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CHAPTER NEWS, EVENTS AND ARTICLES

BY-LAWS CHANGES (Red Skillings)

The Constitution and By-laws of the Wildlife Achievement Chapter comprise just that. The first part is the Constitution broken down by Articles and Sections. The second part is the By-laws, also broken down by Articles and Sections.

The following relates to the By-laws.

Article II, Section 5. Current reading

Voting at membership meetings shall be by voice method, except that upon the request of three members the voting shall be by secret ballot. Voting for the *Nominating Committee*, Officers, Directors, and Delegates shall be by secret ballot. The privilege of voting is limited to members in good standing.

Article II, Section 5. Proposed reading

Voting at membership meetings shall be by voice method, except that upon the request of three members the voting shall be by secret ballot. Voting for the Officers and Directors shall be by secret ballot. The privilege of voting is limited to members in good standing.

Article III, Section 2. Current reading

The Nominating Committee shall present a slate at the June meeting consisting of at least one candidate for each of the elective offices, *and for each Delegate provided by Article VI thereof*. The slate of candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee shall be distributed by the Corresponding Secretary to each member with the notice of the July meeting.

Article III, Section 2. Proposed reading.

The Nominating Committee shall present a slate at the June meeting consisting of at least one candidate for each of the elective offices. The slate of candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee shall be distributed by the Corresponding Secretary to each member with the notice of the July meeting.

Article VI, Section 1 and Section 1a and Section 1b currently read as follows.

Section 1 There shall be elected at the May meeting, in the manner provided by Article III hereof, the following delegates and alternates, and these positions shall be considered as elective offices:

- a. To the National Convention of the Izaak Walton League of America, one delegate and one alternate for each delegate allowed this Chapter by the current Constitution and Bylaws of the Izaak Walton League of America.
- b. To the annual meeting of the Maryland State Division of the Izaak Walton League of America, one delegate and one alternate, for each delegate allowed this Chapter by the current Constitution and Bylaws of the State Division.

Proposed Delete present Section 1, Section 1a and Section 1b, and replace as follows.

Section 1 a. Members who wish to serve as delegates to the National Convention shall submit their names to the Recording Secretary. At its May meeting, the Board of Directors may elect as many Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention as are allowed this Chapter by the current Constitution and By-laws of the Izaak Walton League of America.

b. At its May meeting, the Board may elect one Delegate and one Alternate to the annual meeting of the Maryland State Division of the Izaak Walton League of America for each delegate allowed this Chapter by the current Constitution and By-laws of the State Division.

Our by-laws and constitution require that the membership vote on all by-laws changes and that the membership is informed of the changes in two newsletters preceding the vote. Therefore, we will vote on these proposed changes at the April membership meeting on April 23, 2008.

EASTER SUNDAY

Easter Sunday is March 23, 2008. Remember that all ranges are closed.

RANGE ORIENTATION CLASS ON SATURDAY APRIL 12, 2008 (Ray Logan)

In response to the requests of several members, the Range Orientation Team will be presenting an extra, one-time only, Range Orientation class on Saturday, April 12 from 10 AM to 2 PM. This class does NOT replace any other Range Orientation class on the calendar, including the Sunday March 30 or Sunday April 27 classes. This class is for those members who, due to work or other obligations, cannot attend the regular last Sunday of the month classes. **Due to space and time limitations, we ask that you attend this class only if you cannot attend one of the regular last Sunday of the month classes.** You do not need to pre-register.

WILD GAME DINNER AUCTION CORRECTIONS (Red Skillings)

The newsletter incorrectly identified the game donors. Thank you to all who contributed.

Joe Carinci, Josh Jonas, Bill Rahn, Greg Talamini: Venison

Saul Honigsberg: Pheasant and Elk

Bill Nicoll: Geese

Pete Doubroff, Kai Lee: pheasant

Our apologies to those whose names we omitted or misspelled.

CHAPTER MAINTENANCE IN MARCH (Tom Riley)

With the advent of spring around the corner, we need your help cleaning and disposing of the debris that has collected throughout the chapter during winter.

The event will be scheduled to coincide with the club's cleanup day on Sunday March 30 when the weather is a bit warmer thereby making it more comfortable for all. The time scheduled is between the hours of 9:30AM until around 1:00PM. It will qualify as a conservation project or as a general work project. We will provide gloves to all that need them.

We hope that this is not the only time that you might consider doing something for a place that gives you refuge from the fast pace of everyday life. Please know that we always need and appreciate your help whether it is on cleanup day or almost any other day of any month.

