

NOWA News

2012 NOWA
conference:
Take your
best shot!

The Last Frontier:

- Living & Working off the Grid
- NOWA Members Can Attend
OWAA Fairbanks Conference

February 2012

Survive & Thrive in Winter

CRAFT IMPROVEMENT:

- What's the Good Word?
- Throw a Filter Wrench in the Works
- Make More Money with e-books



Northwest Outdoor
Writers Association



Cover photo by Chris Batin

NOWA News Editor:

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 Writers 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 2011-2012

OFFICERS

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Bill Mullins, Boise, ID

Vice President

Eric Hansen, Corvallis, OR

2nd Vice President

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DIRECTORS

Terms Expire May 2012

Jean Bullard, Seattle, WA

John Kruse, Malaga, WA

Peter Schroeder, Seattle, WA

Terms Expire May 2013

Bert Gildart, Bigfork, MT

Chuck Robbins, Dillon, MT

Terms Expire May 2014

Natalie Bartley, Boise, ID

Josiah Darr, Shoreline, WA

Supporting Member Liaison
vacant

Executive Director

Debbie Kerr, Kimberley, BC

Committees

By-Laws:

Ron Kerr

Conference Program:

Eric Hansen, Gary Lewis

Conference Supporting Member

Day: Gary Lewis, Debbie Kerr

Conference Site Selection:

Jack McNeel, Natalie Bartley, Bill Mullins, Debbie Kerr

Craft Improvement:

Dave Kilhefner, Chuck Robbins, Kevin Rhoades, Bob Mottram

Enos Bradner:

Adela Jackson, Dave Kilhefner, G.I. Wilson

Excellence in Craft Contest:

Scott Richmond

Ethics:

Eric Hansen, Jack McNeel

Finance:

Dave Kilhefner, Peter Schroeder, Ron Kerr, Scott Marchant, Debbie Kerr

Fred L. Peterson Award:

Dennis Clay, Debbie Kerr

Markets:

Dave Kilhefner, Natalie Bartley, Duane Dungannon

Membership Recruitment:

Mentoring:

Duane Dungannon, Peter Schroeder

Nominating:

Adela Jackson and the Past Presidents Council

Outreach & Public Relations:

Pass It On Award:

Gary Lewis

People's Choice Photography:

Eric Hansen

Photo Shoot-Out:

Dave Vedder, Keith Szafranski

Raffle & Silent Auction:

Jo Wilson, Debbie Kerr, Pam Vedder

Stan Jones Scholarship:

Alan Liere, Jack McNeel

Website:

Scott Richmond, Adela Jackson

NOWA website: www.northwest-outdoor-writers-association.org

On Facebook: Search for Northwest Outdoor Writers Association

NOWA Membership Updates

Welcome New Members

Individual Members:

Derstine, Darrek – P.O. Box 320, Milton-Freewater, OR 97862; work phone: 319-939-9839; cell: 541-968-8575; email and website: darrek@darrekderstinephotography.com; www.darrekderstinephotography.com; status: Apprentice; sponsor: Duane Dunggannon.

Growing up in Oregon, I have been very blessed to have such an awesome place to live and learn. I've been in the outdoors ever since I was old enough to go along! Hunting, Fishing, Boating, Hiking, and the rest. Also more recently, Photography has become a passion for me. After seeing so much of God's splendor and might in the wild, I decided that I needed a way to share those moments of awe, with people, which is why I bought my camera! The future is exciting, I'm looking forward to it!

Middleton, Charlie – 1864 Ptarmigan St. NW, Salem, OR 97304; phone: 503-588-1315; cell: 503-507-2778; email: dcmidd@comcast.net; website: www.percentagetags.com; spouse: Donna; status:

Active; sponsor: Gary Lewis.

Author, editor, and publisher. Books: *Oregon Tag Guide* and *Big Game Hunting Almanac*, *The Target Book for North American Big Game*.



Moran, Pat – 350 Silver Hills Circle SE, Salem, OR 97306; phone: 503-364-3319; work: 503-363-3356; cell: 503-910-7503; email: moranstags@comcast.net; website: www.percentagetags.com; spouse: Margaret; status: Active; sponsor: Gary Lewis. Author, editor, and publisher. Books:

Oregon Tag Guide and Big Game Hunting Almanac, *The Target Book for North American Big Game*.

Supporting Members:

LaCrosse Footwear and Danner Boots – 17634 NE Airport Way, Portland, OR 97230; phone: 503-251-1100; email: info@danner.com; websites: www.lacrossefootwear.com, www.danner.com; contact: Taylor Towne, Public Relations Coordinator; phone: ext. 1486; fax: 503-258-3225; email: ttowne@lacrossefootwear.com.

LaCrosse Footwear, Inc. is a leading developer and marketer of branded, premium and innovative footwear for expert work and outdoor users. The company's trusted Danner® and LaCrosse brands build premium rubber and leather footwear for multiple customers including people in law enforcement, agriculture, construction, industry, military services, hunting, outdoor cross training, hiking, and other outdoor recreational activities. The LaCrosse and Danner brand products have been the result of an unparalleled commitment to quality. The heritage of these brands deserves no less.



Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership (TRCP) – 1660 L St. NW, Ste. 208, Washington, DC 20036; phone: 202-639-8727; fax: 202-654-4602; email: info@trcp.org; website: www.trcp.org; contact: Katie McKalip, Director of Media Relations, 837 Stoddard, Missoula, MT 59802; phone: 406-240-9262; email: kmckalip@trcp.org.

The TRCP is a nonprofit organization driven by a board of directors and a policy council including leaders from many of the country's top hunting, fishing and conservation groups. The

TRCP works with its national grass-roots network of more than 36,000 sportsmen and women and numerous affiliated local and state level organizations to sustain the traditions of hunting and angling and to ensure the conservation of America's lands and water, both public and private. In short, we work to "Guarantee You a Place to Hunt and Fish."



Directory Updates

Individual Members:

Bartley, Natalie – website: www.nataliebartleyoutdoor.com
Bowman, Tom – status changed from Active to Active Retired
Campbell, Robert – 1900 SE McLoughlin Blvd., Ste 60, Oregon City, OR 97045; omit home phone
Keil, Bill – 1400 NE 2nd Ave. #809, Portland, OR 97232; phone: 503-239-3314
Luscombe, Bill – spouse: Susan Christine
McNeel, Jackie – work phone: 509-939-2661
Robbins, Chuck – change website to: www.chuckrobbins-outdoors.blogspot.com
Vang, Paul – cell: 415-994-2974; change website to: <http://writingoutdoors.com>
Wiest, Terry – email: tbfishin@comcast.net [there is no 'g']

Donations

Donations received for Stan Jones Scholarship Fund:
Dennis Clay

Donations received for NOWA Endowment Fund:
Gary Christenson
Ralph Shaw

Words to the Wise

By Peter Schroeder



PETER SCHROEDER

A cross-country skier joins the bison afield at Yellowstone as Old Faithful fumes in the background.

HIDE, SURVIVE OR THRIVE WHEN WINTER ARRIVES

Editor's Note: NOWA board member Peter Schroeder fills in this month for president Bill Mullins, who claims to be conducting important research on a beach in Hawaii where there allegedly is no Internet access or cell service...

