



NEWSLETTER



Izaak Walton League of America

Wildlife Achievement Chapter

February-March 97 Issue

P.O. Box 118, Damascus, MD 20872

(301) 253-2384

Editor: Wayne Berkebile

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Coming Attractions

Date	Event	Time
2/15	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
2/21	Airgun Shoot	7:30 pm
2/22	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
2/23	Range Orientation	10:00 am
2/23	R&P Range Maintenance	10:00 am
2/23	Archery Range Maint.	10:00 am
2/26	Membership Meeting	7:30 pm
2/28	Airgun Shoot	7:30 pm
3/1	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
3/2	Shotgun Range Maint.	10:00 am
3/5	Board of Directors Mtg.	7:30 pm
3/7	Airgun Shoot	7:30 pm
3/8	Clay Target Delivery	10:00 am
3/8	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
3/13	Conservation Comm. Mtg.	7:30 pm
3/14	Airgun Shoot	7:30 pm
3/15	Airgun Field Target Match	9:00 am
3/15	Christmas Treelot Maint.	9:00 am
3/15	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
3/16	IWLA State Div. Mtg.	8:30 am
3/21	Airgun Shoot	7:30 pm
3/22	Adopt-A-Road Cleanup	9:00 am
3/22	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
3/23	Range Orientation	10:00 am
3/23	R&P Range Maintenance	10:00 am
3/23	Archery Range Maint.	10:00 am
3/26	Membership Meeting	7:30 pm
3/28	Airgun Shoot	7:30 pm
3/29	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm

Adopt-A-Road Cleanup

The next cleanup of Mullinix Mill Road will be on **Sunday, March 22**. Please meet at the equipment shed at 9:00 am.

**** This is a good project for new members to earn their required work hours. ****

I want to correct the notice in the January-February Newsletter which misidentified the person responsible for supervising our Adopt-A-Road Program. **Bob Mabie** is our Adopt-A-Road Chairman and he has done a super job of managing this effort!

General Membership Meetings

The February general membership meeting will be on **Friday, February 26**. Our guest speaker will be **Tom Gaylord**, editor of the *Airgun Letter*. Tom will introduce us to the various airgun shooting activities, display different airguns, and give suggestions for selecting an airgun. He will be available for informal discussions before the meeting. This should be a very interesting talk, so come out and bring a friend along! 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.

The March Membership Meeting is on **March 26**, again at 7:30 pm with cocktail hour at 6:30 pm. This is a dinner meeting and the cost of a meal will be \$6.00. We haven't set the menu yet, so plan on being surprised!

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, February 26**.

Robert Dyer, Frederick, MD.
Sponsor: Bill Schneider

Thomas Greene, Jr., Westminster, MD.
Sponsor: John Wilhelm

Kobi Johnson, Gaithersburg, MD.
Sponsor: Bill Rahn

Raymond Moran, Germantown, MD.
Sponsor: John Leaman

Robert Panico, Germantown, MD.
Sponsor: Tim Trout

Alan Roecklein, Rockville, MD.
Sponsor: Zane Naibert

Janice Rosnick, Olney, MD.
Sponsor: Bob Schneider

Glenn Rottmann, Gaithersburg, MD
Sponsor: Joe Cocco

Carl Wagner, Olney, MD
Sponsor: John Wilhelm

March Shotgun Range Officer Schedule

Day	Date	Names
Sat.	3/1	Nancy Humphries Weldon Humphries Rich Buckingham
Sun.	3/2	Paul Bluteau Cindy Whitehurst
Sat.	3/8	Lewis Allnutt Bill Rahn Jim Malone
Sun.	3/9	Donna Needham Merrill Needham
Sat.	3/15	David Fichter Ike Eisenhower Wayne Sterling
Sun.	3/16	Peter Currall Dave Gold Greg Baldwin
Sat.	3/22	Berle Cherney Bob Woodward Tom Lohm
Sun.	3/23	Mike Merollini Lee Slavin

Sat. 3/29 Paul Hancock
Mac McCollum
Sun. 3/30 Kevin Manning
Frank Welsh

Skeet and Trap Notes

Thanks to the following members who helped with February shotgun range maintenance:

Bill Wright, Cindy Whitehurst, Ed Bennett, Ralph Garruto, Don and Jason Erb, Rick Buckingham, Paul Bluteau, Alex Davis, Matt Rabon, Kevin Manning, and Ken Baker. Cindy was also kind enough to furnish venison chili to keep everyone going!

