



HONOR. CONNECT. HEAL.

## NOTES FROM THE FIELD: January/February 2021



A spectacular scene from the 10th Annual NC OBX Waterfowl Hunt.

Photo courtesy of WWIA Guide Jeremy Smith.

## Notes From the Field: January/February 2021

Welcome to the January/February 2021 edition of Notes From the Field. We hosted four exceptional events in January and February that offered our Heroes the opportunity to hunt deer, hog, quail, duck, and geese. With the challenges of COVID-19 throughout the past year, it was great to start off the new year by getting our Heroes back in action to enjoy some world-class hunting, much-needed downtime, and camaraderie with their fellow Purple Heart recipients. We're looking forward to an exciting year ahead with lots of event highlights, so stay tuned. Last but not least, don't forget to check out our spotlight feature this month as we introduce you to one of our incredible event Hosts. Thank you for all you do to honor and support WWIA and our Heroes!



## Events and Fundraisers

### 10th Annual NC OBX Waterfowl Hunt

January 6-10 Powells Point, NC





Four of our Heroes traveled to the Outer Banks of North Carolina for some world-class waterfowl hunting, great food, and bonding time with their fellow Purple Heart recipients. This was the ten-year anniversary of this event serving and honoring our Heroes. One of the things that makes this event so unique is the incredible community support and involvement from start to finish. The accommodations, care, and hospitality extended to our Heroes could not have been better. Everyone was excited to get in some great waterfowl hunting and their time in the field did not disappoint, with lots of harvested birds such as tundra swan, green-winged teal, ting-necked ducks, bluebills, buffleheads, and mallards taken over five days in a beautiful coastal setting. As great as the hunting was, the stories, laughter, and friendships made over the course of the event were easily the highlight of their time together.

On the morning of their final day, the [NC Patriot Guard](#), [Currituck County Sheriff](#), [Currituck County Fire Department](#), [Cat 5 Jeepers](#), and hundreds of members of the local community gathered to honor and show their appreciation for our Heroes as they departed. They were given a large and memorable escort out of town as members of the local community lined the streets, waving flags, holding up signs, applauding, cheering, and expressing their appreciation to our Heroes for their service and sacrifice. It was a special way to end a tremendous event and our Heroes were moved by the incredible displays of gratitude and patriotism.

We would like to express our appreciation to all the stellar local businesses and community members that graciously served and honored our Heroes throughout their stay. Special thanks to Hosts Larry Beasley, Tim Brown, and Tim Spence for putting on another outstanding event for our Heroes, and to Brook Sparks for her incredible coordination and support year after year. Recognition and thanks to WWIA Guide Jeremy Smith for his contributions and care throughout the event.

\*\*WWIA Guide, John Keeney was also originally scheduled to attend this awesome event and lead his fellow Heroes over five days of hunting, camaraderie, and fun. Unfortunately, just days before the event was about to kick off, he fell ill with COVID-19 and was unable to go. He had even submitted an application for a Swan permit a year in advance and was thrilled when he learned his name had been drawn for it.

As a testament to how phenomenal the people and businesses are of Currituck county and because of the generosity of the State of North Carolina's Veteran Hunt, a few weeks following the event, John was able to travel to North Carolina and harvest his first-ever swan. This would not have been possible without the thoughtful assistance of Host, Tim Spence, the use of Co-Host, Larry Beasley's bird blinds, and the skillful participation of Mark Garriss, who guided John on his hunt. Thank you to the wonderful community of Powells Point, NC for honoring our combat-wounded veterans over the last decade, and for your graciousness in helping Hero, John make one of his hunting dreams come true.

*"What a truly special place here. The entire community came together even during these difficult times of uncertainty to show their appreciation for us. No matter how many thank you's we say it will never be enough. Everyone here goes above and beyond. It is very humbling to be able to share a duck blind and a dinner table with the folks here. Spending time afield with my brothers and being able to talk about anything, even the most personal of issues really helps alleviate some stress. Thank you to Tim Spence and all the Currituck family here."*

## 10th Annual Southwest Ohio Ducks and Bucks Hunt

January 14-18 Dayton, OH







The 10th Annual Southwest Ohio Ducks and Bucks Hunt welcomed six of our combat-wounded Warriors to Dayton, Ohio to kick off the new year with some outstanding hunting, hospitality, and bonding between brothers over five days. This awesome event offered the right combination of relaxation, restoration, and quality time in the field for our Heroes. This was the first year that whitetail deer hunting was added to this event, bringing another exciting opportunity to this already amazing event. Due to weather the duck hunting was slower than expected but our Heroes were able to harvest both black ducks and mallards and had an awesome time in the field.