“Would you rather be part of three million people who visit the Park in summer or just 100,000 who arrive in winter?” asked Rick Hoeninghausen, director of sales and marketing for Xanterra Parks & Resorts, which runs concessions in Yellowstone National Park.

While guiding our group on cross-country skis through Yellowstone last winter, Hoeninghausen continued, “With fewer people, it’s quieter in winter; there are no cars and animals are easier to spot against the snow with no leaves on the trees to block views. Herds come down from the mountains and you see more wildlife in the meadows: bobcats, antelope, foxes and bison.

As we glided past steamy geothermal features deep into the woodlands, we kept a respectful distance from the occasional moose and herds of elk and bison while admiring the snow-covered park. With our added speed on skis, we continued deeper into the woods than summer hikers would normally go, giving us views of Yellowstone National Park that few have seen.

“In winter, all wild creatures adopt one of three strategies during the harsh winter months: Hide, Survive,

or Thrive,” Hoeninghausen explained. Bears and many smaller animals hide by hibernating in dens or burrowing underground. Elk, bison, and deer barely survive as they struggle through snowdrifts to forage for food – and try to avoid predators such as wolves and coyotes.

Meanwhile, wolves, coyotes, and moose thrive. With their large paws, wolves and coyotes can run on the top of snow and have ready pickings of the slow-moving elk, rabbits, and creatures more restricted in their movements. Moose, with their unique leg joints, can easily move through snowdrifts while their coats of hollow, insulating hairs enable them to stay warm in winter storms.

The same three options are available to humans. Unfortunately too many of us simply hide during winter. We close ourselves indoors like hermits in the comfort of our homes and offices, only occasionally emerging for a breath of fresh air.

But the wolves and moose among us see winter in a different light. This is the time to change our lifestyle and get outdoors to thrive in a sometimes harsh, but stunning, environment, where there’s less competition for the magnificent sights that the winter landscape has to offer.

The biggest excuse for remaining indoors is the frigid temperatures. But there’s no such thing as being cold; there’s only inadequate clothing. Get the right wardrobe, rent or buy the right gear, and join those who thrive outdoors throughout the solitary and spectacular months of winter. ←

TOO MANY OF US SIMPLY HIDE DURING WINTER. WE CLOSE OURSELVES INDOORS LIKE HERMITS IN THE COMFORT OF OUR HOMES AND OFFICES.



Member Photos

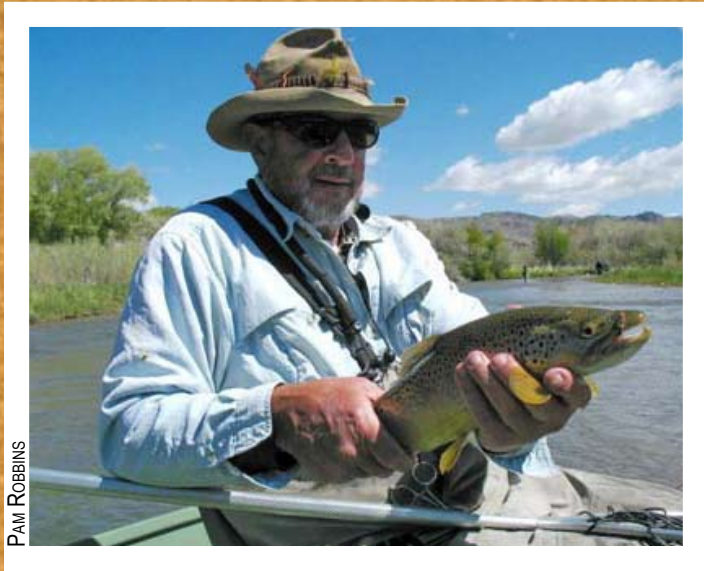
BUD JOURNEY
IN MONTANA



NOWA member Dave Vedder of Woodinville, Wash., and hunting buddy Tye enjoy the end of a fine day of waterfowl hunting.



NOWA member Marilyn Mitzi Stonehocker of Thompson Falls, Mont., took this whitetail buck near the site of the NOWA Seeley Lake conference.



PAM ROBBINS

NOWA board member Chuck Robbins of Dillon, Mont., attempts to show fishing buddy Bert Gildart the proper technique for cradling a trout in this photo.



<http://chuckrobbins-outdoors.blogspot.com>

NOWA board member Bert Gildart of Big Fork, Mont., practices trout-holding technique offered by fishing buddy Chuck Robbins. We welcome paybacks, Bert.

This page spotlights NOWA members practicing what they preach in our great outdoors. 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.

A PLACE TO SHOOT

By Gary Lewis

2012 NOWA
Conference
Bend, Oregon
April 26-29



“Pull!” Bill Grafton pushed a button and a clay target streaked away from a concrete bunker. Paxton crushed it.

His 14-year-old sister Alexa was next. When she fired, the orange disk broke in pieces. My daughter Mikayla’s first shot missed to the right.

On a concrete pad marked with five shooting lanes, the kids changed positions, reloaded, and moved with the targets. At their feet, empty hulls skittered along the ground, blown by the wind.

This was the kids’ first exposure to the game called trap shooting, a discipline that requires the shooter to engage a rapidly moving target in the air.

Alexa started thinking about her targets and lost a few. Mikayla struggled. If I remember right, Paxton missed just two of the 25. We moved on to the Continental course and the kids gave that a try. Arvard Martin, president of the Bend Trap Club, tried to help Mikayla overcome her shooting slump.

It was on the sporting clays course, when she took off her glasses in frustration and put them in her jacket pocket. She broke the next three in a row and began to call for the targets with gusto. “Give me the rabbit,” she said, and an orange disk bounced along the ground like a jackrabbit in fifth gear.

.....
Wherever you go in central Oregon, there is a club nearby that offers a place to shoot and a few more experienced men and women eager to help the newcomer.
.....

Behind us, real jackrabbits bounced in and out of the manicured lawns.

The Bend Trap Club was formed over 100 years ago by a group of hunters, fishermen and shooters that called themselves the Bend Rod and Gun Club. The earliest mentions of the club showed up in this newspaper in January, 1913. By 1938, the Bend Trap Club was proclaimed one of the best places to shoot in the western United States.

We visited the club’s 280-acre property east of Bend last week to shoot their trap, skeet and 5-stand courses for the first time. It was a great chance to sharpen up shotgun skills that had lagged since last winter. After the kids and I had fired close to 50 rounds apiece, we repaired to the clubhouse for sodas.

“We older fellows enjoy seeing someone new experience the joy of being successful as a shooter. We all love to experience again the feeling of accomplishment that comes with success on the range. To see a newcomer’s

accomplishments really gives positive affirmation for the older shooter and affirmation for the younger shooter. It puts smiles on everyone's faces," Martin said.

It's an attitude shared by the people who run shooting ranges all over central and eastern Oregon. I've shot at most of them, and I haven't found a range that didn't welcome new members.

Wherever you go in Central Oregon there is a club nearby that offers a place to shoot and a few more experienced men and women eager to help the newcomer.

