



NEWSLETTER

Izaak Walton League Of America
Wildlife Achievement Club Chapter
August-September 2000 Issue



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Coming Attractions

Date	Event	Time
8/21	Adult Airgun	6:30 pm
8/22	Bowhunter Educ. Day 1	6:00 pm
8/24	Bowhunter Educ. Day 2	6:00 pm
8/25	R&P Ranges Close At:	1:00 pm
8/25	Mem. Meeting/Election	6:30 pm
8/26	R&P Ranges Closed Except For:	
8/26	Cowboy Action Shoot	9:00 am
8/26	Bowhunter Educ. Day 3	9:00 am
8/27	All Ranges Maint	10:00 am
8/27	Christmas Tree Maint.	10:00 am
8/27	Range Orientation	10:00 am
8/28	Adult Airgun	6:30 pm
9/2	Seneca Valley Match	9:30 am
9/4	Adult Airgun	6:30 pm
9/5	Consrvtn/SOS Cmte. Mtg	7:30 pm
9/6	Board of Directors Mtg.	7:30 pm
9/8	Hunter Safety Crse. 1	7:00 pm
9/9	Tree Planting	8:30 am
9/9	Airgun Show	9:00 am
9/11	Adult Airgun	6:30 pm
9/14	Junior Airgun Org. Mtg.	6:30 pm
9/15	Hunter Safety Crse. 2	7:00 pm
9/16	Hunter Safety Crse. 3	9:00 am
9/18	Adult Airgun	6:30 pm
9/22	Membership Meeting	6:30 pm
9/22	R&P Ranges Close At:	1:00 pm
9/23	Airgun Fld. Trgt. Mtch.	7:30 am
9/23	R&P Ranges Closed Except For:	
9/23	Cowboy Action Shoot	9:00 am
9/23	NSSA Shoot	10:00 am
9/24	All Ranges Maint	10:00 am
9/24	NSSA Shoot	10:00 am
9/24	Christmas Tree Maint.	10:00 am
9/24	Range Orientation	10:00 am
9/24	Deer Hunter Qual.	9:00 am
9/25	Adult Airgun	6:30 pm
9/30	Adopt-A-Road Cleanup	9:00 am

General Membership Meetings

The August membership meeting is on **Friday, August 25. This will be the election for new officers.** Come out, vote, and enjoy the barbecue pork rib dinner. This year, we plan to have sufficient ribs on hand to feed everyone!! Social hour begins at 6:30 PM.

The September membership meeting will be on **Friday, September 22.** This will be our annual installation of new officers and awards dinner. Dinner is free this month! Social hour begins at 6:30 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 25, 2000.**

Fred Bobila, Rockville, MD
Sponsor: Noli Cabrera

Ken Brenner, Mt. Airy, MD
Sponsor: Bill Schneider

Victor Dawson, Poolesville, MD
Sponsor: Richard Fried

Dwayne Greer, Damascus, MD
Sponsor: Rich Buckingham

William Hartman, Derwood, MD
Sponsor: Greg Gallo

William Rush, Germantown, MD
Sponsor: Phil Dean

Christopher Sager, Rockville, MD
Sponsor: Mike Heffernan

September Shotgun Range Officer Schedule

Day	Date	Names
Sat.	9/2	Nancy Humphries Weldon Humphries Richard Zabell
Sun.	9/3	Paul Bluteau Cindy Whitehurst Jim Luensman
Sat.	9/9	Charlie Weaver Bill Rahn
Sun.	9/10	Kevin Manning Richard Noah Bernie Vannoy
Sat.	9/16	Peter Currall Dave Gold
Sun.	9/17	Rob Taylor Craig Leopard Burt Mullineaux
Sat.	9/23	Lewis Allnut Joel Gross
Sun.	9/24	Chris Smarte Susan Smarte Maybe others
Sat.	9/30	The Fichter "Gang"

Skeet and Trap Report

The next NSSA registered skeet shoot is scheduled for the weekend of **September 23 and 24, 2000.** A good turnout is anticipated; therefore, the possibility exists that open shooting on one or both of these days may be limited to Field 1 (the 5 Stand).

