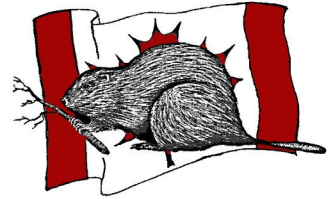




**NORTH AMERICAN
WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION**

"The Voice of Resource Law Enforcement"



33rd Annual Conference

July 21st—July 26th



Spring 2014
61st Edition NAWEOA Newsletter

NAWEOA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

President Dave Webster Box 850, 7290 2nd St., Grand Forks, BC V0H 1H0	(250)442-5643 H (250)442-4355 W	president@naweo.org
Vice-President Lew Huddleston P.O. Box 131, Menan, ID 83434	(208)881-1321 C (208)390-1624 C	vpresident@naweo.org
Past President Rich Cramer P.O. Box 116, Tionesta, PA 16353	(814)755-3249H	ppresident@naweo.org
Secretary/Treasurer Steve Beltran P.O. Box 7, Leaf River, IL 61047	(815)243-7777	secretarytreasurer@naweo.org
Director Region 1 Lori Backen 4919-51 Street, Rocky Mountain House, AB T4T 1B3	(403)845-8261 W (403)844-0782 C	region1@naweo.org
Director Region 2 Justin Punchard 40 Charles Court, Tweed, ON K0K 3J0	(613)305-2630	region2@naweo.org
Director Region 3 Shawn Farrell 998 Douglas Ave., Fredericton, NB E3A 9M8	(506)458-5897 H (506)444-2382 W	(506)444-2487 Fax region3@naweo.org
Director Region 4 Gabe Paz 3546 S. Sun Splash Dr, Tucson, AZ 85713	(520)975-5162	gpaz1az@centurylink.net
Director Region 5 Carlos Gomez 215 W. 115 St., Jenks, OK 74037	(918)232-8449	region5@naweo.org
Director Region 6 Jeff White 13434 Gruber Rd, Clear Springs, MD 21722	(301)842-3167 H (443)934-3159 W	region6@naweo.org
Director Region 7 Mark Allegro PO Box 22, Meadville, PA 16335	(814)336-2037	region7@naweo.org
Webmaster Robin Brandenburg 352 Hwy 'M', Steelville, MO 65565	(573) 775-2270 H	webmaster@naweo.org
Conference Liaison Rick Hildebrand 4232 Furiak Road, Kamloops, BC V2H 1L3	(250)578-0221 H	(250)578-0243 Fax conference@naweo.org
Newsletter Editor Levi Krause 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

← **2013 NAWEOA conference patches** remain available for purchase. The cost per patch (including shipping and handling) for all patches from 2008 through 2013 is \$7.00 USD.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NAWEOA

Mail to: WCO 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)]



Fallen Officer Memorial



Thankfully, there are no new names listed here at the time of printing.

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 TO BUY NAWEOA HATS, BUCKLES, AND MUCH MORE

Meet new Board member—Gabriel Paz



I have been an officer with the Arizona Game and Fish Department for the past 17 years. I was born and raised in Tucson, Arizona. My current position with the Department is the Law Enforcement Program Manager out of the Tucson AGFD office. I supervise one investigator and I oversee training and Law Enforcement Coordination for the southeast corner of Arizona. I also work on a state level with my counterparts to train new officers and non commissioned employees. I am married and have three children. I love to hunt and fish as most Game Wardens do. I do everything I can to protect my passion. I also sit on the board of Directors of the Arizona Chapter of Safari Club International and I recently became an official measurer for the SCI scoring system.

President's Message by Dave Webster



Hello, everyone. It's been just over a month since the Executive Board got together in Reno, NV, for the winter meeting. It was a very busy week with all the Executive working long days to tackle a variety of issues that will face NAWEOA in the coming years.

As President, I am continually impressed with the hard work and dedication of those on the Board who volunteer their time away from very busy personal and professional lives to promote and further this organization. The topics are not always pleasant nor are the discussions easy, but every member of this board works hard on behalf of NAWEOA and its membership.

We on the Executive Board and all members of NAWEOA, I'm sure, look forward to the conference next year being hosted by NAWEOA in Reno. Randy Hancock, Scott Haney and Steve Tomac, in conjunction with officers from Nevada, have been working extremely hard to make this year's conference

an exceptional training and social venue. I urge all of you to attend Reno and continue the proud tradition of the summer conference. It is that tradition that we on the Board are working diligently to continue and, in doing so, have had to explore avenues outside the norm for NAWEOA and its members. As such, we are entering into partnership with an event planner to help host our summer conference in 2015. Milligan Events will be doing the heavy lifting and, in doing so, secure a summer conference for next year. Please refer to the Conference Liaison report provided by Rick Hildebrand for more details on that issue.

Be safe during this busy spring season and I look forward seeing everyone in Reno this summer!

Past President's Final Report by Rich Cramer



NAWEOA is entering uncharted waters as planning and implementation of the 2014 conference continues in Reno **with your board of directors as the host behind co-chairs Randy Hancock, Scott Haney and Steve Tomac.** The conference in 2015 will be a new experience as NAWEOA has contracted with Milligan Events of Boise, Idaho, to be the lead in planning the 2015 event. Your board continues to work diligently to represent the membership and make hard decisions concerning the future of the Association.

Election Call!!!

As is the case each and every summer, elections will be held for certain Board positions. This year in Reno, elections will be held for the three Canadian Director positions (Regions 1, 2 & 3). In addition, we will be replacing Conference Liaison Rick Hildebrand as he has chosen to not seek a second term. We will also be replacing longtime Board member and Newsletter Editor Levi Krause as he has decided to retire after publication of the 2014 fall edition of the newsletter. The Executive Board will be accepting resumes for these two positions. Look for details elsewhere in this issue.

Director positions are for a two-year term. The NAWEOA 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 for which they are running. Anyone interested in running for a director position on the Board

can contact me at ppresident@naweo.org and I can provide a complete list of duties and responsibilities.

Persons can be nominated at the conference or nominations can be sent to me prior to the conference. Nominations shall 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 seconder must be regular members in good standing. Candidates will be given an opportunity to speak at the conference during the NAWEOA business meeting. Persons nominated who are not in attendance at the conference may 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.

Stay safe out there and may God bless you all. I'll see you all in Reno.

Vice President's Report by Lew Huddleston



WOW! That's about all I can say about the winter meeting the Executive Board just had in Reno. Four days of intense meetings with a tremendous amount of deep, thoughtful discussion. This was our second winter meeting at the Silver Legacy. Because we are bringing the summer conference to their location, they were willing to

comp the majority of the rooms for each meeting. That provided us a pretty good savings on the winter meeting costs.

I want to say a quick "thank you" and send a note of admiration to the Board members. It takes a tremendous amount of dedication for anyone to take six days out of their lives to attend the winter meeting. This is my third winter meeting and they were by far the most intense meetings I have attended with the Executive Board. NAWEOA is at a crossroads as far as the summer conference goes. I would recommend that everyone read the report from Rick Hildebrand, Conference Liaison. In fact, you might want to read it twice.

By all accounts, the Reno conference is in good hands with Randy Hancock, Scot Haney and Steve Tomac handling the brunt of the event.

They are well on their way to putting together a great conference.

As far as future conferences, the Board was given a presentation by a representative of Milligan Events, a conference planner. The great thing about Milligan is that they are flexible enough that if a jurisdiction wants to host a conference but is not sure how to go about it, Milligan will provide whatever assistance the jurisdiction needs. Hopefully, they will be a tremendous asset as we move forward.

As VP, one of my main duties is to administer the NAWEOA Awards. If you know of an officer that is worthy of any of the awards NAWEOA presents, please go on to the NAWEOA website and submit an award. The website is www.naweo.org. Take a look at the categories and recognize your fellow officers for their outstanding work. See you all in Reno.

CONFERENCE LIAISON REPORT by Rick Hildebrand



After a great deal of effort to solicit a host for the 2015 Conference has come up empty, the Executive Board has made the decision to pursue an alternative means of holding a conference. To that end, Milligan Events was approached to provide NAWEOA with a proposal to conduct the major portion of the planning for such a conference.

At the recent Board meeting in Reno, a representative from Milligan Events presented the proposal and answered many questions fielded by the Board. After careful deliberation,

the decision was made to proceed with the Milligan Events proposal. As part of the agreement, Milligan Events will research five to six different locations identified by the Board as potentially suitable conference locations and scope them out. They will be coming back to us with a range of details on these locations and looking for NAWEOA to narrow the field down to three contenders. Then Milligan will put out requests for proposals to these locations, seeking the best options for our 2015 conference. As part of the services contracted, Milligan Events will fulfill many of the tasks that a traditional conference host jurisdiction would normally undertake. Please note that this approach was basically a last resort once it was confirmed that we did not have a conference host for 2015. The Board will be closely monitoring the progress of this endeavor. We hope to provide a significant update by conference time in Reno this July to allow members to plan for the 2015 conference with as much notice as possible.

Currently, the 2014 Conference in Reno is being planned under the direction of the NAWEOA Executive, with

Randy Hancock, Steve Tomac and Scott Haney taking on the key roles of a core committee. Others have also stepped up to provide their time and expertise in organizing the conference. Still more will be required to assist at the conference itself. Anyone wishing to provide some assistance should contact Randy, Steve or Scott directly.

These next two conferences will be a potential turning point for NAWEOA. The option being utilized for Reno this year is not a sustainable option beyond this one conference. It is yet to be determined how feasible or affordable the option being proceeded with for 2015 may play out. NAWEOA was formed in 1980 and has seen 32 conferences to date being provided for the members. If the 2015 option of outsourcing the conference planning proves to be unsustainable/unaffordable for the long haul and we do not see other jurisdictions stepping up to host future conferences, what will happen to NAWEOA? The future of your organization is your hands. Do you want to see NAWEOA around for another 30 years? Or is this the beginning of the end?

REGION 1 REPORT



Lori Backen
Region 1 Director

Alberta Game Warden Association

Greetings from AGWA! This December Troop 12 graduated from the Western Conservation Law Enforcement Academy in Hinton, Alberta. This year there were 9 recruits from British Columbia, 10 from Alberta and 5 from Saskatchewan. During Academy new recruits are trained in a number of disciplines unique to the conservation law enforcement environment, including the operation of ATVs, watercraft, 4x4's, problem wildlife as well as typical law enforcement training in firearms, defensive tactics and investigations. This year's Chief's award went to Alberta Fish and Wildlife Officer Samantha Hillier.

This fall, Fish and Wildlife Officers conducted an investigation where a sow and cub grizzly bear were shot and left in the Edson District. In December the accused (an Edmonton man) was found guilty of five counts under the Wildlife Act, including two counts of hunting wildlife out of season, two counts of abandoning the carcasses, and one count of unlawful possession of wildlife and was sentenced to 5 months in jail, a \$10,000 fine and a 9 year hunting ban.

Alberta Natural Resource Officer Association

We are looking forward to a weekend gathering on April 25 and 26th, 2014 in Jasper, Alberta. Our guest speaker for the Saturday event will be Chris Butler. Chris, a former employee of Alberta Parks, now a Calgary City Police Officer and is the Director and Chief Training Officer of Raptor Protection and Safety Services. He will be doing a presentation on the 'The Theatre of the Mind: Armouring the Brain to Win; Before, During and After!'. It is not only open to Alberta Conservation Officers, but our seasonal Parks Service Rangers, Alberta Peace Officers and any Law Enforcement Officers. On Sunday, we will have our Annual General Meeting to discuss the current issues affecting our Membership.

The past year, in 2013, the ANROA NAWEOA Newsletter Spring 2014

'Officer of the Year' Award recipient was Conservation Officer – Norma Campbell (Edmonton Operations) and the ANROA "Dale Phillips Award" recipient was Conservation Officer Dave Crooks (High Prairie District).

Yukon Conservation Officer Association

John Russell the Director of Conservation Officer Services retired after 34 years of public service as a Conservation Officer. John Russell spent 34 years working as a Conservation Officer then a Regional Manager and finally the Director of Conservation Officer Services Branch (COSB) before retiring in September 2013.



John Russell is on the left and the Premier of the Yukon Government Darrell Pasloski is on the right

Over his career John Russell formed an extremely positive working relationship with his clients and staff many of which will miss his skill set, knowledge and influence. As a supervisor John Russell has trained many officers over the years leaving Conservation Officer Services Branch with a set of highly trained, skilled and passionate personnel dedicated to protecting Yukon's environment and public safety. Kris Gustafson, a long time Yukon Conservation Officer, is now the Director of Conservation Services Branch. Kris brings very strong leadership skills with him in this role and has the respect from all the field officers in the Branch.

British Columbia Conservation Officers Association

The Society of BC Conservation Officers has been very active in 2013. It has been one of the driving forces in the creation of a COS standing committee with the union, contract bargaining and the COS Executive. On another good note the Soci-

ety annual campout is gaining popularity again with members and their families. The last 2 campouts have been well attended as it brings us back to the comradely we enjoy, on and off the job.

The CO Service in BC once again has gone through a number of changes including its executive right up to the Chief Conservation Officer. The realization that not all leaders from other credible enforcement agencies can come into an resource law enforcement agency and be successful, has come to light. This probably is not a news flash to other jurisdictions. But on the positive note the new leadership, although has some huge hurdles, is credible and comes from within. We believe there will be some positive results from this change for 2014.

In December, the Conservation Officer Service welcomed 9 recruits that recently graduated from WCLEA. These recruits were posted throughout the province and should be enjoying their new careers. The COS instituted a hound program in 2011/12 and unfortunately one of hounds "Bust" was killed in the line of duty, in late 2013. Bust had served the COS well and treed many a cat. The cougar that inflicted the fatal wound on Bust was destroyed by his handler.



Saskatchewan Conservation Officers Association – No Submission.

Northwest Territories - No Submission

Parks Canada - No Submission

Department of Fisheries and Oceans Pacific Region - No Submission

REGION 2 REPORT



Region 2 Director Justin Punchard

I hope this addition of the newsletter finds everyone well after what has been a traditional winter here in Ontario. It has been a long, cold and snowy winter across most of North America and, as I write this, I just finished plowing another 6 inches of snow in my driveway. I want to formally recognise and thank the Region 2 J-Reps for their reports and continued hard work throughout the year. I would also like to acknowledge the recent addition to Region 2 with the National Capital Commission rejoining NAWEOA as regular members. Jason Pink, the J-Rep, has done an exceptional job communicating since taking on the new role. I look forward to seeing all of you in Reno, Nevada, this July for which will, no doubt, be another great conference.

MANITOBA - Dan McMahon, President – Manitoba Natural Resource Officers Association

Hello from Manitoba. Manitoba is experiencing one of the coldest winters on record with more snow than usual. The result is slush-filled lakes and rivers and variable ice conditions.

Manitoba Natural Resource Officers were excluded from the new Police Services Act two years ago. The impact took some time to filter down to us. Our Manager of Compliance and Field Services has been working endlessly on trying to remedy this. If all goes well, the Conservation Officer Service Act will be enacted into legislation by summer. This new legislation will offer protection to Natural Resource Officers in Manitoba that was lost with the new Police Services Act. It will provide clarity on our role as enforcement officers, reference officer training, enforcement authorities, and accountability. When the new Act is

legislated, it will initiate a name change from Natural Resource Officers to Conservation Officers.

Officers are also dealing with loss of enforcement authorities because of court rulings over the past couple years. Roadside check stations targeting resource harvesters have been ruled to infringe on the rights of the general public.

We continue to support the North American Game Warden Museum through a number of initiatives. Last year we conducted a joint raffle with the Museum. Over \$1600 was raised for the Museum. I would like to acknowledge and send out a huge "Thank You" to Jim Binder. Jim is a life member of NAWEOA and an officer in Pennsylvania. He was the winner of 1st prize, a Benelli shotgun. Jim donated the shotgun back to our Association for use in future fundraising initiatives.

I was presented with the Shikar Safari Club International, Manitoba Wildlife Officer

just recently posted 9 permanent Conservation Officer positions around the Province. These positions will get filled on a priority basis. Vehicles and other operating equipment are replaced when required. Our budgets will remain similar to past years.

As far as awards, we have had 3 officers receive awards. Officers Matt Brooks and Scott McCaughey both received Outstanding Achievement awards. A familiar face to NAWEOA conventions, Dan VanExan, received the Officer of the Year award. All very well deserved!

We have had a number of successful court decisions. In one case, courts fined a variety of individuals a total of \$72,000 following a lengthy investigation. The court heard that conservation officers conducted a two-year covert investigation in cooperation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Departments of Natural Resources for Wisconsin, Michigan, New York and Minnesota, and the New Zealand Commission of Wildlife. The conservation officers discovered that a hunting and fishing lodge operator and his staff from Northwestern Ontario encouraged clients to hunt wolves without a licence. Staff then used their own resident licences to validate the wolf or arranged for guests to buy licences afterward. Guests were allowed to fish without a licence and were later sold backdated fishing licences. As part of their package, guests were fed grouse and mallard duck and were advised that they were fed American elk.