Each club's activities reflect the interests of their membership. The Bend Trap Club (www.bendtrapclub.com) is focused on the shotgun sports, while the Bend Bowmen (www.bendbowmen.com) offer indoor target ranges and special events.

The Redmond Rod and Gun Club (www.rrandgc.com) range provides trap, skeet, sporting clays and rifle and pistol ranges.

Near Madras, the Mt. Jefferson Rifle, Archery & Pistol Association provides indoor pistol, rifle, archery and air gun ranges.

Located between Bend and Redmond, Central Oregon Sporting Clays (www.birdandclay.com) offers shotgun rental, sporting clays instruction and competition in a 5-stand venue and on a 13-station walk-thru/golf cart course.

Serving the Bend/Redmond/Sisters area, the DeShoots Youth Sports program (541-420-4332) seeks to provide training opportunities to get kids involved in the shotgun sports.

Twenty-three miles east of Bend, the Central Oregon Shooting Sports Association (www.oregonshooting.com) is made up of many disciplines including COSSA Kids, cowboy action, handgun silhouette, the Lady Hawkes shooting group and more.

COSSA will host a youth day at the COSSA Shooting Sports Complex on May 26, 2012.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Orientation begins at 9. Events will include a .22 Rimfire Varmint Shoot, Cowboy Action Rimfire, Cowboy Lever Action Rifle, Archery Antelope and Wingshooting. Guns, ammunition, bows and arrows will be provided.

Door prizes will include air rifles, archery equipment and outdoor gear. Thanks to a generous grant from the High Desert Friends of NRA, there is no entry fee. A barbecue lunch will be provided to all in attendance.

To find COSSA, travel east on Highway 20 toward Burns. COSSA Shooting Park is located ½ mile past milepost 24 on the north side of the highway.

Gary Lewis is the host of Adventure Journal and author of John Nosler – Going Ballistic, Black Bear Hunting, Hunting Oregon and other titles. You can contact him at www.GaryLewisOutdoors.com. ←



www.GaryLewisOutdoors.com

Take Your Best Shot at the Bend NOWA Conference

The Bend conference will have a shooting day on the schedule. We are planning the shooting day to be at a gun range 20 minutes from the conference site.



The shooting activities will be on Friday afternoon. NOWA thanks Gary Lewis for securing a shooting range for NOWA. National Shooting Sports Foundation (www.nssf.org) will provide ammo for the event.

Stan Jones Scholarship could help you attend 2012 NOWA conference

The Stan Jones Scholarship committee is accepting nominees for new members or potential new members who would attend the annual conference in Bend this year if conference fees were paid. The Stan Jones fund has been growing slowly, and we would like to use some of the money to encourage participation in this important NOWA event. Nominations will be open until March 15. Send names and a brief statement about why your nominee (even if it's yourself) would benefit from this award to either Jack McNeel (jmcneel37@msn.com) or Alan Liere (alanliere@yahoo.com).

NOWA Conference will offer something for everyone



At last year's NOWA Conference in Bellingham, photographer Tim Christie demonstrated advanced Photoshop techniques that eliminated the distracting foreground grass in this photo. More great seminars will be offered at this year's conference.

Conference Program in a Nutshell

For those who haven't attended a conference before, the general format of the conference is as follows. Exact times for the workshops and Supporting Member activities are yet to be determined, but will take place on Friday and Saturday. Closer to the conference date the exact schedule will be in the newsletter, plus emailed to all attendees.

Thursday, April 26, 2012

- NOWA Annual Board Meeting
- Photo Shoot-Out – Visit Bend is still working through the details to hosting this event, but they are optimistic it will be held at this year's conference.
- People's Choice Photo Contest – give your entries to Eric Hansen
- General Registration
- Wine Tasting Social 7-11 p.m.
 - This is your opportunity to get reacquainted with friends and colleagues before the business of the conference begins

- Bring a bottle (or two) of wine from your *local* winery
- Silent Auction
 - During the Wine Tasting Social you will get your first chance at silent auction items. (Donations permitting)

Friday, April 27, 2012

- 8 a.m. – Welcome and Announcement
- This day is devoted to our Supporting Members – we'll have presentation and hopefully some "learning" sessions.
- In the afternoon we'll have a shooting event. The range is 25 minutes from Bend.
- Product Displays by Supporting Members may be at the range.
- Noon – turn in Photo Shoot-Out entries – yet to be confirmed
- Phantasmagoria Raffle will be open
- Hosted Evening Dinner provided by Visit Bend (see registration form for details of attendance)

Saturday, April 28, 2012

- 8 a.m. – Welcome and Announcement
- Full day of conference workshops - Eric Hansen will provide details in the March newsletter. [If you have workshop requests, or something to teach, contact Eric at hesja@juno.com or 541-753-7412]
- Phantasmagoria Raffle will be open for business
- Annual Awards Banquet
 - no host bar
 - Silent Auction
 - What The Heck is That?!
 - Banquet
 - Excellence in Craft Awards
 - Enos Bradner Award
 - Fred L. Peterson Award
 - Pass It On Award
 - Photo Shoot-Out presentations

Sunday, April 29, 2012

- 8:30 a.m. – NOWA General Meeting
- 9 a.m. – Feedback/Discussion Session – your chance to let your voice be heard
- 10 a.m. - Phantasmagoria Raffle – our NOWA conference wraps up with the traditional annual raffle blowout
- 1 p.m. – hotel checkout and departure



Joe Warren's heron won the Photo Shoot-out last year.



Tim Christie's photo was the People's Choice last year.

People's Choice Photo Award

We are pleased to again offer a People's Choice photo contest at the NOWA Conference in Bend in April. Photos submitted must be 8x10 to 11x14 and no larger.

This year there will be two categories: one for members who have won EIC awards in photography or consider themselves primarily photographers, and another for members who have not won an EIC award in photography and consider themselves not a full-time photographer.

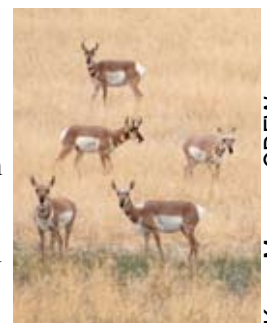
All entries are to be given to Eric Hansen at the Bend conference. The People's Choice Award winners will be announced at the banquet Saturday night.

Find Great Wildlife Photo Opportunities in Oregon

Just in time for NOWA members attending the Bend conference, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has introduced a new Wildlife Viewing Map to help people learn where and when to see Oregon's fish and wildlife species. The Google-based map is available via the ODFW website and details 235 great places to see wildlife in the state.

Through the Wildlife Viewing Map, viewers can discover where to see bald eagles, migrating snow geese and sandhill cranes, as well as Oregon's large mammals, including black-tailed and mule deer and Rocky Mountain and Roosevelt elk. Tufted puffins, bighorn sheep and spawning salmon viewing sites are included. See the new map at: http://www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/viewing/wildlife_viewing_map.asp

To view other high resolution photos of Oregon's wildlife available to the public, log on to on ODFW's Flickr site, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/odfw/sets/>



KATHY MUNSEL, ODFW PHOTO

NOWA Pre- & Post-Conference Trips

Enjoy Special Trip Options at NOWA's Bend Conference

Visit Bend has put together an interesting variety of trips for those attending the annual conference in Bend, Oregon. Of course, our intent is to sell stories and photos as a result of these trips, and in some cases preference will be given to those who have that arranged. That said, most trips are available even without a story pre-sold, and spouses are welcome. Dates available at this point are open. In some cases the discount level will be determined by how many members sign up, so don't hesitate to express your interest. More information will be published as it becomes available.

