



# Adventures enabled.

2013 NEWSLETTER  
AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS

# WWO Friends,

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Friends,

Our "Adventures Enabled" season for 2013 is now complete. What a year it has been!

Upon completion each year, we publish our annual newsletter and for me, my most difficult piece of correspondence. This letter! It is next to impossible to describe the year's accomplishments in just a few short paragraphs.

In trying to describe our 2013 season, one word in particular comes to mind - Trust. In today's scam filled world caution is the name of the game on every level. Our warrior guests, our sponsors and our donors, as well as our volunteers, have all experienced scams at some point. All are cautious, as they should be, just as WWO is cautious. Trust must be earned and dues must be paid along the way. After remaining focused to our mission, our most important guests, our sponsors, our donors and our remarkable volunteers, all of whom comprise the WWO Team, and all of whom are responsible for what we have accomplished, this year I feel like we have matured as a trusted charity.

Our warriors arrive less guarded and more eager, opening the way to greater personal accomplishments. Our military hospitals trust us with their most prized wounded warriors. Our sponsors and donors trust us with their generous funding as well as allowing their names to be associated with WWO. Our countless volunteers trust us with the valuable gift of their time. Every component is equally important in the common goal that is our mission. Respectfully helping our most deserving warriors in their healing journey.

Our 2013 year began attending both the Dallas Safari Club and Wild Sheep Foundation conventions. The two most respected conservation organizations in the outdoor community, both firmly behind WWO. In conjunction with the Wild Sheep Foundation convention, a group of our warriors had the opportunity to shoot alongside the U.S. Olympic Team. In February, the University Club once again held their "Cocktails For A Cause" fundraiser to benefit WWO. In 2013, WWO was also honored to be selected by the Admiral Nimitz Foundation as the co-beneficiary of their annual golf tournament to support the National Museum Of The Pacific War. Our spring bear hunt in British Columbia was filmed for the national television show, The Western Hunter. The episode was aired over the Veteran's Day weekend in which host Chris Denham and his team did a great job respectfully capturing what WWO is all about. Once again this past year, Hero Miles provided 100% of the airfare for our warriors.

Warmest regards,



Ron Raboud

Our destination communities and host facilities elevated themselves to an entirely new level, providing seemingly endless servings of warmth, food and endless smiles.

In 2013, we were able to finally purchase a new Polaris Ranger Crew Cab UTV, modified for our special needs. The Ranger helps us transport our warriors to previously inaccessible locations, thus increasing opportunities in the field. Our hope is to be able to purchase one more in 2014 for use with our Canadian adventures.

I am often asked what is my most memorable warrior accomplishment after all of our years and hundreds of wounded warriors. An understandable question, but not one that I can honestly answer. Some accomplishments are obvious, while others are silent or invisible just like their injuries. One thing for certain is that our warriors greatly appreciate the opportunities we are able to provide. They appreciate the off-grid low-key approach to our program. They appreciate the fact that they are NEVER exploited or placed on display. Instead each is welcomed as a member of our family, and welcomed warmly regardless of where our "Adventures Enabled" location may be. That you can take to the bank!

Since our beginning, we have never faltered from our mission, or strayed from our goal. We remain 100% volunteer, 100% therapeutic and 100% focused on providing challenging outdoor-based opportunities for our recently wounded servicemen and women.

There is no better therapist than Mother Nature, no hospital facility more motivating or challenging than the Great Outdoors, and no warmer and more relaxing environment than a Hunting Camp or Fishing Lodge! As well as no more caring communities or caring people than our WWO Family.

Thank You for your confidence and trust in WWO, and allowing us the privilege of being able to share our Outdoor World with the deserving men and women that have sacrificed so unselfishly to protect it.

The University Club will once again host our 2014 "Cocktails For A Cause" auction on Thursday February 20<sup>th</sup>. Please mark the date on your schedule. Should anyone have suitable auction items to donate, they are always greatly appreciated and needed.

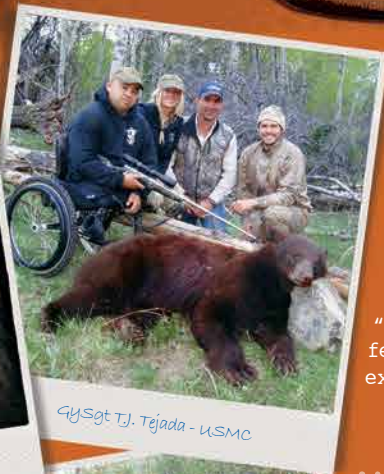
With your continued help and support, 2014 will be another great year!



