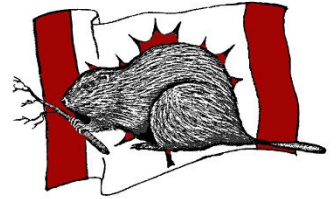




**NORTH AMERICAN  
WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS  
ASSOCIATION**

*"The Voice of Resource Law Enforcement"*



# ***32nd Annual Conference***



**Spring 2013**  
**59th Edition NAWEOA Newsletter**

# NAWEOA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

<b>President Rich Cramer</b> P.O. Box 116, Tionesta, PA 16353	(814)755-3249H	president@naweo.org
<b>Vice President Dave Webster</b> Box 850, 7290 2nd St., Grand Forks, BC V0H 1H0	(250)442-5643 H (250)442-4355 W	(250)442-4312 Fax vpresident@naweo.org
<b>Past President Kevin Schoepp</b> 1610 North Fenwick Crescent, Regina, SK S4X 4N4	(306)924-5837H (306)787-9494W	(306)787-8280 Fax ppresident@naweo.org
<b>Secretary/Treasurer Steve Beltran</b> P.O. Box 7, Leaf River, IL 61047	(815)243-7777	secretarytreasurer@naweo.org
<b>Director Region 1 Lori Backen</b> 4919-51 Street, Rocky Mountain House, AB T4T 1B3	(403)845-8261 W (403)844-0782 C	region1@naweo.org
<b>Director Region 2 Justin Punchard</b> 40 Charles Court, Tweed, ON K0K 3J0	(613)305-2630	region2@naweo.org
<b>Director Region 3 Shawn Farrell</b> 998 Douglas Ave., Fredericton, NB E3A 9M8	(506)458-5897 H (506)444-2382 W	(506)444-2487 Fax region3@naweo.org
<b>Director Region 4 Lew Huddleston</b> P.O. Box 131, Menan, ID 83434	(208)881-1321 C (208)390-1624 C	region4@naweo.org
<b>Director Region 5 Scott Haney</b> 530 CR 4222, Mt. Pleasant, TX 75455	(903)572-5242 H (903)305-8146 C	region5@naweo.org
<b>Director Region 6 Jeff White</b> 13434 Gruber Rd, Clear Springs, MD 21722	(301)842-3167 H (443)934-3159 W	region6@naweo.org
<b>Director Region 7 Mark Allegro</b> PO Box 22, Meadville, PA 16335	(814)336-2037	region7@naweo.org
<b>Webmaster Robin Brandenburg</b> 352 Hwy 'M', Steelville, MO 65565	(573) 775-2270 H	webmaster@naweo.org
<b>Conference Liaison Rick Hildebrand</b> 4232 Furiak Road, Kamloops, BC V2H 1L3	(250)578-0221 H	(250)578-0243 Fax conference@naweo.org
<b>Newsletter Editor Levi Krause</b> 13138 - 132nd St., Louisville, NE 68037	(402) 594-0638 H (402) 297-3182 C	editor@naweo.org

*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 & by-laws, awards  
~ Buy NAWEOA merchandise  
~ and much more!!



## SOUVENIR PATCHES AVAILABLE

← **2012 NAWEOA conference patches** remain available for purchase. The cost per patch (including shipping and handling) for all patches from 2008 through 2012 is \$7.00 USD.

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NAWEOA**

**Mail to:** George A. Wilcox

P.O. Box 480

Millville, PA 17846

[1996 through 2007 patches are only available over-the-counter at the Game Warden Museum ( [www.gamewardenmuseum.org](http://www.gamewardenmuseum.org) ) ]



# Fallen Officer Memorial



## Newfoundland and Labrador Wildlife Officer

### Howard Lavers

Lavers, 57, was on patrol with two other officers south of Hawke's Bay on February 21, 2013, when ice gave way on a pond known locally as Eastern Bluey Pond, near Blue

Mountain. Attempts to save Officer Lavers were unsuccessful.

Lavers was an officer with the Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Division, which falls under the Department of Justice.

He was well known in the region and news of the accident was hitting surrounding communities very hard.

Among family and friends who mourn Officer Lavers' loss are his children, Michael, Jeremy, and Christina; grandsons, Ashton and Alexei; granddaughter, Taylor; mother, Pauline; and brothers and sisters, Bob, Joe, Cecil, Olive, Laverne, Josephine and Lorna.

## REWARDED

*by Maine Game Warden, Francis Cyr*

*A man was knocking at the heavenly gate  
His face was scarred and old,  
He stood before the man of faith  
For admission to the fold.  
"What have you done," St. Peter asked,  
"To gain admission here?"  
"I've been a game warden, Sir,  
For many, many a year."  
The pearly gate swung open wide  
St. Peter touched the bell,  
"Come and choose your harp," he said,  
"You have had your share of hell."*

## President's Message by Rich Cramer

My last report to you as President finds me encouraged about the future of our Association. Your current Board of Directors is working tirelessly to put together the 2014 conference in Reno and also to find prospective hosts for future conferences. They give of their time selflessly and continue to do what is necessary to foster and grow NAWEOA as best they can. This has always been the case during my eight years on the Board.

Past Board members Randy Hancock, Doug Forsdick, Kurt Bahti, Marion Hoffman, Earl Simmons, Dave Grant, Bob Penton, Rick Nash, Lorraine Doyle, Steve Tomac, Mark Webb, Bill Brace, Hampton Yates, Pat Brown and Steve Kleiner have paved the way for the current Board to carry on the mission of our Association. This summer in Boise, we will elect a new President and Vice President and hold elections for the US Director positions in Regions 4, 5, 6 and 7. We will have a new Director in Region 5 as Scott Haney has reached the end of his second term and we will have a new Past President as we bid a fond farewell to Kevin Schoepp. The torch



continues to be passed and new blood will further invigorate our Association even as we lament the loss of valuable experience.

Conference Liaison Rick Hildebrand continues to make inquiries with interested associations in both Canada and the US in hopes of securing a number of future conference hosts. We have fielded a number of tentative glimmers of interest and Rick hopes to guide some of them to fruition. The annual conference is both the time for the members of NAWEOA to congregate for training, camaraderie and fellowship and the most significant fundraiser

each year for our Association. Finding and securing a conference host is integral to the health of NAWEOA and continues to be a challenge. If your association is willing to consider hosting a future conference, please contact Rick at [conference@naweo.org](mailto:conference@naweo.org).

The NAWEOA Board of Directors continues to research new ways of doing business and is embracing change, not for the sake of change, but for the sake of growing and invigorating our Association. Thoughts and ideas along these lines can be expressed by any NAWEOA member through your respective J-Rep or Regional Director to be considered by the Board. I encourage each member to become involved in the Association to the extent each is able. Expressing one's thoughts and ideas, attending a conference, running for a Board position, becoming a J-Rep or hosting a future conference are all ways that you and your state or provincial officers association can become involved in NAWEOA.

Stay safe and may God bless you all. I'll see you all in Boise.

## Past President's Final Report by Kevin Schoepp

When I attended my first conference back in 1996, I never could have imagined in a million years what would lie ahead. I feel so fortunate and I am so appreciative of having had the opportunity to participate on the Executive Board. NAWEOA has given so much to my family and me and, for that, I am truly grateful. It's taken us to all corners of the continent, to places we would likely not have gone. It put us on a course to cross paths and foster friendships with so many outstanding people. I think you know what I mean.

There are just too many highlights from the many conferences and meetings over the years to try and touch on them all. I want to thank the many people who encouraged and supported



me along the way. To those of you continuing on the Board, and to those taking on different roles, I sincerely appreciate your dedication. "Keep on keeping on" (stolen from someone many of you know). It is so worth it and I know you agree.

My family and I will endeavor to continue to make the annual conference a summer priority and will look forward to familiar faces as well as new friendships.

Sadly, we need to reflect and recognize the many situations our fellow officers face as they go about their duties in looking after and protecting all that we endear. My condolences are extended to the friends and family of Newfoundland Conservation Officer Howard Lavers who we recently lost. The hearts of the entire game warden community reach out during these difficult times, and we are forever indebted to the ultimate sacrifice given by all the officers that we have lost.

Take good care, everyone.



## Vice President's Report by Dave Webster



Well, it has been over a year since I became Vice President and it has been a great honour to work with the people on the Board representing the membership of this great organization, although some days it can be like trying to sip water from a fire hose. We do our best and keep moving forward. One of the duties of the the Vice President position is to plan the Winter Executive Meeting. This year the Executive Board met at the Silver Legacy Resort Casino in Reno, Nevada. This will be the site of the 2014 summer conference being

hosted by NAWEOA. As part of that bid process, the Silver Legacy provided complimentary accommodations and meeting space for the Executive Board during our stay this past February. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Carol Creekman, National Sales Manager for the Silver Legacy, for all her help and support in hosting the winter meeting.

We were able to meet, sleep and eat at this very nice facility, allowing us to get through a substantial business agenda. This was a marked departure from the rustic winter meeting settings the Board has grown accustomed to.

The Board meets every winter to discuss ongoing issues important to the NAWEOA organization. We had reports given from each Regional Director as well as the executive support members which include the newsletter editor, webmaster and conference liaison. I would also like to thank our secretary-treasurer, Steve Beltran, who has the huge task of managing NAWEOA's books and all that comes with it, which is a lot. Steve continues to excel at the position

and is constantly looking for ways to improve and streamline our current way of doing business.

We had presentations from the past conference host in Arizona as well as the two upcoming hosts from Idaho and the Reno committee of Randy Hancock, Scott Haney and Steve Tomac Haney. We discussed the Fallen Officer Fund as well as the budget for the upcoming year. The minutes from the meeting should be on the website by the time this newsletter goes to print and I would encourage you to look at them when you have an opportunity.

As Vice President, I look after the NAWEOA Awards administration and would urge all of our members to go to the awards section of the NAWEOA website at [www.naweo.org](http://www.naweo.org). Within the awards section, you can review the categories and criteria to recognize our fellow members and the excellent work they do all across the continent.

Take care and stay safe and hope to see you all in Idaho.

## CONFERENCE LIAISON REPORT by Rick Hildebrand



Many long-lasting friendships are made there each year and are renewed annually.

Looking ahead, planning is underway for the conference being held in Reno July 19 through 27, 2014. This conference is being planned under direction of the NAWEOA Executive Board. Since we do not have a jurisdiction hosting the conference, a collaborative approach must be taken. Randy Hancock is the Conference Chair and Scott Haney and Steve Tomac are serving as Vice-Chairs. They have already made great progress in preparing for 2014, with a number of volunteers stepping up to offer their services. There are still many opportunities for individuals and associations to participate. As anyone who has been previously involved in planning a conference can attest to, sufficient manpower is essential. The opportunities are many, ranging from helping out in planning during the next 17 months, to filling the need for on-site manpower at the conference itself.

Anyone willing to become a part of the

planning team should contact: Randy Hancock at [randy.hancock@state.co.us](mailto:randy.hancock@state.co.us) Scott Haney at [texaswarden04@live.com](mailto:texaswarden04@live.com) Steve Tomac at [lstomac@gmail.com](mailto:lstomac@gmail.com).

Please note that it is not the intent of the NAWEOA Executive Board to permanently make this our method of hosting a conference. We feel it is manageable for one year, but, beyond that, we need to revert back to the traditional method of having a jurisdiction host the conference. Although there are some discussions ongoing regarding conferences beyond 2014, we do not, as of the date of this writing, have any confirmed conference hosts beyond Reno. We strongly encourage any jurisdiction contemplating hosting a conference in the future to identify their interest. I will be happy to provide an information package to prospective hosts to identify what is involved.

See you in Boise in July.

# REGION 1 REPORT



**Lori Backen**  
**Region 1 Director**

## **Department of Fisheries and Oceans** **Pacific Region -- Grayden Cameron**

We have had a year of transition for the Pacific region of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (FOC). First off, I have been elected as the new President of the Society of Pacific Region Fishery Officers, taking over the reins from Rich Elson who has agreed to stay on as Vice President.

Last spring, the Federal Government announced through the budget that they will be consolidating five offices in the Pacific Region as part of cost savings measures (Hazelton, Quesnel, Clearwater, Comox and Madeira Park). Officers located in those offices will be relocated to other locations within their respective areas and offices closed by April 2014.

FOC Pacific Region continues to develop our reality-based training program with annual recertification and off-cycle training offered to our officers. We are also rolling out two new programs. The first is the Mid-Shore Patrol Vessel Program that will see two new 144-foot off-shore patrol vessels delivered sometime in late 2014. Tentatively, we will have 14 officers assigned to the vessels conducting patrols on a two-week rotation with 2-3 officers on each patrol. The second new program is the creation of a National Fisheries Intelligence Service within FOC that will move us towards intelligence-led policing.

Finally, last fall we lost one of our fellow officers, Themy Vallee, who was murdered while vacationing in Honduras. Themy was taken far too soon from us and is dearly missed.

## **Saskatchewan -- Brad Johns SACO** **President**

The Saskatchewan Association of Conservation Officers (SACO) continues to be a pillar of united members who strive toward common goals of natural resource protection and professional development for conservation officers. The Association remains committed to awarding numerous educational scholarships and financial as-

NAWEOA Newsletter Spring 2013

sistance to habitat trust funds and proudly supports the officers and members when in need with a well-established officer relief fund.

SACO continues the delivery of the "Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs" Program throughout the province with great success. We are embarking on a new partnership with Canadian Tire in hopes of expanding the "HOFNOD" program and are looking forward to this new venture.

Our association is also committed to working on several initiatives including wage supplements for those officers who deliver training to fellow officers throughout the province. This is occurring in several other jurisdictions and provides excellent incentives for officers and for continued success of our training program.

Just recently, we have submitted an officer re-classification for government review. Over the past several years, a committee has been developing the grounds to put forth an appropriate and justified wage increase. The changes and complexities of the job reflect the need for a review and an increase in the conservation officer classification. SACO is also working on obtaining on-time and/or a fitness supplement to encourage officers to remain physically active and fit. Again, this type of wellness program is not uncommon to other enforcement agencies and benefits both the officer and government at the same time.

On the Ministry side, officers are continuing to learn the dynamics of "Results Based Regulations" and the application of the new Environmental Code in Saskatchewan. As well, officers have been exposed to Customer Relationship Management Training. This is a new system that will help the Ministry track inquiries and provide for a better, more efficient service to the public.

In April, we are having our annual SACO convention and Ministry conference. This gives us the opportunity to get together and re-affirm our objectives and discuss any issues that arise. Our officer awards will be presented as well as several recognition presentations to individuals throughout the Ministry.

The officers had another busy hunting season and have successfully concluded several high-profile cases. Environmental investigations are increasing and wildlife/human interaction occurrences continue to keep officers busy as well.

We are looking forward to the NAWEOA convention in Boise and hope everyone continues to be safe in the field.

## **British Columbia -- Len Butler**

2012 was another challenging year for British Columbia's Conservation Officers. With British Columbia's economy struggling to recover from the global declines of 2009, our Agencies' operational budgets and staffing levels remain under pressure. Calls for service relating to environmental crime and fish and wildlife poaching continue to rise as do complaints involving human-wildlife conflict. Although we face challenges, our officers remain dedicated and committed to protecting the public and the Provinces resources.

The Conservation Officer Service has made strides by recognizing that, to continue growth and advancement within the organization, there had to be significant incentives in today's economy for officers to advance. Revisiting job descriptions and classifications has created a more transparent working relationship between management and the field.

## **Yukon -- Kirby Meister**

The last couple of years have been unusually busy with respect to the number of major investigative files that our field officers are involved with. In Yukon, we do not have a Special Investigation Unit or even a dedicated major case-file investigator, so the district staff fit this work into their daily routine. One of the more common themes with these large investigations lately seems to be non-residents hunting illegally in Yukon. This means working with other jurisdictions when it comes to gathering evidence. And we really appreciate all the help we've been getting from officers all over the continent. There were some good court conclusions in 2012 and a number of other cases will be working their way through the courts in 2013.

Our management staff has done a good job of keeping our equipment and training up to date. An initiative is currently underway within our agency to ensure that certain equipment, such as boats, meet the safety and operating specifications set out by Transport Canada. It remains to be seen whether or not our department will have to seek extra funding to do upgrades, or if upgrades will be allowed through normal attrition. Staffing and budget levels have remained stable since the last update.

We are hoping to have at least one officer attend the conference in Idaho this summer.

