives to help with a good cause or to support those in a time of need. NAWEOA wouldn't have a Memorial Fund today without the generous donation from AGWA following the Red Deer Conference and recent efforts with the "Wardens to Wishes" calendar project has raised much-needed funds for the Children's "Make A Wish" Foundation in Alberta. Initiatives like these go a long way in promoting the image of the "Game Warden". Hats off to Alberta and thanks for stepping up again!

**Yukon Conservation Officers Association President Kirby Meister** reports that 2006 was a very busy year for officers in the Yukon Territory. As it is with our colleagues around the continent and the world, there is never a shortage of things to do. The field days seem to get harder to fit into the schedule, but they remain our reason for being, and are as productive as ever when we are able to fit them in. A few Yukon cases from 2006:

Officers in southern Yukon concentrated on the lake trout sport fishery in mid summer, and this resulted in approximately 30 enforcement actions. The highlight case was Mr. Percy Andrews, 62, of Whitehorse, being charged with 4 counts under the Fisheries Act, including angling with too many lines and possessing Lake Trout of a size which must be released. He received \$600.00 in fines and had his fishing gear forfeited.

Two First Nation hunters from Aklavik, Northwest Territories, pled guilty in Yukon court for wasting all of the meat from a Dall's Sheep they had hunted in April, 2006, near the Yukon/NWT border. Mr. Jonas Meyook, 41, and Mr. Larry Arey, 27, received fines of \$2000.00 each, and 1-year hunting license suspensions. The head and cape of the sheep were forfeited.

Dr. Said Secerbegovic, 61, of Watson Lake, was convicted at trial for wasting approximately half the meat from a Dall's Sheep he had harvested in the Haines Junction district while hunting there in September, 2005. He was fined \$3000.00, received a one-year hunting suspension, and the sheep's head and cape were forfeited.

Last spring, we reported that our Association was working with management and



coming to some sort of arrangement to have officers receive compensation for at least some of the "volunteer" hours that are worked each year. "The wheels turn slowly", but the issue has made it to the Collective Bargaining process, and we are hopeful that a deal will be struck by early this summer. Our fingers and toes are crossed!

The Canadian Natural Resources Law Enforcement Chiefs Conference will be held in Whitehorse, June 2-6, 2007. Our association will be assisting with putting on some of the events. Our department is excited to be hosting this annual event, and we're certain that fun will be had by all. We are hopeful that one of our officers will be attending the Convention in St. Paul this July.

**Ross Stewart, Federal Wildlife Officer** with **Environment Canada** reports that the Pacific and Yukon Region added a new wildlife officer in 2006. Trevor Castagner worked for YTG Renewable Resources in a variety of jobs, most recently since 2001 as a Conservation Officer in Haines Junction District.

Wildlife Officers of Environment Canada's Wildlife Enforcement Division in Vancouver found an individual had hunted a juvenile trumpeter swan, a species of migratory bird for which there is no open season. The individual was ordered to pay an \$800 fine and ordered forfeiture of the shotgun used in the commission of the offence. Trumpeter swans were once hunted and harassed to the point where, in 1933, there were only 77 Trumpeter Swans breeding in Canada and 50 breeding in the United States. Today, there are close to 20,000 wild Trumpeter Swans, and the species is no longer considered in danger of extinction.

Saskatchewan and Manitoba Wildlife Officers continued the migratory bird hunter checks at border crossings in 2006 in conjunction with provincial conservation officers. 1074 hunters were checked with 55 charges for a total of \$14, 070.00 in fines.

On October 14 and 15, 2006, Wildlife Officers in Canada and the US joined forces to perform a border blitz on all vehicles leaving Canada into the US via the Coutts/Sweetgrass border crossing. Stationed on the Sweetgrass Montana side of the border, US Customs and US F&W agents questioned motorists for fish and wildlife products and/or firearms. In total, 47 individuals with wildlife products were thoroughly inspected in a secondary Customs warehouse by Environment Canada Wildlife Officers, Alberta Fish and Wildlife

Officers, US FW Agents and US Customs Agents, and United States Refuge Officers.

**John Niddrie**, of the **National Park Wardens Association** advises that the judgment decision for warden safety appeal hearings that was concluded in June of 2006 should be known within the next month or two. This warden safety issue has been ongoing since 2001 when it was first investigated by a Canada Labor Code Officer. For more information and to follow the progress on this please, see our association website at [www.parkwardens.ca](http://www.parkwardens.ca).

Over the past year, we have had a number of warden retirements. The list includes Duane Martin, Murray Hindle, Phil Hammond, Doug Eastcott, Glenn Peers, Al McDonald, Peter Whyte and Bob Thexton. This adds up to a significant amount of lost operational experience!

**SACO President Cam Lueken** reports that three Saskatchewan Environment staff from Southend recently saved the lives of two northern residents in Saskatchewan. Warner Carlson and Kelly Crane (Conservation Officers) and Ira Elderkin (Firebase Supervisor) were returning to Southend via snowmobile when they noticed thick black smoke rising in the early morning sky. The three experienced individuals recognized that someone required assistance and went to investigate. They came across two individuals who had been stranded on the frozen lake all night in extremely cold weather and they were suffering from hypothermia. The staff members realized that the lives of these individuals were in jeopardy and they acted quickly to build a large fire to keep them warm. A department satellite phone was used to call for assistance and hot coffee was given to the couple while they waited for help to arrive. On this same evening of January 10, 2007, three other individuals lost their lives in separate incidents in Saskatchewan in what would turn out to be one of the worst storms in Saskatchewan's history. We are all extremely proud of our fellow staff members for their efforts to save the lives of the two stranded individuals during this severe winter storm!

On December 8, 2006 the Lieutenant Governor, Honorable Gordon L. Barnhart, presented the Saskatchewan Protective Services Medal to three Saskatchewan Conservation Officers. Rocky Coleman and Rob Hanson of the Regina Field Office and Ron Waugh of the Preeceville Office were honored for over 25 years of exemplary service protecting the people of Saskatchewan and their property in their roles as Conservation Officers. These three

officers have provided many contributions and attained many achievements while serving the people of Saskatchewan.

During the past two months staff has been experiencing some labor interruptions as contract negotiations came to a standstill. As part of the union movement, the dispatch personnel were removed from our call center leaving management to fill in and carry out the daily duties of the dispatch officers. Many of our own management staff were redeployed to other departments to ensure the public's needs were being met during this job action. A tentative agreement has recently been reached and it will now be taken out to the employees to vote on to see if it meets with their approval. If the In-scope employees vote down this agreement, Saskatchewan could be faced with job action from employees across the province.

**Rich Elson** of the **Society of Pacific Region Fishery Officers** reports that Fisheries and Oceans continues to round the corner of prosperity. Our Society has a legacy from Penticton and our organization is on the move towards building a better organization. We have seen a significant move towards integrating true leadership into our program. Not everyone has benefited from the recent changes, but in the long-term we hope that it is the needs of the many that outweigh the needs of the few. Let's keep working at it.

On the Society front we hope to have a memorial scholarship program going soon. Benevolence continues to be a huge part of what we are about and the activities we are engaged in.

We would like to particularly send out a message to all our fellow officers who have been and/or are affected by cancer. Our dear friend, and fellow officer, Ian Mann, is in Surrey Memorial Hospital and may not get out. Please keep him in your thoughts.

Our spring force continuum recertifications are around the corner and a great time to get together with officers from around the region. We also have a "Training Week" coming up in Victoria that promises to be enlightening for the 70 or so officers selected to go to that.

Remember the words of Chief Dan George...."We shall endeavour to persevere".

### **ATTEND A NAWEOA SUMMER CONFERENCE**

**Make new friends  
Learn new skills  
Form new professional contacts  
And above all  
HAVE FUN!!!!!!**

# REGION 2 REPORT



**Region 2 Director Earl Simmons**

*Greetings from Region 2 of NAWEOA. When I read the NAWEOA newsletter and talk to officers from across North America, I am struck by the fact that in spite of the vast geography and variety of fauna we deal with, we all have so much in common. Whether it is our lifestyles, hobbies or plights on the job, we certainly have more in common than not. In addition, we are a very dedicated bunch who are very proud of our profession. And in difficult times we are there for our brothers and sisters across North America. This past fall was no exception. Officer Brent Cole of Newfoundland was unfortunately in an accident. The response was overwhelming from across North America. Please know, Brent, that you, Mary and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.*

**Gerry Rosset**, who is the President of the **Manitoba** Natural Resource Officer Association and the Jurisdictional representative for NAWEOA reported that the MNROA recently hosted its Annual Winter Classic Hockey Tournament in the community of Grandview. NROs Doug Maxwell and Chad Duchek hosted a successful tourney and plan on doing it again next year. Proceeds from the event go into the Slain Officers Fund, a most worthwhile cause. The association is once again manning the association's display booths at major winter fairs in order to promote the officer series and the Department. These events go a long way for PR and receive praise from the Minister of Conservation.

Speaking of our Honorable Minister Stan Struthers, the MNROA was able to meet once again with him in order to discuss issues of importance to the Officers. The Minister was given the proposed Officer Uniform Shirt proposal; we are seeking the dark green shirt which is a better color

and quality. This will provide us with a more professional appearance if it goes through. Minister Struthers also forwarded a \$25k cheque towards the production of an NRO promotional video by the Association. The video will be used for public presentation and recruitment sessions. This will hopefully aid in attracting young people into this profession and further educate the public in what the officers do. The Minister also forwarded our request for inclusion of the officer series on the government website to senior management. A website proposal is forthcoming from NRO Andre Desrosiers which will include a lot of information on the officer series and regular updates. Prior to this, there was no mention of the Natural Resource Officers of Manitoba on the site.

The concept of streamlining officer duties has occurred in large park districts where a park superintendent position was created to remove the park administration duties from the officers. There are still many in the department that feel this should expand to other duties throughout the many districts in order to be more effective in the primary role of Fish and Wildlife Enforcement. The association has asked management to be involved in such discussions as this will inevitably change our careers and ranks from that of a multi-disciplined agency.

The SIU recently concluded a case regarding illegal penned elk hunts being offered by a Saskatchewan outfitter on a Manitoba Indian Reservation. The government has maintained its firm stance against this type of "hunting". The outfitter was convicted of arranging several hunts where elk were killed by individuals from Wisconsin. He paid a \$12,000 fine and had his hunting privileges suspended for one year.

The Carberry District concluded a deer baiting investigation from October 2006 where a local outfitter was charged for placing baits and guiding his Wisconsin hunters over the baits. The province remains firm on the laws that prohibit baiting of cervids for hunting.

The officers located 15 different tree stands with various types of baits on crown land and his private property. The outfitter pled guilty to one count of placing a bait, one count in directing his clients to hunt over bait and paid an \$1100 fine.

The Carberry District received the worst known road kill incident ever in the province this January when a semi truck plowed thru an elk herd killing 18 cows and calves. Investigation revealed that the herd had been spooked by illegal night hunters who had poached a bull from the herd. If anyone knows of a worse road kill accident

please let me know.

That is all for now. I wish you all a good spring and summer.

**Ray Thibadeau** our JRep for the **DFO in the Central and Arctic Region (C&A)** reports that it has been quite a year. As you may recall, we were facing some drastic cuts to our enforcement branch in Ontario and the Prairies provinces. Thanks to several well-timed letters from partner agencies and NGOs the government agreed to review the cuts. After the review was completed, they altered the final numbers to 10 officers in Ontario and 10 officers in the Prairies area. An increase of 10 officers overall for C&A. Staffing of these positions is currently underway and we will be graduating a troop of cadets in May 2007. Currently Edmonton AB, Prince Albert SK, and Winnipeg MB are understaffed in the Prairies. Ontario has two vacant positions one in Peterborough and one in Parry Sound. Eastern Arctic has two positions and will be filling one. A Western Arctic area has two vacancies and will be filling both.

The Conservation and Protection Branch (C&P) is changing reporting structure on April 1, 2007. The new structure will take Fish Habitat Management (FHM) out of the C&P reporting structure and leave the enforcement branch with linear reporting. It is anticipated that with smaller numbers of officers in C&A the inline reporting structure makes the most sense as it will enable upper management to reallocate resources when and where they are needed without having to get the blessing of a district manager or area supervisor from another branch of government.

As well, with the new reporting structure we have a new Risk Management Framework that is going to enable the reduced number of C&P staff to concentrate on medium to high-risk files only, with FHM dealing with medium- to low-risk files. This should reduce the files per officer and allow them to spend the time needed to take a large case file to prosecution. As well, it is anticipated it will give officers more time to work on proactive compliance initiatives such as public speaking and education, school presentations, and monitoring compliance. We are hopeful that the new framework works out. The pilot project that has been running in Ontario Great Lakes area has been successful so far.