This occurred on a remote trap line patrol in Lake Winnipeg East District. It took over two hours for two of us to recover the snowmobile from the creek.

of the Year 2013, award this past January. It was truly humbling and an honour to be recognized by my peers. Thank you! Take care.

ONTARIO - Brett Cachagee

Hello from Ontario, Canada. Ontario is currently in the midst of a 3-year transformation process, which involves all divisions within the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. The Enforcement Branch has been minimally impacted compared to other divisions within the agency. Having said that, there have been some staff affected and there may be more changes to come. Although this process is ongoing, we have

Ontario Conservation Officers Association seventh year hosting the "kids and wardens fishing adventure". This event is always a great success and provides opportunities to underprivileged kids to have an outdoor adventure of a lifetime!

Our Association has stepped into the digital media world. Our website can be visited at ocoa.ca. We can also be followed on Facebook and Twitter; please check us out! Our thanks go out to our web masters, Conservation Officers Ron Arnold and Dan Slater!

We are all going through difficult times in one way or another. Don't lose sight of why you chose to become a game warden

in the first place. Be safe.

NUNAVUT - Jon Neely

It was a busy year for the Nunavut Wildlife Officers Association. After recognizing a need for more consistent and standardized training for the officers within the territory, a new training program was developed and implemented for our officers after a year of planning and organizing. The development of this program was led by our Department's Wildlife Division and Environmental Protection Division. It was developed to be Nunavut-specific, as the unique environment in which we live requires different training from what is delivered to agencies in the south. Both cultural and environmental considerations were taken into account to ensure that appropriate training was being delivered to officers. Most of our stations are one-man stations in remote locations, so it is important that our officers are equipped to handle any issues that arise. Unique challenges are faced in Nunavut when it comes to group training, as our 30 officers are spread out among 25 remote fly-in communities. Arranging for all our officers to be in the same place for a couple of weeks for training requires a huge financial and organizational effort to pull off, as all our officers have to be flown to and lodged in one location for a period of at least two weeks.

Our annual conference was held from February 3 to February 16, 2014, in the territory's capital of Iqaluit. The conference was attended by enforcement officers from our Wildlife, Environmental Protection, and Parks Divisions. The training went great, with a mix of in-class and practical training being delivered. We also had a 3-day search warrant course put on by visiting conservation officers from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment. The next step for the Department is to have some of our officers trained as instructors in order to be less dependent on other agencies to deliver consistent training.

Our organization continues to strive to move forward and continue the professional development of our officers, as the pressure on our resources in the North will continue to increase as the population of Nunavut continues to grow in years to come. Cheers!

NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION - Jason Pink

Hello, NAWEOA members. My name is Jason Pink. I am the J-Rep for the National Capital Commission. I have been a full-time conservation officer for about 8 years. The NCC has returned to NAWEOA after many years of being away. At that time, budget cuts were made and we lost the funding to continue being active members. We are now glad to be back! For those of you who have not heard of us or have forgotten about us, here is a quick summary: The NCC has nine full-time conservation officers and one supervisor. Our ranks are slightly higher in the summer months when we have three junior officers and student patrollers to assist us with the work load.

The NCC conservation officer assumes many roles during the course of the day. Our main mandate is law enforcement, natural resource-wildlife management and public safety on Federal properties in the National Capital Region and in Gatineau Park in the province of Quebec. We are appointed as Peace Officers through the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) as special constables to enforce the National Capital Commission Traffic and Property Regulations. We are also appointed fisheries officers in Ontario and Quebec, enforcement officers by the Minister of Transport to enforce small-vessel regulations and a multitude of other regulations on both sides of the border. Up until last season, we were two separate groups working the same job in different provinces. We have recently merged the two groups of officers and now we all work in both Ontario and Quebec.

The NCC has seen severe government

cutbacks as of last April. Our agency saw 81 jobs transferred to other federal agencies and countless other jobs were lost. The conservation officer service was not immune from those cuts, having lost one full-time supervisor job and one full-time officer position as well. The loss of the supervisor position is what prompted the merger of the two teams in an effort to save on equipment and re-distribute staff resources to areas most needed.

We are a 24-hour, 365-days-a-year service. There is always an officer or two on duty who take calls day or night. Since we work a combination of rural and urban landscapes, calls to serve the public make up a large percentage of our workload.

On a positive note, all of the full-time officers now have laptop computers in our trucks. All our office work can be done remotely and we can access maps and internet information. We have also completed a chemical immobilization course for large game. Being in a city setting, relocating moose, deer and bear is not an uncommon occurrence. We have even been called to capture a 5-foot iguana stuck in a tree!

NCC COs participate in search and rescues, forest fire fighting, marijuana eradication, RIDE programs with police, surveillance during hunting season, fisheries patrols and many wildlife/natural resources projects. We are currently conducting a survey by way of capturing and placing GPS tracking collars on the wolf population in Gatineau Park.

We are pleased to be members once again of this great association. Stay safe and see you in the field!



NAWEOA NEWSLETTER ON-LINE IN FULL COLOR

***This is the last paper newsletter that will be mailed to you.
Beginning with the next issue, the newsletter will be digital only.
You will have to visit the NAWEOA website to access the newsletter
and print your own if you want a paper copy.***

***ALL NAWEOA NEWSLETTERS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING ON
THE PROTECTED SECTION OF THE
NAWEOA WEBSITE — naweo.org***

REGION 3 REPORT



Region 3 Director Shawn Farrell

Greetings from Region 3. This will be my last report as Region 3 Director as my second term will conclude this summer at the NAWEOA Conference in Reno, Nevada. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the J-Reps from Region 3, along with fellow officers across North America for your support and help over the past four years. I have truly enjoyed my time as Regional Director and have found it to be a very rewarding experience.

I want to wish you all the best in 2014. Stay Safe.

New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources - Arthur Cronin

Hello from New Brunswick! Another good year was had here in the east. Our winter is going well and we are hoping for an early spring but I suspect we are still a month or two out from seeing much in the way of green. This year's snow fall, at this point, has been fairly heavy; hopefully our deer herd will do alright.

Our Mobile Workstation project is moving along well and is just about done with the roll out. They have been a real bonus for our field capabilities as it has freed us up from needing to report into our offices. As an added bonus to our workstations, they developed a mobile mapping program designed with our Conservation Enforcement efforts in mind. It had been a huge success amongst officers.

It looks like a new uniform is on the horizon for us, complete with new flashes. We should be receiving the first of the new uniform items in the near future. From what we have seen of them, officers are quite pleased with what's coming.

Our Defensive Tactics Instructors were able to introduce us to Simunition as part of our training regimen. It has been very well received by the officers and should be a real benefit for our ongoing training.

Our Shikar Safari Wildlife Officer of the Year is Bruce Woulds. This is a very well-deserved honor for Bruce; congratulations!

Bruce is well respected by his fellow officers and exemplifies the kind of officer the award is meant to honor.

Our Special Investigation Program is making real strides and showing some great results. Recently one person who had been a target of our SI program was penalized with the largest fine in our New Brunswick Fish & Wildlife Acts history. He received a \$16,000 fine and 35 days in jail for the illegal sale and possession of moose meat. He was just one of eight individuals charged during this operation.

We had the opportunity to hire some new officers this year which has been an excellent boost to our program. It's always good to get some new officers as it serves to revitalize our efforts. We all welcome them aboard and look forward to seeing a few more join our ranks this year if all goes well. Like many other agencies, we are facing an aging workforce and have lost a few officers to that "golden handshake" called "retirement". We are expecting to see a few more of these in the coming year. As we lose these officers, we lose their experience. This loss is tough, but hopefully the new officers will help fill the void with their enthusiasm. We can't say enough in the way of thanks to these officers who have put in such long and dedicated careers.

I feel that I need to say a small part about officer safety this year. Winter conditions can present safety perils that need to be recognized. Luckily, we have not had any dire happenings, but a couple of near misses keep officer safety at the forefront of our thoughts.

Be safe out there!

Prince Edward Island - Locke Jones

Hello all,

Currently we are having a busy winter season in regards to trapping. As the prices have risen over the last several years, so has our attention to the harvest. Since the number of trappers has increased, the number of complaints has increased as well. Charges relating to trapping have also increased accordingly. Due to the adverse winter weather conditions and heavy snowfall since December, we have increased our patrols by way of snowmobile. These patrols have resulted in numerous offences and files relating to hunting and trapping. Our waterfowl seasons had been extended for several species this year and this kept us on our toes responding to many complaints and concerns from both the general public and other hunters as well.

We continue to face challenges in regards to increased workloads and staff

shortages. A recent competition will fill the full-time eastern position which has been filled in an acting capacity as of late. Our friend and co-worker Jason Thistle, who was injured in a serious MVA on December 31, 2012 continues to make significant progress in his rehabilitation and hopes to return to duty in the spring.

Some of our officers have environmental and agricultural files before the courts. Some, relating to fish kills in our waterways, have been ongoing for two years. These files are very labor intensive and time consuming and must be investigated meticulously to ensure convictions. We have had great success on many of these to date.

This is a brief update for our little part of the world.

Stay safe.

Newfoundland and Labrador- Jason M. McGinn

Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Division (FWED) is responsible for the enforcement of laws relating to the province's inland fish and wildlife resources in Newfoundland and Labrador. FWED has a wide range of enforcement responsibilities. Primary efforts are directed towards illegal and organized poaching activity, usually involving the illegal commercialization of salmon and big game. Fish and Wildlife Enforcement (FWE) Officers also enforce legislation relating to all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles, endangered species and wilderness reserves.

Toll Free Complaint Line

Again this year, FWED received a large number of poaching complaints from the general public. Overall, the 24/7 "Report a Poacher Line" generated 805 calls with the majority of the complaints being fishing related (42%) and big game related (32%).

Enforcement Efforts

Violation figures during 2013 were consistent with figures in recent years. Overall, FWE officers issued a total of 763 violations (written warnings, summary offence tickets and informations). Of these, 36% were big game/firearms related, 27% ATV related, 18% fishing related, 13% small game related, and 6% other miscellaneous.

Recruitment

During 2013, FWED recruited for approximately 35 FWE officer positions to fill vacancies in various Detachments throughout the Province. Another four vacant FWE officer positions will be posted in the coming weeks. In addition, all seven remaining Detachment Supervisors were hired.

Mobile Workstations

With funds being allocated in the 2013-14 budget, FWED is in the process of implementing mobile workstations in approximately 40 vehicles. Installs will begin early March 2014. As well, trucks will also be equipped with "Automatic Vehicle Location" (AVL) systems. This will assist in fleet management and tracking and will greatly improve officer safety.

Policy Development and Training

During 2013, FWED made great strides in the area of officer safety. In particular, two new policies were implemented – "Travelling and Working on Ice" and "Occupational Health and Safety". Both policies were extensively researched with collaboration from numerous sources. Furthermore, staff were all required to complete training in ice rescue, wilderness survival, wilderness first aid, avalanche awareness, and snowmobile, ATV and UTV operation.

Quebec - Michel Morin

Quebec, January 6, 2014 - The Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Wildlife and Parks, Yves-François Blanchet, recognizes excellence labor Wildlife Protection Officers of Quebec in two breaking-up operations carried out in 2013 -- the Cattails operation in Bas-Saint-Laurent and Cerfceau operation in Chaudière-Appalaches.

After more than three years of investigation, the Cattails operation ended on November 28 dealing with the poaching by various groups of individuals operating in sectors Sayabec and St. Moise. The activities are affecting their alleged illegal harvesting of moose, lake trout and brook trout. The group had illegally caught and sold more than 6,600 fish over the past two years. Operation Cattails mobilized 80 Wildlife Protection Officers. Currently 250 charges were recorded and the individuals involved are liable to fines totaling \$250,000.00. The officers arrested 20 peoples and seized 165 brook trout, 220

kilos of moose meat, 7 weapons, and crossbows.

For its part, Operation Cerfceau, which took place on November 8-9 in the areas of Saint-Raymond, Thetford Mines and Victoriaville, helped to stop the night hunting of white-tailed deer. Aerial and ground surveillance performed by sixty officers led to 17 charges and the arrest of 15 people.

Between April 1 and November 30, 2013, 6,389 reports were received by the wildlife office; 4,157 infringement cases were treated, 4,892 counts with continued counted and 3,660 people were continued.

To preserve the resource and continue to stimulate socio-economic activity, it is important to remind people not to engage in the purchase of fish or game whose provenance is questionable and enforce regulations on hunting and sport fishing.

Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources -- No Submission

REGION 4 REPORT



Region 4 Director Gabe Paz

IDAHO – Julie Bryant

For those who came to Idaho for the NAWEOA Conference in 2013 ~ thanks for coming! You only got to see what one part of our state is like. Please come back and explore all the outdoor opportunities Idaho has to offer (there's more than just potatoes!). In Idaho, there is always a big game (elk, deer, bear, mountain lion, wolf) season open somewhere which keeps all of us Conservation Officers busy. Even with a busy schedule, some of our officers went above and beyond their normal duties and received some prestigious awards last year.

Jim Stirling received the Pogue Elms WAFW award for his leadership role in developing a K9 program for IDFG. Officer Stirling and his K9, Pepper, have become an indispensable resource for not only other Conservation Officers but for other agencies in the state as well.

Brandon Chamberlin received the Shikar Safari award for his tenacious investigatory skills and willingness to always step up to the plate and take on extra roles when needed.

Eric Crawford and Ryan Hilton received "Conservation Officer of the Year" awards. Crawford was recognized for his dedicated leadership to the Idaho Conservation Officers Youth Camp and his active professional role in presenting wildlife enforcement issues to the public and at professional resource meetings.

Hilton was recognized for his involvement in major wildlife crime cases and his ability for placing himself in the right place at the right time...and the patience to maintain his position of advantage for long periods of time during investigations.

NEVADA—Fred Esparza

We in Nevada have selected Brian Eller as our Game Warden of the Year.

Nevada Game Wardens have had many cases in the state this year ranging from several big game mammals harvested out of areas to trophy animals shot on private

property illegally. We are noticing an increase of drug-related poaching incidents throughout many parts of our state. We are also experiencing a year with one of the highest volumes of trapping many of our officers have ever seen. The fur prices for bobcats in Nevada is among the highest in the country with one bobcat selling for over \$1,600 last year. Many stolen traps and stolen bobcats are being reported.

Our boat registration has dropped in the last few years and funding for boating activity has also dropped. However, our boating officers have remained as diligent as ever, making Nevada's waters a safe place to operate. Nevada wildlife officers are honored to welcome many officers visiting our beautiful state in the upcoming NAWEOA conference.

If any officers need information on sights to see or places to visit or anything else, please don't hesitate to contact us. My personal email is esparzaatgameandfish@yahoo.com and personal cell is 775-385-8527.

NAWEOA Officer Exchange Program

Canadian Officer to Wyoming

By Ken Snowden, Ontario



I have been a Conservation Officer for 26 years with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). Since 2003, my wife Linda and I have attended nine NAWEOA Conferences.

At the 2013 Conference in Boise, Idaho, I was very surprised when my name was selected as the Canadian exchange officer, especially when I was having lunch at a table with three previous officer exchange program participants. What are the odds of that?

The United States Officer selected was Jason Sherwood from Wyoming. Jason and I discussed the possibility of me going to Wyoming. At the hospitality event that evening, Jason and his wife, Trey, convinced me to come to their state.

A few facts:

Wyoming is the ninth largest state and encompasses an area of 97,100 square miles and has a population of approximately 564,000. Wyoming is known as the "Cowboy State" as well as the "Equality State". By comparison, the Province of Ontario is 350,815 square miles and has a population of approximately 12,852,000.

On October 1, 2013, I flew from Toronto to Denver and from there to Casper, Wyoming. I was met at the Casper Airport by Casper Regional Wildlife Supervisor Brian Olsen.

Brian and I went to work right away inspecting wild game meat processors. Following this, we had dinner at Brian's favourite Mexican restaurant. After dinner, Brian delivered me to the home of Game Warden Daniel Beach. Daniel has been a warden for eight years.

Early the next morning, Daniel and I headed out to check elk hunters. Unlike Ontario, I was surprised to learn that it is legal in Wyoming to have loaded firearms in vehicles, including ATVs. Another difference from Ontario is that party hunting is

illegal in Wyoming.

The Wyoming Game and Fish Department has a Stop Poaching Hot Line for reporting violations. The Tip Line goes to a Dispatch Call Centre located in the state capitol of Cheyenne. Game wardens are dispatched from the same call centre.

Daniel and I patrolled an area where most of the hunters were frustrated by a landowner who would not allow hunting on her ranch. A herd of approximately 700 elk remained on the private property out of reach of the hunters.

