



Wildlife Gazette

Izaak Walton League of America Wildlife Achievement Chapter DECEMBER 2005

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Range House Phone: 301-253-4779

DECEMBER 2005 CALENDAR

Sat 17, Skeet & Trap 1:45 PM to 5:00 PM
Sat 17, **Christmas Tree Sales** 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM - Contact John Leaman 301-972-1572
Sat 17, Junior Rifle Practice 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM
Sun 18, **Christmas Tree Sales** 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM - Contact John Leaman 301-972-1572
Sun 18, Skeet & Trap 1:45 PM to 5:00 PM
Sun 18, **Rifle Pistol Range Clean Up** 10:00 AM Ranges closed until 1:00 PM
Sun 18, **Skeet/Trap Maintenance** 10:00 AM Ranges closed until 1:45 PM
Sun 18, Club and Range Orientation 10:00 AM
Mon 19, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM
Tue 20, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Wed 21, **Membership Meeting & Holiday Party** 6:30 PM Social, Dinner 7:30 PM
Thu 22, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Sun 25, **CHRISTMAS DAY, ALL CLUB RANGES ARE CLOSED**
Tue 27, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Wed 28, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Thu 29, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

JANUARY 2006 CALENDAR

Sun 1, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Mon 2, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM
Tue 3, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Wed 4, **Board Of Directors Meeting**

7:30 PM, **ATTENTION prospective Members, Please Meet at 7:00 PM**
Wed 4, **Conservation /SOS Committee Meeting** 6:30 PM - Contact Jeffrey Deschamps 301-604-3736
Wed 4, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Thu 5, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Fri 6, Astronomy Club Meeting, 7:00 PM in the Office or BBQ Shed
Sat 7, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Sun 8, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Mon 9, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM
Tue 10, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Wed 11, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Thu 12, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Sat 14, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Sun 15, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Mon 16, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM

CALENDAR EVENT POC's:

Skeet & Trap POC: Conley Phipps 301-460-8528
S&T Range Officers Schedule POC: Bill Rahn 301-774-6234
Junior Airgun POC: Bob Inness 301-340-9185 email: binness@starpower.net or John Watson 301-929-3583
Air Rifle Field Target POC: Joe McDaniel 301-865-8257
Adult Airgun POC: Phil Dean 301-865-8202
Christmas Tree POC: John Leaman 301-972-1572
Cowboy Shoot POC: Chuck Crooks 301-831-9666
Rifle Pistol Range POC: Guy Wright 301-253-4604

Range Orientation POC: Ray Logan 301-946-2651, nagolyar@starpower.net, or Barry Ephraim, eyebear@aol.com
Bowling Pin Shoot & Practical Defense Match POC: Jesse Lim 301-540-0860
Seneca Valley Rifle Match POC: Mike Gugulis 301-417-0987
Conservation Committee POC: Jim Piateski 301-253-4486 or Jeffrey Deschamps 301-604-3736
Fall Clean-up and Adopt A-Road POC: Michelle Chesnut 301-831-0237 smc_geek@msn.com
Boy Scouts, Order of The Arrow Terry Springer 301-428-0216
Hunter Safety POC: Geoff Hornseth 301-253-2384 ext.2
.22 Fun Shoot POC: Tom Riley 301-774-7426
Military Shoot POC: Jose Tassara 301-431-2799

RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGE REPORT

Information: For more information about any of the rifle/pistol range activities mentioned in this article, contact **Guy Wright** by email to guywright@comcast.net or telephone 301-253-4604. If you can't reach **Guy**, try **Ray Shaver** at E-mail MRShaver@msn.com or telephone 301-598-4163.

