

NOWA FIELD NOTES

AUGUST 2023



***MORE NOWA CONFERENCE NEWS – BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENTS - A
CHANCE TO EXHIBIT AT THE TRI-CITIES SPORTSMEN’S SHOW - CRAFT
IMPROVEMENT – BETTER GRAMMAR (PART THREE) –THE ROCKY
MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION IS HIRING– MEMBER NEWS***

NOWA FIELD NOTES – AUGUST 2023

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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 15th day of the month prior to the next edition being published. Send them to:

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THIS MONTH'S COVER PHOTO – John Kruse – Sunrise at the boat launch, Potholes State Park

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

The NOWA Facebook Page can be found at www.facebook.com/NorthwestOutdoorWritersAssociation/



OFFICERS

PRESIDENT – Bill Luscombe

VICE PRESIDENT –

SECRETARY/TREASURER – Risa Wyatt/Dave Kilhefner

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD – Dave Kilhefner

DIRECTORS

EXPIRING 2024 – Risa Wyatt, Peter Schroeder

EXPIRING 2025 – Joe Warren, Natalie Bartley

EXPIRING 2026 – Rob Phillips, John Kruse

SUPPORTING MEMBER LIASON – Michelle Peters

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE – GETTING TOGETHER AGAIN



Hi everyone. I find myself wrapped up in home renovations right now. It hasn't rained here in six weeks or more. I tore the roof off my shop to add on and of course it immediately rained. Not just a rain, a 24-hour torrential downpour. So now the interior walls have to be torn off to remove the soaked insulation. Ugh. Anyway, I thought about our organization and how things have been raining since COVID. Perhaps our efforts now to restart things like the upcoming get together in Tri-cities in January, and a re-establishment of a full board of directors will be the start of renewal. Perhaps we can breathe some new life into our association. We'll see.

I am hopeful that you will somehow find your way to the meeting in January. Besides just being fun and reconnecting, it will be an opportunity to have some good discussions about how we might move forward, find a way to attract new members and how to increase benefits of membership to all members. Please put on your thinking caps; I don't believe we are dinosaurs yet.

On another note, in this newsletter you will find details on an appointment of new directors. I say appointment and not election because only the present board members voted. Our bylaws allow for such action. It was necessary. Details are here in the newsletter.

I hope your summer is going well and that it hasn't rained on your projects. 😊

Bill Luscombe

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FROM THE EDITOR – NOWA MEMBERS GO NORTH TO ALASKA!

I was lucky enough to go back to Sportsmen’s Cove Lodge in Southeast Alaska to put together a radio show and had the pleasure of fishing with long-time NOWA member and outdoors writer Terry Sheely for three days!

I met Terry nearly 20 years ago when I was a new writer just breaking into the industry. Terry has been kind enough to mentor me over the years and he, along with Dave Vedder, were the men who convinced me to join NOWA around seventeen years ago during Ed Iman’s annual Fish Camp in the Columbia River Gorge.

Like me, Terry was there “on assignment”. And what a wonderful “work” trip this was! Terry has a great sense of humor and he is not only a very good writer, but a very proficient angler, catching a lot more fish than I did.

Truth be told though, nobody was keeping score because the fishing for halibut, true cod and salmon was fantastic during our time at the lodge. Also fabulous was the incredible hospitality and customer service shown by the staff and the delicious food that was served in abundance. My favorite meal was the awesome crab and shrimp boil that was waiting for us after we got off the boat from a day of fishing!

With any luck, Terry and I will be sharing some time on the water again soon. I know I sure enjoyed the experience. If you want to find out more about Sportsman’s Cove Lodge on Prince of Wales Island, check out their website at www.alaskasbestlodge.com. You can also hear the radio show we put together (in podcast format) at <https://www.podbean.com/ew/pb-z3czq-1472889>



John Kruse

NOWA BOARD APPOINTS NEW DIRECTORS

“NOWA has a new, complete Board of Directors”, announced NOWA President Bill Luscombe. This brings NOWA into compliance with its own by-laws as well as IRS statutes for non-profit organizations.”

The Board of Directors are:

PRESIDENT – Bill Luscombe

VICE PRESIDENT – Vacant

SECRETARY/TREASURER – Risa Wyatt/Dave Kilhefner

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD – Dave Kilhefner

Directors

Terms expiring 2023 - Joe Warren/Risa Wyatt/Natalie Bartley

Terms expiring 2024 - Risa Wyatt/Peter Schroeder

Terms expiring 2025 - Joe Warren/Natalie Bartley

Terms expiring 2026 - Rob Phillips/John Kruse

Supporting Member Liaison – Michelle Peters

The Officers/Directors to fill vacant positions were named in a unanimous decision at a digital board meeting that Luscombe convened on July 20, 2023. Article 11, Section 1 of the NOWA by-laws give the existing board the authority to fill incomplete terms of officers and board members with temporary replacements until persons can be elected to fill the positions.

