



NEWSLETTER

Izaak Walton League Of America
Wildlife Achievement Club Chapter
December 2000 - January 2001 Issue



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Coming Attractions

Date	Event	Time
12/15	Membership Mtg. & Party	6:30 pm
12/16	Christmas Tree Sales	10:00 am
12/17	Christmas Tree Sales	10:00 am
12/18	Adult Airgun	6:30 pm
12/31	All Ranges Maint	10:00 am
12/31	Christmas Tree Maint.	10:00 am
12/31	Range Orientation	10:00 am
1/2	Consrvtm/SOS Cmte. Mtg.	7:30 pm
1/3	Board of Directors Mtg.	7:30 pm
1/8	Adult Airgun	6:30 pm
1/15	Adult Airgun	6:30 pm
1/22	Adult Airgun	6:30 pm
1/26	Membership Mtg, Wild Game Dinner, & Auction	6:30 pm
1/28	All Ranges Maint.	10:00 am
1/28	Christmas Tree Maint.	10:00 am
1/28	Range Orientation	10:00 am
1/28	Super Bowl Party	1:00 pm
1/29	Adult Airgun	6:30 pm

Wild Game Dinner and Auction

Please remember that we have our annual **Wild Game Dinner and Auction on January 26, 2001**. We could use any wild game you are willing to share with us. If you would like to donate some meat, please contact **Jorge Silva** at (301) 258-0377. We also auction off donated items that night. This is a major fund raiser for our club. So far, we have received several interesting items to be auctioned off. They include an original WAC shotgun, women's watches, and other goodies. But we would appreciate any other items you are willing to donate. Please call **Billy Kelly**, at (301) 253-5009, to donate items.

Warning! Warning! Due to the popularity of the Wild Game Dinner, we must limit the number of diners to 140. **Anyone not among the first 140 to pay for the meal are welcome to attend the membership meeting and auction, but they will not be able to partake of the wild game feast.**

General Membership Meetings

The December membership meeting will be on **Friday, December 15**. This meeting includes our annual Christmas Party. The meeting has been moved up a week to avoid conflicting with other holidays. Social hour begins at 6:30 PM and dinner starts at 7:00 PM.

The January membership meeting will be on **Friday, January 26, 2001**. This meeting is also our Wild Game Dinner and Auction. Dinner will be \$15.00 but only 140 people can be served. Plan to arrive early for dinner and to stay late bidding on our donated items!! An arrival time of 6:30 PM should ensure you will have an opportunity to buy a dinner ticket and inspect the items available during the auction.

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, December 15, 2000**.

Hank Bartlett, Silver Spring, MD
Sponsor: Mike Aaby

Michael Bartlett, Brookeville, MD
Sponsor: Mike Aaby

Frederick Corley, Silver Spring, MD
Sponsor: Bob Schneider

Michael Croce, Germantown, MD
Sponsor: John Leaman

Chris Deigan, Brookeville, MD
Sponsor: Karl Moline

Jim Deigan, Brookeville, MD
Sponsor: Karl Moline

William Foust, Olney, MD
Sponsor: Red Gambrell

John Gonzales, Bowie, MD
Sponsor: Bob Innes

Mark Gonzales, Manassas, VA
Sponsor: Bob Innes

Dana Hooper, Damascus, MD
Sponsor: Board of Directors

Rob Leonard, Damascus, MD
Sponsor: Chuck Crooks

Ronald Limparis, Gaithersburg, MD
Sponsor: Bob Innes

Kenneth Mallick, Mt. Airy, MD
Sponsor: Charlie Wiles

Richard Mills, Derwood, MD
Sponsor: David Gold

Steven Proctor, Olney, MD
Sponsor: Joe Gick

Timothy Soper, Harpers Ferry, WV
Sponsor: Ted Hiers

John Strong, Derwood, MD
Sponsor: David Gold

William Wolf, Westminster, MD
Sponsor: Ed Tucker

Benjamin Wright, Seabrook, MD
Sponsor: Ray Logan

January Shotgun Range Officer Schedule

Day	Date	Names
Sat.	1/6	Nancy Humphries Weldon Humphries Richard Zabell
Sun	1/7	Paul Blutcau Cindy Whitehurst
Sat.	1/13	Lewis Allnutt Bill Rahn Charlie Weaver
Sun.	1/14	Kevin Manning Richard Noah
Sat.	1/20	Peter Currall Dave Gold
Sun.	1/21	Burt Mullineaux Rob Taylor Craig Leopard
Sat.	1/27	The Fichter "Gang"
Sun.	1/28	Chris Smarte Susan Smarte

Skeet and Trap Report

The "Fun Shoot" was held on November 11, 2000. Although not as well attended as last year's event, those who participated had a great time. **Rich Fried** won the overall shoot with the highest combined score in four events. In skeet, **George King** won in a shoot off with **Berle Cherney**. Berle recovered nicely and went on to win the Five Stand event. **Bill Rahn** was the high scorer in Trap. George King had a second win, this time in Chinese Trap, while Bill Rahn finished a close second. Our thanks go out to everyone who supported the Shoot!

