



JULY 2007

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## CHAPTER NEWS, EVENTS AND ARTICLES

### VOLUNTEER FUN (Tony Evans)

Thunder Valley has come and gone. For me, it marks the beginning of summer, and is a tremendous amount of fun. I am not a Cowboy Shooter of that class; in fact, I don't shoot that match at all. Instead, I am one of the volunteers, who help behind the scenes. We are called "Waddies" I'm told that it is a Cowboy word that means helper. However, those of us who know Chuck know it could mean anything... During this event, there were over fifty "Waddies" complete with official badges.



**Figure 1 - Waddie Express (Photo by Tony Evans)**

I cannot begin to name every waddie, nor do I want to, that will be done elsewhere. Instead, I would like to tell you why we do it. The very bottom line is after you cut through all of the, "someone has to do it", "it helps the club" and "it's my way to give back", all of which are true and valid reasons, but the whole truth is it is FUN. That is the secret, if there is a secret. You get an opportunity work with your friends, and every activity becomes a form of play when it shared with friends. Moreover, it is only natural that you will carry away mental snapshots: Big John Leman on His ATV constantly

delivering water, Chuck Limparis going who knows where on his Waddie Express and, of course, Red "The Man" Skillings cooking hot dogs and burgers.

There are people who are in charge of the parking, others cook, seemingly all day long, Safety Officers who patrol the shooting venues, and the list goes on and on. Each person does one thing that contributes to the success of the whole event.



**Figure 2 - Tom making sure that the trail is clear before sending a shuttle down the range road. (Photo by Tony Evans)**

Now, carrying this one-step further, almost everything that is done in this club is done by volunteers. Volunteers plant and tend the flowers, repair buildings and equipment, build new items, and paint. That is just the normal maintenance around the chapter grounds. Many chapter members also volunteer their equipment and time for those special, sometimes catastrophic, events that could have cost the chapter a whole lot of money to take care of without them.

Additionally, volunteers from the Wildlife Achievement chapter are planning and carrying out

the mission of the IWLA. They work long hours coming up with new ways to give us all the opportunity to give back to our community and our chapter. Because of these volunteers, our roads and rivers are cleaner; the American chestnut and American elm trees may soon be a part of our neighborhoods and forests. A few of our stream banks are prettier, more stable and life sustaining. That just barely scratches the surface of all the things that the Very Good Men, Women, and Youngsters in Our Chapter do.



Figure 3 - Red "The Man" Skillings cooking for TVD

To all our new people, or those who only come out to use the ranges, before each event, we run a notice in the Newsletter and in the chapter calendar to call for you to volunteer. Make the call – it is dirt simple all you have to say is "I want to help". I know that you will get a big smile, a hardy handshake, a job and if you play your cards right you might get a "Stinking Badge". Sorry I fought that urge through the entire piece, but "The Devil made Me Do IT"

### **NEW PROGRAM – Junior Shotgun to start in September** (Jeff Greenhut)

Junior Shotgun will begin Tuesday, September 4, at 4:30 in the basement of the clubhouse with an orientation meeting for new shooters. Shooting will begin the following Tuesday at the shotgun range at 4:30. Shooters must be at least twelve years old, and, if intending to use one of the club's Youth shotguns, must weigh at least 100 lbs and be at least 60" tall. Shooters not meeting the height and weight requirements may shoot if they bring a

shotgun sized for them (that means really small, like a H&R Topper Jr. with a cut off stock in .410). Parents of children who want to participate should contact Coach Greenhut at [jeffgreenhut@comcast.net](mailto:jeffgreenhut@comcast.net) or (301) 775-1245

### **PIG ROAST** (Steve Lefebvre)

Please join us for the upcoming Pig Roast on September 29, 2007. Festivities get underway at 2:00 pm. We will have music, food and games for the kids. If you are able to help out, please contact Steve Lefebvre at 301-482-1898 or [lefebvre01@earthlink.net](mailto:lefebvre01@earthlink.net). This event is open to all members and their guests.

