



NOTES FROM THE FIELD: April/May 2023



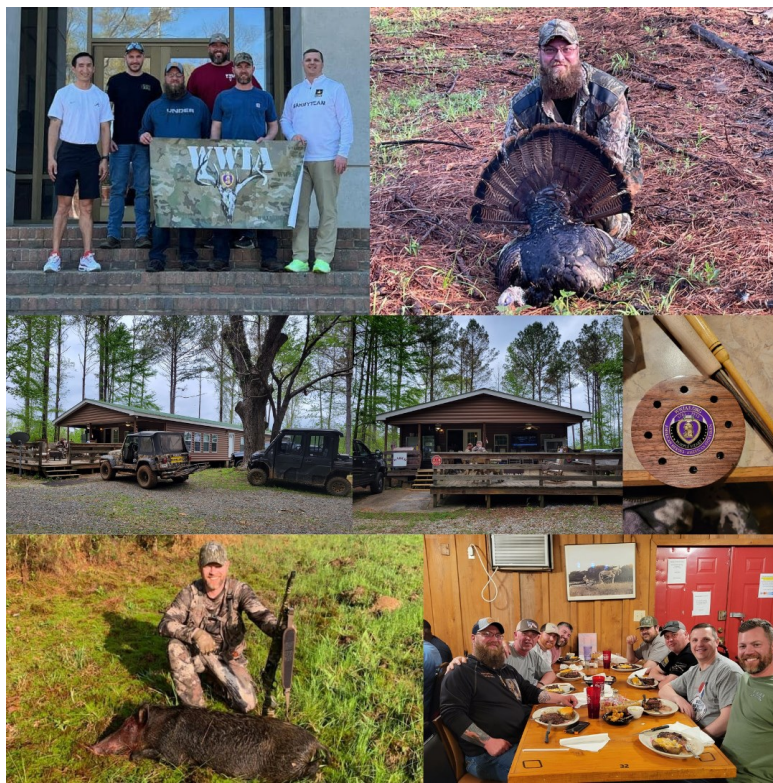
The spring season was an exciting and memorable time at WWIA as our Heroes took part in eight exceptional events across North America from April through May. The diversity of locations and events that we offer our Heroes is a direct result of our outstanding Hosts, donors, and volunteers that work so diligently behind the scenes. Serving our Purple Heart Heroes through events and fundraisers is truly a team effort consisting of hundreds of dedicated and patriotic partners who give of their time, finances, resources, expertise, and most importantly, selfless and generous hearts. Please continue sharing the mission of WWIA to help us reach and educate others about how we are serving and honoring our Heroes and how they can get involved. Read on for exciting highlights from our recent events and fundraisers. As always, thank you for standing with us to bring Honor, Connection, and Healing to our combat-wounded Warriors!



EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS

Inaugural Alabama Turkey & Hog Hunt

March 30 - April 3 Boaz, AL



The residents and businesses of Boaz, Alabama proudly welcomed four of our combat-wounded Warriors for the Inaugural Alabama Turkey and Hog Hunt. Once our Heroes arrived, they enjoyed a wonderful lunch at [Baumhower's Victory Grille](#) while getting to know their Host and one other. After lunch, our Heroes were given a special surprise as they treated to a personal tour of the University of Alabama football practice facility, courtesy of Marine veteran, Evan Van Nostrand, a two-time Purple Heart recipient and one of the University's athletic trainers. Everyone was grateful for the behind the scenes look at one of the nation's premiere football programs, and were amazed at the tradition, technology, and the overall logistics involved. It was a great bonding experience and an awesome way to kick off this event!

Later that afternoon, our Heroes arrived at their hunting camp, which was wonderfully appointed and perfect for a relaxing few days in the Alabama countryside. Once they were settled in, they were each gifted with a 12-gauge shotgun laser-engraved with the WWIA logo as well as a sling, sight, and an extended choke tube. They were also graciously presented with handmade diaphragm mouth calls and glass pot calls embossed with the WWIA logo. It was an incredible gesture that our Heroes were truly humbled by. Soon afterwards, everyone headed outside and patterned their shotguns in preparation for the upcoming hunt. The hunting camp owner and the event guides showed up just after dark to get acquainted with everyone and to discuss the upcoming hunts.

