WASHINGTON ARMS COLLECTORS



Special points of interest:

- Show Hours: 7:30 am for table holders
- Member doors open at 9:00 am
- Visitors door opens at 10:00 am

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Volume | Issue #4

October November & December 2023

The What & Why of WAC's Business Decisions:

Our Board of Directors have been discussing a number of options to help increase the number of tables for each show as well as how to entice more vendors into participating. We have reached out to other organizations in an attempt to attend the shows and hopefully set up tables in the future. So far we have gotten a few to participate namely Rocky Mountain Elks Foundation and thanks to Director Romnes reaching out and talking with people.

We are still looking for people who would like to set up seminars, as well as encourage people from the Black Powder groups, outfitters, fishing as well as archery participants to join WAC with a more sports minded show since the Legislators insist on making gun owners jump through more hoops.

A problem that we have wrestled with for years is vendors leaving the show early. We understand that occasionally someone has a valid reason to do so, but it's become an increasing problem. What is not understood is no one is guaranteed a fabulous show to sell all of their current stock.

People arrive at our gate and expect to see a show. When they walk in and see empty space and no tables, they walk away disappointed and frequently will not return. We know that we will not fill every venue, but we can look forward to the day when we have to put people on a waiting list for tables.

Recently people have complained that they aren't located at their usual spot. We have fairly new staff members, as well as fewer staff to work the shows. Years ago when I did the mapping it literally took me three days to complete them, and then there always was the last minute vendors who wanted "their" spot.

The Board of Directors is going to work on a new policy letting the vendors know what to expect, and how to get the location they would prefer. Many years ago we had Arlene (Office Manager) who would walk around the show and ask vendors if they wanted to reserve their tables for the upcoming show and take payment right then.

However we no longer have the staff available to do that, but we are working on a solution to assist the vendors who would in fact pay for their shows but can't leave their table. Perhaps together we can work out a solution on how to pay for tables, and hopefully have a minute to ask staff for their preferred location.

This is in no way a promise to give you the space you asked for, but the staff will work on something to get you close. We only have so many square feet to work with, and the tables count fluctuates making it an adventure getting the map done, and looking over the preferences. So we hope you had a wonderful holiday season, and let's have a prosperous and happy 2024.

Karen Jennings President Washington Arms Collectors

Washington Arms Collectors Board Meeting Minutes October 24, 2023

Attending:

Karen Jennings, President

Richard Ripley, Director, Acting Secretary

Holly Henson, Treasurer

Marcy Hinckley, Bookkeeper

Beverly Hanson, Office & Property Manager

Kacie Haynes, Show Manager

Ray Dotson, Director

John Hubbard, Director

Forbes Freeburg, Director

Jim Weaver, Director

James Romnes, Director

Absent:

Tim Wegner, Director joined at 6:55 PM

Damien Wongwai, Director

Tani Iwashita, Director

Boyd Kneeland, Past President

Guest:

Business conducted pre-meeting by e-mail: None

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

Approval of Prior Board Meeting Minutes:

Director Romnes approved, Director Dotson second, Unanimous approval

Officer & Staff Reports:

President

Vice President

No Report

Treasurer

YTD July/August, 2023 no July show this year, but did in 2022, Net loss for 2 months \$25K this year vs \$45K last year, due to A/C repairs in 2022

Finalized leases, approved some Tenant Improvements

Need a schedule of deferred maintenance

Downstairs tenant had A/C issues that turned out to be batteries in the remote control.

Office Manager

335 tables sold at Puyallup for this week

90 tables for Enumclaw 28-29 October

98 tables for Puyallup 9-10 December

Show Manager

ND on Friday during setup, minor damage to a table & floor. Disciplinary action taken, Raymond Heltsley 1 year suspension, and interview by Board at end of suspension as part of reinstatement. Also require proof of completion of an NRA Safety course in the interim. Director Ripley moves, Director Weaver seconds, unanimous approval

Only 3 security staff for the show. This made the show difficult, mainly for vehicles on show grounds which were

allowed in by Fair Security.