NOWA Annual Conferences—and consequently, the elections normally held during Business Meetings—were on hiatus during the COVID-19 pandemic.

(Submitted by Peter Schroeder)

NOWA PLANS 2024 CONFERENCE

NOWA is planning to hold its annual conference in Pasco, Washington, in conjunction with the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show. Dates are January 26-28, 2024.

“After a four-year hiatus, NOWA members will come together for an annual get-together with the added attraction of the largest sportsmen show in central Washington,” says Bill Luscombe, NOWA President. “It’ll be wonderful to see each other again after so many years.” No NOWA conferences were held in 2020, 2021, or 2022 because of the pandemic. and the untimely death of NOWA president Dennis Clay, who had planned for a conference at The Dalles that never took place.

The 2024 gathering reverts to an earlier conference model that began when the organization was founded in 1973. For the first 24 years, NOWA’s conferences took place in conjunction with the annual Sportsmen’s Show at the Seattle Kingdome held in January or February each year. For several hours on the Saturday afternoon, NOWA members met in a conference room at the show for the annual business meeting, as required by the by-laws, and a short program that concluded with a social hour. Afterwards attendees were anxious to return to the Show to visit the exhibitor booths in search for ideas for their writing, photography, and broadcast markets. In 1998, the NOWA Board started moving the show to different locations in the four Northwest states and British Columbia where it had continued until the pandemic turned the world upside-down.

Plans for the 2024 gathering will follow the same model as in these early years. The Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show, held at the HAPO Center, includes dozens of exhibitors covering outdoor recreation opportunities ranging from archery to Zodiac inflatables, fishing and hunting. It also offers outdoor seminars, hands-on demonstrations, and speaker presentations. Boats, campers, and vehicles will be on display, and at the Sportsmen's Marketplace visitors can purchase, trade, or barter with their own outdoor equipment.

NOWA 2024 Conference activities are free for members. The program features a business meeting on Saturday afternoon (January 27), in a conference room either within the exhibition hall or nearby motel followed by discussions about the future direction of the organization. Afterwards a social hour will include appetizers and BYO bottles of wine as well as the traditional T-shirt exchange. Members then move to a private dining area for dinner and wine, all hosted by NOWA. (Other alcohol drinks are at people's own expense.)

“In addition to re-connecting with old friends and colleagues, the tie-in with the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show offers many benefits for our members,” says Luscombe. Highlights include:

- The Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show covers varied activities for outdoor enthusiasts throughout the Pacific Northwest and British Columbia.
- Tri-Cities is geographically central for our membership. In winter, major highways are cleared quickly after snowstorms.
- Press Passes will be accepted for free admission to the Show.
- The Show provides a great opportunity to network with vendors and tour operators to research story angles and arrange bookings to cover upcoming assignments later in the summer.
- The event is not hosted by a tourist board, so there's no obligation to write about the destination and its activities.



The only personal expenses are for travel, one or two-nights' accommodations, and meals except for the Saturday night dinner hosted by NOWA. In addition, NOWA has been offered by the Show organizers part of their block of discounted rooms at a nearby motel, A fund has been set up for anyone who wishes to apply for financial travel assistance.

Supporting members would likely want to participate with display booths not only for the benefit of NOWA members, but also for the wider audience the show will attract.

NOWA has been offered by the Show organizers a double booth free where members can sell books, promote their expertise, and mingle with colleagues. With brochures on hand to promote NOWA, this would provide an excellent opportunity to recruit new members.

“More details will follow as we get closer to the meeting date, so stay tuned to the NOWA newsletter.” Says Bill. “Looking for a festive gathering of all NOWA members in seven months.”

For questions or suggestions, please contact:

Bill Luscombe [NOWA President]: luscombe.outdoors@outlook.com / 250-815-0974

Peter Schroeder [Conference Organizer]: ptrschdr@aol.com / 206-295-6362

(Submitted by Peter Schroeder)

BETTER GRAMMAR – PART THREE

This is the third of five articles that will share with you some of the secrets that many professional writers and editors use to avoid falling into embarrassing grammatical traps. Author Bob Mottram spent more than 40 years as a writer and editor in daily print journalism, including eight years working at warp speed for The Associated Press. What follows are some of the secrets that he and his colleagues used to stay out of trouble.

by Bob Mottram

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There are few things a communicator can do to sort himself out faster in the mind of a knowledgeable reader or listener than to screw up this decision. Make the wrong choice here, and such an observer immediately knows whether you're a competent professional practicing your craft or an amateur masquerading as a pro.

