



NOWA News

Northwest Outdoor Writers Association • January 2011

Bellingham-Mt. Baker: Winter Wonderland

Editor's Note: Bellingham Whatcom County Tourism will be providing story and travel ideas ahead of the NOWA conference in Bellingham, Wash., April 28-May 1, 2011. If you are interested in attending a pre-conference media tour, please contact media@bellingham.org. The media tour will span 2 days: April 26 and 27, 2011. Let us know by March 21, 2011 if you'd like to participate.

* Outdoor Winter Recreation in The Area *

Whatcom County has plenty of ways to enjoy the winter months – from a quiet snowshoe in the national forest to an adrenaline-filled day down the slopes of Mt. Baker.

10,781-foot Mt. Baker is a popular destination in the winter for downhill skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, cross country skiing and sledding. It's a huge draw for locals, Western Washington University students and visitors from Canada and the Seattle area, especially. The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest also attracts snowmobilers and sledding enthusiasts in the winter months.

* Mt Baker Ski Area Quick Facts *

Mt. Baker Ski Area is located 60 miles east of Bellingham, Wash., on Highway 542. Locals like to say Mt. Baker is where snowboarding was virtually invented (but skiers and snowboarders of all skills are welcome on the mountain, of course). Mt. Baker Ski Area ranked 18th in the nation, and number one in the state of Washington, based on a survey of ski professionals by SKIING magazine (2005). Mt. Baker holds the world's record for highest annual snowfall with 1,140 inches in 1998-1999. Mt. Baker Ski Area has the longest ski season in Washington (November through April), and the earliest snow in the state. Mt. Baker Ski area has 38 trails and 9 chairlifts (7 quads; 2 rope tows), and is perfect for downhill and cross-country skiing, snowboarding and snowshoeing. It has a variety of runs for skiers and snowboarders of all levels: 11 beginner, 16 intermediate, 7 advanced, 4 expert. The Mt. Baker Ski Area's average snowfall is 647 inches; vertical rise 1,500 feet. The elevation at Heather Meadows is 4,300 feet; 3,500 feet at White Salmon. There are 1,000 "rideable acres" at the ski area.

Mt. Baker Ski Area provides snowboarders and skiers



WHATCOM COUNTY TOURISM /PETER JAMES

Ski and snowboard lessons are offered at the Heather Meadows base lodge at Mt. Baker on weekends and holidays.

with a variety of terrain, day lodges, ski lessons and rentals. Lifts run daily from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Open operating days and hours wholly depend on conditions and weather. Weather and conditions can be a factor affecting the days and time of opening.

Cross country skiers, snowmobilers and snowshoe enthusiasts often venture beyond the ski area, sticking to trails off the Mt. Baker Highway (Hwy 542). Cross country
(Continued on Page 5)



Mail editorial materials to:

Duane Dungannon
822 Amerman Drive
Phoenix, OR 97535
Phone: 541-535-9874
Email: mvp@ccountry.net

Deadline: 20th of the month preceding the month of publication. The NOWA newsletter is published 10 times a year by the Northwest Outdoor Writer's Association, a registered Washington State nonprofit, tax-exempt, public supported organization under IRS 501(c)(3) Code. Newsletter contributions in the form of feature articles, news items, letters-to-the-editor, etc. are welcome.

Manuscripts should be submitted on disc, in the body of email, or as a WORD or text attachment.

NOWA Headquarters
712 - 301 Street
Kimberley, BC V1A 3K3
Phone: 250-432-0002
Email: nowahq@telus.net
Debbie Kerr, Executive Director

Officers & Directors 2010-2011

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Adela Jackson, Fairbanks, AK

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Terms expire May 2011:

Tim Christie, Coeur d'Alene, ID

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Jack McNeel, Coeur d'Alene, ID

Terms expire May 2012:

Jean Bullard, Seattle, WA

John Kruse, Malaga, WA

Peter Schroeder, Seattle, WA

Terms expire May 2013:

Bert Gildart, Bigfork, MT

Eric Hansen, Corvallis, OR

Chuck Robbins, Dillon, MT

Supporting Member Liaison:

Vacant

Executive Director:

Debbie Kerr, Kimberley, BC

EARN \$50.00

NOWA will pay \$50 when you sponsor three or more new members who pay their dues and initiation fee. Must be completed between April 1, 2010 and March 31, 2011.

