



NEWSLETTER



July-August 97 Issue

Izaak Walton League of America
Wildlife Achievement Club Chapter
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Coming Attractions

Date	Event	Time
7/23	Membership Meeting	7:30 pm
7/25	Airgun Shoot	7:00 pm
7/26	Air Rifle Field Match	9:00 am
7/27	Range Orientation	10:00 am
7/27	R & P Range Maint.	10:00 am
7/27	Archery Range Maint.	10:00 am
8/1	Airgun Shoot	7:00 pm
8/2	Seneca Valley Match	8:00 am
8/2	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
8/3	Shotgun Range Maint.	10:00 am
8/6	Board of Directors Mtg.	7:30 pm
8/8	Airgun Shoot	7:00 pm
8/9	Airgun Show	9:00 am
8/14	Conservation Comm. Mtg.	7:30 pm
8/15	Airgun Shoot	7:00 pm
8/16	Adopt-A-Road	9:00 am
8/22	Airgun Shoot	7:00 pm
8/23	NRA Basic Pistol Class	9:00 am
8/24	NRA Basic Pistol Class	9:00 am
8/24	Range Orientation	10:00 am
8/24	R & P Range Maint.	10:00 am
8/24	Archery Range Maint.	10:00 am
8/27	Membership Meeting & Election of Officers	7:30 pm
8/29	Airgun Shoot	7:00 pm

IN MEMORIAM

We extend our prayers and sincerest condolences to the family of **John Dyer**, who passed away on June 28. John was on the Board of Directors from 1993-1996. His presence on the shotgun ranges will be sorely missed. At his family's request, donations in his memory may be sent to Centers for the Handicapped (CHI), 10501 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, MD, 20903, or The Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC) of Montgomery County, Inc., 11600 Nebel St., Rockville, MD, 20852.

General Membership Meetings

The July Membership Meeting will be presented by two of our members, **Wes Richardson and Rick Thornley**. They will discuss M1 Rifles and Carbines and display several different examples of these firearms. Also, Mr. **Chris Conti**, of the MD Division of the IWLA, will discuss the two new Montgomery County firearms laws (trigger locks and restrictions on firearms near public places). The July meeting is at 7:30 pm on **Wednesday, July 23**. Social hour starts at 6:30 pm. **There is no dinner served this month.**

The August meeting will be on **Wednesday, August 27, 1997**. This meeting will feature the election of officers. We have several positions with more than one candidate, so please come out and cast your vote. **Phil and Mary Ann Goodall**, from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, will talk on the present status of the Bay and efforts to protect it. Social hour is at 6:30 pm and the meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

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, July 23**.

James E. Arnold, Gaithersburg, MD
Sponsor: Lewis Allnutt

Bill Fallon, Germantown, MD
Sponsor: Mike Heffernan

Wheeler Johnson, Jr., Bethesda, MD.
Sponsor: Steve Schneider

Mark E. Kosian, Gaithersburg, MD.
Sponsor: Kevin Manning

Mike Marino, Frederick, MD
Sponsor: Phil Dean

Robert W. Moses, Mt. Airy, MD
Sponsor: Marshall Benedict

Burt Mullineaux, Gaithersburg, MD.
Sponsor: Janos Csoke

John D. Schaber, Woodfield, MD.
Sponsor: Bob Schneider

Edward Urbany, Jr., Columbia, MD.
Sponsor: Mike Heffernan

Nomination of Officers

The following persons have been nominated as Chapter officers for 1997-98. Members may also make nominations from the floor for Chapter officers at the July membership meeting on **Wednesday, July 23**. The election of new officers will be at the August membership meeting, which is on **Wednesday, August 27**.

The current nominees are:

President: Georgia Townsend

First President: Chuck Crooks

Second Vice President: Ed Bennett

Third Vice President: Bill Kelly

Treasurer: Nick Carone

Mac McCollum

Membership Secretary: Joe Gick

Corresp. Secretary: Wayne Berkebile

Recording Secretary: Dave McNeal

Sergeant-At-Arms: Larry Rollins

Chaplain: John Leaman

Parliamentarian: Bob Mabie

Directors to Elect (vote for four):

Paul Bluteau

Ted Hiers

Bill Jenkins, Jr.

John Kwon

Jorge Silva

Directors Who Carry Over: Bill Kelly

John Walter

Ray Shaver

Ike Items Available

George Briggs asked me to remind you that he has a good stock of fine apparel featuring the IWLA and Wildlife Achievement Club Chapter logo. Baseball caps, sweatshirts, and T-shirts are available. All merchandise is forest green with gold colored accents. Call George at (301) 253-9773 between 2:00 to 7:00 pm to order or get more details.