Shooting Hours: Permitted rifle/pistol ranges shooting hours are posted on the box, which contains the range sign-in register. For December 2005, starting time is **10:00am daily and ending time is 4:30pm**, unless some activity has preempted the range. **All Ranges will be closed on Christmas Day, Sunday December 25, 2005.**

Plywood Always Welcome: Thank you to whoever donated the precut 2' x 2' plywood backers left outside the maintenance shed door. They are greatly

appreciated. These donations are helping to keep down the cost and effort of running our rifle and pistol ranges. Ray Shaver made his first appeal for plywood donations in the March 1996 newsletter, and we have never had to buy a sheet of plywood for that purpose since. Although we prefer 1/2" to 3/4" plywood for the backers, almost any thickness will work on the pistol ranges. For those who have the time and capability to cut it into finished sizes, we need 2' x 2' pieces for the pistol ranges, 2' x 4' for rifle range backers, and 4' x 4' for the shotgun patterning board on the rifle range. Please leave donations by the sliding door at the rear of the equipment shed (i.e., the side facing the chapter house). Again, all donations are greatly appreciated

Rifle Range Projects: Note: Since Christmas Day falls on our normal range maintenance date range maintenance will occur a week earlier on Sunday December 18, 2005. During site maintenance on December 18, we hope to perform our annual sound barrier repair job by filling up the cavity with straw leftover from Thunder Valley Days. The straw has been stored under the open shed near the Barbeque building and, hopefully, has remained fairly dry. Also, if we have time and enough workers, we will start repairing the fiberglass insulation sound barrier between rafters in the roof over the rifle range shooting line. For those that have them, bring your stapler and a short stepladder.

Range Road Closures: Winter arrives officially on December 22, and with it comes the likelihood of snow and ice accumulation on the rifle/pistol range road. Our usual procedure is to lock the barrier gate open when the road is snow covered and messy, but passable with care. If the road becomes impassable or overly soft due to heavy precipitation, it may be closed even though the ranges remain open for use. In such cases, a sign explaining the closure will be posted at the box containing the range sign-in register, and the gate will be locked closed. Please watch for and comply with such notices. If the sign indicates that the road is closed but the ranges are open, you may walk to the ranges. However, even if you have an off-the-road vehicle that might make it through

snow-covered fields, DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DRIVE TO THE RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGES WHEN THE RANGE ROAD IS CLOSED!

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Probationary members are required to help in two chapter events during their first year of WAC membership. **At least one of those events must be a conservation activity.** If you are a probationary member, and don't see your name in the newsletter after helping out in an event, it would be prudent to contact the person who ran the event and find out why. Following are the names from the sign-up sheets for several recent events. Thanks to all.

NATIONAL TREE TRUST (Oct. 14): Ed Burrows, Meo Curtis, Jeff Deschamps, Bill Ladd and Richard Phelan.

NATIONAL TREE TRUST (Oct. 15): George Barnaj, Ed Burrows, Michelle Chesnut, Jeff Deschamps, Pete Doubroff, Karl Krchma, Ray Ladbury, Bill Ladd, Alex Limparis, Chuck Limparis, Ken Lubel, Richard Phelan, Red Skillings and Paul Vitek. Plus, a VERY BIG THANKS to Candice Phelan who prepared snacks for the volunteers.

NATIONAL TREE TRUST (Oct. 30): Meo Curtis and Jeff Deschamps.

MARYLAND SHOOTER QUALIFICATION (Nov. 6): Andrew Cooke, James Fort, Bill Gazdik, Bob Gladhill, Robert E. Griffin, Sr., Larry Harmon, Jesse Lim, Larry Lippman, Dennis Price, Bruce Roth, Jim Schinner, Jose Scoseria, Ray Shaver, Craig Stark, Jose Tassara, Milton "Rip" Van Winkle and Guy Wright.
KITCHEN & SERVICE (Nov. 16): In addition to Mr. & Mrs. Ed Harren, who supplied the homemade Cajun marinade for the deep fried turkey; Rich Fried, head chef, was assisted by Chuck Crooks, Carl Rattay and Greg Talamini.

HOSPITALITY (Nov. 16): Rob Hallen and Ken Lefebvre.

CAS SET UP (Nov 25): Neil Benson, Paul Bluteau, Chuck Crooks, Chuck

Limparis, Nick Limparis and "River Banks."

