

Check out what WWIA has been up to!



Notes from the Field: August-September, 2016

As the days grow shorter and the weather cools down, Heroes from all over the country are enjoying WWIA events in the great outdoors. During the August-September season, Purple Heart recipients have enjoyed dozens of world-class outdoor sporting events, from fly fishing in Montana, to upland bird hunting in Pennsylvania, to hunting gator at night down in the Florida swamps. WWIA has also held many successful fundraisers thanks to the generosity of communities who care. Read on to check out the amazing adventures our Heroes have enjoyed leading up to our fall season.

**Special Thanks to
our Sponsors**

Thanks to our supporters in the Tampa Bay Area, WWIA's Inaugural Purple Heart of the Bay Charity Fishing Tournament brought in over \$20,000! Special thanks goes out to sponsors Quest Diagnostics, CED, Walmart, Courtesy Toyota of Brandon, Lennar, Wawa, Hooks Bar & Grill, Anabanana Fishing Company, and Gander Mountain. Thanks also to our amazing team of Quest volunteers!



CFC Campaign Kickoff

The Combined Federal Campaign, or CFC, held its first kickoff events in September. CFC is the nation's largest employee giving campaign for federal workers and WWIA receives much of its support from this outstanding program.

WWIA Outreach Coordinators from all over the country have been speaking to US federal employees about our mission to heal combat-wounded veterans through the power of the great outdoors. If you are participating in this year's CFC, [don't forget to support WWIA, #94512!](#)



Events and Fundraisers



5th Annual Camp Stillwater Bear Hunt July 31-August 6

The 5th Annual Camp Stillwater Black Bear Hunt gave four Heroes an opportunity to embark on a great adventure in beautiful Washington State. In addition to connecting with nature, these Warriors were able to spend their downtime bonding and

creating lifelong friendships. Big thank you to hosts John and Dawn Koenig and guide Brian Bennett for making it happen. New friendships were created and memories of a lifetime were made.

5th Annual Lake Erie Trophy Walleye Fishing

August 5-8

Hosted by Larry Fielder and the American Legion Post 103, a small group of Purple Heart veterans experienced two full days of guided fishing for walleye with local guides in Ashtabula, Ohio. Before the fishing

event, these Heroes were escorted through Lake Shore Park led by a motorcycle driven by Capt. Gerald Cornelius of the Ashtabula Police Department, who served as an Army Ranger in the Vietnam War. Members of the American Legion handed out American flags to spectators and supporters so they could display their appreciation and wave to the veterans as they pass by. Events like this help our American Heroes connect with thankful and caring communities.



"This is a great organization doing a great thing for guys who don't get enough recognition for their sacrifices. We all had a great weekend! Keep up the good work, WWIA."



2nd Annual N-Bar Ranch Fly Fishing

August 5-8

The 2nd annual WWIA fly fishing event at the N Bar Ranch in Montana was an amazing trip where the guys caught every species of trout possible in this great state! They also were able to enjoy some sight seeing which included a black bear visitor along the Smith River. All the Heroes were able to enjoy just about everything the great outdoors in Montana had to offer! Our sincerest thanks to the hosts at the N Bar

Ranch for this amazing opportunity.

"I want to provide a sincere thank you not just to the Wounded Warriors In Action Foundation, but to all the individuals involved. Your generosity was simply remarkable. Land stretched over Gods Earth in the World's best country managed and preserved with helping hands provided beautiful scenery, amazing wildlife and great company. Thanks for making this outing an event I'll never forget."

A&W Free Float Day Fundraiser

August 6

A big thank you to Joan & Mike Reed and everyone who donated at A&W in Phillips for Root Beer Float Day! On August 6, patrons received a free root beer float and were able to donate to Wounded Warriors in Action and our Purple Heart Heroes, resulting in over \$1,000 of donations! All proceeds raised will benefit WWIA operations at Camp Hackett in the great state of Wisconsin



8th Annual Kipper Tool Golf Tournament: Birdies for the Brave

August 18

The Kipper Tool company invited WWIA to participate in their 8th annual charity golf tournament. Our combat-wounded Heroes thoroughly enjoyed spending time with the tremendous employees and friends of Kipper Tool for a great day on the course. After the tournament, Kipper Tool presented WWIA with a very generous \$5,000 donation! Pictured here is Lead Associate and Purple Heart recipient John Keeney accepting this wonderful gift. Thanks to these true Patriots, we can continue our mission of providing world-class outdoor sporting activities to our Purple Heart veterans.

