

# NEWSLETTER

Izaak Walton League of America Wildlife Achievement Chapter P.O. Box 118, Damascus, MD 20872 (301) 253, 2384



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October-November Issue

Coming Attractions				
Date	Event	<u>Time</u>		
10/18	Hunter Safety Course	7:00 pm		
10/19	Tree Trimming 9:00 am			
10/19	Turkey Shoot 6:30 pm			
10/23	Membership Meeting 8:00 pm			
10/25	Hunter Safety Course 7:00 pm			
10/25	Range Closed till 1:00 pm			
10/26	Tree Trimming 9:00 am			
10/26	Hunter Safety Crs. 9:00 am			
10/26	Adopt-A-Road Cleanup 9:00 am			
10/27	R & P Range Cleanup 10:00 am			
10/27	Range Orientation	10:00 am		
11/2	Tree Trimming	9:00 am		
11/2	Sight-In Days (see article)	10:00 am		
11/2	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm		
11/3	Sight-In Days (see article)	10:00 am		
11/6	Board Meeting	7:30 pm		
11/9	Tree Trimming	9:00 am		
11/9	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm		
11/15	Hunter Safety Class I	7:00 pm		
11/16	Tree Trimming	9:00 am		
11/16	Turkey Shoot 6:30 pm			
11/17	Deer Hunter Qualification			
	R&P Ranges Closed			
11/20	Membership Meeting	8:00 pm		
11/23	Ranges closed until 1:00 pm			
11/23	Hunter Safety Class III 9:00 am			
11/23	Tree Trimming 9:00 am			
11/23	Turkey Shoot 6:30 pm			
11/24	R&P Range Maintenance 10:00 am			
11/24	Range Orientation 10:00 am			
11/26	Hunter Safety Class II 7:00 pm			
11/30	Tree Trimming 9:00 am			
11/30	Turkey Shoot 6:30 pm			
11/30	Shotgun Range Closed			
11/31	Shotgun Range Closed			

### Adopt-A-Road Cleanup

The next cleanup of Mullinix Mill Road will be on Saturday, October 26. Please meet at the equipment shed at 9:00 am.

## General Membership Meeting

The next general membership meeting will be on Wednesday, October 23. Cocktail hour starts 6:30 pm and dinner starts at 7:30 pm. The guest speaker is Mr. Chris Conti, who works in Legislative Affairs at IWLA National Headquarters. He will speak on the new Maryland gun law. This is a dinner meeting. The menu includes meatloaf, potatoes, vegetables, and salad. Cost is \$6.00 per meal. C'mon out and share in the camaraderie!!

#### **New Members**

The following applications for membership have been approved by the Board of Directors. Current Chapter members will have the opportunity to vote to accept these individuals as new members at the next membership meeting, on Wednesday, October 23.

Alvin Crandall, Mt. Airy, MD. Sponsor: Howard Burrill

Rick Kuckkhan, Rockville, MD. Sponsor: John Leaman

Kevin Landkrohn, Rockville, MD. Sponsor: Bill Schneider

### lke Items for Christmas

As I've reported in the past, George Briggs is selling baseball hats and Tshirts available with IWLA and Wildlife Achievement Chapter logos printed on them. These items would

make dandy Christmas gifts for your favorite Ike. If you want to drop a hint to your spouse or kids, why not draw a brightly colored circle around this paragraph and leave it in some conspicuous place for them to find? George is still taking orders for sweatshirts and jackets. They can be delivered in time for Christmas. Sweatshirts and jackets are priced at \$20.00 and \$24.00, respectively. XXL and XXXL sizes are slightly more expensive. All merchandise is forest green with gold colored logos. Call George at (301) 253-9773 between 2:00 to 7:00 pm to order or get more details.

#### Skeet and Trap Notes

Thanks to Bill Rahn and his band of Merry Men for completing the siding work on the Five Stand, building new doors for the trap houses on Fields One and Two, and constructing an additional stand for the Sportsman's Team Challenge.