Committees

Conference Program:

Bill Mullins, Risa Wyatt, Greg Gulbrandsen, Tom Reichner

Conference Supporting Member

Day: Greg Gulbrandsen, Debbie Kerr, Karen Lundquist

Conference Site Selection:

Gary Lewis, Debbie Kerr, Bill Mullins, Greg Gulbrandsen

Craft Improvement:

Dave Kilhefner, Chuck Robbins

Excellence in Craft Contest:

Tim Christie, Gary Lewis

Ethics: Jack McNeel, Sue Hansen

Finance: Peter Schroeder, Dave Vedder

Fred L. Peterson Award:

Dennis Clay, Gwen Peterson, Debbie Kerr

Markets: Dave Kilhefner, Natalie Bartley

Membership Recruitment:

John Kruse, Tim Christie, Dave Vedder

Nominating: Dave Kilhefner and the Past Presidents Council

Outreach & Public Relations:

John Kruse, Marilyn

Stonehocker, Mary Faber

Pass It On Award:

Duane Dungannon, Michael Williams, PJ DelHomme

People's Choice Photography:

Ron Kerr, Tim Christie

Raffle & Silent Auction: Debbie Kerr, Jo Wilson, Pam Vedder

Stan Jones Scholarship: Alan

Liere, Jack McNeel

Website: Scott Richmond,

Adela Jackson

NOWA web site:

www.northwest-outdoor-writers-association.org

NOWA Updates



Renewal Reminder

Membership renewals were sent in November via e-mail. Please print your form and send it with your dues.

If you are entering the 2010 Excellence in Craft contest, you must be a member for 2010, plus must have submitted your dues for 2011. Membership fees are due Jan. 15, 2011. Payments may be postdated to that date.

—*DEBBIE KERR, NOWA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Individual Member:

Martin, Eric – 29068 Fish Hatchery Rd., Alsea, OR 97324; phone: 541-487-4188; work phone: 541-487-7240; fax: 541-487-7248; cell: 541-760-4870; email: nforkangling@hotmail.com; status: Active; sponsor: Doug Wilson.

I received a Bachelors of Science in Fisheries and Wildlife Science from Oregon State University, and spent nine years chasing fires around the country for the U.S. Forest Service before going to work for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. I also currently serve as the Gear Editor for Salmon and Steelhead Journal.



DIRECTORY UPDATE

Individual Members:

Elbert, Jack – spouse, Grace - deceased
Heinz, Wayne – 1948 Harris Ave., Richland, WA 99354; phone: 509-946-9134; email: heinzwayne@aol.com
Kruse, John – email: john@northwesternoutdoors.com
Liere, Alan – web site: www.alanliere.com
Roskelley, Fenton – cell: 509-389-8528
Vedder, Dave – status changed to Active Retired

DONATIONS

Donations received for Stan Jones Scholarship Fund:
Gary Christenson

Donations received for NOWA Endowment Fund:
Ralph Shaw

Past member Carl Nyberg dies

Carl Nyberg, 88, died in Port Townsend on Nov. 17 following a long battle with Alzheimer's. He had been a member of NOWA.

Carl was born in Seattle on Nov. 13, 1922. He graduated from Broadway High School and served in the Navy in World War II.

He worked in the family business, Nyberg Lock and Key, later became Assistant Naval Architect at Lake Union Drydock, and then owned Power Door Engineering in Seattle.

Carl was a lifelong sailor, starting when he was 5 years old on Seattle's Portage Bay. He was always "messing about in boats," designing, sailing and building them. In early days he sailed on the schooner Gracie 5, later re-named the Wanderer. He owned, lived aboard and sailed the yawl Winsome for many years. "Our last sailboat was the 35-foot Chris Craft Scheherazade," his wife said.