Trying to recruit additional security people.

Fairgrounds had our hours wrong on their reader board.

Net sales were about \$25K, Gate was about \$10K, vs usual \$16K

Old Business

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Ruffed Grouse Society wants tables.

Web site vulnerabilities noted last month have been corrected with updated software.

Forbes has additional items for the web site.

New Business

New Office Manager – Beverly Hanson

Renton Chamber of Commerce has a women's group whose members are very firearms involved...35K email list, \$320 for us to join.

Elections coming up; one special issue of Gun News. 5 Directors to be elected, plus officers and election chair. Directors Ripley, Romnes, and Wegner terms expire in 2024, Directors Wongwai and Freeburg finish out the open spaces.

Display show this weekend at Enumclaw. Need judges

Director Freeburg moves to adjourn, Director Romnes seconds, adjourned at 7:43 PM

Entered Executive session at 7:45 PM.

Rose from Executive session at 8:33 PM

Hourly rate for security raise from \$17/hr to \$19/hr, Director Weaver moves, Director Freeburg seconds, unanimous approval.

Still need to be discussed:

Table rents – vendor loyalty program

Range day for homeschoolers

Washington Arms Collectors Board Meeting Minutes November 28, 2023

Attending:

Karen Jennings, President

Marcy Hinckley, Bookkeeper

Beverly Hanson, Office/Property Manager

Kacie Haynes, Show Manager

Ray Dotson, Director

John Hubbard, Director

Tani Iwashita, Director, meeting scribe 11/28/2023

Forbes Freeburg, Director

James Romnes, Director

Absent:

Richard Ripley, Director, Acting Secretary, excused

Jim Weaver, Director

Tim Wegner, Director

Holly Henson, Treasurer

Boyd Kneeland, Past President

Damien Wongwai, Director, excused

Guests: None

Business conducted pre-meeting by e-mail: None

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by President Jennings

Approval of Prior Board Meeting Minutes: 6 votes in favor for approval of amended October minutes, motion passes

Officer & Staff Reports:

President

None

Vice President

No Report

Treasurer

Teleconference was not available, so Treasurer Henson was unable to attend meeting.

President Jennings went over the financial report and reviewed the highlights.

Bookkeeper Hinckley tried to fill in the blanks but said they would go over at the next meeting as it was a July to Sept report for year to date.

Office Manager Hanson

Enumclaw show report. Visitor choice box for best booth at box.

Member Jason offered to be a judge for future show.

Darlene Larsen, Chamber of Commerce in Bellevue had a booth at the show and enjoyed the show. Chamber is a 3500+ member group willing to advertise the WAC show and discussion was made by President Jennings about becoming a member. It is believed to be \$350/year membership fee.

Tenant Mark from upstairs said a homeless person came on the office property and had a confrontation. He stated he would be willing to pay for a portion of some cost to put up a fence in the front of the building. The individual defecated and smeared it over the front of the building. Idea was brought up to discuss with fire marshal to see what we would be allowed to do and build in the front of the building. Concerns are about egress out of building to exit in an emergency.

Puyallup fairgrounds for December show will be the last with food prepared at the show. They will instead be bringing in the Red White and Brew coffee cart which is a veteran owned company who donates to causes.

Toys for Tots will be at the show to collect toys at the show. Donation would be the table and advertising for the booth from the WAC.

Discipline matter to be reviewed in old business. Discussion about security vests and that people have been showing back up. Table counts for next show are at about 190 tables so far.

Overland RV's to display at the show. Outdoor displays around the fountain area at the Puyallup show.

Show Manager

No shows to report. Discussion of security personnel and hiring of new staff to assist.

President Jennings stated teams of security were the norm in the past and that each lead would show the new staff and what club rules are and what to secure and what to look for on tables. Learn open to close procedures and do a team briefing at 7:00 AM each day.

WAC composed training for security and staff and to build some SOP's for the staff to review and to document.

Puyallup showed a \$5 loss for the show.

