



# NEWSLETTER



Izaak Walton League of America

Wildlife Achievement Club Chapter

P.O. Box 118, Damascus, MD 20872

(301) 253-2384

January-February 98 Issue

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## Coming Attractions

Date	Event	Time
1/23	Membership Meeting	7:30 pm
1/24	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
1/25	Range Orientation	10:00 am
1/25	R & P Range Maint.	10:00 am
1/25	Archery Range Maint.	10:00 am
1/25	Junior Air Rifle	2:00 pm
1/25	Super Bowl Party	4:00 pm
1/26	Adult Air Gun	7:00 pm
1/31	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
2/1	Shotgun Range Maint.	10:00 am
2/1	Junior Air Rifle	2:00 pm
2/2	Adult Air Gun	7:00 pm
2/4	Board of Directors Mtg.	7:30 pm
2/7	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
2/8	Junior Air Rifle	2:00 pm
2/9	Adult Air Gun	7:00 pm
2/11	M1 Garand Seminar	7:30 pm
2/14	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
2/15	Junior Air Rifle	2:00 pm
2/16	Adult Air Gun	7:00 pm
2/21	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
2/22	Range Orientation	10:00 am
2/22	R & P Range Maint.	10:00 am
2/22	Archery Range Maint.	10:00 am
2/22	Junior Air Rifle	2:00 pm
2/23	Adult Air Gun	7:00 pm
2/25	Membership Meeting	7:30 pm
2/28	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm

## Super Bowl Party

There will be a Super Bowl Party in the Rathskeller on **Sunday, January 25** at 4:00 PM. Come out and root for the Packers or the Broncos! Food will be available at no charge.

## Membership Renewals

Anyone who has not renewed their membership by mid-March will be sent a renewal reminder around April 1st. Please renew your membership as soon as possible.

## General Membership Meetings

The January membership meeting will be on **Friday, January 23, 1998**. Several of our members will be discussing the exciting sport of Cowboy Action Shooting. Remember, too, that this is our annual game dinner. Venison, goose, caribou, and (maybe) bear will be served! Cost is \$7.00 per person. This is always a fun meeting, so see you there. Social hour is at 6:30 pm and the meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

The February membership meeting will be on **Wednesday, February 25**. Our guest speaker will be **Rob Gibbs**, head of Montgomery County's Deer Management Program. Fittingly, he will be discussing the deer problem in our area. The menu will feature corned beef, cabbage, and potatoes. Cost will be \$7.00. As always, social hour begins at 6:30 pm and dinner starts at 7:00 pm.

## New Members

The following applications for membership have been approved by the Board of Directors. Chapter members have the opportunity to vote to accept these individuals as new members at the next membership meeting, on **Friday, January 23**.

Gary Barnes, New Windsor, MD  
**Sponsor: Phil Dean**

Fred Elleman, Gaithersburg, MD.  
**Sponsor: Bob Schneider**

Greg Gallo, Silver Spring, MD.  
**Sponsor: Bob Schneider**

William Haycraft, Rockville, MD  
**Sponsor: Zane Naibert**

Douglas Johncox, Damascus, MD  
**Sponsor: Bob Mabie**

Larry Lippman, Rockville, MD.  
**Sponsor: Mike Heffernan**

Thomas Orange, Silver Spring, MD.  
**Sponsor: Zane Naibert**

Lorenz Pfeiffer, Frederick, MD  
**Sponsor: Bill Schneider**

Hugh Sampson, Brookeville, MD  
**Sponsor: Bill Schneider**

## February Shotgun Range Officer Schedule

Day	Date	Names
Sun.	2/1	Paul Bluteau Cindy Whitehurst
Sat.	2/7	Nancy Humphries Weldon Humphries Rich Buckingham
Sun.	2/8	Mike Merollini Kevin Manning
Sat.	2/14	Lewis Allnutt Bill Rahn
Sun.	2/15	Peter Currall Dave Gold Greg Baldwin
Sat.	2/21	Berle Cherney Wayne Sterling
Sun.	2/22	Lee Slavin Mike Boring
Sat.	2/28	Ed Bennett

## Skeet and Trap Notes

**Saturday, February 14**, is our first shotgun promotion event. For Valentine's Day, any spouse or significant other can shoot at half price when shooting with a mate who is a member in good standing of our Chapter. Bring your Valentine for a few hours of skeet, trap, or Five Stand shooting!!

## Rifle and Pistol Range Report

Thanks to **Jim Tucker** for completely rebuilding the two swinging metal targets which we leave on the pistol range for general use. The targets are now better than new, but they won't stay that way for long, **unless shooters pay attention to instructions and shoot them only with .22LR ammunition.** Please enjoy the targets; don't demolish them.

