

# WASHINGTON STATE MUZZLELOADER'S ASSOCIATION

February 2024 Journal

[www.wamuzzleloaders.com](http://www.wamuzzleloaders.com)



## President's Letter February 2024

The Rendezvous season has begun and it looks like we will have a great time with friends and family. We have a number of events happening soon and need your support to make them a success:

The first is the Cascade Mountain Men's Muzzleloading Arms Show & Pioneer Arts and Crafts of the 18th Century America is at the Enumclaw Expo Center March 9th and 10th. We need volunteers to man our table and talk to people about our association. This event is an opportunity to resupply for the upcoming rendezvous season, reacquaint with old friends, and make some new ones.

The second event is our Annual Fundraising Banquet at the Tacoma Sportsmen's Club on March 23rd. We always have a great time with dinner, drinks, live auction, silent auction, games, just a awesome night of fun and shenanigans. We do need some volunteers to help make it a success so contact me or any of the board members to find out where you can help.

This is a relatively short letter because we need to get this out to you and I'm getting my gear ready for a rendezvous this weekend. I look forward to seeing you all and some new faces as well at these events and at the different rendezvous' and camps throughout this year.

Steven "Two Draws" Cole

## 2024 Washington Sportsmen's Show

We had a great crowd this year for the Sportsmen's Show. Everyday felt like there were more folks there than there had been in years. Except for Friday evening, where it just seemed empty. The good news is that there were quite a few people who seemed very interested in getting into muzzleloading, or getting back into muzzleloading.

Club Booshways take note: our message to these newcomers is to contact the club in your area and arrange to get out to the range to see what's its all about. So be ready and let's welcome some new additions to our sport.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped man the booth and interact with the crowds. Your story is impressive, and it showed watching how the people reacted. We couldn't do it without you.



Jim Haeckel and Mike Moran at the Show

## **Cascade Mountain Men Gun Show 9-10 March 2024**

WSMA will again have a booth at the Muzzleloading Gun Show in Enumclaw, and we'll need volunteers to help. At the booth we'll have forms to join or renew your membership, buy tickets to the Fundraising Banquet, and you can vote for the Board of Directors. As a thank you for working a two hour shift, WSMA will renew your dues for free!

## **Elections**

Elections are just around the corner at the Gun Show, and WSMA needs you! We have the following positions in the organization, and each has just a one year term. Contact a board member if interested.

President	Vice President	Secretary/Treasurer
Events Booshway	West Side Director	East Side Director

## **Fundraising Banquet – Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

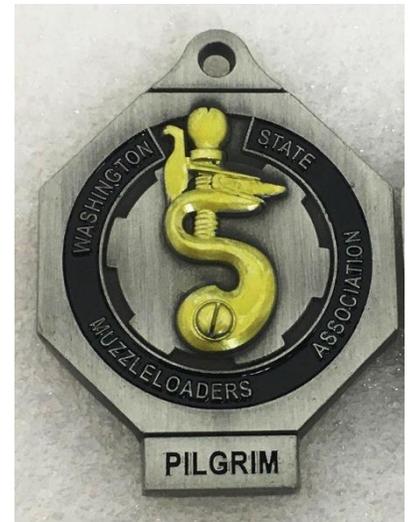
The annual Fundraising Banquet will be on the fourth Saturday in March at the Tacoma Sportsmen's Club. Tickets are available for \$30 at the Gun Show or at the door. This is our main source of revenue to help the clubs with Youth Grants so come on out and support a good cause.

## **Membership Renewal Time**

It's that time of year again to renew your membership with the WSMA. Just complete the form attached and send it in with a check and keep your membership active. It's still just \$10 for an individual, \$15 for families, or \$20 for traders.

## **Pilgrim Medals**

We found a source for more Pilgrim Medals and they are on their way! Club Booshways, if you have folks who need them, contact Mike Moran at [michael.moran248@gmail.com](mailto:michael.moran248@gmail.com) to arrange to get some.



## **2024 Calendar Updates**

Please check the schedule on the website to ensure your event dates and contact info are correct. Send your club rendezvous flyers to [michael.moran248@gmail.com](mailto:michael.moran248@gmail.com) for upload to the website calendar.

<b>23-25 FEB</b>	<b>SKAGIT WINTER MINI-VOO, SEDRO WOOLEY, WA</b>
<b>9-10 MAR</b>	<b>CASCADE MOUNTAIN MEN GUN SHOW, ENUMCLAW, WA</b>
<b>23 MAR</b>	<b>WSMA FUNDRAISING BANQUET, TACOMA SPORTSMEN'S CLUB, PUYALLUP, WA</b>

# WSMA Booth at Cascade Mountain Men Gun Show

## Volunteer List

Please contact Mike Moran at [michael.moran248@gmail.com](mailto:michael.moran248@gmail.com) to volunteer. We need a minimum of two people per shift.