Why is Enumclaw show losing money? For this show, it was due to the free table Member benefit being used at that show - 21% of tables at Enumclaw shows, and 29 free tables out of 190 for Puyallup show.

Old Business

Discussion of Security of pay rates motion to follow recommendations to be adopted. Effective Dec 1, 2023. \$18/hour for general security.

Financials on website: report submitted by Treasurer Henson. Director Freeburg stated that the report looks reasonable and nothing alarming.

Contractor Warren is working on posting and editing items on website and apply it to other parts of website once a page is set up and move onto another page on the website.

Previous Discipline discussion: a letter was presented to President Jennings and what was said to her versus what was presented at the previous meeting. It was sent out that he was sent a one year suspension. Director Freeburg was emailed by the member about how he wasn't informed of when the last board meeting was and being able to plead his case to the board. President Jennings said that she would send a note to the member via certified mail concerning his suspension. His recollection of the events and times were significantly different then the facts at the event and what he did and said. He states he left the show at 1315 hours and he states he left after 1500 hours. The previous board decision would be upheld. Office Manager Hanson would send out the letter once written by President Jennings.

Schedule of deferred maintenance items.

Still need to be discussed:

Table rents – vendor loyalty program

Reach out to homeschool communities – maybe set up a Range day?

New Business

Display show report:

Member inquired about a dead or alive section ads for the website, to sell firearms Show Manager Haynes was going to speak to Media Specialist Kirk about wa.guns website for information for members to look at firearm sales.

Post what would be allowed to leave the gun shows and what would require for a hold. Show Manager Haynes and Director Wongwai will give an idea of what is okay and not okay.

President Jennings brought the special edition GunNews for the election and what the opening and closing of elections will be for next election and a PDF will be created and sent to members for information and elections.

A test message will be created from Office Manager Hanson to test the PDF files and to send to members once the list and PDF is updated and completed. Ways to vote could include lock box at the show, mail to WAC or email to membership. Any nominations for the Board from members?

President Jennings asked if they could have WAC sponsor an outdoor event with personnel and possibly a monetary donation. Director Iwashita brought up the NRA youth day and the NHFD (national hunting and fishing day). Director Iwashita would speak to the powers that be who put on those events and get dates for next meeting and if they would be open for sponsorship and possibly have a table at WAC show or a sign to advertise for our members kids to attend.

Director Hubbard moves to adjourn, Director Dotson seconds, adjourned at 8:05 PM

Inspector Abberline's Musings:

A View from the Floor; The October 2023 Enumclaw Display Show By James B. Romnes

It was Friday in Enumclaw with autumn doing her best spring impersonation. I arrived at the sunny Washington State Fairgrounds with Fifty clumsy pounds of my firearm collection to assemble for the annual WAC display show. Around me were others busily setting up display or sale tables. I joked with another WAC member that I hoped our firearms appreciated all we did for them. And though what we did for them on October 28th and 29th wasn't ancient Cheops' pyramid, it was a small but shining monument installed in the memory of all those who attended. Foremost was the wonder of the displays themselves. Briefly investigated in alphabetical order we have first the well textured display on the Anglo-Egyptian and Anglo-Zulu Wars. The weaponry, Martini Henry and rolling block rifles as well as a rare 1867A Adams revolver, were accompanied by all those enriching bits such as authentic British military medals, a period raised relief map, and prints. The last were in some cases exquisitely framed.

The exhibit which deservedly took best of show was titled, 'From Lance to Anti-Tank Rifle Imperial German Arms of World War I' and depicted the Kaiser's weaponry. It included the swords, the handguns and the rifles of every flavour and calibre. If ever a movie company needs a World War I armourer I know where they should look. The display even came with movie type extras appropriately uniformed.

But 'Brits and Fritz' weren't the only arms to be seen. America's oldest continuous factory which until bankruptcy and reorganization had been operating for over 200 years was represented by the Remington bolt action rifle display. Here was a fascinating story of the side effects of Nylon 66 addiction. Though Americans loved the synthetically stocked .22 semiautomatic they didn't want their hunting rifles similarly reimagined. In addition to Remington rifles there were also the knives of Remington.