He and Joanne Bailey were married in Indianola, Wash., on Feb. 14, 2008. They collaborated on writing the Gunkholing cruising books and many articles for the sailing magazine 48 NORTH.

Besides his wife, survivors include his son John Cole, daughter Gale Nyberg (Roy Zaweielski) all of Seattle, and daughter Barb Hannah (Mark) of Ashford, Wash., two stepsons and three stepdaughters.

A service in Seattle is planned in early 2011.

—*JOANNE BAILEY*

President's Message

By Adela Jackson

It's All About The Numbers

It's all about the numbers. In Wednesday's paper an advertisement for a diamond engagement ring read, "Propose to her on 1-1-11 at 1:11 a.m. and marry her on 11-11-11 at 11:11 a.m." I've learned that many people, including the Chinese, are superstitious when it comes to numbers. On Saturday, June 6, 1998, I was standing in the entryway of my hotel in China as several dozen couples dressed in wedding attire rushed in the door. Our Chinese guide pointed out that hundreds of Chinese couples were getting married this day because it was the luckiest day of the year due to the number six. It was the sixth day of the sixth month and it fell on Saturday, the sixth day of the week.

I'm not sure what the long-term effects this kind of numbers thinking had on those relationships. But I admit I did the numbers game when Larry and I got married: I set the wedding date for 9-1-1. (The numbers for emergency, how clever is that?) The weird thing is that ten days later we really DID have an emergency: 9-11 (Sept. 11, 2001). Who doesn't remember 9-11? On that day our whole world changed forever.

It's all about the numbers. They say the only difference between first and second place in a race is a few seconds. Either runner could be the best, either one the winner, but the one giving it their best at the last minute will get the long-term gain. NOWA's Finance Committee, headed by chairman Peter Schroeder, worked this winter to find ways to maximize the long term gain of our money. Executive Director Deb Kerr knows that numbers matter when it comes to a balanced budget. NOWA has been fiscally responsible when it comes to its financial resources.

Numbers represent opportunity. If you decide to take the initiative to increase NOWA's membership by 5 percent, you will need to sign up five new members. But it's not just to have 105 members instead of 100 members. This new number means additional opportunities will be available to all NOWA members because of the relationships developed with those five new members. What if these opportunities were on an exponential curve? We'd have increased con-

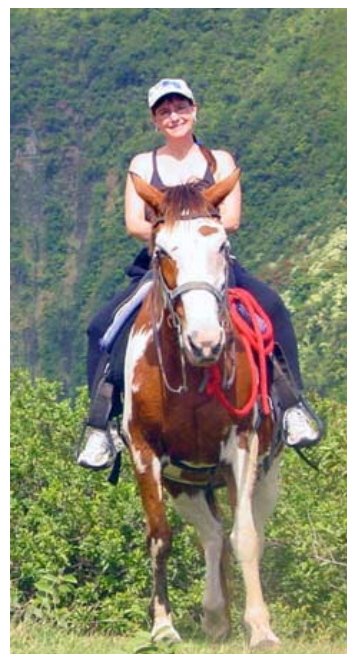
tacts, networking, markets and sales. How wonderful is that?

We also need to do our part to keep the outdoor community numbers growing to ensure future generations of readers for outdoor writers. These numbers affect our bottom line. What can you do to make a difference? Get involved in some of the myriad outdoor groups and volunteer to present a program on your area of expertise. Take a kid fishing or help with the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. Be an outdoor mentor to a disadvantaged child.

"Outdoor Nation" is a growing community of young Outsiders – artists, athletes, advocates and ambassadors – who have joined together to champion the outdoors. Created by The Outdoor Foundation, Outdoor Nation is supported by a coalition of more than 100 organizations in the public, private and nonprofit sectors (including NOWA's supporting member The Coleman Company). This new youth-led movement is working to increase and expand outdoor recreation and participation through education, engagement, advocacy and action – building a strong Outdoor Nation for this and future generations. The Outdoor Nation is committed to reconnect a new generation with the outdoors.

