



# NEWSLETTER



Izaak Walton League of America

Wildlife Achievement Club Chapter

September-October 98 Issue

P.O. Box 118, Damascus, MD 20872

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## Coming Attractions

Date	Event	Time
9/18	Hunter Safety -2nd session	7:00 pm
9/19	River Cleanup	9:00 am
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	<b>R&amp;P Ranges Close At: 1:00 pm</b>	
9/26	<b>R&amp;P Ranges Closed Except For:</b>	
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
10/2-4	Sportsmans Team Chal.	8:00 am
10/5	Adult Air Gun	7:00 pm
10/6	Junior Air Rifle	7:00 pm
10/7	Board of Directors Mtg.	7:30 pm
10/10	Blackpowder Shoot	10:00 am
10/10	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
10/12	Adult Air Gun	7:00 pm
10/13	Junior Air Rifle	7:00 pm
10/16	Hunter Safety-1st session	7:00 pm
10/17	Airgun Field Trgt. Mch.	7:30 am
10/17	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
10/19	Adult Air Gun	6:00 pm
10/20	Junior Air Rifle	7:00 pm
10/23	Hunter Safety -2nd session	7:00 pm
10/24	Hunter Safety -3rd session	9:00 am
10/24	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
10/25	Range Orientation	10:00 am
10/25	R & P Range Maint.	10:00 am
10/25	Archery Range Maint.	10:00 am
10/25	Christmas Tree Work	10:00 am
10/26	Adult Air Gun	6:00 pm
10/27	Junior Air Rifle	7:00 pm
10/28	Membership Meeting	7:00 pm
10/30	<b>R&amp;P Ranges Close At: 1:00 pm</b>	
10/31	<b>R&amp;P Ranges Closed Except For:</b>	
10/31	Cowboy Action Shoot	9:00 am
10/31	Swap Meet	10:00 am

## General Membership Meetings

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.

The October membership meeting will be on **Wednesday, October 28**. The dinner menu has not been decided upon, but the cost will be \$7.00. Our guest speaker will be **Steve Genua**, a forester for PEPCO. He will talk about forestry issues and recent PEPCO improvements on our property. 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, September 25**.

Mike Butt, Germantown, MD  
**Sponsor: William Seested**

Kevin Consorti, Ijamsville, MD  
**Sponsor: Brian Thornton**

William Corrigan, Columbia, MD  
**Sponsor: Bob Mabie**

Richard Hyland, Spencerville, MD  
**Sponsor: Bob Mabie**

John MacLaughlin, Clarksville, MD  
**Sponsor: Chuck Crooks**

Hunter Nester, Ijamsville, MD  
**Sponsor: Brian Thornton**

George Orvis, Clarksburg, MD  
**Sponsor: Paul Patel**

John Randall, Derwood, MD  
**Sponsor: Bob Mabie**

Lawrence Redclay, Columbia, MD  
**Sponsor: Bob Mabie**

Richard Reynnells, Laurel, MD  
**Sponsor: Dave McNeal**

Jas. Sommerhauser, Silver Spring, MD  
**Sponsor: Steve Schneider**

## Election of Officers

The following persons have been elected or appointed as officers and directors for 1998-1999.

**President:** Georgia Townsend  
**First President:** Chuck Crooks  
**Second Vice President:** Ed Burrows  
**Third Vice President:** Bill Kelly  
**Treasurer:** Bob Cumberland  
**Membership Secretary:** Joe Gick  
**Corresp. Secretary:** Sean Hudgens  
**Recording Secretary:** David McNeal  
**Sergeant-At-Arms:** Ed Bennett  
**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

## October Shotgun Range Officer Schedule

Day	Date	Names
Sat.	10/3	Nancy Humphries Weldon Humphries Rich Buckingham
Sun	10/4	Chris Smarte Susan Smarte Greg Baldwin
Sat.	10/10	Lewis Allmatt Bill Rahn
Sun.	10/11	Frank Moncada Dave Orrence
Sat.	10/17	Peter Currall Dave Gold
Sun.	10/18	Chuck Snelling Justin Stephen
Sat.	10/24	Berle Cherney Richard Zabell
Sun.	10/25	Burt Mullincaux Michael Bowen Michael Boring
Sat.	10/31	Kevin Manning

## Skeet and Trap Notes

Our skeet and trap ranges were not designed, nor are they safe, for walking with a loaded shotgun. Sporting clays fields, with a specific path and safety barrier, are designed for walking toward a target area as you await the release of a bird. **The practice of walking, while holding a shotgun with a round in the chamber, is not acceptable on our skeet and trap ranges.**

Please note that the **Shotgun Ranges will be closed from October 2-4, 1998** for the Sportsman's Team challenge.