This is a big place to maintain. We have a 100% volunteer work force so were grateful for any time you are able to give. For more information, e-Mail Tommy at vze3h59t@verizon.net or 3015180973.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

This month's membership meeting is on March 26. Social hour starts at 6:30 pm with dinner at 7:30. Jorge Silva will prepare this month's meal and it will be Corned beef and cabbage.

DUES INCREASE FOR 2008 (Joe Gick)

For any members joining after January 1, 2008, there will be an increase of \$20 in the yearly dues (to \$130 per year) and an increase in the one time initiation fee of \$20 when joining. These costs will not affect current members until you renew for 2009. We have kept the costs the same for many years, and kept dipping into our reserve fund to do so. Increasing insurance, energy, and supply costs make this impossible. Our dues only cover about one third of what it costs to run the chapter. We REALLY need your participation at our BBQ's and similar events to bring in additional revenue and to offset future increases.

To help put things in perspective, if you go to Starbucks just one time each week for a year and buy a Grande Latte, it will cost you over \$221.00. That is 70% more than what it costs to be a member of our club - a real deal!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CONSERVATION (Meo Curtis)

March 20 this year is the date of the vernal equinox and the greening of the trees is the signal to think green. Celebrate Saint Patrick's Day of course, but also take some time to plan on things you can do to reduce your impacts on our natural resources.

Act Now to Get Some Cash

Montgomery County's RainScapes Rewards Rebate Program is now underway to help residents who want to install a raingarden, pervious pavers, or trees.

If you live in Montgomery County, you may qualify for up to a \$1200 reimbursement for using watershed friendly lawn and landscaping practices.

The RainScapes Program goal is to address the source of stormwater runoff – yard-by-yard and neighborhood-by-neighborhood, by encouraging widespread adoption of practices such as rain barrels, rain gardens, permeable paver retrofits, conservation landscaping, and tree planting. The application and contact information can be found at the Conservation Committee web page <http://mysite.verizon.net/vzeo63qr/index.html>. Rebates will be processed until this fiscal year's funding has been expended, so those who apply early will be most likely to get the rebate this year.

Not in the Dark at All!

On March 29, the World Wildlife Fund in Canada is asking people all over the globe to turn off their lights for one hour from 8pm-9pm. The initiative is called Earth Hour. It sounds like a small request to save a little bit of our finite natural resources but the results could be astounding! Last year, they did it in Sydney, Australia and it was a huge success. Here is the web site <http://www.earthhour.org/cities>. The site has links to other information on reducing the impacts we are having and leaving for the next generation. Of course, this initiative is really about creating awareness so forward this message and the link to all of your friends.

Global Warming: Make it Hotter! A Design Competition for High Schools and Colleges. Submit attractive, bold designs of simple actions that people can take to reduce their global warming footprint. Your winning graphic design(s) could be publicized across the county in publications, on transit, in newspapers, mailings, and on public boards. This is an unprecedented opportunity to have your artwork used in a large-scale, public advertising campaign! Winning designs will also win cool gift certificates! Submit your design by April 22, 2008. Full details of the competition and the submission packet are at: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/deptmpl.asp?url=/content/dep/Energy/MCCAI/youcando.asp

Take a Read

For information federal government programs, sign up for the 'Go Green' newsletter. "Go Green!" is a monthly newsletter from the US EPA with information about activities and events that everyone can use to make a difference in their homes, communities, and offices. You can look at back issues and sign up for this newsletter at <http://www.epa.gov/newsroom/gogreen/>. Topics during the March 2008 issue include: Look for a TV meeting Energy Star requirements and Finding projects your local community can do to help make the air cleaner and healthier to breathe.

Teach the Next Generation

Learn how to become a naturalist at the Howard County Conservancy (HCC) in Lisbon, MD. Each Thursday in March - 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. over 5,000 children visit the Conservancy every year through summer camp, School's Out programs, and school field trips. For field trips, the Conservancy relies on its volunteer naturalists to aid in educating Howard County's youth about the natural environment. Contact the HCC at 410 - 465-8877 or via e-mail at mhconserancy@hconserancy.org

Tidy up a bit

There are a variety of events planned in and near Montgomery County during Earth Month.

Saturday April 5 is our Chapter's Annual Watershed clean up, now over 20 years old. Come out and help clean up the Upper Patuxent and nearby areas.

Meet at the maintenance shed at 9 a.m. Gloves, water, tee shirts, and lunch will be provided to all participants. The event flyer is posted on the Conservation Committee web site at <http://mysite.verizon.net/vzeo63qr/index.html>

Saturday April 12 is the Patuxent Watershed Festival at Supplee Park in Laurel. This event will include many family oriented activities, including a rain barrel raffle and a 'how to compost' presentation. More information will be posted shortly at www.wsscwater.com.

