



NEWSLETTER



Izaak Walton League of America
Wildlife Achievement Club Chapter
P.O. Box 118, Damascus, MD 20872
(301) 253-2384

August-September 98 Issue

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Coming Attractions

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
8/17	Adult Air Gun	6:00 pm
8/22	NSSA Skeet Shoot	9:00 am
8/24	Adult Air Gun	6:00 pm
8/28	R&P Ranges Close At:	2:00 pm
8/28	Membership Meeting	7:00 pm
8/29	R&P Ranges Closed Except For:	
8/29	Cowboy Action Shoot	9:00 am
8/29	Swap Meet	10:00 am
8/30	Range Orientation	10:00 am
8/30	R & P Range Maint.	10:00 am
8/30	Archery Range Maint.	10:00 am
8/30	Christmas Tree Work	10:00 am
8/31	Adult Air Gun	6:00 pm
9/2	Board of Directors Mtg.	7:30 pm
9/5	Seneca Valley Shoot	8:00 am
9/5	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
9/6	Shotgun Range Maint.	10:00 am
9/7	Adult Air Gun	6:00 pm
9/11	Hunter Safety -1st session	7:00 pm
9/12	Airgun Field Trgt. Mtch.	7:30 am
9/12	Adopt A Road	9:00 am
9/12	NRA Basic Pistol Class	9:00 am
9/12	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
9/13	NRA Basic Pistol Class	9:00 am
9/14	Adult Air Gun	7:00 pm
9/18	Hunter Safety -2nd session	7:00 pm
9/19	Hunter Safety -3rd session	9:00 am
9/19	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
9/21	Adult Air Gun	7:00 pm
9/22	Junior Air Rifle	7:00 pm
9/25	Membership Meeting	7:00 pm
9/25	R&P Ranges Close At:	2:00 pm
9/26	R&P Ranges Closed Except For:	
9/26	Cowboy Action Shoot	9:00 am
9/26	Swap Meet	10:00 am
9/26	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
9/27	R & P Range Maint.	10:00 am
9/27	Archery Range Maint.	10:00 am
9/27	Christmas Tree Work	10:00 am
9/27	Range Orientation	10:00 am
9/28	Adult Air Gun	6:00 pm

General Membership Meetings

The August membership meeting will be on **Friday, August 28**. We elect our chapter officers and directors for the upcoming year during this meeting. **We invited all Montgomery County candidates in the upcoming state election to attend. This is our opportunity to meet several candidates and determine which ones to support. See more details in the "Editor's Column."** Dinner will be a cookout with barbecue, cole slaw, etc. Hopefully we'll use our new Barbecue Shed! Cost will be \$7.00. Social hour is at 6:30 PM and dinner starts at 7:00 PM.

The September meeting will be on **Friday, September 25**. This is our annual Installation of Officers Dinner. We also present awards to those members who have given unselfishly of their time and talents. This dinner is always excellent and **it's free!** Social hour is at 6:30 PM and dinner starts at 7:00 PM.

New Members

The following membership applications have been approved by the Board of Directors. Chapter members may vote to accept these individuals as new members at the next membership meeting, on **Friday, August 28**.

Gerry Bennett, Gaithersburg, MD
Sponsor: Phil Dean

Jack Chen, Bethesda, MD
Sponsor: Phil Dean

Andrew Cooke, Gaithersburg, MD
Sponsor: Bob Griffin

Thomas Cooper, Gaithersburg, MD
Sponsor: Chuck Crooks

Dale Eldridge, Derwood, MD
Sponsor: Bob Inness

William English, Derwood, MD
Sponsor: Bruce Barr

William Erskine, Ellicott City, MD
Sponsor: Joe Gick

Robert Hines, Olney, MD
Sponsor: Bill Gray

Vincent Ionita, Gaithersburg, MD
Sponsor: Chris Evrard

Michael Kerr, Rockville, MD
Sponsor: Greg Baldwin

Earl McDonald, Beltsville, MD
Sponsor: Bob Inness

Mark Meltzer, Rockville, MD
Sponsor: Phil Dean

Stephen Pope, Gaithersburg, MD
Sponsor: Bob Inness

John Putnam, Frederick, MD
Sponsor: Phil Dean

Election of Officers

The following persons have been nominated as officers and directors for 1998-1999 by the Nominating Committee. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the membership meeting on **Friday, August 28**. The election will take place that same evening.