The Winter Beltway Skeet League is beginning its activities. This traveling league moves between the Prince Georges Shooting Center, our club, and the National Capitol facility. This is a handicap event in which 50 targets are shot at a cost of \$10.00 per week. The League shoots on Sundays starting at 10:00 AM. We will host the League on **December 17, 2000; January 21, 2001; and February 11, 2001**. Contact **Rich Buckingham** at (301) 762-2306 if you are interested in participating.

As the year 2000 comes to a close, the Skeet and Trap Committee extends its gratitude to the small but dedicated group of Range Officers who volunteer their time once (and sometimes twice) each month. We encourage our members to consider helping out as a Range Officer. We are particularly short handed on months with five weekends.

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 December 2000, starting time is 10:00 AM daily and ending time is 4:30 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.

DECEMBER RANGE

MAINTENANCE: Range and site maintenance will be done from 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM on Sunday, **December 31**. Please report to the green equipment shed for an assignment.

CART MISSING: The cart which we provide for moving equipment from the rifle range parking lot to the shooting area has been missing for at least a month. For those who are not familiar with it, the cart has a wooden body, wheelchair wheels, and a chrome tube handle. It was probably borrowed for use on a project somewhere on the WAC grounds, but nobody seems to know where it is now. Please contact Ray Shaver with any information concerning its whereabouts.

THANKS TO:

- **Ray G. Logan, Ted Hadfield, Dwayne Greer, Robert E. Griffin, Jose Tassara, Steve Lefebvre, and Terry McCoy** for their service as range officers for the hunter sight-in day on November 5;

- **Ray Halperin, Paul Bluteau, David Brunson, Andrew Cooke, James Fort, Bill Gazdik, Curtis Gevert, Ted Hadfield, Bob Inness, Bill Jenkins, Jim Luensman, Mac McCollum, Bill McGiffin, Mike Miller, Steve Peck, Dennis Price, John Randall, Bruce Roth, John Walter, and Ken Winpisinger** who tested over 200 prospective hunters at the deer hunter qualification event on November 12;

- **Jose Tassara** for a contribution of pistol target backers cut to size;

- **George Anderson** for another contribution of ear plugs and safety glasses;

- **Terry Springer and the crew** which did such a thorough clean-up job following the November 25 cowboy action shoot;

- **Mike Aaby, Gerald Barnes, Rich Buckingham, Ed Burrows, Barry Ephraim, Red Gambrell, John Leaman, Eric & Jake Leaper, Earl & Jason McDonald, Bill Mutziger, Craig Smith, and Rob Taylor** for coming out to work on the ranges and other Chapter maintenance projects on November 26; and

- new Ike **David Sinclair** for his skill and care in constructing the concrete pads for the security gate and associated card readers.

SECURITY GATE: Local preparations have been completed, and we now hope to have the gate installed by the end of December. However, the gate will not go into immediate operation. Instead, we need to experiment with it to gain enough insight to write user instructions. When completed, the instructions will be distributed to our members as part of a monthly newsletter and will also be available at our web page. Please note that your personal proximity card for the gate will be mailed to you with your 2001 membership card, but the instructions for its use **will not be** included.

New Rules for Skeet and Trap

Beginning January 1, 2001, our Skeet and Trap fields will be closed to the public except for special training, sanctioned shoots, and special events. Members are permitted to bring a guest to shoot on the shotgun fields. There is a two guest limit (similar to the rifle and pistol ranges) and the member must remain with the guest the entire time

the guest is on the range. In short, members are responsible for their guests. Members of other IWLA Chapters are also welcome to use these ranges, but they may not bring a guest. Their current IWLA membership card must be shown before shooting.

Holiday Range Closures

Starting January 1, 2001, all ranges will be closed on Christmas Day and Easter Sunday. This includes all ranges (rifle, pistol, air, shotgun, and archery ranges). On the last Sunday of each month, which is the day of our monthly maintenance sessions, all rifle, pistol, and shotgun ranges will be closed until 1:00 PM.

NFL Playoff BBQs

We will have free Barbecue dinners at the Rathskeller in our clubhouse in order to practice for our Superbowl party. They will be held during the NFL playoffs. Since the dates may vary based on what teams make it to the playoffs, check our website for details.

Super Bowl BBQ

Super Bowl Sunday promises to be a good time at the WAC Rathskeller. Make your plans now to spend Super Bowl Sunday, at 1:00 PM on **January 28, 2001**, with your fellow Ikes and watch the BIG game on the BIG screen TV. Enjoy a freshly BBQ'd pig and other delicious meats cooked in the cooker on the patio by "Scooter". Drinks of all kinds will be available. Tickets are a mere \$3.00. Get your tickets from any member of the Board of Directors or Committee Chairman. Those attending are requested to bring a covered dish or other "offering" capable of feeding at least 6 people. Come out and join the fun!