There will be Shotgun Range Cleanup on Sunday, **August 27.** Please consider coming out at 10:00 AM. We need eight to ten volunteers for about 2 1/2 hours.

The annual "Fun Shoot" will take place on a Saturday sometime between mid-November and mid-

December. Watch this space for a specific date and schedule of events.

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.

SHOOTING HOURS: Permitted rifle/pistol range shooting hours are posted on the box which contains the range sign-in register. For August 2000, starting time is 10:00 AM daily and ending time is 8:00 PM, unless some activity has preempted the range. Because sunset changes slightly each day, the sign is periodically updated. Please help us to be a good neighbor by firing no shots before the posted starting time and none after the posted ending time.

AUGUST CLEANUP: Maintenance of the rifle and pistol ranges is scheduled from 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM on Sunday, **August 27**. Please report to the green equipment shed, below the chapter house, to sign in and get a work assignment. Ray Shaver will be coordinating the cleanup activities. We need to do some serious clearing of brush to open the sight lines at the corners on the range road, so please bring tools like pole cutters and your favorite pruning shears.

CLOSED REALLY MEANS CLOSED: We have a continuing problem convincing shooters the "Range Closed" sign on the sign-in box during a cowboy action shoot really means that the ranges are closed. The ranges stay closed until all clean up work following the shoot is completed and the sign is removed. Some members show up at the ranges while work is underway, moving their firearms to shooting benches, and in some cases, shooting if it looks to them like the range is ready to use. Those who have experienced the situation understand how distressing it is to have shooting start up nearby when you are working on a range that is supposed to be closed. Our approach to this problem has been to invite waiting shooters to come to the range, leave their firearms in their vehicles, and report immediately to the person running the project. Often, once you have made that contact, the range will receive a last inspection to ensure everything is in

place, and it will be opened for use. Please trust that as long as that "closed" sign is in place, somebody is working as quickly as possible to prepare the range for open shooting. Your presence at the range for any reason other than to help will simply complicate those preparations. PLEASE DO NOT SECOND GUESS THE "RANGE CLOSED" SIGNS.

PISTOL RANGE USERS: If you shoot on Sundays, please note that the left (uncovered) pistol range is reserved for a special event from 10:00 AM until 5:00 PM on Sunday, **September 17**. The covered pistol range will be available for open shooting during that time, but conditions will be more crowded than usual. Please do your best to share the facilities.

SECURITY GATE: Soon you should see signs of our work on the security gate at the entrance to the rifle/pistol range road. Concrete pads will be poured for the gate and two card readers (one for entrance and the other for exit) and trenches will be dug for electrical power and signal lines. Once the gate is in and we become familiar with the software system which controls it; policies, procedures, and member instructions will be developed. Discussions about the system will be conducted, probably at membership meetings, and finally, when all preparations are in place, arrangements will be made for issuing the proximity cards which will be used as your key to open the gate. Please note, that a one-time charge (probably \$10) will be made for the cards. More information next month as the project continues.

HELP NEEDED: On Sunday, **September 24**, we will be running a brief slug gun and muzzleloader qualification session for hunters participating in the Howard County managed deer hunt. Volunteers are needed to serve as range officers, oversee parking, perform safety checks, register participants, etc. It requires only a few hours of your time, since we've allotted only one hour (noon until 1:00 PM) for the qualification process. If you've helped with the deer hunter qualification events in previous years, we would love to have you back. We would also be pleased to introduce new Ikes to this public service event. For more information, or to volunteer your assistance, please contact Ray Shaver.

THANKS: To the many Ikes who assisted in range and site maintenance on July 30. Included were **Noli Cabrera, Chuck Christianson, Steve Cowan, Chuck Crooks, Scott Dallas, Rex Gori, Rick Kinnard, Jim Knowles, Tom Lalla, Herb Lee, J.G. Leishman, Dave Lewis, Steve Silverman, Craig L. Smith, Curt Spanos, and John Walter**. Please remember that we depend on volunteers, like all the above, to maintain our excellent facilities. Your participation is encouraged.