## **Alberta Conservation Officers (Alberta Parks)**

## **ANROA – Alberta Natural Resource Officers Association**

Hello to everyone from ANROA and we hope you had a great winter and are now enjoying spring weather. In the past year, we, as Alberta Conservation Officers, have been absorbed into the Alberta Government's Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General, although, to date, it certainly has not changed our Officers' working relationship with Alberta Parks and has had no significant changes to our established training regime or day-to-day operations and job duties. Fortunately, hiring competitions to fill vacant District Team Leader positions, lateral transfers and entry-level Conservation Officer positions are in progress and appear to be proceeding. However, our Seasonal Park Services Ranger component, which is included in our Membership, remains under the jurisdiction of the Alberta Ministry of Tourism. Parks and Recreation appears to have suffered a noticeable loss in the upcoming budget year which will most certainly affect Programs and Enforcement Services provided in our Parks and Protected Areas throughout the Province.

In the matter of our local association, ANROA, we are looking forward to a weekend gathering on April 6 and 7, 2013, in Canmore, Alberta. Our guest speaker for the Saturday event will be Brian Willis of Winning Mind Training. He will be offering a 4-hour presentation on the "Pursuit of Personal Excellence". It is not only open to Alberta Conservation Officers, but our seasonal Parks Service Rangers, Alberta Peace Officers, any Law Enforcement officers, and Emergency Services and Public Safety personnel and all spouses are encouraged to attend. On Sunday, we will have our Annual General Meeting to discuss the current issues affecting our Mem-

bership.

This past year, in 2012, the ANROA 'Officer of the Year' Award recipient was Conservation Officer Randy Ramsden. In the tribute from his peers who nominated him, Randy was recognized for his dedication to the Membership and the Government of Alberta.

### **Alberta Fish & Wildlife by Lori Backen**

Over this past year, Alberta Fish and Wildlife has seen a number of changes. Most notable is our new uniform and uniform policy. The goal of the new uniform policy is to ensure consistency among the officers and to make us more identifiable to the public.

This past December saw a new recruit class of 14 officers graduate from the Western Conservation Law Enforcement Academy in Hinton, Alberta. These new recruits are settling in nicely in their new districts. Congratulations to all of you and stay safe out there!

Another change within the ranks of Fish and Wildlife is a new reporting structure. A new rank of Inspector was added. District Officers will now report directly to an area Inspector. The recruitment process for this new position has been recently paused as a result of the Alberta Government reducing management positions. However, we continue to be hopeful that the process will resume shortly.

On March 9, 2013, the Alberta Game Warden Association (AGWA) celebrated its 40th anniversary at the Kingsway Legion in Edmonton. The celebration coincided with AGWA's 2nd annual banquet and regimental ball. AGWA also announced the 2013 Alberta Fish and Wildlife Officer of the Year, Corey Craig. Congratulations, Corey, on all your hard work!

AGWA held its annual general meeting recently where a new executive was elected. The new president and NAWEOA J-Rep is Jeremy Lindsay. Thanks, Jeremy, for stepping up to fill this important position. I will also be talking with him about the possibility of Alberta hosting a future NAWEOA conference!

### **Greetings from Parks Canada!**

It has been quite some time since we provided an update and we are happy to be back. For those who aren't familiar with our recent history, in 2008, the government of Canada authorized the creation of armed Park Warden positions dedicated to law enforcement. In 2009, the first armed wardens began work in National Parks across the country. With the primary focus of resource protection, our specialized law enforcement team has now been patrolling our parks and conducting investigations for the past four years. Since its inception, our program has continued to grow and evolve. One of our most recent accomplishments was the creation of our own team of trainers, including Public and Police Safety Specialists and Basic Firearm Instructors.

In the years to come, we hope to be regular contributors to the NAWEOA newsletter and look forward to updating you all on some of our more interesting occurrences and activities. We also can't wait for the annual NAWEOA conference this summer. Expect to see us in Boise.

### **Retirements**

We would like to offer our collective thanks and a fond farewell to Park Warden Terry Damm. After 40 years of service with Parks Canada, Terry is retiring. Congratulations, Terry, on an outstanding career and good luck with all your future endeavours. You will be missed!

## ***Welcome to the NAWEOA Online Store. Welcome, Guest!***

**Here you can shop for NAWEOA logo items, renew or order your N.A.W.E.O.A. membership, and purchase IGW Magazine subscriptions. Take a moment to open an account and enter your information. It costs nothing to open an account, and your information will not be shared with anyone else.**

***VISIT: [NAWEOA.ORG](http://NAWEOA.ORG) TO BUY NAWEOA HATS, BUCKLES, AND MUCH MORE***



# REGION 2 REPORT



**Region 2 Director Justin Punchard**

## **Manitoba – J-Rep Kurt Henry**

The Manitoba Natural Resource Officers Association is turning 30 in 2013. A big milestone! We will be having our annual convention in Winnipeg to celebrate in late March. As with NAWEOA, it was formed by a few with a grand vision. At our thirtieth convention, we will be honouring all past executive and officers for their hard work to get us to this point.

The membership of each officers association and the greater membership of us to NAWEOA is what keeps us going. Times are different and each level of associations struggles to find new ways to stay in touch with our members and to generate interest of its officers. I urge young and old to look the past successes of their associations to address the concerns of today.

With the retirements of recent years, we all are losing hundreds of years of field knowledge and struggles that the associations have helped to better equipment and working conditions of us all. Manitoba is no different. There was a recent document floating around that showed the age class of our active field officers. It stated that roughly 1/3 of our officers will be eligible for retirement within the next 5 years.

In 2012, the MNROA successfully reinstated an officer uniform committee compiled of one management and a field officer from each level. Wages, as with most agencies, is a constant struggle and we have a committee working with management to come up with a wage adjustment to take to government. In Manitoba, we are supported by a union, so the association brings forward our concerns as a unified voice and we are not responsible for negotiating our contract.

One of our primary mandates is that of officer camaraderie. We just finished host-

ing the annual Joe Pope Memorial hockey tournament in Ashern in February. This event was a great success with profits being donated to Cancer Care. We are hopeful to restart an officer-hosted fishing derby which would also generate funds for Cancer Care. Comaraderie is a common and primary goal with all associations and NAWEOA. I urge you, as individual officers, to think about what you can do locally and internationally to better these associations because, without the work of each officer, our successes will be limited.

Nunavut – J-Rep Rob Harmer

Nunavut's Association has elected a new president, Jimmy Kennedy, on February 20, 2013.

## **Ontario – J-Rep Brett Cachagee**

Hello from Ontario, Canada.

Currently, the Province of Ontario is in year one of a three-year spending reduction known as "Transformation". This is an all too common theme that we are seeing right across North America. Well, it is our turn now. We do not know what the outcome of this exercise will look like; however, we are already starting to feel its effects. There have been surplus notices go out to a handful of officers. These officers may have the opportunity to fill current vacant positions. We are also seeing managers being responsible for a larger number of officers, thus changing the ratio of managers to field officers. The managers in our Enforcement Branch are doing their best to protect jobs. A casualty of this exercise is the filling of positions as people retire. These positions are not being filled on a permanent basis as they are being

used to prevent live bodies from being surplus. Ontario may soon be in a position for a provincial election and, depending on which party gets in, we could see even more changes. Time will tell. Stay tuned!

Our training structure is also changing. Our training is going towards the Ontario Provincial Police training model. These changes are currently taking place.

In Ontario, Conservation Officers are a member of a Provincial Union and are part of a contract. Every time the contract expires, we run the risk of going on strike. It has happened in the past. On a positive note, the Government and the Union have come to an agreement and a strike has been avoided. The agreement does have some "take-away"s in regard to our pension and a two-year wage freeze. This is of no surprise considering today's economy.

Having said that, officers continue to have sufficient operating dollars to keep us working in the field. Equipment such as vehicles, snowmobiles, ATVs and boats are being replaced on a regular basis.

We have had a number of successful court decisions resulting from excellent investigations. To see our news releases, visit our Association's website at [ocoa.ca](http://ocoa.ca)

This year marks the Ontario Conservation Officers Association's 6th year hosting a "Kids and Wardens Fishing Adventure". This year, the Association took a group of inner-city youth from Toronto to Northern Ontario for an adventure of a lifetime. This goes for both the kids and the wardens! With the generous assistance of many partners, members of the Ontario Conser-





vation Officers Association take 20 under-privileged kids to a fishing lodge for an all-expense-paid, fully outfitted fishing trip. Officers act as a fishing guide and a mentor to the kids. The kids enjoy a variety of demonstrations such as forest fire fighting, K9 Conservation Officer talk and demonstration, bush survival, canoeing and, of course, fishing. These trips continue to make memories for all involved!

Despite the difficult times and changes we are all facing, do not lose sight of why we all became Conservation Officers in the first place and the fact that we still have the greatest jobs in the world! Stay safe.

#### **Environment Canada Wildlife Enforcement Directorate - J-Rep Ross Stewart**

Environment Canada's WED - Prairie and Northern Region have been lucky so far not to lose any positions with the ongoing budget reductions that have hit federal government departments the last couple of years. A new budget is expected at the

end of March and we will have to wait and see what future cuts may be forthcoming.

In 2012, we bid a happy retirement to Wildlife Officer Drew Mahaffy (Alberta District - Edmonton) and Program Liaison Officer Lorraine Tomkewich (Saskatchewan District - Saskatoon).

As of February 2013, we welcome our new Program Liaison Officer Laurie Guyot from Parks Canada. Laurie will be working out of the Alberta District - Edmonton Office.

#### **Manitoba Company Fined for Illegally Importing Live Rock**

Jayson Daeninck and his company, Saltwater Connection, were found guilty on 18 charges under the Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act (WAPPRIITA). Mr. Daeninck and his company were fined a total of \$135,822 in Manitoba Provincial Court for illegally importing protected species from Indonesia without Convention on International Trade

in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) permits.

The violations were first noted in June 2007 when Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) inspectors working in British Columbia discovered a 9,508-kg shipping container of suspect live rocks which originated in Indonesia ("Live Rock" is the term given to pieces of coral rock to which are attached live specimens of invertebrate species and coralline algae). Environment Canada's Wildlife Enforcement Directorate followed up with an investigation when the container arrived in Winnipeg.

The violations on which Mr. Daeninck and his company were found guilty included the illegal importation of live rock based on stony corals, as well as live species of giant clams, seahorses and stony corals. These species are protected under CITES and WAPPRIITA.

#### **Fishery Officer Association Central and Arctic Region - J-Rep Ray Thibadeau**

## **REGION 3 REPORT**



**Region 3 Director Shawn Farrell**

*Hello from Region 3. I hope all of you had a safe and productive fall and winter season. I am honored to again 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 while keeping the best interests of our membership in mind. It has been a winter with lots of snow and I look forward to the spring season. Hope to see you all in Boise. Take care and stay safe.*  
Shawn Farrell

#### **New Brunswick**

##### **Art Cronin, J-Rep, New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources**

Hello from the North East. Our past year here in New Brunswick has been a

good one. We started off our winter with fairly light amounts of snow but recently had some record snow falls in the northern part of the province.

The roll out of our mobile work stations is still underway and we should be seeing all of our enforcement vehicles outfitted this year. They have been a great asset to our enforcement program. We all received our new body armor and now have both internal and external carries giving each officer the option.

We are expecting that we will be hiring a few new officers this year and they will be a great boost to our efforts. We had a few retirements again this year and wish them all the best. One of our retirees was Monty Delong who you may know from the many NAWEOA conferences he has attended. We can't say enough in the way of thanks to these officers that have put in such long and dedicated careers. We wish them the best during their retirement.

Our SI program is showing real progress and is getting us some great results. We expect that we will be bolstering our numbers again this year with some casual officers; they are always well received. Our new range is getting great reviews, not only from our own officers, but from the multiple agencies that have had the opportunity to use it.

Our Shikar Safari Wildlife Officer of the Year is Shawn Farrell. This is a very well-deserved honor for Shawn. Congratulations! Shawn is well respected by his fellow

officers and exemplifies the kind of officer the award is meant to honor.

The launch of our new Target Poachers program has been going well and the new display trailer has been out on countless occasions and has been getting rave reviews.

#### **Quebec by Michel Morin OPERATION FOVA**

Capitale-Nationale, Chaudière-Appalaches Gaspésie - Agents of Wildlife Protection office are important in ending poaching activity.

Charmy, December 5, 2012. Wildlife Protection Officers ended the illegal practices of a group of poachers in the Bellechasse, Etchemins, Montmagny and Asbestos areas. Some individuals also operated in Matane and Dunière wildlife reserves and public lands. After a year and a half of investigation, Wildlife Protection Officers were able to gather enough evidence to stop the illegal poaching activities.

Poaching activities mainly concerned the over limit and illegal possession of deer and moose, shooting from vehicles, hunting during the closed season and during the night, waste of edible meat, and the illegal use of snares to capture moose.

Operation "Fova" mobilized nearly 75 Wildlife Protection Officers who were assisted by the canine team and laboratory forensics.

Currently, 116 charges were recorded. If they are convicted, the individuals involved

are liable to fines totaling \$ 188,000. In total, 27 people were referred and 11 raids were carried out which led to the seizure of hunting weapons, snares and big game meat. These numbers could increase in the coming days as new evidence is gathered.

Trois-Rivières, December 21, 2012. Last fall, in the areas of Lake Saint-Pierre and Cap-de-la-Madeleine, Wildlife Protection Officers carried out an investigation to stop the poaching of walleye on the St. Lawrence River.

Wildlife Protection Officers in Shawinigan arrested 17 people accused of taking walleye exceeding the daily quota, illegal possession of walleye, and, in some cases, sale and purchase of walleye. In their interventions, the officers seized 540 walleye, 50 brook trout and fishing equipment.

More than 50 charges will be filed. The suspects, if convicted, will have to pay fines totaling nearly \$ 35,000.

### OPERATION FOX

Wildlife Protection Officers in the Mauricie and Centre-du-Québec put an end to major poaching activities in the area of Victoriaville.

Trois-Rivières, November 28, 2012. Wildlife Protection Officers ended this illegal practice of a network poaching in towns in Centre-du-Québec. The acts alleged of suspects were mainly hunting deer at night and during the closed season, surplus catch, purchase and sale of deer meat, and shooting from vehicles.

The poachers hunted deer at night on farm land in Sainte-Séraphine, Sainte-Eulalie, Tingwick, St. Clothide-de-Horton, St. Samuel and Kingsey Falls. They used spotlights to identify animals in the fields and shot with firearms from their vehicles. In some cases, deer hunting was done in the closed season. According to the survey conducted by agents, more than 60 deer per year were illegally killed by poachers between 2010 and 2012.

Operation "Fox" was deemed a success. Currently, nearly 250 charges were recorded. If they are convicted, the people involved are liable to fines totaling \$400,000. More than 55 people are involved and close to 35 searches were conducted in several municipalities of the Centre-du-Québec area. The officers seized 100 kg of deer meat, 2 shotguns, 3 vehicles and 2 all-terrain vehicles. These numbers could increase in the coming days as new evidence is gathered.

Operation "Fox" mobilized more than 110 agents from across Quebec. The operation was also assisted by the canine team and the forensic laboratory. This operation also took place with the collaboration of the Sûreté du Québec.

This operation was a result of reports

received from citizens and Wildlife Officers in the Mauricie and Centre-du-Québec and began in 2010.

### Prince Edward Island

Climate change? Not on Prince Edward Island. We are having a traditional winter here with lots of snow and below-average temperatures. This is making for great snowmobiling and snowshoeing. I lost my wood pile in an 8-foot snow drift; free beer to anyone who comes help dig it out.

My report for the 2012 field season is no better than last season. In early July of 2012, a river that had a major fish kill in 2011 was hit with another pesticide fish kill. This fish kill covered more kilometers of watercourse than the 2011 kill and impacted many more Brook Trout and Salmon.

We are still before the courts on the 2011 fish kill event and, at time of this report, are drafting charges for the 2012 event.

Prince Edward Island Conservation Officers have a varied enforcement mandate from wildlife, environmental, highway, agricultural, pesticides, and fire, trail and forestry enforcement responsibilities. The added responsibilities have taken away from our traditional wildlife patrols, but there has also been a reduction in the number of persons pursuing wildlife with exception of trapping, where the number involved is increasing due to higher fur prices.