That pretty much sums it up for DFO in C&A.

**Richard Labossiere**, senior officer with the **Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS)** in



Winnipeg reports that they were busy this past fall once again with migratory bird work. In Manitoba we had 33 charges laid on joint Border/RSI blitzes. These blitzes were done at Emerson/Pembina, Bois-sevain/Dunseith, #16 highway at Russell and at the Winnipeg International Airport. These were done jointly with USFWS, Customs and Manitoba Conservation. Fines for these totaled \$12,365.00 and involved violations of the MBCA, WAPPRIITA, Manitoba Wildlife Act and US Statutes. A total of 578 hunters/fishermen were checked in these blitzes.

We also conducted regular fall patrols and checked another 218 hunters in the field, charged 17 of them for MBCA & Manitoba Wildlife Act counts. Total fines levied were over \$6,000.00.

Of interest as well, we charged an individual for importing an ivory pendant into Manitoba from California. He was fined \$500.00 and his pendant valued at \$500.00 was ordered forfeited to the crown.

The newly formed **Nunavut Territory (Russel Brandon)** has seen another arctic year come and go. The Conservation Officers from each of its three regions, Kitikmeot, Kivallik, and Baffin, remain steadfast in their duties despite wind, sleet and snow. These officers continue to face the harsh arctic climate with steady resolve found only in truly dedicated protectors of the environment. We are a small band of brothers and sisters who, despite vast geographical separation, remain united in our goal to preserve the flora and fauna of what is often called earth's last great frontier.

During the summer of 2006, Nunavut saw an increase in polar bear complaints. Clyde River and Qikiqtarjuaq, communities from the Baffin Region, responded to more problem polar bear complaints and defense kills than in recent years. The officers in those communities reported a very successful Narwhal hunt this year as well.

Arviat, a community of the central Kivallik region, reports large herds of migrating caribou along with the accompanying wolves hanging on the fringes. The officer from Coral Harbour, an adjacent community, is busy monitoring and inspecting a commercial caribou harvest of 4000 animals. Joani Kringayark of Repulse Bay reports good harvest numbers of marine species such as beluga and seal. His station has purchased 1400 ring seal skins this year.

Officers from the Kitikmeot Region remain very busy purchasing long furs from the local hunters and carrying out patrols in our most-westerly region. They reportedly expect to see at least 40 sport hunters arrive for the annual muskoxen, polar bear, and grizzly bear hunts.

Officer Joe Niego semi retired in late

October when he left Baker Lake Nunavut and moved to the Ottawa area of Ontario and now is fully retired. Joe gave 25 years of dedicated service to Nunavut and NWT as a Wildlife Officer. He will be missed and we wish him and his family all the best in the future. We would also like to congratulate Officer Joel Rose and Officer Joan Coutu-Autuk for their new appointments as officer III.

Whether newly appointed or old hands, officers from every community in each region are prepared to respond to a myriad of wildlife issues or environmental concerns twenty-four hours a day. Our equipment remains at the ready, our body and minds are fit, we continually hone our skills to assist the people we serve and protect the vast land in which we live. We face severe blizzards, extreme wind, and temperatures routinely plummeting to the -60's. We smile in the face of adversity and relish every challenge. We are the men and women who protect the north. We are proud of what we do.

**Bruce Ward -- Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources and Conservation Officers** are confronting serious challenges, which mirror developments faced by many wildlife officers across North America.

Ontario Out of Doors magazine has featured many articles over the last several monthly issues showcasing the recent operational budget cutbacks, programs being lost and forecasted negative consequences for future generations.

An Ottawa newspaper column reported that poaching complaints coming into the new 1-800-TIPS-MNR (report a poacher hot line) are not being actioned due to lack of enforcement operating capital.

The Ontario Public Service Employees

Union (OPSEU) began a campaign featuring COs illustrating how the current government is negatively affecting public service. Please see [www.savethemnr.ca](http://www.savethemnr.ca) for details.

Ontario Conservation Officers have had outstanding reclassification grievances since the mid-1990's for being underpaid in relation to the duties in their job specifications. OPSEU recently announced that the government has been bargaining in bad faith by relying on legislation that exempts them from having to follow the mediator's ruling/recommendations.

On the upside:

Great Lakes Conservation Officer Jim McMullen (past president OCOA) was named Marine Officer of the Year by the Canadian Save Boating Association in recognition of his contribution to marine policing.

Ontario COs began enforcing the Small Vessels Regulations of the Canada Shipping Act last summer. In December 2006, with the passing of Bill 152, Ontario COs now have full police powers to enforce The Liquor Licence Act.

Ontario COs and Horwood Lake Lodge are organizing a "Take a Kid Fishing" trip in July for 24 underprivileged children from the Ottawa area. This is patterned after the "Orphan's Hunting Trip" sponsored jointly by the Texas Game Warden's Association and the Sportsman's Club of Dallas-Fort Worth.

***That's all from Region 2.  
Please be safe and we hope to see you  
at the 2007 NAWEOA conference in  
Saint Paul, Minnesota.***

## **The New Hampshire Conservation Officer's Field Day** **will be held on September 12, 2007**

It is open to all National and International Active, Retired, and Deputy Game Wardens. All are encouraged to join us for a day of FREE fraternal fun with fellow officers.

All are welcome to arrive on the evening of September 11th for a dinner and early bird raffle and stay through the morning of September 13th after a breakfast send-off. Bring your sleeping bags -- bunks are available. The Field Day consists of a pig roast, moose barbecue, the original "Poacher's Pentathlon", and a very large raffle table!

For location and directions please contact Dave Walsh at 603-419-8557 or via email at [walshie252@yahoo.com](mailto:walshie252@yahoo.com).

# REGION 3 REPORT



**Region 3 Director Rick Nash**

*First, I would like to say what an honor it is to represent the Officers from Region 3 on the NAWEOA executive board.*

*From Newfoundland, all our prayers go out to Brent and his family. If any Officers or Associations would like to contribute to the fund set up to help Brent, please feel free to contact me or any member of the executive.*

*I would like to thank the Conservation Officers of Nova Scotia for the hospitality they showed to the visitors from New Brunswick during their Annual Conference.*

*As most of you are aware, New Brunswick was chosen to host the 2009 NAWEOA Conference. I am looking forward to seeing you all there. Come and enjoy the famous Maritime Hospitality.*

*Thanks to Quebec for the 2006 NAWEOA Conference. The Conference went well for both Officers and their families.*

**See you all in Minnesota.**

Greetings from "the Rock".....,  
By **Colin Cheater**

It is on a dismal note that I start this report. Just before Christmas 2006 one of our fellow Conservation Officers and past president of our Association, Brent Cole, was involved in a horrific motor vehicle accident. Brent was driving along the highway just outside his hometown of Gander when a very large moose came from out of nowhere. Brent's private vehicle was totaled and emergency response teams had to use the Jaws of Life to

get him out of the car. He was airlifted to the Health Sciences Complex in St. John's where he underwent emergency surgery. His injuries were life threatening however his good physical condition and determination pulled him through. While he is **currently** confined to a wheel chair and undergoing extensive and demanding physiotherapy, it could take up to two years for a total recovery. We all pray for him and send our best wishes to Brent, Mary and family.

Brent will be discharged from hospital soon but because he is confined to a wheelchair their home will require extensive renovations to accommodate the wheelchair which could be very costly. Friends and family have undertaken a major fund-raising campaign, their goal being to provide Brent and his family with a new wheelchair-accessible home. Many events have already been held and they have been a resounding success. There is no doubt their goal will be reached in short order.

Brent was determined in his drive to establish an Officer Safety Committee within our Association. It was his determination and hard work along with the present Association Executive to have sidearms and body armor and appropriate equipment issued to the Officers in Newfoundland.

Currently, one of the more pressing issues for our members is job reclassification. An ad hoc committee of the Association was struck to conduct a review of pay scales across North America compared with salaries for C.O.s in Newfoundland and Labrador. There is no doubt our pay scales will be at the bottom of the range. Meetings have been held with the Minister of Natural Resources and we are hopeful this situation will soon be addressed but, as we all know, the wheels of government grind ever so slowly.

This past summer a number of C.O.s were once again seconded to enforce the Inland Fisheries Program in relation to salmon and trout. The Provincial Department of Justice administered the program and it proved once again how successful a con-

certed effort on a given project can be. Numerous charges were laid and heavy fines were handed out. Good job, everyone!

In 2006 a Memorandum of Understanding was established with the Department of Environment and Conservation. The MOU provided some flying time and other resources to enforce the Wilderness and Ecological Reserve legislation, which up to this time had not really been addressed. That project is ongoing this winter as well and, to date, over fifty (50) individuals have been charged with violations.

News from **New Brunswick,**  
By **Bob Yorke**

Hello from New Brunswick. First off, I would like to thank the Officers from Quebec for a great Conference. All the Officers and their families are still talking about the great time and fun they had in Quebec.

The committee for the New Brunswick Conference in 2009 has been hard at work securing a site for the conference. I believe the site will be Moncton, New Brunswick. Moncton has lots to offer and is commonly called the hub of the Maritimes. I don't want to give too much away at this point as I'm sure the committee members will give more updated information in St. Paul this summer.

In my late report I reported that our roles in the department would be moving to specialization. The enforcement side went from 191 Officers to 101. The offices through the province were divided up as Enforcement or Forest Resource. The geographic area for enforcement doubled with the reduction of staff.

In this move by the Department, some very dedicated Officers were overlooked or could not continue within enforcement. This was due to the way profiles were set up for the different areas through the province. Time will tell how things work out.

On a brighter note: there is not much snow this winter and summer is not that far away. That means we will be heading to St. Paul for the 2007 Conference. I know I am looking forward to it and I hope to see you all

there.

Greetings to all from **Nova Scotia**,  
By **Dougald MacNeil**

First off, on behalf of myself and fellow Nova Scotians who attended, I wish to say a great big thank you to all the Quebec officers, friends and family who made the 2006 conference such a wonderful experience.

From the setting to the training sessions to the accommodations to the hospitality shown by all, it was a time to remember for sure. Bonjour Quebec Naturellment was the perfect choice.

Brent, I know you'll be reading this to see what's going on across the pond. Well, we're all over here wishing you the best and keeping the faith that you'll get well real soon.

In last report I talked about the N. S. Dept. Of Natural Resources taking on the responsibility for off-highway vehicle enforcement. Twelve dedicated officers, stationed throughout the province, make up the unit. Each officer is assigned all equipment needed to do the job, including marked 4x4 truck, ATV, snowmobile and street/trail bike. Officer training was set as a priority initially and that process is ongoing today.

Our administration staff was asked to develop an OHV enforcement strategy and almost immediately put it into action. I'm sure the process had its

trying moments, to put it mildly, but it worked. From the field officer perspective, these individuals did the job, did it well and continue to see that a first-class OHV enforcement program is being delivered.

Government officials deserve credit for recognizing the need for effective enforcement and seeing to it that sufficient funds were made available to deliver it. They should also be commended for putting a revised OHV act and regulations in place directed mainly at user safety and environmental protection.

Yes, of course there is a certain amount of resistance from some individuals. This is to be expected. But the good guys are winning. By attending user group meetings, schools, OHV rallies and media opportunities the message is spreading. More and more riders are seeing that the legislation is in place for their benefit and to help avoid some of the tragedies we, as a province, seemed willing to accept as normal in the past. For those individuals who need a harder lesson, that is being provided as well. However, officers noted a much improved compliance rate developing over the past year. The officers are out there and one day safety and better care for the environment will be socially accepted and become the norm.

For details on the program check out this site: <http://gov.ns.ca/natr/ohv/>. Note that the Off-highway Vehicles Fees Regulations includes a user infrastructure fund cost of \$40.00. This will all be channeled back to the sport through user groups and organizations for such things as trail development and safety programs. A ministerial advisory committee established last October provides much valued guidance to the program.

Congratulations to New Brunswick officers for your successful bid to host the 2009 Conference. We are real pleased that three New Brunswick officers were able to attend our provincial conference in February. They're into the planning stage and we have pledged our support to help in any way we can.

We continue to develop and improve our officer safety training program here in NS. We recently had six more officers graduate from the Academy as officer safety trainers. More lesson plans and training standards have been completed and we're getting real good support for updating and enhancing our equipment inventory. We are pleased.

