

WASHINGTON STATE MUZZLELOADER'S ASSOCIATION

March 2017 Journal

www.wamuzzleloaders.com



WSMA Annual Fundraising Banquet

Don't worry, you haven't missed it! This Saturday is the dinner out at the Tacoma Sportsmen's Club in Puyallup. Our vendors this year at the Cascade Mountain Men's Gun Show outdid themselves again and we have some fantastic trade goods for the auction. I've also collected numerous handmade items from our local craftsmen and I know more surprises will arrive at the door. Remember, If you didn't get your ticket early, you can still get one at the door.

The format will be much the same as last year, with Mark Curtis as our auctioneer. Mark is still recovering from getting some new bionic body parts but will still be out to support us. This year's dinner menu is Marinated BBQ Chicken and BBQ Brisket all with great side dishes and cooked again by our Women of Primitive Skill! The samples were amazing.

Remember, the proceeds from this go to support our Youth Grant program. Both at Rain-Dee-Voo in February and Spring Thaw this past weekend I got to watch a youngster receive their first rifle. It is great to see that smile on their face, and it is great to see the future of our sport.

Cascade Mountain Man Gun Show

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped man the booth at the show. This is a big time for the WSMA, as most people renew their dues at this event. We also had about 20 new members sign up! We also had the highest participation rate in the election of our 2017 officers with 47 people voting. There was some stiff competition for the Best Rendezvous. The election results will be announced at the dinner.

Memorial Service for Glenn Sutt by Steve Baima



We lost our dear friend Glenn Sutt on February 2nd. Many of his friends remain in disbelief. There is going to be a memorial service scheduled for him at Fort Nisqually on May 19th at 5:30 PM. Glenn was very active within the Fort Nisqually advisory association and contributed significantly to the endowment and collection of artifacts at the fort. I asked the senior administrator at the Fort if we could fire a volley during the service, in Glenn's honor. Jim told me that it was already planned and that he had anticipated as much. In that regard, I am asking everyone that is planning to attend to wear your primitives bring your flintlock or

percussion rifles and/or pistols. You will need to arrive early, as a safety check will be made to ensure that all weapons are truly unloaded. This will be a ramrod inserted to breech plug depth for verification. We will load with a black powder charge and a wad consisting of florets frog foam. The foam serves as a packing and will disintegrate on ignition, so nothing, other than hot gasses, are discharged from the barrel. I recommend that those participating in the service arrive no later than 4:30 PM.

New Events

There are a couple of new events this year you should be aware of. More information for each of the events can be found on the WSMA website, including event flyers.

On **May 5-7, 2017 the Rimrock Free Trappers** will be hosting a **Specialty Shoot and Rendezvous at the Poulsbo Sportsmen's Club**. This is a primitive affair, with a total of 50 points awarded for period clothing and footwear. Dana Atchison will be the Booshway for this event, with Bill Daly as Segundo and Steve Cole as Trade Chief. In addition to shooting there will be other interesting contests and demonstrations.

Then on **August 12th & 13th, 2017** there will be the **Many Rivers Rifle Frolic at the Capitol City Rifle & Pistol Club** in Littlerock, WA. This is a joint venture between 7 Rivers and the Puget Sound Free Trappers. The Booshway is Jerry Charlton and Will Ulry as Segundo. Will is excited to have a rendezvous that doesn't have "rain" in the title.

Hide Tanning Class

Kim Kormas, Scott Isom, and Mike Moran attended a hide tanning class put on by Chris Chisholm of Wolf Camp and the Conservation College. Chris is an outdoorsman and teacher originally from Minnesota who started his own school for outdoor skills. The class consisted of learning the steps involved in turning a deer hide into a buckskin, and actually working a hide from dressing it (we used eggs instead of brains) through the softening stage then smoked it to prevent it from becoming stiff. We also learned how to tan with the hair on and had a few students working on rabbit hides. Another student brought a black and white sheepskin, and worked it through most of the stages. It was a very interesting class.