Thanks also to the crew who showed up for rifle/pistol range cleanup on December 21. Included were: **Alan Pressman, Ray Shaver, Chuck Crooks, David Guiffre, Kenneth Denekas, Phil Grill, and Phil Grill, Jr.**

The next rifle/pistol range maintenance session is scheduled for 10 a.m. on **Sunday, January 25**. Weather permitting, we need to make space for cowboy action shooting by clearing brush and small trees from the left side of the rifle range and removing the tree which we felled on the right side several months ago. Please bring chain saws and other brush cutting tools along to range cleanup sessions for the next several months.

Do you bring guests to the rifle and pistol ranges? If so, please enter the name of each guest on a separate line of the range log, and identify them as a guest by placing a check mark in the guest column. A couple of other reminders: please place misfired rounds in the cans provided. And pistol range users, please make sure there is only one target frame in your line of fire.

## Civilian Marksmanship Program

The Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) allows people who participate in High Power Rifle matches to purchase an M1 rifle.

Presently, a person is limited to just one rifle. A new head of the CMP is considering asking for authority to offer eligible persons a second M1 or, perhaps, a Springfield 1903A3. One eligibility requirement is that the applicant must belong to a CMP-affiliated group. A local organization that meets this requirement is the Maryland State Rifle and Pistol Association. Annual membership is \$15.00 and is available from: MSRPA, c/o Bethesda Business Service, Spring Center (Rear), 8629 16th Street, Silver Spring, MD, 20910. To find out more about the CMP, try these Internet addresses: "<http://msrpa.org>" or "<http://www.odcmp.com/index.htm>"

## M1 Garand Seminar

Last year we held a seminar for M1 shooters and those who have received an M1 through the Civilian Marksmanship Program. We will repeat that seminar on **Wednesday, February 11**, at 7:30 PM in the Rathskeller of the Chapter House. This program features a discussion of the history, collectibility, and shootability of the M1. Anyone interested in this famous old rifle should attend this seminar.

## Air Rifle Field Target Match Seminar

Another seminar scheduled for the near future will cover Air Rifle Field Target matches. This seminar will be held on **Wednesday, March 11, 1998**, at 7:30 PM in the Rathskeller of the Chapter House. As its name suggests, this seminar will cover many aspects of these increasingly popular matches. The seminar will cover equipment, course of fire, shooting tips, etc.

## New Angling Organization for Women

A new organization for women

anglers has been formed. The Chesapeake Women Anglers is for women, of all skill levels, interested in fly fishing. There will be learning clinics, fishing outings, and a newsletter entitled Chesapeake Fishing Lines for all members. Dues are \$25.00 per year. If you are interested in joining, call **Georgia Townsend** at (301) 588-8335; send Georgia an e-mail at "[georgiat@umd5.umd.edu](mailto:georgiat@umd5.umd.edu);" or send your dues to Sarah Clark, Box 187, Garrett Park, MD, 20896. Make your check out to: "Chesapeake Women Anglers."

## Upcoming Special Programs

You may recall that we did a survey last year to determine what special events would be of interest to our membership. Based on that survey, at least four special events are currently planned. Others may be added in the future if these four are well attended. The four upcoming events are:

**Refuse to Be a Victim Seminar.** This seminar will be on **Saturday, March 21 at 1:30 PM (note this is a time change from the time shown on the annual calendar)**. This seminar is *only for women* and will be taught only by women. This is an NRA program designed to teach women how to stay safe on the streets. It includes street survival tactics; demonstrations and evaluations of non-lethal force weapons such as pepper gas, kubotans, and stun guns; easy to use home and car security devices; and a sharing of experiences. *Firearms are not covered during this seminar.* Students will receive a variety of safety materials to take home. Chapter members pay \$15.00 for the session. Remember all our Chapter memberships are family memberships so wives and daughters need not have separate memberships. Non-Chapter members may attend for \$20.00. The seminar lasts 2-4 hours, depending on questions and discussions. The seminar will be held in the Chapter House.

**Chapter Canoe Trip.** We are planning a canoe trip on the Monocacy River on **Saturday, April 11.** All members who have canoes are asked to join the trip. Please bring life vests with you. If you don't have a canoe, we may be able to make space for you. We will go from the Rt 355 crossing to the Park Mills Road crossing. There will be no charge for this event. This should be a fun event for all canoeing families. Note that the Monocacy River is shallow in most places and, even if one falls out of the canoe, it would be difficult to drown or get injured.