Thanks also to Cindy Whitehurst, Paul Bluteau, Rich Buckingham, and Bill Rahn for assisting with the Beginners Skeet Class.

Any member interested in becoming a monthly or occasional volunteer as a Skeet/Trap Range Officer please contact Archie Cheng on (301) 831-9738 after 5:00 pm.

Member Bob Cunningham and Seneca Valley shooter Rob Bistline are the lucky winners of the two Ruger 10/22 rifles raffle. Thanks to everyone who supported the Club by buying raffle tickets.

# November Shotgun Range Officer Schedule

Officer Schedule			
<u>Day</u>	Date	Names	
Sat.	11/2	Nancy Humphries Weld. Humphries Rich Buckingham	
Sun.	11/3	Paul Bluteau Cindy Whitehurst	
Sat.	11/9	Lewis Allnutt Bill Rahn Jim Malon	
Sun.	11/10	Donna Needham Merrill Needham Frank Welsh	
Sat.	11/16	David Fichter Wayne Sterling Andy Shankman	
Sun.	11/17	Peter Currall Dave Gold Bob Sadler	
Sat.	11/23	Berle Cherney Bob Woodward	
Sun.	11/24	Mike Merollini Lee Stavin Kevin Manning	
Sat.	11/30	Range Closed for Thanksgiving	
Sun.	11/31	Range Closed for Thanksgiving	

# Rifle and Pistol Range Report

Range Incident - One Wednesday in September, some Chapter members were shooting on the rifle range when several men they did not recognize arrived. Without arranging a cease fire to set up their own targets, the newcomers shot their slug guns at a target already in use, and then departed, leaving behind a staple gun and targets. Review of the range log revealed that the slug gun shooters had not signed in. It's not clear whether they were new members who were unfamiliar with club rules and range etiquette or trespassers. Had the newcomers introduced themselves and asked for a cease fire, they would have found those Ikes already on the range congenial and happy to comply. Instead, the incident resulted in bad feelings and suspicion. Please remember that Chapter rules require you to sign the range log before using the rifle/pistol ranges and to visibly display your range-approved membership card while on the ranges. Also, take the time to

introduce yourself to people you meet at the ranges. You'll find the vast majority of shooters to be courteous and friendly.

Live Ammunition - Every time we work around the rifle and pistol firing lines, we find live ammunition (usually rimfire cartridges). Just because the round failed to fire once doesn't mean it might not go off when stressed the right way -- possibly with a mower or rake. Small cans are provided on both the rifle and pistol ranges to dispose of misfires. Please use them, or carry your misfires away. Do not discard misfires on the ground or in trash containers.

September Cleanup - Alan
Pressman supervised the range
maintenance activities in September,
coordinating with Bill Kelly to ready
the ranges for the Sportsman's Team
Challenge. In addition to Alan and
Bill, workers included Richard
Fieller, Geoff Hornseth, Brenan
Hornseth, Lyra Hornseth, Ray G.
Logan, Dave McNeal, and Ray
Shaver. Thanks to all!

Deer Hunter Qualification - This is the second call for volunteers to help run the rifle range when we assist the Department of Natural Resources in qualifying deer hunters with their slug guns on Sunday, November 17. Several members have stepped forward to help, but we can use more volunteers. To volunteer, please contact Ray Shaver (301-926-0465) or Phil Dean (301-831-9325).

Please note that the rifle and pistol ranges will be closed to our members during the qualification process on November 17, but the Chapter will be reimbursed for our services.

October Cleanup - The next maintenance session for the rifle and pistol ranges will be from 10 a.m. until noon on Sunday, October 27. John Kwon (301-540-1972) will coordinate the effort. Please meet at the equipment shed before

proceeding to the ranges. We would like to see more new members at the cleanup. Please join us, and stay to use the ranges, which are reserved until 2 p.m. for cleanup crew use.

