



# the Sportsman Newsletter

Official publication of the Wildlife Committee of Washington  
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## President's Message

### Volunteers

I would once again like to thank all those that volunteered last month. I know that the following members showed up to help with the pistol range side baffles; **Roy Stephenson, Scott Lorenz, John Conderman, Bob Blum, Ray Grigsby, Matt Richardson, and Paul Zoba**. The first phase is completed and looks good. I know that several members worked to complete the lighting project on the archery flat range and the evening view is excellent now. I know that several members helped with the PITA shoot at shotgun on May 17 and that was a success. Thanks to all those that helped.

### Events

There are several things going on in June, so check your calendars. There is a pistol match, several rifle matches and another shot gun tournament. We also have a charity shoot at shotgun for children on June 1, it's called "Klays for Kids." Please come out and shoot the event with an NFL Alumni player. Cost is \$225, of which \$125 or more is tax deductible, ammunition is provided along with some gifts and prizes.

The Archery Big Game 3-D Shoot is coming up quickly (July 13/14) and they can use some more volunteers to help out with the event. You don't have to be an archer to help out with this important club event.

### Reminders

Shotgun will be closed to general shooting on June 1 and June 28. Pistol Range will be closed to general shooting during match on June 29. Range 1 will be closed for several matches on the weekends. Also, we are doing work on Range 1. The work may result in some weekday closures on Range 1. We will try to post closures in advance, but that may not always be possible (When you work with volunteers, this happens). Be patient and we will have the 300 yard line open again without the hazzards of the past.

### Safety

Safety is a fully time concern at our range. But our efforts must be tempered with consideration for others. If you observe minor safety violations, bring it to the attention of our employees when they are present and in control.

We are having a problem at Five Stand because some members are directly confronting shooters about what they perceive as safety violations. I don't know if there is a violation or not, but shooters that see what they think is a safety violation, should bring it to the attention of the trapper or Range Master, who will talk with the shooter when necessary.

Those observing safety problems should go to the shooter only when there is no trapper or Range Master present, or when the violation is so serious that there is an immediate danger present.

We seem also to have a problem with a few members trying to extend our safety procedures to a ridiculous extreme. We have a few folks who are overly concerned with the muzzle direction of unloaded firearms which are safely locked or broken open. While muzzle direction is always an important safety consideration, carrying this one idea to the extreme actually reduces our overall safety level by violating other polices while executing these convoluted actions. Folks, an unloaded and locked or broken open firearm is just a piece of steel. It will not fire. And while momentarily sweeping someone with the muzzle of such an item may be an etiquette violation that we all try to avoid, it is not a safety problem.

Everyone have a great June and be careful.

**Carl Brattain**

**ITS YOUR CLUB, GET INVOLVED!**

**WCW Board Meeting Minutes of May 7, 2003**

Meeting called to order by Vice President John Conderman at 8:00 PM. All Board members were present except Carl Brattain, Dave Alvar, Dan Barton, Vic Alvarez, and Larry Mallory.

**Orientation**

The following new members have completed orientation:

- Joe Ahern
- Fred Bates
- Justin Farrington
- Jeffrey and Theresa Gettmann
- Edward and Mia Marie Graves
- Harry Hamlin
- Clark Heindl
- Forrest and Judy Inslee
- Ian Johnston
- Alan Morek
- James and Julie Pierce
- John Reynolds
- Lytton Smith and Janice Crosetti
- William Stroud
- Curt Walvatne

There being no quorum, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Ron Hearldson  
Corresponding Secretary



<b><i>Shotgun hours of operation are:</i></b>	
<i>Normal hours</i>	
<b>Mon</b>	<b>5-9pm Members Only</b>
<b>Tues</b>	<b>5:00 pm to 9:00 pm</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>Noon to 5:00 pm</b>
<b>Thur</b>	<b>5:00 pm to 9:00 pm</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>10:00 am to 5:00 pm</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>10:00 am to 5:00 pm</b>



**DCM/Highpower Rifle Match**

The weather gods smiled on 14 of our Highpower competitors, and brought sunshine for our May CMP tournament. A good mix of Master/Un-classifieds (four), Marksmen (six), Sharpshooters (three), and one Expert participated. We had a Junior shooter (who registered for no fee - a WCW policy to encourage young shooters to "Come On Down!")

Our Match Winner was Mark Moran, who has been away from our monthly contests for much too long, with a Classification-changing 470-10X! The combined Expert-Sharpshooter Class was dominated by Todd Balise, with a 458-8X. The Marksman class was taken by Robert Gord, with 439-3X, and chased by Brian Crow, with a 429-3X, for 2nd Marksman.

Our Unclassified shooters were led by recently retired Navy Mike Heath, with a very nice 439-X. The Junior shooter, Ethan Morrison, shooting a CMP M-1 Carbine, is a product of the WCW Junior smallbore program. Ethan shot a respectable score, and we expect to see him at subsequent High-power matches, now that he's gotten his feet wet!

The next CMP match at Kenmore will be on 15 June - Sign up begins at 0830, first shots at 1000. Join the fun!

