



NEWSLETTER

Izaak Walton League Of America
Wildlife Achievement Club Chapter
October-November 1999 Issue



President
Chuck Crooks
(301) 831-9666

First Vice President
Ed Burrows
(301) 774-9090

Second Vice President
Bill Kelly
(301) 253-5009

Third Vice President
Paul Bluteau
(301) 916-8923

Coming Attractions

Date	Event	Time
10/22	Hunter Safety Crs. (1)	7:00 pm.
10/22	R&P Ranges Close At:	1:00 pm
10/23	R&P Ranges Closed Except For:	
10/23	Cowboy Action Shoot	9:00 am
10/23	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
10/26	BRV Airgun Match.	8:30 am
10/26	Junior Air Rifle	6:00 pm
10/27	Membership Meeting	7:30 pm
10/29	Hunter Safety Crs. (2)	7:00 pm
10/30	Hunter Safety Crs. (3)	9:00 am
10/30	Ranges Closed Until	1:00 pm
10/30	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
10/31	Range Orientation	10:00 am
10/31	A, R, & P Range Maint.	10:00 am
10/31	Christmas Tree Work	10:00 am
11/1	Adult Air Gun	6:00 pm
11/2	Junior Air Rifle	6:00 pm
11/3	Board of Directors Mtg.	7:30 pm
11/6	Adopt-A-Road Maint.	10:00 am
11/6	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
11/7	Sight In Day	10:00 am
11/7	Shotgun Range Maint.	10:00 am
11/8	Adult Air Gun	6:30 pm
11/9	Junior Air Rifle	6:00 pm
11/12	Hunter Safety Crs. (1)	7:00 pm.
11/13	Airgun Field Trgt. Mtch.	9:00 am
11/13	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
11/14	Ranges Closed Until	1:00 pm
11/14	Deer Hunter Quals.	9:00 am
11/15	Adult Air Gun	6:30 pm
11/16	Junior Air Rifle	6:00 pm
11/17	Membership Meeting	7:30 pm
11/19	Hunter Safety Crs. (2)	7:00 pm
11/20	Hunter Safety Crs. (3)	9:00 am
11/20	Ranges Closed Until	1:00 pm
11/20	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
11/22	Adult Air Gun	6:30 pm
11/23	Junior Air Rifle	6:00 pm
11/26	R&P Ranges Close At:	1:00 pm
11/27	R&P Ranges Closed Except For:	
11/27	Cowboy Action Shoot	9:00 am
11/27	Turkey Shoot	6:30 pm
11/28	A, R, & P Range Maint.	10:00 am
11/28	Christmas Tree Work	10:00 am
11/28	Range Orientation	10:00 am
11/29	Adult Air Gun	6:30 pm
11/30	Junior Air Rifle	6:00 pm

General Membership Meetings

The October membership meeting will be on **Wednesday, October 27**. Dinner will be a Chili Extravaganza, featuring three different chilis. Cost will be \$7.00. Social hour is at 6:30 PM and dinner starts at 7:00 PM.

The November membership meeting will be on **Wednesday, November 17**. It is earlier than usual so it doesn't conflict with the Thanksgiving holiday. Our dinner menu has not yet been decided, but we do know it will cost \$7.00, social hour will start at 6:30 PM, and dinner will start 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 **Wednesday, October 27**.

Claude Bauer, Frederick, MD
Sponsor: Bob Inness

Evert Carter, Cabin John, MD
Sponsor: Bob Inness

Steven Durieu, Boyds, MD
Sponsor: Mac McCollum

William Dyzak, Boyds, MD
Sponsor: Beryl Cherney

Patrick Finn, Damascus, MD
Sponsor: Bob Inness

Paul Fitzgibbons, Mt. Airy, MD
Sponsor: Matt Gagnon

Andrew Giles, Germantown, MD
Sponsor: Bob Mabie

Rex Gori, Kensington, MD
Sponsor: Ed Burrows

William Ladd, Jr., Damascus, MD
Sponsor: Bob Inness

Harold Landis, Silver Spring, MD
Sponsor: Beryl Cherney

Larry Lippman, Rockville, MD
Sponsor: Mike Heffernan

Randy Loy, Germantown, MD
Sponsor: Greg Gallo

Mo Mahmoudi, Rockville, MD
Sponsor: Bill Schneider

Gary Reeves, Silver Spring, MD
Sponsor: Mac McCollum

Scott Rhine, Mt. Airy, MD
Sponsor: Bob Inness

Gary Scott, Rockville, MD
Sponsor: Mike Heffernan

Michael Wahl, Damascus, MD
Sponsor: Bob Mabie

John Ziegler, Brookeville, MD
Sponsor: Tom Cooper

November Shotgun Range Officer Schedule

Day	Date	Names
Sat.	11/6	Nancy Humphries Weldon Humphries Richard Zabell
Sun	11/7	Paul Bluteau Cindy Whitehurst Jim Luensman
Sat.	11/13	Lewis Allnutt Bill Rahn Joel Gross
Sun.	11/14	Franklin Moncada Kevin Manning

