



# NEWSLETTER



## Izaak Walton League of America Wildlife Achievement Club Chapter February 2002

**President**  
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**First Vice President**  
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### Membership Renewals

If you have not renewed your membership for 2002, and do not have a new card with an expiration date of 12/31/02, your membership has expired and you are no longer considered a member in good standing. You cannot use the rifle, pistol, or airgun ranges or shoot skeet and trap without a current card. Your access card to the clubhouse and range road will no longer work. If you still would like to be a member, please send in your dues (normally \$100) plus an additional \$5 to re-activate your keycard. If you do not renew, you will only receive one more newsletter and then you will be dropped from the system. You are free to re-apply for membership at any time. You will receive no more bills or reminders in the mail from us. Send your payment to:

Joe Gick  
16601 Cavalry Dr  
Rockville MD 20853

If you have any questions or issues, please contact Joe Gick at 301-774-9399 or [GICK@EROLS.COM](mailto:GICK@EROLS.COM). We would like to keep you as a member. We will welcome you back at anytime.

### Adult Air Gun

Adult airgun shoots will continue in to be held indoors every Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Rathskeller until daylight savings time begins.

An airgun field target match will be held on Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

SUPPORT **YOUR** WAC

### A Good Time Was Had ...

All in all, it was a fun and very enjoyable gathering and a good time was had by all who attended the annual Wild Game dinner and silent auction held at the January general membership meeting.

Thanks to **Jorge Silva**, and his wife and sons, for preparing the superb wild game dinner - especially the buffalo roast, partridges, pheasants and the five different dishes of venison. Also, thanks to the following for donating the raffle items: **Ray G. Logan** for donating the Ruger mini-14 rifle, **Tim Ouelette** for several boxes of mini-14 caliber ammunition, and Hands-On Optics for donating a pair of 20x50 binoculars. The rifle and ammunition were won by WAC member **Chuck Limparis** and **Bill Cooch** won the 2X50 binoculars.

According to Chairman **John Leaman**, the \$2,500.00 collected from the rifle raffle will be donated in behalf of the Wildlife Achievement Chapter of the IWLA to the Salvation Army "911 Fund."

**Rick Fried** was in charge of the silent auction and also conducted the live auction of donated items. It was a lot of fun. Thanks, Rick!

### KUDOES:

**Adopt-a-Road:** A salute from the WAC goes to the following members who worked all four Adopt-a-Road pickups in 2001: **Bill Mutziger, Al Kleuver and son Steve, Ric Phelan, Paul Conoghey and Bob Mabie.**

**Recycling:** **Bill Mutziger** hauled our recycle collections to the salvage dealer throughout the year. We thank you and we could sure use your little red truck in 2002 - starting ASAP!

### 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, February 27, 2002.

Jeffrey Geyer, Thurmont, Md.  
Sponsor: Joe Gick  
Robert Jeffries, Gaithersburg, Md.  
Sponsor: Bob Schneider  
Peter Schuyler, Woodbine, Md.  
Sponsor: Paul Fitzgibbons  
Michael Sage, Rockville, Md.  
Sponsor: Bill Foust  
James Holsinger, Monrovia, Md.  
Sponsor: Chuck Crooks  
Daniel Horton, Gaithersburg, Md.  
Sponsor: Robert Peeler  
Henry Emery, Jr., Germantown, Md.  
Sponsor: Michael Stogsdill  
Matthew Buccini, Pikesville, Md.  
Sponsor: Chuck Crooks  
Matthew Fowler, Germantown, Md.  
Sponsor: Scott Gavel  
Ugo Pistacchio, Kensington, Md.  
Sponsor: Chris Constantine  
Ronald Kelly, Woodbine, Md.  
Sponsor: Steve Schneider  
Simona Perry, Gaithersburg, Md.  
Sponsor: Kevin Manning

