

January - March 2016



WWIA Supporters

2016 has already been a fantastic year for WWIA and the Heroes we serve. From duck and goose hunting in Ohio to whitetail hunting in Alabama, WWIA continues to provide world-class sporting events for our combat-wounded veterans. Moving into spring, we are busy working to set up all our events and fundraisers for the next coming months.

We have added a minimum of 5 new events this year with nearly all of last year's events recurring to serve our Purple Heart Heroes in 2016. WWIA could not hold all these events without our generous hosts, volunteers, fundraisers, and supporters like you. We appreciate all you do for our foundation.

Please check out the articles and pictures below to see what people have been doing around the country!

Supporting Events for this Quarter:

Karaoke Fundraiser: Our Karaoke fundraiser in Bartow, Florida was a great success. Thank you to the Good Life RV Resort and Jaybird and Trish for your outstanding support of WWIA!



Founder's Corner

The year 2016 is off to a great start.

As the Foundation approaches its tenth year of service, I recall to mind this amazing journey: the struggles, the challenges, the victories, the smiles; the dust, sweat, tears, mud and blood. I wouldn't change a thing. And all of you have been right there by our side sluggin' it out, standing in the arena, proud and true. You wanted to make a difference in this world, and you have! Keep pressing.



As I pen this, we're in the process of making final preparations for our inaugural Guide School training program that kicks off at the end of this month. This is the world's first multi-disciplinary Guide School for Purple Heart recipients. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has approved and provided grant funding for this demanding and rigorous 10-day course, which will be held at our NE Healing Center located in Wypitlock, Maine.

This course is supported by Maine's Master Guide School program and a unique lineup of professional outdoor sporting programs, which include holistic wellness components and a focus on adaptive sporting techniques in support of our unique mission set. Simply an amazing opportunity for our combat wounded!

I hope you don't ever get tired of hearing me say this...but here it goes anyway -- THANK YOU for your continued support. I am amazed by the generosity and kindness of our



United Piping, Inc. chose WWIA as the recipient of their 2015 holiday fundraiser. The donations, support, and participation from UPI employees and friends far exceeded all expectations

and they managed to donate \$20,000 to WWIA! They will be sponsoring two events this fall as well as a few additional Heroes with this generous donation. Thanks to all who were a part of making it possible!

Hides for Heroes: Supporter Dave Hintz in Wisconsin held yet another very successful fundraising initiative for WWIA!

Local hunters donated deer hides to be processed and sold with all proceeds going directly to WWIA. Hides for Heroes raised nearly \$12,000 over the 2015/2016 winter season in support of Camp Hackett. Big thanks to Spoerl Holdings, Inc. for contributing \$1,300 in support of this effort.



Heidelberg Distributors Donation: In support of the SW Ohio Waterfowl Event, Heidelberg Distributors hosted three different fundraisers. When matched with company funds, The El Meson Food Truck, \$2 Jeans Friday, and



an employee painting event raised \$3450 to lodge the Heroes in January!

Harvest Land Winter Innovation Forum: Our partners, Harvest Land Co-Op, hosted a Trade Show in February in Richmond, IN.

WWIA was able to participate by having a booth to share information about the



Foundation. Mark, Richard, and Dan shared all the great things our therapeutic recreation activities provide for Wounded Warriors.

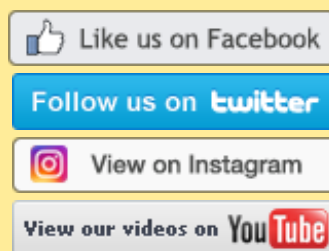
New Lenox Game Lunch: Hosted by Chris and Kellie DeMik and the American Legion Post 1977, this annual event was extremely well attended and raised over \$17,000! We thank all the people of New Lenox for their

supporters, valuable Hosts, and of course by the Heroes we serve. We couldn't continue this mission without you and for that fact I am truly appreciative and humbled.

Sincerely,
John J. McDaniel, Founder



Want to Help?



Visit our Website



Make a Donation

Donations can be made one time or monthly so that you can support WWIA all year long!

Sponsor Spotlight

Mr. Joseph Vander Zanden, longtime partner of WWIA, donated \$4,000 in support of operations nationwide. We thank him for his commitment to our Wounded



continued support. Thanks also to Chris and Kellie for allowing John, Matt, and Josh to join in on the fun. Great food, great raffles, and an awesome auction. Hope to see you next year!



Spring River: Spring River Canoe Club, Spring River Land Company, N-Sta Smile and Spring River Barbecue raised \$1,500 to sponsor one Wounded Warrior



through WWIA for the May, 2016 Dave Harris Memorial Billfishing Trip in Mexico. The check was presented at an annual charity event held Jan. 9 at Cruisers in Hardy. The sponsored veteran will

enjoy the peace and tranquility of the ocean while joining other service members who share similar experiences, making this trip both fun and therapeutic.