Cowboy Shoots

Cowboy shoots are continuing on the fourth Saturday of the month. Set up is on Friday beginning at 1:00 PM. All rifle and pistol ranges are closed from 1:00 PM on Friday to approximately 3:30 PM on Saturday on the weekends of the shoots. Member assistance is needed for set up on Friday and for tear down at 3:00 PM on Saturday. See **Chuck Crooks** (Chuckaroo) on Friday at the range parking area or **Ray Shaver** (Old Boz) on Saturday.

There will be a cowboy dinner on **November 4, 2000**. The dinner will be in the main hall of our Chapter House and includes a dinner with all the fixin's plus lots of fun. It is open to the cowboy shooters and any member that wishes to attend. Cost will be \$15 per person. Tickets must be purchased in advance with a cut off date of October 30. Contact **Chuck Crooks** at (301) 831-9666 for additional information.

Messages from the President.

We must all be aware of trespassers and others that take advantage of our ranges without paying for memberships. It is the responsibility of every member to verify that those using the ranges have a current "Range Approved" membership card. If you do not see a current "Range Approved" Membership Card being displayed, you should ask to see it.

As stated earlier in the Rifle and Pistol Range Report, final preparations for the installation of a range road access gate are taking place. The instances of unauthorized shooters has been on the increase. Until the gate is completed, we need to be vigilant on checking memberships. Every shooting member is required to display their membership card while on the range. If you are asked for your card please thank that member for helping to protect your club. Once the electronic gate has been installed and each member has their access card, we still need to be protective of our property. Trespassers are not welcome. Keeping them off the ranges is *everyone's* responsibility.

The November elections are around the corner. If you are not registered to vote you need to get registered TODAY. Voting is very important. No matter who your candidate is, if you do not vote you are missing an important opportunity to shape our state and US governments' future. Getting involved by writing you legislators is equally as important. There is a link on the club's web site that will tell you who your representatives are. It will give you E-mail and street addresses along with the representatives' phone numbers. Even if you know they are not representing your views, they need to know you are not pleased. Write, e-mail or phone your representative on issues that are important to you.

Congratulations Winners!

We are proud to announce that our airgunners, known officially as the Damascus Air Rifle Club, were honored at the National Rifle Association (NRA) Convention which was held in Charlotte, NC, from May 19-21, 2000. Our airgunners set up an exhibit of adult airguns, which earned them the award for the "Best Educational Exhibit of Contemporary Arms!" Way to go lady and gentlemen!!

Our winning members were **Earl and Nancy McDonald and Tom Gaylord**. During the convention, they talked to many of the record setting 52,000 attendees. They discussed 10 meter, field, and big bore airgun shooting while showing the airguns in the exhibit. Most of the convention goers had never seen airguns like the ones on display, so they went home with a much greater appreciation for what modern airguns can do.

The Damascus Air Rifle Club is very active. It hosts and sponsors adult and youth programs throughout the year. They also sponsor the Mid-Atlantic Airgun Show (see related article). If you want to join these winners, call **Phil Dean** at (301) 831-9325.

Airgun Show

The Fourth Annual Mid-Atlantic Airgun Show will be held at our Chapter House on **Saturday, September 9, 2000**. The show, specially devoted to airguns and related equipment, will feature about 50 tables of modern and antique air rifles, air pistols, targets, pellets, telescopic sights, and other supplies for sale. There will also be displays of antique and vintage airguns, one-of-a-kind collector guns, and other unique airgun items. This show is one of the largest airgun shows in the US so it attracts dealers from throughout the eastern and mid-western US.

