

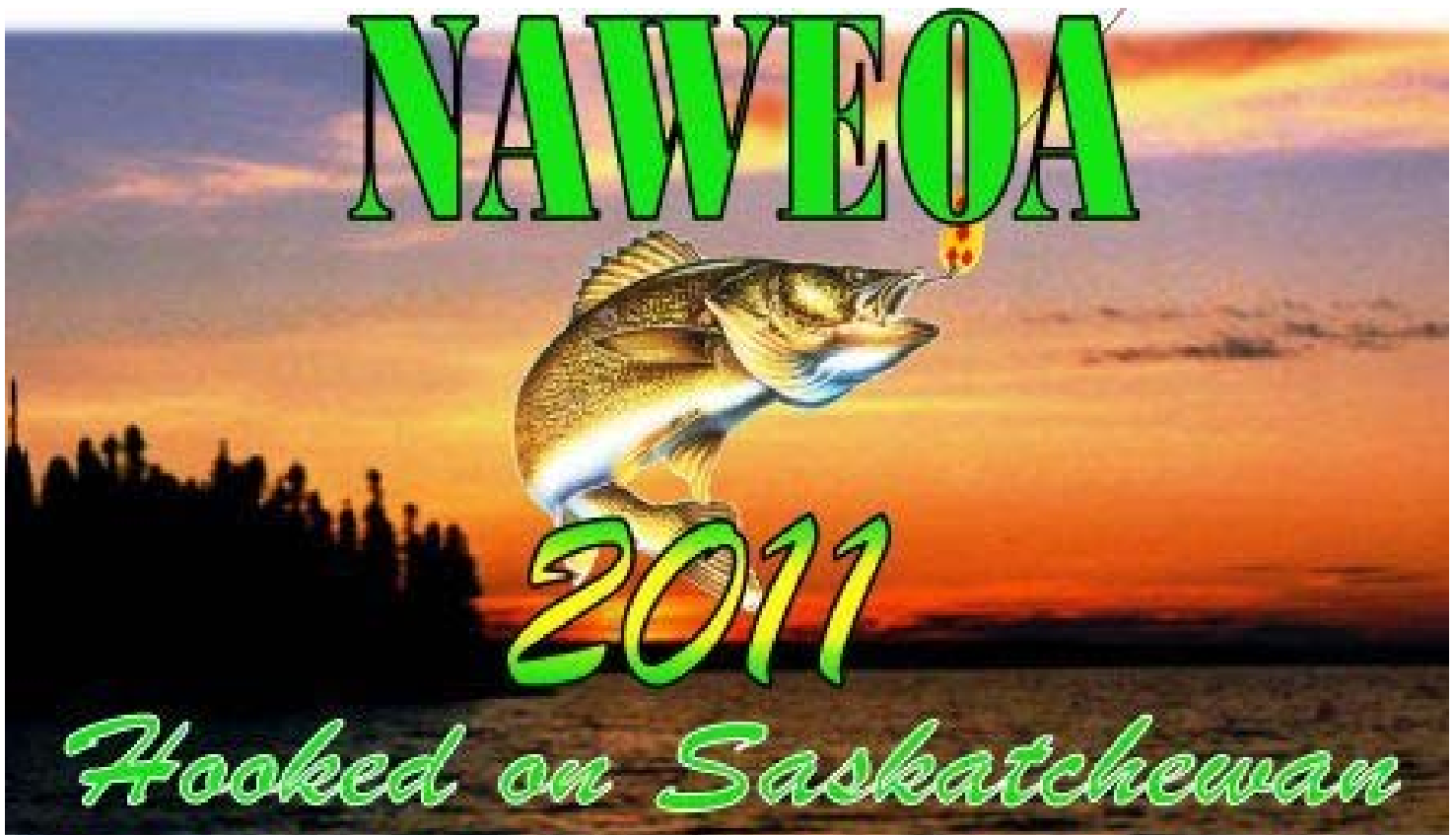


NORTH AMERICAN
WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION

"The Voice of Resource Law Enforcement"



30th Annual Conference



July 18–24, 2011

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Spring 2011
55th Edition NAWEOA Newsletter

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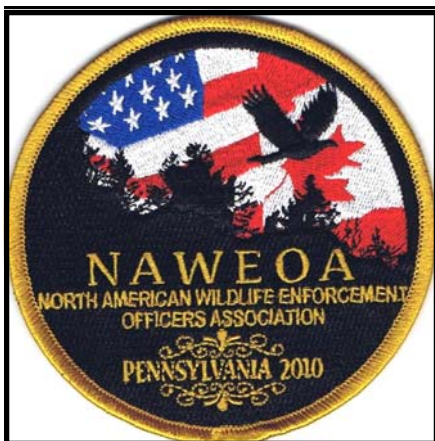
Visit NAWEOA's website:

<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

← 2010 NAWEOA conference patches remain available for purchase. The cost per patch (including shipping and handling) for all patches from 2004 through 2010 is \$7.00 USD.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NAWEOA

Mail to: WCO George A. Wilcox

P.O. Box 480

Millville, PA 17846

[1996 through 2003 patches are only available over-the-counter at the Game Warden Museum (www.gamewardenmuseum.org)]



Fallen Officer Memorial



Pennsylvania
Bureau of Wildlife
Protection,
Wildlife
Conservation Officer

David L. Grove,

31, was killed by gunfire in the line of duty in Adams County, near Gettysburg, on November 11, 2010 during a vehicle stop while investigating a night hunting incident.

Grove graduated, in 1997, from Grace Academy in Hagerstown, Maryland, and he attended Appalachian Bible College, in Bradley, West Virginia, from 1997 until 1999. In 2004, Grove earned a bachelor's degree in wildlife and fisheries science from Penn State University.

Before being appointed a WCO Cadet in the 27th class of the Game Commission's Ross Leffler School of Conservation, Grove had served as a Deputy WCO in Franklin County, from 2001 until 2007. Grove also worked at the Penn State University Deer Research Facility in University Park, Centre County, from 2003 until 2004.

WCO Grove loved his job, and was always proud to count himself among the few that make up "the thin green line" out in those dark woods every night.

When asked how he might someday want to be remembered, Grove was once quoted in the Gettysburg Times as replying, "That I did my job with enthusiasm and passion and that I treated people with the same respect that I would want to be treated with".



Maine

Department of
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
Warden Service Pilot

Daryl Gordon,

a 25-year veteran of the agency, died in a plane crash on March 24, 2011.

On the day of the crash, Pilot Gordon had been on general air patrol north of Moosehead Lake, which consists of providing support and information to wardens on the ground and surveying the area for deer. Gordon assisted a fellow warden with freeing a mired snowmobile and then proceeded in the direction of his home base. When he did not return home as scheduled a search was initiated

Pilot Gordon was a veteran of the Maine Warden Service, serving as a Maine Game Warden for 25 years and as a Warden Pilot for approximately seven years. He joined the Maine Warden Service in February 1986

His Maine Warden Service accomplishments include an Exemplary Service Award in 2009. The northern division awards board, in its nomination report, said, "Warden Pilot Gordon shows his dedication throughout the year, whether it is in helping with routine patrol or specific details. His ability to be a team player, his initiative, quick thinking, reflects upon the inherent quality, dedication and support of the Maine Warden Service and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Pilot Gordon is survived by his wife, Rita, and two sons, Daryl Jr. and James III.

President's Report by Kevin Schoepp



Hello everyone. I wish it was under better circumstances that I present the President's Message in this issue of our newsletter.

It is with sadness that I learned upon returning from our winter executive meeting of the tragic loss of Maine Warden Service Pilot Daryl Gordon of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. It is a solemn reminder of the many dangers involved in fish and wildlife enforcement

work and my sincere sympathy is extended to family, friends and colleagues of Warden Service Pilot Gordon.

The NAWEOA Executive Board finds itself in the midst of a time of transition and change. Our Secretary-Treasurer and IGW Business Manager have both indicated that they will be stepping away from their respective duties. We've recently hired a new IGW Editor – Megan Ewald. Look for an introduction from Megan further along in the newsletter. Randy Hancock has come to the end of his term as our Conference Liaison and there will be several other positions available on our executive board. If you are interested in getting involved on the board, now is the time! Send me a note or give me a call. I would be happy to talk with you.

I need to thank VP Rich Cramer and Mike Norris from California Fish and Game for organizing this year's winter meeting. Look for details from Rich in his VP report.

I would be missing out if I didn't take this opportunity to encourage you all to consider making your way to Saskatchewan for

the 30th annual conference this summer in Saskatoon. Our planning committee has been working very, very hard to hopefully make this a conference second to none and we want you all to get "Hooked on Saskatchewan".

I guess this is going to be my last message as President of the association. I've been trying to come up with something inspiring, but it just isn't going to happen. I have sincerely appreciated all the opportunities that have come my way and I am honored to have been involved for so long. I guess if I could say anything it would be that there are so many of you who have inspired and encouraged me along the way. I have made so many good friends and the memories I have gathered from conferences and winter meetings will remain with me forever. It has been busy and I am looking forward to a little "slower-paced" role in the years to come. It might be kind of nice to just attend a conference and not have to worry about something!

See you all this summer!

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT By William C. "Bill" Peters

Excerpts from:

Fall 1991 NAWEOA Newsletter

"The image of the wildlife officer has become an important issue with many of the agencies and the public. With greater and greater concerns by the people for the natural resources, the wildlife enforcement officer is often in the center of attention. What image do we portray to our peers, young people, anti-hunters, hunters, fishermen, developers, other agencies, our own agency, resource users and non-resource users, news media? The list goes on and on. Each day we put our uniforms on we will create an image for someone. This image will be affected by many outside and internal factors. A telephone call at 8:00am from the office informing you that you didn't send the right form in, a neighboring officer would like to work with you today, you have a meeting to go to that you would rather not go to, your spouse informs you that relatives are coming this weekend, your supervisor informs you that your new vehicle has arrived, your vacation starts after work today, or you feel great, again the list goes on. The image you portray will change each day, each hour, with each person

you contact and with each situation you encounter. The over-all image that wildlife officers portray is one of pride, pride in themselves and pride in their profession, that of protecting the natural resources of North America. No where else is that more apparent than at the



opening ceremonies at the Annual Convention with over 350 officers from across North America in uniform representing over 40 agencies. This pride carries on throughout each of the conventions and is carried back home with the officers.

Spring 1992 NAWEOA Newsletter

"It is through NAWEOA that many new ideas can spawn. The coming together of several hundred officers from across North America each year at the annual conference provides the foundation for the exchange of information on do's and don'ts, how's and why's, where's, when's and who's. NAWEOA provides and encourages opportunity for discussion of common and unique problems facing all wildlife enforcement officers throughout North America.

The NAWEOA conferences provide an officer with the opportunity to exchange ideas, attend various sessions dealing with all fields of wildlife law enforcement and to actively become part of NAWEOA. The opportunities to develop friendships throughout North America are there for the officer, their spouses and children.

On behalf of all wildlife enforcement officers in North America, I invite you and your family to attend the conference this summer in Ottawa and the NAWEOA conference in Rapid City, South Dakota in 1993. If you have never attended a conference, it is an experience that you will probably never forget. NAWEOA is your association and only you, your ideas and work can make it a success."

Vice President's Report by Rich Cramer



I wish to extend thanks to California Fish & Game Warden Mike Norris and Rod Buckler for their outstanding efforts in assisting the NAWEOA Board of Directors during the 2011 Winter Meeting this past March. The meeting was held in Southern California in Long Beach and on Catalina Island at USC's Wrigley Marine Sci-

ence Center. While the weather was very uncooperative and un-California like during our stay much NAWEOA business was able to be accomplished.

The annual winter meeting is held each year enabling the executive board to get together for a week of face-to-face meetings and discussions. A great deal of business is conducted each year and this year was no exception. Reports are given by each regional director as well as the chair officers, newsletter editor, conference liaison and webmaster. The secretary/treasurer reports

are given with the intent to review the overall financial situation of the association and to begin preparations of the budget for next year.

Additional reports are given by the most recent conference hosts and several future hosts. IGW and Museum reports are given as well. Several days worth of business is conducted during the winter meeting. The minutes will be placed on the protected portion of the web site in a few months once they are reviewed.

In closing I would like to remind members to consider nominating a deserving fellow officer for a NAWEOA award. Please take the time to check out the various award categories at www.naweo.org. Thanks and I'll see you all this summer in Saskatoon.



Above: Mike Norris
Below: Rod Buckler



NAWEOA NEWSLETTER ON-LINE IN FULL COLOR

Printing and postage costs for the NAWEOA Newsletter continue to rise. We will be "testing the waters" for the next few issues to determine member preference by sending paper copies of the newsletters and posting a digital version on the "protected" section of the NAWEOA website (username: naweo; password: fishcops). Please take time to access the digital version to see what you think of it. Likes and dislikes of both versions may be sent to: editor@naweo.org.

***ALL NAWEOA NEWSLETTERS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING ON THE
PROTECTED SECTION OF THE
NAWEOA WEBSITE
TAKE TIME TO READ A LITTLE NAWEOA HISTORY!***

NOTICE RETIRED NAWEOA MEMBERS

Would you like to receive more NAWEOA news, updates, and general information?

If so, contact your Regional Director via e-mail (their information is inside the front cover) and give them your current email address. They'll include you on their email lists.

Past President's Report by Marion Hoffman

Call for Elections



There will be elections for all of the United States Regional Director positions at the 2011 Summer Conference in Saskatoon.

There will also be elections for the positions of President (US Officer) and Vice President (Canadian Officer).

You must be a regular voting member in good standing of NAWEOA to be eligible for any of these positions. A candidate for Regional Director in addition to the above must reside in the Region that they are running for.

You may nominate persons at the conference or send nominations to me prior to the conference. All nominations must be made by a NAWEOA member in good standing and seconded by a NAWEOA member in good standing. Candidate speeches will be held during the NAWEOA business session at the conference.

Being on the Executive Board of NAWEOA is a demanding but rewarding job. You must be able to attend the annual summer conference as well as the winter executive board meeting. Much of the business of NAWEOA is conducted thru email. There are literally hundreds of business emails to action each year. You will need access to a computer and internet service in order to carry this out. For a complete list of duties associated with these positions, or if you have questions regarding the nomination or election process, please feel free to contact me at mjfishcop@wildblue.net

I will be accepting nominations from now until the nominations close during the conference.

REGION 1 REPORT



Region 1 Director Dave Webster

Hello to everyone from Region 1. I hope everyone has had a safe and productive fall/winter season and now are enjoying some much deserved rest as the warm winds of spring arrive.

I can report from BC that the one true constant is that things are continually changing and, much like the weather, if you are not happy with the direction the organization is taking...just wait five minutes!

The conservation officer service is still going through a number of changes in its organization with the most recent being the addition of 11 new Detective Sergeants to our ranks who came over from the Ministry of Forests. These officers are now part of our Commercial Investigations Enforcement Unit. This past winter also saw the NAWEOA Newsletter Spring 2011

retirement of several of our officers, including Superintendent Rick Hildebrand who is well known to the NAWEOA family. Congratulations, Rick!

The BC COS is the host jurisdiction for the 2010 Western Conservation Law Enforcement Academy (WCLEA) being held in Victoria. Cadets will have to trade in their winter gear for rain slickers. The academy troop of 20 cadets consists of officers from BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

It is worth a mention that the Society of BC Conservation Officers hockey team organized their third meeting on the ice with the Vancouver Canucks Alumni team in March. The game was played in Merritt this year and, true to form, the Society team put up a good fight, but in the end, it was the Alumni who took the victory. It was an entertaining game for both the players and the fans, with all monies raised going to local charities in the community.

The Western Canadian Provinces and Territories continue to collaborate on the "Western Canadian Game Warden" magazine and, as the issues continue to roll out, its popularity is increasing. This is due to in large part to the dedication of a select group of officers who have taken on this large task with the same kind of passion and commitment they bring to their "day jobs" every day. If you get a chance, check out a copy of the "Western Canadian Game Warden". It is worth a read!

News from Saskatchewan has been kind of quiet which I am sure is due to everyone there having their heads down and pulling hard as the date for the summer 2011 conference in Saskatoon rapidly approaches. They are in the final stages of planning what I am sure will be a great event and, if what they did in 1996 is any indication, you won't want to miss this one!

Ross Stewart of Environment Canada reports that things are changing in Environment Canada. Retirements and promotions are happening faster than green grass through a goose. Long-time officers Tom Kenway from Saskatoon and Larry Ottman from Calgary have retired and several officers have taken promotions within the ranks.

There is a current entry-level competition running for new hires at the GT 5 level with positions to be filled across Canada.

He would like to take opportunity to invite all officers and families to the NAWEOA Annual Conference July 18-24 in Saskatoon, SK. They are excited to host in 2011 and promise this is a conference you won't want to miss. In addition to the good old-fashioned Saskatchewan hospitality, you can expect excellent training sessions, great entertainment and a variety of tours. There will be a variety of spousal and family activities offered.

One file of interest that involves a member of the waterfowl community that many of the USA readers will recognize:

U.S. Hunter Charged With Violations While Hunting Waterfowl

EDMONTON, Alb. -- January 31, 2011 -- On January 27, 2011, Environment Canada laid 10 charges against Jeffrey Foiles of Pleasant Hill, Illinois, under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994 and two charges under the Criminal Code.

It is alleged that Foiles committed violations while hunting and filming in Canada.

The charges relate to alleged violations of Canadian hunting and criminal laws occurring between 2003 and 2007, including:

- * causing unnecessary pain and suffering to a bird contrary to the Criminal Code;
- * taking over the daily bag limit of geese;
- * taking over the daily bag limit of ducks;
- * continuing to hunt after daily bag limit is reached;
- * hunting from a moving boat or boat under power;
- * failing to immediately retrieve a migratory game bird; and
- * failing, after retrieving a migratory game bird, to immediately kill the bird.

Under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994, the maximum penalty for indictable offences is \$1 million per offence, the possibility of imprisonment for a term of not more than three years, or both.

Environment Canada's enforcement officers worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to investigate complaints. Following a four-year investigation, the two agencies gathered evidence that has led to charges in both Canada and the U.S.

Foiles pleaded not guilty to 23 charges in the United States on January 27, 2011, in Springfield, Illinois. The charges, laid by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, include conspiracy, wildlife trafficking, and making false writings in connection with the illegal sale of guided waterfowl hunts taking place in the U.S.