Wolf Camp has many classes that might be of interest to muzzleloaders, such as making bows and arrows, wilderness navigation, edible plants, animal trailing and photography. He also runs overnight treks and a kid's summer camp. To check out all that Wolf Camp has to offer, check out his website at www.wolfcollege.com.

RAIN-DE-VOO, And It Did Rain!!

By Bob Gietz

For their first muzzle-loading event of the year, the Puget Sound Free Trappers of the Capitol City Rifle and Pistol Club hosted the annual "Rain-de-voo" on the rendezvous trail just south of Littlerock. A deceptive mild start on Friday followed by on-again-off-again mists, showers and gully washers!!! This doin's got started at 1:00 o'clock, early Friday afternoon on February 17 when Booshway Roy Williams opened the gate to the trail walk. Event registrants amounted to 65 individuals and the shooters were composed of 44 men, 6 women, 5 juniors, and five under 12's. Eight campers endured in their tin-tepees and only 5 primitives took their damp canvas home to dry. Seven traders welcomed the patrons including a number of visitors from the local community.

The competitors had a range of typical events: Rifle, Trade Gun, Pistol, Knife & 'hawk and Archery trails. Roy Williams headed the shooting trails while Scott Isom ran the Knife & Hawk event and Clarence Atchison carried on as Trade Chief. Capable helpers were: Registrar/Clerk Tom Brown, Mike Nesbitt, Adam Sampson, Tim Sampson, BO Brown, Doug Simpson, Bob & Julie Wright, Jerry Mayo, and Dave Perry, along with perhaps some others whose names may have escaped, kept the trails working. Aggregate scores could combine either Archery or Knife & 'hawk with the Rifle trail. The Capitol City Bowmen ran the Archery event while Will Ulry and youth parents were overseers for the Under 12 events. Compliments certainly go to that fine staff.



Off the trail, in the shelter of the clubhouse, we had the Trader's Row. The kitchen was again being operated by the Capitol City Bowmen and the chow was really good. Our friends in the Washington State Muzzleloaders Association held their annual meeting late Saturday

afternoon. On Saturday evening the clubhouse welcomed all comers to the Pot Luck, which had catered baked and fried chicken provided by the Free Trappers to compliment the tasty results of the Dutch oven competition.

Will Ulry was in charge of the evenings' events. Our Trader's Auction filled out the evening's agenda followed by the Poker tournament. Lots of folks pitched in to get the "dirty details" taken care of which included some of the "guests" as well as the hard-working Free Trappers. Dutch oven cooking competition had two parts; main dishes and desserts. Top awards went to Mike Moran for the main dish and JoJo McWhinney for the dessert.

Our shooting was concluded with the novelty events which began at noon Sunday. Those were run by Pete Strobl, Adam Sampson and Doug Simpson. The novelty matches included the stake shoot, and a Squirrel Gun match.

The end result of all efforts and activities came in recognition in the aggregate blanket prizes and

awards. WSMA's youth grant to this event provided special awards for Junior and Under 12 shooters, and WSMA "Pilgrim" medals went to those participating in a black powder event for the first time. The muzzle-loading rifle, donated by Roy Williams, for the one-shot buffalo hunt prize was won by Giselle Thomas. Scout Troop 310 lead by Craig Brown participated in the Saturday trails and five scouts were recognized with Pilgrim (new shooter) WSMA medals. The primitive Camp of Steve Cole was judged by Roy Williams as the most authentic and recognized with a certificate.