### **THUNDER VALLEY DAYS** (Chuck Crooks)

Thunder Valleys Days 2007 was a complete success! With over 50 chapter members volunteering their time, we had all bases covered and with the many hands, we had lighter work.

Our cooking crew, directed by Waddie Mac McCollum in the kitchen and Waddie Red Skillings on the range keep the eats flowing and on time. There is some discussion, between the two cooks, about a missing single piece of charcoal, but that is under investigation!

A full house of participants (159) had nothing but good comments about the match, the facility, and our many Waddies! Thanks to each of you.

Our chapter did well with member Doug Hutchison "River Banks" winning the Maryland State Modern category (6th place overall) and Chuck Crooks "Chuckaroo" winning the Maryland State Senior category (11th place overall).

Members Paul Bluteau "Tug Hill" and Dave Gold "Trapdoor Dave" were awarded SASS's highest member honor by being elected to "SASS Regulator." Tug also came in 8th overall and shot a clean match!

We awarded Chuck Limparis "Dogmeat Dad" the "Cowboy Spirit" badge donated by Starpucker badges. Cowboy spirit is an essential part of

cowboy action shooting, so this is award is a significant honor to Chuck.

For complete match results, please see the TVD links on our Damascus Wildlife Rangers web site [www.WildlifeRangers.com](http://www.WildlifeRangers.com).

*Editor's note: TVD is a huge event and lots of fun even as a "Waddie". If you have the time to participate, either as a cowboy or as a Waddie, you will have a good time.*

### **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](mailto:Joe.Gick@Verizon.net) or Joe Gick, 16601 Cavalry Dr, Rockville MD 20853.

Recently, the club grounds were closed to all entry for over a week. We sent an e-mail notice to all of the members that we had on file. If you did not get this message, then we do not have your e-mail address. In fact, we don't have about this information for over 400 members. Please send it today to [Joe.Gick@Verizon.net](mailto: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.

### **CHANGES IN RANGE ACCESS RULES** (Joe Gick)

As of April 1, 2007, every member who shoots on **any range**, including the rifle range, pistol ranges, outdoor air rifle range, the archery range, and the skeet/trap ranges, must be visibly wearing a Range Access card. If you do not have one, you must attend a Range Orientation class, held at 10:00 A.M. on the last Sunday of the month. (Check the online calendar at [www.damascusIWLA.org](http://www.damascusIWLA.org))

The only exception to wearing a Range Access card is if you are shooting in an event where non-members are invited that are not specific guests of members under current Chapter Rules. Such events include Cowboy Action Shoots, Seneca Valley Matches, Breaking Clay to Save the Bay, etc.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **CONSERVATION** (Meo Curtis and Bill Ladd)

#### **Tuesday June 5**

Timothy Warman from the National Wildlife Federation gave an excellent presentation on how climate change is affecting wildlife distribution and survival in the United States. He gave a very positive outlook on what we can do to reduce the effects of the documented temperature increases. There was a very poor turnout that night so we have invited Tim to an upcoming member meeting and a second opportunity to learn what each individual can do to help protect habitat for fish, fowl, and furred friends as well as for future generations.

#### **Sunday June 10th Adopt-A-Road**

We had enough volunteers to cover our adopted segment of Mullinix Mill Road plus sections of Long Corner and Gue Rd. We picked up 12 bags of trash, one large black plastic tarp, and an old mid-size (maybe 19") television set. I asked the participants about the type of trash they found. They all said that beverage containers were the major culprits--beer cans and bottles in particular. There was a lesser amount of 'fast food' and Styrofoam cups and other miscellaneous items. Perhaps this year, the 'bottle bill' will be adopted in Maryland as it has been in 11 other states and the 'cash for return' will keep some of that litter off the road. The next Adopt-A-Road will be on Sunday August 19--meet at the maintenance shed at 8:30 a.m.