Outdoor Nation is looking for ambassadors ages 13-30 willing to share their commitment and inspire friends, families, schools and communities to redefine, reclaim and rediscover the outdoors. If you know someone who would be interested in learning more, they can email Outdoor Nation Ambassadors at: ambassadors@outdoornation.org.

Isn't it really all about the numbers? Real numbers demonstrate results.



Market News

ALASKA FISHING seeks articles

ALASKA FISHING is still looking for a few articles to fill out the 2011 magazine schedule.

Spring: SE Alaska steelhead fishing. Due date: February 15.

Summer: 1. Red salmon fishing, 2. Rainbow trout fishing in Bristol Bay. Due date: April 15.

Fall: Steelhead fishing on Kodiak Island. Due date: July 15.

Articles should be 2,000-2,500 words with four to six photos. Payment is \$400 for one-time use.

Contact Marty Sherman: marty@outdoorsdirectory.com

OREGON HUNTER needs humor

OREGON HUNTER magazine, the bimonthly membership publication of the 10,000-member Oregon Hunters Association (www.oregonhunters.org), seeks humor columns for 2011.

Columns should be in the neighborhood of 750 words, and should have at least a hunting flavor, though some literary license is always allowed. Pay is \$75.

Contact Duane Dungannon: dungannon@ccountry.net



Bellingham-Mt. Baker: Winter Wonderland (continued)

skiers and snowshoers enjoy the variety of the topography and easy access to trailheads and snowparks like Hannegan Pass, Excelsior Trail and Salmon Ridge Trail. Snowmobilers enjoy the terrain of Canyon Creek and Glacier Creek.

* Events on Mt. Baker *

Banked Slalom: Feb. 11, 12, 13, 2011. Mt. Baker is home to the Legendary Banked Slalom (LBS), a snowboarding contest held annually since 1985 at Mt. Baker Ski Area, in Washington near Bellingham. The LBS is regarded as the predecessor to the “boardercross” event, and has been won by some of the biggest names in the history of snowboarding. The winner receives a Duct Tape trophy and an embroidered Carhartt jacket.

The first race was held in 1985, organized by Bob Barci and Tom Sims. With only 14 riders at the top of the 500-foot-long (150 m) course, they raced through 15 gates with only a few spectators present. The decision to put on the banked slalom at Mt. Baker came about because it was one of the few ski areas in North America that welcomed snowboarders at that time.

Ski to Sea: May 29, 2011. The Ski to Sea Festival consists of a 100-mile relay race of seven venues encompassing seven different sports, a historical hometown parade, and other special events that provide a wide variety of entertainment and adventure for all who participate. A Ski to Sea Race team consists of 8 racers (2 in the canoe leg) for the seven race legs (Cross Country Ski; Downhill Ski/Snowboard; Running; Road Bike; Canoe; Mountain Bike; Kayak). A racer can only be on one team, and only complete one leg. From the top of



WHATCOM COUNTY TOURISM / MARTHA BERGEN

Mt. Baker's 1,500-foot vertical drop offers all-day possibilities for beginner, intermediate, and advanced skiers and snowboarders alike.

Mt. Baker to Bellingham Bay, discover Whatcom County's recreational playground and the “Ski to Sea” Experience. The 2011 race marks the 100th anniversary of Ski to Sea, which began as the Mt. Baker Marathon. <http://www.skitosea.com/>

For more information, contact Jacqueline Cartier, marketing director, Bellingham Whatcom County Tourism, 904 Potter Street, Bellingham, WA 98229, (360) 671-3990, jacqueline@bellingham.org, www.bellingham.org.

How to Host a FAM Trip

By Gary Lewis

NOWA members are solitary types who do their work in isolation, but we are also a community of communicators. Though we find ourselves together at spring conferences, there are more opportunities to generate ideas and new projects in group settings.

In 2010, I hosted a fall FAM trip to Camp Sherman in Central Oregon.

FAM (familiarization) tours were popular back when travel agents wielded more influence than they do today and destination resorts would court their favor.

A destination resort would send out invitations and various agencies would send their representatives to exotic locales. It was a beautiful system that continues to a certain extent in segments of the travel industry.