It involves choosing between two specific similar-sounding words – words so common that they pop up all the time – and it amounts to a litmus test for determining the competence of the person making the choice. It doesn't matter whether the words are written or spoken.

They are possibly the two most mixed-up words in the English language: lie and lay. Do they mean the same thing? Not even close. But, open virtually any newspaper or magazine or website, or listen to virtually any talking head, and you will find one of them being used where the other should be, and you will find it over and over and over again. In fact, these two words are misused so often in writing and in speech that, when we see them used incorrectly, they often “sound” right.

Here's a real-life newspaper example.

“(The subject) was reportedly found laying on his back at the scene.”

We are going to find our way around this grammatical train wreck by developing a personal mental scenario that we run through our brain whenever the opportunity to choose comes before us. It will enable us to choose the correct option 100 percent of the time.

First, though, let's learn a little bit about the two words involved so that we understand why it's important to do this right.

What does Webster's New World Dictionary say about lay and lie? The first thing it tells you, even before it tells you what they mean, is that they are verbs. The second thing it tells you is whether they are transitive or intransitive.

Here's how that looks.

Lay vt (which tells you that lay is a verb and that it's transitive. Being transitive means, it ALWAYS requires a direct object.)

Lie vi (which tells you that lie is a verb and that it's intransitive. Being intransitive means, it NEVER interacts with a direct object.)

This information is so important that the dictionary puts it right up front. And we are going to take heed, and use that up-front information to solve the lie/lay conundrum. Here's how to do it.

Let's first consider the verb "lay." The fact that it is transitive means that when you "lay, something GETS laid. Always. Without exception. "Lay" actually means "to put something down." So, remember this: When you "lay" (a transitive verb), something in that sentence (the object of the verb) must get laid.

You've just learned the professional writer's trick for avoiding error when choosing between "lie" and "lay." You need to remember that when you use "lay," something will need to get laid. So, what you do is envision a scenario involving something getting laid, and view the scenario in your brain whenever you contemplate using that word. I won't suggest what the scenario should be, because I'm sure you'll think of something. It's the magic key to making the word selection correctly.

The other side of that coin is that with "lie," nothing ever gets laid.

Let's work with this a little bit. In the case of a person or animal, to lie means to recline. In the case of an object, it means to be at rest. "The keys lie (are at rest) on the counter." So, "lie" talks not about an action, like "lay" does, but about a state of being. When someone or something lies, they are in a state of reclining or of being at rest. NOTHING gets done to anyone or anything and, specifically, NOTHING gets laid. That's how you tell them apart.

Some verbs can be either transitive or intransitive, by the way, depending on how they are used. For example, you might tell your kids, "Hey, the sun is shining. Why don't you go outside and play?" ("Play" is an intransitive verb in this sentence, because nothing in the sentence gets played.)

Or, you might say, “Hey, the sun is shining. Why don’t you go outside and play baseball?” (Transitive, because baseball gets played.)

Lay/lie is easy, however, because lay ALWAYS is transitive. When you lay, something ALWAYS gets laid. Lie ALWAYS is intransitive, because NOTHING EVER gets laid.

Some examples:

I think I’ll go lie down. (“Lie,” because the verb has no object. Nothing gets laid.)

I think I’ll lay my body down. (“Lay,” because “body” is the object of the verb. My body gets laid.)

My keys always lie on the counter overnight. (Keys are the subject of the sentence, lie is the verb. But in this sentence, the keys DO NOT GET laid.)

I will lay my keys on the counter. (“I” is the subject of the sentence, lay is what the subject does, and the key ARE WHAT GET LAID.)

For an issue that causes so many errors, this really is fairly simple, and I hope you’re still with me. If you are, that’s good, because now it’s about to get just a little more complicated. And that’s because the guy who invented English decided that the past tense of “lie” would be “lay.” Yikes! Such potential for confusion!

Here’s how the tenses of lay and lie look if you chart them:

Infinitive	To lay	To lie
Present tense	Lay	Lie
Past	Laid	Lay
Past participle	Have laid, had laid	Have lain, had lain
Present participle	Laying	Lying

What a mess! So, you must remember that, in some circumstances, “lay” will not represent the present tense of the transitive verb “lay,” but rather the past tense of the intransitive verb “lie.” In other words, occasionally “lay” may not be what it appears to be. It is not the same word as the other “lay.” It is not only an altogether different word with a different meaning, but also is appearing in a different tense.