The next morning, everyone awoke full of anticipation and excitement as they hit the fields in search of turkeys. The hunt went well with everyone making contact with gobblers and getting in some practice with their new custom-made calls. After a long day in the field, everyone returned to get cleaned up and headed out for a delicious steak dinner while sharing stories and laughs as they prepared for another great day of hunting.

As our Heroes arose the next day, heavy thunderstorms and winds moved in, so there was some additional time to rest and relax. As the weather cleared, everyone headed out a few hours after sunrise. A short time later, Hero Joseph was able to connect on a nice turkey with a 10 inch beard and 1 3/8 inch spurs. Hero Dan was also able to harvest a 125lb sow. Later that afternoon, the sow was processed and tenderloins and back straps were used to make an awesome appetizer for that evening's dinner. Dinner consisted of hand-cut french fries and homemade burgers as the Heroes, Host, and their local guides had a wonderful time of fellowship, enjoying the company and conversation, and sharing their gratitude for the past few days spent together.

On the final day of the event, everyone hit the fields again and although they could hear gobblers, they simply couldn't close the distance as the birds were gobbling from the roost and weren't being responsive to calls. Nonetheless, everyone enjoyed themselves and the group decided to head back to start packing up their gear, and to clean up the buggies and the camp. Everyone then got ready for the final evening banquet held at the [Alabama Firearms Academy](#) in Boaz. Our Heroes were honored by over 100 members of the community who expressed their gratitude and appreciation for our combat-wounded Warriors. They were treated to an outstanding meal of steak, twice-baked potatoes, homemade pork rinds, and homemade ice cream courtesy of Rob Dempsey of Dempsey Family BBQ. WWIA Founder and CEO, John McDaniel was also present and briefly spoke to those in attendance, sharing the mission of WWIA and thanking everyone for their patriotism and support. Our Heroes were also graciously presented

with an official resolution from the [Alabama House of Representatives](#), written by Representatives [Brock Colvin](#) and [Wes Kitchens](#) that formally honored each Hero for their tremendous service and sacrifice on behalf of our country. It was a touching tribute that our Heroes were truly grateful for. After a phenomenal banquet dinner, everyone returned to camp and gathered around a fire to share their thoughts and experiences over the past four days before turning in for a good night's rest. It was the perfect exclamation point to a memorable and special time spent in Alabama.

This first-time event was planned and executed as if it had been running for many years prior. That success and precision was due to the thoughtful and exemplary efforts of Host Matt Brannon, to his incredible community of friends, volunteers, and supporters. The local people and businesses truly went above and beyond to ensure that our Heroes felt welcomed like family and made sure their stay was one that would not be forgotten! Special thanks to WWIA Guide Dan Berryman for his assistance and leadership throughout this event.

"I wanted to thank you for the amazing time I had at the WWIA turkey hunt in Alabama. WWIA is a top-notch organization and by far the best experience I've ever had hunting through a veteran's organization. Matt did an incredible job at planning, and I was truly blown away by the thought that was put into everything. You could tell that everything we did was meant for us to enjoy ourselves and forget about any troubles we were having. Having someone put together an event that also has a Purple Heart and can understand where we are all coming from was a game changer. I am still so thankful for all the gifts we received during the trip. There were a few things that I took away from this trip that actually made a difference in myself for the good. One of the biggest things I took away from the trip was I learned it was ok to be me. It is ok to be proud of the Purple Heart I have and just because I'm not missing any limbs doesn't mean I am not as important. Being around others who have Purple Hearts just like myself and are proud of who they are, really changed me. I had to stop working 2 years ago due to my injuries and I've struggled daily being proud to say I'm a disabled veteran."

Again, the WWIA is a world-class organization. From the founder to everyone behind the scenes that make these trips happen, they all need awards. As we talked before we departed, I'd love to be a part of WWIA in any fashion. If it's becoming a guide or simply just cooking at an event, it would be an honor. I'd love to tell people proudly that WWIA changed my life and I'm helping others change too."

6th Annual Great Creek Turkey Hunt

April 20-23 Alberta, VA



Four of our Heroes recently traveled to Alberta, Virginia to take part in the 6th Annual Great Creek Hunt Club Turkey Hunt. This awesome event always has tremendous community support, and they do an exceptional job of welcoming our Purple Heart Heroes and making them feel like family. Upon arrival, our Heroes were able to get familiar with their accommodations, meet some of the members of the Great Creek Hunt Club who would guide them on hunts over the next few days, and then pattern their shotguns.