All members are reminded that if you want to pattern a shotgun, you must use the patterning board at the Rifle Range. The patterning board is conspicuously marked and placed along the far right side of the range. (Some of you probably thought from the scattered nature of the holes in the patterning board that it was actually my M1 target backer. Not so!) Only b-b size shot may be used on the patterning board. Slugs can be fired on a regular rifle backing board.

## Cowboy Action Shoots

The next Cowboy Shoot is on **Saturday, September 26**. Set-up begins on Friday,

September 25, at 1:00 PM. Helping for a couple of hours is a great way to fulfill one of the work requirements for a new member. **The rifle and pistol ranges will be closed from 1:00 PM on Friday through the end of the shoot on Saturday.** Cleanup should be done by 4:00 PM.

There will be a multi-club Cowboy Dinner on **Saturday, November 7** at our chapter house. Cost is \$25 per couple and \$13 stag. The dinner is an end of the year get together for all of the shooters in the area. Reservations are required before October 30. Send checks, made out to the IWLA/WACC, to **Chuck Crooks** at 3147 Pheasant Run, Ijamsville, MD, 21754-8919. Additional information is available on chuck's web page (see the e-mail address in the return address portion of this newsletter). The dinner is limited to 150 people. BYOB, but setups and ice will be provided.

## Rifle and Pistol Range Report

**Volunteers Needed:** Again this year, on **November 15**, we will collaborate with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources in qualifying hunters participating in the harvest of deer from local parks. Our part involves shepherding several hundred armed hunters-to-be onto the rifle range, overseeing their firing, recording their scores, and escorting them off the range. The emphasis is on safety. We also oversee parking and help staff several safety checkpoints. **Ray Halperin** has volunteered to be the principal range officer, for the third time in a row, but we need at least one volunteer for each of ten firing positions, plus another five to ten for the other jobs. We hope that everyone who has helped in the past will do so again, but we will also be pleased to see some new faces.

We are reintroducing our rifle Sight-In Day. We hope to draw

prospective deer hunters, as well as the general public. On **Sunday November 8**, for a fee of \$5.00 per rifle or slug gun, we will provide targets and assistance to shooters who wish to sight-in their firearms. Volunteers are also needed to run this event. If you can help with either event, please contact **Ray Shaver** (telephone: 301-926-0465; e-mail: MRShaver@aol.com). Please come out and help; it's fun and a public service.

**Upcoming Event:** Don't forget the annual Chapter Blackpowder Shoot on **Saturday, October 10**, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. This is a fun shoot with novelty targets and very informal competition. To encourage your participation, there will be no charge for the event. The cost of targets and incidentals will be covered by income from things like our deer hunter qualification services.

**Thanks to Ken Winpisinger, John Walter**, and at least one anonymous donor for their contributions of wood and cardboard for rifle and pistol target backers. Because of the continuing supply of contributed materials, we have not had to buy plywood for target backers this budget year. Our preferred backer material is 5/8" plywood which can be cut into 2'x2' or 2'x4' pieces, but we can use other wood and heavy cardboard which meet these size requirements. Bring your contributions to a clean-up session, or drop them off at the equipment shed whenever it is convenient. Please don't leave cardboard outside, however, where it will deteriorate. Pistol range backers, which are already cut into 2'x2' pieces, can be left under the storage bench at the pistol range. Thanks again!

**Reminders:** When signing in on the range log, please use your whole name. First names alone may be fine for social events, but they don't help identify who is using our ranges. Also, remember that range rules require that the target being fired upon must be directly in front of the firing point. For

example, shooting at a target at the 50-yard berm from the leftmost bench on the rifle range could result in bullets heading towards the power lines, and is definitely not allowed.

## Range and Christmas Tree Maintenance

We were pleasantly surprised with the large number of volunteers who showed up to work on Sunday, August 30. They were especially welcome because there were a lot of things to be done including rifle, pistol, and shotgun range cleanups; weeding and mowing around the Christmas trees; and some general cleanup around the barbecue shed. Thanks to Ikes: **Ken Winpisinger, Dave McNeal, Bob Inness, Wayne Soderquist, Jim Luensman, John & Chris Haczewski, Geoff Hornseth, Paul Moe, Cliff Spier, Neal Cox, Justin Stephen, Chuck Snelling, Geoff Wood, Bill Kelly, Tom Roberts, John Walter, Jim Carberry, Ray Shaver, Kevin Manning, and Greg Baldwin.** Thanks also to three members of Boy Scout Troop 945, Thomas Mullen, Greg Mullen, and Trevor Blank, who worked on the Christmas trees. With so many things going on, there is a chance that some workers failed to sign the roster. If you worked, and your name doesn't appear above, please contact **Ray Shaver** or **Bob Mabie** to make sure that you get credit for your effort.

The next maintenance day is **Sunday, September 27.** Please report to the equipment shed at 10:00 a.m. to sign in and get a work assignment.

