



Wildlife Achievement Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America

*****FEBRUARY 2011

President
Guy Wright
301-253-4604

First Vice President
""Paul Turska
""301-252-7011

Second Vice President
""""Jeff Deschamps
""""301 -601-0656

Third Vice President
""""Chuck Crooks
""""301 831-9666

Wildlife Achievement Chapter 26430 Mullinix Mill Road Mt. Airy, Maryland 21771

Main House Phone: 301-253-2384 Web Site: <http://www.DamascusIWLA.org>

*****Range House Phone: 301-253-4779

CHAPTER NEWS, EVENTS AND ARTICLES

Have You Been Getting WAC E-mails?

During the course of the last few weeks, the winter weather has caused the closing of the range road and eventually the range itself.

Each time we close or re-open the ranges or the range road, we send a mass E-mail to all of the members on our E-mail list. The list has approximately 60% of our members on it. We also place a warning banner on the top of the clubs main web site www.DamascusIWLA.org.

If you have not received these E-mails, we do not have your current E-mail address or your spam blocker is blocking the E-mail because it was sent in bulk.

We remove addresses from the list that are returned 5 times for full boxes, a bad address or those blocked by a spam blocker. The spam blockers are especially prevalent when you provide a work address. Many corporations will block E-mails that were sent in bulk. If possible, add WildlifeRangers@aol.com to your approved list to prevent the mail from being blocked.

If you are not getting the E-mails please send your E-mail address to Chuck Crooks at WildlifeRangers@aol.com and put "Add to IWLA mailing list" in the subject. We do not share this list with anyone and all addresses are sent blind. E-mails are for chapter members information only. We do not send junk mail or commercial requests.

In Memorium (Greg Talamini)

Fellow members it is with sadness I inform you of the passing of Saul Honigsberg. Saul joined our Chapter in 2002 after many years at BCC. He had many friends among us. It seemed when some one needed help Saul was quietly there doing what he could to help. He enjoyed the outdoors taking part in activities here at the club and hunting out west. At dinner meetings he could be found engaged in conversation with friends on many subjects. He spent time talking with my wife Merry about books and authors. His helpful nature will be missed by many. At times like these we strive to find words to express our feelings and describe all that our friend meant to us, it's just so difficult. I think he was best described by one of his closest friends as an "extraordinary gentleman", that really says it all.

Keeping up with Current Events

Do you receive the monthly newsletter, Conservation Currents? If not, I strongly encourage you to do so. It contains a wealth of information about national issues of concern to the IWLA and its members. Topics such as the oil spill in the Gulf, Chesapeake Bay restoration and the protection of the Great Lakes from invasive species are covered in the February issue.

In addition to keeping members informed on issues such as these, there is an advocacy link called the IWLA Action Center. This link connects you to a page of legislative concerns that you can respond to by contacting your representatives in government. The importance of this contact can't be overstated. One often hears the statement, "What has the League done for me?" The strength of the League's voice comes from members expressing their opinions to those in government. The League represents your interests. You may not think the management of public land in Montana has bearing on you directly, but the more times legislators hear the name Izaak Walton League the better. Look at the influence of the NRA on gun legislation. Its strength is generated partly because its members respond to the NRA-ILA alerts sent to members and they respond. The League is a grass roots organization. The voice of its members can carry weight in the halls of government, but only if you care enough to speak. Those of us who hunt, fish, shoot and just enjoy being outdoors will benefit from a powerful voice in the halls of government.

Sign up is easy. Go to www.IWLA.org. Click on 'Sign up for newsletter' and fill in the blanks. Your information will not be sold to other groups.

Rain Barrel Workshop

Tuesday March 15th from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Chapter House (upstairs) on Mullinix Mill Rd.

Free to members and non-members! All materials and easy instructions provided. Limited to 30 households (one rain barrel per household). Registration required.

See vent flyer (http://mysite.verizon.net/vzeo63qr/Barrel_Workshop11.pdf) or contact Jeff Deschamps via e-mail to jeff.deschamps@verizon.net for more information or to register.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CONSERVATION (Meo Curtis)

Tree Planting and Cleanup Sunday March 20th. 9 a.m. to Noon.

First conservation work activity for this year. Come out to help with maintenance of our tree planting from a number of years ago. This will be on the WSSC property near the Pigtail launch site in Howard County. Tools, gloves, and water provided. Contact Jeff Deschamps (jeff.deschamps@verizon.net) or Jim Piatieski (jimpiateski@verizon.net) for details.

For additional conservation events being sponsored or co-sponsored by WSSC, check their calendar posted at: www..com/home/jsp/content/comm-env-calendar.faces

Montgomery County RainScapes Rewards

If you are a Montgomery County resident (not within the Cities of Gaithersburg or Rockville), you can still apply for RainScapes Rewards Rebates for this fiscal year (runs until June 30, 2011). Rebates will be funded until this year's money runs out. All rebate projects must be approved prior to installation and approved projects should be complete within 6 months of approval from DEP. ***RainScapes Rewards Applications are now in an interactive online format.*** The online applications should be easier to use than the paper forms. The link is found at www.rainscapes.org.