Additional Dave Harris Memorial BillFish Tournament Supporters:

We would also like to thank some other sponsors who have already sent in money to help with this Mexico Trip for our Heroes. Gray's Taxidermy, Clearview Windows, American Disposal Services, Aon Foundation, Chums of Anarchy Fishing Team, The Jager Party, along with Mistrs Baswell, Heltzel, Geer, Odeh and the Croughans. Coupled with the great people who donate support on the ground/water during the event, we have a lot to be thankful for.

Upcoming:

Aaron Marten's AOY Enigma Rod Auction: On April 1st, the second highly-anticipated set of winning rods will open for bidding on eBay. Two rods per day will go up over the course of 4 days, with the auction closing April 8-11. Set your calendars for this great opportunity to support WWIA while snagging a one-of-a-kind rod! Here is a link to one of the 8 rods up for sale. [Aaron's Enigma Rod](#) Be sure to check out them all.

Steinhatchee Seafood Festival: 8 - 9 April: A Fishing Tournament, Music and Seafood extravaganza! Check out their Facebook page for more information: [Steinhatchee River Music and Seafood Festival](#)

Forever Damon Concert: Gulf Coast Veterans Concert, 17 April in Fairhope, AL. Check out the info here: [Gulf Coast](#)

Warriors!

Vince Glossip Fund supports our Heroes with a \$1,000 donation toward general operations. Thanks to these true Patriots!

Kuneytown Sportsmans Club raised \$2,000 in support of our 2015 Kuneytown Fingerlakes event. Great job!

EAC Enterprises contributed a generous \$2,650 worth of assembly products during the Arca 2015 racing season!

[Check out our sponsor page](#)

Recent Event Highlights

Russell AL Deer Hunt

15 - 18 Jan 2016

Ritchie Russell and Ira Everett have been hosting Heroes for many years. Not only do they have this Deer Hunt every winter, they are also so generous and offer a fishing trip in the summer. They just love doing something for Wounded Warriors, and luckily the Warriors love them too! The Heroes always say that these two hosts make them feel like family right from the very beginning.



Even if you showed up without the right gear, Ritchie and Ira find just what each individual needs to make sure they are comfortable and successful. They always team up with a great crew of local supporters who provide land and guiding assistance. Something must have gone right since six whitetail deer were harvested in just this one event! Four bucks and two does were skinned and cleaned as part of the complete process and the Heroes all got to take home some of the venison.

This trip has been a blessing. Not only did I get to relax in the

Veterans Concert

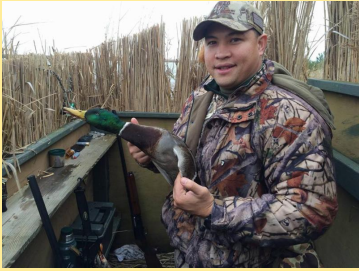
Upland NY Couples Retreat Fundraising Dinner: 23 April, at the Log Cabin Restaurant, Macedon, NY. Come out and support our annual Couples Retreat fundraiser! For more info check out this link: [Fundraiser Dinner](#)

USSSA Slow Pitch Softball Tournament: May 28 - 29th in Jackson, NC. Check back later on their website for more information: [USSSA Softball NC](#)

country with some very wonderful people, they also taught me to hunt and gave me the full hunting experience. I have met and made some wonderful friends and hope to keep in touch. Godspeed and best wishes to all involved. (CB. US Army)



North Carolina OBX Duck and Goose Hunt 7 - 11 Jan 2016



The North Carolina Outer Banks Hunt was a great success again for the 5th year in a row. Event organizers Larry and Tim work all year long to make this a top-notch event for the Heroes. This year they had

the added bonus of hosting two first-time duck hunters-- and both managed to get a duck or two! The group stayed in a rented beach house in Powell's Point, NC called "Southern Comfort." As you can see from the smiles on their faces, Tim, Jake, Nate, Lawrence and Alex all had a fantastic hunt.

We would like to send a special shout out to all those in the area who donated the food and support that makes this event special for those who attend.



SW Ohio Bird Hunt 15 - 18 Jan 2016

MD Duck and Goose Hunt 15 - 17 Jan 2016



Brian hosted Heroes for the 4th time in Maryland on the coast of the Chesapeake Bay. Associates Tim and Gabe along with Heroes Anthony, Thomas, David, and Robert all met Brian at his work place to get the event kicked off. The first stop was at the Rod and Gun Club for some serious clay target shooting and practice before the hunt started the next day. Some of the evening's food was provided by Graul's Market.

After a good night's sleep at the Hampton Inn in Easton, MD, the Heroes met up for a day of hunting; Duck in the morning and Goose in the afternoon. They were all treated to an some amazing food and conversations at their social that evening at Hunter's Tavern.



The next day they all got to hunt Pheasant in the morning and Chukar in the afternoon all while using Springer Spaniels to flush the birds at the Caroline County Shooting Preserve.

We would like to extend a great big shout out to Dennis Sullivan and Apple Ford of Columbia, MD for their



Long time hosts and Associates Dave "Stu" Studenka and Dan Doll held their annual Duck and Goose event in Jan with help from

WWIA Associate Jon French. Heroes Spencer and John met up with Dan, Stu, and Jon at the Holiday Inn in Franklin, OH. The event kicked off with a bit of discounted shopping and a free lunch courtesy of the local Cabela's and then moved on to a scouting trip to get set up for the first day of hunting. After a great meal that evening of venison chili at the host's home, the Heroes headed to the hotel to get some rest before their big day.