Mr. Sherlock Holmes the armed citizen also haunted the show. My display was British solid frame revolvers that could have been used by Mr. Holmes and his colleague Dr. Watson. I also patrolled the show as a uniformed London Metropolitan Constable or Bobbie.

Switzerland may strive for neutrality but you couldn't be neutral about the magnificent assembly of rifles called by some the 'Swiss Passion'. Especially applause worthy was a .22 training rifle that was so fresh and new in appearance you wanted to hold your breath. But every arms collecting show is also an exhibition of the most fascinating members of the human race. If you had eyes to see and ears to hear there were glorious things.

There was the young boy who would breathlessly tell you his great grandpa had been in World War Two. "And," he would dramatically add, "he survived." The boy seemed slightly nonplussed his father and grandfather laughed at his Olivier delivery of that line.

There was the WAC member who purchased from one of our vendors a facsimile catalogue of British gunmaker I. Hollis. He was Christmas morning delighted to find an antique item in his collection listed in the catalogue for $\pounds 2$ and change. History not only came alive but was doing a somersault right in front of him!

Another WAC member had ties to screenwriters for that staple of 1960's television, The Twilight Zone'. He even met host Rod Serling and of him observed, "He was a tiny guy, only about 5 foot 3." How could someone so tiny sound so big and resonant on your flickering black and white screen?

Finally, there was a gracious British gentleman who collects jezail rifles and shared that Afghan tribesmen at one time crushed old film stock to make propellant for their crude Khyber Pass weapons. Some old black and white silent movies really were bombs!

If you missed the October Enumclaw Show you missed a show that was only surpassed that day by nature herself. Enumclaw was a bright crown under the magnificent sunshine and I would like to think WAC was one tiny jewel in its crown.

STRAIGHT FROM THE HOLSTER BY J.T. HILSENDEGER

Many years ago my oldest son was asked by his then mother-in-law to help dispose of her late husband's collection of firearms. Although there were daughters, their husbands knew only fishing, nothing about guns. We had just started as vendor/table holders at WAC so it was logical. We emptied all four safes (tin cabinets) hauling away about 80 long guns and the same amount of pistols. Her husband was a WAC member attending every show, buying every deal whether it was guns, knives, leather stuff or whatever. Yup, a compulsive impulse buyer, like many of us. We contacted one of his old show/hunting partners who advised what everything had been gotten for or what they were now worth. As a thanks we let him have his pick of the lot and he settled for a plain Jane bolt action hunting rifle in a common easily found caliber. Over the next few months we peddled everything and gave the widow a roll of bills about the size of a roll of toilet paper. Them being a WAC table holder/vendor bug had taken a hold of us. Ever notice how many vendors sell a bit of this and a bit of that never really specializing in one the or gun such as semi autos, revolvers, bolt guns or shotguns etc. Weighing the criminal element and abundance of hungry attorneys I decided to go with the non-guns, the black powder revolvers and muzzle loading rifles. They can all be ordered through the mail as the feds have classified them as not a firearm until they have a percussion cap or modern primer installed. However, I've heard that some local jurisdictions have gone a step farther, classifying them as a gun whether loaded or unloaded. My reasoning for the cap and ball revolvers was not having heard of a thug/robber using one for a night time withdrawal at some little "stop and rob" convenience store. Yup, gotta think about liability in these vendor sales. An old acquaintance stopped by a couple days ago with some old guns he wanted to peddle for a friend widow, of his. Per him, the widow's late husband was a frequent flyer to Pakistan or Afghanistan or some other country ending in "stan". Anyway, he brought back a couple of mid eighteen hundred muskets that had seen a lot of service. My guy stated he'd done a bit of research (red flag) finding they were each worth 1500-1700 dollars. They'd been taken to another local show where the best offer was 300 each but he passed, knowing he could do better. HA!! I advised he should recontact that other offer as I felt an offer of 250 each at Puyallup was "iffy".

