



# THE SPORTSMAN NEWSLETTER

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

### Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting was April 12. The new budget was approved for FY 2007. There were 90 ballots cast. The Board of Directors remained unchanged with Patti Webster winning the two year trustee position. Pat Webster organized the refreshments and door prizes for the annual meeting and did a great job. Awards were given to members for their help through out the prior years. Recipients -

**Member of the Year is Dan Barton and Instructor the Year is Ed Pack.** Dan received the award for all his work last year with Inventory and storage. Ed received the award of all the years he chaired the Hunter Education Committee and for all the classes he has taught over the years. Also, **Gerard Loupe, Scott Lorenz, and Phil Murray** received **Presidential Awards** for their work at the Club. Gerard Loupe maintains all the shotgun equipment, Scott Lorenz runs some of the clubs Pistol Leagues and puts on training classes for pistol shooting on a near monthly basis. Phil Murray not only teaches NRA rifle, pistol and shotgun classes and also is there to fill in when no one is available, plus much more.

### Volunteers

I would like to thank all the members who help out around the club. It is nice to see someone just cleaning things up so it looks a little better than how they found it. There are enough of us that if each person just does a little, the place will soon look a lot better. The volunteers that I am aware of are - Ray & Ray, Jay, Gary, Pat, Myron, Ann, Steve, Jerry, Jerry, Ron, Ted, Scott, Jack, George, Mike, Fabian, Trudi, Larry, Jim, Dick, Ron, Bob, Vic, Ron, Dave, John, etc. I hate the etc. but I know I will have forgotten someone. As you see the list is long. To them all,  
**Thanks**

### Events

Remember to check your calendar to see what is happening before you come to shoot. Also, for those that have events planned, make sure they are on the calendar correctly,

if they are not posted they are not happening. If they are not on the calendar, send a notice to the appropriate committee chairman to get it placed on the calendar.

Hunter Education sign up has started. If you want in the class, check with the Range Master to see when it starts. They fill up fast when we once start the sign up process.

### Range 1

Target frames are still a problem on Range 1. When putting up target frames at 300 yards, please remember to take down the 200 yard target frames. Also, remember when you are done shooting 300 yards, to take down the 300 yard frames and put back up the 200 yard frames. All target frames belong in the racks at 200 and 300 yard lines when they are not in use. Broken boards need to be brought back to the firing line and placed in the garbage. Please do not throw the broken frames on the ground because they get hit by the lawn mower and may damage the mower. Range 1 shooting is restricted to 100, 200, and 300 yard shooting, no 25, 50, or 75 yard general shooting.

Have Fun, Be Safe, and Play Well.

*Carl Brattain*

### Shotgun hours of operation

*Daylight Saving hours*

Mon	Members only 5-9pm
Tues	5:00 to 9:00 pm
Wed	Noon to 7:00 pm
Thur	5:00 to 9:00 pm
Fri	Closed
Sat	10:00 am to 7:00 pm
Sun	10:00 am to 5:00 pm

**ITS YOUR CLUB, GET INVOLVED!**





**April 2006 Benchrest Match Report**

Except for not raining it was a typical spring day for our April match. Turnout was good, ten shooters including a new shooter, at least new to our matches. John Parrish is an experienced BR shooter who drove over from Poulso. We sure hope to see him back again. He's a regular shooter at the Tacoma matches so is more used to shooting for group rather than for score, as we do here. Over in bay 2- the Burns Unit- we had Joe Burns down from Anacortes keeping Mark Burns company. Joe shot very well, placing second or third in 3 matches.

Conditions were difficult all morning, meaning changeable, unpredictable winds. Very seldom a moment of calm. Getting off 2 or 3 shots in the same condition was iffy. Ten shots- impossible. Patience was required to wait for the return of a similar condition. Wind flag expertise definitely required. A number of shooters can shoot high scores. The ones who can translate what the wind is showing on the flags best will probably come out on top. That's what happened this morning.

In match 1 (300 yd) Jeff Yost shot 100-0x for first place. Mac McCluskey and Gene Solyntjes both scored 99-3x and Joe Burns was just one x behind them with 99-3x. In the second match Rick Graham and Gene shared first with 100-1x. Mac and Joe both had 99-2x and Mustafa Bilal scored 98-3x.

At 200 yards, in the first match Rick and Mark Burns both shot excellent targets, 100-3x, and this in very tricky, perplexing conditions. Mark had the advantage of shooting a 6.5-.284 with those long wind-defying bullets. Too bad he ran out of ammo and couldn't shoot in the last match! Mac was second with 99-1x and Joe was third with 99-0x. In our last match Gene and Jeff Yost were out front, each with 100-3x. Rick was in second with 99-1x and Mustafa shot a 98-2x. Rick's PPC was one point ahead of Gene's 30BR in the grand aggregate

and so he went home with a (very) slightly fatter wallet. Rick is now manufacturing wind flags over at his plant in Ballard. I guess he knows how to use them. Good shooting Rick!

Next match is Sat. May 13. Come and join the fun. Call Richard Nicol at 206-784-1093 or Rick Graham at 206-784-1324 if you have any questions about our shooting format or schedule.

**Ramblings**

The Range Committee is in need of someone to step up and volunteer to take over the Prone Highpower Rifle winter series matches. Dick Abbey will not be available this year, and so if you want to have the matches, we need a new match director.....otherwise, they are cancelled.

Also the CMP matches have had a pitiful showing lately. If we do not get more shooters out to the matches, we will have to consider skipping months. Hard to justify exclusive use of R#1 for most of a Sunday for only 3 paid match shooters.