### Coming Attractions

#### February

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| Sat 16 | Skeet & Trap - 12 pm - 5 pm   |
| Sun 17 | Skeet & Trap - 12 pm - 5 pm   |
| Mon 18 | Adult Airgun - 6:30 - 9 pm  |
| Tue 19 | Junior Airgun - 6 pm - 10 pm  |
| Thu 21 | Junior Airgun - 6 pm - 10 pm  |
| Fri 22 | Evening Airgun Match Setup  |
| Sat 23 | Jr. Airgun Match - 8 am - 6 pm  |
| 23     | Skeet & Trap - Noon - 5 pm  |
| 23     | Bowling Pin Shoot - 9 am - 2 pm<br>[uncovered pistol range closed]                    |
| Sun 24 | Club Maintenance Day<br>Skeet & Trap - 1 pm - 5 pm<br>Range Orientation Class - 10 am |
| Mon 25 | Adult Airgun - 6:30 pm - 9 pm   |
| Tue 26 | Junior Airgun - 6 pm - 10 pm  |
| Wed 27 | MEMBERSHIP MEETING  |

Thu 28 Junior Airgun - 6 pm - 10 pm

#### March

Sat 2 Skeet & Trap - 12 noon - 5 pm  
2 Junior Precision Rifle - 10 am  
Sun 3 Skeet & Trap - 12 noon - 5 pm  
Mon 4 Adult Airgun - 6:30 pm - 9 pm  
Tue 5 Junior Airgun - 6 pm - 10 pm  
5 Conservation/Save-Our-Streams  
7:30 pm - in Rathskeller  
Wed 6 Board of Directors meeting - 7:30  
PM  
Thu 7 Junior Airgun - 6pm - 10 pm  
Sat 9 Junior Precision Rifle - 10 am  
9 Skeet & Trap 12 noon - 5 pm  
9 Airgun Field Target Match  
9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Sun 10 Skeet & Trap - 12 noon - 5 pm  
Mon 11 Adult Airgun - 6:30 pm - 9 pm  
Tue 12 Junior Airgun - 6 pm - 10 pm  
Thu 14 Junior Airgun - 6 pm - 10 pm  
Sat 16 Skeet & Trap - 12 noon - 5 pm  
16 Junior Precision Rifle - 10 am  
Sun 17 Skeet & Trap - 12 noon - 5 pm  
17 Military Rifle Fun Shoot  
on Rifle Range - 10 am - 1 pm  
Mon 18 Adult Airgun - 6:30 pm - 9 pm  
Tue 19 Junior Airgun - 6 pm - 10 pm  
Thu 21 Junior Airgun - 6 pm - 10 pm  
Fri 22 Cowboy Action Set Up - 1 pm  
[Rifle & Pistol Ranges Closed - 1pm]  
Sat 23 Cowboy Action Shoot - 8am  
[Rifle & Pistol Range Closed until 4 pm]

## Junior Air Rifle News

### Juniors Take Gold!

Twenty Junior Air Rifle competitors, representing four different clubs, competed in a NRA Junior Sectional International Match held at the WAC Clubhouse on Saturday, February 2nd, 2002. Three teams were entered, and everyone fired forty off-hand shots, with a possible score of 400.

The "DARC Winners", **Brian Watson** (375), **Daniel Peterson** (374) and **Brendan Bauer** (311) captured the team Gold Medals with a team score of 1060. The Monumental club team finished second with a team score of 948, and a second DARC team, the "DARC Submariners" comprised of sub-junior competitors **Andy Carr** (228), **David Carr** (192), and **Aleem Sheikh** (280) finished in third place with a team score of 700. These youngsters will be stars of the DARC team in future years.

In addition to team honors, **Brian Watson** won the Gold Medal for high

individual score, while **Daniel Peterson** took the Silver Medal for second high score overall. **Brendan Bauer** earned a medal as High Score Sub Junior and **Jon Pagonis** (296) captured a medal for second place Intermediate Junior, in his first ever International match.

We congratulate the entire DARC team for another fine performance!

