

# NOWA FIELD NOTES



MARCH 2022



*NOWA MEMBERS ARE WRITING BOOKS - PETER SCHROEDER HAS A GREAT GUIDE FOR FREELANCERS – ALTERNATIVE CONFERENCES THIS SPRING – CRAFT IMPROVEMENT FOR WRITERS FROM DENNIS DAUBLE - MORE GREAT MEMBER PHOTOS - HOW DID SHOW SEASON GO THIS WINTER?*

## NOWA FIELD NOTES –MARCH 2022

### *NOWA FIELD NOTES*

The NOWA newsletter is published six times a year by the Northwest Outdoor Writers Association, a registered nonprofit, tax-exempt, public supported organization under IRS 501 c3 Code. Newsletter contributions in the form of craft improvement articles, photos, member photo portfolios, news items, letters to the editor and more are welcome but cannot be compensated. Send submissions by email in Microsoft WORD format. Photos can be sent in JPEG Format. The Deadline for submissions is the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month prior to the next edition being published. Send them to:

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THIS MONTH'S COVER PHOTO – Shed Antler – Mike Denny

### *NOWA OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS AND MORE*

The NOWA website can be found at <http://nowaoutdoors.com>

Website Editor - Dave Kilhefner Email: [Dave@kbi-ins.com](mailto:Dave@kbi-ins.com)

The NOWA Facebook Page can be found at [www.facebook.com/NorthwestOutdoorWritersAssociation/](http://www.facebook.com/NorthwestOutdoorWritersAssociation/)



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2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT – Vacant

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*PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*



Hello everyone! It's that time of year where the days are getting noticeably longer and you can start to think about fishing & hiking before or after work. Add to this the weather in the Northwest has been pretty good considering it's still winter, way better than last year's ice apocalypse! Plus, we have decent numbers of steelhead (in Oregon anyways). It's really nice to have some good things to write about and take pictures of!

I'm happy to report the EIC contest went very well with lots of submissions. We are in need of Judges for the EIC contest. If you'd be interested in volunteering I'd love to hear from you. So far, I only have one volunteer and we need more!

Press cards were mailed out several weeks ago. If you renewed your membership but have not received your press card, please contact me. At this time, I'm operating under the assumption everyone that wants a press card has gotten one.

While I am not the decision maker about the annual NOWA Spring Conference, people want to know what's going on so I'll take the lead and say we are not having one this year as there is currently no planning underway. Even without a conference, there are a few of us that always enjoy getting together, having fun and talking shop. Where there is a will there is a way so if you have some interest contact me and I'll put together an email group and make some fun plans. C'mon, shake the tree and make something happen!

Speaking of making things happen, some NOWA members still want to travel to far away exotic destinations; Dave Vedder and Joe Warren come to mind. Dave wants to go to Columbia to fish for big Cubera in the ocean. Joe wants to go to the Parana River in Argentina to chase Golden Dorado.

Speaking of travel, it's still kind of a mess with new Covid variants coming out faster than finger paintings at a daycare center (when they were open). On this theme, I've got a couple short stories.

Some married friends of mine traveled to Jamaica and stayed at Sandal's resort for a week. Mr. caught Covid and Mrs. didn't. They got Mrs. on a plane ASAP so she wouldn't catch Covid but Mr. had to quarantine for 5 days. Even though it was at a premium resort in the tropics, they managed to make it suck; they stuck him in the dishwasher's quarters and gave him bad food and bad service for 5 days. The Coup de grace was a salad that had wadded paper in the middle to make it look bigger. True story!

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Last week a good friend of mine tested positive for Covid after his kids brought it home from school. He said he felt under the weather for a couple days but that didn't stop him from hitting the clam digging tides at the beach. He avoided the crowds and ended up finding the mother lode of big razors that made shows so big they looked more like mole holes.

Covid has been with us for a couple years and we are all handling it in our own way. I hope all of you have found your "balance point" that works for you and allows you to keep having good times and enjoying life!

Dave Kilhefner

### *FROM THE EDITOR – SHOW SEASON*



The winter show season has been an interesting one. I started off attending the Shooting Hunting Outdoor Trade Show in Las Vegas in mid-January. Arriving there I heard about the disastrous Consumer Electronics Show that wrapped up the week prior. Attendance at that huge show was down 75 percent and they actually closed a day early.