An elk hunter gave me a rattlesnake rattle as a souvenir of Wyoming. The snake had been dispatched after being found at his campsite. Prairie rattlesnakes are a common species in Wyoming. I did declare the rattle to Canadian Customs upon my return to Canada.

We investigated an occurrence on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) property where hunters had driven their trucks over a mile off road to load two harvested elk. BLM land is federally owned property. On BLM land, it is illegal to drive off road because of the environmental damage caused. Daniel turned the evidence over to the BLM Ranger.

Wyoming wardens have limited peace officer authority. Wardens can enforce Title 23 - game and fish laws; Title 41 - watercraft laws; and felony offences found during the course of duty.

Daniel Beach has a 4800-square-mile patrol area which includes the southern part of the Bighorn Mountain Range. This is an impressive area of red and gray wall mountains. The area is good habitat for mule deer. Daniel explained that curl leaf mountain mahogany is a preferred food of mule deer.

An antelope carcass that had been quick-quartered was located. However, the tenderloins had not been removed. This is a waste of game parts offence. Warden Beach explained that this is, unfortunately, a common problem.

In addition to his warden duties, Daniel is a custody control instructor. Wyoming wardens qualify two times per year with firearms and one time per year with custody control. In addition they are required to complete 12 hours of firearms and custody control training each year.

That evening, I again stayed at Daniel Beach's home and met his spouse, Nina, and their three boys - Creighton, Barrett, and Dawson.

I also sampled Daniel's excellent home-made beer.

District Game Wardens in Wyoming live in Warden Station homes which are provided by the Game and Fish Department. Each department-provided residence has an office open to the public on a 24/7 basis; however, the warden is often in the field and hard to reach.

The next day, Brian Olsen picked me up and we toured the Casper Regional Office. I was introduced to Scott Edberg, the Wildlife Division Assistant Chief.

Brian Olsen explained that there are 50-60 game wardens in Wyoming. In addition, there are six wildlife investigators, four access coordinators, and 15 supervisory personnel, all with enforcement authority. Game wardens are required to work 172 hours minimum per month. Wardens are to limit their hours to 259 hours per month; however, many wardens exceed this limit.

New game wardens attend a 13-week training course at the State Law Enforcement Academy in Douglas, Wyoming. The highway patrol officers, sheriff's deputies, and most municipal police officers attend the same Academy.

Wardens are issued .40 calibre Glock pistols; 870 Remington shotguns; and M14 semi-auto rifles. The M14 rifles are on loan from the US military, Department of Defence. The rifles are being replaced with AR .308 calibre rifles.

I travelled to Douglas, Wyoming, where I met Warden Rodney Lebert. Rodney and I worked an antelope decoy with Warden Gary Boyd. Rodney and Gary are both veteran wardens and were great to work with. Rodney explained that there are now 41 states in the Wildlife Violator Compact. If a violator from a state that is part of the compact fails to pay his fine or does not appear in court, the Wyoming officer contacts the violator's home state. That state will suspend hunting privileges until the Wyoming fine is paid.

A few other facts: Wyoming has no statute of limitations. Wyoming is the #1 state of licensed hunters per capita. The Game and Fish Commission approves the hunting seasons. The sale of hunting and fishing licences and the Conservation Stamp funds 85% of the Game and Fish budget, but fines go to the school district.

On October 3rd, I met up with Warden Aaron Kerr. Aaron and I had met during the Torch Run at the NAWEOA Conference in Boise. I stayed with Aaron and his wife, Heather, at their home in Casper. Heather is a wildlife biologist with the Game and Fish Department. Aaron's dad, Dwayne

Kerr, is also a game warden and is the longest serving warden in Wyoming. Dwayne Kerr has badge #1 to reflect his seniority. Badge numbers are issued based on seniority. So the longer an officer serves, the lower the badge number gets.

That evening, we went out to dinner at a restaurant with Aaron, Heather, Brian Olsen, and several other game and fish staff and friends. Snow started falling and the next morning, October 4th, Casper woke to 15 inches of heavy wet snow. Numerous trees in the city were bent over and snapped off from the weight of the snow. This reminded me of back home in Ontario. There was so much snow that hunters were stranded at their camps in the back country.

Aaron and I went on an injured deer call as well as injured turkey vulture call in Casper. Game and Fish received numerous calls regarding turkey vultures in town due to the heavy wet snow.

Aaron advised that 50,000 antelope, 26,000 elk, and 44,000 mule and white-tailed deer are harvested annually in Wyoming.

That evening, I accompanied Wardens Kerr and Beach regarding a complaint of an antelope being shot from the side of the interstate.

After locating a truck with a freshly killed antelope in the back and interviewing the hunters, it was determined the hunter had illegally shot the antelope from the road allowance. The offender was from Nebraska and since that state is not part of the Wildlife Violator Compact, he had to either pay the fine or go to jail. We accompanied the offender to a bank machine so he could withdraw money to pay the bond.

On October 6th, I met up with Warden Jason Sherwood. Jason has been a game warden for 12 years and is the Laramie Regional Access Coordinator. Jason and I spent the afternoon checking antelope hunters.

Jason explained that the Regional Access Coordinator positions maintain and

enhance hunter and fisher access by negotiating agreements with landowners. This includes Hunter Management Areas and walk-in areas for hunting and fishing. Four coordinators share state-wide responsibility. A percentage of their duties also include wildlife law enforcement.

That evening, we went to a great restaurant in downtown Laramie with Jason and Trey Sherwood and Warden Kelly Todd and his spouse, Katie. After dinner, we all went back to Jason and Treys' home for dessert. They surprised me with gifts for Linda and I from the Wyoming Game Wardens Association. I wondered how I would get it all home in my luggage.

The next day, Jason and I checked antelope hunters north of Laramie. With a pronghorn antelope population of 375,000, there are more of these animals in Wyoming than in all other states combined. Sage brush is the main food for antelope. There are eight different types of sage brush in the state.

We stopped at the Tom Thorne/Beth Williams Sybille Wildlife Research Facility and I was given a tour by Biologist Cole Hansen. Chronic Wasting Disease and Brucellosis research on captive elk is ongoing at the facility. Cole explained that Wyoming's ranching industry is a funding source for some of the research.

Following this, I went on patrol with Warden Kelly Todd. Kelly has been a warden for seven years. Kelly and I stopped for lunch at the Laramie Peak Wildlife Habitat Management Patrol Cabin.

We saw several small lakes on public land that are stocked with cold-water species. Wyoming has 10 fish culture facilities and has an active fish stocking program. Approximately 3.3 million fish are stocked each year. There is no closed season for any species of fish.

Kelly explained that Hunter Management Areas manage the amount of hunters through an online permission system. Many of these areas would be closed to hunting without the program. There is no limit on the number of hunters with the Private Lands - Public Wildlife walk-in areas.

Big Game Licences have a tear-off Landowner Coupon. When a successful hunter deposits the coupon in a box on the private property, the landowner gets \$16. This applies to elk, deer, and antelope.

Kelly dropped me off at the Sherwoods' home for dinner. Following this, I attended the Sherwoods' weekly broomball game. I was surprised to see a Canadian flag hanging in the Laramie ice rink.

On Monday, October 7th, Jason gave me a tour of the Laramie Regional office. Then we attended the Albany County Court House where we sat in open court to observe arraignments.

Jason toured me to the scenic lookout

at Libby Flats at the top of the Snowy Range.

Jason and I paid a visit to the Community of Elk Mountain where I met the local warden, Ryan Kenneda. Jason and I stopped at the US Post Office where I met his mom who is the postmaster. I learned that similar to Canada, Federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permits are sold at the post office.

Following this, I was handed off to Wardens Brady Frude and Bill Brinegar in the Rawlins District. After chaining up our truck tires, we slowly made our way up Ferris Mountain. We had a steak supper and camped that night in a wall tent on Ferris Mountain. We stayed up late, chatting about game warden work in Wyoming and Ontario.

The next morning, we were awakened by an elk hunter who was stuck and needed a tow. Later that day, we got stuck ourselves and, after trying to dig out of a snow drift, we had to get towed out. This again reminded me of back home.

That night Wardens Frude, Brinegar, Sherwood, and I worked a mountain ridge in the Rawlins area for night hunting activity with the shift ending in the early morning hours.

I stayed overnight at the home of Bill and Kristin Brinegar. After breakfast, Brady drove me towards Lander where we met up with Warden Brad Hovinga. Brad has been a warden for 21 years. Brad's father is a retired Utah warden and his brother is currently a warden in Utah.

Brad advised that approximately 30% of the Wyoming game warden's time is spent on wildlife law enforcement, with the remaining 70% performing wildlife management, depredation and public relations/contacts.

Brad toured me around the scenic Sinks area and the Lander Regional Office. I met the Lander Regional Wildlife Supervisor, Jason Hunter, and Rene Schell, the Outreach and Education Coordinator. The Lander office includes a public education centre and a Game and Fish gift shop.

Brad explained that the Game and Fish Department provides free fencing material to protect stored crops from elk and deer. These landowners, who would otherwise qualify for damage payments, must allow adequate hunting opportunities. Netting to protect hay bales from wild turkeys is also provided. Farmers are not allowed to shoot turkeys in defence of property. Wild turkeys are an introduced species. Wyoming traded sage grouse and antelope to Oklahoma in exchange for turkeys.

Brad and I travelled to Dubois where we met up with Warden Brian Baker. Brian has been an officer for 12 years. Brian and I checked mule deer hunters from Missouri. That evening I went out to dinner with Brian



Jason Sherwood and Aaron Kerr

and his girlfriend, Heather Morgan.

The next day, October 10th, we did a patrol on horseback of the Shoshone National Forest with Brian and Zach Gregory, the Large Carnivore Biologist. We had lunch at the top of Whiskey Mountain at approximately 11,000 feet in elevation.

Most Wyoming game wardens take their dogs to work. Brian brought his two border collies with him.

The horses we used are owned by Brian. Brian explained that the Game and Fish pays \$30 per month for him to use his horses.

Brian and I patrolled the next day for elk and mule deer hunters. The patrol included

a stop to view native pictographs.

We visited the local Dubois taxidermist who, it turns out, has Canadian citizenship. While we were at the taxidermist, a spry 92-year-old hunter, complete with a pistol on his hip, dropped off a mule deer head.

The morning included a tour of the Big-horn Sheep Centre located in Dubois. This is a not-for-profit centre dedicated to big-horn sheep conservation.

Brian and I checked numerous elk hunters at trail heads. Most elk hunters use horses. We encountered one group who had lost an elk to a grizzly bear after leaving the field-dressed carcass overnight. Elk gut piles are an attractant for grizzly

bears. Silencers have recently been legalized in Wyoming. One of the arguments for the legislation was that a rifle shot acts like a dinner bell for a grizzly. The Warden Association lobbied unsuccessfully against this proposed legislation.

I wanted to see a mountain lion but never did; however, I did find tracks. Mountain lions are common in Wyoming and can be hard on sheep. One lion was blamed for killing 56 sheep in one night.

Brian and I worked our way to the Teton area where met up with Jackson District Game Warden Kyle Lash and his dog, Jack.

(Continued on page 29)

NAWEOA **NEWSLETTER EDITOR** **POSITION**

The NAWEOA Executive is accepting resumes for the position of NAWEOA Newsletter Editor. The person selected for this position will be responsible for producing the NAWEOA newsletter at least twice per year (spring and fall) and seeing that it is distributed to the NAWEOA membership in a timely manner.

The person selected for this position shall be responsible for compiling information and photos into a draft digital form, maintaining communication with the Board of Directors with all matters related to the newsletter and attending meetings as deemed necessary by the NAWEOA President.

A candidate must be a regular member in good standing of NAWEOA and have excellent computer skills and home access to the internet. The Newsletter Editor may be expected to attend each annual NAWEOA conference and winter Executive Board meetings as required by the NAWEOA President. The Newsletter Editor is fully reportable to the Executive. The Newsletter Editor shall be compensated for travel costs at the same rate as members of the NAWEOA Executive. For more detailed information, visit the NAWEOA website at www.naweo.org and access the protected site under "members only", then click to the Constitution and By-laws and look for the link to the Newsletter Editor position on the left.

Interested candidates are asked to provide a letter/resume electronically outlining their skills and abilities to NAWEOA President Dave Webster at president@naweo.org by June 1, 2014. Any questions may be sent to Dave at the above email address.

NAWEOA **CONFERENCE LIAISON** **POSITION**

NAWEOA is soliciting candidates for the NAWEOA Conference Liaison position. The person selected for this position will, in years where there exists a traditional jurisdictional host, act as the direct liaison between the NAWEOA Executive and all summer conference organizers. In those years, the liaison will administer the NAWEOA conference hosting agreement, the conference planning guide, chair meetings between past and future conference hosts, assist with the coordination of future conference bid presentations, and review all conference financial statements.

The person selected for this position shall, when no traditional conference host exists, actively seek out conference locations and venues, deal directly with any planning organization hired by the Executive as representative of the Executive, act as chairperson of the summer conference and insure all needs of the Association are met at the summer conference.

A candidate must be a regular member in good standing of NAWEOA, have excellent computer skills and home access to the internet and have attended at least three NAWEOA conferences. Having served on a previous conference planning committee is recommended, but not required. The liaison is expected to attend each annual NAWEOA conference and winter Executive Board meetings as required by the NAWEOA president. The liaison is fully reportable to the Executive.

The liaison shall be compensated for travel costs at the same rate as members of the NAWEOA Executive. For more detailed information, visit the NAWEOA website at www.naweo.org and access the protected site under "members only", then click to the Constitution and By-laws and look for the link to the Conference Liaison position on the left.

Interested candidates are asked to provide a letter/resume electronically outlining their skills and abilities to NAWEOA President Dave Webster at president@naweo.org by May 15, 2014. Any questions may be sent to Dave at the above email address.

REGION 5 REPORT



Region 5 Director Carlos Gomez

Hello everyone in and from throughout Region 5. This is my first newsletter report as Regional Director and I wish to first thank Scott Haney of Texas for his excellent service for a number of years representing our region as the past RD. Scott did an enormous amount of excellent work as RD and continues to serve NAWEOA as one of the three vital 'workhorses' (with Steve Tomac and Randy Hancock) planning the next conference that's closing in fast in Reno, Nevada. I greatly underestimated the time and dedication Scott contributed for years and now have a taste of what it will take to serve this great organization in the manner in which he did! With that, just a reminder to all, registration is now open on our website as Reno is shaping up to be a really great conference with excellent training presenters, a great venue and activities, and a beautiful mountain backdrop. Everyone should not only plan to attend, but should consider contributing a small piece of your time and possibly even bring a prize from home. Our organization is "the host" this year, so any help you give YOUR officers association will surely deepen your pride and team connection to the group and be greatly appreciated by all.

Lastly, I wish to offer my commitment to you 'to tighten up the lines' of communication within our region as I better learn my duties. I rely on you to help me reach out to your jurisdictional representatives, giving them the updates of information in your area so that they can report on your dedicated service. And, I hope you won't hesitate to reach out to me as well regarding any matter you feel I may assist you in. Thanks, stay safe, and hope to see you in Reno! Carlos Gomez

ILLINOIS – Steve Vasicek/Jay Danner – No submission

INDIANA – Darren Reed - No submission

IOWA – Paul Kay – No submission

KANSAS – Greg Salisbury

The story from Kansas is pretty static. We still have not received a cost-of-living pay increase for two years with this year's prediction looking bleak. Game Wardens have not seen a step increase since 2001, but I guess we do feel fortunate that we have not had to endure furloughs like some of our brethren.

The wildlife, fisheries, and boating side is bleak as well. After several years of drought, the pheasant and deer populations have taken a real hit. Where birds were once common, we can travel back roads for weeks on end without seeing a single pheasant. Prior to mid-summer rains, lakes had marinas and boat ramps out of the water due to drought conditions. We got some good rains mid-summer so maybe we can see improvements; it definitely can't continue this slide. The game wardens continue to do excellent work protecting the resources and the sportsmen that enjoy the out-of-doors and continue to make good cases on both the wildlife/fisheries and boating/BUI enforcement. This spring, we have some outstanding in-service training planned based on the "Ohio Officer Water Survival" teachings. The training will revolve around pool exercises with officers treading water with a "red gun", vest, and weights to simulate the weight of an officer's duty gear. Then, we will learn how to conduct defensive tactics while still in the water. Kansas will also begin incorporating another new training called "Oklahoma Mar-tech Training" where wardens work through 'on-the-water-based scenario training' that will utilize live fire. Best wishes from Kansas!!