Rich Elson from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Pacific Region, reports – This year the season closed with some more ups and downs for DFO in general. The issue of massive swings in pre-season salmon forecasts are concerning for Fishery Officers but also the public. They are participating in the Cohen Commission inquiry into the decline of the Pacific salmon in earnest and hope that a fair picture is painted about the state of their operations as it relates to their ability to

protect this valuable resource. 2010 saw a few high-level HR moves over the last while with the chief of training moving to the newly created aquaculture position and Larry Paike, a long-time detachment supervisor out of Victoria, stepping into the training chair. The Pacific Region also welcomed a transplant from the east coast -- Terry Matheson -- as he assumed the chief's position in the Yukon. He hails from Bridgewater, Nova Scotia. Rich believes that DFO continued to create momentum in their officer safety training program with another year of reality-based training implementation. They have a great group of instructors that are dedicated to ensuring that the field officers get the best training possible. DFO had 12 new cadets go through training this past fall at the Pacific Region Training Center in Chilliwack. They will go straight from the 8-week cadet orientation program to the 9-week Fishery Officer Enforcement Course in Depot (RCMP Training Center in Saskatchewan). They will not likely know where they will be posted within BC or the Yukon until a week prior to graduation. This will backfill the void created by staffing up to 12 new positions within the Aquaculture Enforcement Program. A lot of the officers have put in significant hours over the summer months and are now looking forward to getting out and enjoying some time off to participate in the fall harvest themselves.

Kirby Meister, President of the Yukon Conservation Officers Association reports: At the time of writing, Yukon is just melting out of a particularly cold winter. We're all looking forward to open water, bears, tourists, and the long northern days that summer brings.

In the Fall 2010 Newsletter, you may recall that the U.S. winner of the Officer Exchange at last years NAWEOA conference was Linda Swank of Pennsylvania. Linda visited Yukon in September, and was given a grand tour of our Territory by our officers. She was able to take part in some remote hunting season patrols, in some beautiful wilderness areas, and met many of our officers and their families. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Linda for choosing Yukon as her exchange destination. We would also like to thank NAWEOA for organizing this very worthwhile annual initiative. We're hoping Linda will be in Saskatoon this summer to show off some of the photos she took during her Yukon tour!

Exciting for us this year is the addition of a new field office in Yukon. The community of Carmacks is located in central Yukon, about a two hour drive north of our headquarters. Carmacks has not had a Con-

servation Officer in the past, and for many years has been serviced by our officer in Faro, a two hour drive to the east. One District Conservation Officer will be stationed there, along with an office assistant, and recruitment is currently underway.

Yukon is presently experiencing a modern Gold Rush of sorts. Mineral exploration in the past year or so has increased substantially from "normal" levels, particularly across the central part of the territory. While activity levels in this industry set new records last year, the projection for 2011 is for an even busier mining and exploration field season. For Yukon Conservation Officer's this means more remote camps, more people in the bush in summer and fall, more bear – human conflict occurrences, and of course more strain on already – stretched resources. We are also heavily involved in conducting Working in Bear Country seminars and training sessions for exploration work crews who spend the summer in remote bear habitat. The feedback we are getting shows that this is paying off for us, with bear – human encounters being handled much better than they once were, on average. This makes for a safer season for both industry workers and for the bears.

Yukon hopes to be sending one or two officers to the conference in Saskatoon in July, which is sure to be a great gathering.

Well, that is a brief update on what has been happening the past season around Region 1 and, again, I would just like to say what a pleasure it has been working with all the Jurisdictional Reps and the Executive of NAWEOA. We are all part of a truly great organization. Take care and look forward to seeing you all when we start "Heading back to Saskatoon"!

"While times may be frustrating because of financial problems and greater demands upon the officers, most wildlife officers would not change careers for all the wildlife in Canada and the United States. The wildlife and the natural resources are why we are in this profession, and in most cases, always will be."

**— President Bill Peters
Fall 1991 Newsletter**

REGION 2 REPORT



Region 2 Director Dave Grant

Directors Comments – Hello, everyone. It is shaping up to be a difficult spring in Manitoba this year. The forecast is for a long, cold spring and the threat of flooding in all southern parts of the Province is on everyone's mind. Snowfalls throughout the province are at or above normal and well above normal in the States to the south of us, most of which will turn into water and flow toward Lake Winnipeg.

So far, our deer populations are surviving the harsh conditions, but the same can't be said for our moose. Manitoba's moose population in some areas has reached an all-time low and measures are being considered to keep the numbers from dropping any lower. Only time will tell if the steps taken will be successful.

I would like to welcome back DFO to the NAWEOA membership. They have been absent for the past couple of years, but will now again be regular members.

Stay warm, safe and, if you're in a flood area, dry. I look forward to seeing many of you this summer in Saskatoon.

Manitoba – Kurt Henry, President, MNROA

Good day to all! Manitoba has had a very busy fire season this summer, which doesn't affect too many other officers but those in Manitoba. Natural Resource Officers are directly involved in the suppression activity of wildfires. This season saw almost all officers back in the smoke, either in their own districts or helping out in the northern regions. As mentioned in previous updates, park management has been removed from our responsibility with the exception of safety and security. The first full summer of this system has come

and gone with a noticeable effect. Officers were able to concentrate more on other activities because of it.

Manitoba has 6 new recruit Resource Officers at The Western Conservation Law Enforcement Academy, which is being hosted in British Columbia. Saskatchewan and Alberta, our two other western provinces, decided not to send any new hires this year. Our department management has made a commitment for 6 recruits to be trained each year for the next two years which should help our staffing levels and make the academy continue with a known enrollment from Manitoba. This program was created to better prepare new officers for the challenges of all aspects of the job and has had a noticeable effect.

Hopefully our fellow officers in Western Canada have had the opportunity to see the Western Canadian Game Warden Magazine. It is a top-notch production and a testimony to the hard work given by all involved to get it out to the newsstands. If you have not looked for it, ask about it, and you will see your next month's "office" reading material.

I was elected as our Association President in April after three years as vice and quickly learned how much work it involves and, to be honest, I may have fallen a bit behind with work and personal life. The trip to the NAWEOA conference in Pittsburgh refreshed the desire and need to work together to reach our goals individually and as a national association. My hat goes off to all of those who had a part in the conference. It was a great event, both for professional development and family-oriented activities. The MNROA will be hosting our annual convention in Brandon, Manitoba, on March 26th & 27th which continues a 28-year tradition with the annual meeting taking place at the Game Warden Museum at the International Peace Gardens. I, as many other officers, look forward to seeing this for the first time and to seeing a very successful facility that portrays our common interests and work effort.

Our union has, for the first time in local knowledge, refused the master agreement with management sending both parties back to bargaining. A two-year wage freeze was the driving factor for the refusal. So, hopefully, a positive outcome will come of this. The union covers all civil servant employees for the Government of Manitoba.

For now, I wish all a safe and successful spring season both in enforcement activities and our own travels to the field for whatever the "game" may be.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Prairies Area, Central and Arctic Region – Ray Thibadeau

Well, it has been a quiet year for DFO in Central and Arctic Region (C&A). Staffing is an ongoing issue in DFO. Currently Prince Albert SK, and Winnipeg MB are understaffed in the Prairies. Ontario has two vacant positions in Peterborough. Western Arctic area is short two officers. Eastern Arctic area is looking for a Field Supervisor for the Rankin Inlet office. The DFO is currently undergoing a strategic review so filling any of these vacancies is off the table for the near future.

The new reporting structure and new Risk Management Framework that was implemented in 2008 has reduced the file load per officer and is allowing more time spent on large-case files. As anticipated, it has allowed officers to work on proactive compliance initiatives such as public speaking and education, school presentations, and "Species at Risk" patrols.

The Eastern and Western Arctic areas have requested assistance from the Prairies and Ontario throughout the summer of 2011. Officers will be assisting with monitoring the various whale hunts and fisheries in remote communities throughout the north.

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

Nunavut – no report for this edition

Ontario – Brett Cachagee, J-Rep for Ontario and Dan Van Exan, President, OCOA

Greetings from Ontario. All is pretty well status quo. Operating dollars are comparable to last year with a slight decrease of 6% to 10%. Vehicles are being replaced; however, some officers have to share vehicles depending on the amount of officers per office. Equipment is in good shape and is being replaced as need be for the most part. Vacant positions are being filled; however, some positions remain vacant for some time. The positions get filled on a priority basis. For example, an office with two officers will take priority over an office with 3 or more. Ontario's canine program is thriving. We currently have 7 canine handlers. This is the most

canine positions MNR has ever had.

Ontario has had a number of successful investigations and prosecutions over the last year. In one case, three men received a total of \$21,000 in fines for fishing wall-eye during the closed season in a fish sanctuary. In another case, an individual received a lifetime hunting suspension for a variety of offences including using a firearm in an unsafe manner while hunting black bears. In addition to the suspension, a court order was imposed which prohibited him from engaging in or associating with any hunting-related activities or possessing hunting-related sporting equipment in any areas where game wildlife inhabit. Our Agriculture Investigations Unit received a \$20,000 fine for putting unwholesome food into the food chain. It is nice to see that the courts take fish and wildlife violations seriously. Court prosecutors regularly comment on the quality of our crown briefs compared to that of other agencies. This is reflected in our high rate of conviction. To see our news releases, check out our website at occoa.ca.

We are in our second year of honoring Conservation Officers by the Governor General's Office for the Peace Officer Exemplary Service Medal. Several officers received medals for exemplary service, including retirees who are eligible. This is an opportunity to show our appreciation to our retired officers. Officers with 20 and 30 years of service receive the medals.

Due to the success of the Ontario Conservation Officers Association first edition cookbook in 1992, a second edition has recently been published. Officers and their families from around the province have once again submitted recipes containing both wild and domestic ingredient recipes for every occasion, from the hunt camp to a formal dinner party. The final product is an awesome cookbook with all of our favorite recipes. We all know how game wardens families love to hunt, cook and eat! It has proven to be an excellent fundraiser for our Association in the past and this cookbook is sure to be a hot commod-

ity. If your Association is looking at promoting itself, this has been a proven method in Ontario. If you're interested, check out our Association's website at occoa.ca and you can place an order with Marc Gibson at mgibson@occoa.ca.

On the last weekend of January in northeastern Ontario, we had an incident where three Ontario Conservation Officers -- Denis Beauvais, Kyle Morrison and Clem Vaillancourt -- were conducting fisheries patrol and came across a snow machine which first appeared to be abandoned, although it was still idling. As the officers approached, they noticed that the operator of the snow machine was pinned underneath the snow machine. The officers were uncertain as to how long the individual had been trapped. They removed the snow machine and removed the helmet and it was apparent that the operator was in need of first aid. The individual did not have vital signs. The officers immediately began CPR and AR and did so for over 45 minutes and brought him back to life. He survived for 2 or 3 days in the hospital but, unfortunately, later passed away. This in no way diminishes the valiant efforts of the officers. The officers all attributed their efforts to their training and that "everything just fell into place." One of the doctors at the hospital told the wife of the victim that the CPR efforts were remarkable and that he was unsure if the hospital had a team that could perform CPR for such a length of time, let alone in the conditions that they did it in. As officers, we never know what we are going to come across during our shift.

On January 12, 2010, Toronto Police Service Sgt. Ryan Russell was killed by a man driving a stolen snowplow. On January 17th, a funeral was held at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre in Toronto. More than 12,000 officers

from across North America attended the funeral. Twenty Conservation Officers were in attendance. (See photo of procession).

This summer, the Ontario Conservation Officers Association will be hosting the 5th Annual Kids and Wardens Fishing Adventure. Along with the generous assistance of many partners, the Association takes 20 underprivileged kids from a city in Ontario to a northern Ontario fishing lodge. As you can imagine, many memories are made both for the children and the members.

That's it in a nutshell from Ontario. Look forward to seeing you in Saskatchewan for the summer convention.



N A W E O A	A w a r d s	NAWEOA OFFICER OF THE YEAR — NAWEOA TORCH AWARD — OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD — CERTIFICATE OF RETIREMENT ** — AWARD OF VALOUR — LIFESAVING AWARD — CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION — HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP
		These prestigious awards are awarded by NAWEOA to deserving officers who have been nominated by their peers or agency administrators. Criteria and nomination details may be found on the NAWEOA website. 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.naweo.org *** Certificates of Retirement should be requested through the appropriate Jurisdictional Representative***

REGION 3 REPORT



Region 3 Director Shawn Farrell

Hello From Region 3

Hello, everyone! I hope all of you had a safe and productive fall and winter season. This is my first regional report since being elected. I am honored to be the Region 3 Director and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Region 3 J-Reps who faithfully pass along information that I send their way. Excellent work, all. I am looking forward to representing Region 3 as well as working with the NAWEOA Executive. It has been a winter with lots of snow and I look forward to the spring season. See you all in Saskatchewan.

News from New Brunswick (Arthur Cronin)

Hello from The Great White North! Art Cronin here, the new J-Rep for New Brunswick DNR. Even though this submission is for the spring newsletter, at the time of writing we are still deep in our Canadian winter here in New Brunswick. This past weekend I was on patrol with our Region 3 Director, Shawn Farrell, with snowmobiles and was faced with four to five feet of snow here in southern NB. I suspect that by the time this submission is being read, we will be well into our beautiful maritime spring and the mounds of powdery snow will be a distant memory.

The past year here in NB has been a good year for us with NB DNR and has seen some noteworthy events. Our relatively newly formed Special Investigative Unit has been showing some real success over the past year, not the least of which

was the laying of charges on at least eight individuals concerning the killing and sale of moose. The 18-month investigation ended with over 50 charges and the seizure of over 1,500 pounds of moose meat destined for sale, as well as thousands of dollars of meat-cutting equipment from two meat shops.

The past few years here in NB have seen some welcomed increases in the returns of Atlantic salmon to our numerous waterways. Unfortunately, this meant an increase in activities that could curtail their numbers. This, of course, created increased challenges for many of our officers and we saw some real success for our efforts.

Our 2009 Shikar-Safari Wildlife Officer of the Year is Raymond (Raz) Robertson. I ask you to join me in thanking Raz for his exemplary service to our department and Natural Resource law enforcement. Raz is retiring this year and this marks the end of a long and proud career of 36 years. We will miss Raz and wish him the best for the future.

I was fortunate to be one of the officers involved in a pilot project this year of the

dets from the Atlantic Police Academy again this past year and look forward to the prospect of getting some new blood into our ranks. Last year was the first in a number of years that we brought on seasonal officers and they were a tremendous asset to our efforts. It looks as if we will be hiring a few new officers this year and they are sorely needed.

Like most agencies, we are facing a bleak fiscal outlook and this offers many challenges for us here in New Brunswick, but we will keep pressing forward with our enforcement program.

Looking forward to seeing you in Saskatchewan this summer. Be safe out there!

News from Nova Scotia (Dougald MacNeil)

Hi all,

As you read this, the weather is probably warm and friendly as opposed to the winter conditions outside my window -- snow piled high with parking lots shrunken down to a miniature version of their former selves. But change is on the way and so it is with DNR and our new natural resources strategy. A process that began in 2008 with public consultation, stakeholder engagement and strategy development is inching close to the implementation stage. How the new strategy will affect policy, programs and program delivery is to be determined. Needless to say, there'll be much to talk about in future reports.

In the meantime, we are making major strides into the technology of modern law enforcement. I mentioned in the last report that on-board computers were to be installed in patrol vehicles. That has been completed and we now have all enforcement vehicles equipped with docking station and Toughbook units. Officers are now able to access information in the field that heretofore was only available back at the office. We're learning more of the potential of this equipment daily and it is impressive.

I might mention that satellite tracking units were installed on the vehicles as well.



introduction of mobile work stations in our vehicles. This marks a tremendous step forward for us here in NB. The addition of a mounted PC in our vehicles as a new tool in our enforcement efforts has been exceptional. With the positive results and feedback from the trial, it looks like the program will be moving forward.

We were fortunate enough to have ca-

Some officers were a bit apprehensive about how it would play out, but that seems to be a non-issue these days. The added safety of being easily located in remote areas far outweighs any issues officers may have had initially.

Changes regarding enforcement of the MBC Act were directed to DNR officers. Issues encountered in the course of regular duties can be investigated as opposed to the proactive approach, which has been prevalent in most districts in the past. It is anticipated that recreational boating safety will receive more attention from DNR officers this coming season. There is a concern that not enough is being done to monitor compliance issues regarding accident prevention. With officers on the water enforcing inland fisheries regulations, it is being suggested DNR officers are in a position to promote boating safety.

Officer safety training saw some innovation over the past year. For many years we have been using scenarios to help train officers in dealing with a variety of situations we may encounter. Generally, they encompassed every aspect from call to conclusion. Here we were dealing with such elements as powers, acts/regulations, protocol and use of force -- all good training but we decided to focus more on the actual use-of-force aspect. Instead of having one longer scenario, we were able to stage several shorter, fast-paced situations, requiring immediate tactical reaction to a threat or developing threat. Officers spoke very positively about the benefits of this type of training. This is an approach to training that officers can take with them to further develop awareness and lifesaving

skills. Our trainers certainly can't take credit for the concept but only its wise use.

News from Prince Edward Island (Wade MacKinnon)

2010 was another busy year for the smallest province. Prince Edward Island also has the fewest Conservation Officers of any province in Canada; we currently operate with five field officers and one Acting Chief Conservation Officer. This number is down from our last report in 2010 as officers moved around and positions were not filled due to monetary restraints. We currently have two seasonal Conservation Officer positions which run from April to October but, at the time of writing this report, we are not sure if these positions will be filled in 2011. This will be a loss to our Investigation and Enforcement Section as these seasonal officers are a great relief to busy spring and summer calls and when full-time officers want a little time off!

Again in 2010, a lot of our calls were of the environmental kind, buffer- and riparian- zone infractions, housing and subdivision developments and discharge of contaminants. Conservation Officers on P.E.I. not only regulate the harvesting and protection of wildlife under provincial and federal legislation, but we are responsible for the Environmental Protection Act, Agriculture Crop Rotation Act, Forest Management Act, Highway Traffic Act, Off Highway Vehicle Act, Pesticides Control Act, Trails Act, Trespass to Property Act, Unsightly Property Act, Natural Area Protection Act, Automobile Junk Yard Act, and Recreation Development Act, as well as sections of the Planning Act. Island COs also provide as-

stance to the Fish and Wildlife Division with wildlife surveys and wildlife management programs, teach firearm and hunter safety, and carry out educational programs in Island schools.

Wildlife offences were up in 2010 which may be the result of officers spending more time on fishing, hunting and trapping patrols, because that is what we like to do. We all realize that environmental enforcement is important but tend to drift back to our comfort zones in wildlife enforcement. Many of the angling offences were for minor infractions -- no licenses, fishing in a closed area, fishing with illegal gear. There were a few more serious angling offences including illegally angling striped bass (protected on P.E.I.) and exceeding possession limits. Most of the hunting violations were migratory bird charges, no licenses, toxic shot, furnishing false information, unplugged shotguns, and hunting in a WMA. Two license vendors were also convicted of furnishing false information by altering a license. The Fish and Wildlife Division is currently deciding what action to take against these vendors for the 2011 season as we consider this to be a major violation.

