



Check out what WWIA has been up to this month!



Photo credit to WWIA Guide Jake Whipkey who captured this beautiful shot at the 2017 BC Black Bear Hunt.

Notes from the Field: June 2017

Fishing is a great way to start the summer, and the month of June offered plenty of world-class excursions for our Heroes. WWIA hosted fishing events from different coasts across the U.S., from Alabama to Alaska. There were also four different fundraisers this month, and we want to express our sincere appreciation to

everyone who worked so generously to organize these events in support of WWIA and our Purple Heart Heroes.



Events and Fundraisers

2nd Annual Galveston Couples Fishing *June 2-5*

Four of our Heroes and their spouses traveled to Texas for the 2nd Annual Galveston Couples Fishing Event. This was a great opportunity for these couples to relax and connect, while taking in some great fishing, new friendships, and lots of laughter. We express our sincere gratitude to Brad and Julie Boisen for their generosity and hospitality in hosting this special event, and to WWIA Guide Gabe Fierros for his support to our Heroes.



"The weekend was so much more than we ever expected or imagined it would be. We loved the small group and the camaraderie that we were able to share in. The fishing both together as a couple and with just the Warriors was an amazing and fun experience. Our cheeks literally hurt from laughing so much-much more than we have in years. Our hosts, Brad and Julie couldn't have been more kind and welcoming. We felt very relaxed and at ease in their home all weekend. We greatly appreciate the opportunity to attend this event and would be honored if invited to another. Thank you a thousand times!"

2nd Annual MO-KAN Catfishing *June 2-5*

It was another exciting time for three of our Heroes that participated in the 2nd Annual MO-KAN Catfishing Event. There were plenty of great catches throughout the four-day event, and our Heroes were even

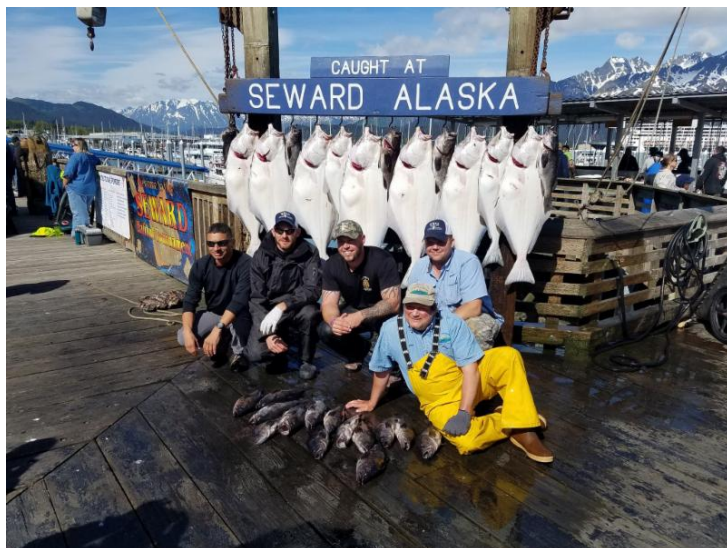


honored with custom-made Henry rifles. Special thanks to the [Napier Hunt Club](#) for hosting our Heroes, to host Brian Roderick for his continued efforts and support, and to WWIA Guide Tyson Scott for his assistance throughout the event. We also sincerely appreciate the many volunteers who made this event possible for our Warriors.

"I would like to extend a special thanks to all for making this opportunity available to continue the healing process after returning home. I am truly grateful for the Foundation and the team members who made this event of fishing the Missouri. The members of Napier Hunt Club and the generosity of the members is greatly appreciated. As a Wounded Warrior who has a great love for this country, I am proud to have served. But, returning home has been a challenge. Thanks WWIA for helping me take one more step towards healing. Many thanks."

4th Annual Alaska Halibut Fishing June 16-20

There is no place quite like Alaska, and we were pleased to send four of our Heroes to the last great frontier to experience five days full of fishing and adventure. Beyond the incredible fishing, our Heroes were able to see both Orca and Humpback whales along with other native wildlife. It was a truly memorable event, and this unique opportunity would not have been possible without the generous support of host John Moline of [Inn and Out Charters](#), the [Kenai Fjords Bed and Breakfast](#), the local [American Legion Post 5](#), and [Captain Jack's Seafood Locker](#). Additional thanks to WWIA Guide Jonah Liddell for his contributions throughout the event.