Here's a real-life example from an outdoor magazine of how easy it is to go wrong in trying to negotiate this minefield.

“We followed the blood trail up the other side of the V-shaped creek bottom and looked up. There he laid in all his glory: Hunter's first bull.”

The deceased bull, unfortunately for him, is lying there, not laying there, because – as we speak – nothing has gotten laid. The author wants to utilize the past tense of the right verb, I'm sure, but has chosen the past tense of the wrong verb. She should have chosen “lay,” the past tense of “lie,” as in, “There he lay in all his glory . . . “

So, would you say that the keys “laid” on the counter all night? No, because “laid” is the past tense of “lay,” and nothing was getting laid in this sentence. You would say that the keys lay on the counter all last night, because you are speaking in the past tense, and “lay” is the past tense of “lie.”

The simple – and completely dependable – way to overcome this complicated selection process is to begin it in the present tense to make your choice of the word. Once you've done that you then select the proper tense for the verb you have chosen, and follow wherever it takes you.

Your takeaways:

To choose correctly between lie and lay, think in the present tense about whether anything is getting laid. If something is, then your choice always should be “lay.”

Only after having made your choice of the verb should you put it into the tense that is required.

TO LAY OR TO LIE?

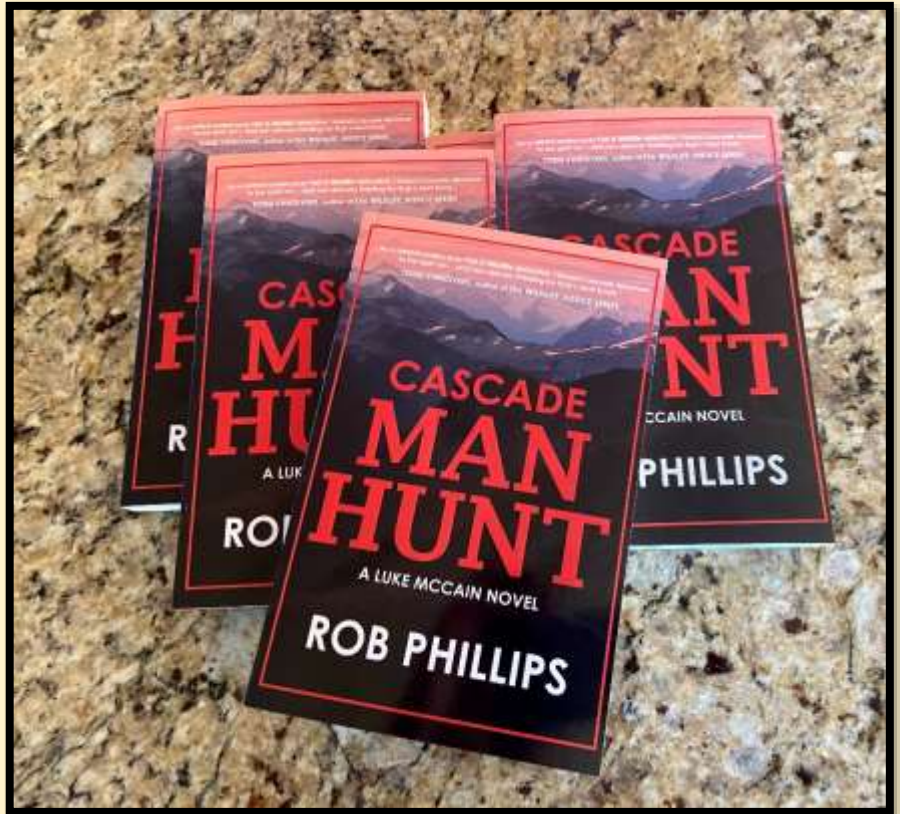
THAT IS THE QUESTION!

PHILLIPS RELEASES FIFTH MYSTERY NOVEL

Yakima Valley newspaper columnist, author and NOWA member, Rob Phillips recently released the fifth book in his Luke McCain mystery series. His latest novel, *Cascade Manhunt* follows Washington State game warden Luke McCain as he infiltrates a gang of poachers and then is asked to hunt down a mass murderer who escapes into the wilderness of the North Cascades.