DETAILED EVENTS LISTING

EVENT	1 ST PLACE	2 ND PLACE	3 RD PLACE
Top Mt. Man	Allen Tresch	Pete Strobl	Jerry Charlton
Top Mt. Woman	Kerry Sotelo	Dana Atchison	Marly Sotelo
Flint rifle	Adam Sampson	Jerry Charlton	Steve Mclary
Perc. Rifle	Tony Plante	Kenny Edminster	Jerry Mayo
Pistol	Mike Jaynes	JoJo McWhinney	Allen Tresch
Trade Gun	Allen Tresch	Bob DeLisle	Mike Jaynes
Knife & 'hawk	Pete Strobl	Allen Tresch	Dana Atchison
Archery	Tony Woore	Mike Nesbitt	Derek Sotelo
Under 12	Natalie Schubert	Desmond Thomas	Nicholas Schubert
Junior	Carson Edminster	Caiden Martel	Landon Severy

Merchandise awards for individual skills were donated by Cabela's for the rifle and pistol shooting and a variety of other contacted donors from the shooting universe.

Youth Rifle (one shot Buffalo Hunt), Giselle Thomas

Accouterments from: Don Kerr (powder horn), BO Brown (bag), accessories from Rowland Zoller, a capper from Frank Ponceroff, and a gun cover from Ralph Birmingham.

Ugly Mountain Man: Frank Ponceroff

Primitive Camp: Steve Cole, judged by Roy Williams

Low scoring shooter (box award from Bugler) Miyoko Jaynes

Adding to the Trapper's raffle Lyman Trade Rifle, Mike Nesbitt made the shooting bag and Steve Skillman donated a traditional Powder horn, plus a gun cover by Ralph Birmingham. Winner of that raffle was Dana Atchison

The Free Trappers thank all those who came and enjoyed this event. Next year, on President's Day weekend in February, 2018 (February 16 thru 18), the new booshway for our Rain-de-voo, Clarence Atchison, and the (hopefully dry) crew, welcome you to come again.

Spring Thaw Rendezvous, 2017

by Mike Nesbitt

If you just wanted to complain about the weather, you would have had several opportunities at our Spring Thaw doin's this year. Rain fell hard enough that there was no shortage of running water and a lot of it was running right down our trails. The rains didn't stop everyone though, while our turnout wasn't as good as last year, we still had 25 shooters and they still did some good shooting. We can actually say that the rains didn't stop anything at all...



Evergreen Muzzleloader' hat pin

warming shed, there were times in this weekend's weather when that was especially nice.

For traders this year we had only two, a knife maker from Montana plus our own Ralph and Maggie Birmingham with their tent full of fine

This doin's was staffed by several of the usual suspects... Don Kerr was the booshway and he kept a rather tight watch on things even though he didn't shoot in the aggregate. Joker Joe Pesek handled the entries and registrations throughout the ordeal and he also accepted the blanket prizes. In addition to those duties, Joe also was in charge of selling our new Evergreen Muzzleloaders' hat pins. Handling the registrations is not an easy job and Joker Joe did it with year without assistance. (Joe is probably just as pleased that we had a rather light turnout.) Pete Strobl handled the novelty shoots on Sunday and also arranged the shotgun match. And all through the rendezvous, Scott Isom was there helping whoever needed his helping hands the most. One good deed that Scott should be thanked for along with the nice fire in the stove was the hot coffee in our rustic



Knives from Montana



Just one of the racks of good period clothes at Birmingham's

period clothing. Both of those traders were set up outside in the weather and we can all hope that they found their trip to our doin's was worth it because we'd like to see them ome back again.

Again this year we did not offer an award for the most primitive camp. Scott Isom did have his Baker tent set up but I think he'd admit how that was some mighty wet doin's. (I do believe that Scott unrolled his bed in the warming shed where he had the comfort of the wood stove for the night.) Mike Moran decided not to put up his canvas lean-to and made his bed under the campfire awning at Mike

Holeman's tin-tepee camp. So, we actually had no primitive camps to give an award to and none of us are terribly surprised. Maybe next year we can have the pleasure of increased temperatures and more good sunshine along with greater participation.



Jerry Mayo on the archery trail

Even though the rains continued to fall on Friday and Saturday, the good shooting at this doin's did go on. That was more or less expected and there was certainly no real slow-down noticed. For one thing, all of the usual events at our Spring Thaw doin's went on as scheduled. The only reduction at all can be noticed in the listing of awards; because of the lower turnout of shooters, Booshway Don decided to reduce the aggregate listings to just two shooters each instead of the usual three. That change, we can expect, is a 'this time only' thing and in the future our aggregates should again feature places for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd with certificates as awards.