The turkey hunting certainly lived up to expectations, with a great deal of turkey activity, lots of opportunities while in the field, and some beautiful turkeys harvested. In addition to world-class turkey hunting, our Heroes were also able to get in some quality time on the water, fishing for bass, crappie, and catfish. They enjoyed top-notch food, expertly prepared throughout their stay, consisting of wild game such as deer, turkey, and fish. The camaraderie,

fellowship, and time spent in the great outdoors on this event were second-to-none. Our Heroes were truly grateful for the ability to unplug from the day-to-day, and connect with other combat-wounded veterans while building new friendships and memories. Before leaving, each Hero was honored with a knife, turkey call, and hats to commemorate their time in Virginia.

We would like to express our genuine thanks and gratitude to Hosts Andy Wilson and the Great Creek Hunt Club for their outstanding attention and care shown toward our Heroes on this event and over the past six years. Special thanks to WWIA Guide Tim Spence for his contributions and care from start to finish.

"Having very little experience in the turkey woods, getting to hunt with WWIA and the Great Creek Hunt Club has been a tremendous time of fellowship and education. The great men of Great Creek Hunt Club hosted an absolutely wonderful weekend that was both fun and relaxing. All weekend Andy and all his club members offered their best efforts to make hunting engaging, safe and most of all fun. The hunting was excellent, the food was delicious and the experience unforgettable. Our WWIA representative, Tim Spence was very helpful in ensuring our acclimation into the fold of fellowship. I truly appreciate the opportunity to meet everyone during the spring turkey hunt with Great Creek Hunt Club. Words are not enough to capture the totality of positive experiences I had this weekend. Thank you to everyone from the bottom of my heart. The memories will last me a lifetime."

10th Annual Kansas Cast & Blast

April 26 - May 1 Cawker City, KS



The Kansas Cast & Blast event proudly celebrated their 10th year of serving our Purple Heart Heroes. This year, they welcomed four of our Heroes in scenic Cawker City as they enjoyed five days full of fellowship, hunting, fishing, and some well-deserved time away. As everyone arrived and settled in the first evening, our Heroes scouted and familiarized themselves with the hunting grounds, and developed a plan for the upcoming hunt. They were also able to were able to get in a quick hunt, and although some turkeys were seen, none were harvested. This only piqued everyone's anticipation for the next morning's hunt! Everyone headed back and enjoyed a nice dinner while getting better acquainted.

The next morning everyone made their way to their selected hunting locations with their assigned hunting guides. and Hero, Ed was able to harvest an impressive jake. This was the first time Ed had ever seen a turkey in the wild and he was excited to harvest an impressive turkey on his first hunt. After a hearty lunch, everyone went back out for an evening hunt, but no luck was had.

Unfortunately, the weather over the next few days turned, with lots of high winds, making it hard to hear birds and making for difficult hunting conditions overall. Our Heroes gave it their all, however; the birds were scarce. Everyone remained encouraged though, knowing they still had one final hunt the next morning. Regardless of what was harvested, our Heroes enjoyed the strong camaraderie, conversations, and bonds formed as they pursued these elusive turkeys.

The next morning, everyone awoke with great anticipation as the weather had cleared a bit. Their persistence and patience would pay off, as two mature toms were harvested. It was a nice exclamation point on a week full of exciting times in the field. Later that evening, our Heroes had a delectable prime rib dinner

while expressing their appreciation and gratitude to the guides, volunteers and the Hosts.

Our Heroes truly relished their time in Kansas. The hunting and time spent in pursuit of their prey was satisfying and exciting, but the highlight of the event was clearly the friendships formed and the memories made. The food, hospitality, and community involvement were superb, and our Heroes could not have been more grateful for the kindness they were shown throughout their stay. Our sincere appreciation to Host Carl Suter and friends for taking such tremendous care of our Heroes and for continuing to elevate this already stellar event year after year. Our gratitude and appreciation for 10 remarkable years of bringing healing and restoration to our combat-wounded veterans! Additional thanks to all the guides, volunteers, and supporters that helped make this event possible. High praise and recognition to WWIA Guide Matt Brannon for his tremendous expertise and attention throughout this event.

