



# NEWSLETTER



Izaak Walton League of America  
Wildlife Achievement Chapter

December 96-January 97 Issue P.O. Box 118, Damascus, MD 20872  
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## Coming Attractions

Date	Event	Time
12/14	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
12/15	Membership Meeting & Holiday Party	1:00 pm
12/21	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
12/22	Range Orientation	10:00 am
12/22	R&P Range Maintenance	10:00 am
12/28	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
1/3	Adult Airgun Shoot	7:00 pm
1/4	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
1/5	Shotgun Range Maint.	10:00 am
1/8	Board of Directors Mtg.	7:30 pm
1/9	Conservation Comm. Mtg.	7:30 pm
1/11	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
1/18	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
1/24	Membership Meeting	6:30 pm
1/25	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
1/26	Range Orientation	10:00 am
1/26	R&P Range Maintenance	10:00 am
1/26	Archery Range Maint.	10:00 am
1/26	Super Bowl Party	4:00 pm

## January General Membership Meeting

The next general membership meeting will be on **Friday, January 24**. Cocktail hour starts at 6:30 pm and dinner starts at 7:30 pm. This is a dinner meeting. The menu will feature meatloaf, potatoes, gravy, rolls, dessert, etc. Cost is \$6.00 per meal. Come meet our new members!

## Super Bowl Party

There will be an informal party at the Chapter House on **Sunday, January 26** at 4:00 pm to watch the Super Bowl. All members are invited. This will be a potluck affair, so please bring a dish and watch the Steelers win their 5th Super Bowl!

## New Members

The following applications for membership have been approved by the Board of Directors. Current Chapter members have the opportunity to vote to accept these individuals as new members at the next membership meeting, on **Friday, January 24**.

Kevin Benson, Olney, MD.  
**Sponsor:** Bill Jenkins

Edmund Burrows, Rockville, MD.  
**Sponsor:** Phil Dean

Thomas Fitzpatrick, Woodbine, MD.  
**Sponsor:** Bill Schneider

Thomas Gaylord, Ellicott City, MD.  
**Sponsor:** Phil Dean

Phillip Grill, Chevy Chase, MD.  
**Sponsor:** Mike Heffernan

Ahmad Kassaaee, Rockville, MD.  
**Sponsor:** Bob Mabie

Jim Piateski, Damascus, MD.  
**Sponsor:** Phil Dean

## Membership Renewals

Membership renewal notices have recently been sent out. If possible, we would like to have everyone renew their membership before January 1, 1997. In case you forget, reminders will be sent out early in 1997. All members must renew by April 1, 1997 for their membership to remain active.

## January Shotgun Range Officer Schedule

Day	Date	Names
Sat.	1/4	Nancy Humphries Weld. Humphries Rich Buckingham
Sun.	1/5	Paul Bluteau Cindy Whitehurst Greg Baldwin
Sat.	1/11	Lewis Allnutt Bill Rahn Jim Malone
Sun.	1/12	Donna Needham Merrill Needham Frank Welsh
Sat.	1/18	David Fichter Wayne Sterling Tom Lohm
Sun.	1/19	Peter Currall Dave Gold Bob Sadler
Sat.	1/25	Berle Cherney Bob Woodward Ike Eisenhour

## IN MEMORIAM

We regret to inform Chapter members that **Bess Anderson**, the beloved wife of Dave Anderson, Sr. and the mother of Dave Anderson, Jr., recently passed away. In the early years of our Chapter, Bess was an active and tireless supporter of the club's many functions. She was instrumental in getting those "behind the scenes" jobs done. We extend our sincerest condolences to the entire Anderson family. She will be sorely missed by us all.

## Rifle and Pistol Range Report

**Deer Hunter Qualification** - A team of twenty Ikes and two guests ran the range, parked cars, and provided refreshments in this very successful joint effort with Maryland Department of Natural Resources and parks personnel. Working from 9 am to 4 pm on November 17, we moved 221 deer hunters through slug-gun qualification on our rifle range. We appreciate the patience of Chapter shooters who were unable to use the rifle and pistol ranges during the qualification activity. Special thanks to our workers listed below, with apologies to anyone whose name may have been omitted: **Ray Halperin, Doug Sands, Geoff Hornseth, John Walter, Bill Gazdik, Robert Kapp, Charles Watson, Smith DeForce, Frank Riley, Ike Eisenhour, Wayne Laptosh, James Fort, Bill Rowan, Phil Omenitsch, Bruce Roth, Lee Becknell, Bill Kelly, John Leaman, Georgia Townsend, Mac McCollum, Phil Dean, and Ray Shaver.**

**November Range Maintenance.** We were quite happy with participation in the rifle/pistol range cleanup on November 24. Under Alan Pressman's guidance, 12 Ikes and one guest made quick work of repairs needed to recover from a busy month of shooting activities. Thanks to **Tony Jacobs, Greg Baldwin, Chris Evrard, Larry Williams, Vinny Iacono, Bill Kelly, Larry Lynch, William A. Kutzke, William A. Kutzke, Jr., David King, Bob Shirley, Paul Patel, and Ray Shaver.**

**December Range Maintenance.** The next rifle and pistol range maintenance session will be from 10 am to 2 p.m. on **Sunday, December 22.** Ray Shaver (301-926-0465) will supervise the process. Meet him at the equipment shed. This is a good way for new members to satisfy their work requirement. The work is normally finished by noon.

