



NEWSLETTER



May-June 97 Issue

Izaak Walton League of America
Wildlife Achievement Club Chapter
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Coming Attractions

Date	Event	Time
5/16	Airgun Shoot	7:30 pm
5/17	Chapter Cleanup Day	
5/17	Bowhunter Education	9:00 am
5/18	R&P Range Maintenance	10:00 am
5/18	Archery Range Maint.	10:00 am
5/23	Airgun Shoot	7:30 pm
5/28	Membership Meeting	7:30 pm
5/30	Airgun Shoot	7:30 pm
6/1	DNR Range Officer Trng.	8:30 am
6/1	Shotgun Range Maint.	10:00 am
6/3	M1 Clinic	7:00 pm
6/4	Board of Directors Mtg.	7:30 pm
6/6	Airgun Shoot	7:30 pm
6/7	Seneca Valley Match	8:00 am
6/12	Conservation Comm. Mtg.	7:30 pm
6/13	Airgun Shoot	7:30 pm
6/20	Airgun Shoot	7:30 pm
6/21	Adopt-A-Road Cleanup	9:00 am
6/21	Christmas Tree Work	9:00 am
6/21	60th Anniversary Party and Dance (See article)	5:00 pm
6/25	Membership Meeting	7:30 pm
6/27	Airgun Shoot	7:30 pm
6/28	NRA Personal Prot. Class	8:00 am
6/28	Chapter .22 Sporter Shoot	9:00 am
6/29	NRA Personal Prot. Class	8:00 am
6/29	Range Orientation	10:00 am
6/29	R & P Range Maint.	10:00 am
6/29	Archery Range Maint.	10:00 am

Adopt-A-Road Cleanup

The next Adopt-A-Road cleanup of Mullinix Mill Road will begin at 9:00 am on **Saturday, June 21**. Meet **Bob Mabie** at the Equipment Shed.

Thanks to all those who participated in the April cleanup. They included: **Al, Nicholas, and Cole Hrast, Vince Brant, Thomas Fitzpatrick, and Donna and Merrill Needham.**

General Membership Meetings

The May Membership Meeting is on **Wednesday, May 28**, at 7:30 pm with cocktail hour at 6:30 pm. As usual, this is a dinner meeting. Cost is \$6.00. We're not yet sure what will be on the menu. Our guest speaker will be Mr. **Bill Kramer**, from Potomac Guide Service in Gaithersburg. Bill will discuss chartering fishing trips on the Potomac and Susquehanna Rivers and Chesapeake Bay. He will also discuss best seasons and equipment. He will show a videotape on fishing topics. We hope this will be of interest to our members who fish or just use our waterways.

The June Membership Meeting will be on **Wednesday, June 25**. Our guest speaker will be **Dan Hartzler**, of New Windsor, MD. Dan is an expert in MD history and firearms. He has written several books on these and related topics. He will discuss MD units in the Revolution and MD firearms built in that era. Dan should be a fascinating speaker! This is a dinner meeting with social hour at 6:30 pm and dinner at 7:30 pm. Cost is \$6.00. The menu has not yet been set.

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 **Wednesday, May 28**.

Robert Dabbs, Brookville, MD
Sponsor: Steve Schneider

Sean Hudgens, Silver Spring, MD
Sponsor: Mike Heffernan

Robert McCary, Silver Spring, MD.
Sponsor: Wayne Berkebile

Leonard Miller, Brinklow, MD.
Sponsor: Joe Gick

James Reilley, Mount Airy, MD.
Sponsor: Dick Sterne

Thomas Shamp, Laytonsville, MD.
Sponsor: Joe Gick

Alan Taylor, Damascus, MD
Sponsor: Paul Nagel

Dennis Walston, Gaithersburg, MD.
Sponsor: Bob Mabie

Doug White, Rockville, MD.
Sponsor: Wayne Berkebile

Kenneth Winpisinger, Woodbine, MD.
Sponsor: Rick Thornley

June Shotgun Range Officer Schedule

Day	Date	Names
Sun.	6/1	Paul Bluteau Cindy Whitehurst
Sat.	6/7	Rick Buckingham Nancy Humphries Weldon Humphries
Sun.	6/8	Donna Needham Merrill Needham Mike Boring
Sat.	6/14	Lewis Allnutt Bill Rahn
Sun.	6/15	Peter Currall Dave Gold Greg Baldwin