B & B Carryout provided a great breakfast and snacks. The Heroes were overwhelmed with the owner's generosity and patriotism, so they started the day off feeling great! Once the hunting started, it just got better. There were so many birds in the sky that everyone reached their bird limit in just under two hours!



Our wonderful partners, Harvest Land Co-Op, provided a great dinner at Roosters and the Heroes really enjoyed getting a chance to meet such great supporters of WWIA. Day two of hunting did not provide quite as many birds, but they still managed to hit their limit. The birds were processed into sausage and every Hero was mailed a batch to share with friends and family.



This event was made possible through a great deal of local support. Guides John and Don need to be thanked along with Mike for providing the hunting land. Rig 'em Right provided hunting products to help make the Heroes successful, but a big shout out goes to Heidelberg Distributors who sponsored the event with a \$3,450 donation. WWIA could not run events the time, money and volunteer support from our hosts and helpers. You all make it happen for these Heroes!



Thank you so much for this opportunity! I've had such a "blast" out there! From the moment I met all the guys, I didn't even care if

generous sponsorship of this event!

Thank you so much for having my husband out! He's been texting me all weekend about what a wonderful time he's been having. It's nice to see him enjoying himself-it means so much to both of us. We truly do appreciate it!

Wisconsin Wood Turning 31 Jan - 5 Feb 2016

The Wisconsin Wood Turning Club hosts Wounded Warriors each year to help them learn a new skill as well as experience the therapeutic qualities of working with their hands and coming up with something useful and beautiful. Hosted by Tony with help from instructors Bob and Dick, these Heroes have the opportunity to learn new and advanced techniques from professionals. Anthony, John and Larry were all lucky enough to be chosen to participate with this event and each got to take home some amazing pieces of art. They also assisted the Wisconsin Valley Woodturners club in making WWIA branded bowls and plates.



This really was a great event because people who had never done woodturning before were able to learn something they didn't know they could ever do. I'm staying in contact with Tony so I can continue to do it throughout the year. Overall it was an amazing event and the people were great. (JB, US Army)

Wounded Warriors in Action's Northeast Healing Center set to open for the Inaugural Guide School Class of 2016!

we'd gotten any waterfowl. Just hanging out with everyone was all worth it. It's hard to explain how much this experience means, and how much the guys who are here mean to me. The guys are awesome and it was so easy to connect with them. This was the first time I've ever waterfowl hunted and it was most likely the best hunt I will ever have. (S.S. USArmy)

Future Events:

2nd Annual Tennessee Turkey Hunt

8 April - 11 April 2016

2nd Annual Steinhatchee River Seafood Festival

8 - 10 April 2016

FL Spring Turkey

8 - 11 April 2016

Damon Forever Concert

17 April 2016

NY Upland Bird Hunt/Couples Retreat Fundraiser

Dinner:

23 April 2016

4th Annual Kansas Cast and Blast

27 April - 2 May 2016

WWIA Guide School, Maine

28 April - 7 May 2016

Ohio Spring Turkey and Walleye Fishing

5 May - 8 May 2016

7th Annual WI Cast and Blast

13 May - 15 May 2016

Manitoba Black Bear

16 May - 20 May 2016

Dave Harris Memorial Billfish Tournament

20 May - 24 May 2016

Galveston Couples Fishing

20 May - 23 May 2016

2nd Annual Western PA Turkey Hunt

26 May - 29 May 2016

5th Annual BC Bear Hunt

27 May - 3 June 2016

Please visit our website for more details and future

months: [WWIA Calendar of Events](#)



In partnership with the VA Adaptive Sports program, WWIA is excited to announce that the NE Healing Center is almost ready for its first batch of Purple Heart Heroes to set foot on the property. Donor Vann White, owner of R Cabin Outfitters, says this is one of the only true five-star facilities in Maine.



Located in Wypitlock, ME, in the general area of the terminus of the Appalachian trail, this lodge will sleep 12 Heroes and give

access to over 5,000 acres of prime hunting and fishing property. It is also fully ADA compliant. We are excited to show you final pictures of the completed project very soon.



eBay Giving Works/PayPal Giving Fund

Because we want to make sure you can support our mission in any way that fits into your lifestyle, we wanted to make you aware of a program that supports WWIA through buying and selling on eBay. The

PayPal Giving Fund is the philanthropic arm of *eBay Giving Works* that allows you to purchase items designated by a special ribbon icon where a portion of each sale will be donated to WWIA. Additionally, users can sell items on eBay and set it up for WWIA to receive a portion of your specific sale. Please visit this link for more information!



[eBay Giving Works for WWIA](#)

WWIA Thanks You for Your Support!

If you have any questions, ideas or new initiatives to talk about,
please feel free to send us an email at info@wwiaf.org

Wishing you all a wonderful 2016!

[Make a Donation](#)

[Visit our Website](#)

[Visit our Sponsors](#)

[Find us on Facebook](#)