Let's discuss Range #1 a bit. Every time I stop there in the evening and look down range, I see targets. I am sure that we have a rule which states you will take down your target when you are done shooting. If you are the last shooter leaving R#1 and there are still targets downrange, expect to lose something!

When Carl mowed Range #1. he found a great deal of wood (old target frames) laying in the grass. And he noticed a lot of garbage along the side of the range. These are unacceptable situations. They make mowing very difficult and dangerous, and a one of the causes of mower damage. If you see it, pick it up and take it back to the firing line.....dumpster. And don't be the one who just drops it out on the range. If I see it, you will be losing something too.

*Vic*

**LEAD**

Over the past several years we have seen several members and a couple of competitive pistol shooters find their lead levels to be way too high. While we are all very attentive to the direct hazards we face and pay close attention to the basic firearm safety and handling rules, we do not give the same importance to protecting ourselves from our exposure to LEAD.

Our exposure comes not only from the lead bullets used, but from the lead based primers used to start the powder ignition. And from the hot gas melting the bullet base before it gets out of the barrel. And from friction of the barrel shaving off little bits of the bullet.

Lead is suspended in the air at the firing line and collects on all the surfaces nearby. Your exposure is greatest when you shoot centerfire pistol, since they put out a lot of lead on each shot, and the shots come frequently.

We absorb lead through the skin, breath it in, and ingest it. Lead accumulates in the blood and bones, a little at a time and does not flush quickly. The good news is that you can protect yourself by applying some common sense rules and following good personal hygiene.

1. If you shoot a lot and/or reload a lot, get your blood tested for lead levels.
2. Wash your hands and beard/moustache after coming off the line....and before you eat, drink or smoke.
3. Do not take an open drink to the line. Eat, drink and smoke away from the firing line and anywhere lead dust will accumulate.
4. Change clothes after a shooting session and wash them separately. And take a shower.
5. Wear disposal gloves when cleaning your firearms and when handling brass or reloading. And dispose of them, they're cheap.

A little care in our habits will insure we do not have a future problem.



**LEGISLATIVELY SPEAKING**  
by Joe Waldron

Gun control activists have been trying to get traction from the mass shooting that occurred in Seattle late in March, but so far don't seem to have made much headway. The Seattle Times has joined with them, publishing an inflammatory opinion piece by three has-been governors calling for passage of a law restricting gun shows – that had nothing to with the incident.

A week later the Times published another opinion piece, this one from the daughter of murdered federal prosecutor Tom Wales. Amy Wales proposed that we restrict access to firearms by law-abiding citizens so they won't fall into the hands of criminals. She repeated the popular mantra that "we should treat gun crime like a disease epidemic," ignoring the fact that vaccines against dis-

eases are made from small doses of the disease itself – so maybe we should "inoculate" potential crime victims by arming them.

No law on the books now or currently proposed by the gun control lobby would have prevented the Seattle shooting incident. But that won't stop them. We'll hear more about this next year in Olympia.

I attended the 17 April meeting at the Department of Natural Resources to continue discussion of the proposed revised Washington Administrative Code (WAC) controlling recreational access to almost six million acres of public (DNR-controlled) lands. The meeting opened with the introduction of the new program manager assigned to the WAC revision, Doug McClelland.

Mr. McClelland proved very receptive to suggestions made by the committee with regard to recreational (target) shooting

(hunting is regulated by Fish & Wildlife). A proposed list of guidelines for safe shooting was developed (e.g. be sure of a safe backstop, no glass targets, clean up brass and used targets, no shooting into water, no tacking targets to live trees, etc). It was agreed that there would be no attempt to restrict shooting to designated areas only, provided shooters followed the guidelines listed above.

The actual draft language of the proposed WAC will be distributed and reviewed in another meeting in June or July, followed by a period of public comment.

As we get closer to the election cycle, I'll be publishing GOAL Alerts providing details on fund-raising events, campaign volunteer information and such. If you'd like to receive these alerts, e-mail me at [jwal-dron@halcyon.com](mailto:jwal-dron@halcyon.com) and include the word(s) GOAL or GOAL Post in the subject line.

**Special Rates for NRA Membership \$25.00**

By special arrangement, the NRA is allowing us to sign-up members for **\$10 OFF** their regular dues. Pay by credit card or your check made out to the **NRA**. Mail it to the club, drop it off at the Range Office or mail it directly to the **NRA**:

**National Rifle Association, Recruiter Program Department**  
11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, VA 22030-7400

PREMIUM GIVEN - EK381145     SEND PREMIUM - EK381133

NRA RECRUITER **XC005464**

*Wildlife Committee of Washington*  
RECRUITER SIGNATURE

**NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION**  
**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

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 NAME: Mr./Mrs./Ms. \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DAY PHONE: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**CHOOSE ONE MAGAZINE** (NOTE: JUNIOR members receive Insights magazine)  
 AMERICAN GUARDIAN     AMERICAN RIFLEMAN     AMERICAN HUNTER

**MEMBERSHIP TYPE**

- 1 YEAR ~~\$35~~ **\$25**
- 2 YEAR \$60
- 3 YEAR \$85
- JUNIOR (under 21 years old) \$15
- DISTINGUISHED (age 65+ or disabled veteran) \$30
- LIBERTY (no magazine) \$10
- EASY-PAY-LIFE \$25\*  
\*\$25 down - 29 quarterly payments  
 TOTAL COST - \$750
- LIFE (payment in full) \$750
- OTHER \_\_\_\_\_
- ADDITIONAL MAGAZINE (per year \$15)
- FOREIGN POSTAGE (per year: \$5 Canada, \$10 other)
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