Kevney Dugan of Visit Bend will keep a list of who wants to do what and when.

If you have questions or other interests, please contact Kevney at Kevney@visitbend.com.

—DEBBIE KERR, NOWA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NOWA Conference Options



Fly Spur Ranch

www.flyspur.com

Horseback Riding in Central Oregon. They like to keep groups small (4-5 people). They are willing to offer a

special deal to people interested in that outdoor activity. Book in advance. We offer premiere horseback excursions throughout central Oregon, but primarily from our two ranches in Tumalo (FlySpur Ranch and Rock Springs Ranch). We offer simple trail riding, as well as back country and wilderness trips. We can sometimes combine these with fly fishing, depending on all the circumstances and the current bite, and work with Scott Cook when the adventure requires it.



Sun Country Tours

www.suncountrytours.com

Offer comp rafting trips to attendees. Need to sign up in advance.

Deschutes Big Eddy Thriller: Conveniently located just minutes from central Oregon resorts, the Big Eddy has been a favorite family rafting adventure since 1978. This "short but oh so sweet" raft trip runs thru the beautiful Deschutes National Forest. Towering ponderosa pines and quaking aspen cover the landscape as river otters playfully swim through this river wonderland. Memories are made here!

Central Oregon River Adventures

Offered a free trip for 2 on the Deschutes River either canoe or kayak. They also offered 2 free snowmobile rentals. Book in advance – Limited space on this so those who want to take advantage need to contact ASAP: (541) 593-0339.



Sunriver Nature Center and Observatory

www.sunrivernaturecenter.org

Willing to offer free admittance to conference attendees. The Sunriver Nature Center & Observatory (SNCO) is a private, not-for-profit scientific and educational organiza-

tion in Sunriver. Our services include a large hands-on public observatory, interpretive exhibits, science classes for both kids and adults, special programs, botanical garden, birds of prey and a nature trail.



Central Oregon Sporting Clays and Hunting Preserve

www.birdandclay.com

50% off sporting clays and instruction for all NOWA attendees. Sign up in advance. Introducing central Oregon's premiere hunting preserve and sporting clays facility! We are conveniently located halfway between Bend and Redmond on HWY 97, just a short drive from all the major resorts. Sporting Clays is a fun recreational activity the whole family can enjoy! Now you don't have to travel across Oregon to enjoy sporting clays or pheasant hunting.



Cogwild Mountain Bike Tours

www.cogwild.com

They are willing to offer a discount and set up a trip if they get any interested parties. Sign up in advance. Cog Wild is your local guide company for cycling in central Oregon. The guides have intimate knowledge of the hundreds of miles of trails that start in Bend and Sunriver and continue into the Cascade Mountains and the surrounding high desert.

Mt. Bachelor

www.mtbachelor.com

Will offer discounted lift tickets to the group. Need to sign up in advance so we have an idea of how many will attend which will also dictate the rate. With over 3,000 acres of lift-accessible terrain, you won't want to pass up a trip

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to the ski resort with the highest skiable elevation in all of Oregon and Washington! Mt. Bachelor, located on the eastern flanks of Oregon's central Cascades, is known for its light, dry snow, diverse terrain, family-friendliness and long seasons



High Desert Museum

www.highdesertmuseum.org

Would like to comp NOWA attendees admission. Need to get a list of those who would like to visit. Through exhibits, wildlife, and living history, High Desert Museum creates learning experiences to help audiences discover their connection to the past, their role in the present, and their responsibility to the future.



Tumalo Creek Canoe and Kayak

www.tumalocreek.com

Willing to offer a discount on canoe and kayak rental to NOWA conference attendees. (Need to get a list of those who would like to rent a canoe, kayak or SUP.) Tumalo Creek Kayak and Canoe has the largest selection of white-water kayaks, sea kayaks, recreational kayaks, paddleboards and canoes in central Oregon. We also offer a range of tours and classes to improve your kayaking skills. Whether you want to paddle the whitewater rivers of the Cascades or canoe across placid, high mountain lakes, our super friendly staff of paddlers are here to help. ←



2012 NOWA Conference Registration

(Supporting Members please use separate form)

Conference location: Shilo Inn Suites Hotel, 3105 O.B. Riley Road, Bend, OR 97701

For Reservations Telephone 1-800-222-2244, or directly to the Bend Shilo Inn: 541-389-9600

NOWA's conference rate is \$69 & includes breakfast! Please book by March 31, 2012

http://www.shiloinns.com/hotel_details.asp?PI=EBDOR

April 26-29, 2012

Your Name(s) _____

New Member

1st Conference

Conference Guest or Spouse Name(s) _____

Banquet Only* Guest or Spouse Name(s) _____

Conference Registration – Member: _____ people x \$ 99.00 = \$ _____

Full Conference Registration – Guest or Spouse of Member: _____ people x \$ 99.00 = \$ _____

Banquet Only (see Notes) – Guest or Spouse of Member: _____ people x \$ 50.00 = \$ _____

Non-member Registration: _____ people x \$150.00 = \$ _____

When the non-member joins NOWA within 30 days of the conference the membership dues will be waived for the current year.
(This does not apply to Supporting Members)

TOTAL (US funds) \$ _____

Notes:

*Banquet Only applies to guests and/or spouses who are not attending any function other than the Banquet on Saturday evening.

Full Registration Fee includes the banquet *plus* break refreshments and hosted meals.

NEW: Would you like your name on a list of those interested in sharing accommodation costs YES

Registration due date: NOWA is required to identify a minimum number of people for the banquet, therefore all conference registration forms must be **RECEIVED at NOWA HQ by April 1, 2012.**

After April 1 registration is \$110. If registering after April 1, please email nowahq@telus.net to indicate you will be attending, and registering at the conference. Then bring your registration form and payment to the conference.

Make check payable, in US funds, to NOWA and send with this form, to: NOWA Headquarters, 712 – 301 Street, Kimberley, BC Canada V1A 3K3. Phone 250-432-0002, email: nowahq@telus.net.

Cancellation / refund policy: Refunds of conference registration fees will be made on the following basis-

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 30 days prior to the conference date of April 27, 2012 | Full refund |
| 15 days prior to the conference date of April 27, 2012 | 50% refund |
| 7 days prior to the conference date of April 27, 2012 | No refund |

Conference registration late fees are non-refundable. The Executive Director can authorize refunds after the seven-day cut-off only when there is a death in the immediate family.