This was another exceptional event and the friendships and memories made throughout these five days will carry-on for years to come. Our gratitude and thanks to Hosts Dave Studenka and Dan Doll and the phenomenal SW Ohio team of supporters for putting on another top-tier event and for proudly honoring and serving our Heroes for a decade! This event would not be possible without the dedication and selfless support of so many wonderful people and businesses. Thanks to Ken Staubitz, Don Staubitz, Mark Caskey, and to WWIA Pro Staffer [Richard Wright](#) for their outstanding efforts and support. High praise and appreciation to Jarrod Neal for use of his duck hunting property, to Sam Morgan for access to his whitetail deer property, to Tim Balinski for his whitetail guide services, and to Dave Wittersteater, Chuck Hagans, and Joe Duvelius for the use of their RV's. Our sincere thanks to [Safari Club International Southwest Ohio Chapter](#), [Cabela's](#), Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati Juice Club, [Party Town LLC](#), [Rooster's](#), [Midway Cafe](#), [Celanese Corporation](#), Miller's Campground, and [B&B Carryout](#). Special recognition and thanks to WWIA Guide Jake Whipkey for his leadership and attention to our Heroes throughout the trip.

*"This trip exceeded all expectations coming here. I was in the Army just shy of 10 years and had multiple combat deployments. I can personally attest to the trips saving lives of veterans struggling... because I was once one. Hunting and the brotherhood that is shared on these adventures is second to none and cannot be replicated. I am very grateful for having the opportunity to come out and be with like-minded individuals. Sappers lead the way!"*

## 5th Annual Arkansas Ducks and Bucks Hunt

**January 14-18 Marianna, AR**



The 5th Annual Arkansas Ducks and Bucks Hunt proudly welcomed four of our Purple Heart Heroes to the Red Oak Plantation in Marianna, Arkansas for five exciting days of camaraderie, relaxation, and world-class hunting. Once everyone arrived and settled in, they were able to zero and sight in their primitive bows as well as go over any gear needed for the upcoming duck hunt. An outstanding welcoming dinner was graciously hosted by Matt McCrory of [Gus's Fried Chicken](#).

Everyone rose early the next morning, had a great breakfast, and headed out with their guides to their hunting blinds. The morning waterfowl hunt was outstanding, and after a hearty lunch, our Heroes hit the field for some deer hunting. The evening provided some great downtime for sitting around the fire after dinner and getting to share stories with one another. The next morning everyone switched in their guides and locations as they got in a

breakfast. The next morning everyone cleaned up their gear and locations as they got in a few hours of duck hunting before preparing for a mid-morning hog hunt. After gear checks and a safety briefing, everyone headed out for a full day of hog hunting with the assistance of dogs. The hunting was simply exceptional, as a total of 52 hogs were harvested before calling it a day. The smiles were wide and plentiful around the dinner table as the Heroes raved about their stellar day.

The success continued the next morning as several ducks were harvested early. A few hours of rest and relaxation were had before everyone went to their prospective deer stands for a few hours of hunting. Although many deer were seen, none were harvested. Another wonderful meal was provided to the Heroes when they arrived back at camp, and the evening consisted of more conversation, camaraderie, and good times together.

The final hunting morning was rather cold but a great morning for duck hunting as many more were harvested. As our Heroes prepared to leave camp, they could not have been more appreciative or complimentary of the incredible time they had and for the tremendous hospitality given to them. Our Heroes returned home with full bellies, hearts and minds from some spectacular days spent in Arkansas. High praise and gratitude to event Host William French and his family for graciously hosting our Heroes and for making an already outstanding event even better. Special thanks to Will French Jr. and Lance Green for their incredible efforts throughout the event. Recognition and thanks to WWIA Guide Derrick Oursler for his leadership and assistance from start to finish.