Saturday April 26 is the Annual Montgomery County Solid Waste Services Earth Day event. Last year, there were more than 1,100 attendees! This will take place from 11am to 3pm at 850 Hungerford Drive (Parking lot at intersection of Rte 355 and Mannakee Street), Rockville, MD 20850 In addition to exhibits on all kinds of ways to reduce, reuse and recycle, there will be tours of the Recycling Center (departing from the event by bus), and many activities for children. There will also be LeafGro give-aways, paper shredding, and electronics recycling. More information to be posted soon at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/solidwaste.

COWBOY CLINIC (Chuck Crooks)

We completed our first New Cowboy Shooter Clinic of 2008. We had over 30 new potential shooters. The date for the next clinic will be August 30, 2008.

Our thanks once again to Atlantic Guns who provided all of the clinic ammo! And, many thanks to the Cowboy volunteers, that braved some pretty ugly weather, to make the March 8th clinic all it could be!

A tip of the hat to Renegade Lee (Richard Rankin), Sagebrush Kid (Mike Sage), Sandia Sidewinder (Guy Wright), Jingles Jerr, Lab Logan (John Leaman), Catocin, Tom Toben (Tom Ouellette), Church Key (Pete Grahn), Salty Sal, Ozark Bob, Chuckaroo (Chuck Crooks) and Wingdinger (Martin Blake). (Ike's)

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS: (Conley Phipps)

Probationary members are now required to help with four chapter events during their first two years of WAC membership.

At least one project MUST be in support of Chapter Conservation efforts. If you are a probationary member, and don't see your name in the newsletter after helping out with an event, it would be prudent to contact the person who ran the event and find out why your name has not reached me. Additionally be sure to have that activity person notify me of this fact. Following are the names from the sign-up sheets for several recent events. Thanks to all.

GRADS to FULL MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Graduated to full membership status is the following: **Ed McNally**. Thanks for completing your requirements. Thanks for all the hard work in the Kitchen.

RAIN BARREL WORKSHOP: FEBRUARY 19, 2008

Thanks to the workshop prep crew of Bill Gazdik, Bill Ladd and Susan Bortniak also Presenter Meo Curtis and workshop guys Jim Piateski, Bill Ladd and Bill Gazdik.

General Membership Meeting Hospitality, Kitchen Staff and KP's: FEBRUARY 27, 2008

President Lefebvre recognized Anne Rickert and Jeff DeMuth for preparing the TexMex dinner. Dean Zuras assisted in serving and K.P. Duty. Our Hospitality Crew consisted of Rob Hallin and Ken Lefebvre.

Chapter maintenance: FEBRUARY 24, 2008

Thank you to all members donating their time and labor to help keep the Chapter looking neat and clean. Numerous activities took place on Sunday and several members didn't specify in which activity they participated, you have received credit maybe just not the correct project. Please indicate which type of project as it **WILL** make a difference when you think you've graduated to Full Membership Status.

UNIDENTIFIED PROJECT: Larry Emswiler, Andy Lefevre, Paul Tardif, Alec Lefevre, Andrew Lefevre, Walt Fears, Jr., Pat Abrams and Amy Abrams.

SKEET & TRAP RANGE CLEAN UP: Paul Turska, Jake Turska, Mark Gay, Alan Palestine, Tony Evans, David Erat, Adam Erat, Martin Cherry and the usual who wish to remain un-named.

RANGE ORIENTATION CLASS INSTRUCTORS: Lou Ferguson and Ray Logan.

NOTE: ALL Project Chairpersons, please leave the list of those that participate in a Chapter Event/Project in my (Conley) In Basket, in the Office. It is important to be able to give proper credit to members that do their required work projects.

If I have failed to credit anyone or a group for voluntarily working on an event or a required work project or misspelled a name, please contact Conley Phipps @ 301-460-8528 or phippscd@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP (Joe Gick)

New Members

Please welcome the following new members to the chapter.

Benson McGowan and Faith McGowan sponsored by Pete Doubroff.

Gerhard Bartsch sponsored by Joe Gick.

Glenn Hubert and Howard Goldberg sponsored by Berle Cherney.

Ira H Krowitz sponsored by Andy Lefevre.

Lindsay Merce, Ryan Lugo and William B. Carrier Jr. sponsored by Ugo Pistacchio.