8th Annual Florida Gator Hunt

August 19-22

Hosted in part by the Brevard County Airboat Association, American Legion Riders Post #81, and their friends, six Wounded Warriors had the once-in-a-lifetime chance to hunt gator at night from airboats on the St. Johns River in Melbourne. The annual alligator hunt is one of WWIA's most anticipated hunts due to the unusual challenges this type of stealth hunting offers. In



addition to the hunt itself, the Heroes down in Melbourne were met by a thankful and caring community of supporters. Brevard County Airboat Association, American Legion and American Legion Riders Post 81, Brevard Country Sherriff's Department motorcade, Hollywood Limousine of Brevard County, Boy Scout Troop #365, and Operation Outdoor Freedom are all to thank for donating their services and welcoming the Heroes with open arms.

"The alligator hunt is great for bonding with other Warriors. It's all-weather, in the dark with primitive weapons and airboats, stalking, sneaking under the cover of darkness-that's what we're used to. Before even 24 hours on an event, these guys are fighting together as a team."



Phillips Chain of Lakes Musky Tournament

August 19-21

Mid-August saw the Phillips WI Steve Schneider Memorial Tournament, with proceeds benefitting WWIA. In addition to the tournament itself, participants were welcome to join the fun at Harbor View all day for great prizes and raffles. Special thanks to John Carlson from

Ross's Sports Shop and Guide Service, Birch Island Resort, Harbor View, St Croix Rods and of course Bob Bolz for all his hard work and dedication to the Foundation.

2nd Annual Galveston Fishing Event

August 26-29

The 2nd Annual Galveston fishing trip was a great success, due to the hard work and dedication of hosts Brad and Julie Boisen, Buck, Marti, Kathy and all those who helped put this event together. Thanks to these incredible hosts and volunteers, WWIA was able to serve three deserving Heroes with two full days of guided fishing in the Gulf of Mexico. As always, the great state of Texas provided world-class fishing and scenery. The weekend may be over but a lot of good relationships have only begun.



"When you leave the fury and violence of the combat zone, it never really leaves you in your mind. Being able to participate in events like these WWIA fishing trips allows you to forget those times of war. Without question, the staff of WWIA are committed to helping wounded warriors cope with the burdens of war through recreational activities (hunting/fishing). I'll never forget the WWIA staff and their sincerity of heart and mind, and the renewed hope they have given me and other Wounded Warriors."



Arca Midwest Tour 100

September 3

The Arca Midwest Tour was packed with high speed excitement for two Purple Heart Heroes. Mike Lichtfeld, driver of the WWIA car, had the second fastest qualifying time out of 29 cars and at the end of the night, he brought his car home in 12th place. A huge thanks to the race team and Ed Schell for all of their support. Mike Lichtfeld Racing's #44 had

the best looking hood at the ARCA Midwest Tour race at Dells Raceway Park. In

addition to the race, there was a 50/50 raffle benefiting WWIA, which raised \$1,000 for the Foundation! Thanks to everyone involved for providing this great opportunity.

Botten's Green Acres Golf Tournament

September 3

The 2nd Annual WWIA Wisconsin Golf Tournament at Botten's Green Acres Golf Course was a great success. Hosted by our Bayfield chapter, this event raised nearly \$12,000! All proceeds will support the upcoming 4th Annual Bayfield Cast and Blast. Special thanks to supporters and sponsors Grizz Works, Scott and Shawn O'Brien, Wayne Swanson, Mary L. Paquette, Jerry & Sherry Hackman, Mick & Lou Budnick, and of course Dan & Nancy Bourassa for organizing.



Inaugural Purple Heart of the Bay Charity Fishing Tournament

September 10

WWIA held its Inaugural Purple Heart of the Bay Charity Fishing Tournament the weekend of September 11th. Thanks to our sponsors and amazing volunteers, this was an incredible event for everyone involved.

Congratulations to Purple Heart recipient Douglas "Shaw" Duvall for winning the Purple Heart of the Bay Championship with a personal slam!

"The PHOTB Tournament was an incredible display of what this foundation is all about. From the Heroes camaraderie and fellowship to the wonderful volunteers it was just a great atmosphere. You couldn't ask for a better backdrop than the Bay with the city and Air Force base the countless fishing holes....I truly had an awesome day and really enjoyed my time with incredible people!"

