

17 June, 1999

WFA History

By

Clifford S. Kellogg

The beginnings of the Washington Falconers Association were prior to its actual inception. It all started about 1977/78. During that time period, there were various circles of friends who each were expressing the desire to see a formal state organization formed. Foremost among these were Doug Pineo and a number of the Spokane area falconers, Dave Bates and some of his friends on the coast, and the Kellogg family and their circle of close friends.

The real start came in 1978. It was then that Cliff Kellogg along with help from Brian Sullivan, Brian and Linda Kellogg, and Lee Mann, arranged the first in several years field meet at the residence of Russ Taylor's in Selah, Washington, near Yakima. Prior field meets had been held years before by both the Northwest Falconers Association and the Rainier Hawking Club, in western Washington. A more complete description of the 1978 meet can be found on page 27 of the December, 1978 Hawk Chalk. Another detailed observation of this event is on page 37, December, 1987 Hawk Chalk.

Since that fall meet at Russ's place, we've not missed a year here in Washington State. Indeed, we've had many memorable times!

Over the years, many individuals have served in official capacities in our organization. The following is data I've gathered from copies of our Mewsletters.

1980-81

President	Brian Kellogg
Field Marshal	Lee Mann
Sec/Treas	David Bates
West Dir	Clifford Kellogg
Central	Mike Bryant
East	Allen Gardner

1982-83

President	Ray Lutes
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Field Marshal	Lee Mann
Sec/Treas	Brian Kellogg
West Dir	Clifford Kellogg
Central	Mike Bryant
East	Doug Pineo

1984-85

President	Clifford Kellogg
Field Marshal	Brad Wood
Sec/Treas	Larry Ray
West Dir	Steve Bilbro
Central	Daryl McNelly
East	Tom Stralser

1986-87

President	Clifford Kellogg
Field Marshal	Dan Pike
Sec	Toby Bradshaw
Treas	Larry Ray
West Dir	Lee Mann
Central	Mark Holloway
East	Allen Gardner

1988-89

President	Doug Pineo
Treas/Fld Marshl	Dan Pike
Secretary	Greg Rash
West Dir	Brian Katona
Central	Steve Seibert
East	Allen Gardner

1990-91

President	Brian Kellogg
Field Marshal	Ron Knapp
Sec/Treas	Dan Pike
West Dir	Roger Hutfless
Central	Ron Updegrave
East	Brian Sullivan

1992-93

President	Larry Ray
Field Marshal	Ron Knapp
Sec/Treas	Anthony Potestivo (Cam Griffin took over upon
Anthony's resignation)	
West Dir	Steve Layman

Central Jim Nelson
East Todd Sherer

1994-95

President Jim Nelson
Vice-President Ron Knapp
Secretary Brenda Nelson
Treasurer Marc Adams
West dir Phil Smith
Central Dave Palo
East Todd Sherer (Ron Updegrave took over for Todd upon
Todd's relocation to Oregon).

1996/97

President Brad Wood
Vice-President Chuck Arnold
Secretary Glenn Anderson
Treasurer Tim Juneau/Jim Hubbard
NW Dir Phil Smith
SW Roger Long
Central Steve Seibert
East Jeff Rossey
DAL Clifford Kellogg

1998

President Clifford Kellogg
Vice-President Lee Mann
Secretary Larry Ray
Treasurer Linda Kellogg
NW Dir Tom Boulton
SW Geoff Hirschi
Central Steve Seibert
East Dave Gardiner
DAL Phil Smith

1999

President Phil Smith
Vice-President Taffy Mercer
Secretary Geoff Hirschi
Treasurer Linda Kellogg
NW Dir Tom Boulton
SW Cory Rhea
Central Steve Seibert
East Dave Gardiner
DAL Dan Pike

2000

President	Phil Smith
Vice-President	Taffy Mercer
Treasurer	Linda Kellogg
Secretary	Geoff Hirschi
NW Dir	Tom Boulton
SW	Cory Rhea
Central	Ron Knapp/Steve Baird
East	Chris Merker
DAL	Dan Pike

2001

President	Brad Wood
Vice-President	Linda Kellogg
Treasurer	Marie Toikka
Secretary	Henry Thomas/Janna Kellogg
NW Dir	Larry Ray
SW	Cory Rhea/Brian Tallon
Central	Steve Baird/Mike Roper
East	Chris Merker
DAL	Dan Pike

2002

President	Brad Wood
Vice-President	Linda Kellogg
Treasurer	Marie Toikka
Secretary	Janna Kellogg
NW Dir	Paul DeBruyn
SW	Lee Mann
Central	Mike Roper
East	Mike Farrell
DAL	Allen Gardner

2003

President	Brad Wood
Vice-President	Darrell Farris
Treasurer	Marie Toikka
Secretary	Janna Kellogg
NW Dir	Paul DeBruyn
SW	Lee Mann
Central	Mike Roper
East	Mike Farrell
DAL	Allen Gardner

2004

President	Brad Wood
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Vice-President	Darrell Farris
Treasurer	Marie Toikka
Secretary	Janna Kellogg
NW Dir	Paul DeBruyn
SW	Al Ingram
Central	Steve Seibert
East	Garrett Starr
DAL	Allen Gardner

2005

President	Brian Kellogg
Vice-President	Paul DeBruyn
Treasurer	Clifford Kellogg
Secretary	Janna Kellogg
NW Dir	David Maritz
SW	Al Ingram
Central	Steve Seibert
East	Garrett Starr
DAL	Allen Gardner

The Washington Falconers Association has accomplished much during our almost 20 years of existence. In addition to some of the highlights listed below, the WFA has been continuously maintaining our hunting seasons, improving upon our regulations, acting as a watchdog on various animal rights activities, keeping good relations going with regulatory agencies, working on various conservation activities, maintaining positive PR with groups like Sierra Club, Audubon, etc..... .