"Words cannot accurately describe what an amazing event this was. Everyone involved went above and beyond to make this an outstanding event for the veterans. The sense of fellowship was exceptional, and the Kansas landscape was beautiful. This was listed as a turkey hunt, but it was so much more. The ability to spend quality time with great patriots who opened up their land to us, make new friends and spend time in nature does so much more than any medicine or doctor's appointment could ever do. Thank you to our Host Carl Suter for his hospitality and culinary masterpieces. Thank you to all who were involved in this event, you have made an impact larger than you will ever know."

13th Annual Wisconsin Cast & Blast

April 28 - May 1 Wausau, WI



Five of our Heroes made the trek to Rothschild, WI to partake in four incredible days at the 13th Annual Wisconsin Cast & Blast. As our Heroes began to arrive, they were greeted with pizza and snacks for dinner and then settled into their accommodations. After dinner, our Heroes went to Tony Kopchinski's workshop, who proudly hosts the annual Wisconsin Woodturning Event. While visiting his workshop, the Heroes were able to learn about the art of woodturning and were able to try their hand at this amazing skillset. They were able to make some beautiful rolling pins, plates, and slate turkey calls. This was the perfect way to kick off the event. The remainder of the evening was spent preparing for the morning hunt and getting better acquainted.

Everyone was up around 4am, grabbed a quick bite to eat, then paired up with their local guides to go in search of eastern wild turkeys. Success came early as Hero Glen harvested a nice mature tom. The weather began to turn as the temperature dropped, the wind picked up, and the snow began to fall. Our Heroes sustained and were soon rewarded as Hero Jeremy harvested a beautiful turkey just before sunrise. The snow continued falling throughout the day, and although our Heroes hit the fields again after lunch and stayed late into the evening, no other birds were harvested that day. Our Heroes got cleaned and warmed up, then feasted on a delicious meal of elk burgers and wild turkey soup, courtesy of Mrs. Mike Plaza. Everyone talked about an awesome first day of hunting it had been and then later returned to their hotel to get some well-deserved rest.

Another early rise and our Heroes were back out to chase the elusive gobblers as the mix of rain and snow continued to fall. The weather did not deter their success as Hero Aris harvested a phenomenal mature tom that had 1 3/8th spurs and a 10" beard! Shortly after everyone gathered back at the Hosts

home to get warmed up with some coffee and a hearty brunch while enjoying plenty of conversation, stories, and laughs. They were also graciously presented with custom long-sleeved t-shirts commemorating the event. That afternoon, some of the Heroes hit the woods again while others went back over to Tony's woodturning workshop. Later that evening, everyone gathered back at the Bohm's house to shoot some pool, share some hunting tales, and enjoy another wonderful dinner together. Two of our Heroes decided to try to get in a late evening hunt and although no birds were harvested, they relished the opportunity to be out in the quiet solace of nature as the evening slowly gave way to nightfall.

On the final morning's hunt, the plan was to get out well before daybreak and attempt to intercept the turkeys before they crossed the open field of the hunting property. Unfortunately, as our Heroes arrived they could see five mature toms already across the field. They pursued the wiley turkeys but were not able to harvest any. A short time later, everyone headed back to the hotel to prep for their trip home. There was time to relax and the Heroes shared their thoughts about the trip, life in general, and their time spent in the service. It was a nice way to end the event and further strengthen the bonds that had been formed throughout the past few days. Our Heroes headed home with big smiles, some amazing woodturning items, coolers full of frozen turkey meat, and most importantly, new friendships and treasured memories of an exceptional time spent with amazing people in the Wisconsin woods.

Our sincere thanks to all the wonderful donors, volunteers, and supporters who went above and beyond to make this event so successful and enjoyable. We would like to convey our highest thanks to Hosts Todd and Dawn Bohm for their generosity, care, and for conducting another top-tier event. Additional thanks to Tony Kopchinski, for sharing his knowledge and skill with our Heroes. Last, but certainly not least, our appreciation and praise to WWIA Guide Jeremy Smith for his exemplary support and coordination throughout the event.

"This has been an amazing trip. I want to thank WWIA and the great folks in Wisconsin for making my trip absolute perfection. Thank you for making me feel like I am part of the wolf pack and for giving me the opportunity to meet other brothers in arms. All the support you all give us veterans means so much to me from the bottom of my heart. As much as I love to hunt (I got to harvest a turkey), the most important part was the camaraderie. Thanks again and God Bless."