Today it is more common to see travel writers going on FAM tours. Most NOWA members, as Peter Schroeder tells it, are travel writers with a specific focus. We have had FAM tours come up from time to time, but they are fewer and farther between than a lot of us would like.

Last year, while having a conversation with resort owners in Camp Sherman, Ore., we hatched the idea of a FAM trip exclusively for NOWA members. The resort owners signed on. I was elected to organize the event.

To start, we agreed upon the number of people, approximately 20. We identified the number of rooms that each venue would donate to the cause for a maximum of 12. Two venues agreed to host meals/get-togethers.

The Camp Sherman-area Metolius River Association wanted to spotlight their region in a shoulder season. We picked November. I sent an invitation to NOWA members through Debbie Kerr and the office of the newsletter. NOWA members responded and we placed them in various lodgings dependent on whom we thought should get to know whom.

I passed the contact info of the lodges on to the NOWA members and vice versa. I set an itinerary, made up a list of



PHOTO BY GARY LEWIS

NOWA members Robert Campbell, Eric Hansen, Debbie Kerr and Ron Kerr enjoy a moment with Reidun Lundgren on the bank of the river at House on the Metolius.

activities, pointed out possible story ideas, provided a contact list, showed the best places to fish in November as well as an easy fishing option and a list of the top trout flies. We kept the daily schedules open so that members could go fishing or hiking or mushrooming or skiing or whatever.

It was great to see old friends, at their most creative, in one place. We all got to know each other a little better. There was a lot of cross-promotion and networking at the morning and evening events.

Adventure? Robert Campbell caught a big, ugly bull trout. The Kruses, down from Washington, found a bat in their room. They employed fishing rods, brooms, ladders, chairs and blankets to persuade the bat to leave, but the bat outlasted them.

Have an idea for a FAM trip you could host in your area? It's not hard to put it together.

We went our separate ways with a multitude of story possibilities, friendships formed and future alliances that will boost the fortunes of the Metolius River Association as well as the NOWA members who made the trip.

NOWA Member Photos



NOWA member Robert Campbell battles a bull trout while Merrilee Lewis and Kevin Friedman ride horses during the recent Camp Sherman FAM trip.



Editor's Note: This new feature spotlights NOWA members practicing what they preach. Send your personal favorites in low-resolution to mvp@ccountry.net. We can't promise we will be able to use them all, but we can promise that we can't use them if you don't send them.



NOWA member Mike Carey sent these photos from the trail going to Summit Lake just outside the Mt. Rainier National Park and from Goat Lake in the Alpine Wilderness.

2010 NOWA Excellence in Craft Contest Rules

INTRODUCTION

Judges will be professional writers, editors, photographers, and broadcasters, recruited outside NOWA to judge categories appropriate to their expertise. Judges may select 1st, 2nd, and 3rd winners. Ties are prohibited. If a judge determines that no entry merits a 1st, 2nd or 3rd place award they may choose not to name a winner. Awards will be presented at the NOWA Annual Awards Banquet.

ALL ENTRIES

All entries (except books) must have been published between January 1, 2010 and December 31, 2010.

Books must have been published between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2010. Note – a book can only be entered in the EIC Contest one time.

A total of **two** entries may be entered per category (exception: columns). An article with sidebars may be entered as one body of work in writing categories.

Special Notes: Fee is \$5 for each ENTRY. Maximum two entries per category, except Category 1, when four columns may be entered (4 columns = 1 entry). Total all entry fees and make one check payable to NOWA (US funds).

- **Articles/photos with two by-lines are only accepted as one entry.**
- **All identifying names and visual identities in all photos and illustrations must be removed.**
- **Contest is open to 2010 NOWA members who have paid NOWA membership dues for 2011 prior to the Excellence in Craft Contest entry deadline.**
- **Only articles/photos for which the entrant was paid are eligible.**
- **Judges will accept standard, high quality, copy machine entries. Original tear sheets are not required.**

The rules are to accommodate the judging; the same people do not judge all categories. Judging will be under "blind" judging conditions, so names and publications will not appear on the actual entry to be judged.