**Chapter Fishing Trips.** Two fishing trips are scheduled, one on **Saturday, June 13** and the other on **Saturday, September 19.** The June trip will be on the Potomac River and the September trip will be on Chesapeake Bay. We will be using the services of Potomac Guide Service. A representative of the Potomac Guide Service was a guest speaker during our June, 1997 meeting. There will be a cost for both trips. The fee will be approximately \$125.00 per person for the June trip. The price includes the boat, one guide for every boat (two people per boat), gas, and tackle. Beginners are welcome! Participants will have to sign up in advance and prepay for each trip.

Watch for additional details in future newsletters. If you have any questions on these special events, call **Wayne Berkebile at (301) 253-4288.**

## Volunteers Needed

We need a few volunteers for on-going projects. First, we need someone, preferably a person who resides in Damascus, to handle our advertising on the billboard along Route 27 just south of Damascus. We are allowed to use the billboard for five weeks during the year. This person would put up Chapter announcements and store the letters used on the sign. This job requires about 12 hours work per year. Call **Rick Sommer at (301) 253-6380** if you can help out. Rick has done this job for the past several years. He needs some relief as he is becoming more heavily involved in supporting the Boy Scout Troop sponsored by our Chapter.

Second, we are seeking young people, under 20 years of age, who would be interested in learning trap shooting and participating in the

Junior Olympics. The Rockville Chapter is coordinating this program and they have asked our Chapter to participate by helping recruit prospective young trap shooters. For more information, call **Georgia Townsend at (301) 588-8335.**

## Christmas Tree Sales

We are very, very pleased to report that we sold \$3,534.00 worth of Christmas trees and wreaths this year!! By way of comparison, we sold \$1,200.00 worth in 1996 and \$500.00 worth in 1995. 1997 was the best year since 1990!!

We thank all the members who assisted during the sale. They were: **James Normile, Billy Brish, Bud Bell, John and Connie Bloodgood, Ellen Greenfield, Mac McCollum, John McQuade, Ray Shaver, Dave McNeal, Mark Himes, Howard Weisman, Al Hrast and sons Cole and Nicholas, Greg Semuskie and sons Elliot and Sean, Doris and Rick Sommer, Art Bowman, Mike Levendusky, Lennie Miller, Melinda Belland, and the following Boy Scouts: Jake Taylor, Barry Eastman, Joseph Bridge, Robbie Smith, Jon Huntley, and J. Murray.** We apologize if we missed someone.

Our Christmas Tree Program has been headed up by three septuagenarians: **Dave Anderson, Sr., Merle Keesler, and Bob Mabie.** They all deserve a hearty "Thank You" for their outstanding work over many, many years. They are stepping down and turning over the reins to **Dave McNeal and John Walter.** They will be assisted by **Jim Guthrie, John Bloodgood, and Bob McConnell.**

Watch for future work dates in the newsletter and/or in the annual calendar.

## Editor's Column

Our guest speaker in February will talk about the "deer management problem" in Montgomery County. This has become an increasingly emotional issue over the past few years. Right now, there is a great deal of controversy over Gaithersburg's plan to have sharpshooters eliminate deer in areas being opened for development.

I read some interesting views on deer hunting in Mother Earth News about 10 years ago. I saved the article, entitled "Hunting Mule Deer-And Related Thoughts," and I quote from it below:

"At the meat market recently, my attention was captured by a tank containing a dozen or so live lobsters. Their claws were bound with rubber bands; their world reduced to plastic, glass, and a few gallons of stale water; their fate--to be purchased, carted off in a bag, and tossed into a pot of boiling water. My heart went out to these hapless creatures. From the lobster tank, my thoughts wandered to the slaughterhouse, to the poultry factory, to the fetid veal pen, and to various other grisly commercial operations that provide the civilized world with its meat.

And then I thought about deer hunting. By comparison, a natural and marvelous arrangement--for the hunter, and, as I hope to show, for the hunted as well...

I have witnessed the nightmare of the slaughterhouse. I have held my nose while touring a poultry operation. I have watched bound lobsters agonizing in a 10-gallon purgatory--and I have seen the wild deer die at the hands of a hunter. Forced to a choice, I would choose to be a deer--born free, living wild, and, sooner or later, dying quickly and cleanly with a bullet or arrow through my heart. Further, were our 17 to 21 million deer given a voice in the matter, I venture they would support hunting themselves--for without it, only a few of them would ever know life at all. And as to being

subjected to the terror of the hunt, deer evolved as a prey species--nervous by nature, wound spring-tight, past masters of evasion. Civilized man has removed most of the deer's natural predators from the

wild; were deer not hunted by man, they soon would become something less than the clever and elusive creatures whose appearance is so rare, fleeting, and magical that it quickens the pulse."

From Mother Earth News, "Hunting Mule Deer--and Related Thoughts," by David Petersen, November/December, 1989, pp. 104-105.