Our staffing levels have not improved from last year. One of our officers was involved in a serious vehicle accident while on patrol. He is recovering from multiple injuries and will be out of the field for most of 2013. His spirits are high and he's looking forward to returning to work. We are in the process of filling vacant positions that are greatly needed. I hope we will be at full strength by spring.

This is my last report as J-Rep for Prince Edward Island. I have been appointed as Chief Conservation Officer for the Province. I will still be in the field working on serious files and couldn't sit in the office all day anyway. I believe it is important to have our front-line officers involved in NAWEOA. A vote was recently held by our officers and CO Locke Jones will be the new J-Rep for the Island. Locke has a great interest in NAWEOA and has many contacts across the country. Locke's contact info is below:

Locke F. Jones  
Conservation Officer / Intelligence Officer  
PEI Dept. Environment, Labour and Justice  
Investigation and Enforcement Division  
PO Box 1500  
Montague, PE  
COA 1R0  
Tel: (902)838-0600 Fax: (902)838-0610

Cell: (902)313-0701

In Conservation, Wade MacKinnon

### Newfoundland

Explanation of change of duties in Newfoundland. A new association has been formed -- Newfoundland and Labrador Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association (FWEOA) & North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association (NAWEOA)

Sorry I haven't gotten back sooner on the status of our Association and that of our previous Association, the Newfoundland Labrador Conservation Officers Association. There is a bit of history here, so I'll attempt to make it as clear as I can, even though it's a bit convoluted, to say the least.

In 1996, the Liberal government began the process of merging the wildlife division with the Department of Forestry. This process met with tremendous opposition from the wildlife officers and very little opposition from forestry officials. This was due to the fact that the wildlife officers were to take on tremendous extra duty for no compensation, while the forestry officials were to get a significant raise as well as other benefits. The wildlife officers' position was that because they were a higher-wage class, they should not be penalized and receive no compensation for the extra duties where each and every forestry official received everything from a modest to a significant wage increase. However, all attempts by the Newfoundland and Labrador Wildlife Officers Association to have this matter reviewed proved futile. This would prove to be a thorn in the side of the Forestry Department for the next number of years.

The forestry officials at the executive level, who were the primary architects for the abolishment of the wildlife division, would start their new program called, "The Conservation Officers Series" on a negative standpoint. It was believed that, had the restructuring architects taken their time and done a better job of integrating the two divisions, the conservation officer program would still be in effect today. I should point out that the forestry field staff are still referred to as conservation officers.

The animosity was evident within this new department at almost every turn. This would continue until 2004 when the then-premier Danny Williams would implement an inland fish enforcement program. This program was brought to fruition as a result of frustration with the Department of Fisheries at the federal level. Basically, Ottawa, who has constitutional control over the inland fisheries of Newfoundland Labrador, was failing to meet its obligation to protect the Atlantic salmon and other fish species. Therefore, Premier Williams made it clear to his federal counterparts that if they

(DFO) were not prepared to put more resources into protecting inland fish, then the province would do what DFO could not. The results of enforcement action taken by the province over the next number of years would prove premier Williams to be right in the statements he made with respect to DFO's lack of enforcement. The first two years of the new program was administered by the Department of Natural Resources. However, due to numerous problems within DNR, it was felt by the Premier's Office that this program should be moved and it was moved to the Department of Justice where it remains today as a permanent division.

Currently, the Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Division has approximately 45 officers with as many more yet to be recruited. The division has moved to a detachment-based program with a ranking system beginning at the field officer level to a sergeant in charge of a detachment to a superintendent responsible for a region on to the chief and then director. There remains a possibility of new ranks being added at a later date.

So, with the new color scheme for the division, the introduction of new vehicles properly equipped and identified, the introduction of the new uniform and ranking as well as the new detachment facilities and, finally, personal presentation, promoting a level of professionalism has increased substantially. This new division has been elevated to levels not known in our history. It is with this thought in mind that our officers can take pride in who they are and what they do.

Brent Cole

Enforcement Analyst

Department of Justice  
Fish & Wildlife Enforcement Division

### Nova Scotia

Greetings to all from Nova Scotia.

It was an interesting year for our provincial officers. This past July we wrapped up a 14-month undercover investigation that began in 2010. Initially, based on intel, operators with the Enforcement Division's Special Investigation Unit developed further evidence of wildlife and other act offenses and identified several suspects. Their illegal hunting activities mainly involved deer and moose.

On December 9, 2011, five search warrants were served in the Cheticamp area. DNR officers from across the province took part in securing evidence. Items seized included vehicles, firearms, moose meat, deer meat, trophy antlers and other hunting-related items.

As a result of the investigation, officers identified over a hundred potential charges and laid seventy on four individuals. Full disclosure packages were compiled and handed over to the Special Prosecutions Office, Halifax. On trial date, July 4, 2012, at Port Hood, Inverness County, all four subjects pled guilty to 32 wildlife offenses in total and were assessed \$17,600 in fines. Forfeiture orders for firearms, hunting equipment and meat products as well as 5-year license suspensions for each subject were included in sentencing.

The NSDNR Special Investigations Unit is relatively new in relation to most other provinces, but we continue to learn and develop our program. A crucial component is well-trained file managers and we now have three of our officers back from recent

extensive file-management training. Our administration continues to be very supportive of our special investigations unit.

On February 2, the Conservation Enforcement Officers Association of Nova Scotia held our 27th annual meeting and conference at Hampton Inn and Suites – Dartmouth Crossing. As is the case with many organizations, we have been experiencing difficulty with membership and active participation. This year is showing some real promise for better days ahead. We had the pleasure of seeing more of our younger officers attend and offer to take active roles to help develop and organize future projects and events. For the association to stay viable and further develop, we need innovative ideas, timely projects and a great deal of communication among the membership. We need to reach out to potential members and encourage participation. With the energy and passion shown by our younger members at our annual meeting, our Association's future is very strong.

On February 26, four Nova Scotia Conservation Officers felt honoured to attend the funeral of Newfoundland and Labrador Fish and Wildlife Officer Howard Lavers. The NS officers joined with nearly a thousand supporters from as far away as Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick. Our hearts went out to Howard's family, friends and fellow officers - a very tragic accident. It was extremely impressive to see the many officers, from so many jurisdictions and agencies throughout Newfoundland and Labrador come together, as one, to pay tribute to fellow officer Howard Lavers.  
Dougald MacNeil

## REGION 4 REPORT



**Region 4 Director Lew Huddleston**

**Arizona -- Jurisdictional Rep Gabriel Paz**

We did it! NAWEOA 2012 came and went and, with the support of all of our Arizona Game Rangers Lodge (AGRL) and other Game and Fish employees, we put on a conference that we didn't believe we could do. I would like to personally thank everyone that helped us put it together, whether you only helped us for something minor to those of us that lost a lot of sleep and lived it for over a year. One more special "thank you" to our families who supported us throughout the year; we couldn't have done it without you. For those of you that were able to make it to the Old Pueblo, I hope we made your trip a memorable one and that you make plans to come visit our beautiful state again.

Ken Dinquel (AGRL Vice President) and I just returned from the winter meeting in Reno, Nevada, where we handed the Ex-

ecutive Board a check with enough zeros to make everyone happy of our accomplishment. We went above and beyond our original goal of "just breaking even" and we are proud that we are able to help both our Lodge and NAWEOA's financial future.

As for our Arizona officers, once again we continue to face new challenges and battles that make even our most optimistic officers want to pound their head against the wall. It's during these times that I hope that we can all dig deep in our souls and remember why we chose this profession and that we use that same drive to keep climbing up that mountain and avoid following the pessimistic crowd down the slippery slope. Recently, we've been made aware of some major changes in personnel and leadership that has many of our officers questioning what the future has in



store. We can only hope that the old saying that "everything happens for a reason" is true, and I hope that we all continue to put boots on the ground and get out and do what we all love to do -- catch the bad guy!

#### **California -- Jurisdictional Rep Lorraine Doyle**

California wardens continue to deal with change. As of January 1, 2013, the name of our department is now the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Changes to the patch and badge are in the works. Field-level officers are still wardens but, collectively, we are "wildlife officers".

Our radio system is in a bigger mess due to changing all radios to narrow band. I don't have the technical know-how to explain it, but can say it hasn't been good. There are officer safety concerns with interference and quality of transmission.

We have a new Chief, Mike Carion. He has been an officer since 1982. Nancy Foley retired during the year and Mike is a good fit as chief.

We have all received our new POF .308-caliber rifles and had the three days of training. Our firearms committee did an excellent job researching patrol rifles and submitting the paperwork for such a large purchase.

Finally, we started getting new patrol vehicles. We had gone two years without a purchase and many patrol trucks were limping along.

"Wild Justice" is no longer tagging along with any wardens, but the episodes are still playing. Many people now have some idea of what wardens really do! The Wardens' Association still tries to work behind the scenes as an advocate for wardens. The membership of the Association is small due to issues with the union (payroll deduction, legal representation and long-term-care insurance). Our website has had some changes, so take a look!

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

#### **Colorado -- Jurisdictional Rep Vicki Vargas-Madrid**

According to officials, a Boulder police officer was on patrol near Mapleton Avenue and Ninth Street at around 11 p.m. Jan. 1 when he encountered an elk which, the officer said, was injured. The officer deemed it needed to be put down and killed the elk with a shotgun, then called an off-duty police officer to come pick up the carcass. The on-duty officer did not tell dispatchers he was putting down the elk, nor did he report to his supervisors that he had fired his weapon.

Neighbors told the camera the officer told them he might kill the animal because it was aggressive and not to be alarmed if

they heard a gunshot.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife has seized the elk's carcass for testing and is conducting an investigation into whether the officers, identified as Sam Carter and Brent Curnow, violated any criminal statutes, including laws against poaching and official misconduct.

City Council members said Tuesday night they shared the distress of the community at the shooting of the elk, with Councilman Tim Plass recounting seeing the elk walking alone up a snow-covered street at Christmastime. "I think everyone is troubled by the incident and the loss of such a well-loved animal in our community," Councilwoman Suzanne Jones said.

"We don't want to do anything that is going to step on that criminal investigation and hinder it in any way," Beckner told the council. "That's the priority."

He said the Boulder Police Department has conducted criminal investigations into its own officers before, most notably when an officer on medical leave, Christian McCracken, was arrested on suspicion of attempted murder. He faces trial later this year.

Beckner said the case is more complicated than if a private citizen had shot the elk within city limits and out of season because officers do have the authority to kill injured and aggressive animals. Investigators need to compare the officer's accounts with witness statements, the forensic evidence and the standard of "reasonable and necessary" police action.

The department also plans to do additional training on how to handle wildlife cases, though lack of training might not be an issue in this case, Beckner said.

#### **Idaho -- Jurisdictional Rep Matt Haag**

The big news out of Idaho is we have been diligently planning for you all to attend the 2013 NAWEOA Conference in Boise. Some of the states and provincial associations know very well how much work can go into planning these conferences and it's hard to believe we are about to kick this thing off pretty soon. The week's events start on July 14 with the actual opening ceremonies on Wednesday, July 17.

We would encourage everybody that has the time to come on out a little early and enjoy your time in Idaho. We are offering a little taste of Idaho with some great side trips while you are here. On Sunday, you and the family can enjoy the Thunder Mountain Train beginning in historic Horsehoe Bend and travelling along the scenic Payette River through the Boise National Forest. The railroad provides views of the white-water activities of the South Fork of the Payette River that has become popular with kayakers and rafters.

On Monday, you can get out the old golf

clubs and hit the links with fellow officers and family. If adventure is more your style, we are offering some awesome whitewater trips for all ages and skill levels. "The Splash" trip will provide fun for the whole family with a half-day trip on the main Payette River with class II & III rapids. If you want to crank up the adrenaline, we are offering "The Rush" with half-day trips on the South Fork of the Payette barreling through class III & IV rapids! Children must be 12 years old and over 95 lbs.

Wine country in Idaho? Absolutely! On Tuesday, you can take a tour of wine country getting a little taste of Idaho's top wineries, ending with lunch atop a scenic vista overlooking the Snake River Valley. For the families, we are offering trips to the Roaring Springs Waterpark, a full-service park that will be sure to entertain the entire family and have them asking for more. If they do ask for more, you can always bring them back on Wednesday! You can also check out the World Center for Birds of Prey. The facility raises birds in captivity that are in jeopardy and releases them into the wild, while educating the public about conservation. The organization currently breeds endangered California Condors and Aplomado Falcons at the World Center for Birds of Prey. This tour is approximately 90 minutes long. After that long day of fun activities, strap on the running shoes and head down to Eagle Island for the annual Torch Run/Walk 5K and raise some money for the Game Warden Museum.

On Thursday, as I stated above, you can bring the family back to the Roaring Springs Waterpark or, if you want to have a trip of a lifetime, jump on a jump boat for a trip up Hells Canyon. Get ready for a thrilling white-water experience navigating through the attention-grabbing rapids in Hells Canyon on the Snake River. The spacious boats will navigate through extravagant scenery and you will be served the BEST lunch in Hells Canyon at the Kirkwood Living Historical Ranch.

Of course, we will be having some outstanding training sessions and providing opportunity to reconnect with officers from other jurisdictions and the chance to make new friends.

Please check out our website [www.idahonaweo2013.org](http://www.idahonaweo2013.org) for more information or you can contact me by email at [idahonaweo2013@gmail.com](mailto:idahonaweo2013@gmail.com). We hope to see you here in Boise!

#### **Montana -- Jurisdictional Rep Todd Anderson**

Oil activity in eastern and now central Montana has brought on new challenges for wardens. High housing cost and the lure of higher pay in the oil fields has made it hard to keep quality wardens in many districts. Those that are assigned to oil

patch districts are swamped with cases including numerous headless game animals, non-residents purchasing resident licenses, and, generally, a higher caseload that covers all aspects of wildlife enforcement issues. Bison and wolves seem to be in the headlines every day. We welcome back Jeff Hagener as the Director of FWP. Jeff was a great director while serving from 2002 to 2008. He will have many challenges ahead of him to fix many contentious issues that were put on his plate from the prior director. We are confident he will lead us back to better times. We are now into season three of the Wardens show on the Outdoor Channel which continues to be the channel's most watched show. We continue to make cases and do our best to protect Montana's wildlife resources. Here is a good example of a great case made out of Region 1.

Three Sanders County residents were recently charged with multiple fish and game violations including hunting game during a closed season and unlawfully using artificial light to kill game animals. Deputy County Attorney Amy Kenison filed 36 charges for violations based on FWP Warden Tom Chianelli's investigation into a string of poaching that occurred in March/April of 2012 in the Thompson Falls area.

Bryant Eaton of Trout Creek faces 18 fish and game charges including 5 charges of taking of game animals during a closed season, 5 charges of unlawfully using artificial light to take game animals, and 5 charges of possessing and transporting unlawfully killed game animals. Eaton also faces two counts of waste of a game animal and one count of unlawfully obtaining a license when his privileges were suspended. Court records show Eaton's hunting privileges are currently suspended for a previous fish and game violation. Eaton has entered a not guilty plea and is scheduled to appear before Sanders County Justice of the Peace Don Strine at a later date.

Stuart Mitchell of Thompson Falls was also charged with 13 counts of similar violations, including 5 counts of possessing and transporting unlawfully killed game animals, 3 counts of unlawfully using artificial light to take game animals, 3 counts of taking game animals during a closed season and 2 counts of waste of a game animal. Mitchell entered a guilty plea to all 13 charges and has been ordered to pay over \$6,000 in fines and restitution and received a lifetime suspension of hunting, fishing and trapping privileges. Mitchell was also ordered to serve a day in jail for each of the 13 charges.

Teresa Schimmel of Thompson Falls was charged with 4 counts of possessing

unlawfully killed game animals and for the unlawful sale of game animals. Schimmel also entered a guilty plea to 5 charges and was ordered to pay \$1,925 in fines and received a lifetime suspension of hunting, fishing and trapping privileges. Schimmel was ordered to serve a day in jail for each of the 5 charges.

#### **Nevada --Jurisdictional Rep Fred Esparza**

Despite many labor and workload challenges in Nevada, our game wardens have risen to the occasion. Nevada has had high turnover in the last few years due to many factors, including early retirements, lack of employee retention, and benefit reductions. In the meantime, many requirements on the position have continued to grow. Each year we have experienced growth in illegal activities that involves the impact to our recourses such as several new hunts, managing some of the best hunting and fishing anywhere, and answering the public's calls for the ever-growing human-wildlife conflict efforts. With nearly 31 game warden positions statewide we have remained 10-30% below staff for several years now. Despite these challenges, many poachers and constituents have come to experience the professionalism and dedication known as the NEVADA GAME WARDEN.