### Sighting-In Days

Reminder!! The Chapter's annual "Sighting-In Days" will be held on Saturday and Sunday, November 2 and 3, at the Rifle Range from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. These two days are reserved for "sighting in" rifles and slug shotguns by members and non-members. This event will be advertised in newspapers and at local gun stores to inform non-Chapter members of the opportunity to use our Rifle Range. A donation of \$5.00 per gun "sighted in" will be collected from all who use the Range these two days.

We still need assistants on both days to ensure the event runs smoothly and safely. If you can help out during a shift (9:30 am to 1:00 pm or 1:00 to 4:00 pm) on either day, please call Phil dean at (301) 831-9325.

# High Power Rifle Postal Match

A High Power Rifle Postal Match is being sponsored locally. The course of fire will be the 50 round National Match Course. Scores must be submitted by **November 15, 1996**. For information or to register, call Phil Dean at the number listed above.

#### **Volunteers In Action**

Four of our members, Ernie Clifford, John Clifford, Charlie Weaver, and Bill Rahn, wanted to contribute to the Chapter. At the request of Phil Dean, they furnished the materials and labor to build a portable bench rest and seat for use by the handicapped at the Rifle Range, two target stands for use by kids shooting .22s, and a cart for use by anyone using the Rifle or Pistol Ranges.

#### New Club Benchrest Record Set

A new Club Benchrest record was set by John Clifford on September 18, 1996. John is one of the five or six regular benchrest shooters who shoot weekly at the Rifle Range. Firing a Remington 700 BDL in .223 caliber at 100 yards, John shot a five shot group that measured 3/16" center to center. Due to space considerations, a copy of the target can't be shown. John's load consisted of a 52 grain Sierra HPBT # 1410 bullet, 24 grains of H 4895 powder, and Federal 205 primer. Congratulations John!!

# Conservation In Cyberspace

The Internet's World Wide Web contains a wealth of information on conservation and the protection of the environment to the home computer user. Through the use of Internet "Home Pages," conservation and other interested groups bring conservation and environmental issues to the public's attention. Conversation issues at your fingertips include access to the latest changes in wetlands conservation laws to information on local fishing conditions. As this information becomes available, we will bring them to your attention in the newsletter.

Maryland is a leader in bringing conservation activities to the Internet. To access the Maryland 's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Home Page, point your Internet web browser to: "http://gacc.com/dnr/" (Note: Do not include the quotes in the address).

DNR's Home Page includes a variety of subjects including a workshop for women to learn and improve outdoor skills (see article below), information on a gift tree program, fish and wildlife news, a forest health report, and information on upcoming conservation activities throughout the state. Readers can enter a contest to win a "Sea Doo" jet ski.

Conservation efforts for Maryland's Eastern Shore and Chesapeake Bay can be accessed by pointing your web browser to: "http://covesoft.com/Eastern/". This Home Page contains information on historic preservation activities, fishing on the Bay, and

other interesting topics.

If you need assistance on how to access the Internet and the World Wide Web or have questions on a topic your are interested in finding, please give Chuck Watson a call at (301) 414-7480 and he will try to help you.

# Conservation Committee Report

On Sunday, September 8, Rick Sommer and Ray Shaver walked the section of the Patuxent River between Mullinix Mill Road and Long Corner Road. The purpose of their expedition was to determine if the Chapter should adopt this section of the river for cleanup as part of the Save Our Streams program.

The Montgomery County side of the river was relatively clear of trash. A few large items, such as a horse trough and hot water heater, were present; but, there were no signs of dumping.

The Howard County side is a different story. There is a lot of trash near the Long Corner Road bridge and other old dump sites along the river.

There is much wildlife in evidence along the river. This includes wood ducks, deer, and raccoons.

The Committee recommends that we consider adopting the river for cleanup. Initial efforts should be concentrated in the area near the Long Corner Road bridge.