4th Annual PA Cast and Blast

September 9-12

Hosted by Sandy Deveney, in partnership with Gravel Spring Lodge and Fox Gap Rod and Gun Club, the 4th Annual PA Cast & Blast was held near Rebersburg, PA. The Heroes on this event started their weekend with some

trap shooting on Friday, and had a special guest for Friday's dinner - Josh Hull, former Penn State and St. Louis Rams linebacker. Saturday morning, Congressman Glenn "GT" Thompson made a Capitol flag presentation to each attendee before a day of upland bird hunting. On Sunday, the Heroes rounded out the weekend with some world-class fly fishing. Thanks to everyone involved for providing a once-in-a-lifetime event for our Wounded Warriors in beautiful Pennsylvania.



Kuneytown Golf and Corn Hole Fundraiser

September 10-11

In honor of 9/11, our Kuneytown partners held the Kuneytown Charity Golf Tournament in the beautiful Finger Lakes of New York. All proceeds raised at this tournament and the related Corn Hole Fundraiser will support the 3rd Annual Kuneytown Ducks and Bucks event in November. Thanks to the Boathouse Beer Garden for hosting and a big thank you to Keith and Moira Tidball and their team for making events like this possible and for supporting our mission at

WWIA!

2nd Annual Eagle River Muskie Chal-Lunge

September 23-25

All the heroes and their guides had a blast taking in the beautiful scenery and catching some monsters at the 2nd Annual Eagle River Muskie Chal-Lunge. The biggest fish caught was 46 inches on a Joe Bucher Top Raider! WWIA would like to thank Scott Samuels, Eagle Waters Resort, Joe Bucher Outdoors, the All Americans Kids Club and all the awesome sponsors like St. Croix Rods, Daiwa, People's State Bank and many more for their support! The folks of Eagle River, Wisconsin and surrounding area are truly outstanding Americans.



7th Annual NY Couples Retreat

September 23-26

The 7th Annual NY Upland Bird Couples Retreat was a complete success thanks to Host Mary Lou



Reisdorf, Carlie & Carol
Buisch, Whispering Pines
Hideaway, Christie & Shawn
Ingram, Milt Yagel, John & Mary
Nolander, Spa Elan and all of the
many supporters who help make this
event successful each year! Thanks to
their hard work and dedication, three
Heroes experienced two full days of
world-class upland bird hunting with
local guides. While the Heroes
enjoyed their time together in the
great outdoors, their wives spent the

weekend visiting a winery and day spa for some well-deserved r&r. The NY couples
retreat is one of the highlights of the year for WWIA, due to the quality of healing
all participants experience.

4th Annual Vermont Chapter Fundraiser

September 24

The 4th Annual Vermont Fundraiser
Dinner was a huge success, bringing in
over \$33,000 for WWIA in just one night!
A huge thank you is owed to Mike and
Debi Davenport, who have run this
fundraiser every year. Their incredible
efforts have earned them the title of 2016
WWIA Volunteers of the Year! Thanks to
this great community, we can continue
our mission of sending Purple Heart
recipients on world-class hunting and
fishing events.



Upcoming Events



Sponsors and Friends

Corporate Sponsors (\$1,000+)



Spotlight Donors

Thanks to these incredible supporters:

\$500+

American Legion Post 114
American Legion Post 245 Ladies Auxiliary
Degree Lawn and Landscape
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Steve and Darlene Mehalick
James Taylor
Mark Boling
Scott Stephenson
Cheryl Engelking

Parsons of Eagle River, Inc.
Triple B Corporation DBA B&B Carry Out
Turner Farms
VFW Post 8367 Canteen Account

\$100+

Carignan's Uncle Bob's Bowling Center
Chippewa Valley Bank
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Thomas Matheny
Tom Katancik
Patsy Pierce
Jennifer Cook
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Paul Dennis Agency

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Purple Heart Patriots

Become a Purple Heart Patriot by donating monthly to WWIA and the Heroes we serve! Monthly contributors receive an introductory gift and mention in next month's newsletter. **Special thanks to our newest Purple Heart**

Patriot, Mr. Derek Duran!

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AMERICAN HEROES



AMERICAN SPORTSMEN



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