If you know of anyone who shares the goals of the Izaak Walton League of America, please encourage them to join. We welcome all new members.

Membership Updates

Please notify Joe Gick our Membership Secretary of all changes of address, phone number, or e-mail. If you move and don't tell us, your forwarding order will probably expire and you will not get a renewal bill. Please keep your record up to date. Send a message to Joe.Gick@Verizon.net or Joe Gick, 16601 Cavalry Dr, Rockville MD 20853.

Do we have your email?

Because we do not distribute our newsletter via U.S. Mail unless requested, we send out a general notice when the latest one is available. We also send occasional messages of general interest that may include emergency range closings, road closings, etc. If you have never received any of these messages, we may not have your email address. In fact, we don't have this information for over 400 members. If we don't have yours, please send it today to Joe.Gick@Verizon.net. We promise to protect it and never sell or distribute it. We will only use it to inform you of what is happening that is of general interest. If you know of any other members that are not getting these notices, please let them know that they are missing important information about our chapter.

Editor's note: This is especially important during the winter months when extreme weather causes not only range closure, but chapter grounds closure as well. Stay informed—send your email address to Joe.

ADULT AIR GUN (Phil Dean)

The annual WAC-IWLA **Chapter Air Pistol Championship Match** will be held on Monday nights April 7 and April 14, 2008. Participants may shoot on either of the nights. The match is held in the downstairs indoor airgun range. Range setup begins at 6:30 PM and the firing will begin at 7:00 PM. The course of fire will be 60 shots at 10 meters firing 5 shots on each of 12 targets. Current NRA 10 meter air pistol rules will be followed. We will have on classification each for men and women for this competition. Any WAC-IWLA member is invited to participate in this event. We will charge \$1.00 for targets. Contact Phillip Dean (301-865-8202) for additional information.

JUNIOR AIR RIFLE AND RIMFIRE (Tom Malarkey)

Our team fired the CMP Postal match this month; all juniors participated in this match, another National Postal Match in which they compete against other juniors from across the country. Their next match is the USA Shooting Maryland State Championship. This match is hosted by our club and will be shot upstairs on March 15 and 16. This match will qualify a sporter and precision team to represent Maryland at the National Matches in Alabama, in July of this year. Our team has qualified for this match for the last six years.

Our last match of the year will be on April 12, at Seneca Valley High School. It is the NRA Maryland State Championship and the NRA Sectional match. It qualifies individual shooters to represent Maryland at the NRA National Matches in Des Moines, Iowa.

I'm pleased to announce that we have two shooters that have qualified for the second round of the American Legion Postal Match. David Carr and Kimy Goldberg will shoot the second round of this match later this month, and could qualify to go to the National Match, at the Olympic Training Facility in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Good Luck David and Kimy !!!

Anyone who is interested in our program or would like to meet some of our Juniors, please stop by and see one of our practices, or a match. Practices are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday night, and our next match is March 15 and 16 at the club.

RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGE REPORT (Guy Wright)

INFORMATION: For more information about any rifle or pistol range activities mentioned in this article, contact Guy Wright, by e-mail, at mguywright@verizon.net or telephone 301-253-4604(home) or 301-775-3741(cell).

SHOOTING HOURS: Permitted rifle and pistol range shooting hours are posted on the box, which contains the range sign-in register, as well as above the range entry card reader. For March 2008, starting time is 10:00 AM daily and ending time is 6:00 PM, unless some activity has preempted the range (see "UPCOMING EVENTS AFFECTING RANGE AVAILABILITY" below).

NEW ITEMS

My thanks to Larry Emswiler, Josh Jonas, Andy, Alec and Andrew Lefevre, and Paul Seyfrit for their help with range cleanup on our February Maintenance Day.

REMINDERS

Removing Firearms From Pistol Firing Lines I would like to remind all of our shooters of the critical need to ensure firearms are unloaded, magazines removed and receivers locked back for semi-autos pistols, hammer down and cylinder open for revolvers, prior to removing them from the firing line. Once they are in the safe mode, they should be moved, muzzle up, to the staging bench or table behind the firing line benches.

This is especially necessary when using the uncovered pistol range. Shooters should be mindful that they do not unintentionally "sweep" their muzzles across the parking lot, for obvious reasons. At the uncovered pistol range shooters should place their firearms on the staging bench with the muzzle pointing away from the covered pistol range. Shooters at the covered pistol range should place their fire arms on the staging tables with the muzzle pointing away from the uncovered pistol range.

Following these simple but extremely necessary steps will help ensure that our record of no firearms related injuries on our ranges is maintained.