Sat.	6/21	David Fichter Ike Eisenhour
Sun.	6/22	Mike Merollini Lee Slavin Kevin Manning
Sat.	6/28	Berle Cherney Archie Cheng
Sun.	6/29	Paul Hancock Mac McCollum

Skeet and Trap Notes

We regret that the rising cost of clay birds, shipping, and unloading has forced us to raise the cost of shotgun shooting slightly. Card prices have gone up by 15 cents per round and cash prices have risen by 25 cents per round.

Smokeless powder sales are back! After a lengthy licensing process, we have approval for selling your favorite smokeless powders. We will not handle black powder. A new license requirement is for all powder sales to be recorded in a log. Please have your driver's license ready for the sales person at the time of purchase.

We are looking for someone to chair a work party to paint the outside of the skeet house. Eventually, we will also paint the range house. It would be nice to show a pretty face for the upcoming Sportsmans Team Challenge. Contact **Ed Bennett** or **Chuck Crooks** for more information. Ed is at (301) 253-8962 and Chuck is at (301) 831-9666.

Rifle and Pistol Range Report

Thanks to the following Ikes and guests who participated in the range cleanup on April 27: **Bill Gazdik, Richard Fieller, Dan Earnest, Philip Grill, Chuck May, Charles Tomasevich, Robert Duvall, Pat Duvall, Jon Duvall, Dave King, David Burrelli, George Pearson, Rod Grindell, Wayne Berkebile, Bill Kelly, and Ray Shaver.** In addition to regular maintenance tasks, the group concentrated on rifle range improvements -- pulling stumps near the 50-yard berm and cutting a new path for wheelchair access to the shooting benches.

Contrary to last month's report, two swinging metal targets were not stolen from the pistol range. After one disappeared in February and

the other two showed signs of abuse, they were removed by one of our co-chairman. The other co-chairman failed to get the word that they were properly removed. The targets are back on the range, and the sign indicating how they should be used has been placed in a more obvious location. Enjoy the targets, but please put them at least 25 yards from the firing line and use only .22 rimfire (not .22 WMR) ammunition.

Many thanks to the anonymous donor who dropped off a load of used plywood for use as target backers. It should cover our pistol range needs through August. For others, please remember that we can use your scrap plywood for target backers. We need 0.5" or thicker plywood which can be cut into 2'x2' or 2'x4' pieces. Drop it off at the equipment shed during a range cleanup session, or call **Ray Shaver**, (301) 926-0465, who will arrange to receive it at your convenience.

The article about shotgun patterning in the March newsletter pointed out that we are restricted to shot sizes 7 ½ to 9 ½ on the skeet/trap field. To accommodate Ikes who want to pattern hunting loads with larger shot, we are considering a rule change to permit such patterning on the rifle range. A movable shotgun patterning board would be provided, but restricted to use on one lane, probably the firing position to the far right. In case we are overlooking something, we would like to hear from Chapter members opposed to such a change before it is addressed by the Board of Directors. If you are opposed or have a suggestion concerning the tentative change, please contact **Ray Shaver** at (301) 926-0465.

The May highpower rifle match found shooters firing from a level, grass covered firing line thanks to the work of **Howard Burrill** from Lakeside Gardens Landscaping, **Al Crandall, and Paul Patel.** Under Howard's professional direction, the

firing line was regraded, leveled, and seeded in time to benefit from the April grass growing season. Thanks to all of you!