#### **Saturday June 16**

The Annual Convention for the Maryland Division of the IWLA was held at Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter in Poolesville. The Maryland Division voted to support the Cool Cities/Counties initiative for Baltimore County. The Cool Cities/Counties

initiative focuses on reducing emissions that are contributing to global warming, with solutions that include increasing the use of green vehicles, energy efficiency, and renewable energy sources. The Division's support is in line with the IWLA National policy to reduce greenhouse gases and League members' commitment to sustainable use of our natural resources.

### **July 29 Invasives Plant Management Workshop**

Lynette Scaffadi, MNCPPC Parks, will hold a 'Weed Warrior' program on controlling nuisance plants that seem to be taking over everywhere. This will be open to the public, but will count for conservation credit for members who attend the workshop and participate in the hands-on portion. We will provide all tools, gloves, and water. Contact Meo Curtis at meosotis@verizon.net or at 301-604-3736 for registration.

### **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. The following probationary **members graduated to full membership status** as having completed their required projects: **James Lawless, Adrienne Munoz, Joe Munoz, Eddie Baxter, Andrew Hardin, Emory Haines and Ed Donaldson.**

### **JUNE General Membership Meeting Kitchen Staff and KP's:**

Thanks to McCullum for his Chef skills and KP crew Bill Calcagno.

### **Chapter maintenance: JUNE 24th, 2007**

Thank you to all the below members donating their time and labor to help keep the Chapter looking neat and clean. Eddie Baxter, Patrick Brice, Leroy

Oettinger, Tom Cauffiel, Peter Sittner, Meo Curtis, Conley Phipps, Chuck Limparis, Josh Jonas, Jim and Judy Crowell and Bill Kelly.

### **ADOPT-A-ROAD:**

Thanks to Eric Rice, Carl Bastiani, Jeff Deschamps, Meo Curtis, Andrew Hardin, Chris Wright, Richard Sacks, Richard Brennan, Essence Butler and Vernon King, Jr.

### **Cowboy Clinic:**

J.D. Dilloon, Richard Rankin, Hell Riders Mom, John Leaman, Ron Peddicord, Guy Wright, Saul Honigsberg, Durango Dude, Paul Bluteau, Mike Webb, Chuck Crooks and Tony Evans.

### **THUNDER VALLEY DAYS:**

You may notice names listed more than once in this category, as TVD is a four-day event with set-up beginning on Wednesday and teardown on late Saturday afternoon. In addition, Kitchen staff and Parking covers three days. Rather than attempting to weed out multiple name entries, I will list them as recorded. Spellings will be my best attempt at translating what you have written. If I spell a name incorrectly, oh well, I flunked my Chicken Scratch Translation Course, so what you see is my best interpretation of what you wrote. PS an opening exists for this job.

Milton "Rip" Van Winkle, Bill Gazdik, Bill Ladd, Chuck Limparis, Greg Talamini, Steve Lefebvre, O.S. McCollum, Bill Gazdik, Jim Fedis, Milton Seidel, Red Skillings, Bill Ladd, Bill Gordon, Vic Dawson, Blix Winston, Donna Limparis, Tom Malarkey, Miles Benson, Jim Fedis, Red Skillings, Steve Peck, Conley Phipps, Chuck Crooks, Barb Crooks, Tom Bragg, Rich Rankin, Greg Gallo, Pat Gordy, Guy Wright, Tony Evans, Chuck Limparis, Blix Winston, Karl Krchma, Saul Honigsberg, Jerry Bazensky, Paul Bluteau, Troy Muller, Dick Bardelmeier, Ray Logan, Ron Peddicord, Terry Springer, John Leaman, Jeff Greenhut, Bruce Maggie, Doug Hutchison, Bill Leaman, Emory Haines, Tom Cindric, Gary Clearwater, DQ Dave, Mike Sage, Adrienne Munoz, Mary Pat Donals, Mike Webb, Ed Donaldson, Brian Marler, Lou Novak, Kenny Marler, Sandy Burk, Tom Ouellette, Mike Opiela, Ted Shema, Marlowe Leafy, Karl Krchma, Semus Webb, Tom Tavschen, Tim Avara and Nick Limparis.