We are raffling off a Ruger 10/22 rifle. This is a .22LR, stainless steel, semi-auto with the international (full length) stock. Tickets are available at the Skeet/Trap House on weekends and at membership meetings. Donation is one ticket for \$2.00 or three tickets for \$5.00. You must be 18 years old to win and an FFL transfer is required (handled by the club). The drawing will be held at the awards ceremony for the Sportsmen's Team Challenge in October, 1997. For more information, call **Chuck Crooks**, at (301) 831-9666.

A few small lockers are available in the Skeet/Trap House for those who may want a storage space. Cost is \$12.00 per year. Interested? Call **Ed Bennett**, at (301) 253-8962, or **Chuck Crooks**, at (301) 831-9666.

Remember, Shotgun Range Maintenance is the first Sunday of each month at 10:00 am. Meet **Ed Bennett** at the equipment shed for job assignments. The next maintenance session is **Sunday, March 2**. See you there!

**** This is a good project for new members to earn their required work hours. ****

Clay Target Delivery Change

The last newsletter stated that clay targets would be delivered to the equipment shed on March 2. Several Ikes volunteered to assist in unloading the delivery truck. The carrier has changed their delivery date to **March 8, 1997**. If you can still assist, please meet at the equipment shed at 10:00 am. Thanks!

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Shotgun Patterning

Apparently, several Ikes have asked about the Chapter's policy on patterning shotguns. Shotguns may be patterned by posting a suitable target (bring your own target and fasteners) on the patterning board near Field 5. It may be difficult to see the patterning board because it is behind the High House. If you have trouble locating it, ask at the Skeet/Trap House for assistance. Only shot sizes from 7 1/2 to 91/2 may be used because the drop zone behind the patterning board is only approved for these shot sizes. Shooting larger shot creates a significant safety hazard. Slugs may be fired on the Rifle Range in accordance with Rifle Range rules. You may fire any day after 10:00 am; however, you should coordinate your activities with others who may be using the Shotgun Ranges. For this reason, it would be best to pattern your shotgun on weekends when a range officer is present to ensure safety. If you have any questions on this matter, please call **Chuck Crooks**, at (301) 831-9666.

Rifle and Pistol Range Report

Second Call for Tractor Driver Training - We often need an experienced driver for our Minneapolis-Moline tractor. For safety, a training session for using the tractor, and possibly other equipment, will be held some time this spring, probably in early March. If you are interested in learning to handle the Moline, or want to improve your existing skills, please call **Ray Shaver**, (301) 926-0465.

January Cleanup - Our January 26 effort went beyond range maintenance to include removing junk from the equipment shed and the area around the dumpster. **Bill Kelly** coordinated the removal of several loads of trash to the "Beauty Spot" in Damascus. The shed cleanup made room for the shipment

of clay targets due to arrive in March. Thanks to: **Hank Booth, Ted Hadfield, Bill Kelly, Matt & Mary Laur, H.Q. Lubbes, Kevin Manning, Dave & Will McNeal, Paul Moe, Tom Peck, Al Pressman, Ray Shaver, and Bob Shirley.**

February Cleanup - John Kwon, (301) 540-1972, will coordinate range maintenance activities on **February 23**. Meet him at 10 a.m. at the equipment shed. If the weather permits and the ground is not frozen, we may bury the drainpipe which runs along the left side of the rifle range firing line.

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Airgun Activities

There will be an airgun field target match on **Saturday, March 15**. Registration begins in the Chapter House at 8:30 am. The outdoor practice range will be open from 9:00 am until the match starts at 10:00 am. Shooting is done on metal "knockdown" targets located in the woods beyond the airgun range. Ranges are from 10-50 yards, shooting is from a fixed firing point, and any shooting position may be used. An air rifle with a telescopic sight is the "gun of choice." Other field target matches are scheduled for May 10, July 26, September 13, October 18, and November 15. For more information, call **Tom Gaylord**, at (410) 730-5496, or **Phil Dean**, at (301) 831-9325.

Seneca Valley High Power Rifle Matches

The Seneca Valley Sportsman's Club has scheduled their NRA/Civilian Marksmanship Program high power rifle matches on the following Saturdays: April 5, May 3, June 7, July 12, and September 6. Competitors are required to check in at the Rifle Range by 8:30 am on match day. Cost is \$15.00 for Chapter members and \$20.00 for non-

members. Call **Mike Gugulis**, (301) 975-9591, or **Phil Dean**, at (301) 831-9325.

