

WASHINGTON STATE MUZZLELOADER'S ASSOCIATION

February 2017 Journal

www.wamuzzleloaders.com



Elections and Membership Renewals

It's that time of year, folks. Our membership year expired on December 31st, 2016, so it's time to dust off that checkbook and send in your renewal. You can either mail it in to the address on the renewal form, or bring it with you to the Gun Show in March.

You can vote for the 2017 officer slate either in person at the CMM Gun Show or by email. Ballots will go out ahead of time. If you would like to run for office, please contact one of the board members to get on the ballot. Here are the open positions:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>	<u>Nominations</u>
President	1 yr	Mike Moran	Open
Vice President	1 yr	Bill Daly	Open
Sec-Treasurer	1 yr	Mike Nesbitt	Open
Events Booshway	1 yr	Pete Strobl	Open
West Side Director	2 yr	BO Brown	Open
East Side Director	2 yr	Gary Sheets	Open

Cascade Mountain Men Gun Show

The CMM Traditional Muzzleloading Gun Show is coming fast and we need volunteers to man the WSMA booth. For a two hour shift, WSMA will reimburse your entry fee to get in. This is also the time when most people renew their memberships and get their dinner tickets for WSMA banquet. And start thinking about the best rendezvous this year, we'll be voting on it at the show.

WSMA Annual Fundraising Banquet

The FUNdraising Banquet will be on Saturday, March 25th at the Tacoma Sportsmen's Club in Puyallup. This event for WSMA members and their guests helps raise the money we use to support our youth shooting events. Most clubs now have a representative with tickets, or you can get them at the CMM Gun Show

Craftsmen, here is your chance to showcase your talents and help with the auction. We are also looking for folks to help run events during the dinner, so if you are interested, please contact one of the board members.

Traders, by Mike Moran

"I've got half a loaf of whole wheat bread, some jelly, and some 'taters, Sometimes I've got to wonder why I want to be a trader.

But I must be in God's graces, 'cause he sure takes care of fools, And living in the mountains is worth more than gold or jewels."

The fur trappers or mountain men are the subject of song and story. Movies like "The Mountain Men" and "Jeremiah Johnson" bring them to the silver screen, and history books recount the tales of the men that first opened the west. But we would never have known about the rendezvous if it hadn't been for the traders who delivered the goods and cash that turned a year's work of collecting beaver skins into a fortune.



How many times have we run out to the sporting goods store, or searched the internet, for that extra box of balls, or a replacement cleaning jag after a shoot? A quick stop on the way home from work will make sure the shooting box is properly stocked when it is time to plink away at those silhouettes. For the mountain men, if you couldn't get it from the Indians or make it yourself, you had to wait until the summer rendezvous before you could count on finding manufactured goods. The traders were the lifeblood that fueled the fur trade, and brought the beaver pelts back east so the famed "castor hats" could be made.

"My money pouch is getting light, and my canvas has got a leak, And I wonder to myself if I might make it through the week. But there's a special kind of feeling in this life that's tried and true,

I'm out of soap but I still got smoke and it's off to rendezvous."



Today, our traders are just as important as they were back then. A rendezvous just isn't a rendezvous without them. They provide not only trade goods but sound advice for both greenhorns and hibernauts accumulating their equipment and supplies. In fact it's just as important to know what not to buy. Need a new shirt? Visit a trader. Want to get rid of that old pistol you don't use much? See what you can swap for it. Have some downtime and just want to browse? Trader's row is the place to be.

So let's support our traders. These folks do this as a labor of love, as there is often not a lot of profit to be made. Hold off on those internet purchases or the big sporting goods stores in favor of ducking into their tents. One of the best things we can do is to bring them new customers. So for the next rendezvous, invite your friends and neighbors to stop by, even if it is just in their "city duds" to walk through trader's row. Who knows, they might end up outfitted with enough gear to set up a camp and participate!

"Fort Bridger or West Yellowstone I guess that I don't care, A chance to see old friends of mine and a place to sell my wares. If this old truck will get me there and fuel don't get too high, I'll set my chance in Jackson Hole beneath that Teton sky."

(Lyrics from the song "Ode to a Trader" by Tony and Carol Messerly, know as Many Strings and Company out of Salem, Utah. For more of their rendezvous music go to www.manystings.net.)



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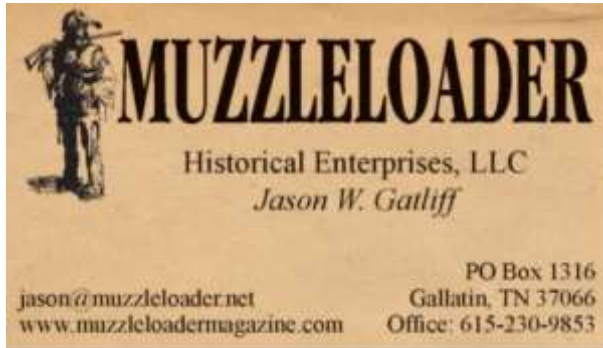
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2017 Calendar Website Updates

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

- 17-19 FEB** **RAIN-DEE-VOO, PUGET SOUND FREE TRAPPERS, LITTLE ROCK, WA**
- 11-12 MAR** **CASCADE MOUNTAIN MEN GUN SHOW, MONROE, WA**
- 17-19 MAR** **SPRING THAW RENDEZVOUS, EVERGREEN MUZZLELOADERS, LITTEROCK, WA**
- 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 GUNMAKER'S GUILD, LITTLEROCK, WA**

WWW.WAMUZZLELOADERS.COM

WSMA Booth at Cascade Mountain Men Gun Show Volunteer List

Please contact Mike Moran at michael.moran248@gmail.com to volunteer. We need a minimum of two people per shift, more are certainly welcome!

SATURDAY, 11 March:

9:00-11:00 1
 2.

11:00-1:00 1.
 2.

1:00 – 3:00 1.
 2.

3:00-5:00 1.
 2.

SUNDAY, 12 March:

9:00-11:00 1.
 2.

11:00-1:00 1.
 2.

1:00-3:00 1.
 2.

Washington State Muzzleloaders Association

www.wamuzzleaders.com

APPLICATION TO JOIN WSMA

New Renew

Date: _____

_____ Individual Annual Dues (\$10.00)

_____ Family Annual Dues (\$15.00) (Head of house, spouse, children under 18, still living at home)

_____ Club Annual Dues (\$10.00)

_____ Trader Annual Dues (\$20.00). Business Name: _____

Make check payable to WSMA and mail to PO Box 2913, Olympia, WA 98507

Name: _____ Club: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Newsletters will be sent by email unless requested otherwise.

AREAS OF INTEREST AND PREFERENCES

Primitive: _____

Flint Rifle: _____

Target: _____

Perc. Rifle: _____

Hunting: _____

Pistol: _____

Historical: _____

Shotgun: _____

Trader: _____

Trade Gun: _____

Gun Maker: _____

Appraisal: _____