We had at least one new shooter with us and he shot the rifle trail with a group made up with Mike Moran, Jerry Mayo, and myself. That shooter was Mickey Hamilton from Arizona. Mickey was somewhat outstanding, by wearing his straw hat in the rain. And he was shooting flintlocks, doing rather well with them. But his name is not mentioned in the list of shooters and he was not present at the awards. So, I don't know what might have happened to him and it can only be guessed that he did not turn in his scorecard. Let's hope he comes back.

After shooting the rifle trail, Mike Moran and Mickey Hamilton also shot the pistol trail. Jerry Mayo and I were not quite ready to do that and needed a breather. And it was soon after that when Jerry felt like trying his luck on the Archery trail, so I grabbed a punch and became his trail guide. That was good duty and the rain had lightened up just a bit.

On Saturday there was some emergency target repair needed on our Knife & Hawk trail. It seems that a couple of the "power throwers" had split two of our targets and new knife & hawk targets had to be put up in their place. Now it isn't all the fault of those powerful hawk throwers, those targets were certainly seasoned and experienced. And I do want to thank Mike Holeman, Wayne Noll, and Mike Moran for lending their skills and strength in helping to get those targets back up in time for more competition.

The rains actually let up nicely on Sunday and that allowed the shotgun match plus the Grub Shoot and Fort Shoot to be held, being run by Pete Strobl as usual. Tony Woore won the shotgun match, as you can see in the awards listing, but I didn't see or hear who won the most grub at the Grub Shoot or which team won the Fort Shoot. Those shoots certainly were held.

Only one Junior was signed in for this doin's and that was Landon Severy. We should be seeing Landon coming back to do more shooting because he was the winner of the .50 caliber percussion rifle, which was made possible through the WSMA Youth Grant. Mike Moran, the president of the WSMA was on hand to help with the presentation of that rifle.



Mike Moran with Landon Severy

The best thing about this year's Spring Thaw doin's is that everyone who came, was glad they were there. Spirits weren't dampened at all. And if we all start working on good weather now, next year's doin's will be better.

AWARDS

Rifle

1st Derek Sotelo
2nd Allen Tresch
3rd Jerry Mayo

Pistol

1st Allen Tresch
2nd Mike Holeman
3rd Bill Iliff

Knife & 'Hawk

1st Derek Sotelo
2nd Mike Holeman
3rd Bob Tresch

Trade Gun

1st Mark Davis
2nd Allen Tresch
3rd Mike Holeman

Top Mountain Man

1st Allen Tresch
2nd Pete Strobl
3rd Bob Tresch

Men's Aggregate

1st Allen Tresch
2nd Derek Sotelo

Senior Aggregate

1st Pete Strobl
2nd Bob Tresch

Women's Aggregate

1st Renita Foust
2nd Kerry Sotelo

Shotgun

1st Tony Woore
2nd Pete Strobl
3rd Allen Tresch

Hunter's Class

1st Bob Gietz
2nd Mark Davis
3rd Dave Martin

Junior

1st Landon Severy

Archery

1st Mike Nesbitt
2nd Tony Woore
3rd Derek Sotelo

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2017 Calendar Website Updates

Have an event you want to get posted to the calendar? Need to post your new flyer or registration form? You can send the info and flyers to Bob Geitz at duckfreak@q.com or Mike Moran at michael.moran248@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**25 MAR WSMA FUNDRAISING DINNER, TACOMA
SPORTSMEN'S CLUB, PUYALLUP, WA**

**14-16 APR TRADE GUN FROLIC, EVERGREEN
MUZZLELOADERS, LITTLEROCK, WA**

**21-23 APR HORN & ACCOUTREMENTS FAIR, WA HISTORICAL
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