MINNESOTA – Chris Vinton – No submission

MISSOURI – Shawn Pennington – No submission

NEBRASKA – Jeff Jones

Nebraska is in a transition of retirements and hiring new officers. In 2013, two officers retired from the Law Enforcement Division. Dennis Thompson started his career as a Nebraska Conservation Officer in 1977 and gave 36 years of dedicated service. Dennis was assigned to the Ogallala, Nebraska, area. Also retiring in 2013 was George Sund Jr. George began his career as a Nebraska Conservation Officer in 1974 and gave 39 years of dedicated service. Over the course of those years,

George has been a valuable asset as Firearms Instructor, Field Training Officer and a dependable Field Officer. George has always been very willing to share his knowledge and experience. The Nebraska Conservation Officers Association has dedicated two paving stones at the North American Game Warden Museum in their honor.

Nebraska has hired six new officers to fill current vacancies. Matthew Brandt comes to Nebraska from the state of Iowa. Matt has a degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Management from South Dakota State University and worked as a water safety officer with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Matt has successfully completed his law enforcement and field training and is assigned to the Loup City, Nebraska, area. Travis Shepler comes to Nebraska from the Missouri Department of Conservation where he served as a Conservation Agent and Field Investigator with their Special Investigations Unit. Travis has successfully completed the field training and will be assigned to the Lincoln, Nebraska, area. Alex Hasenauer, Mitch Johnson, Andrew Heyer, and Jonathan Andreasen recently completed their training at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center, graduating Feb. 21, 2014, and immediately began their field training. Alex worked for the Tri-Basin Natural Resource District and has a M. S. in biology from the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Mitch has a B.S. in biology from the University of Nebraska at Kearney and has spent the majority of his career with both state and federal agencies in North and South Dakota. Andrew has a B.S. degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Management from SDSU. He spent most of his summers working for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources including one summer as a park attendant and three summers as a seasonal patrol officer. Jonathan is an Iowa native who grew up in Spirit Lake, Iowa. Jonathan enlisted in the Army National Guard and was called to active duty and deployed to Afghanistan. After returning home, he received a B.S. in biology from Concordia. Nebraska Conservation Officers Association welcomes these six officers to our team of conservation officers.

NORTH DAKOTA – Jackie Lundstrom – No submission

OKLAHOMA – Carlos Gomez

Oklahoma's wildlife enforcement division continues to seek ways to meet the challenges of the 21st century, and wardens seem to be maintaining a high degree of



Field Notes

Spring 2014

Win Your Paving Stone

The paving stone program has been a tremendous success!
To date, over 470 paving stones have been purchased
and placed at the museum.

The Museum would like to thank everyone who has supported us over the years
by giving away the 500th paving stone
purchased at the museum.

To commemorate the sale of the 500th stone, we will
reimburse the purchaser the full price!



The winning purchase will be determined
by the date the request to purchase is made.

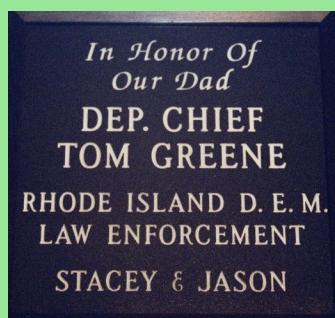
Thank you for supporting the museum
and helping to create our paving stone display.

GOOD LUCK!!!



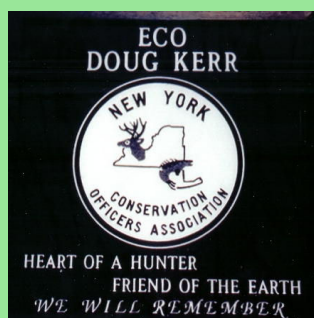
- Paving stones are age, weather and traffic-resistant black polished granite, sized 12" x 12"
- Engraved paving stones provide plenty of room for personal inscription in memory, honor or thanks
- Each sponsored stone will be placed on the museum grounds for public appreciation
- Paving stones can also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

Examples of Engraved Paving Stones



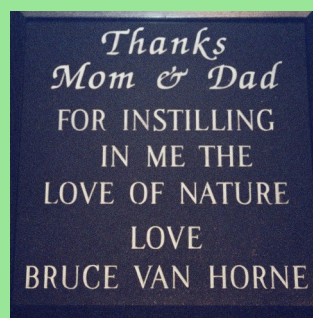
Honor a Family Member

*Demonstrate
Family Support*



Memorialize a Fallen Officer

*Honor
Outstanding Achievement*



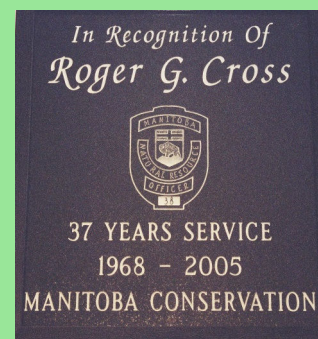
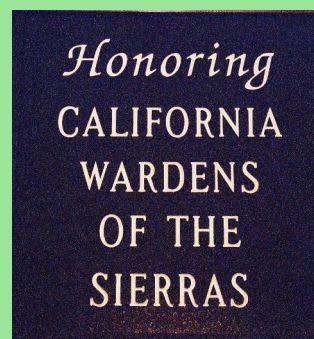
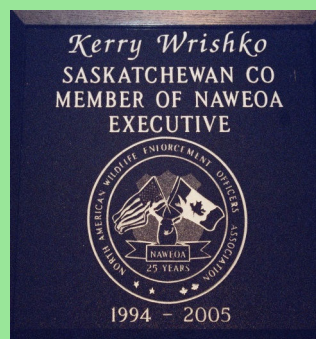
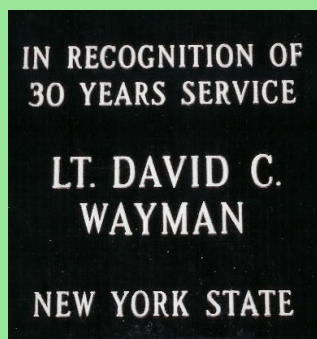
Just Say Thank You

*Demonstrate
Support*



Celebrate Partnerships

*Honor
Officer Retirements*



A thank you card and a photo of your paving stone will be sent to you upon its completion.

A gift acknowledgement is also available upon request.

Museum staff will be available to assist visitors in locating their paving stone on the museum grounds.

Programme d'échange de la NA- WEOA

Un agent canadien au Wyoming Par Ken Snowden, Ontario Traduit de l'anglais par Christian Lem- onnier

Je suis agent de conservation de la faune au Ministère des ressources naturelles de l'Ontario (MRN) depuis 26 ans. Depuis 2003, Ma conjointe Linda et moi avons assisté à 9 conférences de la NA-WEOA

Lors de la conférence de 2013 à Boise en Idaho, j'ai été très surpris d'apprendre que j'avais été sélectionné, du côté canadien, pour participer au programme d'échange entre agents. D'autant plus, que je dînais alors avec trois agents ayant déjà participé à ce programme d'échange. Quelles sont les probabilités que cela se produise?

L'agent américain choisi pour participer au programme était James Sherwood du Wyoming. James et moi avons discuté de la possibilité que j'aie au Wyoming. Lors de cette soirée d'accueil, James et son épouse Trey, m'ont convaincus de séjourner dans leur état.

Quelques faits:

Le Wyoming est le neuvième plus grand état américain, qui s'étend sur plus de 97 000 milles carrés et abrite une population d'environ 564 000 personnes. Le Wyoming est reconnu comme étant l'état des cow-boys et l'état de l'égalité.

En comparaison, la province de l'Ontario couvre une superficie de 350 815 milles carrés et abrite une population d'environ 12 852 000 individus.

Le premier octobre 2013, je me suis envolé de Toronto à destination de Denver et de là, vers Casper au Wyoming.

J'ai été accueilli à l'aéroport de Casper par le responsable du bureau de la faune de Casper, Brian Olsen.

Brian et moi nous sommes mis au travail sans tarder, en procédant à une inspection chez des transformateurs de viande sauvage. Par la suite, nous avons dîné au restaurant mexicain favori de Brian.

Après dîner, Brian est venu me reconduire chez Daniel Beach, un agent comptant 8 années de service.

Tôt le lendemain matin, Daniel et moi sommes allés vérifier des chasseurs de Wapiti. J'ai été surpris de constater que contrairement à l'Ontario, il est permis de prendre place à bord d'un véhicule avec une arme à feu chargée, ce qui inclut les VTT. Une autre différence avec l'Ontario, est que la chasse en groupe est permise au Wyoming.

Le Wyoming Game and Fish Department dispose d'une ligne d'urgence, afin de recueillir les signalements des citoyens. Le

centre d'appel situé à Cheyenne, la capitale de l'état, reçoit les appels et les réparations aux agents.

Daniel et moi avons patrouillé un secteur fréquenté par une multitude de chasseurs frustrés de ne pouvoir accéder aux terres d'une propriétaire refusant l'accès à son ranch. Un troupeau d'environ 700 Wapitis demeurait donc sur sa propriété privée, sans être importunés par les chasseurs.

Un chasseur de Wapitis, m'a fait don de la sonnette d'un serpent du même nom, en souvenir du Wyoming. Il avait tué le serpent après l'avoir trouvé sur le site de son campement. Les serpents à sonnettes des prairies est une espèce commune au Wyoming. J'ai pris le soin de déclarer la cascabelle du serpent aux douanes canadiennes à mon retour.

Nous avons enquêté à propos de chasseurs qui avaient circulé sur une distance d'un mille sur une propriété du Bureau de gestion du territoire (Bureau of Land Management—BLM), afin d'y recueillir deux Wapitis qu'ils avaient abattus. Les terres du BLM sont de propriété fédérale et il est illégal d'y circuler hors route en véhicule, en raison des dommages environnementaux que cela occasionne. Daniel a remis les preuves amassées au gardien du BLM.

Les agents du Wyoming ont des pouvoirs limités d'agent de la paix. Ils peuvent appliquer la loi 23 sur le gibier et le poisson, la loi 41 sur les embarcations nautiques, ainsi que les délits graves qu'ils constatent en cours de route.

Daniel Beach couvre un territoire de travail de 4 800 milles carrés qui comprend la partie méridionale de la chaîne de montagne des Bighorn. Il s'agit d'un secteur caractérisé par d'impressionnantes montagnes escarpées de roches rouges et grises. Le secteur constitue un habitat de choix pour le Cerf mulet. Daniel m'expliquait qu'une variété d'acajou des montagnes était la nourriture favorite des Cerfs muets. Nous avons trouvé la carcasse d'une antilope grossièrement dépecée. Cependant, les filets n'avaient pas été prélevés. Cela constitue une infraction de gaspillage de chair de gibier. L'agent Beach m'a expliqué que cela était malheureusement un problème courant.

En plus de ses fonctions d'agent de la faune, Daniel est moniteur d'emploi de la force. Les agents du Wyoming doivent se suivre des formations d'une durée de 12 heures et se qualifier deux fois par année avec leur arme de service et une fois l'an en ce qui concerne les techniques de défense.

Ce soir là, j'ai été accueilli chez Daniel Beach, où j'y ai rencontré son épouse Nina et leurs trois garçons, Creighton, Barrett et Dawson. J'ai par ailleurs, savouré l'excel-

lente bière maison de Daniel.

Les agents des districts du Wyoming habitent des postes de garde, qui sont fournis par le Game and Fish Department de l'état. Chaque résidence fournie par l'état abrite un bureau ouvert au public 24 heures sur 24 et 7 jours par semaine, mais il est généralement difficile de rejoindre un agent, puisqu'ils sont souvent sur le terrain.

Le jour suivant, Brian Olsen est venu me chercher et nous avons visité le bureau régional de la ville de Casper. L'on m'a présenté Scott Edberg, l'assistant chef du secteur de la faune.

Brian Olsen m'a expliqué que le Wyoming compte entre 50 et 60 agents de la faune. De plus, le service compte 6 enquêteurs, 4 coordonnateurs à l'accès et 15 membres du personnel de supervision, tous avec les pouvoirs d'application de la loi.

Les agents de la faune doivent travailler au minimum 172 heures par mois. Les agents doivent cependant limiter leur prestation de travail mensuelle à un maximum de 259 heures. Or, plusieurs agents excèdent cette limite.

Les nouveaux agents doivent suivre une formation d'une durée de 13 semaines, dispensée au State Law Enforcement Academy, situé à Douglas au Wyoming. Les patrouilleurs routiers, les shériffs adjoint et la plupart des policiers municipaux fréquentent la même académie.

Les agents de la faune se voient remettre un pistolet Glock de calibre .40, un fusil Remington 870 et des carabines semi-automatiques M14. Les M14 sont prêtés par le Département de la défense de l'armée américaine. Ces armes sont actuellement remplacées par des carabines AR de calibre .308.

Je me suis rendu à Douglas, Wyoming, où j'ai fait la connaissance l'agent Rodney Lebert. Rodney et moi avons travaillé avec un leurre d'antilope, en compagnie de l'agent Gary Boyd. Rodney et Gary sont des agents vétérans, avec lesquels il a été très agréable de travailler.

Rodney m'expliquait qu'à l'heure actuelle, 41 états américains sont signataires d'une entente relative aux contrevenants en matière faunique. Ainsi, lorsqu'un contrevenant réside dans l'un de ces 41 états omet de payer les amendes ou ne se présente pas en cour, l'agent de l'état du Wyoming contacte l'état d'origine de ce dernier. Les privilèges de chasse du prévenu sont alors suspendus par cet état, jusqu'à ce que les amendes soient réglées.

Quelques faits additionnels: L'état du Wyoming n'a pas de prescription en matière de poursuite. Le Wyoming est le premier état en termes de nombre de chasseurs par habitant. C'est le "Game and Fish Commission" qui approuve les saisons de chasse. La vente de permis de chasse

et de pêche, ainsi que la vente de timbres de conservation suffisent à financer le service de la faune à 85%. Les sommes du paiement des amendes sont octroyées aux commissions scolaires.

Le 3 octobre, j'ai rencontré l'agent Aaron Kerr. Aaron et moi nous sommes rencontrés durant la course au flambeau à la conférence de Boise en Idaho. J'ai séjourné avec Aaron et sa conjointe à leur domicile situé à Casper. Heather est biologiste au service de la faune.

Le père d'Aaron, Dwayne Kerr, est agent de la faune lui aussi et il est celui qui cumule le plus d'ancienneté. L'insigne numéro 1 de Dwayne Kerr témoigne d'ailleurs de son ancienneté.

Les insignes sont numérotés selon l'ancienneté des agents; plus un agent a d'ancienneté au service, plus le numéro de son insigne sera bas.

Ce soir là, nous sommes allés au restaurant avec Aaron, Heather, Brian Olsen et plusieurs autres amis et employés du service.

La neige a débuté le lendemain matin; le 4 octobre, la ville de Casper s'est réveillée sous un manteau de 15 pouces de neige mouillée et pesante. Plusieurs arbres ont cédé sous le poids de la neige. Cela me rappelait chez nous en Ontario.

Il y avait tellement de neige, que les chasseurs étaient confinés à leurs camps de chasse.

Aaron et moi avons couvert deux signalements à propos d'un cerf et d'urubus blessés à Casper. Le service a reçu plusieurs appels à propos des urubus, en raison de la neige chargée et mouillée.

Aaron m'a indiqué que 50 000 antilopes, 26 000 Wapitis et 46 000 Cerfs muets étaient abattus annuellement au Wyoming.

Le soir venu, j'ai accompagné les agents Kerr et Beach, qui couvraient une plainte à propos d'une antilope tirée à partir de la route. Après avoir localisé le camion qui transportait une antilope fraîchement abattue à l'arrière et suite à l'interrogatoire des chasseurs, nous avons déterminé que l'antilope avait été tirée à partir de l'emprise du chemin.

Le contrevenant était originaire du Nebraska, et comme cet état ne fait pas partie de l'accord inter-état, il avait le choix de payer l'amende ou d'aller en prison. Nous avons accompagné le prévenu au guichet automatique, afin qu'il retire la somme nécessaire au paiement de la caution réclamée.

Le 6 octobre, j'ai rencontré l'agent Jason Sherwood. Jason est agent depuis 12 ans et agit à titre de coordonnateur régional des accès de la région de Laramie. Jason et moi avons vérifié des chasseurs d'antilopes tout l'après-midi. Jason m'a expliqué le coordonnateur ré-

gional des accès trouve, maintient et augmente les accès des chasseurs et pêcheurs, en négociant des accords avec les propriétaires fonciers. Cela inclut des territoires à gestion particulière et d'autres endroits, où les chasseurs et pêcheurs peuvent se rendre pour pratiquer leurs activités. En tout, ce sont quatre coordonnateurs qui se partagent cette responsabilité dans l'état du Wyoming. Un pourcentage de leur travail est consacré à l'application de la loi.

Ce soir là, nous nous sommes rendus dans un grand restaurant du centre-ville de Laramie en compagnie de Jason et Tray Sherwood, ainsi que l'agent Kelly Todd et son épouse Katie.

Après le souper, nous sommes allés Chez Jason et Tray pour le désert. Ils m'ont surpris avec des cadeaux pour Linda et moi, gracieusement de l'association des agents. Je me demandais comment j'allais arriver à trimbalier tout ces cadeaux dans mes bagages.

