



NEWSLETTER



Izaak Walton League of America

Wildlife Achievement Club Chapter

P.O. Box 118, Damascus, MD 20872

(301)253-2384

MONTH YEAR Issue-----

-----August-99-----V

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Coming Attractions

Date	Event	Time
8/16	Adult Airgun	6:30pm
8/23	Adult Airgun	6:30pm
8/27	Cowboy Shoot Setup	1:pm
8/27	General Membership Meeting, Elections, and Barbecue	7:pm
8/28	Cowboy Shoot	8:30am
8/29	Archery, Rifle, & Pistol Range Maintenance	10:am to 2:pm
8/29	Range Orientation	10:am
8/30	Adult Airgun	6:30pm
9/01	Board of Directors Meet.	7:30pm
9/04	Seneca Valley Rifle Match	8:am
9/04	Turkey Shoot	6:30pm
9/05	Skeet & Trap Maint.	10:am
9/06	Adult Airgun	6:30pm
9/06	Conservation Committee	7:30pm
9/07	Bowhunter Ed. Day -1	6:pm
9/09	Junior Air Rifle	6:pm
9/09	Bowhunter Ed. Day -2	6:pm
9/10	Hunter Safety Ed. Day-1	7:pm
9/11	Airgun Field Target Match	7:30am
9/11	Bowhunter Ed. Day-3	9:am
9/11	Turkey Shoot	6:30pm
9/13	Adult Airgun	6:30pm
9/14	Junior Airgun	7:pm
9/17	Hunter Safety Day -2	7:pm
9/18	Adopt a Road	9:am
9/18	Hunter Safety Day-3	9:am
9/18	Range Closes until 1pm	
9/18	Wetland, Pond Cleanup	8:30am
9/18	Turkey Shoot	6:30pm
9/20	Adult Airgun	6:30pm
9/21	Jurnior Airgun	7:pm
9/24	Cowboy Shoot Setup	1:pm
	Ranges close at 1:pm	
9/24	Installation Dinner	7:30pm

9/25	Cowboy Shoot	8:30am
9/25	Turkey Shoot	6:30pm
9/26	Archery, Rifle, & Pistol Range Maintenance	10:am
9/26	Range Orientation	10:am
9/27	Adult Airgun	6:30pm
9/28	Junior Airgun	7:pm

Meetings

The Aug. membership meeting will be on **Friday August 27th**. Enjoy the dinner and camaraderie! Cost will be \$7.00. Social hour is at 6:30 PM and dinner starts at 7:00 PM. **Barbecue**, cook out, And Elections for the Board of Directors.

The **Sept.** membership meeting will be on **Friday, September 24th**. Cost will be \$7.00. Social hour is at 6:30 PM and dinner starts at 7:00 PM. At This meeting we will install the new Board.

New Members-August

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 27th**.

Keven Barker, Frederick
Sponsor- Bill Schneider.
Ted A. Besch, Germantown
Sponsor- Bob Schneider.
Curtis E. Bost, Mt. Airy
Sponsor- Joe Glick.
Noi Bunnag, Kensington
Sponsor- Rick Thorne.
Claude B. Gambrell, Olney
Sponsor- Joe Glick.

Leo L. Glynn, Silver Spring
Sponsor- Steve Schneider.
John F. Gorham, New Market
Sponsor- Bob Mabie.
David Lambert, Washington DC.
Sponsor- Bob Mabie.
Stephen L. Lefebvre, Damascus
Sponsor- Rick Sommer.
Stephen L. Meyers, Rockville
Sponsor- Wheeler Johnson.
Bryan Radin, Rockville
Sponsor- Bob Schneider.
Carl Rattay, Rockville
Sponsor- Richard Fried.
Terry Rossen, Germantown
Sponsor- Bob Schneider.
Robert A. Snyder, Frederick
Sponsor- Bill Schneider.
Bert L. Thornley, Silver Spring
Sponsor- Rick Thornley.
Larry Watkins, Mt. Airy
Sponsor- Joe Glick

Sept. 1999 SHOTGUN RANGE DUTY

SAT. 9/4 NANCY & WELDON HUMPHRIES, RICH BUCKINGHAM,

SUN. 9/5 PAUL BLUTEAU, CINDY WHITEHURST, JIM LUENSMAN

SAT. 9/11 LEWIS ALLNUTT, BILL RAHN, JOEL GROSS.