With the amount of snow we have, it seems spring will never arrive. But April is coming and we look forward to getting along Island waterways for the speckled trout season before all the tourists arrive and the beach complaints start to come in!! It will be a daunting task to carry the workload with the few officers we have, but, hey, we love our jobs. Stay safe.

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REGION 4 REPORT



Region 4 Director Steve Tomac

Greetings from Region 4

It has been a crazy winter out west. We have gone from record snowfalls to record high temps and back to record lows. As I write this, it's snowing and blowing outside, but it might be 60 degrees by next week. I thought the groundhog saw his shadow? Both California and Montana have been put in the spotlight with their TV shows. Everybody seems to have a comment or opinion on them. One thing for sure, they are helping the public become more aware of what Game Wardens do for a living day in and day out. Congratulations to both of them for the great exposure.

Arizona, Kurt Bahti

Arizona has been accepted by the NAWEOA Executive Board to host the 2012 convention in Tucson! The host is the Arizona Game Ranger Lodge and the event is supported by the Arizona Game & Fish Department. We don't have much time for planning the event as most have had in the past, but we are well on our way. It will be at Lowe's Ventana Canyon Resort in the foothills of the Santa Catalina Mountains, literally right up against the mountain. It is an outstanding location and events are in the planning now. A room rate of \$90 is affordable and don't let rumors of the heat sway you. The location is above the valley floor and the temperature is much more bearable than the 90°F and 90% humidity that we've all managed at some past conferences. You WILL have a great time; we guarantee it! We'd like to challenge other NAWEOA members and officer associations to help us with items to raffle. If each state/province could donate one item for either the bucket raffle, silent auction or banquet auction, we will have an outstanding fund raising for NAWEOA. Contact Kurt Bahti at kb2@hughes.net or 520-

455-5479.

This has been a wild fall hunt patrol season for AZ officers with cases ranging from two hunters who shot a 'charging' mountain lion to a big case involving poachers who were shooting many deer to feed illegal aliens in their smuggling business. Another exciting event was the recent sighting and confirmation of an ocelot in southeast AZ. It's a very rare event.

Our officers have to be cognizant of the illegal human and drug smuggling on our border. After having our employees shot at and a US Border Patrol agent shot and killed in a popular hunting area, our officers have to be especially observant and aware of their surroundings at all times when on patrol

California, Lorraine Doyle

California officers continue to be furloughed 3 days per month. Our bargaining unit is working without a contract. There is currently a spending freeze. No new cell phones or air cards may be purchased, even to replace broken ones. Maybe it will be back to pay phones and begging to use phones! No new vehicles have been purchased for the last two years, and when new vehicles are approved, it will be one and a half years until they show up. My truck has about 105,000 miles on it and just got a rebuilt transmission! The TV program "Wild Justice" has brought a lot of attention to the department. Many hunters want to know when the camera crew will be in their area. The K-9 program is continuing with several new teams ready for training.

Colorado, Randy Hancock

Colorado is in the same financial fix that many states are in. Two years ago, all state employees had what was basically one furlough day per month. Last year, the state cut contributions to retirement benefits by 2 1/2% with employees having to pay that much extra into retirement to make up the difference. This year, the state has cut another 2% and the employees are having to pay that extra as well. Thus, in the past two years, our take-home pay has been cut by 4 1/2%.

The CDOW is implementing a nationwide sales pitch to bring more elk hunters to Colorado. Non-resident elk licenses have been our major source of income through the years, and hunter participation is starting to wane. It is funded by a 75-cent "education" surcharge on every license sold in Colorado.

Colorado and Utah Wildlife Officers worked a joint investigation on Erik Ambriz and Michael Gordon, who were killing trophy big game in both states, cutting off the heads, selling the trophy parts, and wasting the meat. Ambriz pled guilty to illegal sale of wildlife, illegal taking of trophy big game, and possession of a firearm by previous felon, with fines of \$15,000 and a lifetime suspension from hunting and fishing privileges. **Ambriz was sentenced to four and a half years in prison.** Gordon pled guilty to illegal sale of wildlife and illegal taking of trophy big game and was fined \$12,000 with lifetime suspension of hunting and fishing privileges and 3 years probation. Utah still has pending felony charges for both Ambriz and Gordon. Utah and Colorado also wrote tickets to seven other individuals for illegal taking, waste, hunting without a license, etc. (All paid - \$10,500 total - 7 more years of suspension).

Colorado State and Federal Wildlife Officers worked a joint investigation involving the illegal trapping and sale of bobcats, coyotes, and mountain lions. In 2010, Jeff Bodnar, a previously convicted felon, was sentenced to **27 months in federal prison** and 30 months of probation for violation of the Lacey Act and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Veronica Bodnar was prosecuted for violations of the Lacey act and falsifying documents to obtain CITES seals and was sentenced to 5 years probation. Jeff and Veronica also pled guilty to the illegal possession of 4 big game animals in state court.

Idaho, Matt Haag

The big concern for Idaho Conservation Officers is the ongoing budget problems. We have been lucky and not faced furloughs or pay decreases, but things have been skinny and we are bracing for another barrage from the legislators. We are seeing a reduction in license sales due to the deadly mix of wolves and the economy. In 2010, we were down 3 million dollars in sales and it doesn't seem to be improving for 2011. We are still actively involved in the legislature by employing a lobbyist to tackle issues for officers and the resource alike.

Idaho Conservation Officers Association offered the first ever Youth Conservation Camp in Cascade. The camp cultivated in youth a respect for natural resources and for Idaho Conservation Officers. Camp activities included hunter education, a range day with various weapons, a chal-

lenge course, fishing techniques, archery info, wildlife identification, and other fun outdoor activities.

SCO Stirling, after many years of planning, has implemented a K9 program. Pepper, a Labrador retriever, has joined our ranks to aid in resource protection by detecting wildlife and firearms evidence, and man tracking. SCO Stirling and Pepper will be training for 8 weeks in southern Indiana. We hope to expand this program throughout the state.

We are diligently planning NAWEOA 2013 and are looking forward to putting on a good show for you all. Mark your calendars, July 14-20, 2013, in Boise, Idaho. We hope to see you here. More information is on the web at icoaonline.org or you may go to our conference website at idahnaweo2013.org. We will be updating these websites as we get further along in the planning process. Stop by our table in the hospitality room at NAWEOA 2011 in Saskatoon; we may have goodies to hand out along with some information packets. We're very excited about the show our northern neighbors will put on and look forward to making new friends and seeing old ones alike! We have already started training for the warden skills games and team Idaho is looking to keep the cup in Idaho, so bring your A game!

Montana, Todd Anderson

As reported last spring, our association drafted a bill to increase warden salaries. We worked hard getting support of lawmakers and were able to get Rep. Ted Washburn, a retired NY Conservation Officer, to introduce our bill. Sportsmen, landowners, outfitters, taxidermists, and the general public showed up in force to voice their support for the bill. Only one voice came out opposed to the bill, our own administration in tandem with the Governor's Office of Administration. Unfortunately, the Committee tabled the bill after the Governor's Office got to them. We have learned the world of politics is a nasty game!

This setback hasn't stopped us from making poachers pay! Numerous cases have been made, but sadly it seems our caseloads are increasing in spite of the large-scale poaching we have stopped. Some judges in the state are sentencing suspects to extended jail time. For the last several years, we have been successful in getting large fines and restitution into the \$50,000.00-plus categories, but a lot of these suspects are extremely wealthy and hitting them with monetary fines and license revocations are not enough. Taking their freedom might!

A few cases made recently include the charging of Florida businessmen Mark Morse and James Rainey. Morse is the owner of a retirement community in the Orlando area. Morse is one of eight persons, including his wife and daughter, friends, and a MT outfitter, charged with hunting violations dating back to 2006 after a year-long investigation by Region 5 investigators and wardens. Charges are pending against an additional 10 people and the prosecutor may call 80 witnesses against Morse. Violations include felony possession of trophy elk, hunting without licenses, and other violations.

In Region 3, Washington resident Jeffery Fritz was sentenced to 3 ½ years probation and to pay more than \$6,000.00 in fines along with a 10-year revocation of hunting and trapping privileges for pleading guilty to 7 misdemeanor charges for illegal possession of game. Fritz illegally killed five antelope and two white-tailed deer in the Bridger Mountain area. His charges were reduced from felonies as part of a plea deal in which he agreed to cooperate with investigators in a larger poaching scheme that involves five additional people and dozens of antelope, deer, elk and game birds.

Wardens are starting to get some air time! The "Wild Justice" series documenting CA wardens is a must see! Good job, guys and gals in CA! You have to deal with so many issues and we applaud you for the work you do. The series "Montana Wardens" on the Outdoor Channel is a big hit in MT and we have gotten nothing but good response from the public. It was very well done and the producer was great to work with.

Nevada, Steve Tomac

Our big game seasons were very busy this fall, but waterfowl was slower than normal due to some hard early freezing. Upland bird seasons were good and most hunters were finding good success on chukar, quail and grouse. We are still in the process of working several big game cases through the court system. Trapping has been robust with several visitation violations still being a problem. The high gas prices seem to be adding to the issue with trappers wanting to drive as little as possible to make checks. Bobcats averaged over \$420 at the recent fur sale with top cats hitting over \$1,000!

The Legislature is in session and budget cuts are going to hit us once again. As of this writing, the Governor is proposing to do away with furloughs and to cut all employ-

ees' pay a straight 5%. In addition, the cost for our retirement administration is going up almost 2%. Changes are being made to health care that will significantly reduce coverage and there is talk about cuts to retirement benefits. We are down several positions, but it appears we may be able to refill them soon.

Wyoming, Joe Gilbert

2010 saw the end of a two-year project to re-classify Wyoming state employees into similar groups and families for the purpose of conducting accurate market surveys. This effort will help keep Wyoming salaries competitive with surrounding states. A new general pay table became effective in March of 2010 with wardens receiving raises. Mid-career positions received approximately \$370/month. Cost-of-living adjustments have been frozen since 2009 due to the slowdown in the economy.

Promotions:

Assistant Wildlife Division Chief Scott Talbott to Director, WGFD.

South Pinedale Game Warden Brian Nesvik to Regional Wildlife Supervisor in Cody. Medicine Bow Game Warden Jason Hunter to Regional Wildlife Supervisor in Lander. West Casper Game Warden John Lund to Regional Wildlife Supervisor in Pinedale.

Retirements:

Lander Regional Wildlife Supervisor Kent Schmidlin, effective June 2010.

Pinedale Regional Wildlife Supervisor Bernie Holz, effective September 10, 2010.

More information about the Wyoming Game Wardens Association and its members can be found on our website at www.wyominggamewardens.com.

"One of the questions that is often asked of the NAWEOA Executive Board is 'what is NAWEOA doing for us?' In most cases this is very difficult to see without having attended one of the annual conferences and getting involved. Each year we see where more and more wildlife or resource cases have been made because of good communications between officers in different states and provinces. In many of these situations, it has been NAWEOA which has provided the contacts needed to put the cases together."

**— President Bill Peters
Spring 1993 Newsletter**

REGION 5 REPORT



Region 5 Director Scott Haney

Indiana- Jay Baker

Indiana's DNR Law Enforcement Division has seen a change in leadership in the last year. Col. Mike Crider, Director of the Law Enforcement Division, retired in December. Col. Scotty Wilson, former Lt. Col., was selected to be his replacement. Former Operations Major Steve Hunter was selected to fill the Lt. Col. position. More changes are on the horizon as positions are filled.

Indiana hopes to be able to hire some new officers to fill vacancies caused by retirements. A hiring process could start as early as this spring. For more information and to be notified of the start of the process, interested persons can visit the Law Enforcement Division web page at: <http://www.in.gov/dnr/lawenfor/>.

In August of 2010, Indiana Conservation Officers served a search warrant on Hubbard's Pay Lake near Waverly in Morgan County. Hubbard's has been under investigation for several years for the illegal fishing, purchasing and sale of Indiana sport fish. Officers seized many items and documentation related to the investigation. The raid produced a large amount of drugs, thousands in cash, and documents relevant to the case. The suspect is a felon on probation; however, several guns were found around the house, including in the attic. The fish-hauling rig was also seized. He ended up with 2 felony and 3 misdemeanor charges. He entered into a plea agreement and pled guilty to one of the felonies and one misdemeanor.

Iowa- David Tierney

Fines Top \$100,000 in Poaching, Commercialization of Trophy Deer Case in Southeast Iowa Three southeast Iowa men face more than \$100,000 in fines for their roles in poaching trophy deer and multiple counts of commercialization of wildlife in Jefferson, Van Buren and Henry counties.

State Conservation Officer Chris Flynn said the investigation, which had been underway for several years, began from complaints called in by hunters, landowners and concerned citizens.

Flynn said, due to the nature of the case and the alleged activities of the individuals, officers had to file charges in three counties. "The investigation is continuing and we anticipate more arrests in the case," Flynn said. Those charged on Wednesday include Brad Johnson, 38, of Fairfield, who was charged with four counts of unlawful commercialization of wildlife (which are serious misdemeanors), unlawful taking of antlered deer, unlawful transportation of deer, unlawful taking of turkey and other wildlife-related charges. Johnson was charged in Jefferson and in Van Buren counties. He faces \$51,302.50 in fines and liquidated damages.

Shae McCabe, 32, of Fairfield was charged with unlawful taking of antlered deer, abandonment of wildlife, two counts of unlawful commercialization of wildlife (which are serious misdemeanors), unlawful taking of turkey and other wildlife-related charges. He faces \$31,328.50 in fines and liquidated damages.

Southp Souchanh, 38, of Mount Pleasant was charged with unlawful possession of deer and 145 counts of unlawful possession of squirrels.

Kansas- Greg Salisbury

In Kansas, we are facing serious challenges with state funding. Under the new governor, Kansas Wildlife and Parks absorbed the Department of Tourism to form the new KS Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism. So far, salaries and mileage have been left alone, but the threat looms on the horizon. Kansas Game Wardens continue to work diligently on a wide variety of complex and multi-state cases. Samples include two Texas brothers running an illegal guide service in southwest Kansas. Newspaper reports the government alleges more than 60 hunters illegally killed more than 119 deer between the 2005-2008 hunting seasons, including the taking of 70 trophy white-tail bucks. Another example of Kansas Game Wardens in action is in the northwest corner of Kansas. Five Wisconsin men and one Kansas man were charged with poaching trophy deer and appeared in court and were released on \$83,500 bond. The men were accused of running deer with greyhounds and trucks.

Lastly, the Law Enforcement Division recently completed annual in-service. We received some great training and presented department awards at the annual banquet.

We also honored fallen Park Ranger Luke Nihart. Officer Nihart was killed last June in an ATV accident while working at the Country Stampede at Tuttle Creek State Park. The Law Enforcement Honor Guard was present and his service sidearm was presented to his widow, Keri, and two children, Hunter and Brooke. See you in Saskatoon!!

Minnesota- Christopher Vinton

Some good cases and interesting data from Minnesota. Hunter accused of poaching trophy buck gets jail time in plea deal. A Cannon Falls man accused of poaching a world-record 8-point white-tailed buck on Halloween in Goodhue County recently pleaded guilty to three charges and will go to jail. The rack of the trophy animal will go to the DNR enforcement division, and the hunter must forfeit his bow. The case received widespread attention because of the buck's size. A preliminary scoring measured its antlers at about 190 gross and 185 net, unheard of in North America for an 8-pointer. Had the animal been killed legally, it would have been the largest 8-pointer ever registered by Boone and Crockett or Pope and Young, which records trophy animals.

DNR releases baiting numbers.

Data collected from state conservation officers confirm deer baiting is pervasive in Minnesota: 60 percent of the hunters cited for violations admitted that they knew baiting was illegal, but chose to do it anyway. Overall, conservation officers received 545 baiting complaints during the 2009 firearms deer season, resulting in 129 citations being issued and 140 firearms seized.

Increased Smelt Enforcement.

With cases of Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia being confirmed in Lake Superior, DNR is cracking down on the transportation of bait from Lake Superior. Smelt is a commonly used bait fish caught in Lake Superior, but now conservation officers are on the lookout for anybody that might be taking the small delicacies to inland lakes. DNR officials hope the increased enforcement will help prevent the spread of the virus, which causes fish to bleed out, from spreading to other waterways.

Nebraska- Jeff Jones

Nebraska Conservation Officers Association welcomes two probationary officers. Probationary Officer Greg Hesse, has worked for the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission at the Valentine Fish Hatchery since January 2005. Hesse has a fish and wildlife degree from South Dakota State. He recently completed two tours in Iraq for the Army. He will be attending the Ne-

braska Law Enforcement Training Center basic beginning January 10th. Upon completion of Field Training program, Hesse will be stationed in Alliance, Nebraska.

Probationary Officer Nicholas Fix comes to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission from the West Point, Nebraska, Police Department, where he was employed as a police officer. Fix has a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice from Wayne State. He will begin the FTO program on January 3. Upon completion of the field training program, he will be stationed in Ogallala, Nebraska, and will be responsible for Lake McConaughy.

Three Nebraska Conservation Officers also made changes and transferred to open duty stations. Conservation Officer Dan Zuehlke transferred to Cortland in northern Gage County from Ogallala. CO Zuehlke's primary area will be Gage and Lancaster Counties. Conservation Officer Doug Pollard moved to Ord from Oshkosh in Garden County. CO Pollard's primary area will be Valley, Garfield, Loup and Sherman counties, including Calamus and Sherman Reservoirs. Conservation Officer Jeff Jones transferred to Hartington from Hastings. CO Jones' primary area will be Knox, Cedar, Dixon, and Dakota counties, including Lewis and Clark Reservoir and the Missouri River.

In other business, the Nebraska Conservation Officers voted with the other members of the State Law Enforcement Bargaining Council to make no changes in the labor contract and receive a 0% raise in July 2011 and a 2.6% increase in wages in July 2012.

Oklahoma- Carlos Gomez

From this observer's perspective, Oklahoma continues to move in a positive direction at a pace like I've never seen before. In the last two years, we have acquired a new chief and assistant chief of our law division. Both men, Robert Fleenor and Bill Hale, respectively, have risen directly from field positions and both exhibit great signs of leadership. Morale is improving significantly as the two have also been conduits for the state officers association to team resources and ideas with the agency like never before. Oklahoma now stands among the ranks of other progressive wildlife state agencies by enacting the wildlife violators compact. New replacement vehicles are rotating in at approximately 100K miles, down from the 140+K from just a few years ago. Fords are currently in service, but Chevrolets are likely next on the order list. Leadership is still pro law enforcement and is open-minded to future tools such as AR-15 rifles, but as fuel prices continue to rise into the mid \$3/gal. range, budget concerns will likely affect miles driven, quality of training, and equipment upgrades.