This year NDOW wardens had a significant impact on several illegal activities such as many felony convictions and investigations ranking from several illegal guiding cases to the taking of a radio-collared lion that was trapped and illegally killed. Several prohibited species investigations (including alligators, snapping turtles, sloth, a kookaburra, and an anteater) were investigated. We also conducted several drowning recoveries and a presidential protection detail for President Obama. Our game wardens continue to facilitate our aggressive boating program, are assisting in the Invasive Species Control efforts (mostly Quagga mussels) and have assisted in marijuana grow eradication.

Our Association has continued efforts in the last couple years in hopes of assisting in the next year's NAWEOA conference in Reno and hope to show a presence in this year's showing in Boise. I, for one, can say after patrolling the border of Idaho for several years and working with many of Idaho's finest officers, I am confident this year's conference will be a great success. We look forward to seeing all of you there and hope to enjoy all that this year's conference has to offer.

#### **Washington -- Jurisdictional Rep Jeff Lee**

On September 18, 2012, WDFW SIU and WDFW Enforcement Officers executed 14 search warrants statewide, culminating a 2-year undercover investigation where a covert website was set up to apprehend illegal wildlife traffickers. The website had SIU detectives dealing with antlers, hides, furs, teeth, gall bladders, feathers, skulls, caviar, and meat. Restaurants located in 3 counties purchased big game, fish, and small game from UC officers. Almost 400 suspects are facing criminal charges. All Washington big game species that have been poached were involved as well as small game, exotic, and threatened and protected species. The operation involved USFWS and officers from other states and provinces. Cases were developed in Oklahoma, Idaho, New York, Illinois, Oregon, California, and B.C.

#### **Wyoming -- Jurisdictional Rep Joe Gilbert**

After receiving meaningful raises in 2010 and 2011, Wyoming wardens did not receive a raise in 2012, but, instead, legislation was passed requiring officers to begin contributing an additional 1.62% of their salary into their retirement accounts on July 1. Low rates of return on investments within their retirement system and the ratio of active participants to retirees made an increase in contributions necessary to keep the fund actuarially sound. The 2013 Wyoming legislature tried to add another .45% deferral from officers, but the bill failed.

The Wyoming Game Warden's Association was active during the 2013 session of the Wyoming Legislature. WGWA proposed modifications to three statutes to enhance wildlife law enforcement. Two of these proposals were passed by the Legislature. The first of these made it illegal for a person to knowingly import wildlife or wildlife parts that were taken illegally in any other state or country. The other made it illegal to knowingly possess any parts of a big game animal where the edible portions had been intentionally or needlessly allowed to go to waste. The last proposal involved changes to statutes dealing with restitution payments for illegally taken wildlife. This change did not pass. In addition to this work, the Association actively opposed legislation making it legal to hunt game species with firearms equipped with a suppressor. The initial bill was killed in a House committee, but was re-introduced in the Senate and eventually passed into law.

# REGION 5 REPORT



**Region 5 Director Scott Haney**

## **Illinois – Steve Vasicek**

Illinois is still suffering from financial limits and budget restraints in state government. Even with these restraints, Illinois has been successful in hiring fourteen new officers to replace our diminished work force. Illinois officers have not received contract obligations for almost two years. Currently, there are several lawsuits being filed and meetings scheduled in an effort to remedy this.

One of our officers and the Department has had to deal with an officer-involved shooting. The shooting has not only been a difficult situation for the officer, but the department as a whole. A man broke into the home of an officer and, while following policy and state law, the officer shot and killed the 21-year-old intruder with a handgun.

Illinois has had some national news attention as an officer separated two bucks with a firearm. The report came in of two bucks who had become tangled during a fight. Shooting the antlers to separate the two deer was determined to be the best option. The social media reaction of this video proved valuable for the exposure of Illinois Conservation Police Officers.

## **Indiana – Darren Reed**

## **Iowa – Paul Kay**

## **Kansas – Greg Salisbury**

### **GREETINGS FROM KANSAS!**

In Kansas, we are encountering serious challenges with state funding. (Hey, this is the same opening statement as the last two years!) Kansas game wardens will receive no step increase or cost-of-living increase again this year. Fuel conservation requirements have been implemented to assist with budget concerns.

Kansas game wardens faced interesting and new challenges this past year. The severe drought, of course, is affecting the lake levels making boat ramps inaccessible.

Additional concerns include a huge effect on wildlife. It is almost a rarity to spot a pheasant in western Kansas! Deer herds are affected with hemorrhagic disease and several lakes were closed due to blue-green algae last summer. We did receive some decent snows this winter, so maybe that can bust this drought. Kansas also recorded its first wolf shooting since the early 1900s. Kansas has a great reputation for big bucks and, thus, potential for violations is a strong possibility. I always have prime stories of illegal deer activity. A 2012 story relates to one of our hunting celebrities. He was convicted of illegally taking a 230 Boone & Crockett buck and was fined \$10,000, restitution of \$10,000, forfeiture of antlers, and his hunting privileges were suspended within the U.S. for 6 months. This is supposedly the largest deer shot that was recorded on video.

During our recent statewide in-service, several officers were recognized for lifesaving events. We always have a couple of officers nominated for this award, but this year the numbers were significantly higher. Always makes me proud when a fellow officer is recognized for this award. As a wrap-up, I would like to invite you to browse our agency webpage and locate the weekly Officer Log. This is a snippet of the weekly minutes we send to headquarters that many sportsmen find very interesting and entertaining (Kansas Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism – Law Enforcement page).

## **Minnesota – Chris Vinton**

## **Missouri – Shawn Pennington**

## **Nebraska – Jeffrey Jones**

The Nebraska Conservation Officers Association held its winter meeting on January 8th near Gordon, NE. The group went on an antlerless deer hunt and donated the meat to the "Nebraska Jerky For The Troops" project. The Association also donated \$250 to help with processing and shipping. The hunters killed 19 deer which the officers boned out and delivered to Sergeant Pack for the charity.

On January 3rd, the State Law Enforcement Bargaining Council ratified their contract with the State of Nebraska. This will give the Conservation Officers a 7% raise over two years with step increases. The last contract provided one increase in the pay lines of 2.66% and no step increases. Nebraska has 15-step pay lines with an officer taking a step increase on July 1st.

Nebraska has in the Field Training Program four new conservation officers. Billy

Chromy, Alex Froberg and Brandon O'Neal graduated from the training academy in August. Also, Richard Berggren was hired as a Conservation Officer. Richard worked as a state officer for the Racing Commission and has previous experience with the Elkhorn and Fremont police departments. He filled the vacancy left by Jeff Clauson and his official duty station will be Douglas County. These four officers are near the end of their training. We also hired another officer who has just started his training. Bryce Streger is from Tennessee and participated in our last selection process. Bryce has a degree in Natural Resources Management with an emphasis in Wildlife Biology from the University of Tennessee Martin. He has previous experience as a Field Technician monitoring quail and turkeys. He began his training at NLETC on January 7th.

Jerry Pecha retired on October 16, 2012. Jerry was hired in 1968 and his retirement is very well deserved. Jerry was a supervisor out of the Kearney office.

## **North Dakota – Josh Frey**

## **Oklahoma – Carlos Gomez**

## **South Dakota – Mark Ohm**

2012 was filled with challenges for South Dakota officers. While still recovering from record floods in 2011, we quickly moved into widespread drought in 2012. As I am sure some of you can attest, this had a major impact on our pheasant population. While our brood counts indicated a statewide increase, our harvest was down significantly in some areas. More difficult hunting also created law enforcement issues. Frustrated hunters were much more willing to take chances and push the limits of the law, creating job security for us.

In addition to the lower bird numbers, many areas in South Dakota were hit with a major EHD outbreak in our whitetail deer population. Losses were high enough that the State offered refunds for anyone wishing to return deer tags prior to the start of the season.

Several high-profile cases were investigated in South Dakota as well. WCO Cory Flor assisted USFWS officers in the successful investigation of a whooping crane which was poached. This became a nationwide news story as the specific crane killed was thought to be one of the most successful breeding males in the wild. The subject in this case has been found guilty and is awaiting sentencing. I will provide an update as soon as we hear the details.

South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks





*Field Notes*

*Spring 2013*

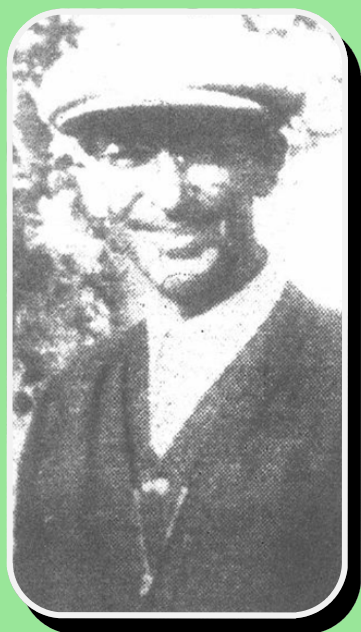
# Heroes of the Past

## Minnesota Game Warden Tragedy

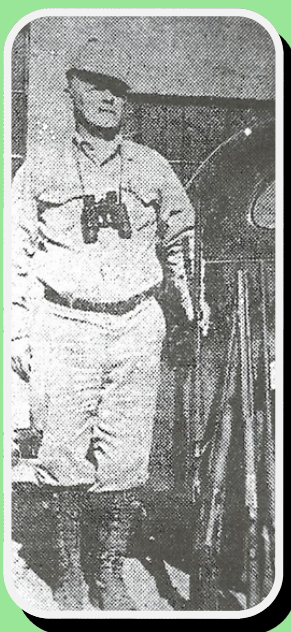
On July 12, 1940, the Minnesota Department of Game and Fish suffered a grievous loss when three Game Wardens were murdered while carrying out their functions protecting natural resources.

Marcus Emerson **Whipps**, A. Melvin **Holt**, and Dudley P. **Brady**, were checking a commercial fish-selling operation near Waterville. Upon a request to see a license, the operator went into his residence and returned with a shotgun. Before the wardens could react, three shots were fired, killing all three wardens. The operator then turned the firearm on himself and inflicted a mortal wound.

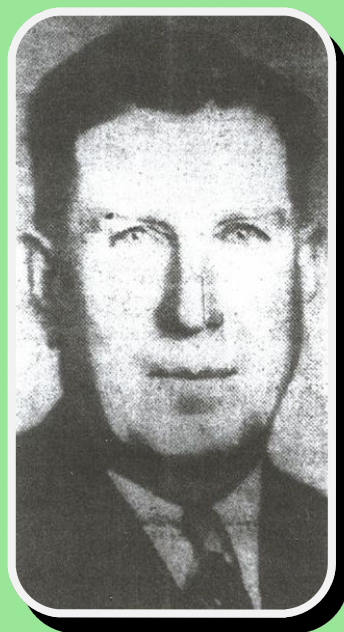
Whipps, Holt, and Brady are memorialized at the North American Game Warden Museum Memorial as are others who have made the ultimate sacrifice.



**Dudley P.  
Brady**



**Marcus Emerson  
Whipps**



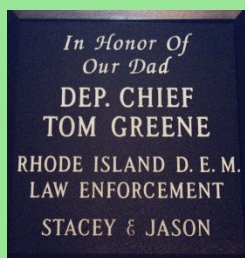
**A. Melvin  
Holt**



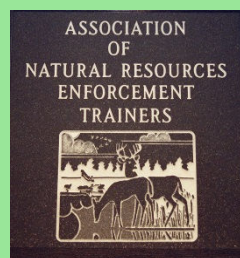
## SUPPORT THE GAME WARDEN MUSEUM PURCHASE A PAVING STONE

*These polished granite stones make great gifts for birthdays,  
Father's Day, Mother's Day, Christmas, retirements ...*

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



Engraved Paving Stone  
\$150



Engraved Paving Stone With Logo  
\$250

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

-----  
-----  
-----

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

Contact person for logo: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact number: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

#### Sponsor Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Payment Options

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Check or Money Order payable to: **NAWEMMEC**

**Game Warden Museum**  
**P.O. Box 1239**  
**Boissevain, MB R0K 0E0**  
**Canada**

**or Game Warden Museum**  
**10939 Peace Garden Road**  
**Dunseith, ND 58329**  
**USA**

[ ] I authorize my paving stone to be used in marketing materials.

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

Spring 2013

## **Message du président**

**Par Rich Cramer**

**Traduit de l'anglais par Christian Lemonnier**

Mon dernier bulletin en tant que président m'encourage quant au futur de notre association. L'actuel conseil des directeurs travaille inlassablement, afin d'organiser la conférence de 2014 à Reno, mais aussi, afin de recruter des organisateurs potentiels pour les futures conférences. Les directeurs travaillent sans compter et continuent de faire ce qui est nécessaire afin de parrainer et de promouvoir la NAWEOA du mieux qu'ils le peuvent. Cela a toujours été le cas lors de mes huit années à titre de membre du conseil.

Les membres sortants Doug Forsdick, Kurt Bahti, Marion Hoffman, Earl Simmons, Dave Grant, Bob Penton, Rick Nash, Lorraine Doyle, Steve Tomac, Mark Webb, Bill Brace, Hampton Yates, Pat Brown et Steve Kleiner, ont pavé la voie afin que le conseil actuel puisse mener à bien la mission de notre association. Cet été à Boise, nous élirons un nouveau président et un nouveau vice-président et nous tiendrons des élections pour les postes de directeurs des régions 4, 5, 6 et 7 des Etats-Unis. Nous aurons un nouveau président pour la région 5, puisque Scott Harvey est arrivé au terme de son deuxième mandat et nous aurons un nouveau président sortant, alors que nous dirons au revoir à Kevin Schoepp. Le flambeau se passera et du sang nouveau continuera de revigorer notre association, même si nous nous lamentons de cette perte inestimable d'expérience.

L'agent de liaison Rick Hildebrand, continue de multiplier les requêtes, dans l'espoir de recruter de nouveaux organisateurs pour la conférence. Nous espérons que quelques-unes des approches tentées par Rick se concrétiseront. La conférence annuelle est à la fois l'occasion pour les membres de se réunir pour de la formation, pour l'amitié et pour la camaraderie, mais constitue aussi la plus grande levée de fond annuelle pour notre association. La recherche d'organismes pour la conférence est indispensable à la santé de la NAWEOA et continue d'être un challenge. Si votre association est prête à considérer l'organisation d'une conférence de la NAWEOA, contactez Rick à l'adresse suivante : [conference@naweo.org](mailto:conference@naweo.org).

Le conseil d'administration de la NAWEOA cherche constamment de nouvelles occasions d'affaire et cherche à se renouveler, non pas pour le plaisir du NAWEOA Newsletter Spring 2013

changement, mais bien afin de faire croître et afin de revigorer notre association. Les pensées et les idées qui reflètent cela peuvent être exprimées par n'importe quel membre de la NAWEOA aux représentants ou aux directeurs régionaux, afin d'être considérées par le conseil. J'encourage chaque membre à s'impliquer dans l'association à la hauteur de ce qui lui leur est possible de faire. Faire connaître les pensées et les idées qui leur sont exprimées, participer à une conférence, se présenter pour un poste sur le conseil d'administration, devenir un représentant régional ou organiser une future conférence, sont autant de manières pour votre état et votre association provinciale de s'impliquer dans la NAWEOA. Soyez prudents et que dieu vous bénisse. Nous nous reverrons à Boise.

## **Region 2**

**Traduit de l'anglais par Christian Lemonnier**

**Par Kurt Henry, représentant régional– Manitoba**

### **Prix – Agent de l'année 2012 Gerry Rossett.**

L'association des agents de conservation du Manitoba fêtera son 30<sup>e</sup> anniversaire en 2013. Une étape importante de son histoire ! Nous tiendrons notre rencontre annuelle à Winnipeg à la fin mars, afin de fêter cet événement. Tout comme pour la NAWEOA, notre association a été formée par quelques personnes ayant une grande vision. À notre 30<sup>e</sup> rencontre annuelle, nous soulignerons le travail acharné de tous les anciens membres de direction et agents qui ont contribué nous mener où nous sommes présentement.