Le jour suivant, Jason et moi avons vérifié des chasseurs d'antilope au nord de Laramie.

Avec une population de 375 000 antilopes d'Amérique, il y a plus de ces bestioles au Wyoming, que dans l'ensemble de tous les états combinés. Les antilopes se nourrissent principalement de sauge et l'on retrouve 8 espèces de sauge dans l'état du Wyoming.

Nous nous sommes arrêtés au centre de recherche sur la faune Tom Thorne / Beth Williams Sybille, que le biologiste Cole Hansen nous a fait visiter.

Des recherches sur la maladie débilitante chronique et sur la Brucellose y ont lieu sur des antilopes captives. Cole m'a expliqué que l'industrie de l'élevage du bétail de l'état finance une partie des recherches.

Après cela, je suis allé patrouiller avec l'agent Kelly Todd. Kelly est agent depuis 7 ans. Kelly et moi sommes allés dîner au camp de patrouille du Centre de gestion des habitats fauniques de Laramie.

Nous avons vu plusieurs petits lacs situés sur des terres publiques, remplies d'espèces d'eau froide. Le Wyoming possède 10 piscicultures et parraine un important programme d'ensemencement. Environ 3.3 million de poissons sont ensemencés chaque année. Il n'y a pas de période de fermeture pour aucune des espèces de poissons.

Kelly m'a expliqué que les secteurs de chasse à gestion particulière, gèrent l'affluence de chasseurs au moyen d'un service d'autorisation en ligne. Plusieurs de ces secteurs de chasse seraient actuellement fermés sans ce type de mesure.

Il n'y a pas de limite établie de chasseurs dans les secteurs libres d'accès.

Les permis de chasse au gros gibier

ont une section détachable destinée aux propriétaires fonciers. Lorsqu'un chasseur abat un animal, il dépose le coupon dans une boîte et le propriétaire reçoit 16 \$. Cela s'applique aux Wapitis, aux cerfs et aux antilopes.

Kelly m'a déposé chez l'agent Sherwood pour le souper. Ensuite, j'ai assisté à la partie hebdomadaire de ballon-balai de la famille Sherwood. J'ai été surpris de voir un drapeau canadien flotter au-dessus de la patinoire de Laramie.

Le 7 octobre, Jason m'a fait visiter le bureau régional de Laramie. Puis nous nous sommes dirigés au palais de justice du comté d'Albany pour assister aux comparutions.

Jason m'a fait voir le point d'observation "Libby flats", au sommet des montagnes enneigées.

Jason et moi sommes allés à Elk Mountain, où j'ai rencontré l'agent Ryan Kenneda. Nous sommes allés au bureau de poste où j'y ai fait la connaissance sa mère qui est maître de poste. Tout comme au Canada, les permis fédéraux de chasse aux oiseaux migrateurs sont vendus au bureau de poste.

Par la suite, l'on m'a remis aux bons soins des agents Brady Frude et Bill Brinegar du district de Rawlins.

Après avoir mis les chaînes sur nos pneus, nous avons atteint lentement le sommet de Ferris Mountain. Nous avons savouré un steak et avons campé sous la tente au sommet. Nous avons veillé, discutant du métier d'agent de la faune au Wyoming et en Ontario.

Nous avons été réveillé par un chasseur de Wapiti qui était pris et avait besoin d'être remorqué. Plus tard, nous nous sommes nous-mêmes enlisés et après avoir tenté de nous dégager, nous avons dû nous résigner à appeler une remorqueuse. Cela aussi, me rappelait la maison.

Le soir venu, les agents Frude, Brinegar, Sherwood et moi, avons travaillé sur la chasse de nuit dans le secteur de Rawlins et avons terminé notre quart de travail aux petites heures du matin.

J'ai séjourné chez Bill et Kristin Brinegar. Après le déjeuner, Brady m'a reconduit à Lander, où j'y ai fait la connaissance de l'agent Brad Hovinga.

Brad est agent depuis 21 ans. Le père de Brad est un agent retraité de l'Utah et son frère est agent dans cet état. Brad m'a indiqué que 30% du travail des agents du Wyoming est consacré à l'application de la loi, alors que 70% des efforts l'est pour la gestion de la faune, la prédation, ainsi que les relations et les contacts avec le public.

Brad m'a fait visiter le secteur pittoresque de Sinks et le bureau régional de

Lander. J'ai rencontré le superviseur du bureau régional, Jason Hunter et le coordonnateur aux relations publiques et à l'éducation, Rene Schell. Le bureau de Lander comprend un centre d'éducation et une boutique cadeau de chasse et pêche.

Brad m'a expliqué que le Game and Fish Department fournit gratuitement des clôtures pour protéger les récoltes entreposées contre les Wapitis et les cerfs. Les propriétaires qui autrement, auraient droit au remboursement des dommages encourus, doivent en retour permettre des opportunités de chasse appréciables.

Des filets pour protéger les ballots de foin sont aussi fournis par l'état. Les fermiers n'ont pas le droit d'abattre les dindons pour protéger leur propriété.

Le dindon sauvage est une espèce introduite. Le Wyoming a échangé quelques téttras des armoises et des antilopes à l'Oklahome pour en obtenir.

Brad et moi nous sommes rendus à Dubois et avons rencontré l'agent Brian Baker. Brian est agent depuis 12 ans. Brian et moi avons vérifié des chasseurs de Cerf mulet originaires du Missouri.

Ce soir là, j'ai soupé avec Brian et sa copine Heather Morgan.

Le jour suivant, le 10 octobre, nous avons effectué une patrouille à cheval dans le Shoshone National Forest, en compagnie de Brian et de Zach Gregory, un biologiste spécialisé dans les grands carnivores. Nous avons dîné au sommet de Whiskey Mountain, soit à environ 11 000 pieds d'altitude.

La plupart des agents du Wyoming vont travailler en compagnie de leur chien. Brian a amené ses deux border collies avec lui.

Les chevaux que nous avons utilisés appartenaient à Brian. Il m'a précisé que le service le paye 30\$ par mois, afin qu'il utilise ses chevaux.

Brian et moi avons patrouillé le lendemain pour vérifier des chasseurs de Wapiti et de cerf. La patrouille comprenait un arrêt pour admirer des pictographes autochtones.

Nous nous sommes rendus chez le taxidermiste Dubois, qui a la citoyenneté canadienne. Pendant que nous y étions, un chasseur bien alerte de 92 ans, équipé d'un pistolet à la ceinture de surcroît, a amené une tête de cerf pour qu'elle soit naturalisée.

La matinée a débuté avec une visite du Bighorn Sheep Centre, situé à Dubois. C'est un centre à but non lucratif, qui se consacre à la conservation du mouflon d'Amérique.

Brian et moi avons vérifié plusieurs chasseurs de Wapiti dans les sentiers. La plupart des chasseurs utilisent des chevaux. Nous avons rencontré un groupe qui avait perdu son Wapiti au profit d'un ours

Grizzly pendant la nuit, après avoir soin de l'éviscérer.

Les abats de Wapitis attirent les ours Grizzly. Les silencieux viennent tout juste d'être légalisés au Wyoming. Un argument en faveur de ce changement stipule que les coups de feu ont l'effet d'une clochette, annonçant au Grizzly, l'heure du dîner. L'association des agents a tenté en vain de s'opposer à cette réglementation.

Je voulais voir un Lion des montagnes, mais je n'en ai pas vus. Les Lions des montagnes sont communs au Wyoming et ils peuvent être nuisibles pour les troupeaux de moutons. Un seul Lion a été blâmé pour la mort de 56 moutons en une seule nuit.

Brian et moi sommes allés dans le secteur de Teton. Nous avons fait la rencontre de l'agent Kyle Lash du district de Jackson, accompagné de son gros chien Jack.

Malgré la fermeture du gouvernement fédéral, Kyle et moi avons réussi à accéder au Parc national Grand Teton. Nous avons vu des Wapitis et des bisons et j'ai eu la chance d'admirer un splendide coucher de soleil au dessus des montagnes Teton.

Nous avons été au bureau de Jackson et j'y ai fait la rencontre du stagiaire Nick Roberts. Kyle et moi l'avons aidé à dépecer des quartiers de viande de Wapitis que nous avions saisis.

Par la suite, Kyle, Layne Lash, Nick Roberts et moi sommes allés manger de la pizza et boire de la bière au centre-ville de Jackson.

Le lendemain, nous sommes allés en Idaho puis sommes revenues au Wyoming, afin de travailler avec un leurre de cerf, à la frontière de l'état. J'ai travaillé avec les agents Lash et Roberts, en compagnie du biologiste Doug Brimeyer.

J'ai dû surveiller sur le leurre, avec comme seul moyen de défense, la bonne odeur de répulsif à ours que l'on m'avait remise. Doug Brimeyer m'a appris qu'à chaque année, deux attaques de Grizzlys surviennent contre des humains.

Les Grizzlys ne peuvent être chassés. Doug m'a appris que le US Fish and Wildlife Service et le Wyoming Game and Fish tentent actuellement de faire retirer le Grizzly de la liste des espèces menacées, afin que la chasse de cet animal soit permise.

Chaque ours capturé pour des motifs de déprédation est équipé d'un collier émetteur et doit être relocalisé à une distance d'au moins 100 milles. Les Grizzlys ne sont jamais relâchés dans les parcs nationaux.

Les attaques d'ours noirs sur des humains sont inexistantes. Les ours noirs peuvent être chassés et sont considérés comme un trophée. Une chasse printanière est permise et contrairement à l'Ontario, la

possession de la vésicule biliaire est autorisée.

La chasse au Wapiti est permise dans le parc national Grand Teton, mais pas dans le parc national de Yellowstone.

Le refuge de Wapiti à Jackson Hole abrite 11 000 Wapitis. Les Wapitis sont nourris au refuge, afin de prévenir les dommages aux terrains privés.

Doug m'a mentionné que le nombre de permis de chasse à l'orignal est passé de 600 dans les années 1980, à 15 en 2013 en raison de la prédation par l'ours et le Loup.

L'orignal est plus fréquent dans la chaîne des Snowy Mountain, située dans le sud de l'état. Ce secteur n'abrite ni Loups ni Grizzlys. La population d'orignal de ce secteur a été introduite du Colorado dans les années 70 et 80.

Le Loup a été retiré de la liste fédérale de la Loi sur les animaux menacés. Dans le Nord-ouest de l'état, le loup est considéré comme espèce trophée. 42 loups sont abattus lors de la première chasse de l'année.

Dans tout le reste de l'état, le Loup est considéré comme un prédateur nuisible et peut être tiré à vue. Environ 30 Loups ont été abattus dans la zone dite prédatrice en 2012.

Seuls 12 permis sont émis annuellement pour la chasse à la chèvre de montagne.

Nous n'avons pas eu preneur sur le leurre, mais Kyle a pris un résident de l'Idaho en infraction pour avoir chassé la perdrix au Wyoming sans permis.

Ce soir là, Kyle et moi avons été au bureau du Shériff de Teton, relativement à une cause qui impliquait 5 mexicains ayant abattus 3 Cerfs muets dans un endroit prohibé.

Après avoir interrogé les 5 individus, le Shériff Lash a saisi les têtes de Cerfs et un peu de viande, en plus de citer les prévenus à comparaître.

Puisque toute la viande n'avait pas été retirée des carcasses, nous avons demandé aux individus de nous rejoindre le lendemain matin à la jonction des sentiers.

Le lendemain matin, L'agent Lash et moi avons rencontré les chasseurs au sentier de Granite Park. Nous avons circulé dans les montagnes en cheval avec les chasseurs mexicains, pour nous assurer qu'ils prélèvent le reste de la viande des carcasses de cerfs. Selon la réglementation en vigueur au Wyoming, les chasseurs ont 48 heures pour retirer la viande d'un site d'abattage.

Alors que nous étions dans ce secteur, Kyle a enquêté à propos de deux chasseurs qui avaient circulé en VTT dans une section de parc national où la circulation en véhicule motorisé est interdite. Les preuves recueillies, ont été transmises au gardien du parc national.

Le 14 octobre à 5 heures du matin, Kyle est

venu me reconduire à l'aéroport de Jackson pour mon vol de retour.

Je ne peux pas dire à quel point ce fût une expérience formidable!

Un gros merci à Jason Sherwood pour tout le travail d'organisation et de planification de mon voyage. Merci à tous les agents et à leur famille pour leur hospitalité et pour m'avoir accueilli chez eux. Les agents du Wyoming sont les bienvenus chez moi en Ontario quand ils le veulent.

Je recommande fortement le Wyoming comme endroit pour y pratiquer la chasse ou pour prendre des vacances.

Je souhaite également remercier le Ministère des Ressources naturelles de l'Ontario, pour m'avoir permis de travailler à l'extérieur de la province.

Finalement, j'aimerais remercier la NAWEOA pour cette aventure d'une vie!

Rapport du Président
édition automnale du bulletin de la
NAWEOA
Par Dave Webster.
Traduit de l'anglais par
Christian Lemonnier

Bonjour à tous. Il ya un mois, le conseil d'administration se réunissait à Reno au Nevada, pour la rencontre hivernale. C'était une semaine chargée et les membres de l'exécutif ont travaillé de longues journées pour traiter une variété d'enjeux auxquels la NAWEOA devra faire face au cours des années à venir.

À titre de président, je suis constamment impressionné par l'acharnement et le dévouement des membres du conseil qui trouvent le temps, à travers leurs vies personnelles et professionnelles très remplies, de promouvoir davantage cette organisation. Les sujets ne sont pas toujours plaisants et les discussions pas toujours faciles, mais chacun des membres de l'exécutif travaille d'arrache pied au nom de la NAWEOA et de ses membres.

Nous du conseil et tous les membres de la NAWEOA, j'en suis certain, avons hâte à la conférence de cette année qui aura lieu à Reno au Nevada. Randy Hancock, Scott Haney and Steve Tomac, de concert avec les agents du Nevada, ont travaillé extrêmement fort pour faire de cet événement un lieu de rencontre et de formation exceptionnel. J'exhorte chacun de vous à participer à la conférence de Reno et ainsi, perpétuer la tradition de la rencontre estivale. C'est cette tradition que nous, les membres du conseil, cherchons à poursuivre et pour ce faire, nous avons dû explorer des façons de faire en dehors des normes de la

NAWEOA et de ses membres. Ainsi, nous entrons en partenariat avec un planificateur d'événements, afin de nous aider à organiser la rencontre de 2015. Ainsi, *Milligan Events* fera le gros du travail, de façon à assurer une conférence l'été prochain. Prière de vous référer au rapport de l'agent de liaison de la conférence, Rick Hildebrand pour plus de détails à ce sujet.

Des nouvelles de l'agent de liaison –
par Rick Hildebrand
Traduit de l'anglais par
Christian Lemonnier

Après avoir déployé en vain des efforts considérables pour solliciter une ville hôte pour la conférence de 2015, le conseil d'administration a pris la décision de poursuivre sur une autre voie, afin de tenir l'événement. À cette fin, la NAWEOA a approché la firme Milligan Events, afin qu'elle présente une proposition pour la majeure partie de la planification d'une conférence.

À la dernière rencontre du conseil d'administration qui se tenait à Reno, un représentant de Milligan Events a présenté ladite proposition et a répondu à plusieurs questions de la part des membres du conseil. Après des délibérations approfondies, la proposition de Milligan Events a été retenue. La firme examinera 5 ou 6 lieux identifiés par le conseil, comme ayant le potentiel d'accueillir une conférence. Ils nous fourniront une panoplie de détails concernant ces endroits, afin que la NAWEOA réduise la liste à trois prétendants. Par la suite, Milligan Events lancera un appel pour recevoir une proposition de ces postulants, afin de déterminer la meilleure option pour la tenue d'une conférence en 2015. La firme effectuera plusieurs des tâches dévolues traditionnellement aux villes hôtes. Prenez note que cette approche en était une de dernier recours, puisque nous n'avons pas de volontaire pour la tenue de la conférence de 2015.

Le conseil assurera un suivi attentif de la démarche. Nous espérons fournir les détails de ce suivi à temps pour la conférence de Reno en juillet, afin de donner le plus de temps possible aux membres aux fins de la planification de la conférence de 2015.

À l'heure actuelle, la planification de la conférence de 2014 à Reno est sous la gouverne du conseil d'administration de la NAWEOA, alors que Randy Hancock, Ste-

ve Tomac et Scott Haney ont pris en charge les rôles clés dévolus à certains comités et ont offert leur temps et leur expertise pour l'organisation de la conférence. L'aide d'autres personnes sera requise sur place. Ceux qui souhaiteraient apporter leur aide sont priés de contacter Randy, Steve ou Scott directement.