CAS TEAR DOWN (Nov. 26): Neil Benson, Jennifer Christensen, Chuck Limparis and three non-members of the WAC (Smiley Brunette, Highland Ranger and Lefty Rhodes).

MISCELLANEOUS CONSERVATION TASKS (November 27): John Cerny, Mike Conrad, Saul Honigsburg, John Leaman, Gregg McDonald, Joe McDonald, Jim Pachulski, Jim Piatetski and Paul Vitek.

RANGE ORIENTATION (November 27): Ray G. Logan and Bruce Roth.

RIFLE/PISTOL RANGE MAINTENANCE (November 27): Alan Pressman and Guy Wright.

SKEET/TRAP RANGE MAINTENANCE (November 27): Chuck Limparis, Peter Sittner, Paul Turska and Jake Turska.

DECEMBER SITE MAINTENANCE: The next monthly maintenance of WAC ranges, Christmas trees, house and grounds will be done from **9:30 AM until 1 PM on Sunday, December 18.** Please report to the maintenance coordinator, Tom Riley, at the green equipment shed for an assignment.

SKEET & TRAP RANGE OFFICERS: DECEMBER 2005
Sat 12/3 "The Fichter Gang", Rob Taylor, Carl McMahon
Sun 12/4 Paul Turska, Jake Turska, Steve Hunt, Ronnie Gravitt
Sat 12/10 Robert Jeffery, Tim Mulreany
Sun 12/11 Martin Cherry, Randy Stewart, Evan Stewart, Michael Fleisher
Sat 12/17 Dave Gold, Ira Wein, Peter Currall, Mike Webb
Sun 12/18 Jim & Judy Crowell, Robert Case, Tim Olsen
Sat 12/24 Red Gambrell, Richard Zabell, Tony Evans, Paul Fisher
Sun 12/25 **MERRY CHRISTMAS** (Ranges Closed)
Sat 12/31 Rob Van Tassel, Frank Saenz, Peter Sittner

JANUARY 2006

Sun 1/1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Sat 1/7 "The Fichter Gang", Carl McMahon, Rob Taylor

Sun 1/8 Steve Hunt, Paul & Jake Turska, Ronnie Gravitt

Sat 1/14 Robert Jeffery, Tim Mulreany, Charley Weaver, Bill Rahn, Bob Cooley, Ryan Cooley

Sun 1/15 Martin Cherry, Randy Stewart & Evan, Michael Fleisher

Sat 1/21 Ira Wein, Peter Currall, Dave Gold, Mike Webb

Sun 1/22 Jim & Judy Crowell, Tim Olsen, Robert Case

Sat 1/28 Red Gambrell, Tony Evans, Richard Zabel, Paul Fisher

Sun 1/29 Frank Saenz, Rob Van Tassel, Peter Sittner

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah and Happy Kwanzaa to all. May the Blessings of this Season be with you and especially our brave young men and women serving all over the world.

DELAYED OPENINGS

The Shotgun Range openings will be delayed until 1:45 PM on December 17 and 18, to allow families to harvest Christmas Trees, located in front of the shooting range. Range Officers for those dates should arrive for opening and setup of ranges at 1:00 PM. **NO SHOOTERS** are permitted on the Ranges until an "ALL CLEAR" is given and verified by a Range Officer.

GAME DINNER AND AUCTION 28 JANUARY!!!