**Correction to May/June Newsletter:** A spelling error should be Tommy Cauffiel.

Thanks to our dedicated staff of **Range Orientation Instructors!**

A special thanks to all listed above, especially those volunteering to work the many hours and days to support Thunder Valley Days. **THANKS MEMBERS and VOLUNTEERS!**

**If I have failed to credit anyone for a required work project or misspelled a name, please contact Conley Phipps @ 301-460-8528 or phippscd@hotmail.com. If you are interested in getting involved in a Chapter Support Function consider this job, which takes from 30 minutes to 1 ½ hours per week, no meetings required just some record keeping and of course an article like this in each Newsletter.**

#### **NEW MEMBERS** (Joe Gick)

Please welcome the following new members.  
David T Cheng , Maurice B K Edmead and Matthew J Weidner sponsored by Bill Schneider  
Colin M Francis sponsored by Christopher Francis  
Ed McNally sponsored by Gregory Dilla  
Alan Miller sponsored by Joe Gick  
Alan G Palestine sponsored by Robert Jackson

#### **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 [guywright@verizon.net](mailto:guywright@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 July 2007, starting time is 10:00 AM daily and ending time is 8:00 PM, unless some activity has preempted the range (see "Upcoming Events Affecting Range Availability" below).

My thanks to all who helped with Range maintenance on our June maintenance date.

#### **NEW ITEMS**

25 Yard Targets Removed From Rifle Range because rounds fired at those targets have been impacting on the target backer steel supports on the 50 yard berm, cutting many of them in half. A moveable target is being constructed to be used as a close-in target to assist in sighting in new rifle scopes only, with the admonishment that the shooters be aware of where their rounds are going. Please use the covered pistol ranges for 25 yard rim fire shooting.

#### **REMINDERS**

**Chapter Speed Limit:** The speed limit for our property is 10mph. It was established for safety and to limit dust during the dry season. This speed limit is especially important on the road leading to the Rifle and Pistol Range. You can never tell when you will meet a car from the opposite direction and it helps keep gravel on the road at the turns, instead of having it thrown to the shoulders because of excessive speed.

**Plywood Donations:** Your donations of plywood for use as target backers on the rifle and pistol ranges are always welcome. For backers, the plywood should be 1/2 inch or thicker and either pre-cut or capable of being cut into pieces 2'x2' (pistol range) or 2'x4' (rifle range). Please help keep the WAC looking good by dropping off your donations by the sliding door on the back side of the green equipment shed; that is, at the side nearest the chapter house. Thanks

**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](http://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:**

Seneca Valley HP Match on Saturday July 7, 2007 from 8:30AM to 2:00PM. Rifle Range is closed.

Practical Defense Match on Saturday July 14, 2007 from 1:00PM to 5:00PM on Pistol Range 1. (Please note that participants will meet at 12:30 PM in the Rathskeller for registration; don't go directly to the range). Pistol Range 1 will be closed during this time. For additional information, you can contact Jesse Lim via e-mail at [jlum@phillips.com](mailto:jlum@phillips.com) or telephone 301-540-0860 (evenings only please).

Cowboy Action Setup on Friday July 27, 2007. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed beginning at 1:00PM.

Cowboy Action Shoot on Saturday July 28, 2007 from 8:00AM to 3:30PM. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed during this time.

Seneca Valley HP Match on Saturday August 4, 2007 from 8:30AM to 2:00PM. Rifle Range is closed.

Bowling Pin Shoot on Saturday August 18, 2007 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 [jlum@phillips.com](mailto:jlum@phillips.com) or telephone 301-540-0860 (evenings only please).

Cowboy Action Setup on Friday August 24, 2007. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed beginning at 1:00PM.

Cowboy Action Shoot on Saturday August 25, 2007 from 8:00AM to 3:30PM. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed during this time.