# What the Warriors are saying



Woody Slate - US Navy



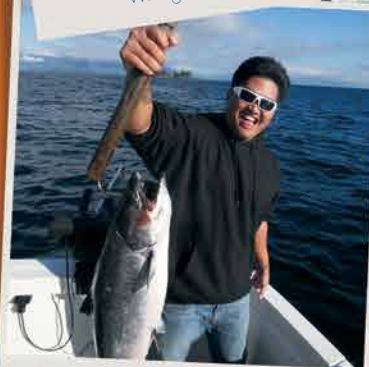
GySgt T.J. Tejada - USMC

"Since my injury I had lost the ability and means to go in the outdoors and do what I love. This trip has reopened that door for me. I am truly grateful to WWO for helping me understand that I can still do what I love- just a little different now"

- Woody Slate - US Navy

"Thanks to WWO for such a great week and for making us feel like family. This will forever be an unforgettable experience. You are truly great Americans."

- GySgt T.J. Tejada - USMC



Stuart Fuke - US Navy



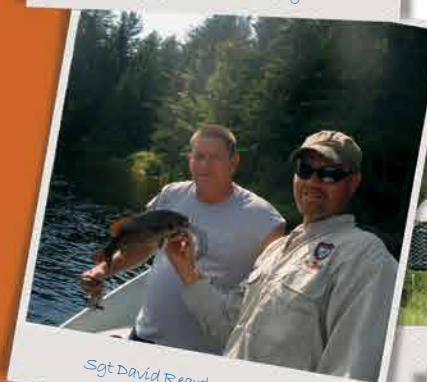
Josue Barron - 3/5 Lima Co. USMC with Jack Sammis

"These trips really mean the world to me and the other warriors. Spending days with WWO really gets us out of that Dark Place and drives us forward to start living life again."

- Stuart Fuke - US Navy

"Thank you WWO for this trip. One of my best memories was getting to spend time with my guide, 87 year old Jack Sammis the World War II vet. You guys are great."

- Josue Barron - 3/5 Lima Co. USMC



Sgt David Reardon - US Army



LCPL Jason Hallett - USMC

"Thank you very much for the program and support that you give us. It all comes from the heart and that's what really counts in life."

- Sgt David Reardon - US Army

"Thank you WWO. It is my first time shooting since my injury. It was probably the GREATEST thing to shoot a gator on my alive day (Anniversary of injury). Thank you from the bottom of my heart."

- LCPL Jason Hallett - USMC



LCDR Jae Terry - US Navy



Anthony Shuford - US Navy (Blue Angles) Balboa Chaperone

"Words cannot express the gratitude I have for WWO. Its truly an honor to be here and be surrounded by Americans who understand and appreciate the sacrifices our men and women have made. God speed."

- LCDR Jae Terry - US Navy

"WWO has set the Gold Standard for non-profit organizations. This organization has a keen understanding of different combat and non-combat injuries. I highly recommend this organization in aid to all military hospitals, veterans hospitals and any medical facilities that are working efforts for the reintegration and rehabilitation of our combat injured."

- Anthony Shuford - US Navy (Blue Angles) Balboa Chaperone

# Let's make **2014** a year to remember



The Wild Sheep Foundation (WSF) is proud and very humbled to partner with the Wounded Warrior Outdoors and their mission to provide wounded servicemen and women with therapeutic outdoor adventures across North America. Through our Annual Conventions, WSF has helped WWO raise money to help offset expenses for outdoor adventures for these American heroes. We were thrilled to provide nearly \$60,000 to WWO this past year and plan to do even more in the future.

WSF is a wildlife conservation organization focus on our mission...but this mission is a luxury we enjoy ONLY through the dedication, service and sacrifice by the men and women who serve in the armed forces and enable us to have the very freedom we enjoy. WSF salutes and humbly thanks these fine young men and women who have selflessly defended our country and way of life. WSF will continue to partner with and provide funding to WWO to ensure that our wounded warriors can return to their lives of enjoying hunting, fishing and the great outdoors! We thank and salute you!