SUN 9/12 FRANKLIN MONCADA, DAVE ORRENCE.

SAT. 9/18 PETER CURRALL, DAVE GOLD.

SUN 9/19 BURT MULLINEAUX, JUSTIN STEPHEN, MIKE BORING.

SAT 9/25 FICHTER GANG-

GEORGE, DALE, DAVE
SUN 9/26 CHRIS & SUSAN
SMARTE, GREG BALDWIN.

Rifle and Pistol Range Report

WASP WARNING: Those of us who run events on the rifle and pistol ranges often spray wasp and hornets nests when we notice them around the shooting areas. However, there are plenty to be found out on the ranges themselves. A member couple on the rifle range recently learned that some hornets nest in the ground, and collected ten stings between them to reinforce the lesson.

All kidding aside, we know that some of you may be extremely allergic to insect stings, so remember they are out there, and please be alert.

SHOTGUN PATTERNING:

Shotgun patterning is restricted to the two movable target frames provided on the rifle range for that purpose. The larger 4x4' frame is normally placed 30 to 40 yards beyond the firing line for the patterning of hunting and trap loads. It may be moved short distances by lifting the rear of its base and dragging it. If it is moved for any purpose, please return it to approximately 40 yards when done. The smaller 2x2' frame is more easily moved for testing loads at shorter distances. Skeet and defensive loads, for instance, are often patterned at 15 to 25 yards. This target frame should be moved to the right, off of the range, when not in use. Please be aware of possible ricochets from the steel 2x2' frame when shooting at closer distances, especially with heavier loads. Sight protection is required. Refrain from moving the frame closer than 25 yards if other shooters are close by, or at least call their attention to the possibility of ricochets. These frames are for shot only; slugs and other single projectile ammunition shall be fired at the fixed target frames provided for rifles.

PROPER IDENTIFICATION: A number of shooters are still failing to realize that we really mean it when

we quote the rule that a member's current range-approved membership card must be visibly displayed on his/her person while using the ranges. With approximately 1,000 shooting members, we can't recognize everybody, and nobody wants trespassers using our ranges. So get some sort of card holder that you can fasten to your clothing, and start displaying your identification now. No excuses!

RANGE MAINTENANCE: Ray Shaver wants to thank **Paul Bluteau** and other cowboy shooters who participated in the cleanup after the cowboy shoot on July 24. Thanks also to **Ernie Clifford, Doug Nair,** and **Bobby Walter** for helping to complete the range maintenance process on July 25. Again, in August, maintenance will be done in two sessions: putting away targets and disposing of trash after the cowboy action shoot (around 2 PM) on August 28, followed by range repairs and general maintenance from 10 AM until 1 PM on Sunday, August 29.

CONCRETE FINISHERS WANTED: If you have experience finishing concrete, you can make an important contribution to the WACC by helping us with a new sidewalk at the Chapter house and pad at the pistol range. We are trying complete the work within the next month or two with as much volunteer labor as possible. Thanks to Hank Vandeursen for his contribution of some 2x4s for forms; we can use more, if anybody has some. To volunteer, contact Ray Shaver (301-926-0465 or MRShaver@aol.com) or Bob Mabie (301-774-4122 or RFMEMM@aol.com).

Fall stream cleanup

The fall stream cleanup is happening right down the middle of Damascus on 18 September. Meet at 0830 at the Valley Park Drive park entrance to sign in, pair up, and get supplies. We will be cleaning up the MaGruder Branch and the adjacent paved

trail. The goal is to start at Damascus High School and head south through the park, perhaps all the way to Damascus Regional Park. This park runs north/south between Routes 27 and 124. Many of the Damascus residents live within walking distance and use this park regularly, so this will be a highly visible event for the club, it was suggested that if you have an Izaak Walton shirt you might want to wear it. For questions please contact Carrie Hamilton, 301-482-1986 or chamilton@maranatha.net. Please note...you will be parking in a residential community with assigned spaces. Please be courteous and park either on the street or in visitor's spaces. Thank you in advance from Damascus Valley Park residents.