2012 NOWA Conference Supporting Member Registration

(Regular Members please use separate form)

Conference location: Shilo Inn Suites Hotel, 3105 O.B. Riley Road, Bend, OR 97701
For Reservations Telephone 1-800-222-2244, or directly to the Bend Shilo Inn: 541-389-9600
NOWA's conference rate is \$69 & includes breakfast! Please book by March 31, 2012
http://www.shiloinns.com/hotel_details.asp?PI=EBDOR

April 26-29, 2012

Your Name(s) _____ New Member
 Company Name _____ 1st Conference
 Guest or Spouse Name(s) _____
 Banquet Only*: Guest or Spouse Name(s) _____

Conference Registration — Supporting Member: _____ people x \$ 99.00 = \$ _____
Conference Registration — Guest or Spouse: _____ people x \$ 99.00 = \$ _____
Banquet Only (see Notes) — Guest or Spouse: _____ people x \$ 50.00 = \$ _____
Product Display Tables Required: _____ tables x \$ 25.00 = \$ _____

TOTAL (US funds) \$ _____

Notes:

*Banquet only applies to guests and/or spouses who are not attending any function other than the Banquet on Saturday evening. All supporting members are subject to the Registration Fee.
 Full Registration Fee includes the banquet *plus* break refreshments and hosted meals.

The following information is due no later than April 1:

Please indicate what equipment you require: _____

Do you wish to make a product or service presentation Friday, April 27, 2012? Yes No
 (A scheduled time will be e-mailed to you.) →→NOTE change from Saturday on previous forms

Registration due date: NOWA is required to identify a minimum number of people for the banquet, therefore all conference registration forms must be **RECEIVED at NOWA HQ by April 1, 2012.**

After April 1 registration is \$110. If registering after April 1, please email nowahq@telus.net to indicate you will be attending, and registering at the conference. Then bring your registration form and payment to the conference.

Make check payable, in US funds, to NOWA and send with this form, to: NOWA Headquarters, 712 – 301 Street, Kimberley, BC Canada V1A 3K3. Phone 250-432-0002, email: nowahq@telus.net.

Cancellation / refund policy: Refunds of conference registration fees will be made on the following basis-

- 30 days prior to the conference date of April 27, 2012 Full refund
- 15 days prior to the conference date of April 27, 2012 50% refund
- 7 days prior to the conference date of April 27, 2012 No refund

Conference registration late fees are non-refundable. The Executive Director can authorize refunds after the seven-day cut-off only when there is a death in the immediate family.



Supporting Member News

SHOT Show sets records

Energized by unprecedented gun sales nationwide, firearms industry professionals turned out in record numbers to the Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Trade ShowSM (SHOT Show[®]), and many made a point of saying “the best is yet to come.”

The largest trade show of its kind in the world and the fifth largest trade show in Las Vegas, a city of trade shows, the SHOT Show set an overall attendance record of more than 61,000, including new highs for buyers at 36,383 and media at 2,466. Though show organizers deliberately reduced the size of the show to better accommodate attendees at the Sands Expo and Convention Center, still some 1,600 exhibitors filled booth space covering 630,000 net square feet. The show attracted industry professionals from all 50 states and 100 countries.



The SHOT Show is owned by the National Shooting Sports Foundation, the trade association for the firearms, ammunition, hunting and shooting sports industry. Revenues from the show support NSSF’s many programs that carry out its mission of promoting, protecting and preserving hunting and the shooting sports. “The SHOT Show allows NSSF to do many good things for industry, shooting and hunting,” said NSSF President and Steve Sanetti. Added Chris Dolnack, NSSF senior vice president and chief marketing officer, “We have worked hard to make sure SHOT is a great selling and buying experience, and it has resulted in our best show ever.”

Thanks to Americans’ passion for firearms, the \$4 billion firearms and ammunition industry has been a bright spot in the down economy. The industry supports many small businesses and helps preserve the 180,000 jobs associated with the shooting sports. In 2011, company executives saw records set for background checks, a reliable indicator of sales, including the most ever in a single month (December) and single day (Black Friday). Many in the industry believe, however, that Americans’ interest in owning firearms will continue to grow in 2012, fueling their unabashed optimism about the year ahead.

For more information, log on to www.nssf.org.



Huntley Ritter hosts ‘Outlanders: Limited Draw.’

Huntley Ritter’s ‘Outlanders’ debuts on Sportsman Channel

New show celebrates real hunters and real places

If you love spectacular places, the pursuit of wild game, and the unbridled joy of drawing a lottery tag for that once-in-a-lifetime hunt, you just may be an Outlander – and renowned host and producer Huntley Ritter has a brand-new show just for you.

Sportsman Channel, the leader in outdoor TV for the American Sportsman, is pleased to announce Huntley Ritter’s *Outlanders: Limited Draw* is now airing Thursday nights.

Through a submission process, 10 everyday hunters were selected to tell the story of their hunt over a four-day period, accompanied by a state-of-the-art film crew. The rules: fair-chase ethics must be strictly observed, and while guides are eligible to be the subject matter, no Outlanders hunter can be aided by a guide or outfitter.

Even bigger and better things are planned for the show’s second season. Viewers can access the show’s website <https://outlandertv.com> to vote for the species to be featured in season two. They will also be eligible to enter a lottery-style drawing, and if their ticket is pulled, they’ll get the chance to prove that they deserve to be featured on a hunt to be filmed in 2012 and aired in 2013.

Sportsman Channel reaches 27 million U.S. television households and is available in HD. To learn more details,

visit www.thesportsmanchannel.com, follow on Twitter, @SPORTSMANchnl (www.twitter.com/SPORTSMANchnl) and on Facebook, www.facebook.com/sportsmanchannel

NW Outdoors adds 3 stations

Northwestern Outdoors Radio has now added three more stations in Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

News Radio KINF 730 AM/99.1 FM in Boise will begin broadcasting the show on Saturdays at 8 a.m. beginning Feb. 4. KMAS News Radio 1030 AM/104.1 FM will also simulcast the show in the South Puget Sound area from their studios in Shelton to the capitol city of Olympia. The show will air on Saturdays at a time to be announced. News Talk 1440 KMED in the Medford-Ashland market of southern Oregon, airs Northwestern Outdoors Radio on Sundays at 6 a.m.

Northwestern Outdoors Radio is produced every week from its flagship station at 560 KPQ in Wenatchee, Wash., and is now broadcast 34 times a week on 29 stations in the Northwest. The show host and producer is NOWA member John Kruse.

For more, go to www.northwesternoutdoors.com.

Try Frabill's new Crawler Can

Frabill's new Crawler Can keeps your bait cool and protected from the baitshop to bass. Sporting dual, top and bottom bait compartments, each sealed with a watertight quarter-turn lid, the Crawler Can cools and can store two different types of baits within a single can, or ice in one, bait in the other. It's insulated with an extra-thick foam liner and tough watertight screw-lids.



For more information, visit www.frabill.com.

Winchester offers new products

In 2012, Winchester® Ammunition continues its leadership in innovation with the launch of several key new products for hunters, and also expanding many of the company's most trusted lines with exciting new offerings.

Blind Side® waterfowl ammunition hit store shelves in 2011 and immediately became the most innovative steel waterfowl load in Winchester history. HEX™ Shot pellets and the Diamond Cut™ Wad revolutionized steel waterfowl shotshell technology and in 2012, the Blind Side line expands to include new shot sizes, a 2-3/4-inch shell for

12-gauges and for the first time, a 20-gauge offering.