SHOT Show attendance was down as well. A number of big firearms manufacturers announced several weeks prior to the show they were not attending and there were a number of exhibitors who were no shows or who just had static displays with nobody inside their booths. Attendance was also down about a third from previous years. Despite this, the show was a success. With less people you actually had more time to talk to the various exhibitors and you were not impeded by the normal surging crowds found at this show that in recent years has had over 60,000 attendees.

The next show I attended was the Washington Sportsmen's Show in Puyallup in early February. Exhibitor attendance was down by at least 25 percent but after a couple of slow weekdays the weekend crowd showed up in force. Most of the exhibitors were happy to be at this event because attendees had money to spare for trips or gear and were more than willing to spend it.

My final trip was to the Pacific Northwest Sportsmen's Show in Portland which wrapped up on February 20<sup>th</sup>. I'm happy to report this show was pretty much back to normal with around 85 percent of normal attendance and probably 90 percent exhibitor attendance.

The bottom line, as winter progressed it became apparent more and more outdoors enthusiasts grew weary of Covid restrictions, lost their fear of the illness and are once again enjoying normal, pre-covid activities like sports shows and trade shows. John Kruse

*CRAFT IMPROVEMENT*

*THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF WRITING*

by Dennis Dauble

Writing newspaper and magazine articles puts a person in the public eye. I've had folks come up to me and say, "I read your article," and walk away without offering either a compliment or a criticism. I've received flaming emails from anglers who felt a story about a favorite place would cause their fishery to become overrun with zealous guides and out-of-state anglers. Add to the list others who love to see their name in print.

Only recently a topic sentence was copied from a newspaper article I wrote about an upcoming Sportsman Show and used by a "friend" as a rant on Facebook. Did my description of the event serve as endorsement of a large public gathering in time of COVID? I don't think so, but some readers took it that way.

A factual error or misquote can also put you in a bind. Screwups of this type are largely eliminated by providing early drafts to experts in the field and an individual you might quote. Make sure you allow ample time for comment though. Certain organizations want to rewrite your words and pass the article through a hierarchy of reviewers.

Book authors have similar issues that can lead to concerns. My recent writing has taken me into creative non-fiction, a genre sometimes characterized as essays built on truth. Spinning a fact-based tale can lead to descriptions I find humorous, but others might consider hurtful or demeaning. Such was the case with my first book that chronicled several dramatic adventures with a fishing buddy. He had previously read each story without comment, but he went deep south when he found certain passages about our time on the water were to be made into a book. Another friend thought my description of his reaction to others fishing his "secret hole" hit too close to home. My solution? Change their name and remove incriminating details. In both instances, their feelings were assuaged.

A more recent book taught an important lesson concerning two close friends. I described a cluttered scene in their living room (they are hoarders) and an impasse with their high-strung boxer who sniffed my privates. Two things hurt their feelings: the household mess they could no longer deal with because of physical and mental health issues and the impression I did not like their dog (i.e., substitute child pet). After we met to go over the manuscript, I changed their names, deleted much of what I considered to be the most interesting parts of the visit, and our friendship was restored.

## NOWA FIELD NOTES –MARCH 2022 – DAUBLE (CONTINUED)

In a more recent memoir, I provided excerpts to friends whose name or description might lead to recognition. Candid discussion ensued to make sure no one was put on public stage. Some had different recollection of certain events, but the decision what to leave in was left up to me. It's also possible that me providing a free copy of the book upon publication helped smooth over any ruffled feathers. What all this proves is it's never too late in your writing career to learn.

### CRAFT IMPROVEMENT

## *PETER SCHROEDER'S NEW BOOK IS A MUST FOR FREELANCERS*

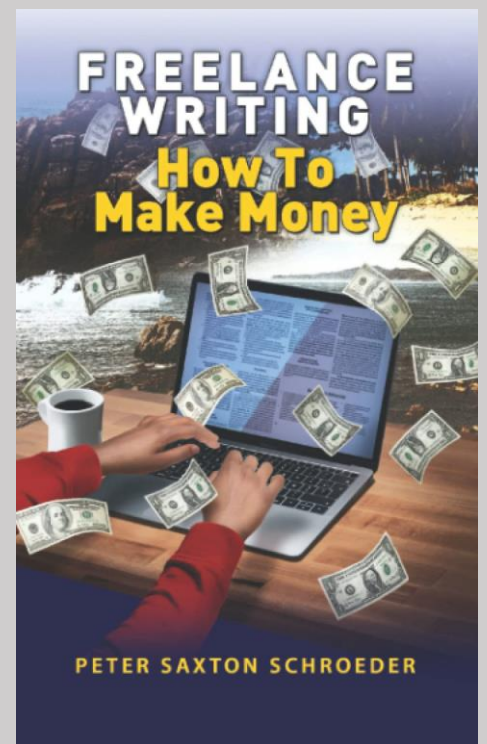
Poverty should not be the price to pay for doing the work that freelancers love. Peter Schroeder, a 30-year freelance writer, debunks this myth so persuasive among others in this field. He presents tips and strategies that enable both beginning and established freelance writers to turn their craft into a highly profitable business.