"This trip let me go with a group of guys who I now call friends and it let me experience everything I dreamed Alaska would be. All while in the company of friends and experienced people who showed me what an amazing and special place this is. I will be forever grateful for this. Thank you."

Inaugural Kentucky Bass Fishing



June 17-20

WWIA was excited to offer a new event this month with the Inaugural Kentucky Bass Fishing Event. Four Heroes took part in some outstanding Bass fishing on a beautiful Kentucky lake. The camaraderie and connections made on the water and around the dinner table made this event even more memorable for our

Warriors. Special thanks to Mark and Caroline Held for hosting our Heroes, and also to WWIA Guide Nick Fox for his guidance to our Heroes.

"WWIA, Host, staff and brothers, this experience has been awesome. The host, hospitality, lodging and event brought some great people together, and some great memories were made. I am forever grateful to the program and the people involved. Long live the brotherhood!"

5th Annual Alabama Inshore/Offshore Fishing June 22-25

The Alabama Inshore/Offshore Fishing Event celebrated its fifth year of serving our Heroes with another outstanding four-day excursion. There was no shortage of fishing, as our Heroes caught their limit of Red Snapper, and brought in other great catches as well. Generous thanks to hosts Ritchie Russell and Ira Everett for their faithful support of our Warriors throughout the years, and also to WWIA Guide Nathan Allen for his outstanding support surrounding the event.



"WWIA made it possible for me to talk with others that had the same or similar issues as I. This helped me greatly and made me feel like myself again. I feel my stress levels have dropped due to this trip and I hope I can take my joy and feelings of pride back to my family. I cannot thank Wounded Warriors in Action enough. Everyone was great and I will always be grateful and hope I can one day again participate in a WWIA event. This will always be a highlight of my life and I am so very grateful."

4th Annual Hudson Farm Sporting Clays

Invitational Tournament

June 21



Hudson Farm hosted their 4th Annual Sporting Clays Invitational Tournament at their beautiful facility in New Jersey. This event raised over \$24,000 through team sponsorships

and donations, and featured a great day of sport clay shooting followed by dinner. We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to [Hudson Farm](#), the WWIA New Jersey Chapter, John Wunderlich and Michael A. Carrara for your continued support of WWIA and your superb efforts with this tournament fundraiser. Special thanks to all of the Hudson Farm Guides for their assistance during the event, to WWIA Advisor Keith Tidball and WWIA Guides Nate Allen and Gabe Fierros for their participation in the event.

4th Annual Finger Lakes Golf Tournament Seneca Falls Country Club

June 24

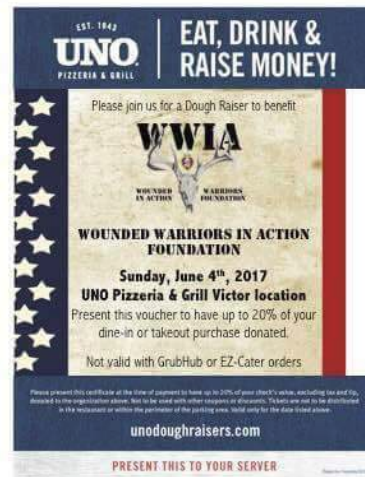
We sincerely thank everyone who participated in and supported the 4th Annual Finger Lakes Golf Tournament at [Seneca Falls Country Club](#) to benefit WWIA. This was another exceptional event, with \$4000 donated in support of our Heroes. Special thanks to Seneca Falls Country Club, and to Eric Riegel from [Kuneytown Sportsmen's Club](#) for his hard work in organizing this golf benefit. We also want to give our appreciation to WWIA Advisor Keith Tidball and also to WWIA Guide Gabe Fierros for supporting the event and bringing his beautiful family.



UNO Dough Raiser Benefitting NY Couples Event

June 22-25

Our appreciation goes out to NY Couples Event Host Mary Lou Reisdorf and [UNO Pizzeria and Grill](#) for their generous donation to WWIA and our Heroes. UNO Pizzeria hosted a fundraiser to support the 8th Annual NY Couples Upland Bird Hunt that will take place in the fall. The UNO Dough Raiser's contributed \$812.13 and between a 50/50 raffle and other donations, raised an additional \$563.50! Special thanks to Rod Wasicsko and Ann Kabel for your outstanding support in coordinating this fundraising event.