South Dakota - Shawn Wichman

South Dakota's Conservation Officers had a very busy 2010 summer and fall. During the spring and summer months, officers worked diligently by contacting landowners and informing them about our private land programs. The spring thaw created good nesting habitat for waterfowl resulting in great fall hunting. Throughout the state, the pheasant population held its ground compared to last year considering the spring thaw and rains. With a mild fall, crops were harvested early and hunters had good success with pheasant and deer hunting this fall. With all the spring water filling up lakes, the fall and winter fishing has been exceptional.

The legislature last year passed a Trophy Civil Penalty bill that created a higher fine for illegally taking trophy animals. The COs this fall were able to use the fine amount increase on numerous deer. The penalty for shooting trophy whitetail starts at \$2,000 and now begins to increase in \$500 increments starting at 140" up to \$5,000 at 170"+. It is not even close to where it should be, but it's a start. Because of the poor deer harvest last year, many deer were given another year to grow. As a result, I observed at least 6 harvested deer that scored over 170".

The winter has been mild in the southern part of the state; however, the winter has taken a toll on the pheasant and deer to the north. The Department goals for 2011 again consist of recruitment and retention of hunters and anglers.

Texas- Scott Haney

I sit here writing this article thinking about the issues that have finally caught up with Texas. Yes, the budget and finance crunch has arrived. But, instead of focusing on the negative, I realize we have the continued support of our Director of Law Enforcement, Col. Pete Flores; Asst. Executive Director Scott Boruff; Executive Director Carter Smith; and our Texas Legislators, who will do what is necessary for game wardens to maintain our commitment to all Texans in resource and water safety protection. Even with tough times ahead, Texas wardens are maintaining a positive and can-do attitude. Texas is now a member of the violator compact and, as future arrests are made, non-residents who go back to their home state with the attitude of "Who will come after me over a stupid deer?!" are now facing the realization that the difficult "hoops" we were required to jump through to go after non-resident poachers are slowly diminishing.

The naming of the coastal fleet of Safeboats continues. The Safeboats are being named in honor of Texas game wardens who lost their lives doing what they love to do -- protecting the resource! Ceremonies

are being held up and down the coast to honor these wardens.

Even with the tough times ahead, we currently have a training class in progress and we are taking applications for another, with both classes still being contingent on the current level of FTEs being maintained and, of course, the big question now, FUNDING.

Hope to see all of you in Saskatoon at the summer conference. Come early and stay late!

Wisconsin- Todd Shaller

Facing significant budget reductions, vacancies and loss of institutional knowledge because of retirements, Wisconsin Conservation Wardens continue to move forward with professionalism and service to our customers.

Drug Grows – Illegal marijuana grows on public property (federal, state, county) have increased in Wisconsin and Conservation Wardens are often called upon to assist. Illegal grows on public property pose a risk to the public who utilize these properties for hunting and fishing. Wisconsin took a proactive approach using media outlets to advise resource users to report any suspicious activity.

Senseless Killing Cases – Wardens throughout Wisconsin continue to successfully investigate several senseless killing cases. Often times, these cases involve juveniles or young adults participating in organized killing contests. Closure on these non-hunting cases is extremely important to the public we serve and elicit a strong emotional response.

Fatality-Free Gun Deer Season – Thanks to the educational efforts of Conservation Wardens and volunteer Hunter Education Instructors, Wisconsin experienced a fatality-free gun deer season. The only other time this has occurred in Wisconsin was 1974.

Passing on the Tradition – Wisconsin Conservation Wardens are working with local conservation organizations on programs that pass on Wisconsin's outdoor heritage and tradition. Statewide, wardens are involved with youth fishing clinics, "Learn to Hunt" events, and conservation youth days.

Invasive Species and Disease Control – We are continuing our education and enforcement of regulations preventing the spread of aquatic and terrestrial invasive species and disease. This includes the hiring of additional limited-term deputy wardens to work Wisconsin waterways and boat landings, encouraging people to take personal responsibility for stopping the spread of present and future invasive species and disease.

REGION 6 REPORT



Region 6 Director Jeff White

Florida-Guy Carpenter:

After nine months of investigation, the owner of a vessel deemed derelict by the FWC received a 39-day jail sentence and was charged \$236. On May 6, FWC Officer Jeff Luce responded to a wrecked and grounded vessel in the Banana River, Brevard County. He recognized the vessel from an encounter in 2008 in which the owner, Jeremy Ross of Virginia, was charged with having an abandoned/derelict vessel. "Abandoned and derelict vessels can pose safety and navigational hazards as well as become eyesores in Florida's waterways," said Capt. Richard Moore of the FWC.

An early morning traffic stop by Glades County deputies near Moore Haven discovered 36 deceased and 19 live alligator hatchlings. Deputies then contacted FWC to investigate. With only one being legally tagged, FWC charged two suspects with 54 felony counts each on illegal possession of alligators. "We hope this case sends a strong message to any would-be poachers," said FWC Capt. Jeff Ardelean. It is unlawful to kill, injure, capture or possess, or to attempt to kill, injure, capture or possess an American alligator without authorization from the FWC.

Georgia-Melissa Cummings:

RFC Ben Roberts of Dougherty County has been selected as the 2011 Investigative Ranger of the Year. RFC Roberts was recognized for his surveillance of illegal night hunting occurring on a plantation in Dougherty County. It took nearly three months of Roberts conducting foot patrols at night to gather sufficient evidence. The results were 28 warrants being issued on three individuals, including hunting without a license, hunting deer at night, and hunting from a vehicle. Cpl. James

Keener, Cpl. Craig Fulghum, RFC Chase Altman and Cpl. Cindy Miller were also nominated for the award by their supervisors for their outstanding investigative work.

The Georgia NWTF honored RFC James McLaughlin with the "Officer of the Year" award and Georgia Department of Natural Resources recently selected Capt. Doug Lewis of the Brunswick Law Enforcement Office as the 2010 Supervisor of the Year.

Kentucky-Joe Tomblin:

The Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources and the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) are currently working jointly to provide elk for Missouri's restoration initiative. Kentucky's 10,000-strong elk herd is the largest east of the Mississippi River following a five-year restoration effort. MDC rounded up approximately 1,500 elk and released them in a 16-county restoration area in east and southeast Kentucky. Not only is the release helping Missouri start its own elk herd, it should also provide some relief to Bell County residents suffering excessive elk depredation. In return, MDC will release 600,000 crappie from their hatcheries to Kentucky Lakes.

Kentucky Department of Fish & Resources is expecting to hire a significant number of new recruits this summer. It is also preparing to transition to the Glock Generation as duty weapons this spring following the much needed addition of new vehicles and new boats. As with many state governments experiencing revenue shortfalls, all department employees participated in six mandated furlough days.

Louisiana-Scott Mathews:

On Nov. 3, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) Enforcement Division agents rescued a missing father and his two sons in Union Parish. A call had been received from the Sheriff's Office the previous day stating Timothy Thomas and sons, age 7 and 10, had launched the previous day around 2 p.m. from D'arbonne National Refuge on a deer scouting trip. LDWF agents found Thomas and his sons shortly after midnight on the bank of Bayou D'arbonne about five miles from the boat launch. "These agents performed a search and rescue mission under very adverse conditions and successfully returned a man and his sons to safety. The rainy, foggy and nighttime conditions made it very difficult to traverse the waterway and to find the lost party, but these agents were

able to persevere," said Col. Winton Vidrine, head of LDWF's Enforcement Division. Agents participating in the search and rescue were Agents Scott Jeansonne, Mike Jones, Scott Bullitt, and David Harrell, Sgts. Duane Taylor and Lane Kincaid, and Lt. Rick Owens.

Maryland-Jeff White:

All law enforcement officers were cut 2% of their pay again in 2010. The last recruit class was cut due to lack of funding, but a class is currently scheduled for April of 2011. The MNRP force is down to an allocation of 247 from 440 in 1990. Despite the shortfall of officers, calls continue to increase 39% from 2001. They are responsible for roughly 17,000 miles of shoreline, including tributaries along with enforcement in state parks and game and fish conservation.

The first CWD deer case was confirmed in Western MD. Alcohol was prohibited in state parks for the first time. It has helped reduce the noise complaints, but has increased alcohol violations.

Several violations for commercial fishing on the Chesapeake Bay have been cited. Charges included closed season, sanctuary encroachment, undersize, untagged and illegal gill nets. MNRP has confiscated 20,000 yards of illegally set anchored gill nets and 12.5 tons of striped bass. Two Maryland seafood dealers and the largest fish wholesaler in Washington will have to pay fines and restitution of nearly \$890,000 for their part in what a federal judge has labeled the largest commercial fish poaching scheme in the history of the Chesapeake Bay. Ocean Pro Industries Ltd., also known as Profish, is to pay \$575,000 in fines for buying tens of thousands of pounds of fish that were out of season or oversized. A Profish vice president was sentenced to 21 months in prison and fined \$60,000. Their company fish buyer was sentenced to 15 months in prison and fined \$7,500. In a five-week trial last summer, a federal jury in Greenbelt found all three guilty of violations of the Lacey Act, which prohibits people or organizations from transporting, selling or buying fish and wildlife harvested illegally.

North Carolina-Forrest Orr:

With the retirements of Colonel Kenneth Everhart, Major David Stokes, and Major Keith Templeton, the face of supervision for the Division of Enforcement has changed. Their replacements, Colonel Dale Caveny, Major Jack Staley, and Major



Field Notes

Spring 2011

Memorial Service August 2011

On Saturday, August 27, 2011, the North American Game Warden Museum will host the 3rd Annual Fallen Officer Memorial Day. The museum is located at the picturesque and symbolic International Peace Garden, situated on the respective borders of the Province of Manitoba and the State of North Dakota.

Families, friends and co-workers of fallen officers and resource enforcement officers from across North America are invited to join in a solemn ceremony to honor the memories and celebrate the achievements of close to 380 fallen officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice and died while on duty protecting and conserving our resources.



Pennsylvania and Manitoba Honor Guard at the 2010 Memorial Day

It is an event such as this that serves to bring us all together at the museum memorial site at the Peace Gardens, the most suitable of venues, the first and only of its kind in North America, to pay our respects and honor our fallen brethren.

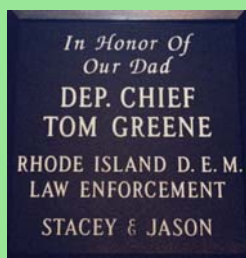
The ceremony will commence at 1300hrs on August 27th with a call to order by the pipes, followed by recognition of recently fallen officers, flag-folding ceremonies, and a bugler heralding Final Post. The ceremony will conclude with light refreshments and fellowship.



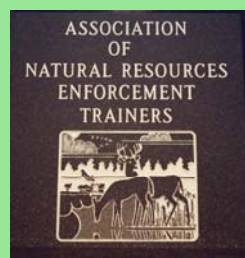
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March 2011

Message du président

Par Kevin Schoepp

Bonjour, j'aimerais que les circonstances seraient différentes alors que je présent le message du président pour cet édition de ce bulletin.

C'est avec regrets que j'ai appris, tout en revenant de notre réunion hivernale de l'exécutif, de la perte tragique du pilot Daryl Gordon du service de gardes de Maine du ministère des pêches intérieures et de la faune de Maine. C'est un rappel solennel des dangers envisagé dans le domaine de la protection de la pêche et de la faune. Je veux donner mes sympathies à la famille, aux amis et aux collègues de pilot Gordon.

L'exécutif de « NAWEOA » ce trouve elle-même au milieu d'une transition de temps et de changes. Notre secrétaire-trésorier et notre directeur en affaires « IGW » ont tout les deux indiqués qui vont se retiré de leurs postes. Nous avons tout récemment engagé un nouveau rédacteur en affaires « IGW » - Megan Ewald. Regarder pour l'introduction de Megan un peu plus loin dans le bulletin. Randy Hancock a fini son terme pour liaison de conférence et il y aura plusieurs autres postes disponibles sur l'exécutif. Si vous êtes intéressés à vous impliquer au niveau de l'exécutif, c'est maintenant le temps. Envoyez moi une note ou donné un coup de fils, je serai heureux de vous en parlez.

J'aimerais remercier le vice-président Rich Cramer et Mike Norris du ministère de pêches et de la faune de Californie pour l'organisation de notre assemblée hivernale de cette année. Regardez pour les détails dans le rapport du vice-président.

Je manquerai le coup si je ne prenais pas cette opportunité de vous encouragez de faire les démarches pour assister à la 30^{ième} conférence annuelle qui a lieu en Saskatoon cette été. Le comité d'organisation on travaillé et travaille toujours pour faire cette conférence exceptionnelle et on vous demande de venir « Hooked on Saskatchewan ».

Ceci sera mon dernier message comme président de l'association. J'essaye toujours de trouver quelque chose d'inspirant, mais je n'arrive pas. J'ai sincèrement apprécié toutes les opportunités qui j'ai eu et j'en suis honoré d'avoir peu y participer pour aussi long-NAWEOA Newsletter Spring 2011

temps. Je pense bien, s'il y a quelque chose que je peux dire c'est qu'il y a plusieurs d'entre vous qui mon inspirer et qui mon encourager au long du chemin. J'ai fait plusieurs bons amis et les mémoires que j'ai obtenus des conférences et des réunions hivernales resteront toujours. J'étais très occupé et j'ai hâte d'être à un rôle au ralenti dans les années à suivre. C'est serait peut être le fun de participer à une conférence et de n'avoir rien à s'inquiéter.

En espérant de vous voir tous cette été !

Rapport de Region 2 – Printemps 2011

Par Dave Grant

Commentaires du directeur :

Bonjour à tous. Cette année en Manitoba on s'enlign pour un printemps difficile. Les prévisions pour le printemps sont longues, froids et une menace d'inondations dans la partie sud de la province est sur l'idée des gens. Les tombées de neige sont à ou au delà des niveaux normaux dans les états au sud de nous, en se versant en eau vers le lac de Winnipeg.

Jusqu'à maintenant, la population de chevreuils à bien survit les conditions, mais il ne s'agit pas de la même chose pour la population d'orignal. En Manitoba, dans certaines régions, la population est descendue à un nombre record et il y a des mesures à considérer pour que le nombre ne diminue pas de plus en plus. Le temps sera la mesure pour voir si ces mesures sont atteintes avec succès.

J'aimerais souhaiter la bienvenue au ministère des Pêche et Océans, ils sont à nouveau membre de notre association.

Restez chaud, en sécurité et sec si vous demeurez dans un endroit d'inondation. En espérant de vous voir cette été en Saskatoon.

Manitoba – Kurt Henry, Président, MNROA

Bonjour. Manitoba a eu une saison de feux très occupé en été, de quoi que sa ne nuit pas les officiers seulement s'ils sont en Manitoba. Les officiers des ressources naturelles étaient directement impliqués dans les activités de suppression des feux. En cette saison, pas mal tous les officiers étaient emboucanés soit dans leur propre district ou quand ils portaient aide dans les régions du Nord. Comme je l'ai mentionné avant, l'aménagement des parcs a été enlevé de notre responsabilité sauf la sécurité. En étant la première fois avec ce nouveau système, elle est venue et partie sans trop d'effet. Les officiers pourront mieux concentrer sur d'autres activités.

Le Manitoba a recruté six nouveaux officiers aux ressources au « Western Conservation Law Enforcement Academy » qui est en Colombie Britannique. Le Saskatchewan et l'Alberta, les deux autres provinces de l'ouest, ont décidé de ne pas envoyer de nouveaux recrues cette année. Le ministère d'aménagement a engagé d'envoyer six nouveaux recrues dans les prochains deux ans pour entraînement. Ceci devrait aider au niveau d'employés et que l'académie continue à prendre des recrues pour entraînement du Manitoba. Ce programme a été créé pour mieux préparer les officiers aux challenges de tous les aspects de l'emploi et a déjà eu un effet positif.

En espérant que nos compagnons officiers dans l'ouest du Canada ont eu l'opportunité de voir le magazine « Western Canadian Game Warden Magazine ». C'est une publication excellente et un témoignage de travail très bien accompli par tout les gens impliqués pour l'avoir fait la distribution aux kiosques de journaux. Si vous ne l'avez pas encore vu, veuillez demander pour et vous y trouverez du matériel de lecture pour le mois suivant.

J'ai été élu comme président de notre association en avril après avoir servi comme vice-président pour trois ans. J'ai vite appris combien de travail qu'il fallait y mettre et pour être honnête, j'ai tombé un peu en arrière avec mon travail et ma vie personnelle. Le voyage à Pittsburgh pour assister à la conférence « NAWEOA » a rafraîchi en moi le désir et le goût de travailler ensemble pour rencontrer nos buts personnels et pour l'association nationale. Je félicite tous ceux qui ont assistés à la conférence. La conférence était très bien organisée pour le développement profes-

sionnel et ils y avaient des activités familiales. Le « MNROA » sera les présentateurs de la convention annuelle le 26 et 27 mars à Brandon, Manitoba. Cette conférence est la 28^{ième} année de tradition que la conférence a lieu au musée des officiers de garde à l'endroit du jardin « International Peace Gardens ». Moi comme plusieurs d'autres on hâte de voir, pour la première fois, cette facilité et de voir les intérêts communs et les efforts de travail communs en exhibition.

Pour la première fois, selon nos connaissances locales, l'union a refusé une entente majeure avec la direction qui veut dire qu'ils doivent renégocier. Un gel de deux ans était le facteur qui la renvoyait. En espérant que quelque chose de positif en sortira. L'union est responsable pour tous les employés publics dans le gouvernement de Manitoba.

Je vous souhaite une saison printanière sécuritaire dans vos activités en conservation et nos voyages où la « faune » se trouve.

Ministère des Pêches et Océans du Canada, les prairies, les régions centrale et arctique - Ray Thibadeau

Bien, l'année a été tranquille dans les régions centrale et arctique pour le ministère (C&A). Il y a toujours le sujet de manque de personnel en Prince Albert, SK, à Winnipeg, MB et dans les prairies. En Ontario, ils ont deux postes vacants à Peterborough. Dans l'ouest arctique, ils ont deux postes vacants, dans l'est arctique ils sont à la recherche d'un superviseur « Field » pour le bureau de Ranklin Inlet. Le ministère est justement au cours d'une revue stratégique et pour l'instant les postes ouverts pas sur la table pour la future proche.

La nouvelle structure pour faire un rapport et le nouveau « Risk Management Framework » qui a été mis sur place en 2008 a diminué le montant de filières par officier et a donné plus de temps pour le travail dans les plus gros dossiers. Elle a aussi donné à l'officier la chance de faire des choses dans l'éducation, le forum public, présentations aux écoles envers les initiatives proactives et la patrouille «des espèces en danger ».

L'est et l'ouest de l'arctique ont demandé l'assistance des Prairies et Ontario pour l'été 2011. Les officiers aideront à la surveillance des différentes chasses à la

baleine et les pêcheries dans les communautés isolées à travers le nord.