8th Annual Western Pennsylvania Turkey Hunt

May 4-7 Rural Valley, PA



Another exceptional time was had at the 8th Annual Western PA Turkey and Fishing Event in scenic Rural Valley. Four of our Heroes gathered to enjoy world-class hunting and fishing with their fellow Purple Heart brothers in the rolling hills of Western Pennsylvania. Upon arrival at the hunting lodge, everyone had a great time getting to know one another while getting settled and enjoying an incredible dinner. The Heroes also had the opportunity to meet and get acquainted with their local hunting guides.

The weather could not have been more ideal during their stay, setting up awesome opportunities for hunting and fishing. Our Heroes were introduced to a hunter's paradise, as they were privileged to hunt at two beautiful and expansive properties; a combined 400 acres of hunting grounds that were plentiful with deer, turkey, and a well-stocked bass fishing pond. Although there was activity and all Heroes were able to see and hear turkeys, the rut was coming to an end and the hens were on their nests, providing limited

opportunities. However, Hero, Jeremy was able to harvest a nice turkey.

Our Heroes were also treated to some private trout fishing courtesy of Inga Armstrong of [Blackleggs Trout Nursery](#), a private hatchery that was freshly stocked full of brook, brown, rainbow, and golden trout. They were also able to fish multiple times on the pond that was located behind their hunting camp. Our Heroes thoroughly enjoyed their time on the water, catching a ton of fish throughout their time in Pennsylvania.

As great as the hunting and fishing was, the friendships and camaraderie during this trip were exactly what these Heroes needed to help them regroup and reconnect. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Hosts Dan and Susan Bevevino for putting on another world-class event for our Heroes. Additional gratitude goes out to local Guides Frank Bevevino, Frank Condino, Todd Raible, Dave Okopal, Tony Brunetta, and Scott Crownover for their knowledge and expertise. Special thanks to Frank Condino for his continued dedication and assistance, and for presenting a beautiful custom-made knife to each Hero that his cousin fabricated especially for them. High praise and appreciation to Indiana Country Club for providing a great dinner during this event. We also want to recognize and thank WWIA Guide Dan Berryman for his attentiveness and care throughout these four days.

"I would like to thank all involved in the 8th Annual Rural Valley Turkey Hunt. The outpouring of support and appreciation from the staff and all involved was amazing. Many times, veterans exit the service, many after years of combat, and they feel somewhat lost and detached. Many times, they simply can't adjust to their new environment. These events are priceless to us to allow us to reconnect. Thank you so much."

8th Annual DoubleCreek Tennessee Turkey Hunt

May 5-8 Hohenwald, TN



Five of our Heroes traveled to the Volunteer State for a few days of relaxation, camaraderie, and world-class turkey hunting in beautiful Hohenwald, Tennessee at the 8th Annual DoubleCreek TN Turkey Hunt. After getting settled into their accommodations and receiving a tour from their Hosts and then spent some time at the firing range going over weapon safety and preparing their weapons for the upcoming hunts. A short time later, our Heroes met with their volunteer guides and enjoyed a delicious home-cooked dinner consisting of london-broil, mashed potatoes, honey carrots and a delicious butterfinger cake while talking and getting to know one another.

The next morning our Heroes rose early to a wonderful pancake breakfast before heading out to their blinds by 5am. The first day in the field saw plenty of excitement for everyone as the turkeys were quite active, but unfortunately, no birds were harvested. After another hearty homemade dinner that included pulled barbeque chicken and pasta salad, everyone relaxed around the fire pit sharing stories and laughter before turning in for the night.

Our Heroes woke early and full of anticipation as they enjoyed fresh-brewed coffee, egg muffins, biscuits and gravy, and cinnamon donut muffins. After another delicious breakfast, it was back to their assigned blinds for an exciting day of hunting. Once again, there was a smattering of activity and lots of close calls, but no toms were taken on the second day. Nonetheless,

everyone had a great time as they understood that the camaraderie, time spent in nature, and the enjoyment of the hunt is what mattered most. Later that evening, they dined on turkey pot-pie, salad, and dinner rolls while raving about the wonderful time spent at DoubleCreek Lodge with their fellow Heroes and their remarkable Hosts.