Big game hunters can be on the lookout for expanded offerings in many popular centerfire rifle product lines from Winchester. Power Core 95/5™, with its protected hollow point and power-core cavity, is available in several new calibers for hunters who need a lead-free bullet at an economical price point. Winchester also adds two new calibers to Power Max Bonded™, a cartridge featuring bonded core technology and designed specifically for white-tailed deer hunters. Winchester is also adding .204 Ruger in Ballistic Silvertip® Lead-Free, offering varmint hunters a super-fast, lead-free cartridge. Finally, in the classic Super-X® line, Winchester is adding a cowboy-action cartridge in .45-70 GOVT.

For more, visit www.Winchester.com.

Connect with The American Legend on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/WinchesterAmmunition.

Bushnell expands guarantee

Bushnell Outdoor Products has expanded its Bulletproof Guarantee to include several leading lines of binoculars, riflescopes and spotting scopes and its entire line of hunting laser rangefinders. With the peace of mind that comes from a no-risk, money-back guarantee, consumers can choose Bushnell with added confidence.



Originally introduced with the Legend Ultra HD binocular product line in 2011, Bushnell guaranteed that if customers were not completely satisfied with the product, the company would buy it back, no questions asked for up to one year from the original date of purchase.

For 2012, Bushnell has expanded the Bulletproof Guarantee to cover the Elite, Excursion EX, Legacy WP, Legend Ultra HD and Trophy XLT families of binoculars; Elite, Legend Ultra HD and Trophy XLT families of riflescopes and spotting scopes; and all hunting laser rangefinders.

For more information about the Bushnell Bulletproof Guarantee, visit www.bushnell.com or call 1-800-423-3537.

Hells Canyon VB unveils new logo

For information about the Hells Canyon Visitor Bureau and story possibilities, contact Michelle Peters at 877-774-7248, info@hellscanyonvisitors.com, www.hellscanyonvisitor.com



Make money on the e-book gravy train

By Kevin Rhoades

If you're an author with published books lying around on the bookshelf collecting dust, consider re-publishing your hardbacks and paperbacks as e-books.

Why?

Well, "Why not," I might counter, with this addendum: "Why not grab gravy sales from previously published works while garnering the reward of having geeks out there in cyberspace download and read your books? And you receive dollars to boot!"

According to e-book sales figures published by the Association of American Publishers, sales in 2009 increased 4 percent over the previous year, and in 2010 sales increased 169 percent over 2009. With the explosion of electronic gadgetry to read e-books, those keeping an eagle eye on the book-publishing industry predict the number of customers purchasing and reading e-books will continue climb. Now is the time to take advantage of this trend.

If you wish to convert a print book to an e-book, first investigate whether you have the right to re-publish your manuscript as an electronic book. If you self-published your print book, then likely no worries. However, if your book was brought to the marketplace through a publisher then you must obtain permission.

Compared to traditional publishing, once rights are secured to recast your print book as an e-book, it's typically a speedy process to bring your e-book to the marketplace. While it can take months, even years, for mainstream publishers to bring print books to the masses, converting a print book to an e-book should take only a few weeks.

The cost? Typically a small fraction of what it takes to produce a print book. A decade ago, a self-publisher would outlay \$8,000-\$12,000 to produce, print and publish a print book. With the arrival of Print on Demand books, the cost to produce a print book has decreased as much as 75 percent while the price to produce a lightly illustrated e-book from a previously created print book is typically



\$200-\$300.

What about royalties? Assuming the writing, editing, and image-gathering phases of your book are complete, the content must be re-flowed according to the specifications of the large, online retailers, mostly BarnesandNoble.com, the iBookstore, and the goliath book-retailer Amazon.com. If your print book is converted to an e-book for sale on Amazon, for example, as long the book is priced between \$2.99 and \$9.99, the author receives a 70-percent royalty. How many book authors receive 70-percent royalties from mainstream publishers?

Besides the swiftness and affordability of bringing your e-book to the marketplace, not to mention royalties, e-books have other advantages, too, including zero inventory to pile up in your garage. And no fulfillment duties, either – no packaging, labeling or waiting in line at the U.S Post Office to mail boxes of books. Another e-book benefit: There is no waste; and no publisher will call to beg you to either buy "remaindered" copies of your print books for a dollar or two each – or she'll turn your print books into toilet paper!

After deciding to convert your print books to their electronic cousins, educate yourself to the various e-book file formats so your works can be read by the assortment of book-reading devices including the Kindle, Nook and Personal Digital Readers.

In subsequent pieces I'll cover the various e-book formats and how to build a presence on Amazon so you can achieve success selling books in this burgeoning electronic marketplace.

Kevin Rhoades, www.KevinRhoades.com, specializes in book layout, newsletter design and websites for outdoor communicators. His first book e-book, *Stalker of the Wild – Days in the Life of Wildlife Filmmaker Bob Landis*, was published last June by www.FiveValleysPress.com. Kevin's book won a first place award in the Biography Category of Dan Poynter's 2011 Global eBook Awards. ←

From the Editor's Desk



What's the good word? This website will tell you

By Duane Dungannon,
Editor, OREGON HUNTER and NOWA NEWS

Do you know which of the following demonstrates the correct word usage?

- a) Worse comes to worse
- b) Worse comes to worst
- c) Worst comes to worst

Or, for that matter, should I have said word *usage* or word *use*?

The answers to these and many other potentially puzzling questions about English word use are offered on a useful website created by Washington State University professor Paul Brians, author of *Common Errors in English Usage* (<http://public.wsu.edu/~brians/errors/book.html>).

As a Duck journalism graduate, I find it difficult to take direction from a Cougar website (the term "Cougar website" is in itself a poor choice of words these days), but at least the advice doesn't come from Beavers or Dawgs.

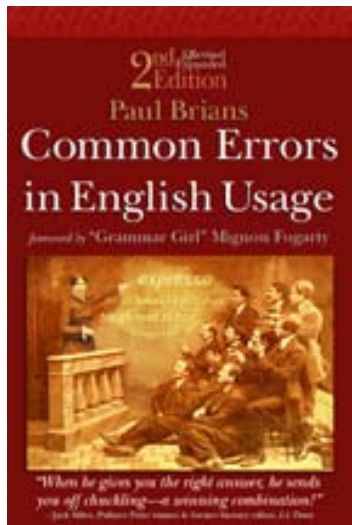
Still, I digress.

As the mild mannered editor of OREGON HUNTER in my day job, I chuckled at many of the common errors Brians lists on his website, because, well, they're all too common. Unfortunately, the English language is regularly butchered in casual conversation, as well as in print, and we are subjected to these errors so consistently that they begin to sound more like the rule than an irregularity. But irregardless, ... *oops!* See what I mean?

The information on the site is presented in an easy-to-use, short-and-sweet format, and yet still manages to inject enough to humor to make it as entertaining as it is informative.

Even a snotty editor like me can use a refresher such as this from time to time, and I plan to review it before I submit my next manuscript to one of the snotty editors for whom I write. Did I mention he's also a Cougar?