Entries must be submitted in the following format. Each entry submitted may be an original or a high-quality photocopy. Submit in a manila file folder for each entry and include a completed entry form in each folder. **Print the last 4 digits of your telephone number on the back of each entry in case entries are separated from an entry form** (preferably on removable tape for Books and Video and Audiotapes). **New for 2010 – submit original with bylines plus TWO copies without bylines.**

ARTICLES (ALL CATEGORIES):

1. Submit one original clip or high quality photocopy showing by-line or credit line, PLUS two photocopies trimmed to eliminate by-line, photos, and other illustrations (headlines and quote boxes may be left in). Judging will be done with the trimmed photocopy.
2. Entries are to be mounted or photocopied on 8 1/2" x 11" white paper.

ARTWORK OR ILLUSTRATION:

1. Submit one original printed piece or a high-quality photocopy of published work, showing credit line and caption PLUS two photocopies with credit lines removed. Captions and titles are permitted.
2. Entries must be mounted on 8 1/2" x 11" or 11" x 17" white paper.
3. Send no original art.

BOOKS:

1. Submit the entire book (two copies) as published. Please cover the author's name with a removable tape or label.
2. Include SASE with the entry if the book is to be returned (otherwise it will be donated to the NOWA Raffle).
3. Entry form and book should be placed in a manila folder or envelope.

PHOTOGRAPHS OR ARTWORK:

1. Submit one original or a high-quality photocopy of published work, showing credit line and caption PLUS two tear sheets of the original publication (or photocopies) with credit lines and caption removed. The entry must be mounted on 8 1/2" x 11" white paper, although 11" x 17" paper may be used to accommodate double truck photos, folded to fit a manila file folder.
2. In the event the entrant feels the reproduction of an entry is not of sufficient quality, two prints not larger than 8 1/2" x 11", or two duplicate transparencies may be included with the entry (*in addition to item 1 requirements*).
3. **Original photographs or slides should not be included with the entry.**
4. Computer-enhanced photography will not be accepted.

VIDEO AND AUDIOTAPES:

1. Enter copies only.
2. Video and audiotape entries will be judged on "production" values. This encompasses all aspects of the entry, including writing, directing, music, and other features.
3. Entry form and two copies of video or audiotape should be placed in a manila folder or envelope.

Official Entry Form

2010 NOWA Excellence in Craft Contest

Complete a copy of this form **for each entry**. All entries must in be delivered to the contest chairman by **January 15, 2011 (no exceptions)**. Send all entries and **entry fee(s)** to Contest Chairman, **Tim Christie, 4101 Appaloosa Rd., Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815-8835; Phone: 208-765-2795, e-mail: timchristiephoto@roadrunner.com**. Entries will not be returned (unless accompanied by a SASE).

Entrant's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: () _____ Fax: () _____

E-mail address for confirmation of receipt of entry: _____

If you are a **FIRST** place winner in a **Sponsored Category**, do you wish to receive a plaque or an additional \$25 in prize money? _____

Publication: _____ Date of Publication: _____

Title of Entry: _____

Circle Only One Contest Category for This Entry

2011 Dues paid:

Category 1: Column of the Year – maximum four columns from any one publication (from any written media).

Category 2: Fishing article, (not newspaper), on any and all aspects of fishing. Must be predominately fishing, not highlighting travel or destination.

Category 2B: Fishing article (Newspaper) covers any and all aspects of fishing. Must be predominately fishing, not highlighting travel or destination.

Category 3: Hunting/shooting article, (not newspaper), on any and all aspects of hunting/shooting. Must be predominately hunting/shooting, not highlighting travel or destination.

Category 3B: Hunting/shooting article (Newspaper) on any and all aspects of hunting/shooting. Must be predominately hunting/shooting, not highlighting travel or destination.

Category 4: Travel or camping article on any outdoor subject (from any written media), backpacking, RV's, canoeing, general boating, backcountry skiing, snow shoeing, dog sledding, mountaineering, or similar outdoor travel adventure.

Category 5: Managing our world. Article on park, wildlife, land use, fisheries, oceans, water and environmental concerns, plants, management, education, ethics, and use (from any written media).