*"To say that this event was memorable would not be doing it justice. The hospitality Mr. French, and his community and close friends showed us was truly humbling. They went above and beyond from the minute we arrived to maximize our opportunities at the 'true Arkansas' experience. From the amazing duck hunting holes to the deer stands and plots, including the intense and blood pumping hog hunt; we never had an idle moment and the memories made will truly last a lifetime."*

#### 4th Annual Long Leaf AL Whitetail and Quail Hunt

January 29 - February 1 Bay Minette, AL



Four of our combat-wounded Warriors traveled to scenic Bay Minette, Alabama to enjoy four outstanding days at the 4th Annual Long Leaf Alabama Whitetail and Quail Hunt. Once arriving at camp, everyone was able to confirm zero on their weapons before going to the hunting blinds for an evening hunt. A total of three deer were harvested the first evening, then everyone enjoyed a wonderful dinner of steak, potatoes and salad while getting to know one other before turning in for the night.

Everyone woke early on Saturday for a quick breakfast before heading to their designated hunting sites. It was another successful day in the field with four deer harvested and many other deer seen throughout the morning. The harvested deer were taken to the processor, then everyone gathered at the quail preserve to have a delicious lunch of fried chicken, fried catfish, various sides, and bread pudding, prepared by Tom McMillan, and generously paid for by the local [Stage Coach](#) restaurant. After lunch, our Heroes broke up into four man groups with their guides, conducted a safety briefing and ensured everyone knew the proper weapon orientation. The quail hunting was off the charts with over 140 birds harvested! Our sincere thanks to Hamilton Smith, owner of [Dennis Lake/Hamilton Smith Deer and Quail Hunting Club](#) and his incredible guides for volunteering their time and expertise at the quail preserve. After a memorable day, everyone headed back to the lodge for another wonderful dinner, much-needed relaxation, and some quality fellowship. The night ended early since everyone was exhausted from excitement of the day.

Sunday morning brought some early rain as everyone made their ways to their stands, and although plenty of deer were seen, none were harvested. At lunchtime, the group returned



to camp and feasted on fried catfish, and an incredible snmp boil. There was time to get in an evening hunt and two nice deer were harvested, including a four point buck. The last evening was full of great conversation and laughter as everyone reflected on the incredible time spent in Alabama. Tremendous appreciation and thanks to Host Andy McMillan, his family, and friends for hosting another spectacular event. Additional recognition and gratitude to WWIA Guide Jason Gaudette for his outstanding support and care throughout this event.

*"Not knowing what to expect on this trip, it has surpassed all my expectations. The Host and all the folks that supported the event made us feel right at home. The hunting was far beyond what I expected. I was not looking forward to not deer hunting and having to quail hunt as I had never quail hunted, but I could not have asked for a better location for my first time. The guides and dogs were first class all the way. I am so glad that I said yes to this event when it was offered. The support staff at WWIA is amazing and does not get the credit they deserve."*

## 1st Annual Ride for the Wounded Warriors in Action Barrel Race

November 14 Marshfield, MO

**1st ANNUAL RIDE FOR THE WOUNDED WARRIORS IN ACTION**  
**BARREL RACE**

1st Annual Ride for the Wounded Warriors in Action  
November 14, 2020  
Marshfield, MO

**Second Added**  
A special thank you to the Wounded Warriors in Action Foundation for their support and sponsorship of this event.

**WOUNDED WARRIORS IN ACTION 2020**  
HWY 38 ARENA  
Marshfield, MO

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HWY 38 ARENA  
Marshfield, MO

The 1st Annual Ride for the Wounded Warriors in Action Barrel Race was a huge success! This unique fundraiser featured competitive barrel racing along with various vendors on site as well. Everyone had an awesome time and an incredible total of \$4,312 was raised through t-shirt sales and direct donations. Our gratitude and thanks to Samantha Kamen of [Broken S Ranch at HWY 38 Arena](#) for graciously hosting this spectacular fundraising event. Additional thanks to all the tremendous supporters who came out to participate and support WWIA and our Purple Heart Heroes. ♥

## Double D's Pub & Eatery 1st Annual Coyote Hunt

February 13 Catawba, WI

**WWIA**  
EST. 2007  
HONOR. CONNECT. HEAL.

**Double D's Pub and Eatery's**  
**1st Annual**  
**Coyote Hunt**

February 13, 2021 - sunrise - 1pm

All proceeds benefit Wounded Warriors in Action Foundation, Inc. and will stay local.