I'm sure we've all heard the old "But on gun broker they are asking", but never what it sold for. Another one is the old "it's gotta be worth more than that, it was my grandpa's". Then there is the guy who is asking a price, you pay it and he returns later saying his friend learned (?) the item was worth more and "you screwed him". There have been times when I approached or was approached by somebody wanting to sell and didn't question the price. Once in Monroe a young family came in, the guy carrying a really nice Marlin lever gun. Stated he needed to sell it. Obviously they were going through tough times and even though he was asking close to top dollar, I didn't argue. Still got that Marlin. Same show, an older couple came in, directed to me by security. The fella was carrying a wooden presentation box with a couple of "Pirate Pistols" and accessories. As I looked them over, the missus (?) stated "he doesn't need them anymore." Obviously the set was an issue and it was tough for the old guy to sell them, but I didn't even dicker price, they were a good deal. Over the next few months I made a nice profit on those pistols. Which brings to mind an unwritten policy (and common sense) regarding buying guns from attendees at our shows. Don't buy at a bargain price and immediately slap on an inflated price and put it on your table. The seller is sure to get P-O'd that he "got screwed". Wait at least until the next show. Deer hunting this year for me was a bust, unable to get out as much as I wanted . I was able to get in one day of late buck here in SW Washington where I'd scored many times, years ago. It was clear cut logged about 5-6 years ago but replanted per Federal law, the trees so close together, so thick that you could probably throw a baseball at them and it would bounce back. I walked at least 5-6 miles on those roads coming to the occasional clearing, seeing deer out of range so they got the free pass. I won't take a shot over about 50 yards as I want a guarantee of dropping that guy right where he's standing not having to search for the suffering animal later. NAH! Last week I went out one day on the late elk for muzzle loaders with a restriction of three point minimum or antierless, down in the same area. This area was logged about 5-6 years ago and replanted, the trees 15-25 feet apart, affording very good visibility. Yeah, for the elk also. Saw a lot of animals but all 150+ yards away. Didn't really care as I'd gone in at least a couple miles and I didn't look forward to a long pack out.

Didn't care, the day was nice, the weather crisp and clear, views great. Also found a really comfortable stump to sit against and check the eyelids for leaks. Per the weather guy, the next few days are to be really nasty. Oh well, canned soup isn't that bad. Time to check out the fishing regs.

Inspector Abberline's Musings:

A View from the Floor; The 2023 December Puyallup Show The demands of livestock friendly, our dog, and unfriendly, our chickens ruled by a pirate king belligerent rooster, caused my late arrival to Saturday's WAC show. On my way to the Gold Gate two things cheered me: the rain wasn't torrential and the parking lot looked fairly busy.

Once inside the Pavilion there was a third reason for cheer, the WAC membership. They had provided an exciting variety of sales tables and at least two refreshing display tables.

I didn't find another Webley Bulldog revolver, though a forlorn relic condition bulldog begged to be taken home, but there were exciting bits and bobs. A friend found a British .360 bullet mould agreeably priced. There was also what looked like a Victorian/Edwardian shotshell reloader. I resisted this but just barely.

There was, however, an irresistible display table that sparkled like an opulent oasis. It was a collection of Merwin Hulbert revolvers some in their original cardboard sales boxes, talk about hen's teeth! The WAC member said this collection began with a spousal argument that spiralled into an el cheapo birth-day gift meant as an insult. The .99 cent used book about the 'Guns of the Old West' contained an entry for Merwin Hulbert revolvers and thus an obsession was born. From little acorns grow mighty oaks.

This origin story brings me to the really good stuff of WAC shows that's even better than boxed revolvers, the camaraderie and conversation. My progress through the show was at a pace of 15 feet per 15 minute conversation. Here are some of the collectible bits of conversation from Saturday.

A crisply dress uniformed Marine manned the very worthy 'Toys for Tots' table. He said, "It pays to be small, small is hard to hit." All of us with a 29 inch inseam should count our blessings!