Upcoming RainScapes Workshops:

Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection will be holding the popular RainScapes Workshops again this spring! Three workshops: Rain Gardens (March), Rain Barrels (April) and Conservation Landscapes (May), each with two separate sessions, will be offered at Brookside Gardens at \$10 per session. Information on the County's RainScapes Rewards rebates for installing environmentally friendly landscaping practices will be provided. All registrations for the three Spring workshops are done through the Parks and Recreation online. **Note:** You **must** use ParkPass; it can take a few days for that pass to register but it is free. Sign up for ParkPass via the Montgomery County Parks Dept. www.parkpass.org. Registration is usually available in mid-February.

Rain Garden Workshop, March 11 and 12. Learn techniques to evaluate your yard and create a rain garden using native plants and enhanced soils to create a watershed-friendly garden full of beauty and life. At the workshop, staff will assist you in developing a planting plan and materials list to create your garden.

Make and Take Rain Barrels, April 15 and 16. Learn about the importance of stormwater runoff management to protect local streams. Rain barrel with fittings and easy instructions is provided. Limit - ONE rain barrel per household! Remember to bring a vehicle large enough to carry the 55-gallon barrel home.

Conservation Landscaping Techniques, May 20 and 21. Learn how to use native plant landscapes to protect our local streams. Participants can expect to: learn about lawn removal techniques, participate in a site design exercise tailored to each participant's yard, and develop a native plant shopping list. Sample plants will be given to participants.

RIFLE AND PISTOL

Due to the stellar weather we've been having, everyone is too busy to submit a report.

SKEET AND TRAP

IWLA RANGE ROSTER 2011 (Bob Cooley)

March 2011

Sat 3/5 Tim Mulreaney, Gary Green

Sun 3/6 Paul Turska, Jake Turska

Sat 3/12 Paul Fisher, Maj Tavakoli

Sun 3/13 George King, Gary Giambalvo

Wed 3/16 Conley Phipps, Ron Roberson

Sat 3/19 Mike Bowen, Ira Wein

Sun 3/20 Joel Gross, John Davis

Wed 3/23 Jay Jeffrey, Carl McMahon

Sat 3/26 Bill Rahn, Charlie Weaver

Sun 3/27 Bob Poth, Dave Stevenson

Wed 3/30 Heather Barber, Alan Palestine

Substitutes

Berle Cherney, Robin Moore, Jim Arnold, Mash Esfanaji, Mary Esfanaji, Jay Jeffrey, Mark Gay, Debbi Perry, Murray Welsh, Gerhard Bartsch, Jim Crowell, Judy Crowell, Bob Cooley, Jay DeVan, Seamus Webb, Mike Webb, Brian Van Winkle, "Rip" Van Winkle, Bob Woodward, Richard Maple, Jeff Greenhut, Maj Tavakoli

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS (Nick Giuliano)

Wild Game Dinner & Auction

January 22

I may not have all of the names of the folks that did the setup or worked the night of the dinner, yet. Chef Ed McNally was assisted by: Dan Failacci, Mitch Optican, Maria Optican, Adam Optican, Cornelius Holden, Jean Aker, Tim Hutchison, Elijah Phillips, and James (can not read last name)

Chapter Maintenance Day

January 30

This Maintenance Day was devoted to Green Energy Projects.

John O'Malley, David Stamper, Gabriel Taylor, Steve Peck, Kelly Carr, Gary Young, Dan Failacci, Ken Lefebvre, Jim Piateski, Rich Hunt, Eric Remian and Tom Ouellette.

Congratulations to the following probationary members who have successfully completed their probation and are now graduated to Full Member status.

Wayne Stevens

Timothy D. Sugrue

David K. Black

Cornelius Holden

John Scott

Robert J. Hammond

Michael Harmon

Chterion Zaprianov

Daniel Zammerman

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS (Jim Piateski at jimpiateski@verizon.net)

Thanks to Nicolas Giuliano for mailing the printed version of the newsletter every month. Thanks to Meo Curtis, Nick Giuliano, Chuck Crooks ,Greg Talamini and Bob Cooley for their contributions to this newsletter. Thanks to Chuck Crooks for posting the newsletter on the web in such a timely fashion.

If anyone has an article, picture or topic, which they wish to have included in future newsletters, send to Jim Piateski at jimpiateski@verizon.net and include some contact info in case there are questions. If you have photographs of chapter events that you would like to share with the membership in the on-line newsletter, please send them to Jim Piateski at the above email address. Please include the names of those pictured as well as the date and name of the event.

If you would like to receive a printed newsletter, write to

Joe Gick

16601 Cavalry Drive

Rockville ,MD 20853-1219