**Two classes - Hounds men & Callers**

- 100% payout in both classes
- Biggest, Smallest and Most Coyotes

**Registration**

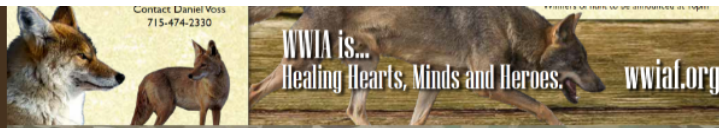
- February 12, 2021 between 7-9pm
- \$5 entry per person

For More Information

**Double D's Pub and Eatery**  
W9168 Hwy 8  
Catawba, WI 54151

Postcard dinner and music to follow the hunt. Raffles and 50/50 drawings as well as food and drink specials all day.

Masters of Hunt to be announced in March.



## WOUNDED WARRIORS IN ACTION FOUNDATION

[Double D's Pub and Eatery](#) in Catawba, Wisconsin kicked off the month of February with an outstanding coyote hunt to raise awareness and donations for the WWIA. They offered drink specials throughout the day and hosted a wonderful pot luck dinner with music following the coyote hunt. In addition, they also featured various raffle items, tee shirts, can koozies and wrist bands. It was a great time of hunting, food, and fellowship in the Northwoods. Thanks to the incredible local community, they were able to raise \$980 in support of WWIA and our combat-wounded veterans. This generous donation will go to support the local Camp Hackett events in Phillips, WI. High praise and appreciation to Daniel Voss, owner of Double D's Pub and Eatery, and to Green Creek Outfitters and Team Plott Hound for graciously donating their winnings back to WWIA. Additional thanks to everyone who came out to support this fundraising event for your outstanding patriotism.

### Good Life RV Resort WWIA Fundraiser

February Bartow, FL

## OUR APPRECIATION AND THANKS TO:



**Good Life RV Resort**

**FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT OF  
WWIA AND OUR HEROES!**



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The [Good Life RV Resort](#) in Bartow, FL recently held a fundraiser with ticket sales and donations graciously going to WWIA. They collectively raised an incredible \$6,087 in support of our Purple Heart Heroes! Trish and Jaybird Corcoran provided the emcee and dee-jay services, keeping the residents entertained well into the evening. Trish and Jaybird have been incredible supporters of the Foundation, bringing awareness to our mission as they travel around hosting music and dance parties. Our sincere thanks and appreciation to Trish and Jaybird and to the residents and staff of Good Life RV Resort for their tremendous support and patriotism.

### WWIA January/February Spotlight

## HOST SPOTLIGHT





## DAN DOLL

We are honored to kick off the first edition of 2021 by introducing you to this month's WWIA Spotlight Host, Dan Doll. Dan is Co-Host of the annual SW Ohio Bucks and Ducks Hunt, which recently celebrated their 10th year of proudly serving our Heroes. We appreciate Dan taking time out to share his thoughts and experience as a longtime WWIA event Host.

***Dan, can you please give us a brief introduction and tell us a little about yourself?***

My name is Dan Doll and I've been involved with the WWIA for 10 years now. I first became involved just as I was leaving my military career with just over 20 years of service. During this time I was on several deployments, one of them being Iraq in 2005-2006. I was in the Ohio National Guard most of this time while being a full time Fire Fighter for Cincinnati where I now have worked for over 20 years. As most people know juggling these duties while being married and raising small kids can make these tasks very challenging.

***How did you first get involved with WWIA?***

Just after my retirement from the Army National Guard I reached out to WWIA Founder and CEO, John McDaniel about the possibility of hosting an event in order to serve all the individuals that have faithfully served and sacrificed so much on behalf of our country. I was personally touched by my uncle, Hank Mueller who has been blind from the injuries he received during the Vietnam Conflict. He explained how he was treated when he returned from service and it horrified me that this could happen. My friend Dave Studenka and I wanted to make sure we did something to thank all of these incredible Warriors for the sacrifices they've made and to remind them that we appreciate and honor their service.