### 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.wamuzzleloaders.com](http://www.wamuzzleloaders.com)

## APPLICATION TO JOIN WSMA

New   Renew

\_\_\_\_   \_\_\_\_   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, mail to 6536 Fawcett Ave, Tacoma, WA 98408**

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: \_\_\_\_\_

# SNOW-DEE-VOO, '24

By Mike Nesbitt

On Wednesday evening, as we were driving home after conducting a New Members Orientation at the Capitol City Rifle & Pistol Club, the rain was splattering noticeably on the windshield. I commented to Tom Brown how snow seemed to be in the air. "It isn't going to snow," said Tom, in a rather directive way. Well, Tom's authority on the weather was somehow out-voted because the next morning we had about 5-inches of fresh heavy snow, no power (at home), with downed trees and limbs, not to mention more snow to come. It was very good that our annual Rain-Dee-Voo didn't start until the next day.

Of course, some of the hands that helped run this year's Rain-Dee-Voo were already 'in camp' at the site. The first to get there were the leaders of the Sotelo tribe, Derek and Kerry. They were on hand so any traders who might arrive early could get set up in the clubhouse. Bob and Julie Wright were also there early, in time to get the registrations going, and they kept at it to complete the scoring. Having dedicated helpers like them made sure that "Snow-Dee-Voo, '24" got off to a good start.

The shooting for the matches begins on Friday, generally at 1:00 in the afternoon. But for the crewmembers who conduct any of the several jobs in putting on a doin's like our Rain-Dee-Voo we have an earlier shooting time, 10:00 o'clock on Friday morning. That means we shoot the rifle trail at that time, rain or shine, blizzard or solar eclipse. When I got to the club about 9:00 that morning, I found the road climbing to the club grounds was already plowed. Will Ulry had gotten there earlier and cleared the snow from our entry road and my best compliments to him for doing so. Tom Brown had given the road some attention as well. That made "getting there" much easier, especially for modern camp-keepers who might be pulling trailers.

The snow had stopped falling and it actually wouldn't last very long. But at that moment, enough snow was on the ground that Mike Moran had a real job ahead of him, to clear enough ground for his primitive camp. Mike elected to get busy at that task rather than to shoot with us in the early group. So, only five of us "hit the trail" to shoot for score.

For me, this was going to be a good trial. I'd be shooting my "Trailblazer," the .50 caliber



Here's Mike, out in the snow.



Lancaster made from a kit by TVM, left-handed. Shooting left-handed with this rifle was given a good try just two weeks before at the monthly muzzleloader match and it gave me no trouble. In that match, I had gotten hits on every target. Now we'd see if such luck would continue.

My rifle apparently brought me good luck because I hit 14 out of the 21 targets. And this gun gave me good ignition for every shot. I was very pleased. Bob DeLisle, of course, outshot me by getting 19 hits. Robert Fisher, shooting a percussion rifle, did even better, getting 20 hits. Such shooting is very good!

Mike Moran had done a good job of clearing the ground for his primitive camp and he was our only primitive camper this time. I checked on him after shooting the trail and he was all set up, even had hot coffee over the fire. Yes, he offered me a cup which I accepted and it was good.

The next competition, for me, was not until the next morning when the mostly same bunch of us, plus Mike Moran and Jim Haeckel, hit the archery trail with Dale Soost and some of the other Bowmen. The Capitol City Bowmen put on a very good archery trail for us every year and it is simply a lot of fun to shoot. This trail is designed with our primitive archery in mind, tailor-made for us, and Mike Moran proved it by shooting the highest score.



**Mike Moran at his primitive camp**



**Bob DeLisle gets awarded by Josh Brown**

We also have a ‘Hawk & Knife trail. But the Rain-de-vo is somewhat unique in that shooters get to pick either ‘Hawk & Knife or Archery as part of their aggregate score. Let me admit it, I lean toward the archery more and I don’t throw the ‘Hawk & Knife at Rain-de-vo.

And don’t let me give you the idea that we were the only ones doing any shooting. Saturday morning brought in a lot more shooters, at least 35 and that’s 4 more than last year. The shooting events were busy and that was certainly very good.

Some things in the awards were simplified by this year’s booshway, Josh Brown. One example of that is the reduction in certificates, only the top scorers received certificates. In general, the only prizes awarded were for the aggregate.

While showing the winners in the various categories, we’ll also list the 2<sup>nd</sup> place scorers even though no award or certificate was given. We’ll begin with Best Primitive Camp, Mike Moran. (No second-place winner.)