“To be financially successful,” he says, “Forget the advice of all the other how-to books on freelance writing. They're all wrong, as I explain in the book.”

*Freelance Writing: How to Make Money* details the profit-making ways writers can:

- Travel anywhere in the world—for free
- Get complimentary accommodations at top resorts
- Increase income for each article by 50 to 100 percent with minimal effort
- Find new markets and develop international sales
- Sell the same articles repeatedly without contractual conflicts
- Self-syndicate your articles
- Build your cred as an influencer

Peter Schroeder has written several hundred magazine and newspaper articles on subjects ranging from ocean sailing to downhill skiing to adventure travel. His work has earned him an income of a mid-level executive and, with comped services included, is comparable to that of a corporate CEO. *Freelance Writing: How to Make Money* (2022) is published by Richter Publishing. The book is available on Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/1954094175>



## SPRING CONFERENCE ALTERNATIVES



As you read in our President’s Message there will be no NOWA Conference this year but if have the urge to mingle with fellow outdoors media professionals, travel to a new setting, get some story ideas and learn a few new things to improve your craft there are two options coming up in the month of May.

The first opportunity is the annual Outdoor Writers Association of California (OWAC) Conference. It will take place at Big Bear Lake from May 10<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup>. There are also pre- and post-conference activities scheduled for May 9<sup>th</sup> and the 13<sup>th</sup>. Registration opens soon. Find out more at <https://owac.org/events/>

The other spring conference is a big one, put on by the Outdoor Writers Association of America. This year’s event takes place at the Ramkota Hotel in Casper, Wyoming between March 21<sup>st</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup>. There are a number of quality pre- and post-conference trips being offered throughout the Cowboy State and there will likely be 150+ attendees. OWAA shares a number of reasons to attend:

*Network with other professionals, find opportunities to sell your work and hone your communications skills. Meet with America’s best in outdoor communication and attend seminars on writing, photography, broadcasting, book publishing, technology and more. From national spokespeople to local experts, get the facts and the quotes you need from newsmaker sessions, exhibitor booths or hospitality suites. Breakout day gives you the opportunity for hands-on learning during this half-day offsite event. Outdoor opportunities abound in the area. Take advantage of pre- and post-conference trips to experience world-classing fishing or mountain biking, hiking, paddling and more. Use these trips to generate story material or build your stock photo files. Or just explore the downtown, craft breweries and local restaurants, nature centers and walking and biking trails to experience the local flavor of Casper.*

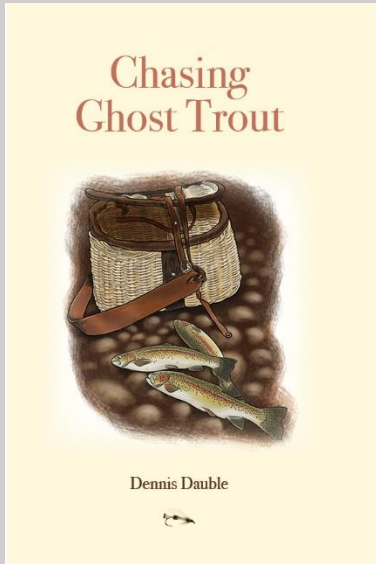
Find out more and register for this conference at <https://owaa.org/2022-conference/>



# OUTDOOR WRITERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA®

MEMBER UPDATES

**DENNIS DAUBLE’S LATEST BOOK IS A GOOD ONE**



In his most personal book to date, Dennis Dauble shares the events and people that shaped his love for wild trout and the streams of Oregon's Blue Mountains. *Chasing Ghost Trout* is rollicking ride through five decades of heartfelt memories that show how the spirit of family and a love of nature can carry us through life. Dauble tells stories about encounters with wood ticks, a first steelhead, cleavage from heaven, sibling rivalry, old trucks, giant bull trout, organized religion, and a legendary rock formation. Even through the pain and uncertainty of his battle with prostate cancer and the loss of dear family members, comfort is found in the constant companionship of his Grandpa Harry’s battered willow creel—aka fish box—and its elusive collection of “ghost trout.”