# Chevy Truck Sportsman's Team Challenge

The Chevy Truck Sportsman's Team Challenge was a great success!! A total of 24 teams competed, 20% more than last year. The following individuals volunteered during the event:

Bill Kelly, Kevin Manning,

Georgia Townsend, Dick Sterne, Dave and Will McNeil, Ben and Becky Need (not sure of spelling), Robert Griffin, J.R. and Jim Schinner, Cindy Whitehurst, Paul Bluteau, Chris Holler, Kris Stroud, Larry Lynch, Dave Peterson, John Leaman, John Zombolas, Ray Logan, Bill Wright, May and Paul Jackson, Dolores and Joe Gick, Doris Sommer, John Walter, Mac McCollum, Naomi and Ari Sapir, Al Turner, Merrill Keesler, Al Pressman, Mike Queen, Mary Lynn and Bill Jenkins, Robin Moore, Rich Buckingham, Phil Dean, Joe Tarr, Joel Stein, Chuck Crooks, Ed Bennett, Archie Cheng, Nick Giuliano, George Briggs, and Berle Cherney.

In the press of things, we may not have recorded the names of all who assisted during the event. We sincerely apologize if we failed to include your name among the volunteers listed above.

### **Airgun Activities**

Tom and Edith Gaylord ran an airgun display at the Sportsman's Team Challenge. Their display was popular with young and old alike. The Gaylords publish the <u>Airgun Letter</u>, a monthly newsletter for air gun shooters and collectors. If you're interested in getting their publication, contact them at: The Airgun Newsletter, 4614 Woodland Road, Ellicott City, MD, 21042-6329, Phone: (410) 730-5496.

The Damascus Air Rifle Club staffed the airgun side event associated with the Sportsman's Team Challenge. Participants could shoot Daisy air rifles and pistols. Top shooters in each of three age categories won an airgun. the following volunteers worked the airgun event: Bruce Muscolino, Jack Roberts, Tom Mihara, Sherri Wright, Jake Eckhart, Rory Kelly, Blake Mihara, Ryan Case, and Chris Wright. Thanks folks!

# Becoming an Outdoors-Woman Workshop

From September 20-22, 98 women gathered at Catoctin Mountain National Park to learn outdoor skills--skills usually associated with, but not limited to, hunting and fishing.

The workshop was designed by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources especially for women. It is an opportunity for anyone 18 or older to try new activities, improve beginner skills, or meet like-minded people.

The next workshop will be Friday through Sunday, November 1-3, 1996 at Catoctin Mountain National Park. Call Alice Harrison at (410) 974-3545 for information and a registration form. She can also put you on a list to receive information on next year's workshops.

The November workshop includes 22 courses on everything from deer hunting to wildflower gardening. The cost is \$165.00 per person, which includes room and board, four courses, and Friday and Saturday night entertainment. By the way, men are also welcome. This is a great chance to enjoy a weekend away, learn

some fascinating skills, and make new friends, all at a moderate price!

#### **Christmas Tree Sales**

We sponsor a Christmas Tree sale each year to help raise funds for the Chapter. If you review the Coming Attractions section of this newsletter you will see "tree trimming" activities listed at 9:00 am every Saturday. This activity is to prune the trees to get them ready for the Christmas sale. We still need help in preparing the trees.

Please consider buying your tree from our Chapter. I bought one last year and it was a great time. I, my wife, and son walked through the snow to select our special tree, we cut it down with the tools provided, and we carried it out to our car. Ikes were available to direct us and help in the loading. We also enjoyed a snowball fight, a warming fire, and some hot drinks. In short, it was a perfect start to the Christmas Season!

### **Holiday Party**

The Board of Directors has decided that the December General Membership Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 15, from 1:00-5:00 pm in the Chapter House. This meeting will be a Christmas Party for the entire family. There will be games and gifts for the kids. We would really like to have all our members and families join in celebrating the holiday season. Additional details will be included in the next newsletter. So you better watch out!!

### Chaplain's Note

If any member knows of another member who is seriously ill, our Chaplain, John Leaman, would like to know. He will send the patient our prayers for a speedy recovery. Also, John wants to know when a member passes away so he can send our condolences to the surviving family. Call John at (301) 972-1572.