Stay Safe

## **WANTED— CARGO TRAILER - NEW OR USED —WANTED**

The present NAWEOA Executive Board has been discussing the merits of obtaining a cargo trailer for the association. This idea has been discussed in the past and is related to the logistics and costs associated with transporting/shipping conference-related items from conference to conference, ie: flags, stands and other. In many cases upcoming conference hosts are already bringing a trailer to the current conference in order to transport the various items back to their jurisdiction. The idea would be that the association would secure a suitable trailer and that it could not only be handed off from year to year, but used by the current conference hosts during the conference for moving/storing items as well.

**Here's where you come in.** If your agency or association has such a trailer that they would be willing to donate or "assign" to NAWEOA, the Executive Board would like to hear from you. There are trailers out there that could be made available. The Executive Board has also discussed the idea of providing some sort of recognition to the agency(s) in the form of decals, etc on the outside of the trailer. Who knows it may be a group of agencies or an agency and an association who partner to make the donation. All could be recognized on the trailer!

If there are questions or interest in this idea, contact a member of the NAWEOA Executive Board, or if there are specific questions in regards to the size and dimensions of a trailer that might be suitable, contact Kevin Schoepp at [region1@naweo.org](mailto:region1@naweo.org)



# REGION 4 REPORT



**Region 4 Director Lorraine Doyle**

**Alaska - Steve Arlow** - Alaska is planning on converting back to the way it worked years ago with one Division. Steve plans on attending the 2007 conference so we can hear more then.

**California - Lorraine Doyle** - The California Fish and Game Wardens' Association continues to work for parity with the California Highway Patrol. There have been improvements in pay with several increases to take effect during the contract period. We still lag far behind CHP with a difference in pay from 83 - 110%. We continue to have straight-line supervision which has been very successful.

The California Game Wardens Foundation has been established in order to provide community support for wardens. The Association now has a website, [www.californiafishandgamewardens.com](http://www.californiafishandgamewardens.com). It has a wealth of information.

**Colorado - Randy Hancock** - Six New Yorkers and their friend from Massachusetts spent a night in jail and paid a total of \$42,000 for their illegal hunting activities in northwest Colorado. The local DA and the DOW agreed to allow each of the men to plead guilty to illegal possession of wildlife (CRS 33-6-109). Each man agreed to pay a \$6,000 fine. They also face an administrative hearing that will

determine the length of time that the men will be barred from hunting and fishing in Colorado and 23 other Wildlife Violator Compact member states.

Given a tip of someone shooting a pronghorn antelope with a rifle during archery season, DOW officers responded and apprehended 32-year-old Justin Youngblood of Pueblo West. Youngblood had a valid archery license, but violated the law by shooting the animal with a rifle and was fined \$1700.

A Kentucky resident and two West Virginians have paid fines of more than \$8,800 for illegally getting a jump on Colorado's muzzleloader elk season. Donald G. Wilshire of Kentucky was cited by Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW) officers for shooting an elk with a muzzleloader rifle before the opening of the muzzleloader season. Darrell G. Wilshire and Betty J. Wilshire, both of West Virginia, were cited for unlawfully transferring a hunting license to another person and using an electronic device to further a wildlife crime.

The Fair Labor Standards Act hit the Colorado Division of Wildlife field officers this past year. Colorado has always classified its District Wildlife Managers (the game wardens in the state) as "professional" in status and were exempt from overtime restrictions under the act. Based on a ruling in Wyoming, Colorado wildlife officers, acting in a "professional" capacity rather than a labor capacity, allowed officers to work as many hours in a month as they wanted, as long as they had the minimum to equal a 40-hour work week each week of the month. Many officers opted to work numerous hours of unpaid overtime in order to do their job. Officers did not have to work extra hours if they chose not to. However, many committed officers appreciated the opportunity to be out doing their life's work and enforcing laws, especially during the heaviest fall hunting season.

Last year hearings were held over the course of most of a year. The final decision was to allow the wildlife offi-

cers to function as exempt employees during 11 four-week pay periods but during their heaviest law enforcement time, they would lose their "professional" status and be subject to FLSA. This created a situation where officers were working limited hours (a 171-hour Law Enforcement limitation) during their heaviest two months of work and was instituted in the fall of 2006. It is yet to be seen what the effects of this change will be in relation to numbers of violations detected.

**Montana - Jim Conner** - The Montana Game Wardens Association is proud to sponsor the 2008 NAWEOA conference in Great Falls, Montana. In case you did not know, NAWEOA started in Great Falls in 1980. Our theme of "Back to the Beginning" says it all. We already want to thank the NAWEOA board and especially Randy Hancock for their help and patience with a bunch of inexperienced cowboys on the ins and outs of this big production. We ain't fancy, but we are fun!! See you there.

Our new website is up. Go to HYPERLINK <http://www.montanagamewardens.org>. We have all kinds of information, stories, MGWA products and links. We already have some information on the 2008 conference in the site.

Our biannual legislature is meeting this year. Everything from a State Lullaby to busting the budget is promised. We are looking at many avenues to increase our budgets and increase our officers. It will be a rodeo no doubt. The MGWA took a big step and we hired a lobbyist to address concerns of bills and other issues. So far it has been well worth the increase in dues we voted in last year.

We are looking at adding 2 more State Investigators. We added 3 new investigator positions these last 2 years with Jeff Scott, Chad Murphy and Brian Sommers. They are called in to investigate cases field officers start that turn out to be complex and usually involve out-of-state violators. So far

the results have been excellent. Combined with new officers in our covert unit, we have increased our abilities to fight the bad guys.

The FWP has also engaged in a new anti-poaching program. "Enough is Enough" is the theme. We have posters and brochures with photos of actual convicted poachers with their "prizes". Hand in hand with our successful TIP MONT call-in line, we are trying to increase public awareness and participation in fighting the poachers. The MGWA is working hand in hand with the FWP on this effort.

**Nevada - Steve Tomac** - We just went through our transitional training for our new Glocks. It went well and everyone seems happy with them. We got a new Director, Ken Marsh from California, and we are looking forward to working with him. We are in a new legislative session and are anticipating Off Road Vehicle legislation that will affect us. We will most likely be enforcing any new laws regarding them and are working at getting added positions to cover the work load. Boats are being prepared for the upcoming season and investigations are being completed from the fall and winter hunts.

**New Mexico - Leon Redman** - Some of our officers are getting a pay raise this year. It was part of the 2005 compensation package passed last year, but could only increase our pay by 10% per year. Some officers, depending on their status, could receive a 30% increase over 3 years.

Another outfitter was convicted for Racketeering, Fraud, and Forgery. The sentencing is pending.

NMCOA is still working with the department on issuing the officers rifles. A change in the color of the uniform for officer safety reasons is in the works.

**Washington - Jeff Lee** - Jerry Zimmerman, of Elma, received the WDFW Award of Valor. Jerry is a 30-plus-year officer who also is a firearms instructor and FTO. But his other service is to his nation. The 31-year career Marine Reserve has served 2 tours in Vietnam and 2 tours in Iraq (volunteering to serve). His first tour was leading Marine combat patrols in Fallujah in the 2004 battle. His 2nd tour was in 2006 and he led 129 combat patrols surviving both snipers and numerous roadside bombs. Jerry has been recommended for the Bronze Star and that award is being processed by the Marine Corps.

The WGA officer of the year, Bret Hopkins, is a 2-year officer who came to WDFW from ODFW where he was a biologist. He has used hard work and innovative methods to work the heavy commercial and sport fishing area of the Washington coast. Bret has been involved with NMFS and SIU detectives over the last year and was the main investigator in a case now going to the Federal Grand Jury in which commercial fisherman and fish plants conspired to falsify fish tickets involving \$110,000 worth of poached black cod. Bret has worked almost 4 days a week on this case for a year now but has also found time to work other law enforcement duties.

NWTF Officer of the Year nominee Jim Nelson is a career law enforcement officer who is very active in his community and is an FTO, hunter education instructor, and a recruiter for his agency. Jim works the Blue Mountains of southeastern Washington and is very active in wild turkey enforcement and education with over 20 arrests for turkey violations in the last 2 years and extensive work with biologists to trap and remove problem turkeys and relocate them. Jim's hard work and positive attitude earn him the respect of his peers year after year.

Nunavut  
officers  
Teema Pallug  
and  
Russ Brandon  
on patrol



# REGION 5 REPORT



**Region 5 Director Levi Krause**

*Since this will be my last report as Region 5 Director, I'd like to thank the Region 5 J-reps for all their efforts over the past 4 years. They have kept up on everything from membership dues and lists to newsletter submissions and any other tasks that I've asked them to do. Their dedication to NAWEOA has helped make my job as a director much easier!*

**Dave Bartling, South Dakota** -- John Cooper retired in January 2007 after heading South Dakota's Game, Fish and Parks for twelve years. John did a great job and will be missed. Governor Rounds appointed Jeff Vonk to head Game, Fish and Parks. Mr. Vonk was Iowa's Department of Natural Resources Director the past 6 years. As of this writing, South Dakota's Conservation Officers have not had the opportunity to meet Mr. Vonk but we all look forward to working with our new boss.

South Dakota's Legislature is now in session and once again a bill was introduced that would have been devastating to the Conservation Officers' ability to perform their duties. We called it the "Open Fields Doctrine" bill. Current South Dakota law allows all law enforcement officers, including Conservation Officers, to go on private land open fields in the performance of their job without permission from the landowner. Obviously, Conservation Officers need the ability to go onto private lands to check licenses, bags or simply visit landowners. Thankfully, this bill was defeated in committee on a close 7-6 vote.

During the past year, South Dakota had a few Conservation Officers retire and a few move to other jobs. Several "rookie" Conservation Officers have started their new careers in the past year with more

being hired in 2007. Presently in South Dakota there are 6 vacant Conservation Officer positions that hopefully will be filled sometime this year. South Dakota's Wildlife Division budget and Conservation Officer's equipment are both in good shape at this time. That could change down the road if our state loses Conservation Reserve Program acres!

**Scott Haney, Texas** -- A little bit of a cold hello from Texas. Luckily it only dropped to the low 20s but the ice always shows how little people here can drive on ice!

We have some good news from Texas that relates to improving our training and increasing our number of game wardens. We are in the process of selling our old academy location in Austin and putting that money plus monies being raised with fundraisers towards building a new state-of-the-art Texas Game Warden Training Facility in Hamilton County, which is southwest of Fort Worth. The facility will include administration buildings, cafeteria/dormitories, sick bay, gym/swimming building, firing range and driving course.

We also have a current academy that includes 23 cadets and 2 officers from Mexico. The officers from Mexico are being cross-trained in order to improve enforcement between Mexico and Texas.

Also, our forensic lab in San Marcos is now nationally accredited from ASCLD/LAB (American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board). One of the tests ran after accreditation connected a deer head found at a residence with a carcass found on a private ranch. The suspect has been charged with several felony charges. See you in Minnesota.

**Jay Baker, Indiana** -- Indiana has recently graduated 24 new Conservation Officers from their training academy. Two of the new Officers were put right to work, nineteen are currently in the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy, and the remaining three will fill vacancies as soon as they become available. Indiana has also just outfitted all Officers with Mobil Data Terminals (laptop computers). Half of the Officers were issued laptops approximately 2 years ago. Hopefully these new tools will make for more efficient enforcement.

Indiana Conservation Officer Steve Kinne, along with Officers from Kentucky and from the U.S.F.W.S., has filed ap-

proximately 35 charges on six Kentucky residents. The suspects were traveling to Switzerland Co., IN, spotlighting trophy whitetail deer, and shooting them with rifles. The suspects were then cutting the heads off the deer and selling them in Kentucky. Kinne said they could be linked to at least six illegal deer.

Indiana Conservation Officers and a local drug taskforce near Connersville had been watching a patch of marijuana for several weeks. Their patience paid off. Two men were seen entering the patch and officers quickly moved to apprehend them. One of the men, a Jamaican citizen, was taken into custody, however the other eluded officers. Fortunately for the investigating officers, the second suspect left something behind — his picture. A surveillance video provided the officers with a very good likeness of the second man. After two days of investigation the officers were about to instigate a wider manhunt for the evasive weed farmer using the surveillance video. A lead had prompted the officers to contact the Putnam County Sheriff's Department. Shared information quickly led officers to piece together two separate investigations which solved the mystery of the identity of the second suspect. He, along with two other connected suspects, was eventually arrested.

**Jeff Jones, Nebraska** -- Nebraska Conservation Officers have been very busy since last report. It seemed that the 2006 deer season had an increase of calls for service with many deer being shot and only the heads removed.

In other news, this year's recipient of the Shikar-Safari Club International's 2006 Nebraska Wildlife Officer of the Year is Dale Johnson stationed in Kearney, Nebraska. It was pointed out that Dale has been instrumental in numerous investigations that have resulted in successful prosecutions of violators.