The book retails for \$14 and is available at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), [Keokeebooks.com](https://www.Keokeebooks.com), and [DennisDaubleBooks.com](https://www.DennisDaubleBooks.com). For signed copies email Dennis at [DennisDauble@icloud.com](mailto:DennisDauble@icloud.com). Free shipping and no tax to NOWA members.

**RANDALL BONNER’S FIRST BOOK IS OUT!**

Randall Bonner’s first book is out and he says it’s a project five years in the making! Randall is a hard core salmonoid angler targeting steelhead, trout and salmon and bead fishing is one of his favorite angling techniques.

Randall shares his expertise about bead fishing with readers, many of whom know nothing about this method, so they can easily understand the various nuances and be successful on the water.

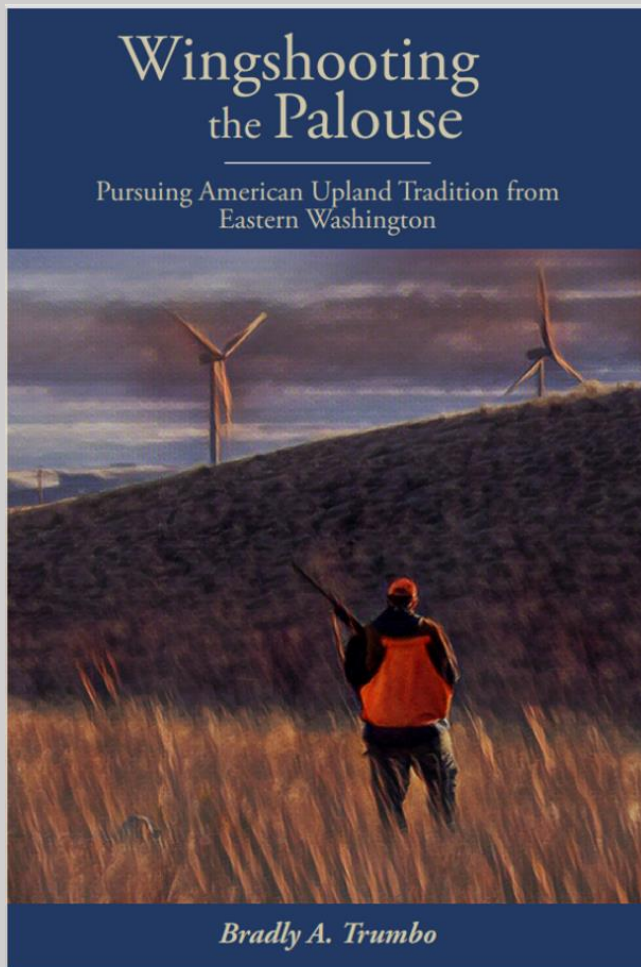
The Bead Fishing Bible is available for pre-order at <https://amatobooks.com/collections/pre-publication-books/products/beat-fishing-bible>



*MEMBER UPDATES*

***BRADLEY TRUMBO’S FIRST BOOK FOCUSES ON UPLAND BIRDS AND BIRD DOGS***

By John Kruse



The If you love upland bird hunting, are tranfixed by the rolling hills of Washington’s Palouse country, and think hunting behind a bird dog is one of the greatest treats in the world you are going to really enjoy Bradly Trumbo’s book, “Wingshooting the Palouse”. I’m a couple of chapters into this book of essays about his bird hunts, bird dogs and more and am really enjoying it. I suspect you will too!

Richy Harrod, the man behind Harrod Outdoors and The Northwest Outdoorsman television show said this:

“Trumbo masterfully paints brilliant scens of habitats, grand Eastern Washington terrain, loyal hunting dogs, shotguns and his passionate pursuit of upland birds. The colors, sounds and smells of upland habitat and birs on the wing come alive within the pages of this book.”

*Wingshooting the Palouse* is available through Amazon and at select bookstores around the Northwest.

*PHOTO ESSAY – NORTHWEST NATURE*



Mike and MerryLynn Denny enjoy photographing the flora and fauna of the Northwest to include:

A Peregrine Falcon

Wasp Mimcs (no, they don't bite!)

Some great waterfowl habitat at McNary National Wildlife Refuge



*FINAL SHOT*



Arnold Theisen sent in this spring landscape photo featuring the Snake River's Brownlee Reservoir along the border of Oregon and Idaho. I think it's fair to say most of us are looking forward to scenery like this in the weeks ahead.