The next rifle/pistol range maintenance session, to be coordinated by **John Kwon**, is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on May 18. Please meet at the equipment shed. Bring gasoline-powered weed whackers if you have them.

Military Rifle Shoot

The Chapter military rifle shoot on April 19 attracted 15 shooters. In use were: 1898 Krag, 1896 Swedish Mauser, Model 98 Mauser, Lee Enfield No. 4, 1903-A3 Springfield, CAR-15, SKS, and M1A (M14). The informal matches included an offhand match and shooting at balloons and hanging clay targets, all at 100 yards. Many thanks to our official greeter, **Herb Ley**.

A similar shoot will be held on Saturday, June 28, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm using .22LR rifles (both iron and scope sights). Metal "knock down" targets will be available. Set up begins at 9:00 am.

M1 Garand Clinic

An M1 Garand Rifle Clinic will be held at the Chapter House on Tuesday, June 3, 1997 at 7:00 pm. Topics to be covered are: disassembly, cleaning and lubrication, trouble shooting, upgrading, accurizing, and shooting positions. Reloading for the M1 may also be discussed. Bring your M1 Garand, sling, rifle cleaning kit, and a list of questions. **Do not bring ammo!** Call **Chuck Watson** at (301) 414-7480 for more details.

Airgun Program

The Friday night airgun program is now firing outdoors. If you would like to find out about field target shooting, come out any Friday at 7:00 pm and see what type of air guns are used. If your air rifle is scoped, bring it along. On April 12 and 13, we hosted an

NRA Junior 3 Position Air Rifle Sectional Tournament. The event was co-sponsored by the Damascus Air Rifle Club, our chapter's junior shooting program. A total of 24 juniors participated, with shooters from the Damascus Air Rifle Club, the Rockville Chapter, Herndon, VA, and Langhorne, PA. The match director was **Phil Dean**, range officer was **Bruce Muscolino**, statistician was Jim Deigan from the Rockville IWL, and the NRA referee was **Adrian Myers**. **Bob Schneider** of Atlantic Guns provided awards for the shooter.

After 34 years of coaching and running youth airgun programs, **Phil Dean** is devoting his time to other pursuits. He and his current assistant, **Jack Roberts**, will not continue the youth airgun program after May 15. Can anyone devote some time to these kids and help promote and protect the shooting sports among future generations? If so, call Phil at (301) 831-9325. Phil will provide advice and guidance to his successor.

Air Gun Show

Our Chapter will host the first annual Mid-Atlantic Airgun Show on Saturday, August 9. This show for the sale, purchase, trade, and display of airguns (modern and antique), related equipment, and accessories is sponsored by our Airgun Program. The show is being given expensive promotional activity. A good turnout of dealers and participants is expected.

For those members having a few airguns to sell or trade, several tables will be available at no cost other than spending some time manning the table during the day. Sale/trade items need to be fully described and priced so the person at the table can handle your transaction. There will be more information in upcoming newsletters.

Christmas Tree Work Party

There will be a work party on **Saturday, June 21**, to trim around the trees. Please bring weed whackers, pruning shears, rakes, work gloves, old clothes, and long sleeved shirts. Meet **Bob Mabie** at the Equipment Shed at 9:00 am.

60th Anniversary Events

A special event commemorating our 60th anniversary will be held on **Saturday, June 21**. The festivities begin at 5:00 pm. There will be a catered barbecue picnic, ceremonies, special speakers, and a dance in the Chapter House. We decided to have it catered to allow us all to enjoy the day. The menu features barbecue beef, fried chicken, cole slaw, baked beans, potato salad, pickles, fruit salad, iced tea, and lemonade

Our guest speaker will be Mr. **Sid Kramer**, former Montgomery County Executive. On April 1, 1972, Mr. Kramer gave the keynote speech at the "grand opening" of our Chapter at the Damascus location. He has graciously consented to return to share the evening with us.

We are inviting all living past Chapter presidents, and their spouses, to attend as our guests. We will be selling our history for the period 1937-97. We hope to have games, a history display, and other fun things to do.