## Friends of the NRA Banquet

The second annual Friends of the NRA Banquet will be held on **Saturday, October 17, 1998**, in the Walkersville Fire Hall. The dinner begins at 6:00 PM. Many items will be auctioned off, with 50% going to Maryland shooting safety and youth education programs. A banquet ticket costs \$25. If you wish, you may also purchase a Sponsor ticket for \$200, which gets you two banquet tickets, a special print, a hat, a pin, a special drawing package, and two bonus tickets (for a \$400 value). To get tickets, call (301) 662-8459 or write to: Frederick County FNRA, c/o Jamie Dunn, Waterland Way, Frederick, MD, 21702.

## Smoker Donation

**Ray Alonso** donated a barbecue smoker to us as a fund raiser. Thanks Ray! It will be raffled off during our September membership meeting.

## Election '98

We had a great turnout at our August membership meeting. I want to thank everyone who showed up to talk to the candidates for state office. We had 15 candidates, or their representatives, accept our invitation to attend. They were:  
District 14B: John Clark  
District 15: Jean Cryor  
Jean Roesser  
District 16: Gus Alzona  
Marilyn Goldwater  
Nancy Kopp  
District 17: Chris Russell  
District 39: Paul Carlson  
Barrie Ciliberti  
Patricia Cummings  
P. J. Hogan  
Walter McKee  
Charlotte Meyer  
Mathew Mossburg  
Joan Stern

On Election Day, please remember that they cared enough about us to attend our gathering. If you want to learn more about these candidates, their campaign literature is in the Rathskeller.

## Stream Monitors Needed

The Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection is seeking volunteers to help monitor the health of county streams. This is interesting work as the monitors learn about pollution, fish populations, and other aquatic life. If you'd like to help out, call Keith Van Ness at (301) 217-2044 or e-mail him at [keith.vanness@co.mo.md.us](mailto:keith.vanness@co.mo.md.us).

## Adopt-A-River Cleanup

Don't forget our cleanup of the Patuxent River on **Saturday, September 19.** We will concentrate our efforts on the Gue Road crossing of 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 another great turnout of workers and spectators to make it a success. Please call **Bill Kelly**, at (301) 253-5009, for further details or to volunteer.

## Editor's Column

This is my last newsletter. I am very pleased that Sean Hudgens stepped forward and was elected as our new Corresponding Secretary. Sean will do a superb job!

Before I go, I want to say "thank you" to all the committee chairpersons who write the articles for each newsletter. I merely reformat them to fit in the space I have available. They do most of the hard work. I also owe a lot to **Nick Giuliano** who takes the newsletters to the Shady Grove Post Office, fights with the postal workers, and gets the newsletters on the way to you. He does all the other hard work. I sincerely appreciate his efforts.

I've met some great people over the past two years. Just last month I enjoyed a trip to South Dakota with John Lehman, his daughter, and Georgia Townsend. It was a wonderful trip. We visited a buffalo ranch, the Crazy Horse Monument, Mount Rushmore, Deadwood, and other great places. I would never have done those things on my own. Even with such good companions, I most enjoyed the

moments when I was lost in my own thoughts. One such moment was walking over a rise and seeing 500 buffalo grazing in a valley below.

I've noticed that most of us seem to enjoy being left alone while we do our thing. We come to the range, shoot, and go home. Our members don't bother anyone, but we're always willing to help when somebody asks. We don't make a big hoopla about the things we do. We just quietly go about our business of cleaning up the Patuxent River, building bluebird houses, sponsoring scout troops, instilling respect for firearms and their safe use, teaching hunter safety and ethics, supporting worthwhile local events, helping out state and local wildlife agencies, and

practicing a solemn respect for all life.

We also silently put up with a lot of guff from anti-hunters, anti-gunners, the press, and some lawmakers who choose to vilify the things we value while declaring themselves morally superior to us.

One of my favorite books is entitled *The Old Man*. It was written by Gary W. Cook, a Wildlife Officer and Wildlife Biologist in Tennessee. In 1987, he wrote the following passage in the Forward to his book. I think it captures the spirit of our membership quite well:

"There is a quiet reverence among true woodsmen. It is as significant as

changing seasons and the call of geese. Its bond is blood-like, drawing kindred spirits together from all occupations. It conquers time and omits no heart that truly understands. Those who share it, marvel at the perfection of its continuance, but become fearful of modern man's ignorance of its value. They are a quiet lot...and just because they have remained quiet, does not mean they are not watching...reading today's sign. ...These quiet woodsmen should not be riled. Their places in the woods are indeed reverent and span hundreds of generations. There is an honor in their spirits. It cannot be bartered with, bribed, or compromised. It flies vulnerably above politics...with full knowledge that should it die, so shall we all."