Nebraska and Iowa hosted the Association of Midwest fish and Game Conservation Enforcement Officers Conference in Omaha, NE. The conference was an extreme success with excellent training. Topics included field training, review of major cases, open field doctrine and many other topics. The group was treated to behind-the-scenes look at the Henry Doorly Zoo.

Nebraska Conservation Officers Association will be starting a semi-annual magazine. Dudley Sorensen and Sean McKee-



han will be the magazines co-editors.

Rod Loos has been named as a new assistant administrator. He will be stationed out of the Lake McConaughy Office. He will oversee law enforcement issues in districts one and four. He will also assist in Homeland Security issues concerning the Law Enforcement Division of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

**Todd Schaller, Wisconsin** -- In addition to field station patrols, community wardening projects and regular work duties, Wisconsin Conservation Wardens are working on several statewide initiatives for 2006-2007.

**No child left inside** – Conservation Wardens are involved with establishing, sponsoring or assisting with programs designed to get youth involved in outdoor and natural resource activities. Kid fishing events and “Learn to Hunt” programs are popular and provide that initial outdoor experience for children who wouldn’t normally be exposed to fishing or hunting activities. Hunts include bear, turkey, waterfowl and pheasant.

The Conservation Warden Force was involved in a statewide “Youth Expo” with over 3000 school-aged kids being introduced to many areas of outdoor recreation. The 2-day event had several camps and stations providing hands-on experience with BB gun shoot, archery shooting, dog handling, wildlife identification, fishing and camping.

**Survive the Ride** – A Snowmobile Accident Reduction Team (SART) involving Conservation Wardens from around Wisconsin was formed in an effort to reduce the number of snowmobile fatalities. The SART works weekend enforcement details and trail patrols to address speed and alcohol as the leading cause of snowmobile fatalities. The SART has an education component stressing safe and responsible snowmobile operation.

**Disease Management** – Control and education related to Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) continues to be a workload with illegal baiting and feeding being one the top concerns. During the 2006 Gun Deer Season Conservation Wardens issued 299 citations for baiting or feeding violations, accounting for 22% of the citations issued during the gun deer season.

**Carlos Gomez, Oklahoma** -- OK wardens can now expect to respond to future ‘Katrina – type’ disasters if ever needed as all were recently certified in the federal “NIMS” program authorizing reimbursement

to the donating agency.

We received a 5% raise this past year complimented by an improved warden truck ‘rotation’. The agency is slowly phasing down the mileage required before replacement. Recent years had rotations at 150K+ miles but are now beginning at 125K.

Wardens are watching nervously as heads eye the replacement of the deer check-in stations with a phone-in program that follows the MO example.

Also being studied is a funding-mechanism that would follow some northern states. It creates a program where the agency collects paddlefish roe from the public’s legally taken fish and sells it on the caviar market replacing that of the diminishing sturgeon.

Lastly, many are watching as a lawsuit, financed by the officers association, has been filed by a warden who believes he was wrongfully disciplined. The officer names a powerful, long-time wildlife commissioner as defendant alleging he acted outside his authority in a personnel matter by influencing administration to act adversely.

**Bruce Lawrence, Minnesota** -- As of March 20<sup>th</sup>, Minnesota Conservation Officers will celebrate 120 years of service. A commemorative badge has been designed from a badge worn back in early 1900’s. COs are busy behind the scenes planning and organizing for the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual NAWEOA Conference.

Got an IPODä? Technology has an outlet for outdoor users to access Minnesota natural resources online. Pod casting with tips on hunting and fishing is now available on the Minnesota’s DNR website (<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/news/podcasts>).

A recent poaching case submitted by a Turn-In-Poacher call led CO Jeff Bircherm to investigate four Illinois men with 92 wall-eye over the legal limit on Lake of the Woods, which is covered by Minnesota/Canadian boundary waters regulations. The men face fines totaling \$4,250.

Conservation officers cracked down on deer baiting over this last deer season. Officers say illegal deer baiting has become so rampant in Minnesota that some hunters are passing it down to the next generation. In one case, during routine patrol on a state wildlife management area, CO Brent Speldrich encountered six hunters hunting over bait with the end result of hunters being issued citations, all firearms seized and six deer feeders seized.

The aviation unit completed several flights over the last 6 months for illegal wetland digging called “Operation Bird’s Eye View”. Hundreds of violations of the Wetlands Conservation Act were discovered as a result of these flights.

Academy 11 is underway with 18 new conservation officer candidates spending the next 6 months in training before being sent out to their assigned stations throughout Minnesota.



**Steve Beltran, Illinois** — “After several years of CPO Jeff Baile being our J-Rep in Illinois, time has come to pass along the responsibility to CPO Steve Beltran. Officer Beltran has been involved with the department for seven years and is the current president of the Illinois Conservation Police Officers Association. He has expressed an open door policy to the officers and welcomes comments and suggestions. He can be reached via email at [steve-beltran@gmail.com](mailto:steve-beltran@gmail.com) and hopes to bring some fresh ideas to NAWEOA.”

**Do you know of a NAWEOA member who should receive this newsletter, but doesn't?**

**Jurisdictional Representatives must submit changes in names and mailing addresses** to the Secretary/Treasurer prior to the mailing of each edition of the newsletter in order for members to receive their copies. **You must advise the Jreps of address changes.**

**DEADLINES FOR UPDATED ROSTERS**  
are:

**APRIL 1ST & OCTOBER 1ST**

## REGION 6 REPORT



**Region 6 Director Bill Brace**

Welcome from **Florida!** I am Officer **Brian Baine** and will be the new "voice" of the Florida Chapter of NAWEOA!

Many issues face the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. The great State of Florida is not just a tourist Mecca but a place where people want to *live*. Florida is going through great changes

with over 1000 people moving here each month! In that vein, property values have risen to an all time high and the cost of living in Florida has risen exponentially just over the last two years alone!

As with all government there is a natural lag in dealing with these changes and the FWC along with other state agencies are in a constant battle to retain officers. In its bid to address retention the *agency* is trying its hardest to work out a pay package with the State Legislature that would culminate in paying officers more for the years of service on a sliding *upward* scale. Currently there is little monetary difference between a new hire and an officer who has been on some 15 years. Additionally there is a measure to pay Lieutenant/Supervisors more to bring them up to parity with other state agency supervisors. Each state police agency battles independently for a slice of the budgetary pie and success is generally limited to a few agencies per legislative session.

The second issue is that of residency.

The FWC is currently in the process of rescinding an archaic measure of residency from a "20 miles from the pin dot" point to a much more lenient measure. Currently officers who are assigned a coastal county or a large metropolitan county are required to live there. The cost to rent/own in these areas is prohibitive putting an undue financial burden on the officer. Freeing up residency requirements will allow more latitude for reasonable housing.

Lastly, the agency is examining a pilot program to investigate the benefits of four 10-hour days. With officers working large geographic areas and traveling great distances, it seems that keeping him/her in the field longer since he/she is already there is worth examining. A recent independent study has found that the agency is woefully understaffed. Other agencies have found that a mutually beneficial step to compensate for lack of staff rather than acquire "new hires" is to go to a four-day work week.

## ATTENTION!!!!

### PROSPECTIVE CONFERENCE HOSTS

The NAWEOA Executive Board was recently contacted by a prospective conference host who is interested in formally bidding for the 2011 Conference and is requesting permission from the board to conduct a bid presentation at the upcoming 2007 NAWEOA Conference in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The NAWEOA Constitution related to bidding on future conferences says the following:

(i)Conference bids may be accepted up to three (3) years in advance; and conference bids for dates longer than three (3) years may be accepted subject to prior approval by the executive. (Motion by Mike Massey, NJ. and seconded by Dick Belding, Pa. @Albany, 2000).

At the recent NAWEOA Executive Meeting in Boulder City, Nevada, the NAWEOA Executive Board did approve to allowing a prospective conference host to conduct a bid presentation at the upcoming 2007 NAWEOA Conference in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Other prospective hosts interested in bidding on the 2011 Conference should contact the NAWEOA Executive Board via Doug Forsdick at [president@naweo.org](mailto:president@naweo.org) or Randy Hancock at [Conference@naweo.org](mailto:Conference@naweo.org)

Educating  Honoring

NORTH AMERICAN

# GAME WARDEN MUSEUM

Celebrating Natural Resource Protection

*Field Notes*

*Spring 2007*



## The Game Warden Museum has a new Director

Will Bowlin has been a Conservation Officer with the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks since 2002. He is assigned to Union County, where he currently lives in New Albany, MS. He is originally from Hickory Flat, MS. Will has a degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from Mississippi State University. He is currently on the MDWFP Honour Guard team, and was recently selected as the 2006 Mississippi Wildlife Federation Officer of the Year. "I believe it's very important for the operation of a growing museum to honour officers in our profession, whose work sometimes goes unnoticed." The Museum welcomes Will.

Interested in getting involved?

Saskatchewan artist Glen Scrimshaw dedicated his "Trap Line Patrol" painting to the Wildlife Law Enforcement Officers of North America. The painting shows two uniformed Wildlife Officers inside a trapper's cabin on a lake in a wilderness setting. It could be any officer in any jurisdiction. It will be sure to revive memories for any Wildlife Officer who has spent time in the backcountry.

A portion of the sales of the prints goes to the North American Game Warden Museum. At the winter meeting the Museum board received a proceeds cheque for \$1,400.00 from Glen Scrimshaw. The Museum thanks Manitoba Natural Resource Officer Glenn Miller for coordinating this effort and Mr. Scrimshaw for his generosity. Officers from across the United States and Canada are purchasing the print. **They make wonderful retirement gifts!** Check out Glen Scrimshaw's website at [www.glenscrimshaw.com](http://www.glenscrimshaw.com) for more information.

## Trap Line Patrol

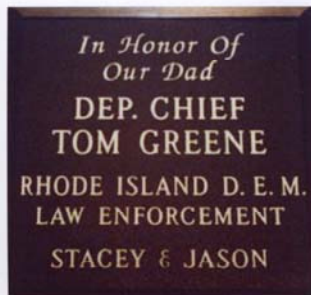






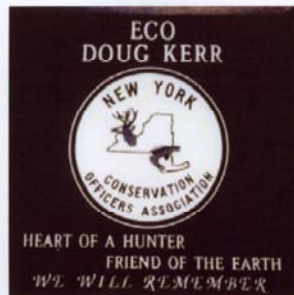
- Paving stones are age, weather and traffic-resistant black polished granite, sized 12" x 12"
- Engraved paving stones provide plenty of room for personal inscription in memory, honor or thanks
- Each sponsored stone will be placed on the museum grounds for public appreciation
- Paving stones can also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

## Examples of Engraved Paving Stones



*Honor a Family Member*

*Demonstrate  
Family Support*



*Memorialize a Fallen Officer*

*Honor  
Outstanding Achievement*



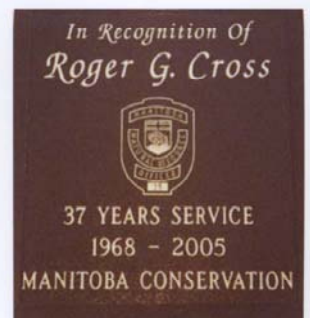
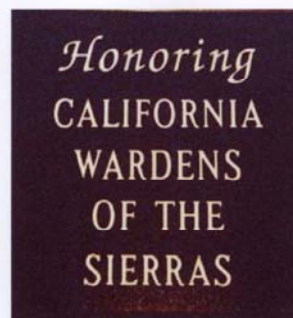
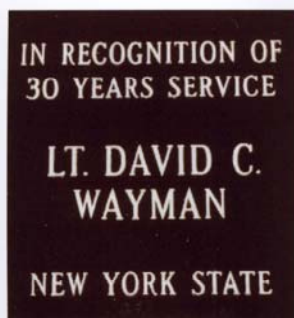
*Just Say Thank You*

*Demonstrate  
Support*



*Celebrate Partnerships*

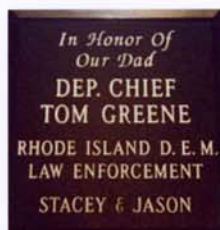
*Honor  
Officer's Retirement*



*A thank you card and a photo of your paving stone will be sent to you upon completion of your stone. A gift acknowledgement is also available upon request. Museum Staff will be available to assist visitors in locating their paving stone on the museum grounds.*

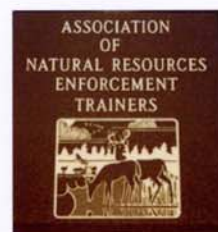
# SUPPORT THE GAME WARDEN MUSEUM PURCHASE A PAVING STONE

## 1. *Circle the type of stone your wish to purchase*



Engraved Paving Stone

\$150



Engraved Paving Stone  
 With 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.  
 Contact person for logo: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your contact information is critical. In some cases, the number of characters may have to be reduced to allow space for logo detail.