***Why do you choose to Co-Host the SW Ohio Ducks and Bucks event?***

My team and I are so grateful to host this event each year. We know that we have an impact and assist in bringing these individuals back the sense of camaraderie that they experienced while they served. This event gives them a sense of normalcy and belonging that can really help them heal from the mental and physical scars they experienced while serving our country.

***What have been some of the positive affects you have seen in the lives of Heroes that have attended your events?***

As we recently celebrated our tenth annual event, I believe we have made a genuine difference in the lives of some Heroes that have attended our events. We have been blown away at the incredible character of those we have met and are humbled by the gratitude that they have shown to us.

***You have an incredible community of volunteers, supporters, and donors who have selflessly supported your event over the past decade. Do you have any comments regarding your supporters?***

We could not do what we do without our incredible support staff of Mark Caskey, Don Staubitz, Richard Wright, Ken Staubitz, Charles Hagans, Dave Wittersteater, Joe Duvelious, John Haigwood, Eric Hicks and many others that contribute to this Southwest Ohio Chapter. We are also financially supported by the [Southwest Ohio Chapter of the Safari Club International](#) and too many incredible sponsors to mention them all here. We truly have exceptional community support in our mission to help our Heroes.

***What would you say to others who are considering getting involved with WWIA either as a Host or in any other capacity?***

Being involved with WWIA though hosting or volunteering for an event will change your perspective on the sacrifices these Heroes made for our great country. We are always amazed by the selflessness of these combat-wounded soldiers and enjoy the friendships that are formed though these weekend events. We see tremendous changes and healing occur during these events and the appreciation that they show toward our support staff is amazing. True friendships, strong bonds, and life-changing healing take place through serving and I cannot see a better way to help foster positive changes in the hearts and minds of our combat-wounded Heroes.



### **Sponsors and Friends**

We would like to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the following supporters for their gracious contributions and dedication to WWIA and our Heroes.

#### **THANK YOU!**

##### **Donations:**

Dan VanOoyen \$2,500

John Sullivan \$2,200

Oblander Gereghty Charitable Trust \$1,000

Kevin and Ivy Knapp \$1,000

Waymon Hornbeck \$1,000

Richard Rhymer \$978.05 (via CARS vehicle donation)

Robert Beron \$733.05 (via CARS vehicle donation)

Edward Barrett \$530.05 (via CARS vehicle donation)

Sarah Sullivan \$519.55 (via CARS vehicle donation)

##### **Donations toward 11th Annual MO-KAN**

##### **Ducks & Bucks Hunt**

Herzog Contracting Corp. \$2,500

Ima, Inc. \$2,500

Victory Chevrolet \$2,500

McCarthy Holdings, Inc. \$1,500

Randy & Mary Herzog \$1,500

Dragoo Metal Works, Inc. \$1,000

Rodney Stephenson \$1,000

R/S Electric Corp. \$500

Robert & Jane Bolin \$500

Terry & Patricia Supple \$500

John Dillow \$500

Brooks Family Dentistry \$500

Dayco Painting, Inc. \$500

Lance Cornelius Insurance Agency \$500

Shalz Home Improvement \$500

J.B. Hodgdon \$500

Dan & Brenda Byers \$500

Robert Bolin Jr. \$500

Shea-Lin Development \$500



Henry Miller Mechanical, LLC \$500

Steven Roberts \$500

Mark Williams \$500

Virgil & Shirley Frederes \$500

UPCO \$500

Community Foundation of Northwest Missouri \$500

**Donations toward 11th Annual NY Upland Bird Hunt and  
Couples Retreat**

David Merow \$1,000

**Donations toward 15th Annual Camp Hackett Events**

Robert Spoerl \$1,000

**Donations toward 10th Annual SW Ohio Bucks & Ducks Hunt**

Safari Club International SW Ohio Chapter \$1,500

**Donations toward 6th Annual W PA Turkey Hunt**

Tinum Services, LLC (Evan McWilliams) \$1,000

**Donations toward 7th Eagle River Muskie Chal-Lunge**

Brute Construction \$500

Order from Ammo.com and Help Our Heroes!