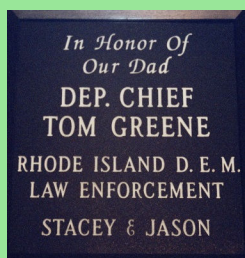
Ces deux conférences ont le potentiel de devenir des points tournants pour la NAWEOA. L'option de cette année pour la tenue de la conférence de Reno n'est pas viable au-delà de celle-ci. Reste à déterminer à quel point l'option proposée pour 2015 est réalisable et économique. La NAWEOA a été formée en 1980 et a organisé 32 conférences pour ses membres. Si la tentative d'externaliser la planification de la rencontre ne s'avère pas viable ou que cette solution n'est pas rentable à long terme, qu'arrivera-t-il à la NAWEOA. Le futur de notre organisation est entre vos mains. Souhaitez-vous que la NAWEOA soit présente pour les trente années à venir? Est-ce au contraire le début de la fin?



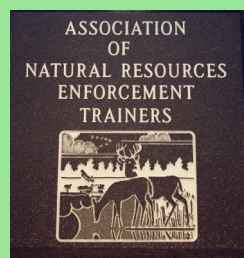
SUPPORT THE GAME WARDEN MUSEUM PURCHASE A PAVING STONE

*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

Spring 2013



***Meet the newest
North American Game Warden Museum
Director***

Graeme Smith

Natural Resource Officer
Hodgson District, Manitoba
Conservation and Water Stewardship

Graeme became a Natural Resource Officer with Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship in 2011. He is an active member of the Manitoba Natural Resource Officers' Association and is involved in ongoing initiatives to raise public awareness and support of his agency. With this background, he is confident that he can make a contribution towards the North American Game Warden Museum. Graeme volunteered at last years' Museum Golf Tournament and helped secure corporate donations which led to the success of the tournament.

Graeme is proud to become involved with the museum and feels that it has an important role to play in recognizing the contributions that Game Wardens across the continent have made as well as facilitating the preservation of our natural resources.



The 14th annual NAWEOA 5K Torch Run/Walk will be held on Wednesday, July 23, 2014, in Reno, Nevada, as part of the annual NAWEOA Conference. All proceeds benefit the North American Game Warden Museum.

With your personal or Officer Association's generous donation, the future of the North American Game Warden Museum is bright, while continuing to honour those who have fallen in the line of duty.

Cheques or money orders can be made payable to: North American Game Warden Museum, c/o Lawrence R. Hergenroeder, 714 South Center Street, Grove City, PA 16127.

Thank you for your continued support honoring those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

North American Game Warden Museum Fundraising Golf Tournament

The 13th annual fundraising golf tournament in Manitoba will be held on August 13, 2014, at the Kingswood Golf and Country Club near Winnipeg, MB.

We are challenging all of the officers associations across North America to sponsor a hole. The hole sponsorship is only \$200 and the first 18 sponsorships will have a sign, with their association's logo, placed at a tee box.

The monies raised from this tournament go directly into operating YOUR 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 204-734-3429 or at blake.patterson@gov.mb.ca.

You can find out more about the tournament at www.gamewardenmuseum.org and watch for more information about the tournament on the North American Game Warden Museum's Facebook page.



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

morale in the process. Much credit for encouragement might be credited to Colonel Robert Fleenor, a field officer just a few short years ago.

SOUTH DAKOTA – Mark Ohm
Game Wardens in South Dakota recently



The FBI recently honored three Oklahoma game wardens for their assistance in helping to locate and capture a dangerous fugitive 'holed up' in a remote, mountainous region of NW Oklahoma. From left are Col. Robert Fleenor, Chief of Law Enforcement with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation; Lt. Frank Huebert, Warden stationed in Major County; Lt. Mark Walker, Warden stationed in Blaine County; Ben Bickerstaff, Warden stationed in Alfalfa County; and James E. Finch, FBI Special Agent in charge of the Oklahoma City FBI Office. (ODWC Photo)

Looming issues in Oklahoma related to rank, pay, recruitment and equipment, all largely dictated by budget, were recently studied and evaluated by an outside contractor and found to be lacking and in need of correction. A partial throwback to the 90s when "wardens I, II, and III" were boiled down to one simple position of "game warden", the study group recommended that "wardens I & II positions" be recreated. Administrators were aware that warden applicants at one time numbered annually in the hundreds, but now have dwindled to the dozens. Consequently, raises for new hires now give parity to 8- to 10-year veterans; 10- to 20-year vets received a 5% raise and officers with 30+ years of experience were rewarded with a 1% raise. With recent retirements and separations, including Wendell Smalling who served 39 years, Daryl Howser who served 35 years and Jon Cunningham, who served 31 years, we look to fill 8 positions to replace approximately 150 years of lost experience.

Other significant changes of concern were the agency's government-mandated shift into CNG-fueled vehicles, even though many officers will use several gallons travelling each way to reach fuelling stations. Gen 4 Glockes were issued replacing two-decades-old sidearms and a new, four-member, covert investigation squad was

closed out possibly their largest wildlife case in state history. Eighteen people pled guilty and were sentenced in both state and federal courts for poaching violations. The violations took place between 2008-2012 in Todd County at a commercial hunting operation where an extensive investigation of a married couple, who were owners/operators, along with several of their hunting clients, unlawfully killed and possessed a minimum of 56 deer, hawks, owls, badgers, and turkeys. The estimated value of illegally taken wildlife was set at more than \$70,000 and the fines for the couple totaled more than \$100,000. The other 16 defendants were paying clients from Michigan, Texas, and New Jersey and were sentenced to fines ranging from \$500 to more than \$26,000 per person. Coupled with restitution and civil damages, totals exceeded \$235,000 and defendants had their collective hunting privileges revoked for 45 years and received 19 years in probation. The joint investigation was conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and the Rosebud Sioux Tribe who were particularly incensed over the wanton waste of numerous, undressed and headless deer found during search warrants in the poorest areas of the nation. Officers in

the case singled out exemplary prosecutors, Assistant U.S. Attorney Meghan N. Dilges and Special Assistant Attorney General Paul Bachand, for their excellent work and effort.

TEXAS – Scott Haney

First off, I would like to give a short update on Chris Fried, our officer who was critically wounded by a high-powered rifle shot to the chest. Chris is continuing physical therapy and will shortly return to the hospital to determine a time frame for a bypass and to have his stent removed.

Recently, the decision was made to move Texas Parks and Wildlife from five regions to eight. Doing this created a need to fill three positions for Major. Also, there was a need to fill several field Captain positions, the Major over Special Operations and the Assistant Director of Training at the Game Warden Training Center and a Captain position.

The 59th Academy is schedule to begin September 2 of this year with 902 applicants trying to fill the available positions.

The ongoing effort to keep Texas Game Wardens well trained includes high-risk vehicle stops, low-light firearms training, weapon-mounted lights on M4 rifles, and five canine wardens already in the field with five more to complete training in two months. The dive teams have all been certified, not only in rescue diving, but evidence recovery. All search and rescue team members (27 total) have been certified in swift-water rescue. The team also includes nineteen instructors, land navigation and ground search, twelve rescue boat operators and ten trained in certified helicopter underwater egress. The Game Warden Forensic Reconstruction Team continues their work on high-profile boating and hunting accidents.

And, finally, the agency is expecting to take delivery of a new helicopter sometime this spring.

Take care and hope to see many of you in Reno this year.

WISCONSIN – Todd Schaller



REGION 6 REPORT



Region 6 Director Jeff White

REGION 6- Jeffrey White

It has been a long and cold winter, but by the time you read this it should be warming up. Fortunately, there have been no officer deaths this year, so, everyone, please be careful. I want to thank all my J-Reps for the information they have helped me with and distributed to you. I have submitted Award nominations for several of you for NAWEOA Awards and would like to see several more submitted. Go to the NAWEOA website and check out these awards and let me know if I can assist. I attended the winter Board meeting and will be at the summer conference. There are now 8 of the 14 groups I represent that have group memberships in NAWEOA, up from 4 groups when I became Director. I am on my last term as Director and would like to see some of you come to the next two conferences and take on the Director's duties. My goal is to still have all 12 groups as members

Alabama- Joe Carroll – no submission

Florida- Guy Carpenter

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) recently concluded a joint operation with federal and state agencies on statewide wildlife law violations. "Operation Wild Web" targeted those intentionally buying and selling fish and wildlife illegally online. The five-day detail detected violations across the state, including the unlawful sale of certain species, like fresh and saltwater fish, lobster, snakes, birds and other animals; businesses operating without licenses; and illegal fishing and hunting violations. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission and the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission also participated.

Georgia - Eddie Henderson

DNR completed an internal reorganization of its operational Divisions with a vote by the Board of Natural Resources on June 25, 2013. During this reorganization, the Law Enforcement Section was removed from the Wildlife Resources Division and was elevated to Division Status.

February 2013 brought the close of "Operation Something Bruin", a four-year undercover investigation that focused on the poaching and commercialization of black bears. Undercover officers from two states and three federal agencies participated in this multi-state investigation. The investigators identified 80 suspects and documented over 900 violations. In Georgia, 8 defendants were arrested and charged with 136 state charges. Lt. O'Neal was recognized by a resolution from the DNR Board of Natural Resources for his efforts during this operation.

As a result of a several high-profile boating accidents, Georgia's BAC for BUI was lowered to .08 to mirror the DUI laws.

Kentucky - Joe Tomblin – No submission **Maryland - Jeff White**

The ranks of the Maryland Natural Resources Police grew by 19 with the graduation of its latest class of recruits. The new officers received 30 weeks of classroom and field training at the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Center in Sykesville and on waterways and public lands throughout the state. Their studies included not only general law enforcement functions but also the special skills needed for conservation law enforcement.

In one of the largest oyster cases in recent years, the Maryland Natural Resources Police arrested a Virginia truck driver and seized a tractor-trailer filled with oysters. Rhoderick J. Newman, 66, of Tappahannock, was charged with one count of attempting to transport undersized oysters out of state and five counts of possession of undersized and uncultured oysters. The

truck, owned by Cowart Seafood Corp., of Lottsburg, Va., is being held in an NRP impoundment lot. Acting on a tip, officers pulled over the truck. Officers found that the truck contained 188 bushels of oysters. Working by the light of their vehicle headlights, 17 officers and cadets measured every oyster, an operation that lasted more than six hours. All but one of the bushels contained oysters below the legal minimum of three inches. The percentage of undersized oysters in each bushel ranged from six percent to 46 percent, which is beyond Maryland's five-percent tolerance level. That made 187 bushels illegal. The tractor-trailer load represents the daily limit of 16 oystermen power dredging and is worth more than \$8,000. This is the halfway point of Maryland's six-month oyster harvesting season, a time when poachers tend to seek out undersized oysters to make up for the increasing scarcity of the resource. Since the start of the season in October, NRP has been conducting saturation patrols by boat and aerial surveillance from Maryland State Police helicopters with long-range cameras. In addition, the agency is making full use of its newest tool, a system of radar units and cameras called the Maritime Law Enforcement Information Network, MLEIN, which allows officers to track vessels and "see" over the horizon. MLEIN has been used to make several oyster poaching cases so far this season, said Col. George F. Johnson IV, NRP Superintendent.

Mississippi - Jason Blaylock - No submission

North Carolina - NCWRC/Forrest Orr - No submission

Marine Patrol/ Michael S. Ervin - - No submission

Louisiana - Travis Huval

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) long-time Colonel Winton Vidrine retired in June of 2013. Lt Colonel Jeff Mayne was promoted to Colonel. LDWF was able to get the Tip 411 program off and running with apps for both iPhone and Android platforms that allow people to anonymously send text messages to agents to report game violations. The app can be downloaded from iTunes and Google Play free of



charge. The Enforcement Divisions Boating Safety Program reported a record low of 13 boating fatalities for Louisiana in 2013. The previous low for boating fatalities was 19 in 1992. LDWF currently has 16 future game wardens currently attending the LDWF training academy with graduation scheduled for May.

South Carolina - J. Henry Barnett

The Humane Society of the US - South Carolina recognized S.C. Department of Natural Resources Col. Chisolm Frampton with the Humane Law Enforcement Award. The award was to recognize the efforts of DNR Law Enforcement to end the practice

boating education, conduct statewide search and rescue operations and perform community service.

Tennessee - Joe Campbell

The TWRA lost one of its finest this past year. On September 19, 2013, Lt Gary McWherter, a 25-year veteran and model officer, passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. Gary was a supervisor in upper northeast TN. He is survived by his wife Kim.

Tennessee hired six new officers this year and after their initial five weeks of Agency training, they were sent to the field for three months of training by a FTO.

They are currently attending the 10-week Basic Police School in Donelson. The Agency acquired M-16A-1 rifles from the LESO program for the officers. They were converted to fire only semi-automatic and a dual-locking shotgun and rifle rack were installed in all the vehicles. The Agency K-9 program certified nine new dogs this year and now has at least one K-9 and handler in seven out of eight districts.



of animal cruelty through bear baiting/baying in South Carolina.

"A four-year-long investigation like this takes focused dedication from our officers," said Col. Frampton. The removal and relocation of six captive bears in late 2013 was the result of a four-year-long undercover investigation by DNR Law Enforcement into bear baying/baiting in South Carolina. DNR Law Enforcement officers made in excess of 50 arrests on related charges in conjunction with the State Attorney General's Office. DNR continues to investigate illegal black bear activities such as bear baying/baiting, illegal hunting and running of bears in pens.

South Carolina's Natural Resources Law Enforcement officers serve and protect the state's natural resources by patrolling more than 31,000 square miles of the state's lands and inland waters. Officers also patrol 750 miles of tidal shoreline and marine waters to the state's territorial boundary three miles offshore and beyond on special federal assignments.

Throughout the state's 46 counties, DNR officers enforce laws and regulations pertaining to more than 450,000 registered boats, and a half-million licensed hunters and anglers and the multi-million dollar coastal fishing industry. Officers enforce Wildlife Management Area regulations and statewide litter laws, instruct hunter and

The dogs are trained to alert on deer, duck and turkey meat, firearms and man tracking.

All officers were issued a laptop computer with cellular data card to allow them to complete electronic reports, boat incident reports and timesheets online. Officers also have online access to hunters' license information and harvest records.

Officers with high mileage trucks (125k+) received green Ford F150 replacements this past year. Another new addition this year is that all trucks are being outfitted with a center console for the radios. We received several Seaborne center console patrol boats equipped with side-scan sonar and 4-stroke motors. The Agency compiled a Basic Equipment List for the officers statewide. Now all officers in the Agency have a personal video recorder, oversized handcuffs, inherent PFD, handheld GPS, multi-tool, good quality jumper cables, audio voice recorder and an animal catch pole.

The members of the Tennessee Wildlife Officers Association elected Josh Landrum as the Secretary/Treasurer and Ben Davis as Director at Large. The Board of Directors has been meeting quarterly and continues to work with the administration on issues that affect its members. The TWA publishes two magazines a year that raise funds used in outreach programs. Last

year, the TWA gave financial assistance to 25 hunting and fishing events that reached over 4,000 participants. We also financially supported two Law Enforcement memorial runs, three multistate Wildlife Officer Meetings and gave two college scholarships.

The TWA is well on its way to accomplishing its 2014 goals which include sending a representative to the NAWEOA conference this summer.

US Fish and Wildlife - Ellen Goeckler - No report

Virginia - Bryan Young

The Virginia Conservation Police Association has been busy once again this winter handling various pieces of legislation that directly affect conservation police officers. The most significant piece of legislation that appears to be headed to the Governor's desk to be signed is a bill that would allow hunting on Sunday in Virginia on private lands. Virginia is currently one of only a handful of states that does not allow Sunday hunting. This change will open additional hunting opportunities to many sportsmen; however, it will cause additional work strains on the already busy conservation police officer.

Fall of 2013 also brought a new Colonel to the Virginia Conservation Police. Ronald (Ron) Henry was promoted to the rank of Colonel replacing Colonel Dabney (Dee) Watts, who retired earlier in 2013. Applications are currently being sought to fill 30 CPO positions statewide. This will likely be the largest class of CPO recruits in decades.

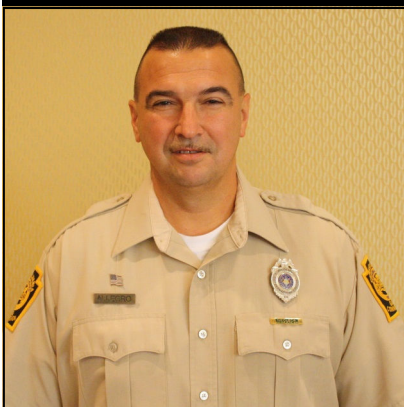
West Virginia - Kaven Ransom

Normal staffing is 123 NRP officers and eleven support personnel; currently, we have 114 officers. Personnel attended 468 public meetings, cited 374 litter violations, 964 license violations and 1,791 hunting violations. Personnel also increased ATV patrol, conducted Operation Dry Water, assisted State Police in marijuana patrols, BUI patrols and monitoring five whitewater rivers with over 110,000 rafters. Field personnel were issued 78 new bulletproof vests and 39 dual-band radios.