## 3. *complete the sponsor and payment information*

### Sponsor Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Options

Visa or MC# \_\_\_\_\_ exp. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Authorizing signature \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of this sponsorship \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ I am also interested in membership.  
☐ I wish my donation to remain anonymous.  
☐ I authorize my paving stone to be used in marketing materials.

Your gift is considered a tax-deductible contribution as defined US & Canadian Charitable Contribution Guidelines

Checks payable to NAWEMMEC  
 P.O. Box 1239  
 Boissevain, MB R0K 0E0





## Visiting Officer Program

Once again the Museum is holding its Visiting Officer Program. The Museum thanks the Officers who have already attended in uniform to represent their jurisdictions and Game Wardens from throughout North America.

Utah has already committed to send their RAP Program and an Officer for a period of time this summer of 2007. The Museum has a trailer in the campground for use by the Visiting Officers. If your agency cannot send an Officer but would like to send a display or pictures, then the Museum would be happy to exhibit them on your behalf for a period of time.

Please contact Dick Knapp at 701-253-6476 in Jamestown, North Dakota or e-mail [rknapp@nd.gov](mailto:rknapp@nd.gov) for more information.

## Elk/Moose Hunt Raffle

When the North American Game Warden Museum project was first envisioned, the North Dakota Wardens Association initiated an annual raffle for a moose licence with proceeds going towards Museum construction. When construction started on the museum, the North Dakota Wardens turned over more than \$150,000. This is the largest-ever single contribution to the museum.

In 2003, management of the raffle was turned over to the Game Warden Museum and an agreement was reached with the North Dakota Chapter of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation combining their elk hunt raffle and the moose raffle. Proceeds are split equally between the two organizations.

In 2004 the raffle netted almost \$20,000 for the project and fell to under \$9,000 in 2005, but came back up to almost \$15,000 last year. While the raffle proceeds improved last year, sales to and by Game Wardens remained low. The sales by the Elk Foundation greatly exceeded the sales by NAWEOA members.

The raffle proceeds are a vital part of the Museums fundraising. There are approximately 8,000 members in NAWEOA. If just one-quarter of our membership bought a ten-dollar ticket the raffle's success will be insured and we will guarantee our partners continued participation.

Please help celebrate natural resources and the heroes who protect them. Tickets can be obtained by contacting:

**Dick Knapp, Box 309, Jamestown, North Dakota 58402**  
or go to [www.gamewardenmuseum.org](http://www.gamewardenmuseum.org) for further contact information

## The Game Warden Museum Is Looking for "STUFF"

Your museum building is a reality and is open for business. However, we need your help. We are working very hard on developing interesting, challenging and interactive exhibits to tell our stories. What will truly bring these exhibits to life are the artifacts that will make them "real". So, we are looking for real game warden "STUFF". We're interested in items that you may wish to give to the museum or simply loan to the museum for a period of time. An item donated to the museum may qualify for a tax receipt for the value of the item.

We invite you to check out the museum website at [www.Gamewardenmuseum.org](http://www.Gamewardenmuseum.org) for further info. On the website you will find a listing of exhibit materials that we are looking for as well as other items of interest. Please DO NOT send any items at this time. We ask that you contact us through email at the following address [artifacts@gamewardenmuseum.org](mailto:artifacts@gamewardenmuseum.org). Once we have an inventory on paper of what is available to us, we can begin to assess what materials and artifacts we can use to develop displays both now and in the future. If you already have an exhibit or display that is complete and would like to loan it to the museum, we would like to hear about that also. We look forward to hearing from you and thank you for your support of the museum.

## International Peace Garden

The International Peace Garden is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary on July 14, 2007. This special day would be an ideal time to visit the North American Game Warden Museum. Check out the International Peace Garden website [www.peacegarden.com](http://www.peacegarden.com) for the many planned events.

The Museum is planning to have special guests on site that day. Plans are underway to have Uniformed Officers, the Manitoba Canine Unit, and Smokey the Bear attend in honor of the Garden anniversary. Don't forget, this is the weekend before the Minneapolis NAWEOA Conference so if you are travelling nearby on the way to the conference **PLEASE STOP FOR A VISIT!**



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Pierre Paquet

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# REGION 7 REPORT



## Region 7 Director Rich Cramer

*The 2007 NAWEOA Summer Conference is fast approaching. The exceptional training agenda should entice administrators from across North America to send officers to St. Paul this July. In addition to the truly outstanding training scheduled for the week, officers can expect to enjoy the type of camaraderie found only in the company of fellow wildlife officers. It is amazing to see how different and yet how similar each of our work situations are when one takes the time to sit with brother and sister officers and compare notes. I have had the privilege to meet officers from every corner of the continent and have yet to meet an officer with whom I couldn't sit and share a conversation. Register now at [www.naweo.org](http://www.naweo.org) to ensure your place at this year's event.*

**Rhode Island EPO Jennifer Connors** reports that officers are recovering from a very intensive detail that lasted from April 2006 to November 2006. The department was assigned 24-hour waterway security for the demolition of the old Jamestown Bridge. This was a 66-year-old bridge almost 7000 feet in length that spanned the west passage of Narragansett Bay. This passage is one of only two shipping entrances into the bay and is also a major route for recreational and fishing vessels.

Our department, which consists of 34 officers, was tasked with controlling the flow of vessel traffic under the bridge, maintaining the 1000-foot security zone on both sides of the bridge and completely shutting down all vessel traffic during several days of blasting. Our officers volunteered to work extremely long hours, spending several consecutive days on the patrol boats in every type of weather condition possible. During this period, our officers managed to maintain regular patrols and filled all of our summer details. This

detail took a very emotional and physical toll on our officers as well as on our Chief and two Deputy Chiefs who stepped up and spent many nights on the boats to help out. If anything, this detail allowed us the opportunity to really come together as a team and has left us with hysterical stories to tell, breathtaking views to remember, fine-tuned boat handling and barbequing skills, a couple of unwanted pounds, a new appreciation for good hygiene, and memories that will last a lifetime.

**Maine Warden Chris Dyer** reports that the seasons are changing. During the fall deer season it was either pouring rain or 70 degrees. Hunters continued to have success, but were unhappy with the weather. Numerous great resource-related cases were made.

The start of ice fishing season has been slow. It is hard to ice fish with no ice. As of mid-January most of the lakes and ponds in Maine don't have safe ice. Snowmobiling has been very slow for most of Maine with the exception of the very northern areas.

Maine is in the midst of a lawsuit with an anti-trapping group that is trying to stop all trapping in Maine because there are bald eagles and lynx in the state. Changes are at hand with bear trapping in Maine. One side wants no bear trapping, the other wants to keep the limit of two traps. Steel jaw traps will probably be out.

If the ice doesn't thicken up on the lakes and ponds, the open-water fishing season should be world class because most of the fish will not have sore mouths from the ice fishing season.

We currently have 12 new Game Wardens attending Advanced Warden School. All of the new Wardens have graduated from the 18-week Basic Law Enforcement Program and are now attending the 14-week Advanced School to learn 'our craft'.

**Michigan CO Michelle Weigand** reports the Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division is pleased to announce that 16 new Conservation officers will be taking to the field upon graduation from the Division academy on February 9, 2007. The new COs will be filling various Counties around the state after their 18-week field-training phase.

Capt. Curt Bacon, Northern Field Operations Supervisor, is retiring on February 28, 2007, after 34 years of service.

The Michigan Conservation Officers Association is continuing to build its membership and work on fundraising ideas. The Conservation Officer's Association has

formed its own hockey team made up of officers and a few family members. The team's goal is to play benefit games to raise funds to assist families in need.

**Vermont Warden George Scribner** reports that the wardens in Vermont investigated many interesting violations this past year. Among the most interesting was one investigated by Warden Greg Eckhardt. Warden Eckhardt responded to an illegally taken 5-point buck toward the end of October 2006. This deer had been shot twice and Warden Eckhardt was able to retrieve two 22-caliber bullets from the deer as well as a number of 22-rimfire casings along the roadway. Warden Eckhardt then used a photo lineup to have the complainant identify one of the subjects that had been seen in the immediate vicinity of the deer earlier during the day. A search warrant of the property of the identified subject revealed 5 illegal deer, an illegally possessed fisher, and the confession of the killing of the original 5-pointer. Further interviews revealed that three males in their early 20's were involved in shooting at least 7 deer at night using a 22-rim fire rifle and X-Bows. All three subjects face up to 30 charges each for various fish and wildlife violations.

**New Hampshire CO Dave Walsh** reports that it is crunch time for NH Fish and Game's budget crisis. As of this writing (2/1/07), Fish and Game has requested that \$1.6 million in State General Funds be included in the state budget in each of the next two years as a "stopgap" measure. Without this stopgap revenue, F&G will be forced to make drastic cuts starting July 1, 2007, including *reducing its staff by 20% and closing three regional offices*. Some of the bills propose to raise money through new fees such as a saltwater license and decals for non-motorized boats. One bill would give 4% of the NH's rooms and meals tax to the Department. Other bills, however, propose to merge F&G with various other state agencies. ***These include merging F&G's Law Enforcement Division with the NH Marine Patrol or put the Conservation Officers under the NH State Police.***

In an effort to address significant pressure on NH's marine fisheries resources, NH's COs stepped up enforcement efforts in the seacoast district in 2006. The enhanced enforcement efforts targeted three primary fisheries – striped bass, American lobster and groundfish. During the spring and summer of 2006, over 160 summonses and warnings were issued, numerous fish and lobsters were seized, and 7 drug ar-



rests were made along NH's 18 miles of coast. In addition, COs made several referrals to National Marine Fisheries Special Agents for violations of federal fisheries regulations. COs utilized the Department's 38-foot vessel "Endeavor" and a 27-foot Safeboat patrol vessel to carry out much of this enforcement. According to Lt. John Wimsatt, who supervises NHF&G Law Enforcement in the seacoast district, "The expertise of local F&G officers, and support from enthusiastic visiting COs (from other regions of the state), contributed to the success of these initiatives."

**New York ECO Marion Hoffman** reports that on January 15 the 17<sup>th</sup> Basic Training Academy began. Nineteen Environmental Conservation Officer recruits and ten Forest Ranger recruits are about to finish up their fourth week of school in Fulton New York, in snowy Oswego County. As the contract with the State University of New York at Oswego has ended, and the question of where the training facility will be for the long run has not yet been resolved, the Academy is being held in a wing of a local motel, utilizing an adjacent vacant building for defensive tactics and physical training. The dedicated and imaginative training staff, headed up by Captain Sam Servadio and Sergeants Paul Adam and Bob Inman, is doing a terrific job of creating a professional paramilitary learning atmosphere inside the Riverside Motel, where they will be for another twenty-four weeks.

We also graduated three new recruits in July when K-9s Buck, Warden and Griz joined our Detector Dog Unit with their handlers, Scott Steingart, Mike Arp, and Cory Schoonover. We now have a total of eight dogs in our seven upstate regions.

We learned this winter that some of the Homeland Security monies appropriated to help keep our ports safe from terrorist attacks would be coming to our Division. Capt. Jill Kaufman, Commander of our New York City office, submitted a successful proposal for over a million dollars to build three large patrol boats that will prowl New York Harbor, the Hudson River and nearby ocean waters for both natural resource violations and threats to security.

On the management front, we are experiencing large-scale turnover. Col. Mike Murray retired this year as Assistant Division Director and was replaced by Pete Fanelli. In December Director Bob Lucas retired, followed by the other Assistant Director, Les Wilson. Due to binding arbitration awards made to the unionized members this year, filling management positions will become problematic as Captains will make more than Majors and as much as Colonels.

**New Jersey CO Lisa LaCroix** reports

that voters in November approved a percentage of the corporate business tax to be dedicated to state parks, historic sites and fish and wildlife. In all approximately \$15 million dollars is to be split among the three agencies for capital improvements. Fish and Wildlife's cut is expected to be about \$3 million. So far proposals for a new firearms range building for educational purposes and storage as well as a 100-yard rifle range all for law enforcement use have been put forward for review. The relatively new range building currently in use can then be redesigned for defensive tactics training.

Three officers will be retiring this spring, including a captain, lieutenant, and a field officer. Plans are in the works to fill these three vacancies, along with a previously vacated position. Four new field officer positions are being considered utilizing outside funding. Currently there are 21 vacant positions that cannot be filled due to budget constraints.