Enough words of mine. Check out the words on this site: <http://public.wsu.edu/~brians/errors/book.html> ←



The 37th Frame

By Gary Christenson

Professor Plum with the Wrench in the Darkroom

Realizing you need a different filter for the shot, you attempt to unscrew the filter that's on the lens. It won't budge. ACK! Your natural reaction is to treat it like an obstinate lid on a jar of jam: You put a death grip on it, squeeze the sides of the lid just short of breaking the glass, and twist it with as much torque as you can.

That is, of course, just the wrong thing to do with a filter.

Most filters and adapter rings are made of aluminum, which is a relatively soft metal, so it's not that difficult to deform the circular shape of the thin metal ring to an oval. Trying to get an oval out of a circle is an exercise in futility.

And, of course, filters and adapter rings have very fine, shallow threads that will get "crossed" (misaligned) at the drop of a hat.

What to do? The first thing to try is just the opposite tactic; use as little force as possible, and distribute the force as evenly as possible around the circumference of the filter or ring. It's amazing how often this does the trick.

If that doesn't work, get the "filter wrenches" out of your photographic tool box. These inexpensive plastic doo-hickies optimize your odds by evenly distributing the force around the perimeter.

Clamp one wrench on the item next to the stuck filter to minimize torque on the lens focusing mechanism, and gently clamp the other on the stuck filter. Gently, slowly twist the stuck filter counter-clockwise.

If that doesn't work, you're in deep doo-doo. Do not apply heat, penetrating oil, a magic potion, or anything else – you'll just make the situation worse.

Take a wallet full of cash and the camera to a camera repair shop. They have lots of experience fixing such problems, caused by overtightening a filter or adapter ring when installing it on the lens of a camera. ←



NOWA Elections



BARREN GROUND CARIBOU, MACKAY LAKE, NWT/BUD JOURNEY

Candidates for NOWA Board

There are five Director positions available, plus the 2nd Vice President position. Three Director positions are for a three year term, one is for a two year term and one is for a one year term. The 2nd Vice President is a one year term, with the successful candidate continuing on to fill the Vice President, President, and then the Board Chairman position – all one year terms.

Newly elected members will start their duties after the Annual General Meeting in Bend, Ore., on April 29, 2012.

NOWA thanks these candidates for stepping forward to aid the growth of NOWA.

Nominated for Director Positions are:

Duane Dungannon, Phoenix, OR

Greg Gulbrandsen, Bend, OR

John Kruse, Wenatchee, WA

Scott Marchant, Boise, ID

Bob Mottram, Anacortes, WA

There are no candidates running for the 2nd Vice President position. If you would consider serving in this position, please contact either the Nominations Chairperson, Adela Jackson: adelajackson@hotmail.com or Debbie Kerr: nowahq@telus.net.

Though there are only five candidates running for the five Director positions, we must go through the formality of the elections. Ballots will be sent from Headquarters, via email, early in February.

—*DEBBIE KERR, NOWA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*

DUANE DUNGANNON

I am pleased to offer to serve as a NOWA board member. I believe in the outfit enough that I have recruited eight new members and two supporting members in the last 11

months. I have enjoyed serving as your NOWA newsletter editor for the past year, and truly appreciate the contributions so many of you have offered. Your support is inspiring.

Most recently I have embarked on a mentoring mission to bring more aspiring outdoor communicators into our ranks. Some of the new NOWA members I have sponsored are apprentice members, and I have gone the extra mile in the past year to help newcomers make their debuts in the publications I edit. If elected to NOWA's board, I hope to take these efforts a step further by offering to create a scholarship program and raising funds to make it possible.

I hope you share these interests, and I look forward to seeing you at the NOWA Conference in Bend.



GREG GULBRANDSEN

Greg retired from the State University of New York in 2003 where he was the Director of the Media Center. He moved to Bend, Ore., to pursue his interests in outdoor and travel media. For two years, his TV program, Upland Adventures on FOX NW, was the number one locally produced program. He now shoots both video and photographs for various other producers as well as writing for a number of travel and outdoor organizations and publications. Greg is also a former NOWA director and Second VP.



JOHN KRUSE

John Kruse lives in Wenatchee, Wash., where he hosts and produces Northwestern Outdoors Radio, an hour-long show heard on stations throughout Washington, Oregon and Idaho. John has penned a number of fishing and hunting articles for regional publications and is also the author of *Great Places Washington*, a guidebook published by Wilderness Adventures Press. John is finishing up his first term on the Board of Directors for NOWA.



SCOTT MARCHANT

In 2009, I founded Hiking Idaho with the mission of writing and publishing hiking books for Central and Southern, Idaho. I have written and marketed three hiking books, a fourth to be introduced in spring. Hiking Idaho has also created two greeting card lines focused on promoting the outstanding scenery in Idaho. Prior to Hiking Idaho, I worked in sales and marketing (consumer products and printing) for nearly 15 years with several fortune 500 companies.



I would like to be a member of NOWA's board to share my experience in branding, product creation and marketing with fellow members. I believe my corporate and entrepreneurial experience can assist members in developing their own profit models.

Lastly, I would like to assist the organization in expanding and broadening its membership roster.

BOB MOTTRAM

The reason NOWA exists is to work for its members. From craft-improvement articles in our excellent newsletter, to technical workshops and seminars at our annual meetings, to opportunities to build rewarding relationships with colleagues, NOWA provides us with lots of valuable paybacks. My goal as a board member will be to make sure that this wonderful tradition continues, specifically to make sure that NOWA's mentoring function grows even stronger, and to make sure that our organization never loses its focus on providing the services that benefit us so much.



Win NOWA's Pass It On Award sponsored by Bass Pro Shops!

This award goes to the active, active retired or life member who has, through the media – writing, video, photography, education, mentoring, etc. – best demonstrated the idea of passing on the great outdoors to others. The cash prize of \$300 will be awarded to someone who best illustrates the idea of passion for the outdoors – could be teaching kids, or taking seniors fishing – and demonstrates this passion through their craft. The winner will be announced at the 2012 NOWA Conference.

The following rules will apply. Failure to comply with rules will automatically lead to disqualification.

Send one entry, published in 2011, to contest chairman Gary Lewis, P.O. Box 1364, Bend, OR 97709. As last year's winner, Gary is the chairman on this year's contest. Entries must be postmarked by March 31, 2012. Entries will be judged by a team.

All identifying names, visual identities and names of publications must be removed.

Print the last four digits of your telephone number on the back of the entry.

The winner from the previous year may not enter this contest, but may apply the following year.

1. Articles: Submit one photocopy trimmed to eliminate byline, photos and other illustrations. Headlines and quote boxes may be left in.
2. Artwork or Illustration: From the printed piece or copies. Send no original art. Remove credit line.
3. Books: Submit entire book as published. Cover author's name with removable tape or label.
4. Photographs or Artwork: Submit one high-quality photocopy of published work. Original photographs or slides should not be entered. Computer-enhanced photography will not be accepted. Remove credit line and caption.
5. Video and Audiotapes: Enter copies only.
6. Education and Mentoring: Submit a written explanation of what was done with validation by the recipient (school, individual, etc.).