Officers were trained in defensive tactics, CSI in the wild, hunting incident investigations and an additional 16 hours of in-service annually, and providing instructors to other agencies instructing D.T, firearms, boating, and tracking. Two officers attended the National Marine Patrol Course.

Officers investigated eight Class A hunting accidents with one fatality, 12 Class B, including three tree-stand accidents with one fatality and three deaths from heart attack.

REGION 7 REPORT



Region 7 Director Mark Allegro

CONNECTICUT - Keith Williams

reports the fall/winter season was welcomed by the Connecticut Environmental Police as a time to get back to traditional work. There were numerous hunting, fishing and trapping arrests, and the ice fishing season has been good. The summer season was extremely difficult managing overwhelming crowds in our State Parks and beaches. Several retirements last year have dropped our force in the field to historic lows that were last seen in the 1970s (35 to be exact) causing concerns for officer safety. A constant struggle to maintain a "one for one" standard continues to be an issue and more retirements are predicted for this year. Still, we strive to do more with less. On a positive note, new vehicles, computer and radio upgrades are forthcoming and a newly appointed Commissioner has acknowledged the need for more officers.

DELEWARE – No submission

MAINE – No submission

MASSACHUSETTS - Kevin Clayton

reports that currently two new officers (transfers from municipal police service) are undergoing field training, and five others begin their basic police academy in March. These new officers added to the current work force will total 90, up from 80 a short time ago. A number of recent staff promotions has increased space for more field officers.

This winter's heavy snows have increased the number of snowmobile incidents, including fatalities. Command staff anticipates a new 50-foot offshore patrol boat by the end of June. Training continues regarding BUI Standardized Field Sobriety Testing and other NASBLA-related training events.

MICHIGAN - Michelle Wiegand

reports that their law enforcement officials have confirmed a cougar was illegally killed in December in the Upper Peninsula's Schoolcraft County. Acting on a tip, DNR conservation officers and Special Investigations Unit detectives were able to successfully recover evidence and identify and apprehend two suspects from Bay County. Upon completion of the DNR's investigation, the case will be turned over to the Schoolcraft County Prosecuting Attorney with warrant requests for charges. The state penalty for illegally killing a cougar, classified as an endangered species in Michigan, is up to 90 days in jail and fines and restitution of up to \$2,500.

Training continues at the academy with 29 recruits remaining from an original 31 that started. Governor Snyder has proposed in his FY15 budget an additional 3.5 million General Fund dollars for the hiring of an additional 25 Conservation Officers this upcoming October. Michigan Conservation Officers have assisted traditional law enforcement with highway response during this extreme winter, utilizing our 4-wheel drive patrol vehicles. Conservation Officers are preparing statewide for the potential flooding due to the record snow pack in many areas.

In February 2014, new state laws designed to deter poaching of antlered bucks, especially those with trophy-sized racks, and to reduce recreational trespass are now in effect in Michigan, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced. The new laws make several changes to the fines and restitution payments for poaching deer, including a progressive penalty system.

Poachers also now face stronger penalties related to hunting privileges. Under previous law, poachers would lose their hunting privileges in Michigan for remainder of the year of the conviction plus three years. Under the new law, poachers who kill an antlered buck will now lose their hunting privileges for an additional two years on their first offense (potentially six years in total) and an additional seven years on second and subsequent offenses (potentially 11 years in total). In addition, the new laws address recreational trespass by increasing the civil damage award that a landowner may recover. Previously under the law, the maximum amount a landowner could recover from someone who trespasses on his or her land to hunt or engage in other recreational activity was \$250 or actual property damages. Under the new law, the civil action increases to \$750 or actual

property damages. Additionally, if someone kills any protected animal, game or fish while trespassing, the new law creates a new misdemeanor with higher fines than allowed for a first violation.

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE - Scott Adams

reports a busy year with the NOAA Fisheries Office of Law Enforcement from fighting for global sustainable fisheries, with its partnership with INTERPOL, to protecting our seafood and marine resources, as demonstrated by the dismantling of an international ivory smuggling ring. Additionally, the Northwest and Southwest Regions were merged to form the West Coast Region. And finally, the following personnel selections were completed this year, with Matthew Brandt being selected as Deputy Director in Headquarters, Tracy Dunn as Special Agent in Charge of the Southeast Division, and William Giles as Special Agent in Charge of the West Coast Division. For the latest feature stories and enforcement actions associated with protecting our nations living marine resources, go to <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ole/index.html#>.

NEW HAMPSHIRE - Dave Walsh

reports that NH Fish & Game is ready to join the Interstate Wildlife Violator's Compact after legislation passed in January. The Agency may also see some help in the way of search and rescue funding. A proposed bill would establish a "Hike Safe Card" where anyone who purchases a card would not be billed for their rescue. Under House Bill 256, hikers can purchase "Hike Safe" cards which would allow purchasers to escape state charges if they needed to be rescued. People holding fishing and hunting licenses, or who register OMHV's, would also be exempt from the rescue charges. Finally, NH COs recently upgraded their GPS units, and each officer received a game camera largely funded by private donations.

NEW JERSEY - Mike Massey

reports that the 2013 NJ Conservation Officer of the Year is Marine Unit Officer Brett Nicklow. Conservation Officer Nicklow is presently assigned to Atlantic County, where his presence has made a substantial impact, particularly in Atlantic City.

Two senior officers (Tracy Jones and Lt. Doug Ely) retired, but the Bureau is in the process of hiring four new officers; their start date is late March. The Bureau of Law Enforcement has been able to justify

hiring new officers, three in 2013 and now four in 2014, in a state with a total hiring freeze and budgets that have reflected the color red for the last four or five years.

The Bureau of Law Enforcement is also in the middle of completing the distribution of the CAD (Computer Assisted Dispatch) system. Soon everyone will have a laptop in his or her truck, linked to the CAD, and Internet access. The most recent IGW highlighted the use of computers and advanced software in the environmental law enforcement field. A check of the previous monthly highlights have shown that NJ Conservation Officers utilizing computers in their vehicles and the new state ALS (Automated License System) - which allows the officers to access license records and harvest records from their vehicle's onboard computers -- apprehended 18 hunters for various deer violations throughout the 2013 bow and firearm deer season. Ten officers documented their use of the ALS system to obtain harvest and license information to either start or assist in an ongoing investigation into illegal deer harvests. Approximately 30 summonses were issued. To date all the violators have been convicted.

NEW YORK - Bernie Rivers

reports that in 2013 they hosted Conservation Officer Kevin Schoepp of Saskatchewan for 10 days for his NAWEOA officer exchange trip and a good time was had by all. Peter Fanelli retired as the Director of Law Enforcement after 33.5 years of service with the Division.

May 6th began their first academy for basic training since 2008. The 19th Basic School graduated 31 new recruits, while 2013 also saw 19 retirements and 19 promotions. Twenty officers received new vehicles, while six new dogs and three new handlers were added to the K-9 program.

Sadly, four retired members made their final patrol during this period as well. At this time, the Department is conducting interviews for the new Director of Law Enforcement, and a decision is expected by early March of 2014.

OHIO - Steve Thomson

reports their 2014 Cadet Class, 28th Wildlife Officer Training Academy, began in January with 16 cadets. They were hired from a field of over 800 applicants from over a dozen states. We continue to be successful in our recruiting program which reaches many other states and draws applicants from a variety of backgrounds, including law enforcement, military, and fish and wildlife conservation. The cadets will complete the Academy training program in July and fill current vacancies. If all things progress accordingly, Ohio will implement field-based reporting later this

year for officers to complete and file reports right from the mobile computers in their trucks. Ohio has also formed a committee to review the annual physical fitness requirements for their officers.

PENNSYLVANIA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION - Michael Johnson

reports that a first for the agency was its participation in Operation Dry Water. This nationwide event, sponsored by The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA), in order to make boaters aware of the danger of boating under the influence, was held the weekend of June 28-30. Despite inclement weather, five individuals were apprehended for boating under the influence for a total of 88 BUI arrests for the year.

Training has also been a top priority to the Bureau of Law Enforcement, according to Lt. Col. Donald Lauver (PFBC Training Director), Experienced Officer Training was provided to all officers with a focus on firearms and unarmed self defense. Eligible officers also attended BUI training with the NASBLA Certified Seated SFST Transition Course. A number of officers also attended law enforcement training on topics of search and seizure, understanding the sovereign citizen and officer water survival.

PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION - Gary Toward

reports that Carl Roe, Executive Director of the agency, retired in January 2014 after more than eight years of service. Matt Hough, Deputy Executive Director, was appointed to fill the post. Matt has been with the agency for more than 33 years and has experience in nearly every position from field officer to several regional supervisor positions and, ultimately, the Harrisburg office.

Operation TALON II, a statewide, nighttime saturation patrol was conducted by officers from the PA Game Commission,

PA Fish & Boat Commission, PA State Police, DCNR Parks, DCNR Forestry and numerous township and municipal departments in November. A total of 706 officers were documented as having participated. The effort resulted in 364 violations being prosecuted and 140 warnings issued. One subject was arrested and charged with numerous violations when he purposely crashed his truck into Bradford County WCO Jeff Oleniacz's vehicle.

The agency has selected and is training six separate three-man tactical tracking teams, one team per region. The basic usage of the teams will be for human tracking in various situations.

RHODE ISLAND – No submission

VERMONT - Greg Eckhardt

reports that five new wardens were put in the field with another seven currently attending the Vermont Police Academy. That is one-third of the total field force and makes us as full as we have been in over twenty years! The new hires were due in part to the retirements of several of our best wardens, including LT Don Isabelle, LT Kim Klein, SGT Brad Mann, and Warden Chris Clark. Congratulations to LT George Scribner, LT Jason Batchelder, SGT Keith Gallant, and SGT Trevor Szymanowski on their recent promotions. The Department was instrumental in signing into law the "Sportsman's Act of 2013" which significantly expanded opportunities to hunt, fish and trap in Vermont. It also created a significant general fund increase for the Department which has allowed for the purchase of much needed and appreciated new equipment! For those interested in attending, our annual Association meeting this year is on Wednesday, June 4, 2014 in Bomoseen, VT.

NAWEOA TRIVIA

Information from Art Redden regarding the wood in the NAWEOA Gavel and Striking Board

The original gavel and striking board were made by Art Redden, Nova Scotia, Past President of NAWEOA. The gavel and striking board were made in 1993-1994. Art was President from 1993-1995.

Wood was provided from each region:

Region 1: Kerry Wrishko sent white birch

Region 2: Gary Martin sent red oak

Region 3: Richard Kingston sent birdseye maple from a seized log

Region 4: Rick Pallister sent walnut

Region 5: Del Tibke sent walnut

Region 6: Dan Tourtelotte sent beech

Region 7: Dave Holman sent sycamore

Wildlife Officer Recognition

OOY = Officer of the Year

REGION 1

SASKATCHEWAN

Special Recognition Award—**Buffalo Narrows RCMP**
 Special Recognition Award—**Cyndi Dyck**
 Team Building Award—Client Service Representative, Nipawin Office, **Joyce Woodward**
 Team Building Award—Client Service Representative Hudson Bay Office—**Gwen Dyck**
 Murray Doell Memorial Scholarship—**Nolan Hoggarth**
 Knackstedt Memorial Award—**Saskatoon RCMP**
 Greg Kuny Labour Service OOO—**Justin Knackstedt**

REGION 2

MANITOBA

OOO - **Dan McMahon**

ONTARIO

NCC Act of Bravery—**Jason Pink**
 NCC Act of Bravery—**Eric Marion**
 NCC Act of Bravery—**Alexandre Proulx**
 OOO—**Dan VanExan**

REGION 3

NEW BRUNSWICK

Shikar-Safari OOO—**Bruce Woulds**

REGION 4

NEVADA

Game Warden of the Year—**Brian Eller**

IDAHO

Pogue Elms WAFW Award—**Jim Stirling**
 Shikar Safari OOO—**Brandon Chamberlin**
 Idaho OOO—**Eric Crawford**

REGION 5

REGION 6

ALABAMA

NASBLA Boating OOO—**Officer Steven Macleroy**
 NWTF OOO—**Debra Dixon**

FLORIDA

NASBLA State Boat OOO - **Officer Dana Klein**
 Florida OOO - **Officer Lee Lawshee**
 Reserve OOO - **Lt. Joe McKenna**
 Duty OOO - **Robyn Diaz**
 NWTF OOO - **Ian Sweet**

GEORGIA

NWTF OOO - **Cpl. Lynn Stanford**
 NASBLA State Boating OOO - **Cpl. Shawn Elmore**
 State Ranger of the Year - **RFC David Webb**
 Investigative OOO—**RFC David Webb**
 Rocky Wainwright Waterfowl OOO - **Cpl. Greg Wade**
 Supervisor of the Year—**Col. Eddie Henderson**

KENTUCKY

Shikar-Safari OOO—**Chris King**
 KY OOO—**Steve Combs**
 Boating OOO—**Darven Chesser**
 NWTF OOO—**Dustin Mullens**

LOUISIANA

NASBLA Boating OOO— **Sr. Agen Nicholas Guillory**
 NWTF OOO - **Sgt. Billy Shoemaker**

MARYLAND

Maryland OOO - **Cpl. Rick Starliper**
 Conservation OOO - **Officer James Seward**
 Boating Safety OOO - **Sr. Officer Hubert Brohawn**

MISSISSIPPI

NASBLA Boating OOO—**Master Sgt. David Holiday**
 NWTF OOO—**Cpl. Eric Farris**

NORTH CAROLINA

NASBLA Boating OOO—**Sr. Officer Parks Moss**
 NWTF OOO—**Master Officer Brent Hodges**

SOUTH CAROLINA

Wildlife OOO - **BSgt. Marcus Smith**
 NWTF OOO - **BSgt. Marcus Smith**
NASBLA Boating OOO—LCpl. Brian Crawford
 OOO Law Enf. Invest. & Education - **Sgt. Stephanie Brown**
 Region 1 - **Pfc. Rodney Cutter**
 Region 2 - **Off. Ezra Arnold**
 Region 3 - **Sgt. Marcus R. Smith**
 Region 4 - **Pfc. Michael A. Davis**

TENNESSEE

NASBLA State Boating OOO - **Nick Luper**
 Shikar-Safari OOO - **Officer Jonathon Lee**
 SEAFWA Conservation OOO - **Sgt. Ray Garton**
 NWTF OOO - **Officer Jonathon Lee**

WEST VIRGINIA

NWTF OOO—**Todd Petrunger**
 NASBLA Boating OOO—**NRP Officer Jonathan R. Casto**

VIRGINIA

NASBLA Boating OOO - **CPO Dallas Neil**
 Conservation Police OOO—**SCPO Jason Honaker**
 NWTF OOO—**Neil Kester**

REGION 7

CONNECTICUT

OOO — **Scott Aresenault**
 Boating OOO—**Laura Pettus**

MAINE

Warden of the Year—**Paul Farrington**

MICHIGAN

NWTF OOO— **CO Jason McCullough**
 Shikar-Safari OOO— **CO Greg Patten**

NASBLA Boating OOOY— **CO Jeff Ginn**

NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION:

Outstanding Law Enforcement OOOY—**SA Ron Messa**

Special Recog. from US Att.y Office — **SA Charles Ratterman**

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Annual Award of Excellence—

SA Jim Cassin & SA Jeffrey Ray

Certificate of Comm. — **SA Jim Cassin**

Certificate of Comm. — **SA Jeffrey Ray**

NEW HAMPSHIRE

2013 Shikar Safari OOOY — **CO Greg Jellison**

2013 NE Conservation Law Enforcement Chiefs Assoc. OOOY—
CO Matthew Holmes

NEW JERSEY

2013 Conservation OOOY — **Marine Unit—Officer Brett Nicklow**

NEW YORK

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

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

NYSRPA OOOY - **ECO Roger Ward**

Samuel S. Taylor Award:

CO Michael Bello, CO Michael Phelps, Lt. Matthew Jacoby, CO Vernon Fonda, CO Steven Lakeman, CO Daryl Lucas, CO Corey Schoonover with K-9 Griz

Fred P. Drew Award:

Cpt. Joseph Schneider, Cpt. Cisco Lopez, Lt. John Fitzpatrick, Invest. Sara Komonchak, CO Ricky Wood, CO Corey Schoonover & K-9 Griz, CO Sean Reilly, Co T/Sgt. Walter Maloney, CO Donald Damrath, CO James Hunt, CO Robert Peinkofer, CO Ricardo Grisolini, CO Steven Lakeman, CO Brett Armstrong, CO Jamie Powers

Basic School Academy Award:

Officer Peter Jackson—Top shooter

Officer Matthew Foster—Top Academic

NYCOA Doug Kerr Award—**Officer Kati Karlson**

Police Benevolent Assoc. of New York State—**Officer Robert Johnson**

OHIO

NWTF OOOY - **WO Matt Leibengood**

Shikar-Safari OOOY - **WO Supervisor Mike Miller**

Mississippi Flyway OOOY - **WO Eric Lamb**

Whitetails Unlimited OOOY — **WO Wade Dunlap**

AMFLGLEO—**Law Enf. Program Administrator Greg Wade**

PENNSYLVANIA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION

2013 NE CLECA OOOY—**WCO Thomas Benevento**

2013 Top Gun Award—**WCO Mark Sweppenhiser**

PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION

2013 NWTF Law Enforcement OOOY — **Brian Singer**

2013 Shikar Safari OOOY — **Larry Hergenroeder**

VERMONT

Warden of the Year—**Sr. Warden Robert Sterling**

Commissioner's Award—**Specialist Russell Shopland**

Commissioner's Award—**Sgt. Carl Wedin**

Commissioner's Award—**Sr. Warden Richard Watkin**

Musket Awards:

Specialist Dale Whitlock—Gold

Sr. Warden—Justin Stedman—Silver

Warden Jenna Reed—Bronze

Warden Dana Joyal—Bronze

Warden Josh Hungerford—Bronze

Deputy Warden Eugene Stearns—Bronze

Warden Trainee Ethan Coffey—Bronze

Lifesaving Award—**Sr. Warden Robert Sterling (2012, 3rd Award)**

(Continued from page 13)

Despite the United States Federal Government shut down, Kyle and I were able to access Grand Teton National Park. We viewed elk and bison and I got to see an awesome sunset over the Teton Mountains.