Outdoor shooting ranges will provide attendees the opportunity to shoot different types of air rifles and pistols prior to purchasing them and to try airgun field target shooting. A special "big bore" air rifle match will be held at 3:00 PM for airguns over .25 caliber with the winner being determined by considering their shooting accuracy and the muzzle energy of their gun.

The show will run from 9:00 AM till 4:00 PM. The admission price is \$5.00 for adults (there is a \$1.00 discount for WAC members showing their membership card) and \$3.00 for kids. Refreshments will be available. For additional information, call **Phil Dean** at (301) 831-9325.

Elections

Elections are upon us. Officers and Directors for the 2000 - 2001 terms will be elected at our August meeting. The nominees are:

President - Chuck Crooks *
1st VP - Ed Burrows *
2nd VP - Bill Kelley *
3rd VP - Paul Bluteau *
Treasurer - Bob Cumberland *
Recording Sec. - Mac McCollum
Membership Sec. - Joe Gick *
Corresp. Sec. - Wayne Berkebile *
Sgt.-At-Arms - Jim Piatetski *

Parliamentarian - Bob Mabie *
Chaplain - John Leaman *
Directors - John Walters *
- Kevin Manning
- Conley Phipps

* denotes incumbent

New officers will be installed at the September membership meeting.

Conservation

Mark your calendars now for our next major conservation effort! On **September 9, 2000**, we will be planting about 500 trees at the Triadelphia Reservoir. This should be a relatively easy task because holes for the trees will have been dug already. We expect to complete the entire planting within three to four hours, provided we have several pairs of willing hands. Meet at the Ranger Station where Brighton Dam Road crosses the Patuxent River at 8:30 AM. Call **Carrie Hamilton**, at (301) 482-1986.

Hunter Safety Course

The Hunter Safety Course begins on **Friday, September 8**, at 7:00 PM. This is a three day course and all three days must be completed for graduation.. The second session will be on **Friday, September 15**, at 7:00 PM. The third session will be on **Saturday, September 16**, at 9:00 AM. The course will be taught at our Chapter House. All new hunters must complete this course in order to be eligible to purchase their first Maryland hunting license. To register and get more information, contact **Mac McCollum** at (301) 854-3707.

Glock Handgun Course

All Glock owners are invited to attend a basic care maintenance class to be held in the Rathskeller in our Chapter House on Sunday, September 24, 2000 at 2:00 PM (following the Range Orientation Course). The class will be taught by our fellow member "Red" Gambrell,

a graduate of the Glock Armorer's Course and a certified Glock Armorer. The class should last about 90 minutes and will include: Basic safety, field stripping the Glock pistol, cleaning and lubrication, stowage, and other helpful hints. This is an excellent opportunity to learn how to care for your valuable Glock handgun.

Please call "Red" at (301) 774-7697 or e-mail him at REDG1931@aol.com to reserve your seat. Bring you favorite UNLOADED Glock (repeat UNLOADED) without the magazine inserted in the gun and without ammo in the magazine or chamber. In fact, don't bring any ammo with you!

See you there!

Junior Shooting Programs

The first meeting for *all* juniors wishing to shoot during the 2000-2001 school year will be held on Thursday, **September 14, 2000**. The meeting will start at 6:30 PM and run till around 8:30 PM. The meeting will be held in the Rathskeller at the Chapter House.

We have three junior shooting programs: one for sporter air rifles, one for precision air rifles, and one for precision .22 rimfire rifles. Beginning and intermediate shooters are eligible to join the sporter air rifle program. For more information on this program, contact **Bob Inness** at (301) 340-9185 or binness@starpower.net.

Beginning shooters *may not* join the .22 rimfire or precision air rifle programs because they are configured for experienced shooters. For more information on the two precision programs, contact **John Watson** at (301) 929-3583 or JPW1050FPS@AOL.COM.

Interested juniors and their parents are encouraged to attend the meeting on September 14. There is a modest charge for participating in the junior shooting programs. The charge covers the cost of targets and pellets.

If you wish to register a junior for one of the programs, but cannot attend the September 14 meeting, call one of the two contacts, above.