Sat. 11/20 Peter Currall
 Dave Gold
 Sun. 11/21 Justin Stephen
 Mike Boring
 Sat. 11/27 The Fichter "Gang"
 Sun. 11/28 Chris Smarte
 Susan Smarte
 Steven Meyers

Skeet and Trap Notes

A tractor trailer load of clay targets, consisting of 190,000 targets in 1,408 cases on 22 pallets, were delivered on September 4, 1999. **Kevin Manning, Greg Baldwin, and Mark Kosian** helped unload the trailer. Thanks Guys!

Two projects were completed in September. **Bill Rahn and Charlie Weaver** built a permanent shed to house the teal machine on the Five Stand. The Range House was repainted with the help of **Bob Cumberland, Bill Wright, and Jim Arnold.**

The Maryland State Skeet Shooting Championships were held at the National Capitol Club in Darnestown from September 17-19, 1999. Nine WACC shooters competed. Congratulations go out to **Susan and Chris Smarte's son, Dustin**, who, in his first registered competition, placed second in class in the 12 gauge event and also shot his first 25 straight targets. **Rich Buckingham** says Dustin learned his shooting skills from him (Rich). The mere fact Dustin shot 25 straight suggests otherwise! Way to go **Dustin!!**

Rifle and Pistol Range Report

INFORMATION: For more information about any of the rifle/pistol range activities mentioned in this article, contact **Ray Shaver** by e-mail at MRShaver@aol.com or telephone at (301) 926-0465.

HUNTER SIGHT-IN DAY: One of our public services to support hunting safety is the annual Hunter Sight-in Day. On this day, our rifle range is open to the public. The objective is to provide hunters a chance to ensure their hunting firearms and ammunition are shooting where they're aimed. For a fee of \$5 per firearm, we provide access to the rifle range for sighting in at distances up to 100 yards, plus targets and assistance, as needed. This year's hunter sight-in day will be held on Sunday, **November 7** from 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM.

Although some benches will be reserved for participants, the rifle range will remain open to our members during this event. Your patience and cooperation are appreciated.

DEER HUNTER QUALIFICATION:

Slug gun qualification for participants in Montgomery County managed deer hunts will be held on Sunday, **November 14**, from 10:00 AM until approximately 3:00 PM. *Both the rifle and pistol ranges will be closed to members during that event*, and entry into the range area will be tightly controlled for safety. If you arrive for general shooting that afternoon, please do not enter the rifle/pistol range area until the closed sign is removed from the range sign-in box.

BLACKPOWDER SHOOT:

John Leaman, Wayne Berkebile, Terry Springer, Carrie Hamilton and Ray Shaver had a great time shooting muzzleloaders at novelty targets and steel silhouettes on Saturday, October 2. Where were you? Beyond just having fun, one objective of this event is to introduce WACC members to this inexpensive, low key shooting activity. Rather than giving up, we are interpreting the low attendance as a message that we need to do even more to spread the word. Watch for a blackpowder shoot on the year 2000 club schedule, and please come out for a couple of hours.

THANKS TO: **Eric Koehler, Scott Dallas, Paul Bluteau, Hank VanDeursen and Clark Devore** for assisting in the September range maintenance and cowboy action shoot takedown. Thanks also to the crew which ran the September 26 qualification event for Howard County deer hunters, including **Bob Inness, Bob Mabie, Paul Bluteau, Ted Hadfield, Bill McGiffin, Bill Gazdik, John Randall, Tom Mills, Jim Luensman, John Walter, Bill Jenkins, Clark Devore, Ray Halperin, Ken Winpisinger, James Fort, Robert Griffin, Ray Shaver and Mac McCollum.**

OCTOBER RANGE MAINTENANCE:

Cleanup and maintenance of the rifle and pistol ranges is scheduled from 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM on Sunday, **October 31**. To assist, please meet **Ray Shaver** at the equipment shed to sign in and get a work assignment. If you arrive late and nobody

is at the shed, please proceed to the range area.

Why the NRA?