L'adhésion de chaque association d'agents et notre adhésion à la NAWEOA est ce qui nous maintient en vie. Les temps sont différents, et chaque niveau d'association lutte pour trouver de nouvelles manières de demeurer en contact avec ses membres et générer l'intérêt de ses agents. J'exhorte jeunes et moins jeunes à s'inspirer des succès antérieurs de leur association, afin d'exprimer leurs préoccupations actuelles. Avec les départs à la retraite des dernières années, nous perdons des centaines d'années de connaissance du terrain et des luttes que les associations ont soutenues, afin que tous puissent bénéficier de meilleurs équipements et de meilleures conditions de travail. Le Manitoba n'y échappe pas. Un document qui circulait récemment, relatait l'âge des agents sur le terrain. Il y était mentionné que le 1/3 des agents sera éligibles à la retraite d'ici les 5 prochaines années.

En 2012, l'association des agents du Manitoba



(MNROA) a permis le rétablissement d'un comité paritaire, composé d'un gestionnaire et d'un agent de terrain pour chacun des niveaux d'emploi. Les salaires, comme pour la plupart des agences, est une lutte constante et nous avons formé un comité travaillant avec la direction, afin de proposer au gouvernement l'ajustement des salaires. Au Manitoba, nous sommes supportés par un syndicat, alors l'association soumet les préoccupations exprimées au nom de tous, mais nous ne sommes pas responsables de la négociation de notre convention collective.

L'un de nos mandats premiers, est celui de la camaraderie entre agents. En février, nous avons tenu le tournoi de hockey commémoratif Joe Pope à Ashern. Cet événement fût couronné de succès et les profits générés, remis pour la lutte contre le cancer. Nous espérons organiser de nouveau le tournoi de pêche des agents, afin de générer des profits destinés à la lutte contre le cancer. La camaraderie est l'un des buts communs et premiers de chacune des associations et de la NAWEOA. J'invite fortement tous les agents, à penser à ce qu'il peuvent faire tant au niveau local qu'au niveau international, afin d'améliorer ces associations car, sans le travail de chacun, nos succès seront limités.

#### **Rob Harmer, [Représentant régional – Nunavut](#)**

L'association du Nunavut a élu un nouveau président le 20 février 2013, soit Jimmy Kennedy.

#### **Par Brett Cachagee, représentant régional– Ontario**

**Traduit de l'anglais par Christian Lemonnier**

Salutations en provenance d'Ontario, Canada. Présentement, la province de l'Ontario est à l'an 1 d'un plan de réductions des dépenses d'une durée de trois ans appelé "Transformation". C'est un thème que nous voyons trop couramment en Amérique du Nord. Eh bien, c'est à notre tour maintenant. Nous ne savons pas ce quel sera le résultat de cet exercice, mais nous commençons déjà à en ressentir les effets. Une poignée d'agents ont reçu un avis de mise à pied. Ces agents pourraient avoir l'opportunité d'occuper des postes actuellement non comblés. Aussi, nous constatons que les gestionnaires s'occupent d'un nombre grandissant d'agents, changeant ainsi le ration gestionnaire/agent. Les gestionnaires dans notre branche de l'application de la loi font de leur mieux pour protéger nos emplois. L'un des effets négatifs de cet exercice

concerne le remplacement des effectifs lorsque les gens prennent leur retraite. Ces postes ne sont pas remplacés à titre de postes permanents, puisqu'ils sont utilisés pour éviter que des agents soient mis à pied. L'Ontario pourrait se retrouver bientôt dans le contexte d'une élection provinciale et dépendamment du parti au pouvoir, nous pourrions voir survenir d'autres changements. Le temps nous le dira. Demeurez à l'écoute !

La structure de notre formation est également changeante. Notre entraînement tend à se diriger vers le modèle de l'*Ontario Provincial Police* (OPP). Ces changements ont cours actuellement.

En Ontario, les agents de conservation de la faune sont membres d'un syndicat provincial et sont régis par une convention collective. À chaque fois que la convention expire, nous courrons le risque de tomber en grève. C'est arrivé dans le passé. Sur une note positive, le gouvernement et le syndicat en sont venus à une entente et la grève a été évitée. Cette entente comporte le retrait d'avantages au niveau du fond de pension et comprend un gel de salaire pour les deux prochaines années.

Cela étant dit, les agents continuent à obtenir les deniers nécessaires au maintien de leurs opérations sur le terrain. Les équipements tel les véhicules, motoneiges, véhicules tout-terrain et embarcations sont remplacés sur une base régulière.

Nous avons obtenu d'importants jugements de cour favorables, qui découlaient d'excellentes enquêtes. Pour voir nos communiqués de presse, visitez le site Internet de notre association au [ocoa.ca](http://ocoa.ca).

Cette année marque la sixième édition du "Kids and Wardens Fishing Adventure", organisé par l'association des agents de conservation de l'Ontario. Cette année, l'association a conduit un groupe en provenance du centre-ville de Toronto lors d'une excursion de pêche inoubliable dans le nord de l'Ontario et ce, tant pour les enfants que pour les agents ! Grâce à la généreuse participation d'une multitude de partenaires, des membres de l'association des agents de l'Ontario ont amené un groupe d'une vingtaine de jeunes issus de milieux défavorisés, dans le cadre d'un voyage de pêche toutes dépenses payées dans une pourvoirie. Les agents ont joué le rôle de guide de pêche et de mentor pour les jeunes. Les enfants ont pu apprécier diverses démonstrations, concernant la lutte aux incendies de forêts, le travail du maître-chien, la survie en forêt, le canotage et bien sûr, la pêche. Ces excursions continuent de générer des souvenirs mémo-

rables pour tous ceux qui ont été impliqués.

Malgré cette période difficile à laquelle nous devons tous faire face, nous n'avons pas perdu de vue la raison première pour laquelle nous sommes devenus des agents de conservation de la faune et le fait que nous avons toujours le plus beau travail du monde ! Soyez prudents.

**Par Ross Stewart, représentant régional**  
**Direction de l'application de la loi – Environnement Canada**  
**Traduit de l'anglais par Christian Lemonnier**

Le département de l'application de la loi sur la faune d'Environnement Canada, région des Prairies et du Nord, s'estime chanceux de ne pas avoir été touché par les réductions de personnel dans la foulée des coupures qui sévissent au gouvernement fédéral depuis les deux dernières années. Un nouveau budget est attendu pour la fin mars et nous devons attendre pour connaître l'ampleur des nouvelles coupures.

En 2012, nous avons souhaité une heureuse retraite à l'agent de conservation de la faune Drew Mahaffy (District de l'Alberta – Edmonton) et à l'agente de liaison Lorraine Tomkewich (District de la Saskatchewan – Saskatoon).

En février 2013, nous avons accueilli notre nouvelle agente de liaison Laurie Guyot en provenance de Parcs Canada. Laurie travaillera dans le district de l'Alberta, bureau d'Edmonton.

**Une compagnie de l'Alberta mise à l'amande pour l'importation illégale de coraux**  
**Traduit de l'anglais par Christian Lemonnier**

Jay Daeninck et sa compagnie *Saltwater Connection*, ont été jugés coupables de 18 infractions à l'encontre de la *Loi sur la protection d'espèces animales ou végétales sauvages et la réglementation de leur commerce international et interprovincial* (WAPPRIITA). Monsieur Daeninck et sa compagnie ont été condamnés à des amendes totalisant 135,822\$ par la cour provinciale du Manitoba, pour avoir importé illégalement des espèces protégées en provenance de l'Indonésie sans avoir obtenu au préalable, des permis de la CITES.

Les infractions ont d'abord été constatées en juin 2007, alors que des inspecteurs de l'agence des services frontaliers du Canada (ASFC) de la Colombie-

Britannique ont découvert 9,508 kg de « coraux vivants » dans des conteneurs en provenance de l'Indonésie. (Le terme « coraux vivants » désigne les coraux auxquels sont attachés des spécimens vivants d'invertébrés et d'algues coralliennes). La direction de l'application de la loi d'Environnement Canada a poursuivi l'enquête, lorsque le conteneur est arrivé à Winnipeg.

Les infractions dont a été reconnu coupable monsieur Daeninck et sa compagnie incluent l'importation illégale de roches vivantes formées de coraux de pierre de même que de spécimens vivants de palourdes géantes, d'hippocampes et de coraux de pierre. Ces espèces sont protégées en vertu de la CITES et de la WAPPRIITA.

**Par Ray Thibadeau, représentant régional**  
**Association des Agents des Pêches – Région du centre et de l'Arctique**  
Aucune mise à jour

**Mot du président sortant – Kevin Schoepp**  
Traduit de l'anglais par Christian Lemonnier

Lorsque j'ai assisté à ma première conférence en 1996, jamais je n'aurais pu imaginer ce qui se dessinait pour l'avenir. Je m'estime très chanceux et apprécie d'avoir eu la possibilité d'être sur le comité d'administration. La NAWEOA nous a beaucoup apporté à ma famille et à moi, et pour cette raison, je suis sincèrement reconnaissant. Cela nous a mené aux quatre coins du continent, à des endroits où nous ne serions probablement pas allés autrement. Cela nous a mis sur le chemin d'autres personnes formidables avec lesquelles nous avons forgé de grandes amitiés. Je pense que vous savez de quoi je parle.

Il y a trop de faits saillants qui émergent de ces conférences et de ces rencontres pour tenter de toutes les aborder. Je souhaite remercier tous ceux qui m'ont encouragé et supporté en cours de route. À ceux qui continueront de siéger sur le conseil et à ceux qui assurent les différents rôles, j'apprécie sincèrement votre dévouement. « Continuez de continuer » (emprunté de quelqu'un que plusieurs d'entre vous connaissez). Ça vaut vraiment la peine et je sais que vous serez d'accord.

Ma famille et moi allons continuer à faire de cette conférence une priorité estivale et attendrons avec im-

patience de croiser des visages familiers et de former de nouvelles amitiés.

Malheureusement, nous devons réfléchir et reconnaître les situations difficiles auxquelles nos collègues agents doivent faire face en protégeant et en veillant sur les ressources que nous chérissons. Mes condoléances à la famille et aux amis de l'agent de conservation du Labrador, Howard Lavers, que nous avons perdu récemment. Les agents de toute la confrérie s'unissent en cœur à l'occasion de ces moments difficiles et sommes éternellement reconnaissants du sacrifice ultime de tous les agents que nous avons perdu.

Prenez bien soin de vous.

### **Terre-Neuve et Labrador Agent de conservation de la faune, Howard Lavers,**

À l'âge de 57 ans, était en patrouille avec deux autres agents au sud de Hawkes's Bay le 21 février 2013, lorsque la glace a cédé sous ses pieds sur un étang connu sous le nom de Eastern Bluey Pond, près de Blue Mountain. Les tentatives pour secourir l'agent Lavers se sont avérées infructueuses.

Lavers était agent de conservation de la faune avec le département d'application de la loi sur la faune, qui relève du ministère de la justice.

Lavers était très connu dans la région et la nouvelle de l'accident a jeté la consternation dans les communautés avoisinantes.

L'agent Lavers laisse dans le deuil ses enfants Michael, Jeremy et Christina; ses petits enfants Ashton, Alexei, sa petite fille Taylor; sa mère Pauline; ainsi que ses frères et sœurs Bob, Joe, Cecil, Olive, Laverne, Josephine et Lorna.

### **Rapport de l'agent de liaison – Par Rick Hildebrand Traduit de l'anglais par Christian Lemonnier**

La planification de la conférence de 2013 en Idaho va bon train. Assurez-vous de visiter le site Internet de la NAWEOA, où vous trouverez des liens sur l'inscription et les commodités, qui vous aideront à planifier votre séjour. Ces réunions annuelles sont des événements de qualité, axées sur la famille. C'est l'un des aspects qui distingue les conférences de la NAWEOA des autres conférences d'affaires typiques. Plusieurs amitiés sincères y prennent naissance chaque année et se renouvellent d'année en année.

La planification de la réunion qui aura lieu à Reno du 19 au 27 juillet 2014 est déjà entamée. Cette conférence est planifiée sous l'égide du comité exécutif de la NAWEOA. Puisque ce n'est pas du ressort du comité d'organiser la conférence, une approche collaborative a dû être mise de l'avant. Randy Hancock agit à titre de président, alors que Scott Haney and Steve Tomac sont les vice-présidents. Ils ont déjà fait de grands progrès en vue de l'événement de 2014, tandis qu'une multitude de bénévoles se sont joint à eux. Plusieurs opportunités s'offrent aux gens et aux associations qui souhaitent s'impliquer. Comme peuvent en témoigner tous ceux qui ont déjà participé à l'organisation d'une conférence, il est essentiel qu'une main-d'œuvre suffisante soit au rendez-vous. Les possibilités sont nombreuses, variant de l'assistance à organiser l'événement pendant des 17 prochains mois, jusqu'à l'aide sur les lieux lors de la conférence en tant que tel. Quiconque intéressé à faire partie de l'équipe de planification doit contacter

Randy Hancock: [randy.hancock@state.co.us](mailto:randy.hancock@state.co.us)

Scott Haney: [texaswarden04@live.com](mailto:texaswarden04@live.com)

Steve Tomac: [lstomac@gmail.com](mailto:lstomac@gmail.com)

Prière de noter, qu'il ne s'agit pas du mode d'organisation des conférences que souhaite maintenir le comité exécutif de la NAWEOA. Nous croyons que cela est gérable pour une année, mais nous devons revenir au mode traditionnel d'organisation par les diverses juridictions. Même si des discussions ont lieu actuellement à propos de conférences au-delà de 2014, nous n'avons pas au moment d'écrire ces lignes, de confirmation écrite de la tenue d'une conférence après celle de Reno. Nous encourageons fortement toute juridiction envisageant la tenue d'une conférence de nous faire part de leur intérêt. Je serai heureux de fournir une trousse informative à ceux qui se montrent intéressés, afin de leur permettre de cerner ce que cela implique.

Je vous vois à Boise en juillet.



## Meet the new North American Game Warden Museum Directors



### ← Gary Provencher

joined the Museum Board as a Canadian Director in 2011.

He is currently a Conservation Officer and Compliance Education and Training Unit Coordinator with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment in Prince Albert.

Gary brings 34 years of experience to the Board and for the last three years has participated in the Museum's Visiting Officer Program. He has also arranged for various displays from Saskatchewan to be on display at the Museum each summer. Gary is responsible for the Museum's Day of Remembrance and strongly supports the Museum's belief that by educating the public about natural resource protection, we can help create better conservationists across North America.

### Lawrence Hergenroeder →

began his career as a Deputy Wildlife conservation officer in 2003. Since his graduation from the Ross Leffler School of Conservation in March of 2008 he has been a Wildlife Conservation Officer in heavily- populated Mercer County Pennsylvania.

Lawrence is the PA Game Commission's Ceremonial Unit Coordinator as well as a firearms instructor, EVOC instructor, and a Cadet field training officer. Lawrence is on the Conservation Officers of Pennsylvania Board of Trustees and was recently welcomed to the North American Game Warden Museum as a director.

Lawrence lists his hobbies as archery, handgun shooting, hunting, fishing, auto racing, and NAWEOA. He resides in Grove City, Pennsylvania with his wife Melissa.



### ← Erik Schmidt

is a District Game Warden with the North Dakota Game & Fish Department stationed in Linton, ND. Schmidt has been with the department for six years and has been stationed in Linton since being hired.

Schmidt holds a Bachelor of Science degree from North Dakota State University in Zoology and a Bachelor of Science degree from Valley City State University in Biology Education. Schmidt is a native of West Fargo, ND. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his family, hunting, fishing, and trapping.





# VISITING OFFICER PROGRAM

The North American Game Warden Museum invites all officers from across North America (and 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 your state or province) and to share information or stories with visitors to the Museum. Officers are encouraged to bring any displays, power points, handouts or promotional DVDs they may have. Participating officers in the past have even brought their RAP or TIP trailers.



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 204-534-2510 (Canada) or 701-263-4390 (US).