Chuck Crooks, our 2nd Vice President, will be our DJ during the evening and play those golden oldies for us (nothing since 1980). The dance begins at 8:00 pm. BYOB, but beer will be available for those who wish to make a donation. Setups, ice, and snacks will be available for free during the dance.

To help encourage attendance, only ticket holders will be permitted to use the ranges on Saturday, June 21. For those who attend and use the ranges, all shooting must stop by 4:00 pm.

Even though the event is catered, we still need some help on June 21. We are asking for volunteers to help decorate, set up tables, man the refreshment area, and cleanup. If

you can't assist on that day, we sure could use help a few weekends before the event to repair and build picnic tables, put up a new flagpole, spruce up the grounds, and get things ready. We have reviewed membership applications and identified those members who said they would be willing to work on dances and chicken barbecues. We will be calling over the next few weeks to ask for your help.

This is our only planned social event this summer, so we would like a really good turnout. It should be fun and allow members to renew old acquaintances. I know many members, especially new members, are reluctant to attend events where they may not know anyone. I used to feel that way; but, I don't any more. Believe me, we have great members and we all share common interests. If it weren't that way, we wouldn't have joined the Chapter in the first place. Please, come out, bring your kids or grandkids, and help us celebrate our first 60 years and get a good start on our next 60!!

Cost for dinner alone is \$10.00 per adult, \$8.00 for kids under 13. Cost for the dance alone is \$6.00 per person, regardless of age. A combined dinner/dance ticket is \$15.00 per adult and \$12.00 for kids under 13. There will be a limit of 200 tickets which permit attendance at the dance. Tickets go on sale May 15. To buy tickets or assist before or during the celebration call **Wayne Berkebile** at (301) 253-4288, **Bill Kelly** at (301) 253-5009, and **John Leaman** at (301) 972-1572.

Landscaping Materials Sought

Our House and Grounds Committee Chairman, **Bob Ryon**, is looking for flowers, plants, trees, and other ornamentals to improve the appearance of our Chapter House. If you have such items to donate, please call Bob at (301) 865-1279.

Editor's Column

In June our guest speaker will be Dan Hartzler who will talk about MD units in the Revolution. Did you know the first unit of what was to become the U.S. Army consisted of 10 companies of frontier riflemen, 2 of them from Frederick County, MD. (Montgomery County did not exist in 1775, it was part of Frederick County.)

A Frederick resident watched these men rendezvous in that city on August 1, 1775. He left a wonderful record of them:

"...I have been detained in this place by an occurrence truly agreeable. I have had the happiness of seeing Capt. Michael Cresap marching at the head of a formidable company of upwards of 150 men from the mountains and backwoods, painted

like Indians, armed with tomahawks and rifles, and dressed in hunting shirts and moccasins...

Yesterday the company were supplied with a small quantity of powder from the magazine, which wanted airing, and was not good for rifles. In the evening, however, they were drawn out to show the gentlemen their dexterity at shooting. A clapboard, with a mark the size of a dollar, was put up; they began to fire off-hand, and the bystanders were surprised, so few shots being made that were not close to or in the paper.

... a young man took up the board in his hand, not by the end, but by the side, and holding it up, his brother walked to the distance, and very coolly shot into the white; laying down his rifle, he took up the board, and, holding it as it was held before,

the second brother shot as the former had done.

... will you believe me, when I tell you, that one of the men took the board, and placing it between his legs, stood with his back to the tree while another drove the center? What would a regular army of considerable strength, in the forests of America, do with one thousand of these men, who want nothing to preserve their health and courage but water from the spring, a little parched corn, with what they can easily procure with hunting, and who, wrapped in their blankets, in the damp of night, would choose the shade of a tree for their covering and the earth for their bed?

From *History of Western Maryland*, by Glenn H. Worthington, published by Thomas Sharf, Tradition Press, Hatboro, PA, p. 130.