Phillips' first four Luke McCain novels, *The Cascade Killer*, *Cascade Vengeance*, *Cascade Predator*, and *Cascade Kidnapping* have been best sellers on Amazon, at local book stores, and continue to get excellent ratings and reviews.

Cascade Manhunt, released on July 6th, is available at Barnes & Noble and many independent book stores. It is also available through Amazon in paperback, as an e-reader for Kindle, and on Audible.



***KRUMM HITS THE SMALL SCREEN AND DENNY
CELEBRATES A MILESTONE***



George Krumm, the Editor of *Fish Alaska Magazine*, was fishing around Portland, Oregon recently with Justin Wolff who was producing an episode of *Angler West TV*. You can view the episode online at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qZuYp6lwFe0>

Meanwhile, writer Mike Denny reports, “The *Walla Walla Union-Bulletin* just published the 136th *Wild Files* column I have written for this hometown newspaper. I write one column a month. It is an enjoyable experience to write about the great outdoors of Southeast Washington/Northeast Oregon. I enjoy sharing what I have learned over the years while wandering around the Pacific Northwest.”

Congratulations are in order to Rob, George and Mike for their recent accomplishments! JK

***FREE EXHIBIT SPACE FOR NOWA MEMBERS AVAILABLE AT
THE 2024 CONFERENCE***

Save the Dates — January 26-28, 2024

ATTN ALL NOWA MEMBERS!

Want to sell your books?

Display your photos?

Promote your media expertise?

Make contacts that lead to new assignments?

Organizers of the three-day Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show have offered NOWA a free double-size booth to promote our members at its upcoming annual show in January 2024.

The Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show is one of the largest outdoor exhibitions in the Northwest. It's a terrific opportunity to showcase NOWA to the thousands of show attendees as well as scores of exhibitors from the Northwest, the nation and the world. With brochures citing benefits of membership in NOWA, the exhibit can help attract new members.

In conjunction with this show, NOWA will hold its first conference after a hiatus of three years.

Long-time NOWA member, **Rob Phillips has offered his experience in designing the booth, which will accommodate books, photos, and other items that members wish to exhibit. (See photo of Rob's Expo display booth.) Please advise Rob by September 1st the following:

--Book Authors - Number of titles and the titles of the books.

--Photographers – Number of images you wish to display along with sizes and mounting stands, if any.

--Other NOWA Media (podcasters, bloggers, videographers, etc.) - Display items you wish to promote.

--All NOWA members – Your intent to attend: **Yes, No, or Maybe.**



Please provide this information by **September 1st** to Rob at 509-952-4054 or rob1@spdandg.com

Additional information and further details of the conference are provided in the Conference Announcement elsewhere in this newsletter.

Submitted by Peter Schroeder, NOWA Conference Coordinator

*Want to find out more about the
Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show? Go to
www.shuylerproductions.com*

RMEF SEEKS REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Submitted by Mark Holyoak, RMEF

Want a rewarding career focused on ensuring the future of elk, other wildlife, their habitat and our hunting heritage? The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation has openings for three regional director positions to live and work remotely in these three locations: northern Wisconsin, western Colorado and Kentucky or Tennessee.

To apply for these positions, send email a letter of interest and resume to jobs@rmef.org. RMEF is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. For detailed employment information, including essential job functions and a listing of knowledge, skills and abilities, go to rmef.org/careers/.

About the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation:

Founded more than 39 years ago and fueled by hunters, RMEF maintains more than 225,000 members and has conserved more than 8.6 million acres for elk and other wildlife. RMEF also works to open and improve public access, fund and advocate for science-based resource management, and ensure the future of America’s hunting heritage. Discover why “Hunting Is Conservation™” at rmef.org or 800-CALL ELK.



***MACK'S LURE RELEASES A NEW LURE
THE SMILE BLADE SD DRIFT JIG***



The Smile Blade SD Drift Jig is ideal for walleye fishermen or ice anglers. Its Deep-V hook ensures effective hookups and the long, slender 3/8 oz. jig head, combined with a highly visible glow eye and paints, provides a deadly look in the water. The jig is also equipped with the Smile Blade SD Hitch, a 1" wire fitted with a Smile Blade 1.1, which allows the jig to slowly fall, but never foul. Check out the link below to watch a video about this new lure that promises to be a favorite for walleye anglers!

<https://youtu.be/DfSXpw4-www>

FINAL SHOT



NOWA member Dennis Dauble pauses beside a small stream in the Blue Mountains of northeastern Oregon to capture thoughts in his ever-present journal. Although it's difficult to "capture the moment" in words or photographs, journals help writers revisit their outdoor experiences.