Highlights and notable accomplishments of the Washington Falconers Association

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| 1980 | Andrew S. Bolland designs the WFA logo, still in use today! |
| 1981 | 1 st WFA Journal, edited by Janet Connally. |
| | 1 st extended 6 month hunting season obtained by WFA! |
| 1983 | Falconers lose access to passage Gyrfalcons; "Biological data" from "the North" is the stated reason. Pressure from Audubon suspected. In time, this proves to be true. |

1984 Affiliation with the Inland Empire Big Game Council and the Washington Environmental Council.

June 9: 1st Annual WFA Picnic, at the residence of Roger Hutfless, Frank Lapsansky and Clifford Kellogg.

2nd WFA Journal, edited by Andrew S. Bolland and Walt Lowry.

May 9: Gyrfalcon meeting: Present representing WFA: Steve Layman, Doug Pineo, Tracy Fleming. Present Representing Audubon were multiple individuals, most of which were advocating a permanent ban on gyrfalcon harvest by falconers. The decision made as a result of this meeting was a political one, allocating a maximum of 3 gyrfalcons in years of good production in their breeding areas, none in poor years. The Wildlife Department viewed this as a "resource partitioning issue".

This decision was to hold for 12 years. During that time, various attempts were made by the WFA to relax the gyrfalcon harvest restrictions, to no avail.

June 29: OPERATION FALCON; See August 1984 NAFA Hawk Chalk for details. No Washington falconers were implicated in this sting operation by the USFWS.

1985 Sale of captive bred raptors legalized in WA: to date, only individuals possessing breeding permits are allowed to sell. This was a *MAJOR MILESTONE!!*

1986

1987 10th annual consecutive field meet held.

WFA/NAFA participation at National Audubon Society Conference; Bellingham, WA, in order to further positive relations.

1990 Import/export permit requirement for falconry raptors Removed. Adoption of federal regs for banding (no more banding except certain species); elimination of state annual reports.

1991 Extended waterfowl season for falconers. Extended Dove

- Season. Seasons further extended for rabbits and upland birds. Increase in pheasant bag limit (to 2/day). Hunting hour restriction exemption, and hunter orange exemption.
- 1992 Limit of 6 live starlings/english sparrows eliminated.
- Yakima firing range closed to falconry (illegally, by the range). WDFW & WFA get it re-opened.
- 1993 1st annual spring Partridge fest, Dave and Robin Knudtson's residence. Proceeds are to go to conservation projects in WA., to be decided by WFA board.
- 1994 Auburn anti-hunting ordinance successfully challenged by WFA attorney.
- WFA mews inspections initiated as a pilot. This continues Today as a recognized program!
- New falconry exam written by Jim Nelson and approved by The board. Gains acceptance and use by WDFW.
- WFA approved by OMA as Wild Bird Conservation Act co-op permit holder
- 1995 August: Revised regs proposed by WFA. Many adopted, Notably: Increase of gyrfalcon harvest to 5, for *Masters only*, excluding western WA and Grant County (note: Grant County was a loss, since John Pierce of WDFW had allowed such harvest prior). Additionally, the Masters only portion had always been an agreement between WDFW and WFA. This was successfully challenged by one individual. Upon the results of a WFA poll, it was decided that the WFA would support the concept of passage gyrfalcons for Master class falconers. Non residents may now take redtails and kestrels, and residents may now export wild taken raptors after one year of possession (previously, no nonresident take was allowed, and one could simply NOT export a wild taken Washington raptor). The Yakima canyon restriction on harvest of prairie falcons was removed. Keeping in line with Federal regulations, adult plumage kestrels and great horned owls are now allowed. Various other items cleaned up.
- 1999 WFA Website up and running!!!!!!

In one of the most significant events affecting falconry and conservation in decades, the USFWS finally and completely de-lists the Peregrine. WFA and many other state falconry organizations now work to de-list and gain harvest access at their levels.

- 2000 Jackrabbits are closed to any and all hunting by the WDFW. As a result, the WFA achieves a new WAC (WAC 232-12-106), which is essentially a “leave it lay” clause, protecting the falconer inadvertently catching non-target species, with certain conditions.
- 2001 Initiative 713 passes. This citizen’s initiative is backed by out of state animal rights organizations, and effectively eliminates the legal use of any sort of trap using a noose or nooses. For falconers, this means Bal-chatris, pigeon harnesses, noose carpets, and Phai traps. WFA and many other organizations worked in an attempt to defeat this initiative.
- New WFA Editorial Policy Adopted by the Board.
- WFA continues to work with the WDFW on Peregrine Down-listing.
- 2002 December 7: Washington Wildlife Commission revised existing codes to allow the harvest of Peregrines, contingent on the Feds allowing such a harvest. This is another major milestone in Washington Falconry, and one which would not have come about without the diligent work of the WFA Board and Members!
- 2003 WDFW “Decides” that using wild-taken raptors in propagation is not legal, despite many incidents indicating precedence. WFA begins dialogue to remedy this situation.
- 2004 This is one of the most historic years in Washington Falconry history. For the first time in over 30 years, wild Peregrines are legally harvested! The limit of birds was set at 3, and 3 birds were harvested. This caused multiple celebrations throughout the state’s falconers, and the fresh eyass peregrines could be seen at different functions, such as the Partridge Fest, and the WFA picnic.

2005

This year is the WFA's Silver Anniversary! Can't believe it's been that long! The most recent political news is that Wild taken Washington raptors now MAY be used for propagation; however, their progeny man NOT be sold. The Commission plans to revisit this in two years, hopefully the WFA can get some additional relief.