**The 12th annual fundraising golf tournament in Manitoba will be held on June 19, 2013 at the Kingswood Golf and Country Club near Winnipeg. Derksen Plumbing and Heating came on board last year as the new tournament sponsor.**

**We are always looking for prizes and cash donations for the tournament. All monies raised go directly back into the North American Game Warden Museum.**

**If you are interested in playing in the tournament or would like to make a donation towards the tournament, please contact Blake Patterson at 204-734-6852.**



Follow us on Facebook for updates, photos, and other links!

recently conducted an internal study looking at officer recruitment and retention. We are just now beginning to see some results of this, including additional supervisor positions offering greater chances of promotion as well as financial incentives to remain in duty stations for extended periods of time. The information we have at this time is very preliminary; further details will be provided later.

Finally, the South Dakota Conservation Officers Association is still recovering from the loss of one of our own officers to cancer. Brook Brown was an integral part of our Association, serving as webmaster, Facebook coordinator, Region 4 Representative, as well as his numerous duties on the job and volunteer work in the community. Brook was awarded the Boating Officer of the Year award posthumously. This award will be renamed in honor of Brook in the future.

#### **Texas – Scott Haney**

2012 has brought many changes for Texas Game Wardens. Nine of the top fourteen positions in LE, including the Colonel, retired. Promotions then included, Colonel, Lt. Colonel, Chief of Special OPS, five Majors, seven Captains and six Lieutenants.

Creation of some new teams has provided

opportunities for wardens to specialize their duties and increase services provided to the public. K-9, Search/Rescue, Scout, Boat Accident Reconstruction and Swift Water Rescue teams are being developed.

We also currently have thirty-one cadets at the Game Warden Training Center.

#### **Wisconsin – Todd Schaller**

**Staffing**– Retirements at all levels within the Wisconsin Conservation Warden Service have fueled significant succession changes in several management positions. Also, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources moved the Bureau of Law Enforcement into a formal line organization as part of an agency-wide reorganization.

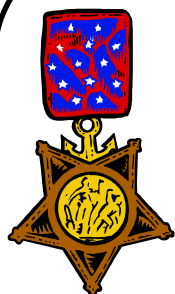
The conservation warden service continues to deal with 30 vacant field stations and related coverage issues. This is in spite of two recent hiring processes. Thirteen members of the 2011-12 recruit warden class recently were placed into field stations and 18 recruit wardens are to begin their academy training program in March 2013.

**Strategic Plan** – The Bureau of Law Enforcement is finalizing the updated strategic plan for 2014-2017. The overall mission of protecting people and natural resources remains the same. However, the plan schedules assessments of the outside

world to spot the emerging challenges and to map the Bureau's priorities for the always-changing road ahead.

**Drug Grows** – Illegal marijuana grows on public property (*federal, state and county*) continues to be an issue and conservation wardens often are called upon to assist. The illegal activity is a safety concern for public land users and conservation wardens are involved because of their skills, specialized training and necessary equipment for this outdoor venue.

**Public Outreach** - The Bureau of Law Enforcement and the entire DNR has moved into the social media world using Facebook, Twitter and email as efficient and effective communication tools to connect with the public. The wardens have "Warden Wire", a free email news service, that shares case stories, safety messages, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ), human interest stories and requests for case tips with subscribers. The 2012 "Warden Tweet Along" during the gun-deer hunt and sturgeon-spearfishing seasons were very popular with both hunter and non-hunter. Follow us at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wardenwire/>; Twitter – [twitter.com/WDNR](https://twitter.com/WDNR) or [www.facebook.com/WIDNR](https://www.facebook.com/WIDNR).



## **NAWEOA Awards**

**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 6 REPORT



**Region 6 Director Jeff White**

## **Florida-Guy Carpenter:**

On Nov. 14, 2011, Officer Justin Allen announced that he was resigning from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) to work in the private sector. What his fellow employees and peers didn't know was that Allen had assumed a new role as an undercover officer investigating the illegal fish and wildlife black market in Northeast Florida. The undercover investigation was named "Operation Smorgasbord." Several months after the investigations merged, criminal charges started to mount. The level of exploitation of illegal product would amaze the average citizen and would even amaze most experienced conservation officers. The suspect list continued to grow and violations varied. They included illegal selling and purchasing redfish, red snapper, trout, sheepshead, grouper, bass, crappie, bream, catfish, soft shell turtles, gopher tortoise, black bear, flounder, mullet, alligators, vermilion snapper, striped bass, blue crab, shrimp and tuna; possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, and solicitation of cannabis. After 15 months of investigation, the FWC had 34 felonies and 280 misdemeanor violations on 56 suspects.

It has been a little more than six months since the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's (FWC) consolidation with the law enforcement division from the Department of Environmental Protection and forestry officers from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the transition is continuing along smoothly. Officers from all levels are helping each other learn their new responsibilities and capabilities and our service to the public is outstanding.

In November of 2012, the State of New Jersey requested Florida's assistance with dealing with the effects of Hurricane Sandy. In coordination with the State's Division of

Emergency Management, FWC responded to the request by sending 28 members of our Special Operations Group.

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) graduated 18 new officers on Feb. 1. The members of FWC's 19th officer class pledged their efforts to patrol Florida's lands and waters, protect its people and preserve its resources.

## **Georgia-Eddie Henderson**

March 2012 marked a milestone in the joint effort with the Department of Natural Resources and the Georgia State Patrol in the deployment of the Mobile Computer/Computer Aided Dispatch System. By December 2011, all Law Enforcement Section Officers were added to the system. The focus has now been shifted from initial deployment and training to maintenance and improvement of the system. The LE Section is now testing different mounting options for vessels in an attempt to find the best solutions to allow the same access to E-citations, GCIC and other software while on boating safety patrol.

In March 2012, three Rangers attended the Wildlife Investigations Covert Academy (WICA) in Nashville, Tennessee. Georgia now has 9 Rangers who have attended this course since 2008. The IU averages 40 undercover investigations per year. They range from intelligence gathering contacts to buy/busts to complex long-term investigations.

Georgia continues to successfully utilize K-9 units and currently has 8 canine/handler teams in use throughout the state. These dogs are full-service/multi-purpose German Shepherds. They are trained in tracking, article searches, wildlife detection, obedience, officer protection, apprehension and agility.

## **Kentucky-Joe Tomblin:**

Hunters bagged a record number of deer by the end of modern gun season this year. The previous record was set in 2004 at 87,205; this year 92,737 deer were reported taken during gun season.

2012 made the fourth year Kentucky offered a bear season; this was the first year the quota was met. Kentucky 2012 bear season was December 8th and 9th. If 10 bears are harvested on opening day, then season is shut down. This year 9 were checked in on the 8th and 2 more were checked in on the 9th. The last bear checked in set a new state record -- a 410-pound baby boy.

Biggest news for the conservation officers in Kentucky this year was that they received a training stipend that 95% of the other Law Enforcement agencies in the

state already receive. Like most states suffering from no raises, this was much needed and appreciated. The training stipend was \$3,100.00; all LE receives this, excluding the new hires that must complete the police academy at the Department of Criminal Justice Training.

## **Louisiana-Scott Mathews: No Report**

## **Maryland-Jeff White:**

The Maryland Police Training Commission recently graduated 16 new NRP officers. They are currently with field training officers in the field.

Twenty-four people needlessly died in boating accidents in Maryland, doubling the average of previous years. In an effort to increase boating safety and enforcement in and around the resort area of Ocean City, the Maryland State Police Aviation Command and the Maryland Natural Resources Police (NRP) are partnering on a new initiative that will put as many as 14 specially trained NRP officers in MSP helicopters and other airplanes flying over the waters in and around the city.

Four NRP officers successfully rescued two fishermen that had fallen through the ice into Deep Creek Lake and another trapped on the thin ice.

## **North Carolina-Forrest Orr:**

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission has formed a Special Investigations Unit. This will be the first unit of its kind for the Wildlife Commission. Currently, it is comprised of a lieutenant and two sergeants. The primary focus for the unit will be undercover operations, commercialization of wildlife, and major wildlife violations.

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

L/Cpl Shawn Hanna received information concerning night hunting deer in the fall of 2012 involving members of the University of South Carolina-Lancaster baseball team, who were using archery equipment to take deer at night and apparently doing this as some form of initiation onto the team. Surveillance of the student/ballplayers' housing developed evidence supporting the information. It was decided to do a "knock and ask" along with the Lancaster PD who would check on any underage drinking. Upon being interviewed, the students admitted to night hunting deer and other violations. Three students/ballplayers confessed to multiple nights of killing deer previously as well as that night. One admitted to taking a doe and not tagging it two days earlier and also hunting without a license or big game permit during a day hunt.

A total of three subjects entered a plea agreement with the Solicitors Office for night hunting deer to accept \$1,500.00 fines, two years criminal probation, and mandatory Hunter Education. One additional subject has pled guilty in magistrate's court for the illegal doe and license violations with a total of \$900.00 in fines.

Illegal trawling in the Lowcountry of South Carolina has always been a high-profile case for Law Enforcement Officers of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. After L/Cpl. Adam Henderson started receiving numerous reports about a subject trawling in closed waters, he began conducting surveillance in the area.

L/CPL Henderson and other officers in his unit conducted surveillance on an area for two weeks until he got the break they were looking for. The fisherman that they had been waiting on finally showed up. The subject idled up and down the creek for nearly an hour periodically looking in the air with binoculars. L/CPL Henderson knew that the subject would most likely have lookout boats on either end of the creek and was using the binoculars to look for SCDNR's aircraft.

Finally, after what seemed like an eternity, the subject and his striker (first mate) went to the back of the boat and began throwing the net out. L/CPL Pope was able to video the entire scene. He also notified Sgt. Robbie Smith who was in a catch boat hidden further up the creek. After the subject had the net out and had begun dragging for the shrimp, L/CPL Pope made the call for Sgt. Smith to come in and make the stop.

Sgt. Smith arrived at the creek. When the fisherman saw the officers, he immediately went to the back of the boat and freed the net. The fisherman then took off at maximum speed in an effort to elude officers. After pursuing the subjects at high speed for ten minutes, Sgt. Smith maneuvered his vessel alongside the subjects' boat, allowing Deputy Officer Phil Amsler to jump into the fisherman's boat while at full speed. Deputy Officer Amsler then convinced the fisherman to stop.

Officers arrested the fisherman and then

went back and retrieved the net and shrimp contained in it. At court, the subject pled guilty to trawling in closed waters and failure to allow boarding by a law enforcement officer. The subject paid over \$4,000 in fines, spent four days in jail and lost his saltwater commercial fishing privileges for two years.

#### **Tennessee-Mike Stockdale: No Report**

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

The Law Enforcement Division of the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has recently contracted the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police (VACP) to implement a study of the Enforcement Division. The study is aimed at surveying current practices and policies to determine future direction of the division. The current study will involve one-on-one interviews with conservation police officers at many levels, survey opportunities for all conservation police officers, as well as thorough reviews of current policies and job descriptions. The study is in response to 2012 legislation involving the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and its conservation police officers. While this targeted legislation was unsuccessful, DGIF staff felt the legislation warranted a significant review of its law enforcement division. The VACP study is scheduled to conclude in the summer of 2013.

2013 legislation was mostly quiet for Virginia's conservation police officers. Bills were introduced seeking additional funding for additional conservation police officers and staff as well as a resolution for a study to determine if all state law enforcement officers should be placed under the Department of State Police. Neither of these actions was approved in the session; however, the resolution will be forwarded to the Governor's Commission on Reform for additional consideration.

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

The Law Enforcement Section is responsible for the prompt, orderly and effective enforcement of all laws of Chapter 20, Code of West Virginia, and rules promul-

gated 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.

The Law Enforcement Section normally has a staffing level of 124 Natural Resources Police Officers and twelve support personnel. The Section currently has 115 Natural Resources Police Officers. Seven Natural Resources Police Officers and one civilian retired, six officers and four civilians resigned, and 21 new officers and five civilians were employed during FY 2012.

The Law Enforcement Section takes pride in the amount and quality of training provided to natural resources police officers. Officers log thousands of hours each year sharpening their skills and preparing for the worst.

In a continuing effort to be prepared for the worst in Homeland Security, officers received training on various Homeland Security topics, including joint disaster drills with the National Transportation Safety Administration, U.S. Coast Guard, and multiple in- and out-of-state law enforcement agencies.

West Virginia has become one of the first states to train and certify all its officers on the new U.S. Coast Guard and North American State Boating Law Administrators Association (NASBLA) Seated Battery of Tests for determination of blood alcohol (BAC) used in boating-under-the-influence arrests. We not only hosted a national course here for basic training, but also sent two officers to Iowa for an instructor course so that all present and future natural resources police officers can be trained and certified.

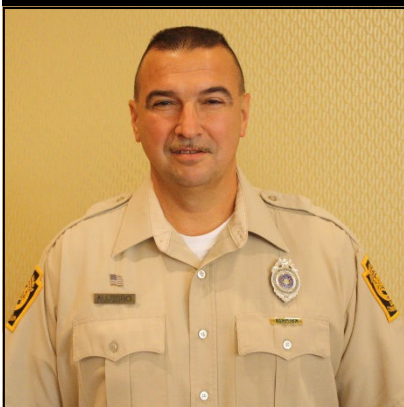
Four officers attended the National Marine Patrol Officer Course conducted at the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center in Charleston, South Carolina.

## **NAWEOA NEWSLETTER ON-LINE IN FULL COLOR**

***ALL NAWEOA NEWSLETTERS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING ON THE  
PROTECTED SECTION OF THE  
NAWEOA WEBSITE — [naweo.org](http://naweo.org)***

***TAKE TIME TO READ A LITTLE NAWEOA HISTORY!***

# REGION 7 REPORT



Region 7 Director Mark Allegro

**Mike Massey of New Jersey** reported a busy fall in 2012 as hunting seasons coincided with Hurricane Sandy. Some additions to the CO ranks and movement toward finalizing the promotions that resulted from numerous retirements in the Bureau of Law Enforcement in 2011 were made. Currently, there are at least seven Lieutenant positions that have been tested for and will be filled in the near future. Four new officers graduated in September and began their field training through the fall. Four new hires have graduated from the Gloucester County Police Academy this past December, of which two were recruited from outside the state.

The Bureau continued its training agreement with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center at Glenco, GA, with four officers being sent for Marine Law Enforcement training. This boat handling and marine enforcement training is excellent training.

Hurricane Sandy caused enormous damage and extra work for all with 30 field officers and 8 field supervisors responding in assistance. Two COs were assigned for each of the marine unit's four, rigid-hull inflatable vessels. Initial phase objective was to prohibit vessels from approaching islands from the bayside and interdict looters that were coming in by boat. The second phase involved a search for vessels abandoned in coastal bays and estuaries. Once located, vessels were inspected, documented and tagged. Conservation Officers were also requested to assist at Liberty State Park for the damage incurred around the New York City area. Approximately half of our available staff was assigned to one site or the other. In addition to regular hunting seasons, Hurricane Sandy patrols were conducted twelve hours daily throughout November.

**Scott Adams reported from the NO-**

**AA National Marine Fisheries Service.** In the Northeast Enforcement Division, William Lowery admitted to illegally harvesting striped bass in violation of the Lacey Act. As part of his plea agreement, he will serve 30 days in jail and pay a \$5,000 fine, as well as make \$1,300 in restitution to NOAA, surrender his captain's license for life, and serve a term of supervised release that further restricts him from engaging in the charter fishing industry in any capacity. In the Southeast Enforcement Division, Ashu Bhandari, former president and CEO of GEM Manufacturing, was sentenced in U.S. District Court in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, for his role in a scheme to illegally import CITES-protected black coral into the United States, where it was used to make high-end jewelry and art objects. Bhandari was sentenced to pay \$918,950 and serve one month in jail, followed by one month of home confinement and one year of supervised release, during which he will be required to complete 300 hours of community service and be banned from any business venture involving coral or coral products. In addition to the fine, Bhandari will be required to pay \$229,687 to the University of Virgin Islands to be used for community service projects designed to research and protect black corals. And, in our Southwest Enforcement Division, NOAA special agents, with assistance from California Department of Fish and Game wardens and deputies from the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Department, served an arrest warrant on a subject who physically assaulted a 3-month-old elephant seal pup. A bench warrant was issued after the subject failed to appear in federal court on two separate criminal summonses. The subject was released on a \$10,000 bond and is awaiting trial.