Et c'est ça qui se passe chez nous.

Nunavut – aucun rapport pour cette édition

Ontario – Brett Cachagee, représentant pour l'Ontario et Dan Van Exan, président, "Ocoa"

Saluts d'Ontario. Les choses sont pas mal pareilles. Le budget d'opération est comparable avec l'année précédente avec une petite marge de déduction de 6 à 10 %. Il y a des voitures qui sont dans le procès d'être changé mais il y a toujours des officiers qui doivent partager une voiture selon le nombre d'employés par district. L'équipement est en bon état et est remplacé selon le besoin pour la plupart. Les postes vacants sont remplis mais il y en a toujours qui sont vacants pour un bout de temps. Les postes vacants sont remplis selon la priorité. Par exemple, un bureau avec 2 officiers prendra priorité sur un bureau avec 3 officiers or plus. Le programme de maîtres-chiens est florissant, nous avons maintenant 7 maîtres-chiens qui est le plus que nous avons jamais eu au MRN.

L'Ontario a eu du succès avec plusieurs de ces investigations et ces poursuites durant la dernière année. Dans un cas, trois hommes ont reçu des amendes d'une valeur de 21 000 \$ pour la pêche du divergent (Walleye) dans un sanctuaire de poisson. Un autre individu reçu une suspension pour la vie pour des offenses variées incluant se servant d'une arme à feu d'une manière non-sécuritaire en faisant la chasse à l'ours noir. En plus que la suspension, un ordre de la cour été imposé par laquelle il doit avoir aucunes engagements dans ou associations à aucunes activités reliées à la chasse ou avoir équipements relia à la chasse en possession dans les endroits où il y a de la faune. Notre unité d'investigation en agriculture a reçu une amende de 20 000 \$ pour avoir mis sur le marché de la nourriture malsain dans la chaîne de nourriture. C'est bien de voir que la cour prend les violations contre le poisson et la faune au sérieux. Les procureurs donnent régulièrement leur commentaire sur la qualité des documents préparés pour la Couronne en comparaison aux autres agences. Ceci est reflété par le nombre élevé de convictions. Pour voir nos communiqués de presses, visitez notre site web au ocoa.ca.

Nous sommes dans notre deuxième année en faisant honneur à un officier en conservation par le bureau du Gouverneur-général pour le « Peace Officer Exemplary Service Medal ». Plusieurs ont reçu cette médaille pour un service exemplaire, incluant les officiers en retraite qui sont éligibles en démontrant notre appréciation. Les officiers ayant 20 et 30 ans de services reçoivent ces médailles.

Du au succès en 1992 du livre de recettes de l'association des officiers en conservation d'Ontario, la deuxième édition vient tout juste d'être publiée. Les officiers et leurs familles de partout dans la province ont soumis encore une fois des recettes de divers plats avec des ingrédients domestiques et sauvages pour n'importe quelle occasion, pour le camp ou pour un repas formel. Le produit final est un livre de recettes avec toutes nos recettes favorites. Nous savons bien comment les familles des officiers de garde aiment faire la chasse, cuire et manger. Ceci fut un excellent relever de fonds dans le passé pour notre association et ce livre de recettes va être une « hot commodity ». Si votre association désire se promouvoir, cette façon est un grand succès en Ontario. Si vous êtes intéressés, veuillez visiter notre site web à ocoa.ca ou vous pouvez placer votre commande avec Marc Gibson à mgibson@ocoa.ca.

Pendant la dernière fin de semaine de janvier au nord-est d'Ontario, il y avait un incident concernant trois officiers de garde d'Ontario - Denis Beauvais, Kyle Morrison et Clem Vaillancourt étaient en patrouille quand ils arrivèrent sur une motoneige qui semblait abandonné mais encore allumer. En regardant un peu plus, ils trouvèrent le monsieur qui conduisait la motoneige prit dessous. Ils ne savaient pas combien de temps était passé depuis l'accident. Après avoir soulevé la motoneige et enlèvement de son casse protecteur, ils s'aperçurent qu'il avait besoin de premiers soins car il n'y avait aucunes signes vitaux. Les officiers ont commencé le « CPR » et « AR » pour plus de 45 minutes et on ramener l'individu à vie. Il a survécu pour 2 ou 3 jours après mais malheureusement est décédé. Les officiers ont attribués leurs efforts avec l'entraînement qu'ils ont reçu et que «les choses ont tombés en place ». Un de médecin à l'hôpital a dit à l'épouse de l'individu que c'était remarquable le montant de temps qu'ils ont fait le « CPR » et ce demandait si l'hôpital avait une équipe qui pourrait faire de même, surtout

dans ces conditions. Comme officier on ne sait jamais qu'est ce qui va arriver durant notre shift.

Le 12 janvier 2010, Sgt. Ryan Russuell du service de police de Toronto a été tué par un monsieur qui avait volé un chasse-neige. Les funéraires ont eu lieu le 17 janvier au « Metro Toronto Convention Centre » à Toronto. Plus de 12 000 officiers de partout dans le Nord Amérique y ont assistés. Vingt officiers de garde ont assistés aussi. Voir photo de la procession (funeral.jpg).

En été, l'association des officiers de gardes d'Ontario vont animés la « 5th Annual Kids and Wardens Fishing Adventure » avec la générosité de plusieurs partenaires. L'association prend environ 20 jeunes défavorisés de la ville d'Ontario au camp de pêches au nord d'Ontario. Comme vous pouvez le constater il y a beaucoup de mémoires qui sont établis pour les jeunes et les membres.

Et voila les nouvelles d'Ontario. En espérant de vous voir à Saskatchewan à la convention cette été.

Pilote **Daryl Gordon** officier au ministère de la pêche intérieure et de la faune de Maine a perdu la vie abord un avion le 24 mars 2011. Il était vétéran du ministère de 25 ans.

Sur le jour de son accident, Il était sur une patrouille générale au nord du lac Moosehead. Il s'agissait de donner support et information aux gardes sur terrain et faisant une topographie des environs pour la vie de chevreuil. Il a aussi assisté au relâchement une personne en autoneige embourbé. Il retournait à sa base principale. Dès qu'il n'y avait pas retourner à temps, recherches pour lui ont commencé.

Pilote Gordon est un vétéran du service de gardes en Maine en servant pour gardes pour 25 ans et comme garde pilote pour environ sept ans. Il est devenu garde au service de Maine en février 1986.

Ces accomplissements pour garde au service de Maine inclus une mérite exemplaire de service en 2009. La division de mérite exceptionnelle du Nord, dans son rapport de nomination disait « le garde pilote

Gordon est très dédié au cours de l'année, n'importe ce qu'il se passe sur sa patrouille ordinaire ou spéciale. Son habilité de travailler en équipe, ses initiatives, pourvoir pensé très vite, démontrent des qualités, son dévouement et support au service de garde de Maine et au ministère de la pêche intérieure et de la faune.

Ces survivants sont son épouse Rita et ses deux fils Daryl Jr. Et James III.

M. David L. Grove, Officier de conservation à la protection de la faune du bureau de **Pennsylvanie** à l'âge de 31 fut tiré au fusil durant sa patrouille dans le conté d'Adams, proche de Gettysburg, le 11 novembre 2010 durant l'arrêt d'un véhicule en question de faire la chasse en soirée.

En 1997, il obtenu un diplôme de « Grace Academy » en Hagerstown, Maryland, a été au collège « Appalachian Bible » en Bradley, Virginie West entre 1997 et 1999. En 2004, il a obtenu un degré en sciences de la faune et de la pêche de l'université de « Penn State ».

Avant d'être nommé au « WCO Cadet » il était dans la 27^{ième} classe de l'école « Game Commission's Ross Leffler » sur la conservation. M. Grove servi comme député en conservation dans le conté de Franklin, débutant en 2001 jusqu'en 2007. Il a aussi travaillé à l'université de Penn State dans la faculté à la recherche sur le chevreuil à « University Park » entre 2003 et 2004.

Officier Grove aimait son emploi, était très fier d'être compter parmi ceux qui faisait « the thin green line » en dehors des bois sombres en soirée.

Quant demandé comment il aimerait être reconnu un jour, il répondu dans le journal 'Gettsburg Times' « que j'ai fait mon travail avec enthousiasme, passion et que j'ai traité les gens avec le même respect que je veux être servi. »

Meet the new Game Warden Museum Directors



Mark Webb has worked in the field of wildlife law enforcement for 35 years, having started his career with the Colorado Division of Wildlife in 1976. Mark transferred to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission in 1977, where he worked for 10 years as a Conservation Officer in southeast Nebraska. In 1987, Mark transferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a Special Agent in Sacramento, CA. After one year, he took a transfer to Fairbanks, AK, where he spent 10 years and was promoted to the supervisor position for the northern half of Alaska. In 1998, Mark took a transfer to Lincoln, NE, where he worked closely with his State and Canadian counterparts doing a large number of covert assignments. This experience allowed Mark to make his last transfer in 2008 to Denver, CO, where he supervises the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Special Operations Unit.

Mark and his wife Kathy live in Mead, CO, where Mark spends his free time hunting, fishing and hiking the Rocky Mountains. They have two sons, one residing in Kansas and one in Missouri. They have one 5-year-old granddaughter who, with her Papa's assistance, took her first gobbler this past fall.

Mark and Kathy have been very active in NAWEOA for the past 10 years and were instrumental in starting the annual Memorial Torch Run, which has raised almost \$100,000 for the North American Game Warden Museum. Mark was also a prior Board member with NAWEOA.

Mark looks forward to assisting the Museum Board in moving forward as we strive to build the second stage of the Museum building and make it self-sustaining.



Blake Patterson, 28, has been a Manitoba Natural Resource Officer for four years. He started his career as a seasonal officer before getting recruited full time to Mafeking in western Manitoba. Two years ago, he was transferred to the Selkirk District near Winnipeg. He resides near Oakbank with his wife, Jen, and his children, 3-year-old Kate and 4-month-old Carter. He is originally from Saskatchewan and, other than his choice of football teams, has fit in very well with the Manitoba program.

Blake enjoys deer hunting, fishing, playing hockey, and spending time with his family. He has a natural nose for wildlife law enforcement and when he sinks his teeth into an investigation, he is like a wolverine that just won't let go.

Blake has already stepped forward to take over the Game Warden Museum's golf tournament along with a number of other tasks that are allotted to the Directors.

If you want to learn more about Blake, check out the fall 2010 Western Canadian Game Warden Magazine wherein Blake is the featured Officer Profile.



**\$92,000 raised
to date!
\$100,000 Goal**



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August 11, 2011

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ENTRY FEE: \$120 per golfer, \$480 per team (cart & dinner incl.)

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REGISTRATION: Begins 11:00am

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Blue Bombers

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Tournament limited to 132 golfers

First come first serve

Register as an individual or as team.

REGISTER EARLY - Deadline July 20

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Name of golfer	Name of golfer	Name of golfer	Name of golfer
Company	Company	Company	Company
Address	Address	Address	Address
City/Prov./Post Code	City/Prov./Post Code	City/Prov./Post Code	City/Prov./Post Code
Phone	Phone	Phone	Phone

I am proud to support the Game Warden Museum as a no-show golfer

If you or your association care to make cash or prize donations please contact your jurisdictional rep, a museum board member (www.gamewardenmuseum.org) or bring it to the Saskatoon conference. This tournament needs prizes to continue to be successful. Please donate.

Please return this form with payment to: Winnipeg Moving & Storage – 400 Oakpoint Hwy – Winnipeg, MB. – R2R 1V1 To pay by credit card or for more information contact Brad Krulicki at 1-877-974-6683 or bkrulicki@winnipegmoving.com.

Thanks for your support.

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[www.GameWardenMuseum.org](http://www.GameWardenMuseum.org)

Chris Huebner, have all been busy settling in to run Enforcement operations.

In early January, all Enforcement officers were certified and began carrying the Taser X26. Officers endured the mandatory five-second burst from the Taser in order to be certified. North Carolina is one of the only state wildlife enforcement agencies to implement the Taser.

For the first time in its history, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is marking its patrol vehicles. The Commission has taken delivery of 60 new Ford F-150s. The new trucks have Enforcement graphics and external light bars.



Another first for NC officers are summer boat uniforms consisting of shorts and polo-type shirts. Shorter, ankle-high boots have also been added to the summer uniform.

Fifteen new officers will be reporting to their duty assignment on March 1<sup>st</sup>. These officers graduated from the Enforcement Officer Academy in August 2010 and have since been training with a field training officer.

#### **South Carolina-Adam H. Keeter:**

Despite additional duties, officers have continued with their primary focus of enforcing natural resource laws. Last year saw the legalization of hunting coyotes and hogs at night. Although heavily restricted, this allowance has increased the workload for officers. Last year's legislation also criminalized the act of transporting live wild hogs and releasing wild hogs into unpermitted pens. These laws were enacted to attempt to curb the explosion of wild hogs.

With a bad economy resulting in a tight budget for SC, the House of Representatives has introduced a bill to attempt to save money at the state law enforcement level. It is designed to streamline state law enforcement by consolidating law enforcement agencies and divisions into one primary agency called the SC Department of Law Enforcement and Public Safety. This new cabinet agency would

include the following agencies: SC Law Enforcement Division, Department of Probation Parole and Pardon, Transport Police Highway Patrol, and Department of Natural Resources – Law Enforcement Division.

#### **Tennessee-Mike Stockdale:**

May 1 and 2 saw between 13.5 – 17 inches of rainfall in the Middle Tennessee area which resulted in severe flooding and more than 20 lives lost. When the call came from the Emergency Management Agency to send boats and wildlife officers, the officers were ready as many of them had memories from rescuing victims of Hurricane Katrina. Unofficial figures showed officers spent over 800 man hours on search and rescue, rescuing more than 1,000 people.

The Agency hired 13 new wildlife officers this past fall, resulting in the largest hiring in recent years. The officers have completed their TWRA training and Law Enforcement Academy training and are now in their assigned county working with a lead training officer.

A Henry County jury took less than 30 minutes to convict David Ray Phelps of vehicular homicide, aggravated assault, reckless operation of a vessel, and BUI. During the trial TWRA Officer Brad Jackson presented an animated re-creation of the crash based on the crime scene evidence. Phelps was sentenced to 9 years on the vehicular homicide. Officers Joe Campbell, Steve Brewer, Jim Napier, Kevin Hoofman, Scott Reasor, Mike Thompson, Brian Thompson, Glen Moates, Jereme Odom and Brian Elkins assisted in the investigation.

Chief of Law Enforcement Sonny Richardson retired Jan. 15, 2011. Chief Richardson started with the Agency as a Wildlife Officer in 1973. Following 11 years as an officer, he was promoted to Assistant Area Supervisor in 1984, a position he held until 1997 when he was promoted to Area Supervisor. In 1999, he was promoted to the Chief's position until retiring.

#### **Virginia-James Slaughter:**

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) are proud to announce that Senior Officer Daniel C. Hall has been named 2010 Conservation Police Officer of the Year. Dan Hall began working for DGIF in January 1988 and was assigned to Dickenson County where he was

stationed for nine years. He served an area that included Russell, Tazewell, and Buchanan counties. He transferred to Smyth County in 1997. Officer Hall came to the Department after graduating Magna Cum Laude from Wytheville Community College with an Associate's Degree in Protective Services Technology with a major in Police Science. He has also earned Field Training Officer Certification. For more than 22 years, Daniel Hall has served the Commonwealth of Virginia as a dedicated law enforcement officer. Officer Hall is an excellent representative of DGIF, and the Department and the citizens of the Commonwealth have benefited greatly from his commitment to duty and outstanding efforts

#### **West Virginia-Kaven Ransom:**

The Law Enforcement Section is responsible for enforcement of all laws of Chapter 20, Code of West Virginia, and rules promulgated under that authority. Of primary importance is the protection of West Virginia's wildlife to the degree that they are not endangered by unlawful activities. A highly visible, uniformed natural resources police officer patrol is the only viable way to accomplish this mission. Prevention and apprehension are crucial to the enforcement goal, and the natural resources police officer is meeting that goal. In West Virginia, no species of wildlife is jeopardized because of illegal taking. Governor Manchin III signed a Bill in 2010, renaming conservation officers to natural resources police officers. The name had not been changed in 77 years. The Law Enforcement Section normally has a staffing level of 126 natural resources police officers and eleven support personnel. The Section currently has 111 natural resources police officers. Three natural resources police officers retired, and five new officers were employed during FY 2010. The Law Enforcement Section has been actively seeking new and innovative methods for the accomplishment of our overall mission. The following are just some of the highlights of this past fiscal year:

- Monitored various trout stockings to ensure compliance.
- Utilized deer and turkey decoys in an effort to curtail "road hunting" violations.
- Increased boating and fishing patrols on all major Corps of Engineers lakes.
- Increased ATV patrols on wildlife management areas in an effort to deter unlawful entry.

West Virginia participated in a nationwide program, Operation Dry Water, in an effort to reduce alcohol-related boating incidents and conducted training to enable officers to better detect boaters operating under the influence of alcohol.

# REGION 7 REPORT



Past-President Marion Hoffman

## Region 7 Report

*Hi, everyone. Hope this issue of the NAWEOA newsletter finds all of you well and enjoying the first signs of spring in your area. I don't know about you, but I found this winter to be a long and snowy one, and I am not sorry to see it move on. I am definitely looking forward to this summer's conference in Saskatoon and hope that many of you will be able to attend. I will be ending my term as Past President of NAWEOA this July and I just want to take a moment to thank all of you for making this 10-year journey of mine some of the most memorable years of my life. I have been blessed to have had this opportunity and I am deeply grateful to you all.*

**Pete Fanelli from New York** reports New York is experiencing financial woes similar to those in just about every other state. We have not done any new hiring since 2008 and have had no new patrol vehicles since then either. We experienced layoffs for the first time at the end of 2010 and lost some key civilian personnel, but no officers. Our staffing is down about ten percent, with many of the vacancies occurring in investigative and supervisory positions. Without a contract since March 31, 2005, the officers' union just received a preliminary ruling from the arbitrator offering less than the State's other labor unions received in 2005, so there is not much good news. We do continue to receive financial support from Homeland Security for our work in radiation detection in the marine environment and from NOAA for our work with the National Marine Fisheries Service under Joint Enforcement Agreements. These funds have allowed us to keep our fleet in good shape with vessel and engine replacement on a reasonable schedule. Officers from our Region 3 lower Hudson Valley area are busy planning for the New York Conservation Officers Association's annual summer conven-

tion and business meeting which will be taking place this August at the historic West Point Military Academy.

Chris Dyer reports that in Maine things have continued to move forward. Our boating season was very busy with the nice summer weather. We graduated a new class of 9 Game Wardens from the Advanced Warden School in the fall. These officers spent 12 weeks refining their skills and entered the field just prior to the fall hunting season to start their field training in their respective patrols.

