

WASHINGTON STATE MUZZLELOADER'S ASSOCIATION

December 2020 Journal

www.wamuzzleloaders.com



Christmas Cheer

As the great philosopher Jerry Garcia stated, “What a long, strange trip it’s been.” This has been a rough year for us muzzleloaders on many levels. Most of the rendezvous were cancelled, spring hunting seasons interrupted, crazy fire season.....and that’s not to mention all the rest of the craziness going on in the world.

We Americans are an innovative lot, and everywhere you look people found a way to get out and live their lives. Many of the gun clubs had temporary shutdowns but found a way to get back to shooting. Many traders took to the internet for the first time to sell their wares. It’s amazing how ingenious people can be when they want to do something.

We have a lot to be thankful for this Christmas season. One thing for sure is the generosity of members, always willing to help support others get started in our sport. Next year is bound to be better, so get your gear together, clean your guns, and get ready for a great 2021.



Mike Moran
President, WSMA

Paul Bunyan Plainsmen Raise \$\$ for Toys 4 Tots

The Paul Bunyan Plainsmen have a long standing relationship with Toys 4 Tots, and hold their December shoot as a fundraising drive. Shooters are asked to make a donation in lieu of a shooter's fee of either cash or a new toy. This year Ryan Johnston from Toys 4 Tots came up to shoot with us and take our donations. He explained that in most years their local branch sees about 5,400 families in need, but this year it was up to 8,000 families. The Plainsmen and all the guest shooters were up to challenge.

Tim Klima designed the shoot this year, and wanting to change things up a bit put the paper buffalo target out at 50 yds for 10 shots. He then had five novelty targets: 3 gongs at 30 yds for 5 points a piece, and a marshmallow and pine cone at 15 yds for 10 points a piece. It was a "luck" shoot, because all of the prizes were wrapped as presents under the Christmas tree, and no picking up and shaking was allowed.

I lent my gun to Ryan for the shoot. He shot a muzzleloader for the first time last year, and hadn't touched one since. Of course, being a Marine he was well acquainted with firearms, and took it back up like he was just shooting yesterday. I think I've now contracted "Mike Nesbitt Syndrome", a condition that occurs when someone outshoots you when they borrow your gun. Ryan did great, and had a great time.



Ryan Johnston spitting fire



Clarence Atchison hits the gongs

To help boost up the fundraising, we also had a raffle drawing for some great donated prizes. Steve Skillman provided a horn and several bamboo containers, Dave Rase had a set of ball puller/tow worms he made, Bill Sick donated a David Wright painting, and Eric Burkhead provided a number of muzzleloading accessories. Rich Pogue donated a silver adjustable powder measure made by Dave Rase, one of only 3 or 4 ever made. This was done as a live auction, and it was great to watch Chip Kormas and Mike Holeman battle it out to the end. And if that wasn't enough, Chip had a special shoot set up using one of Dave Rase's hand cannons in the shape of and painted like a candy cane. This was done candle shoot style, where the competitors started close to the target and kept increasing the distance until only one shooter remained.

When all the scores and money was tallied, we were able to raise \$1,705 for Toys for Tots. It was a fun shoot and helped to bring a better Christmas to many needy families. The generosity of our members is amazing!

[WA Sportsmen's Show is Postponed to March 17-21, 2021](#)

The Washington Sportsmen's Show normally held at the end of January has been postponed until mid-March. The event organizers felt that this would be a better time and would keep the event going while complying with any new protocols.

WSMA will have our booth set up again this year, and will need volunteers to staff it. We generate a lot of interest in our sport at this show and can really reach a big audience of prospective new members. Please let me know if you can help out.



MARCH 17 – 21, 2021

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| WED – FRI: 10AM – 8PM | WASHINGTON STATE FAIR |
| SATURDAY: 10AM – 8PM | EVENTS CENTER |
| SUNDAY: 10AM – 4PM | PUYALLUP, WA |

[Cascade Mountain Men Gunshow Canceled for 2021](#)

Ladies and Gentlemen: It is important that you understand that the Cascade Mountain Men muzzle loading club is forced to cancel our annual mountain man show for 2021. The Evergreen State Fairgrounds is being used by Snohomish County for the manufacture and distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE) through March of 2021. As a direct result, we cannot schedule our event for the second weekend in March. The facilities are not available. We have diligently searched for an alternate venue. Because of the multitude of uncertainties, we are simply unable to make any changes on such a short notice.

Our group has also chosen to change our venue for the calendar year 2022. We have a commitment from the Enumclaw fair complex that we will schedule for the second weekend of 2022. More information will be forthcoming. This decision did not come easily as we have already incurred significant expenses for printing, postage, advertisement and insurance. We hope that all concerned



parties understand the difficulty in making the decision to cancel.

Please keep the second weekend of March 2022 available for our next show. If we would have rescheduled for 2021, it would have necessitated moving the date farther back into the year. Assuming a wide distribution of vaccine availability, moving our date would have conflicted with rendezvous activities of other like-minded groups. Thank you for your understanding. Merry Christmas to all.

Sincerely,
Steve A. Baima
Secretary
Cascade Mountain Men

[New US Mail Address for WSMA](#)

We've got a new mailing address for WSMA for sending in membership renewals or other hardcopy correspondence. Our treasurers have made their transition and the new address will be more convenient for Shaun to conduct business.

WA State Muzzleloading Association
6536 Fawcett Ave
Tacoma, WA 98408

[Youth Grant Applications](#)

It's time to send in those Youth Grant applications again. We would like to see them by December 1st, but will take them after that. With all the cancelled events this year, kids have really had it hard, so let's make sure we do great things for them in 2021.

[Updates](#)

Keep an eye on the calendar on the website and on our Facebook page for announcements and event information. If you have flyers ready for next year's events, please send them in.

2021 UPCOMING EVENTS

| | |
|------------------|--|
| 24 JAN | WSMA SILHOUETTE SHOOT, PAUL BUNYAN R&S CLUB, PUYALLUP, WA |
| 13-14 MAR | CMM MUZZLELOADING GUN SHOW, CANCELLED |
| 12-14 FEB | RAIN-DEE-VOO, CAPITOL CITY R&P CLUB, LITTLEROCK, WA |
| 17-21 MAR | WA SPORTSMEN'S SHOW, WESTERN WA FAIRGROUNDS, PUYALLUP, WA |
| 27 MAR | WSMA FUNDRAISING BANQUET, TACOMA SPORTSMEN'S CLUB, PUYALLUP, WA |



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