**Gray N. Thornton , President & CEO**  
Wild Sheep Foundation



Home of Admiral Nimitz Museum - Fredericksburg, Texas

"The Admiral Nimitz Foundation selected Wounded Warrior Outdoors as its co-beneficiary for the 2013 Nimitz Golf Classic because of its outstanding reputation and performance in working with our nation's wounded veterans. A completely volunteer-run not-for-profit, every dollar donated goes towards the rehabilitation and recovery of wounded from all services. We were proud to have joined with them in this important mission."

**General Michael W. Hagee, USMC (Ret)**  
33rd Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps  
And President and CEO of the Admiral Nimitz Foundation



"I have had the honor of volunteering with WWO on multiple trips. Just observing the physical and emotional transition each warrior goes through during these hunts is extraordinary. Each day they gain confidence in their ability to handle ever-changing hunt scenarios. You can actually witness the transition in mindset from being a patient in a hospital, to being a friend, father, brother or husband. To be honest, I am not sure who benefits the most... Me or the warriors."

**Chris Denham**  
Host - The Western Hunter



"DAV is proud of its association with Wounded Warrior Outdoors for many years now. We're particularly impressed with the program's focus on rehabilitation. It forces veterans to push past their perceived limitations and reach their full potential. When the hunt is over, they return home with an earned sense of accomplishment and an attitude to help them achieve other goals and live more empowered lives."

**Richard E. Marbes, Chairman**  
DAV Charitable Service Trust



"In February of 2012, I saw the flyer for an event benefiting Wounded Warrior Outdoors (WWO). I was not familiar with the cause, but they advertised a silent auction, complimentary hors d'oeuvres and cash bar - and I thought, "I'm IN!"...That night, I learned about the WWO mission to provide therapeutic outdoor adventures to wounded servicemen and women, and I was hooked...I got the chance to speak to a couple of the Wounded Warriors that had benefited from this great cause. One amputee showed me a picture of himself just minutes after he was wounded. And a burn victim attended with his beautiful daughter, who was so very proud of her daddy. Honestly, I don't remember if I won any of the auction items; that has become so unimportant. The biggest return on investment for me was gaining awareness of the WWO organization, and having the rare opportunity to meet some great heroes."

**Karen Connors**

## EXPEDITION CALENDAR

**January 9th - 12th, 2014**  
Dallas Safari Club Convention  
Dallas, TX

**January 22nd - 25th, 2014**  
Wild Sheep Foundation Convention  
Reno, NV

**January 23rd, 2014**  
Celebrity Sporting Clays Shoot  
with US Olympic Team

**February 20th, 2014**  
Annual Cocktails For a Cause  
Fundraiser

**March 6th - 10th, 2014**  
STA Gator Hunt  
Wellington, FL

**April 10th - 16th, 2014**  
Kentucky Turkey Hunt  
Fredonia, KY

**April 20 - 25, 2014**  
Lake Cumberland Turkey Hunt  
Somerset, KY

**May 11th - 17th, 2014**  
Spring Bear Hunt  
Princeton, BC

**May 20th - 26th, 2014**  
Spring Bear Hunt  
Merritt, BC

**October 23rd - 27th, 2014**  
Florida Gator/Hog Hunt  
Deer Park, FL

**October TBD**  
Georgia Deer Hunt  
Dawson, GA

**TBD**  
Florida State Waters  
Gator Hunt



There's a great American story that's seldom told – a story of battle-scarred heroes that we've yet to meet. It's a story of Wounded Warriors trying to find their place in the world and to feel "normal" again. This is a story about Americans we owe a debt of gratitude to.



Wounded Warrior Outdoors (WWO) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity providing recently wounded "active duty" servicemen and women with therapeutic outdoor adventures across North America.



All WWO guests are current wounded in-hospital patients at either Walter Reed National Military Medical Center Bethesda, Naval Medical Center San Diego (Balboa), or San Antonio Military Medical Center (Brooke). WWO provides these all inclusive adventures at absolutely no cost to the warriors, their families or the government. Warriors are selected for participation by the medical staff at each hospital, each being paired with the adventure that provides them the greatest therapeutic potential.

In order to maintain the highly effective charity, WWO needs the continued support of private individuals and corporations. WWO is a completely volunteer charity with no paid staff or needless overhead, assuring that donations benefit our most deserving wounded warriors.



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**OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Ronald Raboud - Founder/President
- G. Edward Clement - Director
- C. Heywood Gordon - Director
- Russell Goldberg - Director
- Paul Faircloth Jr. - Director

**Many Thanks To Our Valued Sponsors**



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