Stream monitoring training

Our stream monitoring program is getting warmed up! Many of you have expressed an interest and you will be contacted directly, but it's not too late!!! The more monitors we have, the more we can accomplish!

Our first formal event is some training scheduled for Saturday, 28 August at 0800. I believe this will be occurring upstairs as downstairs is already booked for Cowboy Shoots. WAIT... before you stop reading.... This is not dull classroom training!!! Did you ever go out into the stream and turn over rocks looking for critters when you were a kid? That is on the agenda.... We need you to come prepared to listen to some general information for a few minutes upstairs before we gather up and carpool down to Mullinix Road Patuxent River crossing (for all you late sleepers). While at the river we will break up into teams and practice the monitoring techniques, for this you will get your feet wet, move stones, and be kneeling on the banks. When

you leave you will have a better idea what critters we are looking for and what the different ones mean to water quality. This is also a great family event! It can serve as a great opportunity to perhaps work on a science project with you child or simply spend some time with them. Bring your significant other and your children to the training session with you. Bring a bagged lunch for afterwards and we can have a picnic at the club and try out those new picnic grounds! For questions or to reserve your spot (highly recommended, not required) please contact Carrie Hamilton, 301-482-1986 or chamilton@maranatha.net

Valid Identification:

To shoot on the rifle and pistol ranges, you must be visibly wearing a Wildlife Achievement Club Chapter membership card or spouse membership card bearing a "Range Approved 1999" label. The only exceptions are guests and children of range-approved members who are accompanied by the properly identified member. Please challenge anyone not displaying a proper card, ask those who are neither a range-approved member nor guest to leave the range, and report the incident to the chapter caretaker or to **Ray Shaver** on 301-926-0465.

Cowboy Shoot Info.

The second "Cowboy Shooter Clinic" will be held on **Sept. 11th**. This is an introduction to cowboy shooting. Atlantic Guns and us will provide all the period firearms. You need to bring the proper ammo, safety glasses & hearing protection. For more info. & to register call Chuck Crooks 301 831-9666. Or check out the web site. <http://Members.aol.com/rumriverc>

Kenneth Thomas Gary

The 19 year old (twin) son of member Thomas Gary, in Damascus, died tragically on July 18th. A card was

sent to the family in the name of our chapter.

Kenneth Thomas Gary, 19, of Damascus died tragically on July 18, 1999. Born on December 11, 1979, in Washington, D.C., he was the son of Thomas A. Gary of Damascus, and Janice Dianne Gary of Gaithersburg. Kenneth was a 1998 graduate of Damascus High school and attended Oberlin College in Ohio for one semester and transferred to the University of Maryland to study philosophy. He played ice hockey with the Damascus High School team and at Oberlin and was looking forward to joining the University of Maryland team this fall. His other love was music. He played cello with Damascus High School and the Oberlin College Orchestras and was active with the Potomac Valley Youth Orchestras. He was employed the last two summers with the National Institute of Standards and Technology in the Chemistry Laboratory where he authored and co-authored three technical papers. Surviving in addition to his parents are twin brother Keith Thomas Gary and his older brother Kevin Michael Gary, both of Damascus. Sisters Michele Khuen and Melanie Patterson, both of Gaithersburg. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial contributions be made to the Potomac Valley Youth Orchestras, PO Box 87061, Gaithersburg, MD. 20866-7061.