Our sincere thanks to [Ammo.com](http://Ammo.com) for their recent donation of \$8,077.12 to WWIA. They have donated an incredible \$23,575 to WWIA and our Heroes since 2019 through their Freedom Fighter program! When it comes time to order your ammunition, please consider ordering from Ammo.com. Whenever you purchase your ammo from them, they graciously donate 1% of your entire purchase back to the Foundation. All you have to do is select WWIA as your preferred "Freedom Fighter" option from the drop-down menu at checkout. And right now, you can also save \$20 off any order of \$200 or more! Simply click [HERE](#) to get started and find out more information. Our sincere thanks to Ammo.com for their tremendous support and to everyone who chose WWIA as their "Freedom Fighter" designation when ordering previously. We are honored by your support of WWIA and our

designation when ordering previously. We are honored by your support of WWIA and our Heroes and applaud your outstanding patriotism!

### Thank You Personal Edge Fitness!



We would like to recognize and thank our [Personal Edge Fitness](#) in Mobile, Alabama for their recent donation of \$3,000 to WWIA. They have hosted fundraising events at their fitness center in support of WWIA and our Purple Heart Heroes since 2017. Thank you, Personal Edge Fitness, for your outstanding patriotism and support!

### Our Sincere Gratitude to SCI SW Ohio Chapter!



Our gratitude and appreciation to the [SCI Southwest Ohio Chapter](#) for their outstanding support of WWIA and our Purple Heart Heroes throughout the years. SCI SW Ohio Chapter recently donated \$1,500 in support of the local 10th Annual Southwest Ohio Ducks and

Bucks Hunt. Your patriotism and generosity help us continue our mission of honoring, connecting, and healing our Heroes through the power of the great outdoors. Thank you!

#### Our Gratitude and Thanks to Dryshod Waterproof Footwear

THANK YOU  
**DRYSHOD**  
WATERPROOF FOOTWEAR



FOR YOUR TREMENDOUS PATRIOTISM AND SUPPORT OF  
THE WOUNDED WARRIORS IN ACTION FOUNDATION  
KUNEYTOWN FLX DUCKS & BUCKS HUNT.



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High praise and thanks to [Dryshod Waterproof Footwear](#) for their tremendous patriotism and support of the WWIA Kuneysville FLX Ducks and Bucks Hunt. They have graciously outfitted our Purple Heart Heroes with their outstanding boots over the past four years of this event, and we are grateful for their generosity and partnership.

#### Shop and Support WWIA Through AmazonSmile!



You can help support WWIA whenever you shop at Amazon through the AmazonSmile program! When you select WWIA as your preferred charity; anytime you shop at Amazon a portion of your purchase will go to support WWIA and our Purple Heart Heroes! Every bit



helps, in fact, WWIA received \$406.81 in the last quarter of 2020 from this program. If you're not already signed up, simply click [HERE](#) to be taken to the AmazonSmile page, and then select Wounded Warriors in Action Foundation as your charity option. Be sure to tell others, as it's a simple way to support us while doing something you already do. Thank you!

## Help Support WWIA Through Your Vehicle Donation!



1-855-500-RIDE



Did you know that you can help support WWIA and our Heroes by donating your car, truck, van, SUV, boat, motorcycle, ATV, RV, trailer or airplane? Working or not, free towing, tax benefits, and helping support our combat-wounded veterans are just a few of the benefits of using the CARS vehicle donation program. Simply click [HERE](#) to start the donation process or call CARS toll-free at 855-500-RIDE (855-500-7433) to have a donation staff specialist help guide you through the donation process. If you would like to learn more about how the CARS vehicle donation program works, please click [here](#). We thank you in advance for your support!

## Want to Learn More About WWIA? Visit Us Online!



Our website is full of information about who we are, how we serve our Purple Heart Heroes, and how you can get involved! Visit us today! Click [HERE](#)!

and now you can get involved. Visit us today. Click [here](#).

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW UPCOMING EVENTS](#)



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