**Dave Walsh of New Hampshire** reports that Fish and Game is struggling to find financial support to meet the ever-growing challenge of providing search and rescue. NHF&G Conservation Officers are responsible for search and rescue in the state. The funding source, fees attached to boat and OHRV registrations, has remained unchanged for the past 24 years, while the cost of conducting these missions has increased each year. Fish and Game must cover any costs above and beyond what is in the Search and Rescue Fund with revenue from hunting and fishing license fees in the Fish and Game Fund. Approximately 57% of all S&R missions are for hikers and climbers who pay nothing to the S&R fund. The current system of finan-

cial support for search and rescue is unfairly being shouldered exclusively by sportsmen and women.

COs from the NHF&G successfully teamed up with US Border Patrol and Quebec Wardens in an effort to address the illegal entry of Canadian hunters into the United States for the purpose of poaching moose. A NHF&G certified police K-9 was used to assist in the investigation which led to the arrests of two subjects with fines and restitution totaling \$3,240, the loss of provincial moose tags, and NH hunting license suspensions.

**Dan Carrol from Maine** reports that 2012 was a year of highs and lows for the Maine Warden Service. Major Greg Sanborn and Game Warden Rick Mills passed away after long illnesses. These tragic losses have had a huge impact on their fellow officers.

Seven new wardens were hired, two of whom are attending the basic police academy, while the other five officers are in different stages of FTO. The whitetail deer herd is recovering in many parts of the state after a severe winter several years ago. An increase in poaching mirrors this growth and Game Wardens throughout the state put together many cases of night hunting and illegal possession of deer and moose.

The Warden Service has recently acquired ten thermal-imaging cameras. Early reports are that this device has great enforcement potential. A second and final purchase of AR-15s has now outfitted all wardens with rifles. The MWS is also in the purchasing process of acquiring a new airboat to assist in search and rescue as well as recovery missions.

This year starts the second season of "North Woods Law" for Maine Game Wardens on Animal Planet. There will be ten shows this season, an increase from the six shows in 2011. Feedback is positive from both fans and the sporting public.

**Keith Williams from Connecticut** reports that the fall/winter season of 2012/2013 has been a taxing one for Connecticut Environmental Conservation Police. Among the numerous hunting, fishing and trapping violations, EnCon Officers responded to several boating fatalities and hunting-related shooting incidents. Their K-9 unit was called upon numerous times with successful outcomes. EnCon Officers rescued numerous victims by vessel during Super Storm Sandy and responded to the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary of



which 11 officers assisted in the evacuation of teachers and children from within the school and provided perimeter security. A huge "thank you" to the Maine Warden Service and their Chaplin for helping them get through a difficult time. EnCon Officers also assisted in rescue operations during winter storm Nemo which left up to three feet of snow across the state. Budget deficits continue. On a positive note, Sergeant Ryan Healy was promoted to Captain of the Marine District. Total Station was purchased which will allow us to process crime scenes more effectively and efficiently. Ice fishing season has been good.

**Steve Thomson from Ohio** reports the Ohio Division of Wildlife plans to hire up to 20 new Wildlife Officers to begin their training in January of 2014. The positions will be posted in March of 2013. Ohio has had several law changes in the past year, one of which transfers most of the regulation and oversight of deer propagators and enclosed game hunting preserves to the Department of Agriculture. Deer hunting regulations will likely see changes for the 2013-2014 season, including an early fall muzzleloader season statewide for antlerless deer and a county-by-county bag limit for deer in all seasons. Plans are being made to transfer the Department of Natural Resources radio communication and dispatch services to the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Ohio Wildlife Officers will likely be dispatched by local OSHP posts by the fall of 2013.

**Michelle Wiegand, Michigan**, reports that Michigan's CO numbers have been at a seriously low level for several years. Pending legislative approval, the Governor's Fiscal Year 2014 budget recommends \$2.9 million for additional Conservation Officers and monies for a Conservation Officer school. The funding would add 25 new officers, bringing the projected Conservation Officer count to 198. The last Conservation Officer school was held in fiscal year 2007. In addition to this General Fund recommendation, a new hunting and fishing license fee structure proposal would add \$45 million annually for Conservation Officers. If funding recommendations and proposed license fee package are both approved, the DNR's Law Enforcement Division would increase to a total of 214. The number of total sworn Michigan Conservation officers has steadily declined from 243 in FY 01 to 173 in FY13 over the 12-year period.

Michigan Law Enforcement Division received two 25-ft. Safe Boats in 2012 for use on the Great Lakes. One is stationed in District 4 in Manistee on Lake Michigan and the other was assigned to District 1 which is in the far west end of the Upper Peninsula. The Division is in the process

of getting two more boats to be purchased with a Homeland Security Port Security Grant.

**Gary Toward, PA Game Commission**, reports that after 50 weeks of intensive training, the 29<sup>th</sup> class of Cadets graduated on March 9, 2013, from the Ross Leffler School of Conservation. The 30 new officers will be assigned to fill vacant districts across the Commonwealth with some districts still unfilled. With a selection and training process that takes two years to complete, the Agency announced that testing for the next class of cadets will begin in March, 2013.

PA Game Commission officers, in conjunction with officers from the PA Fish & Boat Commission, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, and numerous state and local police officers, conducted Operation Talon II during a two-week saturation patrol in October. It focused heavily on illegal night-time activity. 107 warnings and 303 citations were issued for a wide range of violations. Several DUIs, felons not to possess, concealed firearms without permits, and drug violations were turned over to participating local and state police officers for prosecution.

The Computer Aided Dispatch system installed in all District law enforcement officers' vehicles last fall continues to be updated to increase productivity. The records management system proves valuable as officers can instantly be alerted to a subject's past game law history and any officer safety issues regarding the subject. Land Management Officers will be receiving CAD computers in their vehicles this year.

**Mike Johnson, PA Fish & Boat Commission**, reports that recent legislation was passed increasing the penalty for assault on a Waterways Conservation Officer or Deputy to a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree felony. Penalties were also increased for persons involved in "serious unlawful take".

The Commission enacted new regulations to protect anglers and boaters by mandating that, from November 1 through April 30, all persons on boats less than 16' and on all canoes and kayaks are now required to wear life jackets. Hopefully, this will help save lives.

Unfortunately, due to budgetary constraints, a previously scheduled class of new Waterways Conservation Officers had to be canceled.

And, finally, congratulations to Colonel Corey Britcher, who was named the new Director of the Bureau of Law Enforcement.

**Arthur O'Connell from Massachusetts** reports their department's remote operated vehicle (ROV) was deployed and able to find a scallop boat which had gone missing in a storm a few weeks earlier. The crew

used the ROV to capture video as well as still pictures to identify the boat.

MA officers utilized DNA evidence to prosecute a bear-baiting case. It was MA's first DNA/Mammal case and some of the largest Fish and Game fines imposed in the state to date.

Last summer was the War of 1812 reenactment in Boston Harbor with the USS Constitution setting sail under her own power for the first time in many years. MEP'S Coastal Officers provided 24-7 waterborne security and patrols as well as escorts to many foreign-flagged war ships and U.S. warships that took part in the week-long event. Thousands of private and commercial vessels came to view the Tall Ships and the event was a success with a joint effort from USCG, Boston PD, MA State Police marine units, and The Mass Environmental Police providing the most marine assets to secure the Harbor.

Our large animal relocation team (LART) trapped and transferred a male black bear from Wellfleet, which is near the end of Cape Cod, to the western part of the state. Since it is uncommon to see bear in that part of the state, it created quite a media stir.

#### **New York – Director Pete Fanelli**

The New York State Environmental Conservation Department of Law Enforcement is preparing to do its first hiring since 2008. Testing is underway to identify the 32 recruits who will start their 24 weeks of Basic School in May at our training facility in Pulaski, New York. This will be the first basic school at our newly converted facility.

To identify the vacant patrol sectors in time for the placement of the recruits upon graduation, there is also a flurry of promotions going on to fill spots statewide that have been held vacant during the economic crisis. In a final bit of good news, we have been able to put in an order for twenty badly needed new patrol vehicles. The state contract this year has the new Ford SSV four-wheel drives which we will be giving a try as well as some pick-up trucks and all-wheel drive sedans.

On the enforcement front, we are trying to stem the tide of illegal ivory sales in the state, particularly in the New York City area. One case alone resulted in the seizure of a ton of elephant ivory worth an estimated \$2.2 million.

The 2012 hunting seasons turned out to be one of the safest ever in New York history. There were an equal amount of personal injury and property damage shootings, twenty-four of each. There were two fatalities.

*(continued on page 29)*

*Wildlife Officer Recognition*

OOY = Officer of the Year

**REGION 1**

**ALBERTA**

Alberta Fish & Wildlife OOO - **Corey Craig**

**BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal - **CO Tobe Sprado**,  
Sgt. **Shawn Brinsky**, Sgt., **Len Butler**, Sgt. **Joe Caravetta**, Sgt.  
**Steve Jacobi**, Sgt. **Josh Lockwood**, Det. Sgt. **Aaron Kilback**,  
Inspector **Doug Forsdick**  
2011 Outstanding Officer Award - **CO Bob Butcher**

**FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA**

OOO - **Glenn Lario**, Fishery Officer  
Coach/Mentor - **Nicole Gallant**, Detachment Supervisor  
Innovator Award - **Wade Norman**, Fishery Officer  
Lifesaving Award - **Phil Taylor**, Field Supervisor  
Rookie of the Year - **Dave Norton**, Fishery Officer

**PARKS CANADA**

Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal - **Craig Burden**, **Mike Henderson**, **Ron Williams**, **Jackie Zinger**

**REGION 2**

**MANITOBA**

2012 OOO - **Gerry Rossett**

**REGION 3**

**NEW BRUNSWICK**

Shikar-Safari OOO - NB DNR Ass't Cons. Sup. **Shawn Farrell**

**REGION 4**

**WYOMING**

2011 WY Game Warden Assoc. OOO - **Matt Lentsch**  
2011 Shikar Safari OOO - **Matt Lentsch**

**COLORADO**

OOO - **District Wildlife Manager Bob Carochi**

**REGION 5**

**KANSAS**

Shikar-Safari OOO - **Hal Kaina**  
Nat. Res. Advancement Education Award - **Jess Gehrt**  
Lifesaving Award - **Jeff Cakin**  
Lifesaving Award - **Bob Funke**  
Lifesaving Award - **Jeff Goeckler**  
Lifesaving Award - **Dan Melson**  
NASBLA 2012 Boating OOO North. Reg. - **Michael Peterson**  
Richard Harrold Award for Investigations - **Mike Hopper**  
Award of Merit - **Jim Bussone**, **Scott Leamon**, **Dan Melson**,  
**Todd Robinson**, **Jason Harrold**, **Chris Stout**

**TEXAS**

SEAFWA OOO - **Ryan Hunter**  
Shikar-Safari OOO - **Danny Kelso**

**WISCONSIN**

Haskell Noyes OOO - **Russ Fell**  
Shikar-Safari OOO - **Warden Sup. Jennifer Niemeyer**

**REGION 6**

**FLORIDA**

NASBLA State Boat OOO - **Dana Klein**  
Florida OOO - **Bryan Fugate**  
Reserve OOO - **Tom Quinlan**  
Duty OOO - **Aileen Gomez**  
Investigator OOO - **Scott Runkle**

**GEORGIA**

NWTF OOO - **Cpl. Mark Patterson**  
Ranger of the Year - **Cpl. Jason Robertson**  
NASBLA State Boating OOO - **RFC Richard Tanner**  
Investigative Ranger of the Year - **Cpl. James Keener**  
State James R. Darnell - **Cpl. James Keener**  
Rocky Wainwright Waterfowl OOO - **RFC Tim Butler**

**LOUISIANA**

NASBLA Boating OOO - **Capt. Spencer Cole**  
NWTF OOO - **Lt. Curtis Belton**  
LA Highway Safety Comm. DWI Enf. Award - **Sgt. Toby Miller**  
Louisiana OOO:

Region 1 - **Senior Agent Toby Meyers**  
Region 2 - **Sgt. Jamie Hagan**  
Region 3 - **Sgt. Trey mason**  
Region 4 - **Senior Agent Ryan Faul**  
Region 5 - **Capt. Bobby Buatt**  
Region 6 - **Sgt. Bryan Marie**  
Region 7 - **Senior Agent Clay Marques**  
Region 8 - **Senior Agent Austin Arteaga**  
Headquarters - **Sgt. Todd Laviolette**

**MARYLAND**

Maryland OOO - **Cpl. Walter May**  
Conservation OOO - **Cpl. Michael Friend**  
NASBLA Boating OOO - **Cpl. Hubert Brohawn**

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

NASBLA State Boating OOO - **Sgt. Steven C. Pop**  
South Carolina OOO - **Pfc. Brian M. Welch**  
OOO Law Enforcement Invest. & Education - **Sgt. Ray Lewis**  
South Carolina OOO:

Region 1 - **Pfc. Brian M. Welch**  
Region 2 - **Off. Ezra Arnold**  
Region 3 - **Sgt. Rhett Bickley**  
Region 4 - **Sgt. Steven C. Pop**

**TENNESSEE**

NASBLA State Boating OOO - **Pam McDonald**  
Shikar-Safari OOO - **Todd Weaver**  
SEAFWA Conservation OOO - **Sgt. Ray Garton**  
NWTF OOO - **David Capenter**

**VIRGINIA**

NASBLA State Boating OOO - **CPO Beth Garrett**  
Virginia Conservation Police OOO - **CPO Josh Williams**  
NWTF OOO - **Senior CPO Dewayne Sprinkle**

## REGION 7

### CONNECTICUT

OOY — **Sgt. James Kane**

### MICHIGAN

NWTF Ooy — **CO Brian Lebel**

MS Flyway Waterfowl Ooy Nominee — **CO Todd Szyska**

Shikar-Safari Ooy — **CO Mike Hammill**

NASB Boating Ooy — **CO Andy Bauer**

### NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION:

Bob Mace Distinguished Ser. Award — **SAC Kenneth Hansen**

Administrator's Award — **Enforcement Officer Bob Yerena**

Certificate of Comm. — **Spec. Agent Christopher McCarron**

Certificate of Comm. — **Spec. Agent Troy Audyatis**

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

2011 Shikar Safari Ooy — **CO Mark Ober, Jr.**

2011 NE Conservation Law Enf. Chiefs Assoc. Ooy  
— **Sgt. Scott Lacrosse**

2012 Shikar Safari Ooy — **Sgt. Wayne Saunders**

2012 NE Conservation Law Enf. Chief's Assoc. Ooy  
— **CO Alex Lopashanski**

### NEW JERSEY

OOY — **CO Steve Sutton**

### NEW YORK

Shikar-Safari ECO/ECI of the Year - **ECO Brian Wade**

NECLECA ECO/ECI of the Year - **ECO Robert O'Connor**

NYSRPA Ooy - **ECO Roger Ward**

### OHIO

NWTF Ooy - **WO Roy Rucker**

Ohio Bowhunters Assoc. Ooy - **WO Tony Zerkle**

Shikar-Safari Ooy - **WO Brad Basske**

Mississippi Flyway Ooy - **WO Brian Bury**

Whitetails Unlimited Ooy — **WO Roby Williams**

### PENNSYLVANIA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION

2012 Deputy Waterways Ooy — **DWCO John Toki**

### PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

Lifesaving Award — **WCO Al Zellner**

Lifesaving Award — **DWCO Jeff Cottle**

Lifesaving Award — **DWCO David Fidler**

NE CLECA Ooy — **WCO Tim Wenrich**

NWTF Land Management Ooy — **LMO Rich Cramer**

NWTF Law Enforcement Ooy — **WCO Roger Hartless**

Shikar Safari Ooy — **WCO Rod Burns**

## Meet other NAWEOA families at the **NAWEOA FAMILY REUNION**

*In Boise, Idaho*

Aka: **NAWEOA SUMMER CONFERENCE**



(continued from page 27)

### ..... **Region 7 report**

The Division's Chemical Immobilization Team is being expanded into New York City and Long Island. Both deer and turkeys are becoming an issue in New York's Borough of Richmond, aka Staten Island.

We anticipate the arrival this summer of the most sophisticated patrol vessel we have ever had in our fleet, a SAFE boat jet-powered 44-foot Archangel. Paid for with Homeland Security funds, it will carry a sophisticated array of FLIR, radiation detectors and communication equipment. All that, and it will pull lobster pots, too. The new academy graduates will have some boat training to do when they hit the City in October.