A CO II (lieutenant) exam is scheduled for late March and a CO III (field officer) exam is planned for the summer at which time we hope to have a Recruit title in place. The recruits would have the same hiring requirements, a natural resources related 4-year degree with at least 24 credits of fish and wildlife courses. However, the current requirement of one-year experience in wildlife/fisheries or law enforcement would be eliminated. The recruits would work for one year on a lower pay scale, then be promoted to field officer at the current pay level.

The New Jersey Conservation Officers' Association is under new leadership. CO Tom O'Rourke took over as President and CO Shannon Martiak took over as Vice President. Lots of new and exciting changes are planned. We hope that the organization will grow and prosper. Visit our new website [www.njcoa.com](http://www.njcoa.com) to see what we are up to.

**PA Fish & Boat WCO Erin Czech** reports that the F&B Commission has begun to issue Fishing Licenses through Point of Sale purchases. This will provide officers with computer records and the agency with invaluable license information. The agency is also seeking a Youth Fishing License. The proceeds from the license will be dedicated to youth fishing programs.

There is currently a Waterways Conservation Officer Class in session. There are ten trainees who have just begun the second phase of training. The class is scheduled to graduate in late August. Upon graduation the new officers will fill the current vacant districts. Unfortunately, with more officers retiring this year, vacant districts will still exist.

The officers of the PA Fish & Boat Commission and of the PA Game Commission have formed an FOP lodge. We are the 114<sup>th</sup> lodge formed in Pa. The agency is happy to report that a law lowering the BAC to .08 has been passed.

**Ohio Officer Steve Thomson** reports that Lake Erie Investigators are finishing up a three-year project on commercial fishermen. Fifteen commercial fishermen and wholesale fish companies were involved in various violations including corrupt activity, money laundering, tampering with records, receiving stolen property and selling unreported yellow perch. Fifteen felony indictments were handed down as well as many misdemeanor charges on 4 companies and 14 individuals. It was documented that over 40 tons of illegal yellow perch were taken from Lake Erie. To date, 940 lbs. of perch fillets have been seized and over \$365,000 in fines and restitution have been assessed. Charges are still pending on other subjects.

Several notable deer-poaching cases were made in 2006 as well as a mussel-poaching case in which 2,386 illegal mussels were seized. The mussel poachers forfeited their equipment, a new F250 Ford pickup truck, paid over \$5,000 in fines and cost, and served a total of 44 days in jail. Wildlife officers made 7,525 arrests for wildlife crimes and other criminal violations resulting in \$510,442.55 in fines collected.

Wildlife officers investigated 106 pollution incidents statewide where 95,374 wild animals were killed, mostly fish. The Division collected \$33,897 in damages for 11 settlements.

A Wildlife Officer Cadet training school was started in January '07 to train 12 newly hired Wildlife Officers. The officers should enter the field in July of '07.

**Massachusetts EPO Kevin Clayton** reports that background investigations are underway and eight souls are expected to be hired and in the Boston Police Academy in May 2007 with graduation in November 2007. They fall into the hands of their Field Training Officers thereafter.

Recent promotions were given to Lt. Peter Hanlon, Lt. John Tulik and Officer Len Roberts (Marine Theft Investigator and former President of the MA Environmental Police Officers Assn.). All attained the rank of. Capt. Hanlon is in charge of the areas of Plymouth south to the Rhode Island border: South Coastal Bureau. Capt. Tulik is responsible for points north of Plymouth to the New Hampshire border: North Coastal. Capt. Roberts is responsible for Inland areas west of Worcester. We wish them luck in their new positions.



Gary Zacher  
District Intelligence/  
Investigations Officer  
Aylmer District



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Fax: (519) 773-9026  
Email: gary.zacher@ontario.ca

## NAWEOA Officer Exchange Program 2007 Canadian Officer



**Montana Fish,  
Wildlife & Parks**

Dave Loewen  
Game Warden

930 Custer Avenue W. • Helena, MT 59602  
Office: 406-495-3275 • Fax: 406-495-3273  
Cell: 406-439-5888 • Home: 406-458-6500

Lewis & Clark County  
Sheriff's Office:  
406-442-7883

Turn in Poachers: 1-800-TIP-MONT

My name is Gary Zacher. I was born and raised in St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada and have reached the mature age of 56. Thirty-six years ago I hired on with the Ministry of Natural Resources as a Wildlife Management Officer. July 20, 2006 has become one of my luckiest days in my 36-year career as a Conservation Officer. I won the right to represent Canada in the NAWEOA Officer Exchange Program 2007. I am now tasked with trying to put pen to paper and describe this truly amazing adventure.

Once I accepted my prize and signed the necessary contract, everyone started to quiz me as to where I wanted to travel. My head was in a fog, but one thing surfaced front and centre – mountains and Montana. Later that day, during the bid presentations to host future conferences, I met Montana's "Officer of the Year" Dave Loewen and his lovely wife Sara. Unknown to Dave, he had been targeted by the NAWEOA/Officer Exchange Program 2007/Canadian Officer to host a visit in the fall.

After a few organizing emails between Dave and myself, it was decided that the best time to visit Montana would be between November 10 and the 22. With amazing support from my loving wife Carol, who made all my flight arrangements, I was soon on my way.

On November 10, 2006, Montana Game Warden Dave Loewen met Ontario Conservation Officer Gary Zacher in Helena, Montana to start the first leg of the adventure. After a short breakfast we headed over to Dave's office to organize a few matters and check his messages. At 9:20 we received a call that a cow elk had been shot and left and her calf was hanging around the carcass. A white F150 pickup truck was seen in the area. Dave and I attended the kill site and examined the carcass. It was determined that the animal had been shot several days earlier. The driver of the white F150 pickup truck was interviewed in the area and eliminated as suspect. We then left the area and travelled to such exotic locations as Round Top Mountain, Mary's Ville, Mullan Pass and the

Continental Divide.

While in the Helena area I also had an opportunity to work with Game Warden Randy Arnold and Sergeant Mike Ottman. The three officers were extremely busy but found time to show me around. During the six days, we investigated unlicensed elk hunters, game being left to spoil, shooting from a road way and trespassing to hunt. Periodic visits were made to the game check station.

Dave took a side trip up to the one of the mountaintops to look for a mountain goat. We had just turned around and were heading down when Dave made the comment that you never know where or when you might see a mountain goat and one decided to meet us on the bend in the road. I don't know how the State of Montana trains those goats to appear on cue, but it sure is impressive.

Later in the afternoon, while checking hunters, we had an opportunity to check a youth hunter (12 yrs old) who was very eager to show us her first deer which she had harvested earlier that day. As she described, it was a nice four-pointer.

The second leg of my adventure was in the West Yellowstone



area working with Jim Smolczynski. Jim was busy with elk hunters and bison migrating outside the park. I was able to tag along with Jim as he investigated a hunter who had shot an elk while standing on a roadway. The hunter had been travelling with a licensed disabled hunter. The elk was seized and a ticket written.

In the afternoon Jim interviewed two elk hunters that were glassing a cow and calf making their way from private lands to state land. Everything checked out and Jim made sure that the hunters understood where the state land was and that they couldn't corner jump. We left the area, seized a deer, only to return later to find two hunters crossing the fences at the corner and shooting the cow and calf. Approximately three hours later the two corner jumpers were interviewed and a ticket was issued and a warning given for the indiscretion. The two hunters interviewed earlier were not the two corner jumpers.

The third and final leg of my adventure found me in Livingston, Montana working with Game Warden Jim Miller. Jim's father Leo





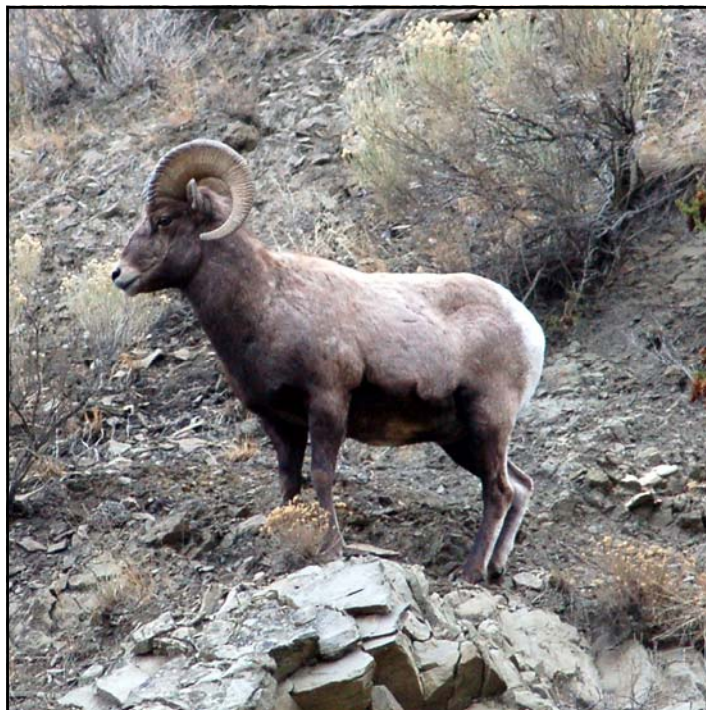
and mother Shirley were visiting Jim and Kathy at the time of my arrival, but they still opened their home and invited me to stay with them. This just added to what was already an incredible adventure.



While in Livingston I was introduced to elk hunting on horseback. Complaints had been received that guided hunters had



started shooting 15 minutes before legal shooting time, and that hunters were fighting over animals that had been shot. Jim had to travel back into Dexter Flats to investigate the complaints that provided me an opportunity to experience horseback riding into an



amazing piece of landscape. We collected DNA samples from two kill sites, obtained witness statements from all the parties involved. Later charges against two of the shooters were laid for shooting too early.

My last day in Livingston proved to be a phenomenal camera opportunity. Jim took time out of his busy schedule and toured me through Yellowstone National Park where I was able to capture photos of bull elk, big horn sheep, a cow moose with twin calves and herds of bison.

NAWEOA has given me an amazing opportunity to experience a million-dollar trip and for that I am truly grateful. But I can't end this article without thanking Montana Game Wardens Dave Loewen, Jim Smolczynski and Jim Miller and all their families and fellow Officers who teamed up to make this trip unbelievably great!

I am planning now to return to Montana in 2008 for the NAWEOA Conference being held in Great Falls. I encourage everyone to follow me. It's a guaranteed good time.



# Wildlife Officer Recognition

**OOY = Officer of the Year**

## **REGION 1**

### **Alberta**

Fish & Wildlife Officer **Steve Cross**, 2006 OOY

### **Saskatchewan**

Conservation Officer **Marc Painchaud**, 2006 OOY

Conservation Officer **Grant Duncan**, 2006 Labour Service (Seasonal) OOY

## **REGION 4**

### **California**

**Todd Tognazzini** – Officer of the Year

**Kyle Kroll** - Medal of Valor and Purple Star

**Lt. John Nores** - Medal of Valor and Lifesaving

**Adam Kavanaugh** - Medal of Valor and Lifesaving

**Matthew Shanley** - Medal of Valor

**Larry Bruckenstein** - Lifesaving

**Brian Boyd** - Lifesaving

**Jacob Nicholas** - Lifesaving

**Kyle Chang, Gary Densford, Rick Fischer, Brian Gallaher, Brady Hill, Mike Horn, Matt Shanley, Ryan Detrick, Steve McDonald, Dick Phillips (retired), Senior Warden Pilot Tom Evans, Lt. Tom Stenson, Lt. Tim Sawyer (retired)** - AFWA Conservation OOY nominees. Nominated as a group for their work at the Potrero Wildlife Area

**Sean Pirtle** - NWT Federation officer of the year nominee

**James Banks**, Senior Wildlife Forensics Lab scientist (not an officer), Wildlife Law Enforcement - Shikar-Safari OOY

### **Colorado**

**Cary Carron**—Colorado Officer of the Year

### **Washington**

**Jerry Zimmerman**—WDFW Award of Valor

**Bret Hopkins**—WGA Officer of the Year

**Jim Nelson**—NWTF Officer of the Year nominee

**Tammy Conklin**—Washington State Officer of the Year

## **REGION 5**

### **South Dakota**

**Jeff Grendler** ~ Shikar Safari OOY

**Shon Eide** ~ Boating OOY

**Mike Klosowski** ~ Mark Patton Award

**Blair Waite** ~ National Wild Turkey Federation OOY

### **Indiana**

Dept. of Natural Resources, Law Enf. Div.