Our Heroes left Tennessee with new friendships, renewed spirits, and lifelong memories. Gratitude and thanks to the local event guides, Dan Thomas, Jared Hinson, Ryan Reynolds, Adam Tomlin, and Chase Moore, who shared their skills and knowledge with our Heroes. Additional recognition and thanks to Rob and Amy Reynolds, to the Highland Corporation, to Game Warden Jonas Cothran, Angela Warren, Tammy Adkins, Karen Etchison, Cristi Hinson, Travis Hinson, and to all the generous donors and supporters without whom this event would not be possible. High praise and appreciation to Hosts Dennis Reynolds and Shelley Cohen for their tremendous hospitality and care of our Heroes throughout the years. Special thanks to WWIA Guide Asa Barrett for his outstanding support throughout this four-day event.

"I can't say thank you enough! I put off applying for a hunt because I really don't like being around people, but I decided to step out of my comfort zone and do it anyways. I felt welcome as soon as I got here, great Hosts, great guides, and a great group of guys to hunt with. I am really glad that I did this and will be trying to get on other hunts in the future."

2nd Annual Truxton Turkey and Trout

May 18-22 Truxton, NY



Three of our Heroes were warmly welcomed to Truxton, NY to enjoy turkey hunting at its finest over five days at the 2nd Annual Truxton Turkey and Trout Event, hosted by Trent McCall in conjunction with the WWIA NY FLX chapter. Upon arrival, a safety briefing was given, and everyone was able to familiarize themselves with their weapons and get "sight in" time on the range in preparation for the upcoming hunt. There was also time the first evening to do some fishing and for our Heroes and Hosts to get acquainted. Stories and laughs were shared around the dinner table while enjoying a wonderful home-cooked meal, courtesy of the McCall's. After dinner, the accessible property was scouted for birds, and everyone discussed the specifics for the next morning's hunt. The remainder of the evening was spent relaxing and getting a good night's sleep.

This event is special because not only did it offer our Heroes time in the field hunting for turkeys, but it also allowed them plenty of time to fish throughout the course of the weekend. There was a great deal of turkey activity during their stay, and one Hero was able to harvest a beautiful bird! Numerous trout were also caught throughout the weekend, giving our Warriors ample time both in the field and on the water. When they weren't hunting and fishing, there was time to unwind, and there was a plethora of delectable meals to share great conversations around. Every morning, a warm casserole meal was enjoyed before setting out on their hunts, and after a full and exciting day, there were multi-course meals to feast on such as a delicious fish dinner, courtesy of the Poole family, a Mississippi pot roast meal, a steak and seafood bake over an open fire, homemade pies, homemade ice cream, and tons of other food prepared by gracious friends, family, and supporters! This event was truly checked off all the boxes, providing our Heroes with the perfect combination of relaxation, hospitality,

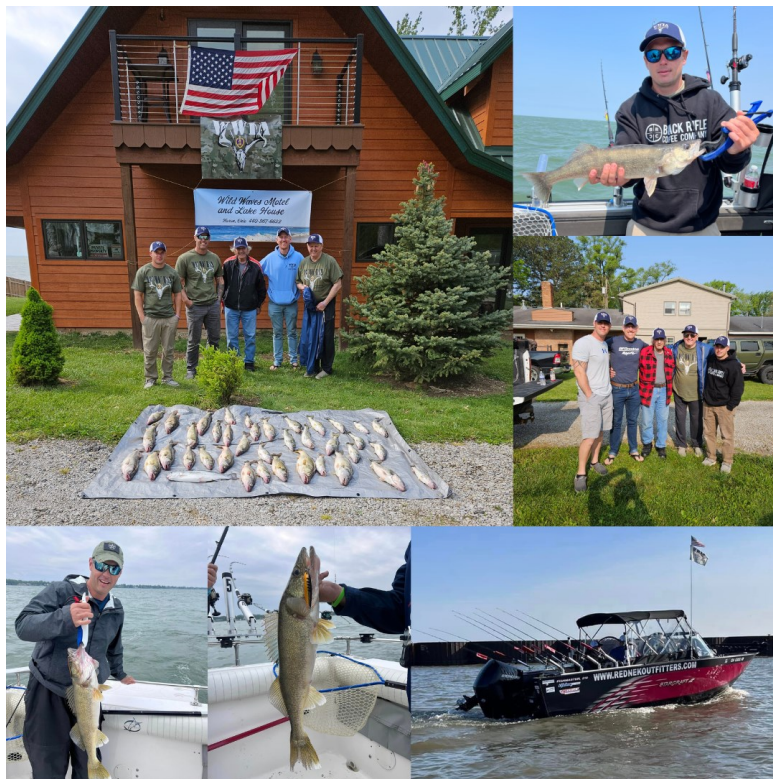
outdoor sporting activities, and time spent with phenomenal people! Everyone enjoyed themselves and our Heroes spoke fondly about the wonderful time spent in the Finger Lakes over the past few days and the new friendships they made.