Conservation Notes

Ed Burrows

The Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection web site (<http://www.co.mo.md.us/dep>) has a tremendous variety of information on watersheds and resource protection. Check the calendar of activities sponsored by various county agencies and non-profit groups. Find out tips for water conservation during the current drought. Go to the table of contents, and check the countywide stream protection strategy, to click on and watershed in the county and get

specific info about stream resource conditions, land cover, and watershed management categories. Look at the Patuxent Reservoirs newsletter and see a feature story on the chapter's stewardship in the watershed. If you scroll through the table of contents and click on Patuxent Reservoirs, you may see someone you know! Don't forget the SOS training session coming up August 28th. On Saturday, 8/28 we will meet at the chapter at 9:am. The save our streams program is very important to the league and our chapter. With the upper Patuxent in our own back yard, we are anxious to insure that it is well covered. We are looking for people who are willing to make a commitment to six sessions a year. These monitoring projects don't take long, and the more familiar you are with the technique the faster they go. They do need to be done seasonal and at two other times a year to insure that we are keeping a watchful eye on the river. We are lucky to have the Patuxent in our neighborhood. It is Montgomery Counties "benchmark" stream. While it is not perfect, it is the best stream in the county. We want to make sure it stays that way. Carrie Hamilton is our chapter SOS coordinator. She is anxious to hear from anyone who is interested. Her E-mail address is:

chamilton@maranatha.net,
phone # 301 482-1986

Air Rifle

The new season for the Junior Air Rifle program will have the first meeting of the year on Thursday evening, 9/9th. From 6:pm to 9:pm. in the Rathskeller. This program is directed to middle school and high school boys and girls who are beginning or intermediate skill level shooters. The program will continue through the school year meeting nearly every Thursday evening. Air Rifle classes are taught and supervised by NRA certified rifle instructors and coaches. Parents and Juniors are encouraged to attend the opening session. For additional info about this, please contact **Bob Inness** at 301 340-9185 or

bobinness@aol.com.

Hunter Safety Course

The Hunter Safety Course, required of all new hunters, will begin at 7pm September 10th at the clubhouse. Cost is \$2. Call Mac McCollum at 301-854-3707 or just show up. For Bowhunting Course, beginning on September 7th, call Bill McGiffin at 301-831-7079.

I.G. Haycraft "Trip to Northern Minnesota"

1907-1908 Cont.

We Divide up our party

We traveled just about two miles to where we had our longest portage. It so happened that it was my turn to carry the canoe when we came to a little creek where we put the canoe in and rode with the current a mile or two. The creek was terrible crooked, however, and had many rapids. Some places we just had enough room to pass between giant rocks and keep going. Many lakes in this region were not named at all, and none of the

creeks had any special name. We soon came into another marsh territory, and here our party divided. Opsahl (our guide) took the four women with him, and Ray Abbott and the writer of this narrative. All of the other members of the party went on to Lake Lacroix, directly north, with Andy Johnson in charge. Lake Lacroix is so near the Rainy River that it is almost a part of it.

The Opsahi party went directly west to a lake a few miles across, which we named "Lake Comfort". We made our way to the north shore about midway from east to west and found an ideal smooth ledge of rock about 50 by 100 feet, some two feet above the lake surface, with a nice gentle slope to the water's edge. We drew our canoes up and proceeded to make supper, and then set about to prepare camp. We soon had a fine spruce-bough bed arranged for the women and put up their tent, and then we men made a dandy spruce-bough bed a short distance away, where we unloaded our baggage. As it looked like rain, we turned our canoes upside down over the luggage. We men had

to sleep in the open as the big tent had been sent on the larger party that went to Lake Lacroix. We were sleeping soundly when we were awakened by violent thunder. We were right in the midst of a hurricane and cloudburst, with trees crashing on all sides, and it seemed that the bottom of the clouds had fallen out, with water coming down in volume sufficient to drown one. It only lasted a short time, and the sky again became clear, with the moon shining. We looked for our canoes, and found they were all afloat. We rushed out into knee-deep water and salvaged our canoes and wet luggage. This time we tied the canoes to small trees. We realized that we could have been in a sweet predicament, marooned there with no canoe to travel home with. We were at least sixty miles from any living human being but our own party. My we were a bedraggled bunch, all soaked. We had quite a time making breakfast, but all had our appetites and ate with great relish.

To be.cont.