Rifle and Pistol Range Rules: The rules governing Rifle and Pistol Range safety, conduct, permissible firearms, and violation policy are posted at the covered pistol range, the covered rifle range, the notice board between the pistol ranges, the notice board at the path leading to the covered rifle range, on the chapter WEB site (damascusiwla.org) and in MS Word format from me via email, when requested. Sometimes questions come up. Though our bylaws indicate that you can call any Board of Directors member about these rules, you will be better served to start with the folks closest to them, i.e., range orientation instructors or the committee chairman.

UP-COMING EVENTS AFFECTING RANGE AVAILABILITY:

Junior Rifle Practice on Saturday March 1, 2008 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Contact Tom Malarkey 240-246-6941 (Covered pistol range closed during event)

Junior Rifle Practice on Saturday March 8, 2008 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Contact Tom Malarkey 240-246-6941 (Covered pistol range closed during event)

New Cowboy Action Clinic on Saturday March 8, 2008 at 8:00AM and 12:00M. Pistol Range 1 (uncovered) will be closed from 8:00AM to 3:00PM during this event

Practical Defense Match on Saturday March 15, 2008 from 9:00AM to 2:00PM on Pistol Range 1. Pistol Range 1 will be closed during this time. For additional information, you can contact Jesse Lim via e-mail at jljm@phillips.com or telephone 301-540-0860 (evenings only please).

Cowboy Action Setup on Friday March 21, 2008. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed beginning at 1:00PM.

Cowboy Action Shoot on Saturday March 22, 2008 from 8:00AM to 3:30PM. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed during this time.

Bowling Pin Shoot on Saturday April 12, 2008 from 9:00AM to 2:00PM on Pistol Range 1. Pistol Range 1 will be closed during this time. For additional information, you can contact Jesse Lim via e-mail at jljm@phillips.com or telephone 301-540-0860 (evenings only please).

Junior Rifle Practice on Saturday April 12, 2008 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Contact Tom Malarkey 240-246-6941 (Covered pistol range closed during event)

Junior Rifle Practice on Saturday April 19, 2008 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Contact Tom Malarkey 240-246-6941 (Covered pistol range closed during event).

Cowboy Action Setup on Friday April 25, 2008. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed beginning at 1:00PM.

Cowboy Action Shoot on Saturday April 26, 2008 from 8:00AM to 3:30PM. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed during this time.

IWLA RANGE ROSTER (Bob Cooley)

Sat 3/15 Mike Bowen, Dave Gold, Ira Wein

Sun 3/16 Chris Reposa, Jim & Judy Crowell

Wed 4/2 Mike Fleisher, Jeff Waters, "Rip" Van Winkle

Sat 4/5 Bob Cooley, Tim Mulreany, Robert Jeffery, Gary Green

Sun 4/6 Mark Gay, Paul Turska, Jake Turska, Martin Cherry

Wed 4/9 Jeff Greenhut, Ron Roberson, Jacob Lambert

Sat 4/12 Paul Fisher, Ron Roberson, George Fichter, Dave Fichter

Sun 4/13 Randy & Evan Stewart, Seamus Webb, Mike Webb

Wed 4/16 Scott Wood, Tom Moore, Bill Doves

Sat 4/19 Mike Bowen, Dave Gold, Ira Wein

Sun 4/20 Chris Reposa, Jim & Judy Crowell, Nolen Roberson

Wed 4/23 Alan Palestine, Heather Barber, Mike McNally

Sat 4/26 Tony Evans, Richard Zabell, Red Gambrell, Charles Weaver, Bill Rahn

Sun 4/27 Frank Saenz, Rob Van Tassell, Peter Sittner, Bob Case, Bob Poth

Wed 4/30 Conley Phipps, Bob Woodward, Carl McMahan

Say thank you to the members who volunteer their time to operate the trap and skeet ranges.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS (Michelle Chesnut smc_geek@msn.com)

Thanks to Nicolas Giuliano for mailing the printed version of the newsletter every month.

Thanks to Meo Curtis, Guy Wright, Joe Gick, Phil Dean, Red Skillings, Tom Malarkey, Chuck Crooks, Bob Cooley and Tom Riley for their contributions to this newsletter.

A special thanks to Chuck Crooks for his patience with the editor and his work on publishing the newsletter on-line.

Thanks also to Conley Phipps for managing and collating the lists of participants in chapter activities.

If anyone has an article, picture or topic, which they wish to have included in future newsletters, send them to Michelle Chesnut at the above email address and include some contact info in case there are questions. If possible, please send articles as an attached Word document.

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

Joe Gick

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