This event was simply incredible, and the bonds formed and memories made will last a lifetime. None of this would have been possible without the generosity and hard work from Host Trent McCall, and the tremendous efforts and support of the [Kuneytown Sportsmen's Club](#), Dr. Keith Tidball, as well as the thoughtful support of the local community members. Special thanks to Ed and Laurie Poole, [Poole's Drive-In](#), [Four Leaf Custom Calls](#), and Lloyd and Martha McCall. Additional appreciation and thanks to Hero, Nathan for getting some first-class drone shots at the event, to [K & H Motor Sports](#), Melonie Unger, Otis Young Estate, [Whey Street Dairy](#), Bundy Creek Farms, and to Wade and Nick Sprouse. We salute Gary Leach and Josh Streichert for their expertise and knowledge in providing our Heroes with top-notch guide services. Gratitude and praise to WWIA Guide Jake Whipkey for his exemplary attention and care on this event.

"This has been a weekend to remember. I have had such a great time. The memories had and friends made are something I will remember for the rest of my life. I would like to thank everyone that made this event possible."

5th Annual Ohio Freemasons Lake Erie Walleye Fishing

May 19-22 Huron, OH



Five of our Warriors converged on Huron, Ohio to enjoy four days of outstanding fishing, camaraderie, and fun at the 5th Annual Ohio Freemasons Lake Erie Walleye Fishing Event. The shores of Lake Erie provided a perfect backdrop for our Heroes to unwind, recharge, and enjoy a few days of much-needed downtime. To welcome our Heroes, they were treated to an exceptional dinner by grateful members of the community, courtesy of the [Holland-Bond VFW Post 7576](#). Our Heroes quickly discovered why Lake Erie is one of the premiere walleye locations in the world as there were copious amounts of walleye caught during their time on the water. This would not have been possible without the selfless dedication and expertise of the volunteer fishing guides from this area. This event has exceptional support and our Heroes were humbled by the patriotic and gracious members of the local community, the veteran service organizations, and the [Grand Lodge of Ohio](#). It offered not only world-class fishing, but more importantly, camaraderie and newfound friendships amongst the Heroes. They left Ohio with tremendous gratitude, wonderful memories, and coolers filled with walleye as evidence of an amazing time spent with amazing people.

Our sincere appreciation and thanks to Host Virgil Tent and the Ohio Freemasons for conducting another spectacular event in honor of our combat-wounded veterans. Huge thanks to Thomas Nichols and Jim Clifford for their coordination and stellar assistance, as well as Felicia Tent, Cheryl Nichols and Crissie Clifford. Special recognition and applause to boat Captains Mark and Meme Carr, Mike and Dana Daugherty, and Mathew Leben for sharing their time, skills, and for expertly guiding our Heroes while on the water. Additional gratitude to Patti and staff from the [Wild Waves Motel](#) for their hospitality and care, to Tom Dunn, President of the VFW Post 7576 for hosting dinner for our Heroes and for donating use of their hall for

the event fundraiser, the VFW Post 7576 Ladies Auxiliary, Messenburg Creative Catering, Blue Ribbon Catering, and to Derby Registrations for their efforts and generosity. We salute volunteers Anita Rivers, Cindy Bansek and her sister, and all the volunteers who worked selflessly to help honor and serve our combat-wounded veterans. High praise to WWIA Guide Derrick Oursler for his exceptional coordination and support throughout the entire excursion.

"Where do I begin!? What an amazing experience! From the cooks to the Boat Captains, everyone went above and beyond to put the Heroes needs above everything else. To the Boat Captains, Mark and Meme, Mike and Dana, and Virgil and Matt, thank you so much for this opportunity. Derrick, thank you for being an amazing Guide, always putting us Heroes first, always making sure we were taken care of. This was a much-needed trip for me. A mental reset. It was great to feel relevant again. I tend to feel lost most days. I just want to thank every one of you. What an epic trip."