**Lt. Kent Hutchins** ~ Lifesaving

Master Conservation Officer **Paul Harden** ~ Lifesaving

Conservation Officer **Dennis Talley** ~ Lifesaving

Master Conservation Officer **Michael Stivers** ~ Lifesaving

Master Conservation Officer **Phil Schuetter** ~ 2005 OOY

Conservation Officer **Dennis Talley** - Lifesaving

### **Oklahoma**

**Terry Swallow** ~ 2006 Oklahoma State Game Warden OOY

### **Nebraska**

**Dale Johnson** ~ 2006 Shikar-Safari Club Wildlife OOY

### **Wisconsin**

**Michael Stahl**, Field Warden ~ Haskell Noyes Award

**David Zebro**, Supervisor ~ Shikar Safari Award

**Doug Bilgo**, Field Warden ~ WI Hunter Education Professional and National Hunter Education Professional

**Chris Groth**, Field Warden ~ WI Trapper Association OOY

**John Windt**, Field Warden ~ WI Bow Hunters Association OOY

**Mike Young**, Field Warden ~ WI Wildlife Federation OOY

**Russell Fell**, Field Warden ~ WI Boating OOY

**Jeremy Peery**, Field Warden ~ WI Wild Turkey Federation OOY

**Jeremy Peery**, Field Warden ~ WI Bear Hunter OOY

**Ron Nerva**, Field Warden ~ WI Bear Hunter OOY

### **Kansas**

**Jeff Goeckler** ~ 2006 Shikar-Safari Club Wildlife OOY

### **Iowa**

Conservation Officer **Mark Edwards** -- 2006 Iowa Izaak Walton League of America Conservation OOY

Conservation Officer **John Sells** -- 2006 Shikar-Safari Award

## **REGION 6**

### **Alabama**

**Lt. Clifton Robinson** ~ 2006 PALS Officer of the Year.

## **REGION 7**

### **Maine**

Warden **David Simmons**, 2005 Warden of the Year

Sergeant **Ronald Dunham**, Meritorious Service Award

Warden **Jeremy Kemp**, Meritorious Service Award

Warden **Paul Farrington**, Meritorious Service Award

Warden **Joey Gardiner**, Meritorious Service Award

Warden **James Martin**, Meritorious Service Award

Warden **Joseph McBrine**, Meritorious Service Award

Warden **Brad Richard**, Meritorious Service Award

Warden **Dan Scott**, Exemplary Service Award

Warden **Jeremy Judd**, Exemplary Service Award

Warden **Dave Chabot**, Exemplary Service Award

Warden **Jason Luce**, Exemplary Service Award

Warden **Michael Eaton**, Exemplary Service Award

Warden **Daniel Carroll**, Exemplary Service Award

Warden **Dan Scott** and his K-9, Roxie, Search and Rescue Canine Case of the Year

Warden **Mark Merrifield** & K-9, Aspen, K-9 Conservation Law Enforcement Case of the Year Award.



Sergeant **Pat Devlin**, Supervisor of the Year Award  
Retired Warden **Virgil Grant**, 2005 Legendary Game Warden Award

#### Michigan

CO **Dan Walzak**, 2006 Shikar-Safari Officer of the Year

#### Vermont

Senior Warden **Travis Buttle**, 2006 Commissioner's Award  
Senior Warden **Curtis Smiley**, 2006 Commissioner's Award  
Senior Warden **Kim Klein**, 2006 Commissioner's Award  
Sergeant **Don Isabelle**, 2006 Commissioner's Award

#### New Hampshire

Sergeant **James S. Juneau**, 2005 Shikar-Safari OOO  
CO **Jeremy Hawkes**, 2005 NECLECA Officer of the Year  
CO **Chip Jospeh**, 2006 Shikar-Safari Officer of the Year  
Lieutenant **Kevin Jordan**, 2006 NECLECA Officer of the Year  
CO **Delayne Brown**, Congressional Lifesaving Award  
CO **Chris Egan**, Congressional Lifesaving Award  
CO **Jeremy Hawkes**, Congressional Lifesaving Award  
CO **Adam Cheney**, Congressional Lifesaving Award  
Lieutenant **Doug Gralenski**, Congressional Lifesaving Award

#### New York

ECO **Mike Terrell**, 2006 NECLECA Officer of the Year  
ECO **Kevin Mazur**, 2006 Shikar-Safari Officer of the Year  
Lieutenant **Deming Lindsley**, New York State Conservation Council Educator of the Year  
ECO **Tom Harrington**, NY State Rifle and Pistol Assoc. OOO  
ECO **Tom Flaitz**, NYS Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation 2006 Law Enforcement Achievement Award

#### New Jersey

CO **Mark Canale**, 2005 NECLECA Officer of the Year

#### Ohio

Wildlife Officer Supervisor **David Warner**, 2005 NWTF OOO  
Wildlife Officer **Jeff Collingwood**, 2005 Mississippi Flyway Ohio Waterfowl OOO  
Wildlife Officer **Dirk Cochran**, Ohio Bow Hunters Assoc. OOO  
Law Supervisor **Terry Sunderhaus**, OOO by the Association of Midwest Fish & Game Law Enforcement Officers

#### Pennsylvania

WCO **Alan Robinson**, PA Fish & Boat, Top Gun Award for his enforcement efforts regarding boating under the influence.  
WCO **Robert Mader**, PA Fish & Boat, Gerald Greiner award for his work in environmental enforcement efforts

### **SPECIAL REQUEST FOR AN ILL CHILD**

We have a brave young man suffering from brain tumors and is going through his second set of radiation, chemo, etc., etc. He is 12 years old and his one request has been to get a card from every state and province in North America and every country in the world.

Thanks a million, in advance, for all the participation by NAWEOA members North America-wide!

I personally thank you and look forward to helping our PA committee host the 2010 Conference.

Don Madl  
Retired Executive Director  
Pennsylvania Game Commission

His name and address is:

**Chad Scanlon**  
**c/o Holy Trinity School**  
**327 W. Vincent St.**  
**Ligonier, PA 15658**

### **It's Been a Great Ride**

**By Duane Martin,  
National Park Warden, Recently Retired**

It's been a great ride.

In looking back over the years, I recall a discussion with a Senior Manager, at the Ottawa airport, as we were waiting to fly home at the conclusion of first round of officer safety hearings and receiving advice to just "try and relax, Duane, it's only a job".

Only a job:

~ having the Prime Minister of the day buy you and warden colleagues a beer after an exceptional day's climb on Mt. Edith Cavell;  
~ having a casual encounter with a young Japanese tourist, providing him a home-cooked western meal and a tour of the local sites;  
~ receiving a Christmas card from the Finance Minister of Japan thanking us for the hospitality provided to his son;  
~ climbing with a team of fellow wardens, by headlight, through the night, to rescue a local climber who had fallen 130 feet into a crevasse, knowing with certainty it was a body recovery, but discovering he was alive and your rescue efforts delivered him to medical attention in time to save his life;  
~ participating in an all-expense paid high-altitude mountaineering expedition in Kluane, camped beside climbers who had taken 3 months off work and who had spend \$20.00 to travel across the globe to participate in the same activity you were getting paid for;  
~ participating in the seamless teamwork of a warden team on a fire, rescue, mountaineering course or investigation;  
~ experiencing the awe and wonder of foreign tourists who had saved a lifetime to see the Rocky Mountains – a place where you lived and worked each day;  
~ participating with an incredible team of park wardens in unraveling the mystery around a 5-year-old poaching and sharing in the satisfaction, after 18 months of effort, of hearing the court sentence the individual to a \$10.00 fine and 6 months in jail;  
~ recognition from the Commanding Officer of the RCMP Training academy for the "everlasting contribution for both agencies to continue to share and develop for future generations";  
~ the fear of facing Murray's Mr. Happy Face in PDT; sitting in a back-country cabin with a glass of "Twang" in hand, in front of a crackling stove as you dry out after a 6-hour ride through a driving rain (or a foot of snow - right Frank?);  
~ standing on a cabin porch looking up at a star-filled sky, listening to the distant clank of horse bells, feeling like you are the only person on earth - and being content with that;  
~ riding to the top of a pass and marvelling at the vista that lays before you; travelling to US national parks, "flashing the shield" and being rewarded with the life-long friendships of fellow national park protectors;  
~ experiencing park landscapes and parks people from coast to coast;  
~ working with an incredibly capable and committed team of trainers, imparting knowledge and passion for your work to park wardens, new and old, for over two decades; having the Governor General of Canada pin a Peace Officer's Exemplary Service medal on the uniform you have worn with pride and distinction for 34+ years and saying "we really appreciate what you have done".

**Just a job? Yeah right!**

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# Renew YOUR Resource

If you are a member of NAWEOA, or your association is interested in purchasing subscriptions for its employees and/or members, please contact our Subscriptions Manager, Stephanie Kutch by phone at 814-940-1155 or email: [subscription@igwmagazine.com](mailto:subscription@igwmagazine.com).

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**Stephanie Kutch**  
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# NAWEOA AWARDS CRITERIA

## NAWEOA OFFICER OF THE YEAR

### Nominee:

- ◆ Must be a fully certified conservation officer in the state, province, territory, or country in which employed.
- ◆ Must be a full-time field officer, up to and including first-line supervisors from the field in the last calendar year.
- ◆ Both nominee and person submitting nomination must be a member of NAWEOA.
- ◆ An officer whose character is beyond reproach.
- ◆ An officer who is competent, knowledgeable and capable.
- ◆ An officer who promotes wildlife law enforcement.
- ◆ An officer who demonstrates professionalism in every facet of life.
- ◆ The person submitting the nomination shall provide background material when submitting the nomination. Background material shall be in written narrative format, not exceeding 5 pages. Other supportive articles, certificates, awards, media coverage, etc. may be included with the nomination.
- ◆ All nominations must be received by the Vice President of NAWEOA not later than April 15th each year. The successful officer will be notified by May 1st..

## NAWEOA TORCH AWARD

- ◆ Presented annually to an officer from each region to encourage the professional development of recently appointed officers. The selection criteria are as follows:
- ◆ Both nominating and nominated officers must be regular NAWEOA members.
- ◆ Nominated officer must **not** have worked as a wildlife enforcement officer more than five years.
- ◆ Must have demonstrated a genuine desire to protect the resource and develop professionally.
- ◆ Must demonstrate exceptional ability and initiative in the performance of his or her duties, including public education.
- ◆ Must be respected by his/her peers and the general public.
- ◆ Nominations must be received by April 15th each year. Winners will be notified by May 1st.
- ◆ Awards will be presented at annual conference; attendance encouraged but not mandatory.
- ◆ **NOTE:** This award is adjudicated by and presentations made on behalf of retired officers. **Please forward submissions for this award to: SECRETARY-TREASURER, Steve Kleiner, P.O. Box 22, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648 (877) 569-4255 naweoa@ureach.com**

## OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

Anyone who is eligible for regular or deputy membership may be nominated for this award. It is given for outstanding achievement or service in the field of Wildlife Law Enforcement, to NAWEOA executive or outgoing NAWEOA Directors.

## CERTIFICATE OF RETIREMENT \*\*\*

Anyone who is eligible for regular or deputy membership may be nominated for this award. It is given to honor years of service to the profession. This award is distributed on behalf of NAWEOA by regional reps and is not subject to executive review.

## AWARD OF VALOUR

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

## LIFESAVING AWARD

Anyone who is eligible to be a regular or deputy member of the association or anyone who is a member of the association 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

Anyone who in any way is helpful to the association and/or its members 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 who receives this award shall maintain their voting privileges within the association.

**NOTE:** The above awards shall be submitted to the NAWEOA executive for review **not later than MAY 1st in any year to allow for presentation at the annual conference for that year.** With the exception of Officer of the Year nominations, other award nominations will be accepted up to the time of the conference and, if time allows, will be considered and awarded at the conference. Consideration is not guaranteed if nomination is not received by the general May 1st deadline.

**Award nominations should be made online and electronically submitted at:**  
**<http://www.naweoa.org>**

**\*\*\* Certificates of Retirement should be requested through the appropriate Jurisdictional Representative\*\*\***



# HELP US HELP WILDLIFE

The Fondation de la faune provides technical and financial support for wildlife and habitat conservation and development initiatives throughout Québec.

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**[www.fondationdelafaune.qc.ca](http://www.fondationdelafaune.qc.ca)**



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de la faune  
du Québec



# NAWEOA 2007

JULY 16-22, Saint Paul



**Minnesota** is very excited to welcome you to the **2007 NAWEOA Conference** during our **120<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration!!** We hope you will join us along the banks of the Mississippi River in downtown St. Paul. We have arranged for everyone to be on site at the same hotel, the Crowne Plaza Riverfront, St. Paul. The Crowne Plaza has 475 rooms, you can stay onsite, say hello to old friends, make new ones, and attend training, all under one roof. You will fly into the Minneapolis/St. Paul (MSP) airport only 15 minutes away from the hotel.