Dick



The July 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> 3-D is quickly approaching. We still need volunteers for in the areas of: kitchen, registration, and course pick-up. If you can help either day, please let me know. I've also posted a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board at the flat range.

We would like to re-visit our project of collecting e-mail addresses for those archers who would like to be on our alert network. Even if you think you've given me your address, please drop me any message.

The lights are up and they are great! Thanks go out to Ray Lindstrom for doing the electrical work and Ken DeLeone for following the project through.

Darian Carpenter  
dariancarp@aol.com

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★ **Donations** ★  
★ We receive many donations during the course of a year .....and we are very grateful. While we are not a charity and donations are not charitable contributions for tax purposes, all donations are put to work improving the facility and its operations. This month we received:

★ **\$100 Donations** ★  
★ David W. Howe ★

★ **\$25 Donations** ★  
★ Kenneth Opsata ★

★ **\$10 Donations** ★  
★ Gregory Moore ★

**Thanks!!!**

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## Legislatively Speaking

by Joe Waldron

### D.C. Outlook

Two bills have been filed in Congress to expand and extend the so-called "assault weapon" ban. S.1034, by Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), the sponsor of the original ban in 1994, would make the ban permanent, as well as forever prohibit import of high capacity magazines. H.R. 2038, sponsored by Rep. Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY), would broadly expand the existing ban, adding millions of firearms not currently covered. Among them are the M1 carbine, Ruger Mini-14, and almost ALL semi-automatic shotguns and rifles. These long guns were originally on the list of "approved sporting guns," a list gun control advocates promised would never be added to the bad gun list.

I'll provide additional information on these bills in later columns, as this is promising to be a major campaign issue for the 2004 elections.

One other gun bill is moving rapidly through Congress: Gun control advocates have been promoting suits against manufacturers in a clear and blatant attempt to bankrupt the gun industry. (Unlike the tobacco industry with its high profits, the gun industry operates on a very narrow margin.) Gun manufacturers have won all the suits that have made it all the way through the process, most recently the much-publicized suit in New York City by the NAACP. But the legal fees are staggering, amounting to millions of dollars.

H.R. 1036, a bill that would prohibit malicious, and groundless, lawsuits against gun manufacturers for making a legal product, passed the House of Representatives in April on a broad bipartisan vote, with 85 Democrats joining most Republicans in voting for the bill. It's Senate counterpart, S.659, is currently awaiting action. A vote on S.659 could come up in the next

month or so. NOW is the time to give our two U.S. Senators an e-mail or a call and ask that they support this much-deserved legislation.

### Olympia Watch

ALL gun-related bills, good and bad, died in Olympia with the end of the regular legislative session on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Among them were bills passed by the Senate protecting shooting ranges from nuisance noise lawsuits and one allowing Washington to recognize concealed pistol licenses issued by other states – and expanding the number of states that would accept a Washington CPL. (Reminder: even without a reciprocity law, your Washington pistol license is good in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Virginia and Vermont.)

As this is being written in late-May, a 30-day special legislative session is ongoing to pass a biennial operating budget they failed to pass in the regular session. It appears no action will be taken on gun bills in the special session.

The legislature did pass SB 5179, a bill repealing most provisions of the trapping ban imposed by I-713. This controversial bill was vetoed by Governor Locke. The issue will be back again. Another bill we'll see again is HB 2099, a bill that would ban the use of lead shot for hunting. It died this year – but we'll see it again.

Several pro- and anti-gun bills have been filed in Olympia this year. Almost all died at the committee cut-off on March 5<sup>th</sup>. A concealed pistol license reciprocity bill (SB 5083) passed out of the Senate on a 49-0 vote (!) and now awaits action in the House Judiciary Committee. A bill protecting shooting ranges from nuisance lawsuits (SB 5910) passed the Senate on a 41-8 vote. Both bills now move to the House Judiciary Committee.

No gun-related bills passed out of the House during the first half of the legislative session. One bill, HB 2099,

would have effectively eliminated the use of lead shot in hunting—do you still think they're not after hunters? When the time comes for the House to act on bills passed by the Senate, it will take major pressure on the House Judiciary Committee chair (Rep. Pat Lantz, D-26<sup>th</sup>) to move the bills forward.

There is one additional bill of interest, one not focused on guns. That is HB 1210, the Antiterrorism Act of 2003. As the title would indicate, the bill's primary focus is on terrorist-related activities. But the bill contains a definition of "weapons of mass destruction" (biological, chemical, radiological or nuclear weapons) that is somewhat ambiguous—a definition that some would interpret to include firearms. An amendment correcting this will be offered, but a competing amendment will specifically add "firearms" to the definition. This would create an extremely dangerous precedent, and allow gun control advocates to claim all other gun control bills are somehow related to the threat of terrorism.

More timely information about activities in Olympia can be found in the GOAL Post (below). GOAL Post is also posted on their web site by the Washington State Rifle & Pistol Association at <http://www.wsrpa.org/>

If you have any questions about firearms-related legislative issues, or Washington gun laws in general, please call me at my Bellevue office at (425) 454-4911. I am not an attorney, nor do I practice law, but I have had a hand in writing or amending much of the firearms code on the law books today. I can provide a layman's interpretation to Washington firearms code and how it is being interpreted.