NEW MEMBERS DECEMBER

Paolo Amedeo, Kensington, MD
Sponsor: Joe McDaniel

Omar D. Arias, Gaithersburg, MD
Sponsor: Joe Gick

Frank Beddick, Laytonsville, MD
Sponsor: Joe Gick

Martin Begosh, Olney, MD
Sponsor: Chuck Crooks

Michael Broome, Elkridge, MD
Sponsor: Guy Atkins

Etienne Deligenza, Wheaton, MD
Sponsor: Joe Gick

Richard Gautreaux, Laytonsville, MD
Sponsor: Joe Gick

Sergey Gusev, Rockville, MD

Sponsor: Ray Logan

Keith Harpster, Damascus, MD

Sponsor: Paul Honke

William Hungerford, Jr., Goshen, MD

Sponsor: Bill Schneider

Jacob Lambert, Damascus, MD

Sponsor: Jim Piateski

Tuan Le, Highland, MD

Sponsor: Joe Gick

Steve Lederer, Mt. Airy, MD

Sponsor: Scott Snyder

Stephen Meyer, Silver Spring, MD

Sponsor: Joe Gick

James Mills, Jr., Woodbine, MD

Sponsor: David Gold

Scott W. Olson, Gaithersburg, MD

Sponsor: Bob Schneider

Evan Stephens, Gaithersburg, MD

Sponsor: Joe Gick

Jeffrey Weisenborne, Gaithersburg, MD

Sponsor: Joe Gick

FLY FISHING FORUM

By Richard Phelan unodir@comcast.net

As we move into the colder weather, there is more time to prepare for the next season, get the gear reorganized, and check to see what needs to be repaired, replaced, and restocked. It is also a great time to get up to speed on the information on the internet which can keep us up to date on what is (or is not) happening. Here is a partial list of sites which I use fairly regularly and I hope they are of benefit to all:

Fly Anglers Online (sadly, I forgot who sent this in)
(<http://www.flyanglersonline.com/>) An all around site. Good general information. It also has sections devoted to information for beginners.

Maryland DNR Fisheries Page (thanks to Jim Arnold)

(<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/>) An in depth look at fishing in Maryland. Extensive links. Be sure to explore past the home page. A must see site. It has the information on the trout stocking, freshwater fishing report, ocean and Chesapeake fishing report. Much more good info including an online fishing license application, or get license online at (<http://www.wildlifelicense.com/md/>).

Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
(http://sites.state.pa.us/PA_Exec/Fish_Bo

at/mpagl.htm) Fishing information for Pennsylvania.

Maryland Anglers Network
(<http://www.mdangler.net/lakesres.html>) Comprehensive site on fishing conditions with links to tackle shops, guides, etc.

All About Fly Fishing (<http://www.about-flyfishing.com/>) Another good comprehensive site for beginner to expert.

Washington Post Fishing Site (Maryland and Virginia) with columns from Angus Phillips.
(<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/sports/longterm/outdoors/fishing/front.htm>)

Cyber Angler
(<http://www.cyberangler.com/reports/>) fishing reports for the USA and other world sites.

There are many other sites with detailed information which were not listed. If you have a favorite site that you wish to share, email the link to me at unodir@comcast.net.

Future topics: **Flies, fly tying materials, tying your own, local fishing spots, wading gear, vests and stream bags**

WEB HOST CHANGE

Due to multiple problems with AOL, we have moved all of our IWLA and Cowboy web pages, to a new host. The old addresses for our pages on AOL, will no longer work, as the old links will have a referral on them for a month or two.

Several months ago, we obtained a Domain name for the IWLA and Cowboy pages. We also placed a scrolling banner, with the new address, at the top of the two main web sites. These addresses are www.DamascusIWLA.org for our IWLA Chapter and www.WildlifeRangers.com for our Cowboy site.

With the additional web space, we will be able to expand our site and add many new features. We will have space for some photos and even movie clips! Our club newsletter will be there, along with the ability to store back issues.

Shortly Club E-mails will also be moved to the new web account. After the conversion, users will be able to add, change or delete their addresses from the list while on line. Once the E-mail conversion is complete, we will advise everyone of the new "sender" address.

Don't forget to update your web site address book. If you have other IWLA - WAC pages bookmarked, you will have to update them from the new links on the main web site. All other pages, like the calendar, applications, rules, etc., will get new addressees but, you can find them from the main menu.

**Green Items are good for Conservation work credit,
Brown items are good regular work credit.**

WILD GAME DINNER & AUCTION

Our annual Wild Game Dinner and Auction will be on Saturday, January 28th, 2006. This will also be our January Membership Meeting.