The Maine Warden Service had its first involvement with a police-involved shooting this past year. This involved a member of the Warden Service and a Veterans Affairs Security Officer. The situation transpired at the Togus VA Hospital in Augusta. Both officers were cleared by the Attorney General's Office.

The fall hunting season was very busy. With Maine's deer population taking a very hard hit over the last two winters, hunting pressure seemed to move to the lower two-thirds of the state. A major deer-poaching ring that operated between Maine and Pennsylvania was broken up with the effort of our Special Investigations Division and the Pennsylvania Game Division. Numerous charges have been brought in both states for the large number of deer illegally taken.

Snowmobile season is going full throttle. The northern part of the state has received a break from the routine smell of snowmobile exhaust due to the lack of snow for most of the winter. The southern areas of the state have had upwards of three feet of snow most of the winter and are seeing recreationists from the north because of the lack of snow on their home turf. As I write this, I am looking at 3 inches of fresh wet snow coming down. Can't wait for spring.

**Kevin Clayton from Massachusetts** reports Director (Colonel) Aaron Gross, Massachusetts Environmental Police, continues to run the agency as best he can with fewer officers than he anticipated. He does so without benefit of either a Lt. Colonel, nor two Majors, due to fiscal problems within state government.

Prior to 2008, the Massachusetts Environmental Police numbered approximately 120 officers (132 at full complement). Since the appointment of Colonel Gross, the numbers have waned to approximately 75 field officers. Retirements continue to increase, with others anticipated in 2011. Significant recruitment and hiring in this distressing fiscal climate are not anticipated.

All officers struggle to respond to calls

for service as they continue to patrol and cover multiple districts for which no officers are assigned due to declining staff numbers. Retiring officers are not likely to be replaced in the foreseeable future. Coastal officers find themselves burdened with the additional work required of NOAA Office of Law Enforcement Joint Enforcement Agreements. We all plod forward together into uncertainty.

Fortunately, some relief has been granted. Five new officers were recruited and have presently graduated from either the Massachusetts State Police Municipal Academy (New Braintree, MA) or they possessed prior experience as police officers. These new recruits are currently in the field as Environmental Police Officers learning the nuances of conservation law enforcement and leaning upon more senior officers for guidance.

**Michelle Weigand** reports Michigan, as do many other states, has a new Governor and we are unsure of what the future will bring for the state budget, wage concessions and benefits. During the fall of 2010, Michigan conservation officers received 2 1/2 days of tactical firearms training which included long-range rifle, simunitions, and tactical pistol training. And, during the training, Lt. Colonel Grossman also gave a lecture on survival mindset. Michigan Law Enforcement Division and the Michigan Conservation Officers Association are working on the 125th Anniversary celebration of the Michigan conservation officer.

**Tom Burrell from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission** reports a class of recruits graduated in December and were assigned to various districts throughout the Commonwealth. A current class of recruits has entered the second phase of training and is expected to graduate this summer. Numerous transfers are underway, including several supervisory promotions.

Many officers have been able to receive new Tahoes outfitted with a new paint scheme & equipment, although it appears as if the upcoming budget will prevent future vehicle purchases for some time.

PA recently joined the Wildlife Violators Compact after several years of waiting, and we are eager to see how it affects enforcement.

**Jennifer Ogren from Rhode Island** reports we are welcoming in a new Governor as well as a new Director. We are very aware that the road ahead is unclear and very bumpy, but both have shown tremendous support for our department. This has been a much needed boost to our morale.

Our department has also welcomed a new patrol boat to our fleet. She is a 46-foot Millenium Marine lobster boat and gillnet hauler capable of cruising at 24 knots. We have named her "KEEPER", and her primary function will be for off-shore fisheries enforcement. Operations training on the Keeper has commenced, and we hope to have all of our officers certified at various levels this year. We have stayed busy during this unusually harsh winter (by RI standards anyway) with plenty of hunting and commercial fishery arrests. Officers have also participated in our annual cold weather shoot and will soon undergo DUI recertification and domestic violence training to get us ready for the summer which we expect will be an insane one once the public thaws.

**Lisa LaCroix from New Jersey** reports that, for a second year in a row, officers in NJ are waiting to see what our new Governor is going to do. His initial plan when he was elected last year was to drastically cut DEP, and there was talk that Fish and Wildlife and/or the Bureau of Law Enforcement were going to be pulled out of the DEP. Luckily, that didn't happen. Now we are waiting to see what kind of pension reform he is going to mandate. His proposal is to cut the police and fire pensions from 65% to 60% at 25 years. We may lose several more officers this year to retirements than we had planned on. Chief Tim Cussen retired December 31, 2010. He was unable to promote anyone before he left and we were left with no chain of command for several weeks before Acting Chief Mark Chicketano, was appointed. Lt. Wayne Tonnesen retired in October 2010 and CO Roger Nestel retired in December 2010. Those vacancies, along with others from transfers, have left several districts very shorthanded and without supervision. There have been no promotions in several years. On a positive note, we have three new officers currently completing the police academy. Two will be assigned to the Marine Region and one to the Northern Region. We have made some positive gains in equipment in the past year. Officers in the Marine Region and Northern Region have been issued MDTs for their patrol vehicles and officers in the Northern Region were issued .45-cal. Glocks. New Glocks for all other officers have been budgeted for the next several years. In the next several months, we are expecting to be issued new portable 800-mHz radios and new Verizon push-to-talk cell phones were distributed in February.

**Steve Thomson from Ohio** reports the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Wildlife will be starting the process to hire about 18 Wildlife Officer Cadets. The posting will likely go up in April 2011 and there will be a written proficiency test

for eligible candidates in June 2011. The academy will likely start in January of 2012. Go to WildOhio.com for more information.

The Division also implemented a new internet-based system for license sales and game checking. This new system will allow for instant access to customer license information as soon as the sale is complete or as soon as a game animal is checked. This new system will be expanded to include all aspects of customer management including such things as Division newsletter subscriptions and hunter education record management.

The Ohio Division of Wildlife has for the first time begun installing light bars on their marked law enforcement vehicles. All new patrol vehicles will be fitted with the slim LED light bars as the old vehicles are replaced. Ohio Wildlife Officers are issued 4x4 extended-cab pickup trucks. The trucks are currently green, but the division is looking into acquiring black vehicles in the future to be more uniform in color throughout the fleet.

The Division's firearms training team officers have all been issued Smith & Wesson M&P 15 .223-cal. rifles and most have been trained as police carbine instructors. The training team will begin issuing AR15-style carbines to field officers later this summer with hopes to issue rifles to all field officers in the next several years.

**Tom Grohol from Pennsylvania** reports the Pennsylvania Game Commission family is still recovering from the murder of Wildlife Conservation Officer David L. Grove. WCO Grove was killed in the line of duty while investigating a poaching incident on 11/11/10. An administrative review of the incident is being conducted concerning the incident, the results of which will be made available to agency field officers.

Plans are being made for agency participation in the National Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremonies to be conducted in Washington, DC, in May and also a Pennsylvania Fraternal Order of Police Law Enforcement Memorial Service held at the state capitol in Harrisburg on May 2, 2011, where WCO David Grove will be honored as part of the services.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission is implementing a pilot project of a Computer-Aided Dispatching system and Records Management system within all six regional field offices. The pilot project is scheduled to be implemented by this fall. Computer-aided dispatching software will be installed in each region's dispatch center and a test group of Wildlife Conservation Officers will be equipped with Mobile Data Terminals in their vehicles as part of the testing process. Full implementation of the project is estimated to take several years.

**Rebecca Merritt from National Wildlife Refuge Officers** reports on a number

of achievements for NWROA this past year. They have commissioned a new logo and trademark, and they have a new website established. They made a donation to the Utah Park Ranger shot in the line of duty and also to the memorial for the Pennsylvania Game Warden killed in the line of duty. Their honor guard was also in attendance at the NAWEOA 2010 conference. They have recently established a new online store for the sale of NWROA merchandise.

On a down note, however, they are being affected by the federal pay freeze that was issued by the President for all federal employees. The pay freeze's impact on federal employees' retirement income is a major concern. Pensions are calculated based on the average of the employee's highest income for three consecutive years. Because of the impending pay freeze, employees who will be eligible to retire soon might face lower retirement income. The freeze will be effective Jan. 1, 2011, and last until Dec. 31, 2012.

**Travis Buttle of Vermont** reports that the LE Division of the Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife was able to fill two of several vacancies that were created in 2009. Jenna Reed (22) of Georgia, VT, was hired in June 2010 and Jason Gravelle (40) of West Windsor, VT, was hired in January 2011. Both warden trainees are currently attending the VT Police Academy and working through the field training program. Trainee Matt Thiel (23) will be completing the field training program in April 2011, just in time for a likely second deployment to Afghanistan with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves.

In spite of the dire financial conditions of the state government, we have been authorized to recruit and fill a few vacant warden positions. Recruiting has begun and the application process will open March 1, 2011.

Sr. Warden Dale Whitlock was appointed to the position of Lead Defensive Tactics/NLUOF Instructor for the LE Division. Warden Chad Barrett of the Waterbury District has become our resident Exotic Wildlife Specialist. He has been properly identifying, confiscating, and "re-homing" numerous large prohibited reptiles (snakes, lizards, and alligators). The 2008 law change identifying restricted species has lead to an increase of reports and incidents from concerned residents of Vermont.

We continue to maintain strong cooperative investigations between bordering state and province agencies. On a legislative note, Vermont is discussing the possibility of entering into the Wildlife Violators Compact.

# NAWEOA Officer Exchange Program

## US Officer to Canada

### By Linda Swank

#### *To Yukon and Back*

The entire family was in attendance for the 2010 NAWEOA Opening Ceremonies in Pennsylvania. Immediately after the proceedings my daughter, who would be leaving the conference the next day with her father to go to a softball tournament, begged me to play hookie from the Officer's Luncheon and go with them on a tour of Heinz Field, the home of the Pittsburgh Steelers. I gave into her pleadings and off we went to Pittsburgh. It was not until later in the afternoon upon returning to the hotel that I learned from co-workers that I had been chosen as the NAWEOA Officer Exchange winner for the US. I was shocked!

I quickly found Vice President Rich Cramer to confirm the selection and to make sure my fellow officers were not pulling one over on me. It was true. Now I had to make a decision, where to go. In the back of my mind I thought Yukon right away but I asked a lot of questions first and talked to previous exchange officer participants before speaking my thoughts. I obtained a contact for a Yukon officer while at the conference.

Once home from the 2010 conference I made contact with Kirby Meister, a supervisor with the Yukon Department of Environment and an active leader of the Yukon Officer's Association. I made my thoughts known to Kirby and within several days the wheels were turning for my trip to Yukon Territory, Canada. I clearly remember Kirby's words, "you get here and we will take care of you". Kirby was absolutely right.

On September 13, 2010 I left home at 0615 hrs for Baltimore International Airport. My first leg was to Toronto, second leg on to Calgary and finally into White Horse, Yukon by 2330 hrs the same day but three time zones to the west. It was a long day and I was a weary traveler. I was very happy to meet a friendly and welcoming Ken Knutson, a Field Operations Manager for conservation Officers. I would be staying my first night at Ken's place in White Horse.

The next morning Ken took me to the headquarters in White Horse to obtain some extra gear and make a few introductions and then we were on the road. We headed East on the Alaska Highway. At one point Ken pulled off the side of the road, we grabbed binoculars and headed off into the bush. Ken walked with his long legs, I was almost jogging to keep up. We did not go far and we were overlooking a creek bottom that provided me with my first look at Yukon moose. Ken called but the small bull had no interest and kept on feeding. A cow and calf also fed nearby. A quick jaunt back to the vehicle and we were on the road again. We had miles to go. Our next stop was Teslin and a very quick stop at an area office then on to Watson Lake.

At Watson Lake we met up with Officers Mark Brodhagen and Dean McCleary. While these guys were preparing for the next leg of my trip Ken and I went up the street to the famous Sign Post Forest. This is a must see for any traveler along the Alaska Highway. Mark and I and his trusty black german shephard left Teslin and headed up the Campbell Highway and then onto the Nahanni Range Road. My second night in Yukon was spent in a patrol cabin just off the Nahanni Range Road. Dean and Mark put on a fine feast that night with caribou as the

main course. The patrol cabin was warm and comfortable and the stars that night were brilliant and memorable with no light pollution as we see here in eastern US. The next morning Mark and I patrolled along the Nahanni Flats as they call it. We checked one guide and hunter, who had harvested a goat and caribou in the previous days and a moose that morning. The guide was very accommodating and took us to the kill site in his Argo. We checked a moose with the most unusual antler configuration that anyone in the group had ever seen. The moose had a double antler on the left side. This was not just a double palm but an entire second antler growing under the normal antler. Mark and I worked our way up the Nahanni until we passed into the Northwest Territory. We checked several spots along



Linda (left) and Officer Mark Brodhagen  
with the double antlered moose

the way and saw caribou with binoculars.

Later that day we met with Dean again and did an ATV patrol up the 58 mile trail. I'm not much of an ATV person but that day I passed ATV 101. Those guys really whip up those trails and Mark with his sheperd on board. I have never seen a dog ride and ATV like that one did. The country was beautiful, breath taking and I did not want to leave. We passed by a grizzly kill site but did not recognize it at first. We should have though by the amount of bear scat left on the trail. We never saw the bear but we were all sure it was close by. After the ATV patrol we spent a little time glassing the surrounding slopes and saw goats. Dean and I then proceeded on up the Campbell Highway to Francis Lake where we again met up with Ken Knutson and we all boated out to a patrol cabin on the lake. Another beautiful day and a great meal of moose meat cooked on an open fire.

The next morning a slow trip up the lake because of dense fog put us a little behind schedule to meet Officer Kevin Johnstone. Kevin was scheduled to fly that day with a pilot from

Whitehorse Air in a 206 turbo prop plane. We met them at Finlayson Lake. We spent the day checking fly –in hunting camps on remote lakes. It was during one of those stops on a



Linda and Officer Kevin Johnstone getting ready to check fly in camps with Whitehorse Air

small lake that I experienced my very first, and most likely, the only airplane - boat stop of my career. Yep, we landed and motored right up to that little rowboat with a fisherman in it. It turned out Kevin knew the fisherman so the check was very brief. Kevin and I ended our day at Ross Lake. From there we drove to Faro and stayed at the house of Officer P.J. Grantham, who was leaving to go moose hunting. The next day Kevin and I put a boat in on the Pelly River. We patrolled almost 185 miles of river and checked three groups of hunters. During the run down the river Kevin spotted the biggest bull moose I had ever seen. It was easily a 60" plus bull. It had a cow and calf with it. Kevin called it a little closer and that was a very memorable sighting burned in my mind's eye forever. When we junctioned with the McMillian River we traveled upstream about 30 miles and stayed overnight at a First Nation cabin.

The following day Kevin and I completed our 275 mile boat trip traveling back down the McMillian and then down the Pelly to Pelly Crossing. Within ten minutes of arriving the next leg of my trip started. Officer Shawn Hughes arrived. We transferred gear and I was off to Henderson Corner, a small cross-roads village near Dawson passing through Stewart Crossing and doing a few patrol checks along the Stewart River.

My home for the next few days was at Shawn's house. We visited Dawson early the next morning and did a little site seeing at the Dome overlooking Dawson. What a view the Dome provides of Dawson and what a history Dawson holds in its dirt streets and historic buildings. Later that day Shawn and I did a boat patrol on the Klondike River. What a different river than the Pelly. We checked some successful moose hunters that had their boat way overloaded so we ended up hauling the moose head back down river to their camp for them.

On my final day of patrol Shawn and I headed up the famous Dempster Highway. We didn't make it to the Arctic Circle but we did make it to the Black Stone Uplands, part of the winter range of the Porcupine caribou herd. We took a short trip up the Hart River Rd on ATVs but found no hunters, only a couple of moose. The next morning I got to finally meet Kirby Meister, who spent a lot of hours helping to plan my trip and he gave me a more detailed trip of Dawson, which I thoroughly enjoyed. Then it was a long ride down the Klondike Highway and



Linda cruising down the Pelly River on patrol

back to Whitehorse for a final nights stay with Ken Knutson and his family to leave Yukon Territory very early the next morning.

Kirby was true to his word. The Department and officers of Yukon Conservation Services did an outstanding job of providing me with the trip of a lifetime. I visited or passed through about 80% of Yukon's communities. I saw many different types of habitats and saw most of Yukon's large game animals. I cannot say enough about how professional and competent I found the officers to be in such an environmentally harsh part of the world. I found the job and the problems to be the same, just a different location in the world. I thank the officers who took the time to take me with them in their daily duties and appreciate their willingness to share their knowledge and beautiful work playground. I thank the Department of Environment leadership who allowed me to come to Yukon, especially the supervisors who made the daily arrangements to allow me to get the most from my short time there. I also thank the Pennsylvania Game Commission for so fully supporting my participation in the NAWEOA Officer Exchange Program.