We travelled to the Jackson Game and Fish Office where I met Game Warden Trainee Nick Roberts. Kyle and I helped Nick skin out some elk quarters he had seized. After that, Kyle and Layne Lash, Nick Roberts, and I all went out for pizza and beer in downtown Jackson.

The next morning we travelled into Idaho and then back into Wyoming to work a mule deer decoy close to the state line. I worked with Wardens Lash and Roberts as well as Biologist Doug Brimeyer. I got to sit on the decoy and was provided with a can of bear spray. Doug Brimeyer advised that, on average, there are two grizzly bear attacks on humans per year.

Grizzly bears cannot be hunted. Doug advised that US Fish and Wildlife Service and Wyoming Game and Fish are trying to get grizzly bears de-listed from the Endangered Species Act, so they can be hunted. Every nuisance grizzly that is live-trapped is fitted with a radio collar and relocated at least 100 miles. Grizzlies are never re-

leased in national parks.

Black bear attacks on people are unheard of. Black bears can be hunted and are considered a trophy species. A spring bear hunt is permitted and, unlike Ontario, galls are allowed to be possessed.

Elk hunting is allowed in Grand Teton National Park, but not in Yellowstone National Park. The Elk Refuge at Jackson Hole has 11,000 elk. The elk are fed on the refuge to prevent damage to private lands.

Doug advised that moose licences in northwestern Wyoming are down from 600 in late 1980s to just 15 in 2013. The reason is predation by bears and wolves. Moose numbers are higher in the Snowy Mountain Range located in the southern part of the state. The Snowy Range does not have wolves or grizzly bears. The Snowy Range moose population was introduced and expanded from Colorado in the 1970s and 1980s.

Wolves have been de-listed from the Federal Endangered Species Act. In the northwest corner of the state, wolves are classified as a trophy species. Forty-two wolves were harvested in the first hunt. Throughout the rest of the state, wolves are considered predators and can be shot on sight. Approximately 30 wolves were shot in the predatory zone in 2012.

Only 12 mountain goat tags are issued for the state on an annual basis. We had no takers for the decoy, but Kyle charged an Idaho resident for hunting grouse in Wyoming without a licence.

That evening, Kyle and I attended the Teton County Sheriff's Office regarding an occurrence of five Mexican citizens har

(Continued on page 30)



Kyle Lash and Brian Baker

(Continued from page 29)

vesting three mule deer from a closed area. After interviewing all five individuals, Warden Lash seized the deer heads and a small amount of meat and issued court appearances. As not all the meat had been removed from the kill sites, the men were told to meet us at the trail head in the morning.

The next morning Warden Lash and I met the Mexican hunters at the Granite Peak trail head. We travelled up the mountain on horseback with the Mexican hunters

to ensure they recovered the remainder of the meat from the deer carcasses. Under Wyoming law, hunters have 48 hours to remove meat from a kill site. While there, Kyle investigated two elk hunters who had driven an ATV into an area of national forest where motorized vehicles are prohibited. The evidence was turned over to the National Forest Ranger.

On October 14th at 5:30 a.m., Kyle dropped me off at the Jackson Airport for my flight home.

I cannot say enough about how great an experience this was!

A big thanks to Jason Sherwood for all his hard work in planning and organizing my trip. Thanks to all the wardens and their families for the hospitality in accommodating me in their homes. Wyoming

game wardens are welcome to visit me in Ontario any time.

I would highly recommend Wyoming as a great place for a hunting trip or to take a vacation.

I would also like to thank the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources for allowing me the opportunity to work out of Province.

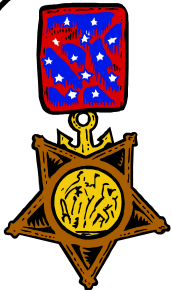
Lastly, I would like to thank NAWEOA for this adventure of a lifetime!



Ken Snowden and Brian Baker



Kyle Lash saddles up



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 LIFE-TIME 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*****

NORTH AMERICAN WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

33RD ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE

NAWEOA

IS YOUR HOST

For the 2014

NAWEOA Training Conference

See naweo.org/2014

JULY 21-26, 2014

RENO, NEVADA

Silver Legacy Resort and Casino



This year's training theme is **SUBVERSIVE GROUPS**

NAWEOA 2014 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

North American Wildlife Enforcement Officers association 2014 Conference Registration Form							
First Name:		Last Name:		Address:			
City:		Province/State:		Postal/Zip Code:			
Jurisdiction:		Phone:		Country, CA or US?			
Position:		Email:		Voting Member, Y or N?			
T-Shirt Size:				Retired, Y or N?			
Spouse /Guest First and Last name:						T-Shirt Size:	
Youth Name:		Age:		T-Shirt Size:		Parent Phone#:	
Youth Name:		Age:		T-Shirt Size:		Parent Phone#:	
Youth Name:		Age:		T-Shirt Size:		Parent Phone#:	
Registration Does not include Torch Run or special activities				Before 6/15/14	After 6/15/14	# of Persons	Total
Full Registration NAWEOA Member				\$160	\$190		
Full Registration NON-NAWEOA Member				\$170	\$200		
Spouse/Guest				\$100	\$130		
Youth				\$50	\$65		
Day Passes and Banquet Torch Run etc.;						# of Persons	Total
Banquet	Saturday	7/26/2014		\$50			
Day Pass	Monday	7/21/2014		\$30			
Day Pass	Tuesday	7/22/2014		\$30			
Day Pass	Wednesday	7/23/2014		\$30			
Day Pass	Thursday	7/24/2014		\$30			
Day Pass	Friday	7/25/2014		\$30			
Day Pass	Saturday	7/26/2014		\$30			
Torch Run Single	If you have more than 3 family members (Living at home with you) you can register as a family. Otherwise use Single			\$20			
Torch Run Family				\$60			
Female Officer Mixer	Thursday 7/24 6:00 pm	Free Event but please indicate the number that will attend.		\$0			You are responsible for your tab.
Retiree Breakfast	Friday	7/25/2014	7:00 AM	\$15			
Youth Activities:						# of Persons	Total
Ice Cream Social	Free Event but please indicate the number that will attend.			\$0			
Youth Retreat	Included in Child Conference Registration			\$35			
Trips and Activities						# of Persons	Total
San Francisco Expedition		Monday	7/21/2014	\$110			
Historical Virginia City tour		Tuesday	7/22/2014	\$40			
Carson city, Lake Tahoe and Truckee		Tuesday	7/22/2014	\$55			
Conference Registration Total							
<p>Make checks payable to NAWEOA 2014. Send to; Marion Hoffman, P.O. Box 462, Shokan, NY, 12481.</p> <p>Do not send credit card information. Write CREDIT CARD ON THE FORM and call Marion with your information. 845-331-6975 (If no answer, leave a message and number)</p>							

2014 NAWEOA CONFERENCE

TRAINING and BUSINESS AGENDA

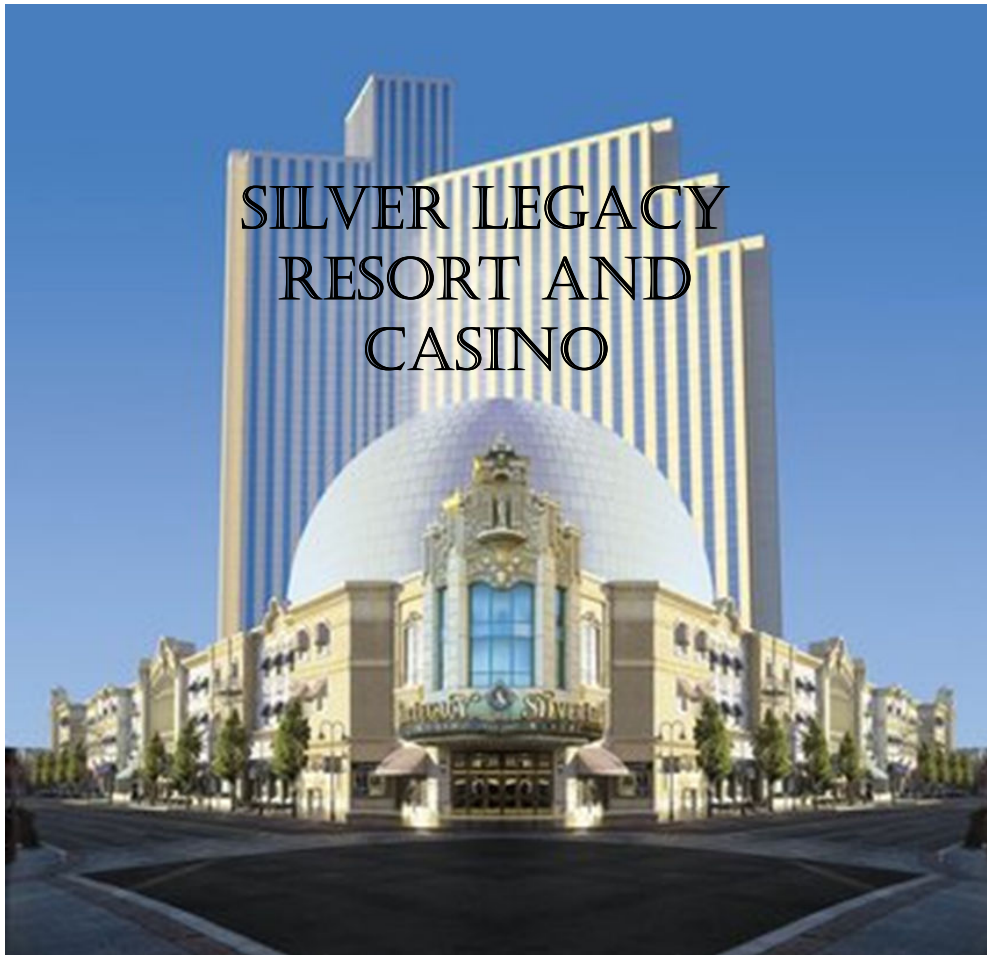
Sunday, July 20	1300-1900	Registration open
Monday, July 21	0800-1800	Registration open
Tuesday, July 22	0800-1800	Registration open
	0800-1700	NAWEOA Board Meeting
Wednesday, July 23	0800-1800	Registration open
	0830	Photo
	0900	Opening ceremonies
	1100	Officer Exchange Presentations
	1200	Lunch/awards
	1400	Speaker Bobby Smith
Thursday, July 24	0800-1800	Registration
	0800-1045	Bruce Ferrell, President North American Gang Investigators Assn
	1115-1400	Lunch/candidate speeches/business
	1400-1700	Detective Kory Flowers: Aryan nations/white supremacists/skinheads
Friday, July 25	0800-1200	Registration open
	0800-1045	Detective Rob Finch: Sovereign Citizens
	1100-1200	Business meeting
Saturday, July 26	0800-1300	Registration open
	0800-1045	Breakout sessions
	1100-1200	Business meeting
	1300-1430	Breakout sessions
	1445-1615	Game warden Mike Neil: Officer involved shooting
	1615-1630	Closing ceremonies
Sunday, July 27	0800-1200	NAWEOA Board Meeting



SOCIAL AGENDA

Monday, July 21	0700-2200	San Francisco Trip
	1100-1800	Golf tournament
Tuesday, July 22	0930-1630	Carson City/Lake Tahoe/Truckee tour
	1030-1430	Virginia City Tour
	1900-2100	Youth Ice Cream Social
Wednesday, July 23	1730-1930	Torch run and BBQ
Thursday, July 24	1030-1630	Legends Mall shopping shuttle
Friday, July 25	1400-1900	Warden Skills games
Saturday, July 26	1000-1500	Wild Island Water Park Adventure
	1700-1800	Cocktails
	1800-0100	Banquet/auction/dance
	1800-0100	Youth retreat National Bowling Stadium

More information and registration at
www.naweo.org/2014



The Silver Legacy Resort and Casino, downtown Reno, has been selected as the host hotel for the 2014 conference. There are six restaurants in-house, one of which has a breakfast special of bacon, eggs, and toast for \$2.99. In addition, the hotel is connected to two other hotels, both of which have numerous dining establishments. From buffets to fine dining, Starbucks to Sips (coffee and pastries), the hotel provides many eating opportunities. Innumerable other eating establishments are within blocks of the hotel. The fourth floor outdoor pool will keep the kids occupied, and if they get enough of that, Circus-Circus has a kids game-room. Circus-Circus is accessed through a breezeway connected to the Legacy.

The planning committee has several side activities for the family. A city run bus system can get you around downtown. There are many attractions such as the National Automobile Museum where you can spend hours tracing the history of auto making, and see some of the most interesting and bizarre cars ever made. Numerous museums are available. The Truckee River walk, where the Torch Fun Run will be held, is just a few blocks south of the hotel. You will find a wide variety of activities that can make this trip into a full blown vacation.

RESERVATION INFORMATION

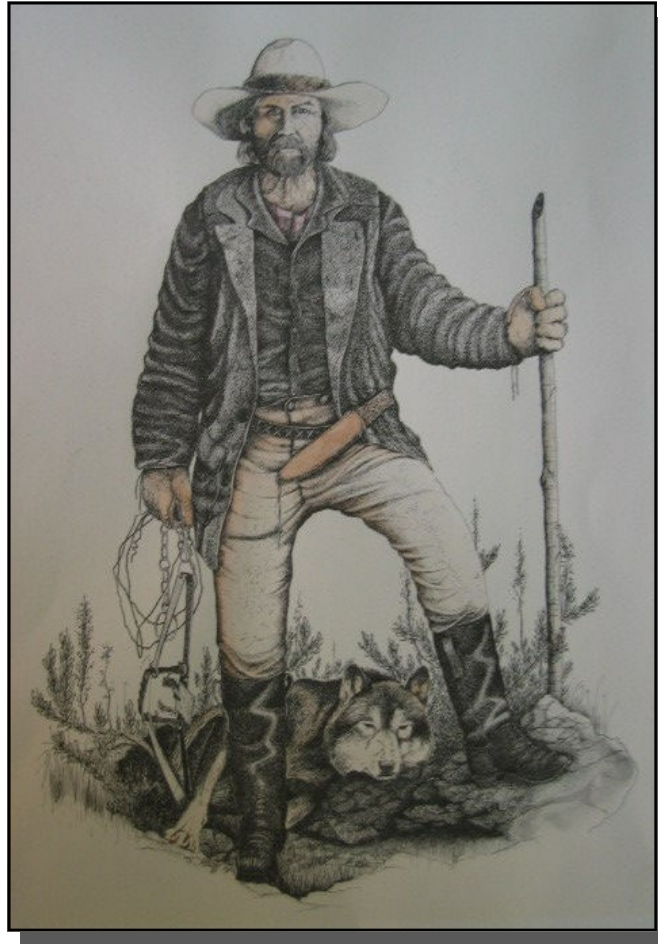
Room Rates are \$69 per night with an additional \$10 resort fee plus taxes
The required resort fee gives you free covered parking and free internet, and more.

SILVER LEGACY RESORT AND CASINO
407 N Virginia St, Reno, NV 89501
800-687-8733

IMPORTANT: USE CODE NAWEO (WITHOUT THE "A") AS CONFERENCE I.D.



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 Reno 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

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>www.igwmagazine.com</p> <p>Or contact:</p> <p>Marion Hoffman Subscriptions Manager International Game Warden</p> <p>subscription@igwmagazine.com (845)331-6975</p>		