There was also a collector who told me he possessed the great, great grand-father of my Webleys, a 1725 wheel lock pistol. It required a key to wind it's clockwork like firing mechanism. He had no such key but said in a moment of inspiration had tried a skateboard key. Voila! The wheel lock was cocked if not loaded.

I learned inflation appears to afflict not just the grocery list but also information about Colt revolvers. One seller had a Colt Single Action Army revolver dated to 1897. He said it might have belonged to a trick shooter as it had aftermarket modifications to accommodate large but nimble fingers. I wouldn't know a trick shooter's Colt from an airsoft Colt but he said he had a factory letter indicating the revolver had been originally shipped to Minnesota. Apparently the cost of such Colt factory letters has jumped to \$150.

And Trudeau World has contributed to massive Webley inflation north of the $49^{\rm th}$ parallel. A WAC vendor told me his tatty, shaved cylinder Webley Mark I sold to a Canadian for an astronomical sum. I told him it would resell in Canada for almost twice that amount because of demand. A petty tyrant's gun control efforts can make even the tatty attractive.

Finally, there is no hyperbolic inflation of my language when I say the fast thinking and acting of WAC members and our security saved a life early Saturday morning. One of our vendors suffered an acute health crisis and our speedy response appears to have kept him alive. May he and all of us return to tables and aisles in the upcoming shows of 2024!

WASHINGTON ARMS COLLECTORS

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GunNews Editor and Producer: Karen Jennings Copy Editor **Forbes Freeburg**

Washington Arms Collectors



Gun Show Schedule

www.WashingtonArmsCollectors.org

OFFICE: (425) 255-8410

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Jan	20 & 21	Enunclaw Expo				
Feb	24 & 25	Puyallup Pav				
Mar	23 & 24	Enumclaw Expo				
April	27 & 28	Enumclaw Expo				
May	11 & 12	Puyallup Pav				
Aug	TBD	Special Event				
Sept	21 & 22	Monroe				
Oct.	19 & 20	Puyallup Pav Military & Collector Show				
Nov.	16 & 17	Enumclaw Expo Display Show				
Dec.	14 & 15	Puyallup Pav				
SHOW LOCATIONS						

Enumclaw Show - Enumclaw Expo Center Monroe Show - Evergreen State Fairgrounds Puyallup Show - WA State Fair & Events Center Show Times: Saturday 9AM-5PM & Sunday 9AM-3PM VERIFY ALL SHOW DATES BEFORE TRAVELING

2024 Wes Knodel Centralia schedule

February 13 & 14

March 16 & 17

April 27 & 28

202 Falcon Production Gun & Knife Show

No schedule presented at publishing deadline

Seminars and Upcoming Attractions:

WAC would like to present more seminars, and informative displays that would be of interest to not only our members but the general public attending our shows.

If you know of a knife maker, fishing guru, outfitter, or black powder enthusiasts let us know and we will feature them on our webpage and in upcoming GunNews editions. We have talented people in this organization so think about it, and contact the office so we can get you featured in

Member Renewal Information & Form

W.A	.C Membersh	ip Application	(New and	Renewin	g)	
Last Name:		First: Name:			M.I.:	Mem#:
Mailing Address:		City:	State:	Zip:	Phone#	
E-Mail: (We will not share this with anyone.)		DL# Drivers License#			Exp. Date:	
Birth Date: (Month)	(Day)	(Year)	CPL# Concealed Pistol License			Exp. Date:
			CHECK PAYMENT TYPE New and Expired Members, if you do not have a current CPL or FFL, add an additional \$15.00 for the Initiation Fee which includes a Washington State Patrol background check.			
1 Year - \$57	\$15 Background	(if no valid CPL)	\$5 Dor	ation Total Amount:		otal Amount:
2 Years - \$114	Assoc. \$30	Life \$600	\$10 Do	nation	ċ	
3 Years - \$171	Spouse \$15	Sr. Life \$350	\$25 Do	\$25 Donation		