August Shotgun Range Officer Schedule

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Names</u>
Sat.	8/2	<u>Nancy Humphries</u> Weldon Humphries
Sun.	8/3	Paul Bluteau Cindy Whitehurst
Sat.	8/9	Lewis Allnutt Bill Rahn
Sun.	8/10	Donna Needham Merrill Needham
Sat.	8/16	David Fichter Rich Buckingham
Sun.	8/17	Peter Currall Dave Gold
Sat.	8/23	Berle Cherney Wayne Sterling
Sun.	8/24	Mike Merollini Lee Slavin Mike Boring
Sat.	8/30	Mac McCollum Paul Hancock
Sun.	8/31	Kevin Manning Greg Baldwin

Skeet and Trap Notes

Our thanks go out to **Kevin Manning, Mike Merollini, Richard Murphy, Lee Slavin, and Bill Wright**, for the new safety fences on the shotgun ranges. Three down and one to

go! Give these folks a "thank you" the next time you see them!!

Kevin Manning volunteered to paint the skeet house, but he needs help. Please contact him on (301) 831-9126 to volunteer your assistance. This project will be completed in several phases so there are lots of work time slots available. Shooters who use the skeet and trap ranges are most encouraged to help with this project.

Rich Buckingham Wins Shotgun Events

Member **Rich Buckingham** recently won events in area shotgun tournaments. In May, he won the 12 gauge event, Class D, at the Congressional Open. In June, he won the 20 gauge and 410 bore events, Class D, at the 61st North-South Skeet Tournament held at the National Capitol Skeet and Trap Club. Congratulations Rich!!

Rifle and Pistol Range Report

Rifle/pistol range maintenance for June concentrated on repair of the pistol range roof. Removal of the old roofing, which started on June 28, revealed considerable rotted wood to be replaced, making the job much bigger than originally expected. Luckily, the Ikes and a guest who showed up to help had a variety of skills and much enthusiasm. The result of our labor may not be pretty (black roofing would have hidden a lot of sins), but it is definitely more water tight than before. Many thanks to the following for their contributions: **Larry Senger, Jay Pickens, Tom Mills, Charles Tomasevich, Dave McNeal, John Walter, Steve Cowan, Alan Pressman, Jim Schinner, H.O. Lubbes, Bob Maxwell, Sam French, Michael Mund, Doran Platt, S. Craig Gillis, and Ray Shaver.**

We also owe a debt of gratitude to **Jim Tucker** who completely rebuilt and much improved two of our steel pistol target sets which had been worn out through use. Thanks also to **Phil Dean**, who installed new yard markers on the pistol range. Sadly, somebody shot and ruined one of the new 50-yard markers within three days of its installation. If you observe someone doing something stupid at the range, please call it to his/her attention, or at least, inform a member of the Board of Directors.

The next rifle/pistol range cleanup will start at 10 a.m. on **Sunday, July 27**. It will concentrate on regular maintenance tasks like policing the ranges and cutting back weeds/brush along the edges. **Ray Shaver** will be coordinating the July cleanup. Meet him at the Equipment Shed, or if you arrive late, come directly to the range.

State Rifle and Pistol Association

Some of you may be interested in joining the MD State Rifle and Pistol association. This organization maintains a state-wide network of contacts on firearms legislation, organizes state championship matches in all shooting disciplines, and promotes shooting events throughout the state. The monthly newsletter lists upcoming matches and clinics. Membership is \$15 per year and can be sent to: Maryland State Rifle and Pistol Association, c/o Bethesda Business Service, Spring Center (Rear), 8629 16th St., Silver Spring, MD., 20910.

Airgun Range

The outdoor airgun range is now fully operational with a shooting bench and target holders at 10, 20, 30, 40, and 50 yards. There are also metal swinging and spinner targets on the range. The airgun range operates under the same rules as the rifle and pistol ranges. But remember...the airgun range is for air rifles and air pistols only!

Every Friday evening, at about 6:30 pm, airgunners meet in the Rathskeller and move to the outdoor range for an informal adult airgun shoot. Both paper and metal field targets are used. Bring your air rifle or air pistol to shoot or just come out to see the different air guns in use!

Those of you who "surf the web" can find out about our Chapter's airgun program (Damascus IWLTA Field Target Association-DIFTA) by using the following web address: <http://www.airgunletter.net/difta.html>.

Airgun Show

The Chapter sponsored Mid-Atlantic Airgun show will be held on **Saturday, August 9, 1997**, with the doors opening at 9:00 am. Several tables will be available for Chapter members to sell or display one or two airguns or related items. These tables are available at no cost to the member, but those using the table need to provide sales supervision during the day. If interested in selling items at the show, call **Phil Dean** at (301) 831-9325.

Becoming an Outdoors-Woman Workshop

Each year the MD Department of Natural Resources sponsors a series of outdoor seminars especially for women. These seminars are organized into a weekend workshop called "Becoming an Outdoors-Woman." Two workshops are planned in 1997. The first will be the weekend of **August 22-24** at the Western Maryland 4H Center in Swanton (Garrett County), MD. The second session will be the weekend of **September 19-21** in Cecil County, MD. A variety of outdoors skills, including hiking, shooting, fishing, cooking, tracking, survival, photography, canoeing, etc. will be covered.