Linda (center) Officer Dean McCleary and Field Operation Manager Ken Knutson at the Francis Lake Patrol cabin

# Wildlife Officer Recognition

OOY = Officer of the Year

## REGION 1

### ALBERTA

2010 Fish and Wildlife OOO - **Darren Unreiner**

### SASKATCHEWAN

2010 Conservation Officer of the Year - **Bob Lidster**

2010 Labour Service OOO - **James McLeod**

**REGION 2** - NONE SUBMITTED

**REGION 3** - NONE SUBMITTED

## REGION 4

### COLORADO

Wildlife OOO - Dist. Wildlife Manager **Paul Creeden**

Employee of the Year - Area Supervisor **Liza Hunholtz**

### MONTANA

Outstanding Service - **Shane Reno**

Outstanding Service - **Todd Tryan**

### NEVADA

Wildlife Officer of the Year - **Dave Patula**

### WASHINGTON

OOO - **Chad McGary**

### WYOMING

OOO - **Duane Kerr**

Shikar-Safari OOO - **Chris Queen**

## REGION 5

### ILLINOIS

Shikar-Safari OOO - **Matt Graden**

NASBLA Boating OOO - **Ray Wichus**

AMFGLEO Illinois OOO - **Matt Graden**

MFC Waterfowl OOO - **Kurt Defenbaugh**

OOO — **Debbie Mansell**

Cert. of Merit (Reg. IV) - **Johnathon Davis**

Cert. of Merit (Reg. V) - **Steve Jourdan**

Cert. of Merit (Reg. I) - **Bryan Tapley**

NWTF OOO - **Rich Logsdon**

Cert. of Merit (Reg. II) - **Heath Tepovich**

### IOWA

Wildlife OOO - **Mike Bonser**

Iowa Fish & Game Off. Assoc. OOO - **Joe Fourdyce**

Whitetails Outstanding OOO - **Jeremy King**

Outstanding Case of the Year - **Joe Fourdyce**

IBA Turn In Poachers Case of the Year - **Brian Smith**

Outstanding Boat. Law Enf. & Nav. Ed. OOO - **Erika Billerbeck**

Iowa Trappers Assoc. Award - **Scott Kenseth**

Outdoor Heritage Award - **Jeff Morrison**

Waterfowl Enforcement Award - **Jeff Swearngin**

### KANSAS

Wildlife Shikar-Safari OOO - **Jim Bussone**

Nat. Res. Advancement Education Award - **Larry Stones**

Lifesaving Award - **Lt. Jason Sawyers**

Boating OOO - **Eric Deneault**

Richard Harrold Award for Investigations - **Doug Whittaker**

Richard Harrold Award for Investigations - **Dan Melson**

Directors Award - **Law Enforcement Honor Guard**

### NEBRASKA

NASBLA Boating OOO - **Russ Mort**

### SOUTH DAKOTA

Shikar-Safari OOO - **Mark Ohm**

NASBLA Boating OOO - **Brian Humphrey**

NWTF South Dakota OOO - **Mike Kintigh**

### TEXAS

AMFGLEO OOO - **Sgt. Bradley Chappell**

SEAFWA OOO - **Arthur McCall**

Shikar-Safari OOO - **Arthur McCall**

NWTF (Texas Chapter) OOO - **Adam Clark**

Southern States Boating Law Admin. Assoc. OOO - **Chip Daigle**

### WISCONSIN

2010 Haskell Noyes Award - **Ted Bremel**

Wisconsin Boating OOO - **Tyler Strelow**

Wisconsin Waterfowl OOO - **Doug Zeihen**

Outstanding Professional in Hunter Education - **Chris Kratcha**

2010 Wisconsin NWTF OOO - **Bob Jumbeck**

2010 Shikar-Safari OOO - **Randy Falstad**

## REGION 6

ALABAMA - Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources

NASBLA Boating OOO - **Ofc. Freddie R. Ingram Jr.**

Shikar-Safari OOO - **Ofc. James Yates**

SEAFWA Conservation Enf. OOO - **Ofc. Thomas Traylor**

FLORIDA - Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Florida OOO - **Marc Shea**

OOO South A Region - **David Burnsed**

OOO Southwest Region - **Brian Cazalot**

OOO North Central Region - **Samuel Dishman**

OOO Northwest Region - **Michael Guy**

OOO Northeast Region - **Don Meurlot**

NASBLA OOO - **Ofc. Richard Wilcox**

Special Recognition Agency - **Ben Allen**

Special Recognition Agency - **John Roberts**

Special Recognition Agency - **Zach Ricciuti**

Outstanding Service - **Chester "Chip" Paoletti**

Certificate of Appreciation - **Stephany Mahaney**

GEORGIA - Georgia DNR/Wildlife Res. Div. Law Enforcement

2010 National Wild Turkey Fed. OOO - **RFC James McLaughlin**

Supervisor OOO - **Capt. Doug Lewis**

Shikar-Safari Invest. Ranger of the Year - **RFC Ben Roberts**

NASBLA OOO - **RFC Mark Stephens**

Rocky Wainwright Waterfowl OOO - **RFC Rodney Horne**

# Wildlife Officer Recognition

## **KENTUCKY**

Shirkar-Safari OOO - **Ofc. Jared Northern**  
NASBLA OOO - **Ofc. Jared Alley**  
SEAFWA OOO - **Sgt. Rick Mehlbauer**  
NASBLA OOO - **Ofc. Eric Thomas**

**LOUISIANA** - Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries  
Shikar-Safari OOO - **Sgt. Ryan Brasher**  
Louisiana OOO - **Sgt. Ryan Brasher**  
NASBLA OOO - **Sgt. Joseph C. Ortis**

**MARYLAND** - Maryland Nat. Res. Police (MNRP)  
Maryland OOO - **Cpl. Michael Friend**  
Conservation OOO - **Ofc. Frank Sutton**  
Boating Safety OOO - **Cpl. Jeffrey Sweitzer**  
NASBLA OOO - **Ofc. Timothy M. Kraemer**  
2010 Nat. Wild Turkey Fed. OOO - **Cpl. Mark McMillen**

## **NORTH CAROLINA**

SEAFWA OOO - **Master Officer Scott Loflin**  
NASBLA Northern Region OOO - **MO Robert Wayne**

**SOUTH CAROLINA** - Department of Natural Resources  
SC Wildlife OOO - **PFC Andrew Godowns**  
Law Enf. Ed. OOO - **SGT Kimberly D. Leverich**  
Outstanding Service Award Reg 1 - **PFC Brian Welch**  
Outstanding Service Award Reg 3 - **PFC James C. Maxwell**  
Outstanding Service Award Reg 4 - **PFC Cary T. Robinson**  
NASBLA OOO - **Cary T. Robinson**

**TENNESSESS** - Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA)  
SE Assoc. of Game & Fish Agencies OOO - **Ofc. Joe Campbell**  
Shikar-Safari OOO - **Off. Rick Roberts**  
NASBLA & Tennessee Boating OOO - **Ofc. George Birdwell**

**WEST VIRGINIA** - Division of Natural Resources  
2010 Nat. Wild Turkey Fed. OOO - **Ofc. Ronnie Runyon**

**VIRGINIA** - Department of Game and Inland Fisheries  
NASBLA OOO - **Senior CPO John Koloda**  
Conservation Police OOO - **Senior CPO Dan Hall**

## ***REGION 7***

## **MASSACHUSETTS**

Lifesaving Award - **Capt. Agganis** (for 07/05/01)  
Lifesaving Award - **Sgt. Manning** (for 07/05/01)  
Lifesaving Award - **Off. Steve McAndrew** (for 07/04/10)  
Medal of Valor - **Ofc. Ramsey** (for 12/04/97)  
Medal of Merit - **Ofc. Norton** (for 08/20/97)  
Directors Commendation - **Sgt. Robert Forsythe**  
Captains Commendation - **Sgt. Cullen**  
Captains Commendation - **Sgt. Moran**  
Captains Commendation - **Off. Folan**  
Captains Commendation - **Lt. Burns**  
Captains Commendation - **Sgt. Desroches**  
Captains Commendation - **Ofc. Camire**  
Captains Commendation - **Ofc. Lunedei**

2009 CLECA - **Sgt. James Cullen**  
2009 Shikar-Safari - **Sgt. Moran**  
2009 Boat Safety - **Inv. William Bilotta**  
NWTF Wildlife Enforcement OOO - **Sgt. David Unaitis**

## **MICHIGAN**

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Guy Bradley Award -  
**CO Mike Borkovich**  
2010 NWTF Law Enforcement OOO - **CO Zachery Doss**  
2011 NWTF Law Enforcement OOO - **CO Andy Bauer**  
2011 Michigan Law Enforcement OOO - **CO Steve Lockwood**

## **NEW HAMPSHIRE**

2009 Shikar-Safari - **Adam Cheney**  
2009 NCLECA - **Michael Matson**  
Life Saving Award - **Christopher McKee**  
2010 Shikar-Safari - **Bradley Morse**  
2010 NCLECA - **Todd Szewczyk**

## **NEW JERSEY**

2009 Shikar-Safari OOO - **Chris Petrucci**  
2009 NWTF OOO - **Doug Ely**  
2010 Shikar-Safari OOO - **Jason Snellbaker**

## **NEW YORK**

Shikar-Safari ECO/ECI of the Year — **ECO Anthony Panipinto**  
NECLECA ECO/ECI of the Year — **ECO Jon Dobies**  
NYSRPA OOO — **ECO Liza Bobseine**  
NWTF OOO - **Steve Bartoszewski**

## **OHIO**

NWTF OOO - **WO Eric Bear**  
Ohio Bowhunters Assoc. OOO - **WO Chris Gilkey**  
Ohio Bowhunters Assoc. OOO - **Chris Rice**  
Shikar-Safari OOO - **Paulding County Off. Duane Bailey**  
Mississippi Flyway OOO - **Pickaway County Off. Ken Bebout**  
2010 AMFGLEO OOO - **WO Sup. Jim Abrams**

## **PENNSYLVANIA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION**

NASBLA OOO - **John Sabatis**  
Outstanding Service Award - **WCO Tom Nunamacher**  
Outstanding Service Award - **WCO David Decker**  
Outstanding Service Award - **WCO Don Heiner, Jr.**  
Outstanding Service Award - **ARS Corey Britcher**

## **PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION**

2010 NWTF Land Management OOO - **Matthew Belding**  
2010 NWTF OOO - **Christopher Ivicic**

## **RHODE ISLAND**

Shikar-Safari OOO - **Adam Hill**  
CLECA OOO - **Michael Schipritt**  
NASBLA OOO - **Sgt. Daniel White**

## **VERMONT**

Warden of the Year - **Sr. Warden Carl Wedin**

# !!!!!! NOTICE !!!!!

## OF PROPOSED NAWEOA BY-LAW CHANGE

**Per NAWEOA by-laws, this is a notification to the NAWEOA membership of a vote by regular members at the 2011 summer conference in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan to amend the NAWEOA Constitution/By-laws.**

The NAWEOA Board of Directors is proposing a change in the wording of the by-law 1.0 a,f,g which defines the criteria for becoming a NAWEOA member. There has been ongoing discussion by the Board and general membership regarding the criteria for regular membership as stipulated in this by-law.

In an effort to clarify the regular membership criteria so that it more uniformly addresses the variety of job descriptions and duties of wildlife enforcement officers across the continent, the Board wishes to present the following wording for consideration and vote by the general membership present at the next general NAWEOA business meeting.

### **CURRENT By-law**

- 1.0(a) **REGULAR MEMBERSHIP** -- Any full-time, salaried, credentialed (certified) law enforcement officer of any law enforcement agency on the North American Continent which has the lead role, within its area of responsibility, in the enforcement of wildlife and/or fisheries laws and regulations may, upon application, be considered for REGULAR MEMBERSHIP (Amended, Summer 2008, Montana).
- (f) **RETIRED MEMBERS** -- Anyone who has been a full-time, salaried, credentialed (certified) law enforcement officer of any law enforcement agency on the North American continent which has the lead role, within its area of responsibility, in the enforcement of wildlife and/or fisheries laws and regulations who is no longer a full time officer due to health or retirement, may upon application be considered for REGULAR MEMBERSHIP (Amended Summer, 2008, Montana).
- (g) **DEPUTY WARDEN MEMBERSHIP** -- Any part-time, non-salaried, credentialed (certified) law enforcement officer, or so called Deputy Warden, of any law enforcement agency on the North American continent which has the lead role, within its area of responsibility, in the enforcement of wildlife and/or fisheries laws and regulations, may upon application, be considered for DEPUTY WARDEN membership (Amended Summer, 2008, Montana).

### **!!!!!! PROPOSED By-law !!!!!**

**1.0 REGULAR MEMBERSHIP** \*\* – Applicants for REGULAR MEMBERSHIP in the North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association (NAWEOA) shall meet the following criteria:

- (a.1) The applicant must be a full-time, salaried, credentialed (certified) law enforcement officer.
- (a.2) The applicant must be employed by an agency on the North American continent (including Hawaii).
- (a.3) The agency, or its subdivision, with which the applicant is employed must have the lead role, within its area of responsibility, in the enforcement of wildlife/fisheries laws/regulations.
- (a.4) **Definition: "Lead Role"** shall mean the primary law enforcement entity to enforce wildlife and/or fishery laws/regulations.

(a.5) **Definitions of terms as used in this by-law:**

**"Lead Role"** shall mean that the agency subdivision with which the applicant is employed shall provide, on a regular basis, the primary enforcement of wildlife/fisheries laws/regulations within the geographical area for which such agency has jurisdiction.

**Definition: "Area of Responsibility"** shall mean the geographical area for which an agency or its subdivision has law enforcement jurisdiction, i.e. the area of responsibility for a state agency might include the entire state and all state/federal parks within the state boundary or may exclude some limited areas depending upon governmental jurisdictions, agreements, etc.; the area of responsibility for a state or federal park would typically include only the geographical area within the park boundary.

**\*\* The intent of this membership category is to:**

**include** law enforcement officers who's duty it is to provide the primary wildlife/fishery enforcement of their agency subdivision within a specific geographical area, i.e. country, state, province, territory, tribal lands, park (state, province, federal), military grounds;

**exclude** non-law enforcement personnel;

**exclude** personnel of an agency, or a subdivision thereof, which performs wildlife/fisheries law enforcement as a secondary (optional, incidental) function.

1.0 (f) **RETIRED MEMBERSHIP** — Applicants for RETIRED MEMBERSHIP in the North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association (NAWEOA) may, upon application, be considered for REGULAR MEMBERSHIP if they could have met the membership requirements of By-law 1.0(a.1-5) during former employment, but are no longer employed as such due to health or retirement.

1.0 (g) **DEPUTY WARDEN MEMBERSHIP** — Applicants for DEPUTY WARDEN MEMBERSHIP in the North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association (NAWEOA) may, upon application, be considered for DEPUTY WARDEN MEMBERSHIP if they meet the membership requirements of By-law 1.0(a.1-5), except that they shall be part-time, non-salaried credentialed (certified) law enforcement officers.

|  |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
|--|--|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
|  |  | <p><b>IGW is a growing trade magazine dedicated to serving the professionals in natural resource and wildlife law enforcement. In its early years primarily serving US and Canadian conservation officers, IGW became known as "THE trade publication of the profession," in North America.</b></p> <p>Our content is specific to the work and interests of conservation enforcement. Regular columns include:</p> <p>Firearms training ~ communication ~ park patrol ~ game warden book reviews ~ a patch exchange ~ a comprehensive digest of case investigations ~ work outside North America</p> <p>Longer features address topics such as:</p> <p>dangerous animal or poacher situation ~ forensics ~ officer assaults ~ a history of the profession</p> |  |  |
|  |  | <p><b>To learn more about the magazine or subscribe, visit:</b><br/> <a href="http://www.igwmagazine.com">www.igwmagazine.com</a><br/> <b>Or contact:</b><br/> <b>Stephanie Kutch</b><br/> <b>Subscriptions Manager</b><br/> <b>International Game Warden</b><br/> <a href="mailto:subscription@igwmagazine.com">subscription@igwmagazine.com</a>      (814)940-1155</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |  |

## **NAWEOA CONFERENCE LIAISON POSITION**

NAWEOA is soliciting candidates for the NAWEOA Conference Liaison Position. The person in this position will act as the direct liaison between the NAWEOA executive and all summer conference organizers. Further, this person will administer the NAWEOA conference hosting agreement, the conference planning guide, chair meetings between past and future conference hosts, assist with the coordination of future conference bid presentations, and review all conference financial statements.

A candidate must be a regular member in good standing of NAWEOA, have excellent computer skills and home access to the internet, and have attended at least three NAWEOA conferences. Serving on a previous conference planning committee is recommended but not required. The Liaison is expected to attend each annual NAWEOA conference and winter executive board meeting. They are fully reportable to the NAWEOA executive. The liaison shall be compensated at the same rate as members of the NAWEOA executive for meetings as per current travel policy. For further detailed information regarding the position please visit the NAWEOA website at [www.naweo.org](http://www.naweo.org) and access the protected site under members only, then click on the link to Constitution and Bylaws and look for the link to Conference Liaison on the left.

Interested candidates are asked to provide a letter/resume electronically, outlining their skills and abilities to the NAWEOA President Kevin Schoepp at [s.k.schoepp@sasktel.net](mailto:s.k.schoepp@sasktel.net) by June 1, 2011. Any questions may be sent to Kevin at the above email address.

**IT'S NOT TOO EARLY  
TO  
CONSIDER  
HOSTING A  
NAWEOA  
Summer Conference!**

**If your jurisdiction and/or  
officer association  
is interested in hosting a  
NAWEOA conference,  
contact**

**Conference Liaison**

**Randy Hancock**

(conference@naweo.org)

**or**

**President Kevin Schoepp**

(president@naweo.org)

**We have hosts for  
2011, 2012 and 2013**

► **2014** ◀

► **2015** ◀

► **2016** ◀

**have not  
been bid for!**



**Please  
Welcome  
New  
IGW Editor**

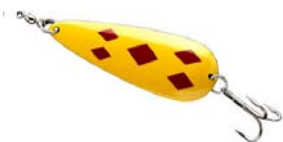
**Megan  
Ewald**

Born in Philadelphia, I grew up spending summers on the beach at the Jersey shore, scouring tide pools for minnows and hermit crabs, and fishing and crabbing with my family. A passion for biology and an aptitude for writing led me to Rice University in Houston, where I earned degrees in ecology/evolutionary biology and English, and fell in love with the American southwest during a spring break road trip to Arizona.

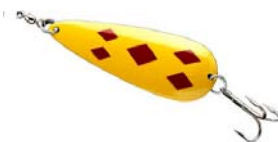
After college, I worked briefly as a copy editor for a large Phoenix-area daily newspaper before heading to Las Cruces, New Mexico to pursue a master's degree in wildlife biology. I did my thesis research on kit foxes, and also volunteered on projects ranging from aerial radiotelemetry tracking of the Chaco elk herd to mist-net surveys for migrating bats. A fellow grad student who also ran an outfitting business introduced me to turkey hunting, and after successfully calling my first turkey in New Mexico's Gila National Forest, I was hooked.

During my second year of grad school, I served as editor-in-chief of the New Mexico State University newspaper, the Round Up, a twice-weekly paper with a circulation of about 11,000. A move to Laramie, Wyoming in 2005 resulted in a job as an editor with the Wyoming State Geological Survey, and eventually in my current job as the publications and outreach coordinator for the University of Wyoming Carbon Management Institute. Always looking for ways to combine my passion for wildlife with my writing/editing experience, I served as the newsletter editor for the Central Mountains and Plains Section of the Wildlife Society at the request of CMPS president Bob Lanka, a Wyoming Game and Fish Department biologist, and also volunteered as an editor for a few other WGFD biologists.

Thanks to many friends at WGFD, I have been lucky enough to participate in black-footed ferret releases and monitoring surveys, breeding bird surveys, and other interesting field projects. An avid landscape and wildlife photographer, cook, and general outdoor enthusiast, I spend weekends riding along with my boyfriend, South Gillette Game Warden Irah Leonetti, and camping, fishing, and hiking in the summer. I have a great deal of respect and admiration for the hard work and dedication of game wardens across the continent and the world, and look forward to the opportunity to serve as IGW editor.