The NRA is your representative at the national and state levels to promote and defend your right to own and use firearms. We may not always agree with how the NRA leadership approaches a situation and we may not appreciate all their solicitations for money, but it's "the only game in town!" We need the NRA and they need each of us for support.

The governor of Maryland is now building his case for "child proof" guns. Think of the ramifications that will have for you and your target shooting friends. Will the S&W Model 41 target pistol be offered for sale in Maryland as a "child proof gun?" As responsible owners and users of rifles, shotguns, and handguns, we need the help of the NRA to monitor the actions of our Federal and state government and lobby for responsible and wise firearms legislation.

If you're not currently a member of the NRA, please join. If you are already a member, please renew your membership. Joining or renewing is as easy as making a telephone call or sending an e-mail. Our adult airgun program is an NRA "recruiting agent." To obtain the appropriate membership form, contact **Ed Burrows**, at phone number (301) 774-9090, or e-mail at NKGW41@Prodigy.com or **Phil Dean**, at phone number (301) 831-9325, or e-mail PD10X@aol.com. You will be mailed a pre-numbered form to submit to the NRA with your payment, either check or credit card. The Chapter receives a commission on each membership and renewal submitted.

Adopt-A-Road Cleanup

Our next cleanup of Mullinix Mill Road will be on **Saturday, November 6**. We need a new crew to help in this effort because **Bob Mabie** has been doing it by himself last time. Please meet at the Equipment Shed at 10:00 AM.

Wild Game Dinner

We hold our annual Wild Game Dinner in January of each year. We need donations of wild game for our Wild Game Dinner in **January 2000**. Please, if you are successful in the game fields this season, share some of your bounty with us. We can use any type of wild game meat. Contact **George Silva**, at (301) 258-0377, to find out about how to donate your goodies.

Editor's Column

I read an interesting article on the Internet. Entitled "How and Why We Are Training Our Kids to Kill," it was written by retired US Army Lt. Col. David Grossman, a former Army Ranger and West Point Psychology Professor. His article talks about the fact that man, like other animals, has a built in inhibition to killing members of its own species. His article includes research into the killing capability of front line soldiers. During the Civil War, very few soldiers actually fired at the enemy. During WWII, only 15% did so. The US Army had to make a concerted effort to desensitize soldiers to get them to actually shoot someone. Today, over 90% of soldiers will shoot to hit during a firefight.

If killing is so hard to do naturally, why then do our children do so? Their natural inhibitions have not been overcome by formal military desensitization training. Of course, the media and others argue it is the "easy availability of guns." Here are Lt. Col. Grossman's observations:

"Something very similar to this (military) desensitization toward violence is

happening to our children through violence in the media -- but instead of 18-year-olds, it begins at the age of 18 months when a child is first able to discern what is happening on television. At that age, a child can watch something happening on television and mimic that action. But it isn't until children are six or seven years old that the part of the brain kicks in that lets them understand where information comes from. Even though young children have some understanding of what it means to pretend, they are developmentally unable to distinguish clearly between fantasy and reality.

When young children see somebody shot, stabbed, raped, brutalized, degraded, or murdered on TV, to them it is as though it were actually happening. To have a child of three, four, or five watch a "splatter" movie, learning to relate to a character for the first 90 minutes and then in the last 30 minutes watch helplessly as that new friend is hunted and brutally murdered is the moral and psychological equivalent of introducing your child to a friend, letting her play with that friend, and then butchering that friend in front of your child's eyes. And this happens to our children hundreds upon hundreds of times....

The Journal of the American Medical Association published the definitive epidemiological study on the impact of TV violence. The research demonstrated what happened in numerous nations after television made its appearance as compared to nations and regions without TV... only one variable is different: the

presence of television. In every nation, region, or city with television, there is an immediate explosion of violence on the playground, and within 15 years there is a doubling of the murder rate. Why 15 years? That is how long it takes for the brutalization of a three- to five-year-old to reach the "prime crime age." That is how long it takes for you to reap what you have sown when you brutalize and desensitize a three-year-old....

Today, the data linking violence in the media to violence in society are superior to those linking cancer and tobacco... 'If, hypothetically, television technology had never been developed, there would be 10,000 fewer homicides each year in the United States, 70,000 fewer rapes, and 700,000 fewer injurious assaults...'

Our children watch vivid pictures of human suffering and death, and they learn to associate it with their favorite soft drink and candy bar, or their girlfriend's perfume...

We have raised a generation of barbarians who have learned to associate violence with pleasure, like the Romans cheering and snacking as the Christians were slaughtered in the Colosseum."

It is worth reading the entire article. It can be found at "<http://www.sightings.com/politics4/howwhy.htm>"