We have planned an impressive training program for you. Keynote speakers; Dr. Kevin Gilmartin speaking on Emotional Survival for law enforcement families, Dr. James Reese-working alone 24/7, bitter or getting better, and Dr. Giesbrecht-aka Dr Freeze on cold water survival. Training on Timber wolf delisting, Crisis in the marsh, Forensics, Strontium bone research, Interview and interrogation, Bring back the ducks, Defensive tactics, Drown proofing, Building training aids, Special investigations, and Becoming your own author. We know there is something here for everyone!

Tours have been planned so your entire family can have a good time while here.

**Please join us!!** We look forward to making your stay everything you would hope it to be and more! **MEET 'YA ON THE MISSISSIPPI.**

Our Website is ready for you to visit for more information and to register.

**[www.NAWEOA2007.org](http://www.NAWEOA2007.org)**

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MINNESOTA DNR  
LAW ENFORCEMENT



MINNESOTA CONSERVATION  
OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

# **SCHEDULE**

## **....and Activities**

### **MINNESOTA**



### **DNR ENFORCEMENT**

### **MINNESOTA**



### **CONSERVATION OFFICERS ASSOCIATION**

**&**

### **THE MINNESOTA GAME WARDEN FOUNDATION**

#### **MONDAY, JULY 16, 2007**

Breakfast on your own  
0900-1900 Registration  
0800-2300 Social Activities

#### **TUESDAY, JULY 17, 2007**

Breakfast on your own  
0700-1900 Registration  
0700-2300 Social Activities  
0700-1600 Golf Outing  
1900-0100 Hospitality Room

#### **WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 2007**

Breakfast on your own  
0700-1900 Registration Open  
0700-2300 Social Activities  
0800-1630 NAWEOA Board meeting  
All members welcome  
1200-1800 Exhibit Hall Open  
1600-1830 Museum Torch Run  
1830-2000 Torch Run Cook out  
1900-0100 Hospitality Room Open

#### **THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2007**

Breakfast on your own  
0700-1900 Registration  
0700 Muster-Harriet Island  
0730 Group Photo  
0800-0900 Parade March back  
0900-1130 Opening Ceremonies  
1130-1200 Exhibitor Meet and Greet  
1200-1330 Officers Luncheon  
1200-1330 Spouse Luncheon  
1200-1300 Youth Luncheon  
1300-1700 Youth Activities  
1300-1430 Officer Awards/Business Meeting  
1500-1730 Emotional Survival Presentation  
1100-1900 Exhibit Hall Open  
1800-2300 Kids/Teen Dances  
1900-2000 Officer Exchange Presentation  
2000-0100 Hospitality Room Open

#### **FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2000**

Breakfast on your own  
0630-0800 NAWEOA Jurisdictional Rep Breakfast  
0630-0800 Retirees Breakfast  
0700-1900 Registration Desk  
0800-1100 Dr. Reese/Dr. Giesbrecht Presentations  
0800-1300 Exhibit Hall Open  
1130-1300 Business Meeting and candidate speeches  
1300-1800 Warden/Kids/Spouse Skills-Harriet Island--Lunch on site **for fee**  
1830-2030 Walleye Fish Fry-Harriet Island  
2030-2330 Youth Activities  
2100-2200 Bid Presentations  
2200-0100 Hospitality Room

#### **SATURDAY, JULY 21, 2007**

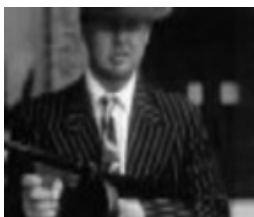
Breakfast on your own  
0630-0800 Female Officer Bkfst  
0700-1900 Registration Desk  
0800-1530 Officer Training  
0800-1700 Exhibit Hall  
0800-1700 Youth Activities  
1600-1630 Closing Ceremonies  
1800-2400 Banquet/Auctions  
1800-2400 Kids Pizza Party  
2300-0200 Hospitality Room

#### **SUNDAY, July 22, 2007**

Breakfast on your own  
Executive Board Meeting  
Departures-Safe Journey



# TOURS NAWEOA 2007 Saint Paul, MN



## St. Paul's Notorious Past Tour

Visit some notorious gangster locales! Baby Face Nelson, Machine Gun Kelly, Ma Barker to name a few.

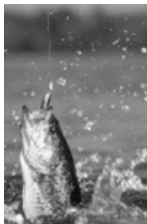
**Monday 0900-noon  
or Wednesday 1-4 pm.**



## Duluth Sail and Rail Tour

Enjoy the day exploring Duluth, Minnesota! Motor coach ride up to Duluth, train ride along shore, boat tour of the harbor. Full Day of Fun!!!

**All day Tuesday, 8-8 pm.**



## Mille Lacs Lake Fishing Launch

Spend an evening fishing for walleye on a boat launch to Mille Lacs lake, includes motor coach ride to the lake, fishing on launch, and boxed dinner.

**Monday 3:30 –midnight.**



## Twin Cities Highlights Tour

See what makes the Twin Cities so beautiful! Visit the Sculpture Garden, State Capitol, Minnehaha Falls and much, much more!!

**Tuesday 1-4 pm, or Wednesday 9-noon.**



## Stillwater...Birthplace of Minnesota

Enrich yourself in the beauty of Minnesota's oldest town! Includes motor coach ride and lunch aboard Paddleboat. Great antique and small boutique store shopping!!

**Wednesday 10 am –4 pm.**



## Tom Knapp Show & Cabela's Tour

This will be an exciting fun filled day starting at Armstrong Ranch for the Tom Knapp Trick Shooter Show. Next we will continue on for shopping at Cabela's newest store in Rogers, MN.

**Wednesday 830 am-3 pm.**



## Valleyfair Amusement Park

Get the rush of your life spending time at Valleyfair Amusement Park! Amusement Rides and water park all in one place!

**Wednesday 9-5 pm.**

## Mall of America

Spend the day at Mall of America, the largest enclosed mall in the nation! Over 500 stores onsite!! Indoor amusement park onsite.

**Wednesday and Saturday, multiple times.**



## Canterbury Horse Track

Spend the evening at Canterbury Park Horse track and Poker palace.

**Thursday 6-11 pm.**



## Walk on the Wild Side

Explore the Minnesota Zoo!

**Saturday 12:30-5 pm.**



## Feed My Starving Children

Help assemble meal packages for hungry children all around the world! Teen activity.

**Saturday 8-noon.**



## River Boat Dinner Cruise

Board one of the riverboats on the Mississippi River for a three-hour dinner cruise.

**Thursday 6-9:30 pm.**

## Shopping at Cabela's store in Owatonna, MN.



Experience the world's foremost outfitter!

**Tuesday-4-10 pm.**



## Historic Minneapolis Milling District Tour

See how the milling industry made Minneapolis what it is today!

**Saturday 1:30-4:30 pm**

>>>> **REGISTRATION** >>> \*\*\* **WORKSHEET** >>>> **REGISTRATION** >>>

\*\*\*This is a worksheet only. **Do not** mail this worksheet in, please use it to prepare for the

on-line registration **www.NAWEOA2007.org**

**NORTH AMERICAN WILDILFE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA JULY 16-22, 2007**

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

Delegate Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ PC/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Voting Member Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Retiree Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ T-shirt size \_\_\_\_\_

Group Photo Purchase \$10 in advance-\$15 @ conference Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest Name (if attending) \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt size \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Name (if attending) \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt size \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Name (if attending) \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ T-shirt size \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION**

|                                                                                        | <u>Before</u><br>May 15, 2007 | <u>After</u><br>May 15, 2007 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ___ Full Registration NAWEOA Member-includes all Day Passes                            | \$175                         | \$210                        |
| ___ Full registration <u>non</u> -NAWEOA member-includes membership and all day passes | \$200                         | \$235                        |
| ___ Spouse-includes all Day Passes                                                     | \$110                         | \$160                        |
| ___ Youth (5-17) Banquet NOT included                                                  | \$ 40                         | \$ 50                        |
| ___ Student registered in Resource school or RETIREE                                   | \$130                         | \$160                        |

**DAY PASSES**

\_\_\_ Banquet Only Saturday July 21, 2007 Deadline for tickets June 22, 2007 \$75

**Game Warden Museum, Torch Run/Walk Fundraiser.  
Includes dinner and t-shirt**

**Torch Run Registration Info**

\_\_\_ Family (4 or more) \$70.00  
\_\_\_ Adult only \$20.00  
\_\_\_ Youth \$15.00  
\_\_\_ Dinner only \$10.00

**HOTEL REGISTRATION INFO**

**Crowne Plaza St. Paul-Riverfront**  
Standard guest room \$139/night + tax  
Executive floor room \$149/night + tax  
Rates based on 2 adults per room, Kids stay free  
Extra adults \$10/night  
**Link to hotel available on our website**

**Note:** There is a \$25 cancellation fee for cancelled registrations

**Dinosaur with no computer access?**

**Copies of the registration form are available for mail-in or fax registration by calling 1-800-351-0232.  
To register for a Room at the Crowne Plaza Riverfront St. Paul, call 1-877-227-6963.**



## **ATTENTION!!**

### ***2007 NAWEOA CONFERENCE ATTENDEES***

If you are planning on attending the 2007 NAWEOA conference in St. Paul, MN, we urge you to look at a map. If you are traveling anywhere near Manitoba or North Dakota we invite you to visit the Game Warden Museum at the International Peace Garden.

On July 14<sup>th</sup> the Peace Garden is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Game Warden Museum is planning to celebrate the day with special guests. Uniformed officers will be there, a Canine Unit will put on demonstrations and Smokey the Bear will be on hand to say hello to the kids. The July 14<sup>th</sup> weekend is right before the start of the NAWEOA conference, so take advantage of any travel plans you may have. Even if you are not able to make the July 14<sup>th</sup> date please take some time in your travels to stop by to "Celebrate Natural Resource Protection and Honor our Heroes."

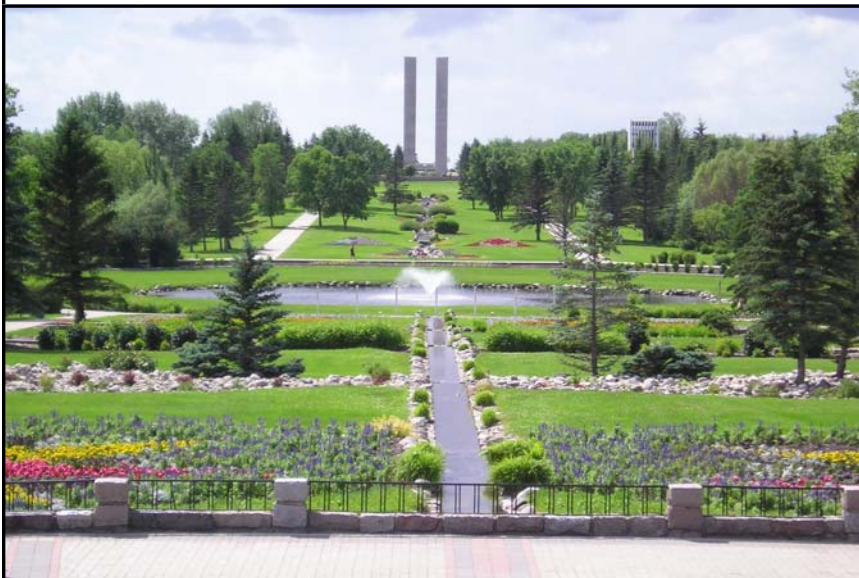


The Memorial Gardens are near completion. Many paving stones are in place and the fallen officer kiosk is up and

running. The Museum building is stunning and visitors are flocking to visit. It was the hard work and determination of Officers from across the United States and Canada that has seen this project to Phase-one completion. So, if you helped build it you had better come and see it.

The Game Warden Museum Board issues this challenge -- *We challenge anyone from the NAWEOA family to walk through the museum, sit down at the fallen officer Kiosk, then take a look at the Memorial Gardens and not get a lump in your throat.*

For more information visit our website [www.gamewardenmuseum.org](http://www.gamewardenmuseum.org).





**KANSAS GAME WARDEN WELCOMING COMMITTEE ~~ Poachers beware!**



RETURN

ADDRESS

POSTAGE

PERMIT

NUMBER

MAILING

ADDRESS