Top Mountain Man-JoJo McWhinney-495	Juniors – Maddox Johnson	10
-Allen Tresch 470		
Men’s Aggregate – Mike Moran 290	Trade Gun- Bob DeLisle	99
-Robert Fisher 285	- JoJo McWhinney	90
Women’s Aggregate-Suzy Olson 160	Pistol -JoJo McWhinney	110
-Marly Sotelo 80	-Mike Holeman	90
Flintlock Rifle -Dave Slye 200	Knife & ‘Hawk-Dean Guiberson	100
-Bob DeLisle 199	- Ayden Guiberson	90
Percussion Rifle – Robert Fisher 210	Archery- Mike Moran	100
-Allen Tresch 180	-Mike Nesbitt	90

## The Annual WA State Muzzleloader Silhouette Shoot

by Mike Moran

Only 12 of the heartiest souls braved the nearly 60 degree weather and bright sunshine for the January monthly shoot of the Paul Bunyan Plainsmen. Departing from the usual format, the Plainsmen hosted the Washington State Muzzleloader's Association Silhouette Shoot, with WSMA providing medals for first, second, and third place.

Shooters gathered at the registration table and were paired up and assigned a starting point. With 12 shooters and 8 firing points, the group was divided into two relays, and the relay number and start point noted on their score cards. The course of fire would be simple – 16 shots, four at each of four different animal silhouettes, each animal at a different range. Each hit would count as one point, and unlike our traditional practice, no extra points were awarded for period attire.



**Jim Haeckel takes a shot at the 50 yard piglets**



**Dwayne Anderson checks his flint carefully for the best ignition**

The silhouettes were placed in the following manner. Chickens were placed at 35 yards, piglets at 50 yards, turkeys at 100 yards, and rams at 150 yards. For reference, these silhouettes are roughly life sized, but looking out at the small white specs down range one might think they were miniatures. All shots were taken with patched round ball and shot offhand. A verified hit on a target that didn't fall over was still counted as a hit. Spotting scopes were available, and hits were verified between relays when the targets were reset and repainted.

Other than a few of the usual mechanical issues the shoot went well, and many new and interesting excuses created for easy targets missed. When the last relay was finished, the crew helped get all the steel put away and the group retired to the clubhouse for prize out. Cody Mehr was the big winner with a score of 14, missing only one turkey and one ram. Doug Dickman and Allen Tresch would take second and third place, both scoring 11 points, with the number of hits on the rams used as the tie breaker.



**Cody Mehr checks out the competition as Doug Dickman lines up his shot.**

The Plainsmen will have the next open pistol trail on Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 2 pm, and the next monthly match will be the annual Quad Club Shoot on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. Come see if the Plainsmen can retain the trophy again this year against the Bremerton Brigade, the Black River Troublemakers, and returning this year the Seven Rivers club.

Name	C	P	T	R	Tot	Name	C	P	T	R	Tot
Cody Mehr	4	4	3	3	14	Dwayne Anderson	3	3	2	1	9
Doug Dickman	4	3	1	3	11	Mike Moran	2	4	1	1	8
Allen Tresch	4	4	2	1	11	David Dickman	4	3	0	1	8
Lawrence Saltarelli	4	4	1	1	10	Mark Merwin	4	4	0	0	8
Tim Klima	0	4	3	2	9	Jim Haeckel	3	4	0	0	7
Ty Scott	4	1	3	1	9	Doug Kitchens	1	4	0	0	5

# 2024 Winter Mini Voo

FEBRURY 23-25



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RIFLE WALK  
ARCHERY  
BLANKET PRIZES

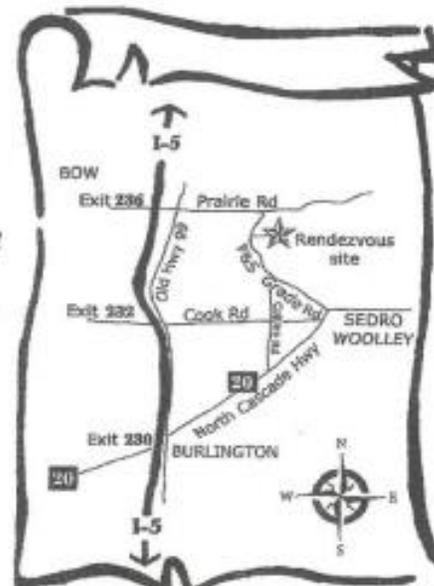
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You are invited to the  
**Washington State Muzzleloaders  
Association**

# ***FUNDRAISING BANQUET***

**Saturday, March 23<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

5:00 Bar is open

6:00 Dinner is served

7:00 The fun begins!!!

Great Menu.....Great Door Prizes

Buy your tickets ahead of time (for a chance at the special door prize)  
or at the door for a \$30 donation per person

**Tacoma Sportsmen's Club  
16409 E. Canyon Road  
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For more information and donations contact:

Mike Moran (253) 232-3087

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