Category 6A: Photography People – Subject of photo is any human in an outdoor setting or engaged in outdoor recreation.

Category 6B: Photography Fauna - Subject of photo is any living creature (animal, bird, fish, etc.) in an outdoor setting.

Category 6C: Photography Outdoors - Subject of photo is any non-living subject (plant, tree, landscape) in an outdoor setting.

(By entering work in category 6 the entrant is granting NOWA one time use of winning photos in the NOWA newsletter or NOWA Directory.)

Category 7: A book on any outdoor subject.

Category 8: Humor on any outdoor subject, either an article or column.

Category 9: Artwork, line drawing, watercolor, or similar used to illustrate any outdoor subject (from any media).

Category 10: A video or audiotape on any outdoor topic.

ALL ENTRANTS PLEASE NOTE - DEADLINE for all submission is January 15, 2011 - no exceptions.

See 2010 Entrant Rules for additional information.

LAST CALL FOR (LIVE) BIRD HUNTING PHOTOS

Win a \$750 trip to the Lodge at Summer Lake

OREGON LAKES & RIVERS magazine is giving away a free \$750 trip to the Lodge at Summer Lake on Oregon's Outback Scenic Highway to the winner of the (Live) Bird Hunting Photo Contest. Great prizes will also be awarded to the first two runners-up. Winning entries will be posted on the home page of the OREGON LAKES & RIVERS website. All honorable mention entries will be posted on the Oregon Lakes & Rivers blog-spot. For submission rules and guidelines, go to: <http://oregonlakesandrivers.com/content/live-bird-hunting-photo-contest>

Contest Prizes

First Place: Lodging at the Lodge at Summer Lake (value: \$750)

Second Place: Alpen Optics' Wings (ED 10x42) Binoculars (value: \$572)

Third Place: Signed copy of *Hunting Oregon*, by Gary Lewis

Entry Deadline: Jan. 15, 2011

To Enter: Submit your photo(s) of birds, bird dogs, hunters and/or landscapes by Jan. 15, 2011, to: info@OregonLakesandRivers.com in low-resolution jpeg file(s). Limit: 5 images per entrant and no dead bird photos, please. Winners and runners-up will be announced on the OREGON LAKES & RIVERS website on or before Feb. 1, 2011.

Submission Categories

- Live birds
- Hunters
- Hunting dogs
- Landscape

Contest Sponsors

KMC Media Co.
Alpen Optics
Gary Lewis Outdoors
The Lodge at Summer Lake



Photo: Dennis Shaw & Zo. Gary Pearl Photography.

A visit to ODFW office yields more questions than answers

BY GARY LEWIS

If you write about the hunt, fisheries or wildlife, chances are you have a nodding acquaintance with the department of fish and game in your state or province. The men and women that populate the local offices can be a rich fount of ideas for your muse.

Three years ago, I suggested that the ladies in the local office of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife keep a record of the dumb questions people ask. To my never-ending amazement, they took my advice. The result is a red notebook full of gems like the following:

1. "I live in Bend and want to fish only in Bend. Do I need a fishing license?"
2. "How much does Free Fishing Day cost?"
3. "Are the fish spawning at Wikipedia Reservoir?"
4. "My doctor prescribed a fishing license to me. What can I do with that?"
5. "Do you need a hunting license to hunt with a bow?"
6. "If I want to go bowfishing, do I need a hunting AND a fishing license?"
7. "Do I need to carry water with me while I'm hunting in the Northside Unit?"
8. "Can you tell me where my property is so I can apply for a hunt?"
9. "We've been feeding the baby raccoons and the mom. When they get bigger will you come get them?"
10. "Can I feed cat food to the deer?"
11. You must zay zis one with a French accent: "Don't you have a biologist who can move all the little mar-mots? They are getting squeeshed."
12. "I have a five-foot gopher snake in my front yard. Would you like it?"

After three years of entries, I borrowed the book and it was fodder for a newspaper column. While I was in the office, I picked up some ideas to write a couple of different steelhead stories.