## 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

Rick Hildebrand

(conference@naweo.org)

or

President

(president@naweo.org)

The NAWEOA BOD will host 2014

## NEED HOSTS \*\* FOR \*\*

► 2015 ◀

► 2016 ◀

► 2017 ◀



## NAWEOA History

*From the*

*Minutes*

*Of the*

*1986*

*Summer*

*NAWEOA*

*Meeting*

New Business - Resolution moved by Murray Busch of Alberta  
"Whereas statistics indicate that the occupation of the Wildlife Enforcement Officer is the most hazardous of any enforcement occupation in North America, and this trend is growing as a result of increasing demand for resources and the more severe consequences of apprehension;  
BE IT RESOLVED that the more than 3,600 professional wildlife enforcement officers of the North American Wildlife Enforcement Officer's Association encourage an support the issuance, professional use, and training in sidearms and other equipment and tactics to further enhance the safety of wildlife enforcement officers throughout North America."

Resolution seconded by Dan Van Exan, Ontario. Carried unanimously.

Resolution for reciprocity presented by Rick Kahn, Colorado.

"Whereas the task of apprehending violators of fish and wild - life laws is difficult, costly and time consuming, an violations and violators frequently cross state, provincial and international boundaries, and that certain states and provinces have the lawful authority to suspend licence privileges for hunting and fishing;

BE IT RESOLVED that the more than 3600 professional wildlife enforcement officers of the North American Wildlife Enforcement Officer's Association encourage all jurisdictions to pursue their legislatures or governing bodies to adopt legislation that would enable natural resource agencies to suspend the licence privileges of violators in their jurisdiction, regardless of the location of where an offence was committed.

The resolution was moved accepted by Myron Hawkins, seconded by M. Bustin, carried unanimously.

## ELECTION CALL

Wanted a Few Good Members!

by Kevin Schoepp

The following Executive Board positions are eligible for election at the 2013 summer conference in Boise, Idaho:

- ⇒ President (Canadian Officer)
- ⇒ Vice President (US Officer)
- ⇒ Region 4 Director (Western US)
- ⇒ Region 5 Director (Central US)
- ⇒ Region 6 Director (SE US)
- ⇒ Region 7 Director (NE US)

Director positions are for a two-year term. Our constitution allows for a Director to serve two terms. The candidate for a Regional Director position must be a regular member in good standing and must reside in the region in which they are running. In addition, candidates for President and Vice President must have previously served on the Executive Board.

Individuals may be nominated at the conference or nominations can be sent to me prior to the conference. Nominations will be accepted until the call for the closing of nominations at the conference. Nominations that are submitted must be seconded and both the nominator and the person seconding the nomination must be regular members in good standing. Candidates will be given an opportunity to speak at the conference during the NAWEOA Business Meeting. Individuals nominated who are not in attendance at the conference can have an attending delegate speak on their behalf. All regular members attending the conference are eligible to vote. The successful candidates will be announced at the banquet on Saturday night.

Anyone interested in running for a position on the Board can contact me at [s.k.schoepp@sasktel.net](mailto:s.k.schoepp@sasktel.net) and I will provide a complete list of duties and responsibilities.



# NAWEOA 2013

## Boise, Idaho

July 14 - 20



Hello, my name is Lew Huddleston. As Chairman of the Steering Committee, I want to personally invite you to the 2013 NAWEOA Conference to be held in Boise, Idaho, July 14-20. I have to admit it was nice knowing that up until now we have had the luxury of being over a year away from our conference. Now the Arizona conference is in the rear view mirror with all of NAWEOA looking ahead towards Boise, Idaho.

There is a tremendous amount of excitement within the Idaho Conservation Officers Association (ICOA). Each member of the ICOA has his or her own reason for living in Idaho and we hope to show the hundreds of NAWEOA members and their families who attend the 2013 conference why many of us can't imagine living anywhere else.

I would like to encourage everyone attending the 2013 conference in Boise to try to experience as much of Idaho as possible. It is truly a spectacular place. You can do that in a variety of ways. One way is by taking part in as many tours as possible. A few of them are once-in-a-lifetime trips. The Hells Canyon jet boat ride is through some truly spectacular country.

The second way is to plan an extended vacation in Idaho and see as much as you can. Whether you want to experience the large deep lakes of northern Idaho surrounded by dark cedar forests, the world class fly fishing in eastern Idaho or an almost barren setting like the Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve, Idaho has something for everybody.



Our conference website is up and running at: [www.idahonaweo2013.org](http://www.idahonaweo2013.org). As the year goes by, be sure to keep checking the website for updated information.

The Idaho Conservation Officers Association is looking forward to hosting you in Boise, Idaho, in 2013 and showing everyone why Idaho is such a special place.

Lew Huddleston  
Steering Committee Chairman  
NAWEOA 2013 Conference



Boise is located in the Pacific Northwest and convenient from many major airline hubs. Once here, the Boise airport is only 10 minutes from downtown – where the NAWEOA Conference will be held.



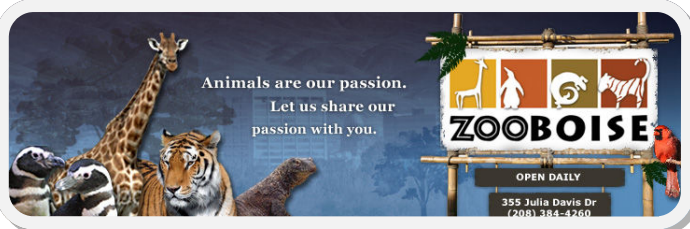
**Urban amenities without the urban hassles** – Boise offers a variety of activities for all ages. Enjoy pedestrian-friendly downtown shopping, golfing, visiting one of unique museums (such as the only Basque Museum in the U.S., the Old Territorial Penitentiary and the World Center for Birds of Prey) or walk/bike the 22-mile greenbelt path along the Boise River. Boise’s lifestyle and climate (235 days of sunshine) attract restaurateurs, entrepreneurs and artists from around the world. You will find an abundance of outdoor eateries and pubs. For visitors, this means all the comforts and quality of a large city, but without the transportation and security issues and other hassles.



**Lots to do** – Boise keeps you entertained. Whether you’re looking for culture (an outdoor Shakespeare performance or an outdoor concert), a mountain biking adventure, hiking or history, you’ll find it here. Popular activities include a historic train ride on the Thunder Mountain Line, rafting for all ages, rafting trips and spa days, punctuated with evenings at the theaters and specialty restaurants featuring Idaho grown food and Idaho made beer and wine. Visit one of our 22 wineries in the southwest region.

There is no need to rent a car in Boise because all area hotels offer free airport shuttle. All conference hotels are within walking distance of several parks and museums such as the Idaho Historical Museum, the Discovery Center (a hands-on science museum), Boise Art Museum, Idaho Black History Museum, Zoo Boise, and the Anne Frank Human Rights Memorial.

Favorite summertime activities for locals and visitors alike include attending the “Alive After Five” free summer concert series on the Grove Plaza every Wednesday. And a visit to the Saturday Market to purchase local paintings, jewelry, pottery, décor and more, as well as locally grown food and wines is always popular. For sports fans, experiencing one of the many sporting events such as Steelheads hockey, Boise State football, Hawks baseball, Stampede basketball and Les Boise Park horse racing is a must. Many also enjoy fishing in the heart of the City on the Boise River, golfing on one of our many courses, and hiking or biking on one of our many trails in the Boise foothills.



The NAWEOA 2013 Conference Committee has great things in store for attendees and their families. Make plans now to attend!



**North American Wildlife  
Enforcement Officers Association  
2013 Conference  
Boise, Idaho**

2013 Conference Host  
Idaho Conservation Officers Association  
<http://www.idahonaweo2013.org/>



## **TENTATIVE CONFERENCE BUSINESS AND SOCIAL SCHEDULE**

### **SUNDAY, July 14, 2013**

10:00 am – 7:00 am	Registration (Grove Hotel)	
12:00pm — 1900 pm	<b>Social Activities</b>	Thunder Mountain Train (Adult \$70/pp Youth 12 and under \$60/pp)
8:00 pm – 12:00 am		Hospitality Room (Century Link Arena)

### **MONDAY, July 15, 2013**

10:00 am – 7:00 pm	Registration	
8:30 am – 5:00 pm	<b>Social Activities</b>	Golf Tournament
12:00 pm – 6:00 pm		Rafting Tour – Cascade Rafting Company - Class III & V The Splash Half Day Main Payette (Adult \$95/pp Youth \$85/pp) The Rush Half Day Lower South Fork (Adult & 12 and Older \$100/pp)
8:00 pm – 12:00 am		Hospitality Room (Century Link Arena)

### **TUESDAY, July 16, 2013**

8:00 am – 6:00 pm	Registration	
8:00 am – 5:00 pm	<b>Business Activities</b>	NAWEOA EXECUTIVE MEETING
10:00 am – 5:00 pm	<b>Social Activities</b>	Wine Tasting - Sawtooth, St. Chappell, Koenig Wineries (Adult \$70/pp lunch Incl.)
10:30 am – 5:00 pm		Roaring Springs Waterpark Tour (Adult or Youth \$45/pp)
Time TBD		World Center for Birds of Prey (Adult or Youth \$40/pp)
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm		Beer Tasting Event at Grove Hotel (Adult \$25/pp)
8:00 pm – 12:00 am		Hospitality Room (Century Link Arena)

### **WEDNESDAY, July 17, 2013**


8:00 am – 7:00 pm	Registration	
7:30 am – 10:30 pm	<b>Business Activities</b>	Officer meet at Capital Group Photo (Officers in Uniform) March Back to Convention Center Opening Ceremonies
10:30 am – 11:30 am		NAWEOA Welcoming and Awards
11:30 am – 1:00 pm		Officers' Luncheon Significant Others' Luncheon
1:30 pm – 4:00 pm		Keynote Motivational Speaker
1:00 pm – 7:00 pm		Exhibitors
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm	<b>Social Activities</b>	Teen Payette River Rafting Trip w/BSU (\$45/pp includes lunch) Youth Boise River Rafting & Outdoor Clinic (\$20/pp includes lunch) Torch Run Museum Fundraiser & BBQ (Adult or Youth \$25/pp)
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm		Alive After Five (Grove Plaza)
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm		Retired Officer Mixer (Grove Hotel) (Adult \$25/pp)
8:00 pm – 12:00 am		Hospitality Room (Century Link Arena) Co-hosted Washington Officers

### **THURSDAY, July 18, 2013**

8:00 am – 7:00 pm	Registration	
8:00 am – 10:00 pm	<b>Business Activities</b>	Speakers (Breakout sessions)
10:00 am – 12:00 pm		NAWEOA Business Meeting / Officer Exchange Presentations
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm		Lunch (on own)
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm		Speakers (Breakout sessions)
8:00 am – 5:00 pm		Exhibitors
10:00 am – 5:00 pm	<b>Social Activities</b>	Hells Canyon Jet Boat Tour (Adult & Youth \$195/pp lunch incl.)
9:00 am – 2:00 pm		Sig-O's Gone Wild!: Idaho Zip Line Tour (Adult or Youth \$120/pp)
9:00 am – 2:00 pm		Sig O's Gone Wild!: South Fork Payette River Rafting (Adult or Teen \$100/pp)
6:00 am – 7:00 pm		Photography Class / Practical Walking Tour (Adult & Youth \$35/pp lunch incl.)



TENTATIVE CONFERENCE BUSINESS AND SOCIAL SCHEDULE CONTINUED.....		
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Social Activities	Female Officer Mixer – Bardenays Broiler Room (directions in registration packet)
6:00 pm - 7:30pm		Bogus Basin Sunset Hike (Adult or Youth \$20/pp)
8:00 pm – 12:00 am		Hospitality Room (Century Link Arena) Conference Bid Presentations
FRIDAY, July 19, 2013		
8:00 am – 7:00 pm	Registration	
8:30 am – 12:00 pm	Business Activities	NAWEOA Business Meeting / Candidate Speeches
12:00 am – 7:00 pm	Social Activities	Game Warden Skills Games (lunch to be purchased from onsite vendor)
4:00 pm – 7:00 pm		BBQ at Eagle Island ( site of game warden skills games)
8:00 pm – 12:00 am		Hospitality Room (Century Link Arena) Co-hosted with Utah Officers Assoc.
SATURDAY, July 20, 2013		
8:00 am – 7:00 pm	Registration	
7:00 am – 8:00 am	Business Activities	Jurisdictional Representative Breakfast
8:00 am – 3:00 pm		Speakers - Breakout Sessions (Lunch on own)
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm		Closing Ceremonies
9:00 am - 2:00 pm	Social Activities	Photography Class/Practical Walking Tour (Adult or Youth \$35/pp lunch Incl.)
5:30 pm – 12:00 am		Banquet
SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2013		
9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Business Activities	NAWEOA Executive Board Meeting (Location to be announced)



Located in the heart of downtown Boise,  
The Grove Hotel  
is anchor to a dynamic blend of sights and attractions.  
The Morrison Center, Ballet Idaho, Julia Davis Park, The Basque Block,  
and over 60 restaurants & shopping options are within walking distance.  
Come experience the essence of Boise!

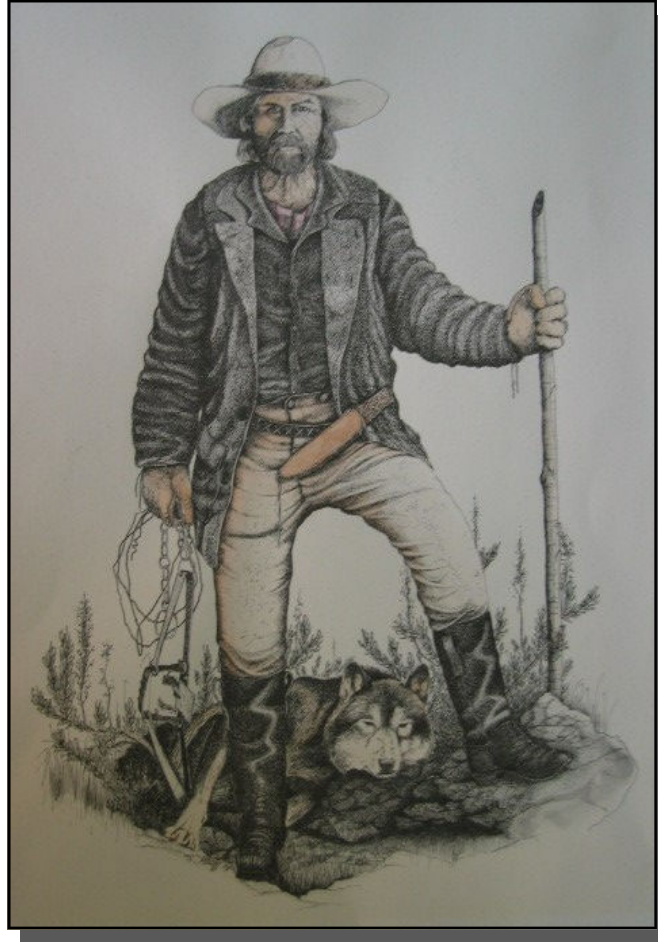
208-333-8000      [www.grovehotelboise.com](http://www.grovehotelboise.com)

The  
Grove Hotel  
Room Rate  
For  
2013  
NAWEOA  
Conference

**\$77.00/night**  
+ taxes



***The Trapper***  
***by fallen***  
***Idaho Wildlife Officer and artist***  
***Bill Pogue***



**The original pen and ink was hand-colored by the artist for use on the cover of the Idaho Wildlife Magazine.**

**Bill Pogue's family generously allowed the use of Bill's art work "The Trapper" as a fundraiser for the North American Game Warden Museum.**

**Visit the Museum booth at the Idaho NAWEOA conference to purchase your Museum edition print for \$20.**

**Proceeds to the Museum and its mission of honoring fallen officers.**

**Permission for reprint granted by family and agency.**

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

## NAWEOA

Stephen Beltran-Secretary, Treasurer  
P.O. Box 7  
Leaf River, IL 61047

Published semi-annually by the North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers Association. Articles contained herein are the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of the NAWEOA Executive or Editor. PRINTED IN State College, PA, USA

		<p>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.</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>To learn more about the magazine or subscribe, visit:</p> <p><a href="http://www.igwmagazine.com">www.igwmagazine.com</a></p> <p>Or contact:</p> <p><b>Marion Hoffman</b> Subscriptions Manager International Game Warden</p> <p><a href="mailto:subscription@igwmagazine.com">subscription@igwmagazine.com</a> (845)331-6975</p>		