**Metal Target Repairs.** Although the work is just getting started, we want to thank in advance **Les Lorenz, Beckie Lorenz, and Mike Lamberson** who responded to the

November newsletter request for welders to repair our damaged metal targets.

**Range Improvements.** The floor of the pistol range shooting line and one shooting position on the rifle range were paved with concrete on the weekend of November 9. This is part of a continuing effort to make the ranges easier to use by handicapped shooters. Note that the bench and seat on the concrete rifle range position can be moved as necessary to accommodate shooting from a wheelchair. Paths to both ranges will be improved during the coming year. Many thanks to **Bob Woodward** for the donation of four beautiful new metal target stands for the pistol range.

**Brass Cleanup.** A pushbroom and dustpan are now available at pistol range for your use in cleaning up empty cartridges after shooting. If you don't carry empties home to reload, please place your brass and aluminum cartridges in the designated containers.

## Highpower Rifle Postal Match Results

Our Chapter member, **Jim Schinner**, was the "Top Gun" in the recently completed Fall East/West Highpower Postal Match. This NRA-approved match drew 42 competitors from Alaska, Georgia, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Nebraska, and South Carolina. The 50 round National Match Course was fired at 100 or 200 yards, depending on the available range. Jim's total score was 489-23X. Way to go Jim!!

Other Chapter members who participated in this event were: Phil Dean, in 7th place with a 436 score; Geoff Hornseth in 12th place with a 419 score; and Charles Watson in 31st place with a 285 score.

## Airgun Activities

An adult indoor airgun program will begin on Friday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. The program will commence on **January 3, 1997.** Shooting will take place in the Chapter House using the target equipment from the junior program. Both air rifles and air pistols can be used. There will be some air rifles and pistols available to those who may not have their own. Instruction will be provided to those who request it. There is a charge of \$1.00 per person per night to pay the cost of targets. Contact **Phil Dean**, at (301) 831-9325 for more information.

## Safety First!

A lot of us are anxious to get to the shooting ranges. But, we need to be careful driving around Chapter grounds, especially on the one lane road to the Rifle and Pistol Ranges. There have been several recent incidents when head-on collisions were narrowly avoided. Please take your time, drive slowly, exercise caution, and be prepared to stop. Let's keep our enviable safety record intact!!

## Conservation Notes

A group of local young people is interested in working with our Chapter to build bluebird nesting boxes for placement on our grounds. We need several members to pre-cut the parts for the boxes, help the kids nail them together, and prepare mounting poles for setting out the boxes next February.

Another group of Ikes is needed to plan and construct a "bluebird trail" with the nesting boxes in the early spring and to monitor them during the breeding season. Anyone interested should call **Bill Kelly**, at (301) 253-5009.

## 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.

## Editor's Column

Everyone who lives in northern Montgomery County or southern Frederick County knows that the name "Browning" appears throughout our area ("Browning Pools," "Browningville Road," etc.). The Brownings in our vicinity are almost certainly related to Meshach Browning, a renowned hunter who lived in what is now the Deep Creek Lake area of Garrett County, MD.

Meshach spent 44 years, from about 1797 to 1841, hunting bear, deer, wolves, and panthers in the mountains of Garrett County. He was well known for his adventures, especially his encounters with bears. In his autobiography he describes the following fistfight with a bear!

"...I will now relate an adventure which I had on one occasion with a male bear, about three or four years old. Having set a steel trap for wolves, I had appointed a certain day to go and see whether or not a wolf had been caught....With a friend of mine, George Knox...we started off together to see my trap.

We went to the place where the trap was set, but it was gone; and we soon discovered it was a bear which had taken it away. With eager steps we pursued the trail, until by-and-by we found him, with the trap fast to an old root. Knox was afraid of the bear, but I laughed at his fears, and told him that a man as big as he was, should not hesitate to fight that bear with his naked hands. He swore he would like to see me fight him naked handed....

I went up to the bear, and with my knife cut off the small piece of skin that held him in the trap....I waited until he was free from the trap, and attempted to go off, when I made at him. He rushed at me with a snort that made Knox shriek like a woman; but as he ran toward me, I ran down the hill into the bottom. As he did not seem disposed to try to catch me, I again faced about to receive him; Knox all the while screaming at me to leave. But being determined to give him a crack or two, at all hazards, I stood still till he came in reach, when I struck him in the ear as hard as I could, and turned his head around. He then became mad, and

rose on his hind feet to make for my face or neck; but I struck him in the pit of his stomach, which seemed to double him over. He made another sudden attempt to run under at my legs, when, seeing that he could get hold of me if I stood still, I made a leap, and as he came on, landed in his rear.

He was now getting in earnest, and did not try to run from me at all; but when he found me behind him, he wheeled around and again came up to the attack. I gave him another fair stroke under the butt of his ear, which made him stagger; but he still aimed at my legs, and I jumped over him a second time; when Knox, being uneasy for my safety, let the dog go, which took my place, and the fight continued for several minutes on pretty equal terms. After awhile, finding that the dog began to grow tired, and the contest becoming close, I took my knife, and with one stab put an end to the fight."

The above passage was quoted from Forty-Four Years of the Life of a Hunter, by Meshach Browning, Appalachian Background, Inc., 1994, pp. 232-234.

## Where Does Our \$97.00 in Dues Go?