Tickets are \$15 per person and are on sale at the Skeet & Trap range house during their regular hours. Only 5 tickets remain for sale, as of 7 December. **We do need wild game donations for this dinner and donations of Auction items.** If you have any wild game to donate, please bring it to a meeting, contact a board member or our cook, **Jorge Silva** 301-258-0377. Donated items for the Auction can be brought to the Chapter House Rathskeller entrance and left behind the counter. Donated firearms must be handled through **Chuck Crooks** 301-831-9666 or **Jim Piateski** 301-601-2954. If you wish a Tax Deductible Slip you may get one in the Rathskeller or during hours of operation at the Range House.
Rich

RANGE ACCESS CARDS for 2006

Please remember that your membership card is NOT what you will need to use the ranges in 2006. It is a separate card for you and/or a Range Approved spouse that will come in the envelope behind your membership card. It has an eagle in front of a flag for easy identification across shooting positions. It is already laminated with a slot for a clip punched in it. **IT MUST BE VISIBLY WORN**

WHEN USING THE RANGES. Use the same electronic card that you already have to open the gate. It will continue to function as long as your dues are up to date. Clips for the cards are available at the Range House or during General Membership Meetings. Stop by and pick one up.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS for 2006

Thanks to the 67% who have renewed for 2006. The large majority of those who have paid should have their cards by now. To those who have NOT PAID, your time is running out. If you don't send in your 2006 dues within a few days of receiving this message, you will probably NOT get a range card until January, which means that you can't shoot after January 1st until you have your new Range Access Card. I cannot get them for a few weeks until after I receive your payment. Don't keep procrastinating. *SEND YOUR PAYMENT IN TODAY.* Joe Gick

GAME DINNER AND AUCTION 28 JANUARY!!

CONSERVATION REPORT

On Saturday November 5 we held the second clean up at the Lois Green-Sligo Chapter. We had a good turn out of members from both chapters plus Troop 207. A large dumpster was filled in about two hours plus other materials stacked from removal from the site. Special thanks to Norma Kawecky for coordinating the event, and thanks to: Meo Curtis, Brandon Kinikin, Rick Sommer, Ed Burrows, Rich Phelan, Danielle Ledney, Jason Ledney, Bill Kelly, Jim Piateski, Eric Harris, John Cerny, and Bill Ladd, the volunteers that helped to make this a success.

Beginning in January of next year the conservation committee will meet at 6:30 pm immediately before the BOD meeting.

The chapter will be holding a "Nest Box Workshop" at 7:30 pm on Wednesday February 15. If you are interesting in finding out about Nest Boxes and the opportunity to build your own send e-mail to Jeff Deschamps (jeff.deschamps@verizon.net) or call (301) 604-3736 to register for the event. The workshop is free to members and non-members.

The Montgomery County Department of Environmental protection will be holding its first "Rain Barrel Workshop" of 2006 on Friday February 24 at Brookside Gardens. Keep watch at Rainscapes.org after January 7 for the start of registration.

WINTER RANGE ROAD

Buckets of ice melt and gravel have been placed at the top of the range road to be used if people have problems exiting the range because of ice buildup on the new concrete pad. Tom

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

The holiest of all holidays are those kept by ourselves in silence and apart, the secret anniversaries of the heart, when the full tide of feeling overflows. Longfellow.

Contributing Articles By:

Chuck Crooks: Web Calendar
Guy Wright: Range Report
Ray Shaver: Volunteers
Bill Rahn: Range Officers
John Leaman: Chaplain
Conley Phipps: Delayed Openings
Joe Gick: New Members
Richard Phelan: Fly Fishing Forum
Chuck Crooks: Web Host
Rich Fried: Wild Game Dinner
Joe Gick: Access Cards
Joe Gick: Membership Renewals
Jeff Deschamps: Conservation
Tom Riley: Winter Range Road
Editor: Conley Phipps, TFT