President: Georgia Townsend
First President: Chuck Crooks
Second Vice President: Ed Bennett
Third Vice President: Bill Kelly
Treasurer: Bob Cumberland
Membership Secretary: Joe Gick
Corresp. Secretary: Sean Hudgens
Recording Secretary: David McNeal
Sergeant-At-Arms: Ed Burrows
Chaplain: John Leaman
Parliamentarian: Bob Mabie
Directors to Elect: John Walter
Ray Shaver
Mac McCollum
Directors Who Carry Over:
Paul Bluteau
Ted Hiers
Bill Jenkins, Jr.
Jorge Silva
President Ex Officio: Ari Sapir

September Shotgun Range Officer Schedule

Day	Date	Names
Sat.	9/5	Nancy Humphries Weldon Humphries Rich Buckingham
Sun	9/6	Chris Smarte Susan Smarte Greg Baldwin
Sat.	9/12	Lewis Allnut Bill Rahn
Sun.	9/13	Frank Moncada Dave Orrence
Sat.	9/19	Peter Currall Dave Gold
Sun.	9/20	Chuck Snelling Justin Stephen
Sat.	9/26	Berle Cherney Richard Zabell
Sun.	9/27	Burt Mullineaux Michael Bowen Michael Boring

Cowboy Action Shoots

Our next Cowboy Shoot is on **Saturday, August 29**. Registration starts at 8:30 AM, the safety meeting is at 9:45 AM, and shooting begins at 10:00 AM. Set-up is on Friday, August 28, at 2:00 PM. Immediately following set-up, new cowboy shooters are introduced to the game and rules through hands on instruction and practice. So, bring the proper ammo and guns to learn this fun

sport. Contact **Chuck "Chuckaroo" Crooks** at (301) 831-9666 or the e-mail address in the return address portion of this newsletter.

Rifle and Pistol Range Report

When we schedule special shooting events, we recognize that many WACC members use the ranges on weekends. They are not interested in participating in special events. Thus, we try to balance open range time with events that may restrict access to the ranges. With that in mind, the busy fall schedule for the rifle range made it hard to find an open weekend for another .22 fun shoot. It looks like the first reasonable date will be December 5. **Ray Shaver** is currently planning to coordinate the shoot on that date, hopefully with assistance of many interested parties. However, those who don't want to wait until December 5, might talk with **Steve Shulz** who is considering the possibility of an informal .22 shoot earlier in the fall. WACC members with similar interests may use the ranges for their own special events, so long as they respect the right of other "range approved" members to use the ranges at the same time. In fact, members who take responsibility for their care may use Chapter-owned steel targets and silhouettes for such informal events. To borrow the targets, contact **Ray Shaver** (telephone 301-926-0465 or e-mail MRShaver@aol.com).

Two other rifle range events which did not make it onto the WACC 1998 Calendar of Events are a "Sight-In Day" and a county-park deer hunter qualification day. Tentatively, those events are scheduled for **November 8 and 15**.

Thanks to those who volunteered to tutor novice shooters in response to the request in last month's newsletter. You will be contacted when and if our range-orientation instructors

identify new members who could use personal assistance.

Range and Christmas Tree Maintenance

Many thanks to the following Ikes who participated in Christmas tree and range maintenance activities on July 26: **John Cerne, Rob Williams, Dave McNeal, Ray Shaver, Wayne Berkebile, Bob Inness, John Walter, Michael Scotchel, and Wilfred Shisler**. The next maintenance session is scheduled for **Sunday, August 30**. Coordinators for the maintenance activities normally arrive around 10:00 AM and expect to meet volunteer workers at the equipment shed at that time. If you arrive later than 10:00 AM and find no one at the equipment shed, please look for the work crews among the Christmas trees or in the rifle/pistol range area. Work is usually completed around noon, and ranges are reserved for use by maintenance workers until 1:00 PM.

Junior Airgun News

The Junior Air Rifle Program will reactivate shortly after the start of school. Applications are now being sought from Chapter members with sons or daughters in middle school or high school who want to develop or improve their shooting skills by participating in an air rifle training program. The program will include safety issues, basic and intermediate skills training, regular informal competitions within our club, and competitions with juniors from other clubs. All necessary equipment will be provided. Sessions will be conducted at the Chapter House on Tuesday evenings from 7:00-9:00 PM by NRA certified instructors. The first meeting will be on **Tuesday, September 22**. A fee of \$15.00 will be assessed for each member's son or daughter for the year.

For additional information or to register, please contact any of the following: **Ed Burrows**, 774-9090; **Bob Inness**, 340-9185; **Jim Piatetski**,

391-6796, or **Craig Spotswood**, 986-0596 (all Area Code 301). All registrants will be notified in advance of program start up and of informal junior activities scheduled during the summer.