The cost for attending a weekend is \$165, including lodging and meals, if paid before August 8. Thereafter, the cost goes up \$30. To register or get additional information, call Alice Harrison, at (410) 974-3545, in Annapolis, MD. Register early as enrollment is limited to 100!

60th Anniversary Events

Our 60th anniversary event was a great success. Seven past Chapter Presidents attended, along with their families. A total of 60 people were at the event. Many people volunteered their services to prepare for the party. They included: **Ken Baker, Fred Bobila, Jim Carberry, Dave Peterson, Jan and Chelsea Rosnick, Sean Hudgens, Cecil Hensley, Ray Shaver, Dave McNeal, Bill Kelly, Kevin Manning, John Walter, Naomi and Ari Sapir, Georgia Townsend, and Kurt, Ingrid, and Wayne Berkebile**. Several projects were completed for this event. A new flagpole was installed, the horseshoe pits were repaired, the volleyball poles were repaired and painted, and our picnic tables were refurbished.

One other related project was completed. Our 60 year history has been published and is available at \$10.00 per copy. The history is 150 pages long. It contains several chapters of narrative, many photographs, a summary of Chapter news through the years, a chart with the names of all officers and directors (to the best they are currently known), and an index of names. The history can be purchased at membership and Board of Director meetings and chapter events. For more information or to purchase one by mail, call **Wayne Berkebile** at (301) 253-4288.

Chapter Newsletter Wins State Award

I am happy to report that our newsletter was selected as the best among the 10 Maryland IWLTA chapters. I don't know who nominated our newsletter for the award, but I sincerely appreciate their thoughtfulness!

Thank You

We had excellent turn outs for the Christmas tree and Adopt-A-Road work parties on June 21. We appreciate the efforts of the following individuals who trimmed 200 trees near the metal shed: **John Skillings, Alan Taylor, Jeff Moses, Jim Piatieski, Bob Mabie, Dave Tyler, Bob Maxwell, John Walter, Merle Keesler, and Dave McNeal**.

The Adopt-A-Road crew also did a great job! Thanks to: **Merrill and Donna Needham, Paul and Maggie Davis, and Tony Putorti**. The next road cleanup will be on **August 16 at 9:00 am**.

Rental Chairperson Wanted

We need someone, or someones, to organize and supervise a Rental Committee. You are probably aware that we rent out our facility for weddings, special events, meetings, etc. We've made several improvements, such as installing air conditioning, to help attract renters. The committee would set rates, advertise, and show the facility to prospective clients. Call **Georgia Townsend**, at (301) 588-8335, if you are interested. By the way, please consider using our facility for graduation, anniversary, or birthday parties, weddings, etc.

Recycling News

Montgomery County residents who want to recycle scrap metal may do so by calling (301) 217-2410 by **9:30 am on the business day before your scheduled pick-up day**. You may leave disassembled swing sets and metal sheds (no concrete), iron furniture, railings, bikes, doors, shower stalls, cabinets, lawn chairs, and all types of metal appliances. Put these items at the curb, **but call first**. Do not leave fencing, auto parts, rusted out items, paint cans, propane or oxygen tanks, or pressurized containers.

Editor's Column

While working on our 60 year history, I tried to read portions of *The Compleat Angler*, by Izaak Walton. What better way to understand the man than by reading his actual words? I must confess it is a lot easier to fish than it is to read the old English style of writing. I can understand what Izaak is saying but it takes a lot of time. In the old days, of course, his writing was more understandable because readers talked more like Izaak did. But, apparently they had trouble actually fishing. Consider this passage by American writer Washington Irving:

"For my part, I was always a bungler at all kinds of sport that required either patience or adroitness, and had not angled for above a half an hour before I had completely "satisfied

that sentiment," and convinced myself of the truth of Izaak Walton's opinion, that angling is something like poetry --a man must be born to it. I hooked myself instead of a fish; tangled my line in every tree; lost my bait; broke my rod; until I gave up the attempt in despair, and passed the day under the trees, reading old Izaak; satisfied that it was his fascinating vein of honest simplicity and rural feeling that had bewitched me, and not the passion for angling.

... I recollect, also that, after toiling and watching and creeping about for the greater part of a day, with scarcely any success, in spite of all our admirable apparatus, a lubberly country urchin came down from the hills with a rod made from the branch of a tree, a few yards of twine, and, as Heaven shall help me! I believe, a crooked pin for a hook, baited with a

vile earth-worm -- and in half an hour caught more fishes than we had nibbles throughout the day!

But, above all, I recollect the "good, honest, wholesome, hungry" repast which we made under a beech-tree, just by a spring of pure sweet water that stole out of the side of the hill; and how, when it was over, one of the party read old Izaak Walton's scene with the milkmaid, while I lay on the grass and built castles in a bright pile of clouds, until I fell asleep."

Written by Washington Irving in *Washington Irving: The Sketch Book*, 1820. Excerpted from *An Angler's Anthology*, edited by Eugene Burns, The Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, PA, 1952, p 141.