## HOOKED ON SASKATCHEWAN 2011



On behalf of the organizing committee and the Saskatchewan Association of Conservation Officers (SACO) we would like to invite you to the 2011 NAWEOA Conference that will be held in Saskatoon from July 18-24<sup>th</sup> 2011. We are excited to host in 2011 and promise this is a conference you won't want to miss. In addition to the good old fashion Saskatchewan hospitality, you can expect excellent training sessions, great entertainment and a variety of tours. There will be a variety of spousal and family activities offered. Youth events will include on- and off-site events including indoor and outdoor pool games, wii, crafts, zoo interpretive programs, archery, air pistol, HOFNOD, trout pond, plus much more. We would like to encourage families to plan for an extended stay in the province pre- or post-conference.

If you enjoy outdoor adventure, Saskatchewan was made for you. World-class fishing is just the start, canoeing, kayaking, hiking, biking, boating, camping, horseback riding, wildlife viewing, the list goes on and on. Choose from an array of attractions to suit almost every interest. Choose from fun events including small town gatherings and festivals, casinos, spas, great shopping areas and restaurants. Over 250 museums in every corner of our province proudly describe our past, while university-led cutting edge research helps define our future. Art galleries display collections that bring our many cultures to life. Science centers, museums, art galleries, mineral spas, river cruises, or dinosaur digs, if you like interesting, you'll be interested in Saskatchewan. A variety of parks can be found all over the province, many alongside Saskatchewan's 100,000 lakes and rivers. Camping is available within 15 minutes of the conference hotel. In order to ensure you get the most out of your vacation we have a travel planner who can assist you in any and all of your vacation plans.

Check out our website at [www.saco.ca/naweo2011](http://www.saco.ca/naweo2011).

Come see us in 2011 and I promise you will be *"Hooked on Saskatchewan"*

*Steve Dobko*, Conference Chairman

### 2011 Conference Hotel — Radisson Hotel Saskatoon



405 Twentieth Street East, Saskatoon Saskatchewan S7K 6X6, Canada

Reservations: 1-800-395-7046 US/Canada

Toll-free Telephone: (306) 665-3322 Fax: (306) 665-5531

Web: <http://www.radisson.com/hotels/sksaskat>

**Conference Rate: \$ 142.00 for a standard room,**

but treat yourself to a suite:

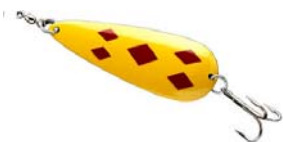
Junior suites are \$182.

One bedroom suites only \$202.00.

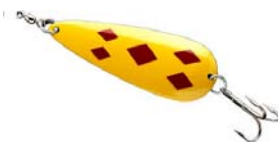
Fantastic value, they need to be seen to be appreciated.

The Radisson is located in the heart of downtown Saskatoon, overlooking the South Saskatchewan River and Mee-wasin Valley Park. It has a very picturesque setting along the banks of the river. With friendly hospitality and convenient location, the Radisson is truly one of the best hotels in Saskatoon. 100% non smoking facility. The Radisson has completely renovated every one of its 291 spacious Saskatoon hotel rooms and suites. Complimentary high-speed, wireless Internet access is provided throughout the hotel for your convenience. In addition, all meeting rooms and the pool with water slide has also been completely renovated. It feels like a brand new hotel. Check out the website! If you want to grab a quick bite to eat during the conference at a time when no meals are supplied check out "Taste of Saskatchewan" with over 50 food vendors right outside the hotel on the river front. A farmers market is located within walking distance of the hotel.





## **HOOKED ON SASKATCHEWAN 2011**



# **Featured Training Sessions**

### **Alan Carlson - Wildland Serial Arson Investigation**

The presentation covers a major case study of a serial wildland arsonist who, over a period of 21 years, set over 150 wildland fires in a rural community of Northern California. This arson series resulted in numerous structures destroyed, several fires burning over 16,000 hectares each, loss of livestock, a major burn injury to a firefighter, and an average suppression cost of \$4,500,000.00. The presentation will look at both the successes and failures of the investigation and prosecution which led to a 2006 arrest and 2008 sentencing of the responsible party to 40 years in prison. The presentation will focus on “red flag” indicators to identify wildland serial arson along with investigative strategies and tactics specific to wildland arson which all investigators should be aware of and which will provide valuable hints in detecting and investigating serial wildland arson.

### **Lt. Dale Caveny, Jr. - Surviving a Lethal Force Encounter**

The Physical, Emotional, and Legal Issues that Accompany a Lethal Use of Force. In this presentation we will examine the physical, emotional, and legal issues that accompany a lethal use of force. We will discuss how the incident can affect the officer on both personal and professional levels. We will also discuss how responding officers and supervisors can best handle the situation in a manner that offers protection for the officer while still maintaining objectivity for the ensuing investigations.

### **Inez Cardinal - Environmental Prosecutor**

Inez Cardinal is a former Conservation Officer and currently a Senior Crown Prosecutor assigned to the Ministry of Environment. Inez will share her expertise and discuss environmental, fish and wildlife case law. Inez's dedication to these cases has rewarded Saskatchewan's Environment with a higher level of protection. Inez will present cases that have concluded in the last couple years and the advantage of being assigned to the Ministry.

### **Ernie Cooper - TRAFFIC & Wildlife Trade, WWF-Canada**

TRAFFIC has a reputation as a reliable and impartial organization, a leader in the field of conservation as it relates to wildlife trade. TRAFFIC was established in 1976 and has developed into a global network, research-driven and action-oriented, committed to delivering innovative and practical conservation solutions based on the latest information. Wildlife trade is any sale or exchange of wild animal and plant resources by people. This can involve live animals and plants or a diverse range of products needed or prized by humans—including skins, medicinal ingredients, tourist curios, timber, fish and other food products. Ernie will discuss the large volume of wildlife in trade internationally.

### **Michelle Bacon - Cypress Provincial Park Cougar Study**

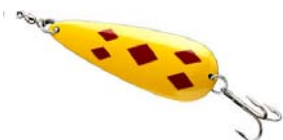
Cougars were distributed throughout Alberta historically, but in the early 1900s, likely due to predator control and agricultural expansion, became limited to the southwest region of the province. In the late 1990s, cougars began re-populating their eastern Alberta habitat range. Surrounded by prairie in southeast Alberta and southwest Saskatchewan, Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park is a unique oasis that now supports a cougar population. As no bear or wolf populations exist in the area, Cypress Hills was lacking large carnivores prior to the return of cougars. Michelle will discuss: (1) What is the composition and distribution of the population of cougars in this region? (2) What are the seasonal and human effects on movement and range of the cougars inside and outside the Park boundaries? (3) What is the composition of prey- including livestock- killed by cougars?

### **Trent Bollinger – Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre (CCWHC)**

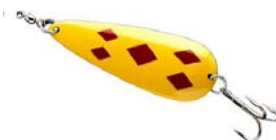
Trent Bollinger is an Associate Professor and Director, Western and North Regional Centre, Canadian Cooperative, Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre (CCWHC), Veterinary Pathology program at the University of Saskatchewan. Dr. Bollinger specializes in the pathology and epidemiology diseases in wildlife and fish. Dr. Bollinger's current work focuses on chronic wasting disease in deer and elk.

### **Marc Cattet - Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre (CCWHC)**

Marc instructed Conservation Officers in Saskatchewan and brings a lot of knowledge and research to the table. He relates his knowledge to the field level Officer the importance of animal care, proper dart techniques, and practical application of tranquilizers. In Marc's dart injury research, the RCMP Forensic Lab slow motion cameras were used to clearly demonstrate what occurs once a dart hits an animal. Marc also has extensive knowledge in working with Polar Bears and Grizzlies.



# HOOKED ON SASKATCHEWAN 2011



## Featured Training Sessions — continued

### Yeen Ten Hwang – CWD

Dr. Yeen Ten Hwang is the Chief Ecologist for the Science and Assessment Unit of the Fish and Wildlife Branch at the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment. Currently, Yeen Ten deals with the strategic planning for the Fish and Wildlife Branch, specifically in Species-at-risk issues, biodiversity conservation and wildlife disease issues. Yeen Ten Hwang will discuss the ministries approach to dealing with CWD in wild cervid populations.

### Western Canada Law Enforcement Academy

In this presentation information on the research, development, and operation of the Western Conservation Law Enforcement Academy will be provided. This will include information on the cross Provincial and Territorial partnership which has lead to the current five year Memorandum of Understanding for the delivery of a shared academy for the five participating jurisdictions. Information will be provided on breaking Provincial/Territorial barriers, overcoming differences in jurisdictional policy, and the development of common course training standards that was required to make a joint venture across Western Canada possible. This presentation will outline the shared benefits of participating in WCLEA including the strengthening of agency training liability, efficiencies realized in a shared delivery model, development of Western Canadian training standards, and the effective use of training funds that has made this academy a success. This presentation will provide valuable information to those agencies that, like many, are experiencing reduction in budgets and training staff and are looking to alternate delivery models to ensure effective and efficient training of new officers. This is a presentation your agency cannot afford to miss!

## BUSINESS AGENDA

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### Sunday

- ◆ 1:00pm - 8:00pm Registration Area Open

### Monday

- ◆ 8:00am - 8:00pm Registration Area Open

### Tuesday

- ◆ 8:00am - 8:00pm Registration Area Open
- ◆ 8:00am - 5:00pm NAWEOA Executive Meeting

### Wednesday - Uniform Day

- ◆ 8:00am - 8:00pm Registration Area Open
- ◆ 8:00am - 9:30am Group Photo & Grand March
- ◆ 10:00am - 4:00pm Opening Ceremony  
Tribute to Fallen Officer Ceremony  
Motivational Speaker
- ◆ 12:00pm - 1:30pm Officer Luncheon  
Awards Presentation
- ◆ 5:00pm - 7:00pm Torch Run/Supper

### Thursday

- ◆ 8:00am - 8:00pm Registration Area Open
- ◆ 8:30am - 10:00am Training Session
- ◆ 9:00am Retired Officers Brunch

### Thursday

- ◆ 10:00am - 12:00pm Officer Exchange Presentation  
NAWEOA Business
- ◆ 12:00pm - 1:00pm Female Officer Luncheon
- ◆ 1:00pm - 5:00pm Training Sessions

### Friday

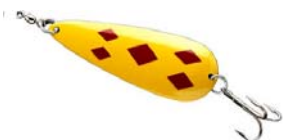
- ◆ 8:00am - 8:00pm Registration Area Open
- ◆ 8:30am - 10:00am Training Sessions
- ◆ 10:00am - 12:00pm NAWEOA Business  
Candidate Speeches
- ◆ 1:00pm - 10:00pm Warden Skills Event
- ◆ Conference Bid Presentations

### Saturday

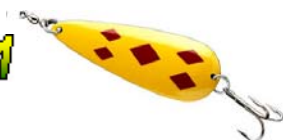
- ◆ 8:00am - 8:00pm Registration Area Open
- ◆ 7:00am - 8:00am J-rep Breakfast
- ◆ 8:30am - 4:00 pm Training Sessions
- ◆ 4:30 - 5:00 Closing Ceremony
- ◆ 6:00pm - Midnight Banquet & Dance

### Sunday

- ◆ NAWEOA Executive Meeting
- ◆ Return to Jurisdictions



# HOOKED ON SASKATCHEWAN 2011



## SOCIAL AGENDA

### Sunday

- ◆ 1:00 – 8:00pm - Registration Area Open

### Monday - Lunch on your own

- ◆ RCMP Museum Tour -- \$60.00 ( All day )
- ◆ Synchrotron Tour daily -- \$12.00 ( 1hr )
- ◆ Canoe Trip 1:00pm -- \$35.00 each
- ◆ Dakota Dunes Golf 9:00am -- \$85.00
- ◆ Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan 8pm daily
- ◆ River Boat Dinner Tour 6:30pm - 8:00pm -- \$55.00
- ◆ Hospitality 8:00pm - 12:00am
- ◆ Casino Shuttle - Every Evening

### Tuesday - Lunch on your own

- ◆ Tour -- Trip to Moose Jaw -- \$65.00 (All Day)
  - Tunnels of Moose Jaw
  - Canadian Forces Base Tour
  - Western Development Museum
  - SWF BBQ
- ◆ Canoe trip 1:00pm -- \$35.00 each
- ◆ Synchrotron Tour daily -- \$12.00 ( 1hr )
- ◆ Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan 8pm daily
- ◆ River Boat Dinner Tour 6:30pm - 8:00pm -- \$55.00
- ◆ Taste of Saskatchewan 11:00am - 9:00pm
- ◆ Hospitality 8:00pm - 12:00am

### Wednesday - Uniform Day - Lunch Supplied

- ◆ Taste of Saskatchewan 11:00am - 9:00pm
- ◆ Synchrotron Tour daily -- \$12.00 ( 1hr )
- ◆ Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan 8:00pm daily
- ◆ Spousal Luncheon 12:00pm - 1:00pm
- ◆ Torch Run 5:00pm - 7:00pm (Bison Burger BBQ)
- ◆ Ladies Night Out 8:00pm - 12:00am
- ◆ Hospitality 8:00pm - 12:00am

### Thursday - Lunch on your own

- ◆ Batoche National Park Tour 8am - 5pm -- \$40.00
- ◆ Canoe Trip 1:00pm -- \$35.00 each
- ◆ Synchrotron Tour daily -- \$12.00 ( 1hr )
- ◆ Taste of Saskatchewan 11:00am - 9:00pm
- ◆ Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan 8:00pm daily
- ◆ Western Development Museum Tour
- ◆ Hospitality 8:00pm - 12:00am **Sport Jersey Night-  
Wear your team colors**
- ◆ Bid Presentations

### Friday - Lunch on your own

- ◆ Hutterite Colony Tour 8:30am - 11:30am -- \$25.00 each
- ◆ 1:00pm - 10:00pm Warden Skills Event  
at the Forestry Farm and City Zoo
  - Fish Fry
  - Live Entertainment
  - Youth Games
- ◆ Synchrotron Tour daily -- \$12.00 ( 1hr )
- ◆ Canoe trip 1:00pm -- \$35.00 each
- ◆ Taste of Saskatchewan 11:00am - 9:00pm
- ◆ Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan 8:00pm daily
- ◆ Hospitality 8:00pm - 12:00am

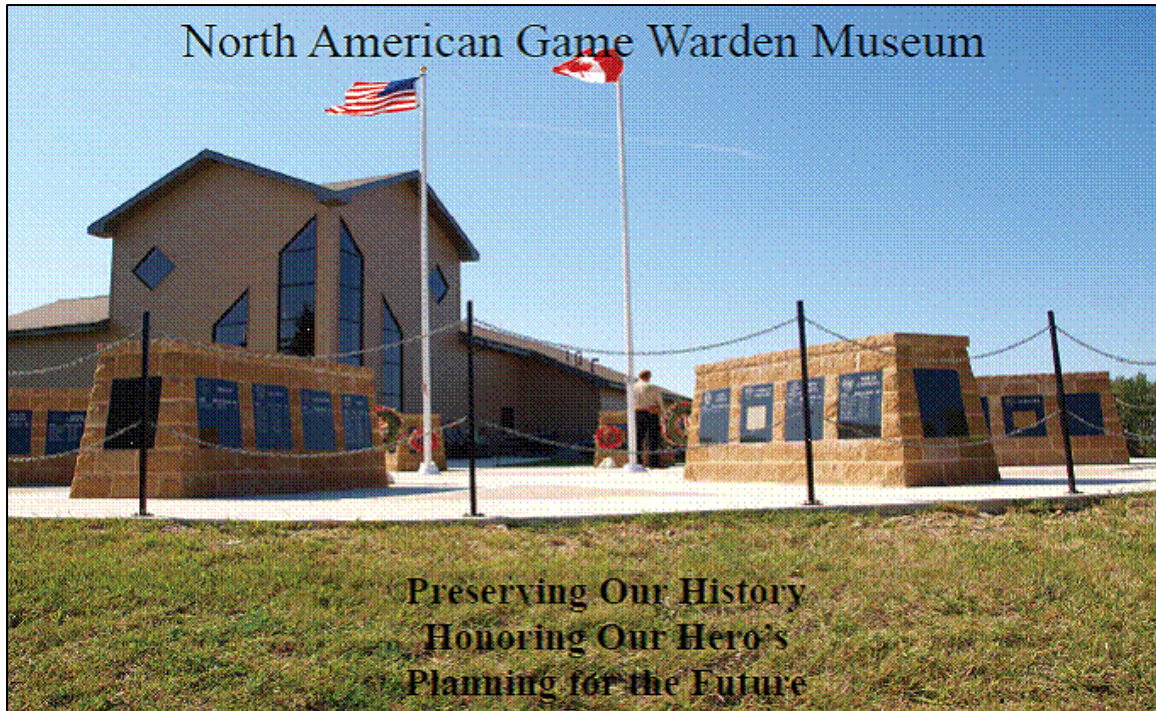
### Saturday - Lunch on your own

- ◆ Family Day at Pike Lake Provincial Park 9:30am
- ◆ Saskatoon Berry Barn 9:30am - 1:00pm
- ◆ Wanuskewin Heritage Park 9:00am - 3:00pm -- \$12.00  
Banquet and Auction 6:00pm - 1:00am

### Sunday

- ◆ Enjoy a post conference visit to Saskatchewan. Start of a fishing trip??





## Visiting Officer Program

The North American Game Warden Museum invites all officers across North America (we would entertain going international with this) to participate in the Museum's Visiting Officer Program.

Visiting officers stay in supplied trailers at the International Peace Garden and spend their day at the Museum in their agency uniform meeting the public. This is a great opportunity for officers to promote their agency (or state or province), sharing information or stories with visitors to the Museum. Officers are encouraged to bring any displays, Power Point programs, handouts or promotional DVDs they may have. Participating officers in the past have even brought their RAP or TIP trailers.

In the past, the Museum has had visiting officers from Utah, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Montana, Manitoba, North Dakota, and Washington. Typically, officers stay for two to three days over a weekend.

If you or your agency are interested in participating in this program, please contact our museum manager, Brenda Hevenor, at [nagwmuseum@hotmail.com](mailto:nagwmuseum@hotmail.com) or [northtrekker@hotmail.com](mailto:northtrekker@hotmail.com). She can be reached by phone at (701)263-4829. You can also go the Museum website, [www.gamewardenmuseum.org](http://www.gamewardenmuseum.org), for a list of contacts.

**NAWEOA**

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## Thank You, Bill

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William C. Peters

(August 1, 1942—October 14, 2010)



Known to many NAWEOA conference attendees as “Bill”, he was one of the best known figures at the summer conferences. He was elected as the sixth president of NAWEOA in 1991. He was a storehouse of NAWEOA history through his memories of events,

extensive files of NAWEOA business records, and the hundreds of photos that he snapped from every angle at the summer conferences. Bill’s tireless support of NAWEOA and the Game Warden Museum was epitomized through his artwork. He donated numerous pieces of his wildlife art as fundraisers for both. He could be found at the NAWEOA booth taking ballots at election time and selling NAWEOA merchandize, or helping wherever he was needed. Those who have known Bill as a game warden, artist, or friend have known one of NAWEOA’s finest members.