Hunter Safety Course

The first Hunter Safety Course of 1998 begins **Friday, September 11**. This ten hour course is required by the Department of Natural Resources before anyone is eligible to get his or her first hunting license. Interested students should be at the Chapter House at 7:00 PM.

Barbecue Shed Update

Our new Barbecue Shed is coming along nicely. Actually, it is useable now but many cosmetic things still need to be done. We sincerely appreciate the efforts of those who have helped in its construction. They include: **Dennis Arthur, Robert Hallin, George Caperones, Bill Gray, Joe Gick, Bob Mabie, and Archie Cheng**. Thanks guys!

Job Vacancies

We are looking for someone who has a marketing, advertising, or journalism background to become our Media Officer. We don't do a very good job of advising the local press of our accomplishments. We need someone who would be willing to work with them to write short articles, prepare press releases, etc. Interested persons should contact **Georgia Townsend** at (301) 588-8335.

Also, we still need a House and Grounds Chairperson. If you have a general knowledge of building maintenance and working equipment, we really need your help. The Chairperson coordinates general maintenance of our building and grounds. Contact **Chuck Crooks** at (301) 831-9666 or the e-mail address in the return address portion of this newsletter for more information or to volunteer.

Tail-Gate Swap Meet

The informal swap meet held in June was a resounding success (for somebody else, anyway. I sold \$50 worth of ammo but bought over \$300 worth of M1 Carbine)! It was such

a success we've decided to do it regularly. So, from August-October, the swap meet will be held on the last Saturday of the month starting at 10:00 AM. The swap meet will be located near our Shotgun Ranges. Anyone wishing to sell or trade sporting goods, reloading tools or components, long guns (no handguns), or similar items may do so. No registration or fees are needed. Just show up and see what's available.

Adopt-A-River Cleanup

This year we are having a second cleanup of the Patuxent River. This cleanup will take place on **Saturday, September 19**. This time we will concentrate our efforts on the where Gue Road crosses the Patuxent River. This area is a mess!! Meet at the crossing at 9:00 AM. Bring work gloves and boots. For more information, call **Bill Kelly** at (301) 253-5009.

Chevy Truck Sportsman's Team Challenge

The Chevy Truck Sportsman's Team Challenge will be held **October 2-4, 1998** 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.

Editor's Column

It will soon be election time. Each year I watch the local papers to see who is running and what they say about the issues. I'm moderately interested in such things as their stands on school funding, taxes, abortion, etc. But, I'm more interested in their views on preserving open spaces, stopping harassment of hunters, protecting

waterways, controlling development, and other aspects of outdoor life. Those topics are never covered in the paper. In addition, as a firearms enthusiast, I am doggone tired of being vilified in the press and legislated against. Well, this year we decided to do something about it!

We invited all 72 candidates for state office from Montgomery County (and part of Howard County) to come to our August meeting. We are fortunate to have the following candidates agree to attend or send a representative to talk with us:

District 14B: John Clark
District 16: Gus Alzona
Marilyn Goldwater
Nancy Kopp
District 20: Sheila Hixson
District 39: Paul Carlson
Patricia Cummings
Patrick (P. J.) Hogan
Charlotte Meyer
Matt Mossburg

It is critically important that all our members attend this meeting. We need to show that we are an important voting block and we can elect candidates who support our views on preserving the outdoors.

I have been a Chapter Officer for two years. During that time, I've probably heard 250 people say why they wanted to join our club. 98% of our membership joins to use the shooting ranges. That's certainly why I joined. If we are going to preserve our ability to shoot, we must convince our legislators that we are responsible gun owners, we vote, and we want them to honor our views. Then we need to support the candidates we like by working for them, putting up lawn signs, helping out at polling places, contributing to their treasuries, etc. We simply won't preserve our future ability to shoot or enjoy the outdoors if we don't become active in helping elect people who share our values.

Please, please, please, please, please, come to the August membership

meeting and talk to the candidates. And bring your spouse and kids, especially if they are of voting age. If we can't draw a large crowd for these candidates, they won't come the next time we ask... and we will be the ultimate losers as they enact legislation which deprives us of our

cherished sport.

When you come, remember the candidates are our guests and are attending at our invitation. They need to be treated with respect and courtesy. Appropriate dress is encouraged. Ike items of clothing are

highly encouraged, if you have them. T shirts showing a smiley face with a bullet hole in his forehead, politically inflammatory sayings, BDUs, etc., are not appropriate. We need to present ourselves as the honest, thoughtful, law-abiding citizens we are!