Inaugural WWIA New Park Ithaca Classic Car Show & BBQ

June 11



[The First Annual WWIA New Park Ithaca Classic Car Show and BBQ](#) was held in June and featured 35 classic cars, a chicken BBQ, and 25 crafters and vendors to sell their wares. There was also live music donated by Dapper Dan, Garlic Band, Super Groove and Rapid

River Boys throughout the day. This event raised \$3000 toward the 3rd Annual Newfield Deer Event in December. Thanks to [Trumansburg American Legion](#) for cooking during the event, and to Girl Scout Troop 41350 for keeping the park grounds clean. Special thanks to Carol and Bernie Cook and family for their continued dedication and support of WWIA, and for organizing this exciting event.

The Spur Festival

June 24-25

Over \$1800 was raised at this year's [Spur Festival](#) in Darrington, WA. A huge thank you to promoter,

Martin House for inviting WWIA to host a raffle during the festival. We would also like to thank [Corion Landscape Management](#) and [Coffey Co Espresso](#) for their generous donations to the raffle and WWIA! Special thanks to WWIA Logistics Coordinator Corrina Hart for her dedication and support throughout the event!



Upcoming Events



Sponsors and Friends

Fort Myer Thrift Shop

THANK YOU to [Fort Myer Thrift Shop](#) for their generous donation of \$4000 to WWIA in support of events in Maryland and Virginia. Their donations since 2015 total \$20,000. Thank you for your continued dedication to our Purple Heart Heroes!

WWIA Associates Help Pass New Bill in Wisconsin Benefitting Purple Heart Recipients

June 21st

On June 21st Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker signed in to law a [bill](#) that



2017 Senate Bill 46

Date of enactment: June 21, 2017
Date of publication: June 22, 2017

2017 WISCONSIN ACT 14

AN ACT to amend 29.164 (3m) (title); and to create 29.164 (3m) (am) of the statutes; relating to: an exemption for resident disabled veterans and for recipients of the purple heart medal from the cumulative preference system for issuing wild turkey hunting licenses and tags.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 29.164 (3m) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

29.164 (3m) (title) WILD TURKEY HUNTING LICENSES ISSUED TO MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES, ~~DISABLED VETERANS,~~

~~AND ALL RECIPIENTS OF THE PURPLE HEART MEDAL.~~

SECTION 2. 29.164 (3m) (am) of the statutes is created to read:

29.164 (3m) (am) Notwithstanding sub. (3), the department shall issue to disabled veterans and to qualified recipients of the purple heart medal wild turkey hunting licenses and tags without requiring that the licenses and tags be issued pursuant to the cumulative preference system under sub. (3). A disabled veteran is a resident who produces evidence that shows that he or she is a veteran, as defined in 38 USC 501, and is receiving disability compensation benefits under 38 USC 1101 to 1163 for disabilities that result in a disability rating that is 50 percent or greater under 38 USC 1114 or 1134, or is receiving disability compensation benefits due to being individually unemployable under 38 CFR 4.10 as authorized under 38 USC 501. The department shall recognize an annual disabled veteran recreation card issued under s. 29.236 as sufficient evidence that a person is a disabled veteran. A qualified recipient of the purple heart medal is a person who exhibits proof that he or she has received the medal.

SECTION 3. Initial applicability.
(1) This act first applies to wild turkey hunting licenses issued for the first wild turkey hunting season that begins after the effective date of this subsection.

* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES: Effective date of act: "Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor's partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication."

benefits Purple Heart recipients and future WWIA events in that state. The law provides guaranteed turkey permits and guaranteed first choice of season to residents of Wisconsin who are VA rated 50% or more service connected and to all Purple Heart recipients, whether residents of the state or not. WWIA Associate Jason Johns assisted State Representative Dianne Hesselbein (D)-Madison and State Senator Patrick Testin (R)-Stevens Point in crafting the bill and ushering it through the legislature. WWIA Cast-N-Blast event host Todd Bohm has been a tireless advocate in this effort and WWIA Associates Matt Tennesen and

Doug Alderton testified in support of the measure at the legislative hearing on the bill. This is a tremendous benefit to service connected and Purple Heart veterans, and an outstanding job of affecting positive change by members of our WWIA team!

Help us Become a Top-Rated Nonprofit!



Want to help WWIA become a top-rated nonprofit once again? If you could take a few minutes to share your WWIA experience and leave us a review, we would greatly appreciate it! Leave your review by clicking [here](#). Thank you!

Donate Today

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.

JOIN TODAY!



(813) 938-1390 | info@wwiaf.org | wwiaf.org



STAY CONNECTED:

