



# NEWSLETTER



Izaak Walton League of America

Wildlife Achievement Club Chapter

September-October 97 Issue

P.O. Box 118, Damascus, MD 20872

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## Coming Attractions

| Date  | Event  | Time     |
|-------|--|----------|
| 9/15  | Airgun Shoot                                     | 7:00 pm  |
| 9/19  | Hunter Safety (2nd session)                      | 7:00 pm  |
| 9/20  | Hunter Safety (3rd session)                      | 9:00 am  |
| 9/20  | Turkey Shoot                                     | 6:30 pm  |
| 9/22  | Airgun Shoot                                     | 7:00 pm  |
| 9/26  | Membership Meeting &<br>Installation of Officers | 7:00 pm  |
| 9/27  | Black Powder Shoot                               | 9:00 am  |
| 9/27  | Turkey Shoot                                     | 6:30 pm  |
| 9/28  | Range Orientation                                | 10:00 am |
| 9/28  | R & P Range Maint.                               | 10:00 am |
| 9/28  | Archery Range Maint.                             | 10:00 am |
| 9/29  | Airgun Shoot                                     | 7:00 pm  |
| 10/3  | Sportsman's Team Chall.                          | 8:00 am  |
| 10/4  | Sportsman's Team Chall.                          | 8:00 am  |
| 10/4  | Turkey Shoot                                     | 6:30 pm  |
| 10/5  | Sportsman's Team Chall.                          | 8:00 am  |
| 10/6  | Airgun Shoot                                     | 7:00 pm  |
| 10/8  | Board of Directors Mtg.                          | 7:30 pm  |
| 10/9  | Conservation Comm. Mtg.                          | 7:30 pm  |
| 10/11 | Turkey Shoot                                     | 6:30 pm  |
| 10/13 | Airgun Shoot                                     | 7:00 pm  |
| 10/17 | Hunter Safety (1st session)                      | 7:00 pm  |
| 10/18 | Air Rifle Field Trgt Mch.                        | 9:00 am  |
| 10/18 | Turkey Shoot                                     | 6:30 pm  |
| 10/20 | Airgun Shoot                                     | 7:00 pm  |
| 10/22 | Membership Meeting                               | 7:30 pm  |
| 10/24 | Hunter Safety (2nd session)                      | 7:00 pm  |
| 10/25 | Hunter Safety (3rd session)                      | 9:00 am  |
| 10/25 | Turkey Shoot                                     | 6:30 pm  |
| 10/26 | Range Orientation                                | 10:00 am |
| 10/26 | R & P Range Maint.                               | 10:00 am |
| 10/26 | Archery Range Maint.                             | 10:00 am |
| 10/28 | Airgun Shoot                                     | 7:00 pm  |

## Hunter Safety Course

The Hunter Safety Course will be presented on **September 12, 19, and 20**. All three sessions must be completed. The September 12 session begins at 7:00 pm in the Chapter House. No pre-registration is required, students can register at the first session. The course will be repeated on **October 17, 24, and 25**.

## General Membership Meetings

The September membership meeting will take place on **Friday, September 26**. This is the installation dinner for newly elected officers. All attendees eat for free! The menu features roast pork, stuffing, veggies, and dessert. We will not have a guest speaker but state and national IWLA officials are expected to attend and join in the evening's festivities. Social hour begins at 6:30 pm and the dinner starts at 7:00 pm.

The October membership meeting will be on **Wednesday, October 22, 1997**. We expect to have a guest speaker but arrangements have not yet been finalized. 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. Chapter members can vote to accept these individuals as new members at the next membership meeting, on **Friday, September 26**.

Neal Cox, Mt. Airy, MD  
Sponsor: **Wayne Berkebile**

Larry Dodd, Adamstown, MD.  
Sponsor: **John Zombolas**

Martin Haspel, Seneca, MD.  
Sponsor: **Bob Mabie**

John Lehigh, New Market, MD  
Sponsor: **Daniel Curtiss**

Danny Maxwell, Woodbine, MD  
Sponsor: **Paul Bluteau**

John McQuade, Jr., Baltimore, MD.  
Sponsor: **Marc Grimes**

Michael Reilly, Germantown, MD.  
Sponsor: **Bob Schneider**

Singson Tiu, Germantown, MD.  
Sponsor: **Phil Dean**

## New Officers

The following persons are the new Chapter officers for 1997-98:

**President:** Georgia Townsend  
**First President:** Chuck Crooks  
**Second Vice President:** Ed Bennett  
**Third Vice President:** Bill Kelly  
**Treasurer:** Nick Carone  
**Membership Secretary:** Joe Gick  
**Corresp. Secretary:** Wayne Berkebile  
**Recording Secretary:** David McNeal  
**Sergeant-At-Arms:** Larry Rollins  
**Chaplain:** John Leaman  
**Parliamentarian:** Bob Mabie  
**Directors:** Paul Bluteau  
Ted Hiers  
Bill Jenkins, Jr.  
Jorge Silva  
**Directors Who Carry Over:**  
John Walter  
Ray Shaver  
**President Ex Officio:** Ari Sapir

## Adopt-A-Road

The next Adopt-A-Road cleanup will be on Saturday, November 1 at 9:00 AM. Meet at the Equipment Shed. It takes about 1 hour 45 minutes to complete our adopted section of road.

## October Shotgun Range Officer Schedule

| Day  | Date  | Names  |
|------|-------|--|
| Sat. | 10/4  | Nancy Humphries<br>Weldon Humphries                |
| Sun. | 10/5  | Paul Bluteau<br>Cindy Whitehurst<br>Scott Garber   |
| Sat. | 10/11 | Lewis Allnutt<br>Bill Rahn                         |
| Sun. | 10/12 | Donna Needham<br>Merrill Needham<br>Kevin Manning  |
| Sat. | 10/18 | David Fichter<br>Rich Buckingham                   |
| Sun. | 10/19 | Peter Currall<br>Dave Gold<br>Greg Baldwin         |
| Sat. | 10/25 | Berle Cherney<br>Wayne Sterling<br>Burt Mullineaux |
| Sun. | 10/26 | Mike Merollini<br>Lee Slavin<br>Mike Boring        |

## Skeet and Trap Notes

**REMINDER:** During the Chevy Truck Sportsman's Team Challenge (CTSTC) on October 4 and 5, only one skeet field will be open to Chapter members. All other fields will be in use by CTSTC competitors. During that time, each skeet round will cost \$5.00 per round for all shooters. Each round will also get you a ticket for the stainless Ruger 10/22 rifle being raffled off that weekend.

**NOTICE:** Effective **October 1, 1997**, hearing and eye protection must be worn when using the shotgun ranges.

The last Wednesday Shotgun Shoot for this year will be on **Wednesday, October 8**. The Shotgun Ranges will continue to be open every Saturday and Sunday from noon till 5:00 pm thanks to the outstanding volunteers who donate their time as range officers. Thanks again range officers (identified above)!

Please remember the Chapter sells shotgun reloading supplies (**to club members only**) at the Shotgun Range House. Available supplies include wads, primers, powder, and shot.

## Rifle and Pistol Range Report

Thanks to the following Ikes for participating in the August 24 range cleanup: **George Caperones, Lenny Miller, Tony Evans, John Cerne, Dave King, Wayne Berkebile, Bill Kelly, and Ray Shaver.**

The September cleanup of rifle and pistol ranges is scheduled for 10 a.m. on **Sunday, September 28**. Alan Pressman will coordinate the activity. Please meet at the equipment shed. This cleanup is especially important as it is our last chance to spruce things up for the CTSTC.

**Volunteers Needed:** As mentioned last month, our Chapter will collaborate with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources in qualifying hunters selected to participate in this year's harvest of deer from local parks. Our part of the activity involves shepherding several hundred armed hunters-to-be onto the rifle range, overseeing their firing for record, recording the scores, and escorting them off the range. We also oversee participant parking and help staff several safety checkpoints. **Ray Halperin** has volunteered to be the principal range officer again this year, but we need at least one person at each firing position. If you can help all or part of the day on Sunday, November 16, please see **Ray Shaver** or call him on (301) 926-0465.

**New Targets:** We will be placing new plastic, self-scaling targets on the pistol range in the near future. These targets are being evaluated and we would like to determine how well they hold up and shooter's reactions to them. There are several rules which apply. Place them **at least** 10 yards away from the firing line. Any caliber handgun may be used on the targets but use only round nosed bullets on them, because wadcutters and hollowpoints will destroy them in short order.

## Black Powder Shoot

The Chapter Black Powder Shoot will be held on the Rifle Range on **Saturday, September 27** from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. There is a charge of \$5.00 per shooter to defray the costs of the novelty targets used. This is a fun shoot, with lots of novelty targets. Muzzleloaders are incredibly accurate. For example, last year I fired my Kentucky flinchlock offhand at 100 yards. The novelty targets were lifesavers (the little candies). Well, I put my rounds plumb dead center through those life savers! I never even touched the rims!! Come out and watch me repeat that performance!!!

## Chevy Truck Sportsman's Team Challenge

The Chevy Truck Sportsman's Team Challenge (CTSTC) will be held **October 3-5, 1997** on our Chapter ranges. We need a lot of help to make this event a success and we hope Chapter members compete in either the team events or side events. Contact **Bill Kelly**, at (301) 253-5009, for information or to volunteer.

## Airgun Program

The adult airgun program will begin meeting on Monday evenings (instead of Friday evenings) effective September 15. Air rifle and air pistol shooting is conducted on the downstairs indoor range with firing done at 10 meters at paper bullseye targets and metal "reactive" targets. Some airguns are available if you do not have your own. Come out at 7:00 pm on Monday evenings and do some enjoyable shooting. If you would like to learn the fundamentals of pistol or rifle shooting or want to continue practicing your skills during the winter, this is the program for you.

## Deer Management Workshop

There will be a Deer Management Workshop on **Monday, October 27, 1997**, from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, at the University of MD in College Park. This workshop is to better understand the problems and benefits of having deer in MD. Participants will assess the consequences of the growing deer population, such as agricultural damage, public health and safety issues, and the impacts on the state's ecosystem. Participants will also analyze the pros and cons of policy alternatives, drawing upon the experiences of communities already implementing deer management programs. We need IWLA members present to represent conservationists and hunters. Participants must register by October 8. If you can attend, please call **Bill Kelly**, at (301) 253-5009 for more information.

## Friends of NRA Banquet and Auction

The Frederick County Friends of NRA is holding its first banquet and auction at the Elks Club in Frederick, MD, on **Friday, September 19, 1997**. Cocktail Hour begins at 6:30 pm with dinner at 7:30 pm. A variety of items will be on hand for door prizes, the raffle, and auction. Tickets are \$25 for NRA members and \$20 for non-member spouses. To get to the Elks Club from I-270 or I-70 West, take US Route 15 North to US Route 40 West (Patrick Street). Go through the commercial district to Willowdale Drive and turn right. To get there from Western Maryland, take I-70 East to exit 48 (US Route 40). Go past the Fredericktowne Mall and turn left onto Willowdale Drive. The Elks Club is at the end of Willowdale Drive on the left. For tickets, information, or directions, call Mike Dunn at (301) 663-3584, or **Randy Rolls**, at (301) 695-7410.

## Editor's Column

If you got this far in the newsletter, you should have noted there will be a deer management workshop at the University of MD in October. Surely anti-hunters will attend that workshop. You may have also noted we will again qualify shooters for the "Managed Deer Hunt" in several Montgomery County parks. Last year,

there were several articles in local papers from anti-hunters decrying our role in supporting the "slaughter" of the Montgomery County deer population. There are obviously strong anti-hunting feelings among MD and Montgomery County citizens.

The anti-hunting sentiment is discussed quite well in the book *The Old Man*. *The Old Man* is a collection of short stories written by Gary Cook, an official of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. The main character of each story is the fictional Sam Kenton. Sam is a former Tennessee game warden who has retired and is in his late 60s. The book contains wonderful descriptions of nature and the pleasures of hunting and fishing.

One story in the book is "Confrontation." In it, Sam Kenton is alone in his cabin on a cold winter night cooking quail for his dinner. There is a knock on his door from Arthur Bedley, a businessman from Chicago who got lost while driving through Tennessee. A snowstorm hit and he drove into a ditch. He trudges through the snow to Sam's nearby cabin. After calling for a wrecker, Mr. Bedley indicates he hasn't eaten since becoming lost. The following conversation takes place between them after Sam offers to share his dinner of quail with Mr. Bedley:

Bedley: "Oh no, you see I am totally opposed to the killing of animals. Feel very strongly about that. No offense, you understand... but I've progressed in my life to the point where a man must take a stand against certain atrocities. Killing wild animals for sport is terribly wrong."

Kenton: "Sport my backside. I eat 'em."

Bedley: "Well..." and smiles.

Kenton: "I feel that we can talk plain to each other Mr. Bedley. After all,

you've taken refuge from the winter cold in my house; you've used the courtesy of my phone and my friend, who's fixin' to come pull you out. I've offered you supper and a seat to rest your bones. And, you have the audacity to tell me my lifestyle includes atrocities against the land. You have the nerve to tell me I am wrong. Well... I reckon I'm gonna talk plain back to you. No offense now you understand."

"I suppose that every man needs a noble cause, especially in this day and time, but it just galls my backside when people like yourself, who don't know a turkey fan from an elephant trunk, like to identify themselves with the protection of animals. You can condemn hunting because that makes you feel noble in your circle of friends, but to condemn the companies that pollute our waters, land and air is not so noble. It's not noble, because to condemn those people is condemning the very people that make it possible for you to remain isolated from the reality of the land's teachings. What I'm saying is that I can understand how being "Bambi's Saviour" would be very noble in your circle of friends."

Bedley: "How do you know who my circle of friends includes?"

Kenton: "...I can guarantee you that I know who is *not* in your social circle. And seem' as how there are only two sides in this issue--those who *understand* the land and those who *don't*, I reckon I know who might be in your circle."

Bedley: "The point is not my friends, Mr. Kenton, but more basic. The killing of animals is the issue."

Kenton: "The killing of animals is *not* the issue. The issue here is a difference in basic life values."

Bedley: "Are you saying that your country living has to include the killing? I think not. You can live in the country and not hunt and be perfectly happy."

Kenton: "True. One can live in the country and not understand nature's laws, or one can live smack dab in the middle of New York and be perfectly knowledgeable. A man's residence has nothing to do with his ability to see clearly. And, for that reason, you do not have to be a prisoner to grocery stores for the bulk of your food, or television for entertainment, or debates for your competition."

Bedley: "I can't help it Mr. Kenton. Your killing offends me."

Kenton: "Your ignorance saddens me, Mr. Bedley, and offends the land."

Bedley: "... but my way is so much more civilized."

Kenton: "Do you reckon that man is so smart that he can civilize himself to live above the laws of this planet?... which includes the death of animals to insure the survival of others. This perfect plan of continuing life includes the deaths of everything that lives Mr. Bedley. That is the law. Now you can remove yourself from these deaths by only looking at meat through cellophane windows at the supermarket, or by thinking that the deaths of cattle or hogs or chickens is different from me hunting quail or deer or ducks or turkey, but the only difference is that while I hunt I learn about life. When you shop for your food you learn nothing about the values of the land. Your way is a grand illusion based on man's departure from the land...Man has been hunting for ten thousand years.

Only recently has he been confronted with the possibility of living a full life without really knowing where his food ultimately came from, or getting to know the friend who provided it... the land... or its maker... take your pick. They are both the same."

Bedley: "Maybe, Mr. Kenton, you should take up golf. It's less violent."

Kenton: "You know Mr. Bedley, I chased me a golf ball once... but it left no sign for me to ponder on."

Excerpted from *The Old Man* by Gary W. Cook, Pioneer Press, Union City, TN, 1987, pp. 64-65.