### Juniors Score Again!

Two talented members of the Damascus Air Rifle Club's precision team competed in the USA Shooting sponsored Junior Olympic Championship matches for International Air Rifle and 3-position small bore, held at the U.S. Naval Academy Range in Annapolis, Maryland on January 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Brian Watson**, age 16, an 11<sup>th</sup> grade student at Rockville High School, won the Gold medal in both matches with a score of 558 in the International match and 541 in the 3-position smallbore match. **Daniel Peterson**, age 17, a 12<sup>th</sup> grade student at Wheaton High School, won both Silver medals, with scores of 555 and 524.

As the top Maryland Junior shooter in both matches, **Brian** has earned the opportunity to travel to the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado to compete in national competitions later this Spring.

### Juniors in Tough Match

On Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2002 two of our WAC junior shooters participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Palmyra Open Invitational Matches in Palmyra, Pennsylvania. They competed in both air rifle and rim-fire matches with more than 120 of the strongest possible competitors, including some former Olympic team coaches, some Olympians, and some of the best college teams in the nation.

In the rim-fire match, **Brian Watson** fired an 1146/1200 with 52 center shots to finish as the third highest "expert", while **Daniel Peterson** fired an 1177/1200 with 43 center shots to rank as the fifth highest "sharpshooter" in the competition!

As a team, squadded with two shooters from the Acorns, these two

competitors were the ninth highest ranked team in the competition, with scores higher than four different NCAA college teams. In air rifle competition, these same two youngsters finished as the eighth highest ranked teams, again finishing ahead of five college teams.

## Cowboy Action News

The first Cowboy Action Shoot of 2002 will be held on Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March. Registration begins at 8:00 AM and closes at 9:15 AM. The mandatory safety talk is at 9:45 AM. Set up starts on Friday at 1:00 PM and we could use a few hands setting up for the match. The rifle and pistol ranges will be closed from 1:00 PM on Friday through approximately 3:30 PM on Saturday. Help with tear down on Saturday is appreciated.

The Thunder Valleys Days 2002 SASS Md. State Championship match is already 80% full and it is in August! Visit the Damascus Wildlife Rangers web site for additional details and an application (<http://members.aol.com/chuckaroo3>). We will need lots of volunteers in August to handle cooking, parking and a host of activities. All IWLA Thunder Valley Days Volunteers will get the clubs "Official Waddie" badge for their volunteer efforts. Thunder Valley Days will be August 22, 23 and 24, 2002. All matches are held rain or shine. Hearing and eye protection is required for all participants and visitors.

Our Damascus Wildlife Rangers matches are the fourth Saturday of the month from March through November.

## Rifle & 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](mailto: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 February 2002, starting time is 10 AM daily and ending time

is 5:30 PM, unless some activity has preempted the range. However, because sunset comes a little later each day this time of year, ending time may change before the month ends. Please help us to be a good neighbor by firing no shots before the posted starting time and none after the posted ending time.

#### OBSERVED ON RANGE ROAD:

The shooting party was traveling in two vehicles. The WAC member presented his keycard to the ENTRY reader and entered the gate first. He then stopped on the far side and opened the gate for his guest's vehicle by presenting his keycard to the EXIT reader. Although this procedure works, it screws up our electronic records of your range visit, making it look like you entered and then exited immediately. PLEASE DON'T DO IT. If your party includes more than one vehicle, use your keycard to permit your guest's vehicle to enter first. Then, after the gate has gone through a complete cycle of opening and closing, drive your vehicle to the ENTRY card reader and present the keycard again as you would for a normal entry. Use the same approach at the EXIT card reader to exit the range road. **YOUR GUEST'S VEHICLE SHOULD ALWAYS GO THROUGH THE GATE FIRST.**

**RIFLE RANGE USERS:** The movable 4'x4' target frame on the right side of the range is reserved for shotgun patterning only. Its wood frame wears out quickly enough when it is used for that purpose. Rifle bullets of any caliber and shotgun slugs simply tear it to pieces. Furthermore, if the patterning board is shot from an angle, there is a definite possibility that the bullet or slug shot at it could leave the range area. Please comply with WAC range rules, and use the shotgun patterning board only for checking out your shotgun with shot shells. A 2'x2' frame has also been placed at the right side of the rifle range for those who prefer to pattern closer than 40 yards and find the 4'x4' frame too heavy to move. Like the larger frame, it is reserved for shotgun use only. Please read the shotgun patterning instructions posted on the bulletin board and at the rightmost firing position before using these targets.