### **IWLA RANGE ROSTER 2007** ( Bill Rahn)

#### **July 2007**

Wed 7/11 Jef Greenhutt, Tom Moore, Bill Doves  
Sat 7/14 Paul Fisher, Dave Fichter, George Fichter  
Sun 7/15 Chris Reposa, Mike webb, Randy Stewart, Evan Stewart

Wed 7/18 Frank Biss, DickBardelmeier, Scott Wood

Sat 7/21 Dave Gold, Peter Currall, Ira Wein, Tom Moore

Sun 7/22 Jim & Judy Crowell, Jason Ledney, Brandon Kinikin

Wed 7/28 Michael Fleisher, Jeff Waters, Tom Moore

Sat 7/29 Charles Weaver, Richard Zabell. Red Gambrell, Bill Rahn

Say thank you to these people who staff the trap and skeet ranges; they are the reason you are able to use the ranges.

### **RANGE ORIENTATION INSTRUCTORS**

Ray Logan and Lou Ferguson are teaching this month's range orientation on July, 29 2007 at 10:00 am.

### **Blacksmithing Committee** (Dick Smith)

The Blacksmithing Committee provided four demonstrators for the Thunder Valley Days event on Friday and Saturday, June 22-23. Prior to the event, we presented a branding iron to Chuck Crooks with the letters "TVD". Joe Gick and I also demonstrated for an event in Brookville, Maryland, at the Oakley slave cabin on Brookville Road on Saturday and Sunday, June 23-24. This event was part of the Heritage Day Celebration sponsored by the Montgomery County Park and Planning Commission. This coming Friday, July 13, Joe Gick and I will be demonstrating for a group of schoolchildren at the Sandy Spring Museum. And, as usual, we are at the forge at the WAC pole barn every Saturday from 9-3 that we are not committed elsewhere. We run classes there for any IKE who is interested in learning the craft and look forward to seeing you there. Check with me first ([dsmith@lofstrand.com](mailto:dsmith@lofstrand.com)) to be sure that someone will be at the forge.

We currently have four working forges, plenty of tools and coal. A frequent question (aside from "Do

you make horseshoes?") is about the fuel used in the forges. We use exclusively low sulfur soft coal that we convert into coke in the forge. We accomplish this by roasting wet coal that surrounds a central fire. The heat from the fire drives off the oils and other volatile organic components, leaving a porous material (coke) that is mostly composed of carbon. Wetting the coal first with water prevents the fire from consuming the coke during the process, a process that produces large volumes of acrid green smoke that perfumes the air.

### **2008 BOD ELECTIONS**

Elections, for our 2007/2008 Board of Directors, will be held at our August 22nd membership meeting. Per our By-Laws, a nominating committee was formed to put forth a slate of officers for the elections.

The slate is as follows:

#### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE'S LIST OF NOMINEES (GEORGIA TOWNSEND CHAIRPERSON)**

President: Steve Lefebvre  
First Vice President: Bill Ladd  
Second Vice President: Guy Wright  
Third Vice President: Jeff Deschamps  
Recording Secretary: Red Skillings:  
Corresponding Secretary: Michelle Chesnut  
Membership Secretary: Joe Gick  
Treasurer: Chuck Limparis  
Sergeant At Arms: Rob Hallin  
Parliamentarian: Mac McCollum  
Chaplain: John Leaman  
Director: Chuck Crooks  
Director: Pete Doubroff  
Director: Tom Ouellette  
Director: Jim Piatetski

To continue the election process, and per our By-Laws, additional nominations are accepted, for any board or officer position, from the floor at our July 25<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. Nominees must be a member in good standing (for at least a year) and their nomination must be seconded.

### **NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS** (Michelle Chesnut [smc\\_geek@msn.com](mailto:smc_geek@msn.com))

Thanks to Meo Curtis, Bill Rahn, Dick Smith, Jeff Greenhut, Conley Phipps, Chuck Crooks, Guy Wright, Tony Evans, Joe Gick, Ray Logan, and Chuck Limparis for their contributions to this newsletter. Tony Evans took all of the photos in this month's web version.

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 them in an attached Word document.

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