In the course of their work, the local offices of the fish and game departments in your state or province generate dozens of potential story ideas every month. Get to know them and the possibilities are endless.



Outdoor Product News

ThinkTank Pixel Sunscreen v2.0

By Jonathan Lawton, Hunt's Photo & Video

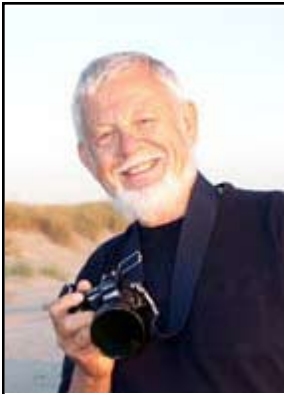
ThinkTank Photo is a California-based company that specializes in designing innovative products to help photographers get the most out of their equipment. While they are most commonly known for their extensive equipment carrying solutions to include backpacks, rolling cases and beltpacks, ThinkTank also carries some well-designed accessory products like the recently released Pixel Sunscreen v2.0.



If you have ever tried to use your laptop computer outdoors on a bright sunny day, you know just how washed-out and dull your normally vivid screen looks. The Pixel Sunscreen is a light, compact, and collapsible tent that can be used to shield your laptop screen from the harsh glare of the sun. When opened, the sunscreen is 14.5 inches wide by 22 inches tall by 19.5 inches deep. It is able to accommodate laptop screens up to 17 inches wide and features openings at the sides and rear for the routing of power and USB cables. The bottom of the Sunscreen is coated inside and out with a non-slip material so you won't have to worry about your laptop or the Sunscreen sliding around on most surfaces. The Pixel Sunscreen comes with two inside mesh storage pockets and a movable clip, located to the top of the tent, which is useful for hanging printed information. When you are done using the Sunscreen, it collapses down into a very manageable 14 inch x 1 inch disc for easy portability.

The Pixel Sunscreen makes it much easier to view your laptop screen when outdoors or in any other environment when you cannot control the ambient lighting. Being a photographer myself, I recognize that the Sunscreen is a valuable tool that can make it possible to confidently edit images on location as opposed to back in the office. Like other ThinkTank Photo products, the Pixel Sunscreen is designed with an emphasis on functionality and convenience. The Pixel Sunscreen comes with a lifetime warranty and currently sells for \$69.99.

Jon Lawton is a sales associate at Hunt's Photo and Video in Melrose, MA. If you have any questions on the Pixel Sunscreen or any other photo related topic, feel free to contact him at jlawton@wbhunt.com or at the store at 1-800-221-1830.



The 37th Frame

By Gary Christenson

Old News

From the *Bellingham Bay Reveille* newspaper, Dec. 18, 1891:

"A Sturgeon was recently caught on the Fraser River, British Columbia, which weighed 856 pounds. The monster measured 12 feet 6 inches in length and 5 feet 2 inches in girth."

From the *Spokane Weekly Chronicle*, Feb. 11, 1897:

"The latest Yankee invention is a combined typewriting and computing machine by which the operator can turn off letters and do all kinds of sums at the same time. Of course it's clever; but what's the use of it?"

From the *Spokane Weekly Chronicle* newspaper, Feb. 11, 1897:

"An eastern scientist says he is convinced that the people of Mars are signaling to us, but he can not make out what they mean."

Linden appears in TruckVault SHOT exhibit

NOWA member Scott Linden, host and creator of the television series Wingshooting USA, will be appearing in the TruckVault booth (#12979) at the SHOT Show, Thursday, Jan. 20 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. TruckVault is a major sponsor of the award-winning series, now airing year-round on four networks including VERSUS. Linden will help introduce the company's new ShotLock, the world's first shotgun "solo-vault," answer questions about upland bird hunting and dogs, and share behind-the-camera stories from the show recently named "favorite upland show" in a national survey.



Linden & Buddy

NOWA 2011 Conference

“Keeping up with Change”

Bellingham, Washington

April 28-May 1

“Keeping up with Change” topics will include recent upgrades in image editing software, new image marketing opportunities, new venues for writers, and more. Watch for more conference details in future issues of *NOWA News*.