SUN, WIND, FIRE AND INTERNET

Living and Working off the Grid in Alaska

By Christopher Batin

I've always been fascinated by the ancient sages of eastern philosophy, who gave special reverence to the elemental properties of sun, wind and fire.

These powers are indeed special, especially when it comes to powering an Alaska homestead.

Many of us have homes in remote locations or perhaps are planning a retirement hunting or fishing cabin where the traditional way of powering a home – being connected to the grid – is not feasible.

When Deb and I began building the BatinWoods homestead several years ago, we needed power, and it was apparent the electric company was seeing nothing but dollar signs. They told us they could run a line back to our place from the main road for about \$100,000. And that is if they didn't run into any problems through the two marshes they'd have to contend with, not to mention the mountain foothill we chose for the homesite.

We opted for sun, wind and fire, and never looked back.

During the Alaska summers, I watch our 12-array solar panel track the midnight sun around its circular route from the west to the northeast, converting sunlight into power well into the wee hours of the morning. The charging gauge pegs out to maximum charge, no matter if I turn on the dishwasher, run the washer and dryer and vacuum the carpet, all at the same time. I rarely if ever have to start the generator, and if I do, it's usually after a week of heavy rain, or cloud cover, and even then, only for a couple of hours.

If there is a slight breeze during the hours of darkness, the wind generator is charging our battery bank. I can always tell when the wind is blowing over 20 mph, because of the wooshing sound of the blades. At times, the propellers get going so fast, the blades go into safety mode, and tilt horizontally, like helicopter blades. Plus there is an electric brake, in case of typhoon-strength winds that would vibrate the wind generator to shreds. Otherwise, it's as quiet as a whisper.

The 800-pound battery bank and inverter share a small shed near the house with the 9 KW Northern Lights generator. With all the components, the shed is a complete power plant operated mostly by the sun and wind. Sure, there is some maintenance, such as keeping the battery levels full or equalizing them every month, but it's a small price to pay knowing the electric company doesn't have a stranglehold over me with their exorbitant rates and surcharges. If I



The author's solar panel tracks the midnight sun across the sky, generating power in the process.

were connected to the grid, I'd be selling power back to the utility, which is an amusing thought. But it's like revenge; best buried and not acted out. Plus, it's a hoot to watch the battery charge meter peg to full, knowing I'm not burning fossil fuels at that moment, and just utilizing the sun's energy and wind power.

Deb and I purchased BatinWoods because of its isolation, yet because of my business dealings, we are connected to the road system. In about an hour, I can be driving through Wasilla on my way to Anchorage, waving at the tourists looking at Sarah Palin's house on the lake. Yet, from our front deck, we can see Denali in all its glory, 60 miles away, and not have our solitude shattered by barking dogs, the sound of traffic, or a generator starting up every couple of hours.

You may be wondering about how the Internet fits into this overview. Well, in this modern age, it's as necessary as the basic elements. Even in our remote location, I stay in touch with the world through satellite Internet. I can file and send stories to *OUTDOOR LIFE* in New York, and make business deals in China, and read my email and news each morning online, like most everyone else and at roughly the same price that others in Alaska are paying for wireless service. HughesNet installs a satellite dish, and while the speed isn't as fast as high-speed cable, it's fast enough for my needs, especially when compared to some DSL lines I've had to use.

And of course, we get cellphone reception in our location on the hillside, even though there are dead spots in the surrounding areas. But I just get tickled each time I send a



Wind power quietly keeps the battery bank charged without the noise of a generator.

story, knowing I'm sending it free, courtesy of sun power.

While there are many sources of green heat, we opted for the most basic because of the myriad stockpiles of firewood around us. I use wood to heat the main living area, and efficient oil-burning Toyo and Monitor stoves for heating the guest cabin and garage. We also have two Toyos in the house as backups, just in case we get a cold snap of 50 below, which is rare. We go through about 250 gallons of fuel a year, and that includes generator use, which is quite economical. I remember going through that much in one month when living in the city.

Plus, the biggest benefit of green power is it allows us to live the lifestyle we've all dreamed about, away from it all, in solitude, where you can hunt or fish right in your back yard, because as outdoor writers, this is what we do. And from the doomsday side of things, we are totally self-sufficient for at least a couple of years, should the economy take a major nosedive or bioterrorism affect the way of life as we know it.

So, if you have a deer or fishing cabin, or if you're planning your retirement home in the outback, and want to place your money in something better than the 1 percent return from bank securities, try investing in the other "green." Not only will you get a better rate of return, tax credits, and more, but you'll also be surprised at how moose, bears and other critters come right up to your home, without the noise of generators or fuel-hungry furnaces. It's one small footprint I don't mind leaving.

NOWA member Chris Batin is a 38-year resident of Alaska, contributing writer for OUTDOOR LIFE, Alaska Editor for TRAVEL AGE WEST magazine and editor and publisher of ALASKA ANGLER/ALASKA HUNTER Publications. When he is not hunting, fishing or growing giant lupine on his property, he runs several businesses on "Green Power" from his Bat-inWoods homestead. He is the local conference chairman for the 2012 OWAA conference in Fairbanks. He is happy to assist any members in their pre- and post-trip planning. Contact him at ChrisBatin@AlaskaAngler.com ↩



*"With the northern lights a-runnin' wild in the land of the midnight sun."
— Johnny Horton, "North to Alaska"*

The aurora lights the night sky above a yurt at Chena Hot Springs, site of the 2012 OWAA Conference. NOWA members are invited to attend Sept. 4-6.

NOWA members can attend OWAA Fairbanks conference

OWAA's annual conference will be at Chena Hot Springs Resort, near Fairbanks, Sept. 4-6, 2012. NOWA members may attend OWAA'S conference – and pay the same rates as OWAA members. Registration for the full three days is \$225. Accommodation rates are \$99-\$105 per night, per room.

Registration and accommodation will be first-come, first-served. Registration for non-OWAA members is now open. The registration form on the OWAA's website (www.owaa.org) will include space to note your membership with NOWA. OWAA will verify that our members have paid 2012 dues before taking registrations. For details, see the OWAA website (www.owaa.org) or contact NOWA headquarters: nawahq@telus.net. ↩

NOWA Annual Conference

April 26-29 • Bend, Oregon

Enjoy the amazing pre- and post-conference trips!

Special room rate (\$69 per night for one to four people) at the Shilo Inn is extended to two days prior and two days after the conference and includes their upscale breakfast in the restaurant and free high-speed internet access. For reservations telephone 1-800-222-2244, or directly to the Bend Shilo Inn: 541-389-9600.
Bend Shilo Inn Suites Hotel: http://www.shiloinns.com/hotel_details.asp?PI=EBDOR

Sit in on great workshops covering all aspects of covering the outdoors!

To qualify for the Early Registration Draw - \$25 worth of raffle tickets - your registration must be received in headquarters by April 1.

Conference contacts:

Program: Eric Hansen - hesja@juno.com

Pre and post trips: Kevney Dugan, Visit Bend: Kevney@visitbend.com

or Gary Lewis: mglewis@coinet.com

Registration & Room sharing: Debbie Kerr at headquarters: nowahq@telus.net

Visit Bend: 541-382-8048 or email info@visitbend.com

See conference registration forms on Pages 12 & 13!