Conservation Notes

The St. Anne's Episcopal Church youth group completed construction of the bluebird boxes. Many thanks to those who volunteered for this project. The boxes will be installed sometime in late February because the bluebirds return in March. We still need to lay out the trail and mount the boxes on posts. **Wayne Berkebile**, (301) 253-4288, is coordinating this effort. He will call those who have volunteered to assist in mounting the boxes. If you want your name added to the list of volunteers, please call him at the above number.

**** This is a good project for new members to earn their required work hours. ****

Christmas Treelot Maintenance

There will be a work detail on **March 15**, at 9:00 am, to remove unwanted wood, trees, and brush from the treelot where our Christmas trees are planted. This clean out will help ensure the Christmas trees are healthy and provide more space to trim them safely. **Bob Mabie** is supervising this effort. Please call him at (301) 774-4122 to volunteer or get additional information.

**** This is a good project for new members to earn their required work hours. ****

Ike Items Available Again

Heccc's baaack!! **George Briggs** is again selling IWLA baseball hats and T-shirts. Call George at (301) 253-9773 between 2:00 to 7:00 pm to order or get more details.

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.

Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors meeting on February 5, 1997 was unusual. Based on **Bill Kelly's** initiative, board members decided we need to have a long-term plan to improve club operations. A "brainstorming" session resulted in 43 suggestions for improvements. Board members will have an all-day meeting in March to consider and prioritize these suggestions.

The suggestions were in many areas, but recurring themes, in order of frequency, were to: acquire nearby land to prevent housing development encroachment on our grounds and ability to shoot, increase the number of youth and family oriented events, improve and better maintain Chapter property, encourage broader participation in our non-shooting activities (work details, conservation efforts, etc.), and establish a better sense of identity and direction for our club.

Board members want to hear any comments you may have, good or bad, about Chapter operations. Feel free to call any board member with your comments. Board members and their phone numbers, all area code 301, are:

President: Ari Sapir, 384-1430

1st Vice President: Georgia Townsend, 588-8335

2nd Vice President: Chuck Crooks, 831-9666

3rd Vice President: Ed Bennett, 253-8962

Treasurer: Nick Carone, 897-5150

Membership Secretary: Joe Gick, 774-9399

Corresponding Secretary: Wayne Berkebile, 253-4288

Recording Secretary: David McNeal, 774-6401

Sergeant-At-Arms: Bill Carbone, 774-5339

Chaplain: John Leaman, 972-1572

Parliamentarian: Bob Mabie, 774-4122

Directors at Large:

Bill Kelly, 253-5009

John Walter, 371-7036

Ray Shaver, 926-0465

Archie Cheng, 831-9738

Dave Anderson, Sr., 585-1053

Bill Rahn, 774-6234

John Dyer, 229-0733

By the way, thank you **Richard Phelan and wife** for the great cake! It made the board meeting a lot more productive!!

Editor's Column

Phil Dean has an article in this newsletter about the resumption of the Seneca Valley High Power Rifle military style rifle matches. I'm glad they'll be here soon because my son and I really enjoy them. It's fun to watch some of the older guns in action and the matches are friendly.

I spent 20 years in the military and put in a lot of time on shooting ranges, but I never saw any combat. I often wondered if competition shooting and formal range training are of any *real* benefit in combat. I'm sure many Ikes who are veterans can answer that question, but most veterans don't talk much about their combat experience.

Several years ago, I picked up a copy of *A Rifleman Went to War* by Herbert W. McBride. Mr. McBride was a competitive shooter and a member of the Indiana National Guard. In 1915, he left Indiana, joined the Canadian Army, and traveled to Europe to fight in World War I. His book is very interesting because he covers matters of military interest, such as the value of pistols in warfare, a comparison of .45ACP to 9mm cartridges, use of slings, and many similar topics. He answers my question regarding the usefulness of competition shooting in warfare as follows:

"...One fact was very apparent to me as the war went along, and it became

more and more noticeable as the Somme fight progressed and our replacements became very numerous. Our older men - that is, those members of the original Battalion who had received long and thorough instruction in rifle firing over the ranges of Canada and England, remembered and profited by their range training. These old-timers would always endeavor to take up a good position before

firing, and they really *looked about for a target to shoot at*. But the replacements, who had had little or no range training, would drop into the nearest hole, poke the rifle muzzle over the edge, and let 'er go. These chaps were always the first to run out of ammunition too. This

alone, is sufficient justification for our range instruction and rifle competitions, in my humble opinion."

Taken from *A Rifleman Went to War* by H. W. McBride, published by Lancer Militaria, Mt. Ida, Arkansas, 1987, p. 335.