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:

**Clarice Stream \$1,000 (in memory of Glenn Stream)
Maynard Ramsey \$519.80 (in memory of Boyd Wynne)
Community Foundation of Tampa Bay \$500
MG Newell Corporation \$500**

Donations toward 5th Ohio Freemasons Walleye Fishing

Veterans of Foreign Wars Ohio \$2,000

Donations toward 15th Camp Hackett Events

**Stuart Struensee \$600
Michael Angle \$600**

Donations toward 13th North Carolina OBX Fins & Feathers

Seaside Realty Inc \$1,000

Donations toward 9th Eagle River Muskie Chal-Lunge

**Safari Club International Wisconsin Chapter \$1,000
Premier Powersports & Marine \$1,000
Randy Krohn Builders LLC \$1,000
Randy Rice \$519.80 (in honor of Bob Jacobs)
Ferrell Gas \$700
Appraisal Associates \$500
Bostwick Investments \$500**

High Praise and Appreciation to Dairyland Fence!





Our gratitude and thanks to [Dairyland Fence](#) and owner, Russ Heule for their exceptional donation of \$10,000 to WWIA. This donation will go toward supporting the upcoming 10th Annual Wounded Warriors In Action Bayfield Cast & Blast in Delta, Wisconsin. Dairyland Fence has been a tremendous supporter of WWIA over the years, having donated an incredible \$44,840.00 in support of our mission to bring Honor, Connection, and Healing to our Purple Heart Heroes. We truly appreciate their outstanding patriotism and are humbled by their generosity. Thank you!

We Appreciate Your Tremendous Partnership & Support, Ammo.com



Please join us in recognizing and thanking our friends and partners at [Ammo.com](#) for their recent donation of \$4,055.36 to WWIA. These amazing Bronze Star Patrons have donated an incredible \$80,828.30 to WWIA and our Heroes since 2019 through their Freedom Fighter program. Wow! 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 WWIA. 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 go to <https://ammo.com/wwia-supporter> 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. We are honored by your generosity and partnership, and we applaud your outstanding patriotism!

Thank you Bishop's Events, for Your Generosity and Support!

THANK YOU



Our gratitude and thanks to [Bishop's Events](#) and owner Travis Bishop for their incredible donation of \$2,543 to WWIA from the 2023 Racin' Around the Lake 5k, 10k, & Half (Fairfax Station, Virginia) in April and the 2023 Fallen Soldiers Memorial 5k, 10k, & Half (Great Falls Park, Maryland) held on Memorial Day. Bishop's Events has been a faithful supporter of the Foundation since 2019, and we truly appreciate their outstanding generosity and patriotism. Additional thanks to all the runners who came out to show their tremendous support for our Purple Heart Heroes. Learn more about Bishop's Events races [here](#). ♀ ♂

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Have you checked out the WWIA Podcast yet? If you haven't given it a listen yet, what are you waiting for!? It's a great way to stay connected, go behind the scenes, and get to know more about the incredible people who are a part of our WWIA family. You can listen and download current and past episodes on our website by clicking [here](#). You can also find the WWIA Podcast on your favorite podcast service, such as iTunes, Google Podcasts, Spotify, etc. New episodes drop every two weeks. Be sure to share this with your friends, family, and those in your network! Do us a favor and please leave a review wherever you listen to the podcast. We've got lots of great episodes and guests coming your way, so tune in, subscribe, and enjoy!

How Can You Help Support WWIA and Our Heroes?



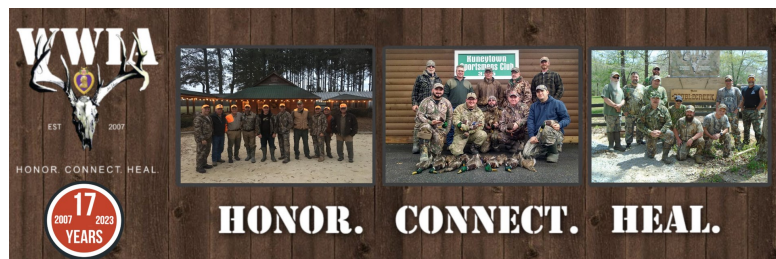
Did you know that there are lots of different ways to help support WWIA and our Heroes? You can donate online, via mail, via PayPal, through vehicle donations, through shopping with our friends and partners, through workplace giving, through donor advised funds, legacy giving, on Giving Tuesday, and so much more! Click [here](#) to learn more about the many ways you can give and partner with WWIA in our mission to bring healing and

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Our website is full of information about who we are, how we serve our combat-wounded veterans, and how you can be involved. Visit us today! Click [HERE!](#)

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