Camera Found

A 35 mm camera with attached leather case was found on the picnic tables behind the rifle range on October 7, 2000. If you are the owner of the camera, please call **Paul Shutta** at (301) 926-4795 with a description of the camera to claim it and it will be returned to its rightful owner. Thanks for securing it Paul!

Items Needed

Wanted: One sheet of 4x8 ft (approx) expanded metal suitable for using in a large BBQ grill.

NEEDED: An auto mechanic to check out our Toyota and Chevy on-site "farm" trucks to determine what they need to keep running. Presently, the Toyota starts, but it runs rough, may need brake pads or brake adjustment, and the alternator light stays on. The Chevy Truck probably needs a new battery and a thorough check out.

NEEDED: Used, but good condition hand tools, mechanics tools, carpenter tools, woodworking tools, tool boxes, etc. Please bring items to any Membership Meeting or leave them in the wooden box behind the service bar in the Rathskeller.

NEEDED: A home-type vacuum cleaner for use in the club house to vacuum our carpets. Here's a good chance to get rid of that old vac you have collecting dust in the basement ... just so long as it is working and in reasonable condition.

Scout News

As you may or may not know, we sponsor both a Boy Scout Troop and a Girl Scout Troop. Two members of our Boy Scout Troop, number 945, have earned their Eagle Scout rank. **Trevor Blank and Greg Mullen** were awarded the highest honor in Boy Scouts on October 27, 2000. Well Done!!

Our Remarkable Junior Shooters

Our sub-junior team competed in a national indoor junior air rifle championship match this past Spring. Over 3000 junior shooters competed. It is with great pleasure that we announce that our sub-junior team earned a third place finish in the nationwide contest. Team members were awarded their medals at the Board of Directors meeting on December 6, 2000. The four team members were: **Brendan Bauer, Ross Mark, Andy Carr, and Aminah Sheikh**. Congratulations!!

Their outstanding performance was due not only to their excellent individual skills, but also the foundations for the junior rifle

program established by **Bob Inness and Phil Dean** and the support of their coaches and parents.

Editor's Column

We are very fortunate to have some truly great kids associated with our club. Articles in this newsletter talk about our two newest Eagle Scouts and how our junior shooters have taken honors in national shooting competitions. Their parents, leaders, and coaches are justifiably proud of them all!

Anytime you want to see really good kids, come to our clubhouse on Tuesday or Thursday evenings. You'll find dedicated, well-behaved kids who respect guns and one another. They've learned how to handle guns safely and, in so doing, they've learned to take responsibility for their own actions.

I think our kids are good because they come from strong families. Certainly, some of the moms of our junior shooters are nervous about their kids handling guns. They've heard all the scare stories about how their sons and daughters will grow up to be violent. But I know better and I'm backed up by a study conducted by the US Department of Justice.

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention issued a report in March 1994 summarizing a series of studies they conducted. One study followed 1,000 kids in Rochester, NY for a 4 ½ year period. They studied kids in the seventh and eighth grades as they progressed through high school. The study included an analysis of the relationship between gun ownership and delinquent behavior. They determined that kids who had access to a "legal gun" (owned and used by their families for hunting or target shooting) committed the fewest crimes when compared to kids who had access to an illegal gun or to no gun at all. The kids of gunowners had the least instance of drug use and participation in street crimes. In fact, kids of gunowners committed *no* crimes using a gun, but the kids of non-gunowners did. They concluded that:

“By the ninth and tenth grades, more boys own illegal guns (7 percent) than own legal guns (3 percent)..... (There is) a very strong relationship between owning illegal guns and delinquency and drug use. Seventy-four percent of the illegal gunowners commit street crimes, 24 percent commit gun crimes, and 41 percent use drugs. Boys who own legal firearms, however, have much lower rates of delinquency and drug use and are even slightly less delinquent than nonowners of guns.

The socialization into gun ownership is vastly different for legal and illegal gunowners. Those who own legal guns have fathers who own guns for sport and hunting. On the other hand, those who own illegal guns have friends who own illegal guns and are far more likely to be gang members. For legal gunowners, socialization appears to take place in the family; for illegal gunowners, it appears to take place on the street.”

So the next time you hear the saying “kids and guns don’t mix,”

remember that it depends on how the kid gets involved with guns. Kids who do it the right way, with their family’s support, are the best kids out there.

See page 18 of the report “Urban Delinquency and Substance Abuse: Initial Findings, March 1994” at the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention website at “<http://ojjdp.org/pubs/alpha.html#urdel>” for more information on this study.