**PISTOL RANGE USERS:** As many times as we've warned against it, we still frequently find several movable target frames placed in a row, one

behind the other. This usually occurs because somebody finds the frame at their preferred shooting position too far away and simply moves a frame across from another position. Unfortunately, it also means that bullets shot at the closer frame may hit the one behind it. Again, this leads to unnecessary wear and increases the possibility of ricochets. It is easy to move the steel pistol range target frames by stepping inside the frame and carrying it like a ladder. Please make sure that there is only one target and no target frames in your line of fire.

#### FEBRUARY SITE MAINTENANCE:

All you new Ikes remember that you have a commitment to work on two activities during your first year. Participating in site maintenance is an easy way to get started. The next monthly maintenance of WAC ranges, Christmas trees, house and grounds will be done from 10 AM until 1 PM on Sunday, February 24. Please report to the maintenance coordinator, **Tom Riley**, at the green equipment shed for an assignment.

**THANKS** to the following Ikes for participating in site maintenance activities on January 27, 2002: **John Leaman, Chuck Limparis, Barry Ephram, Michelle Chesnut, Jim Piatetski, Bill Rush, Tim West, Eric Kirchman, Steven War, Wayne Berkebile, Byron Susinno, Rob Taylor, Bill Gazdik, Ray Shaver, Tom Riley, Eric Kirchman, Jim Arnold, Leonard Burrelli, and Mark Kosian.**

**CREDIT FOR WORKING:** First year members, if you participate in some sort of project or work activity, always ask to sign the work roster associated with that activity. If you fail to get that chance or think that your effort may not have been recorded, you can contact **Tom Riley** who maintains our database of work done by first year members. Tom will receive e-mail inquiries about your work record sent to [tejas1@bellatlantic.net](mailto:tejas1@bellatlantic.net). If you don't have e-mail, call **Ray Shaver (301-926-0465)** or **Bob Mabie (301-774-4122)**, and they will contact Tom about your record.

#### Adopt-a-Road Pickup 2002

The first Adopt-a-Road Pickup Scheduled The first 2002 Adopt-a-Road pickup is scheduled for April 14<sup>th</sup>. Rendezvous with Chairman Bob Mabie at the WAC maintenance shed at 9 a.m. and we can get to work for an hour's stroll on Mullinix Road. The WAC will furnish some state-of-the-art "trash grabbers" to make life easier and, of

course, many thanks for participation last year.

#### Wanted:

A few good men & women are needed to serve as Range Officers. If interested call Bill Rahn at 301-774-6234.

#### Range Officers Schedule

##### February

- Sat 2 Vivian & Robert McLeod  
Richard Zabell
- Sun 3 Paul Buteau, David Price
- Sat 9 Lew Allnutt, Charles Weaver
- Sun 10 Tony Evans, Kevin Manning  
Rick Noah
- Sat 16 Robt Taylor, Bill Rahn, Joel Gross
- Sun 17 Peter Currall, Dave Gold,  
Ira Wein
- Sat 23 The Fichter Gang
- Sun 24 Burt Mullineaux, Shep  
Burton, Frank Saenz

##### March

- Sat 2 Vivian & Robt McLeod  
Richard Zabell
- Sun 3 P. Bluteau, D. Price, Kevin O'neil
- Sat 9 Charles Weaver, Lew Allnutt
- Sun 10 Tony Evans, Kevin Manning, Rick  
Noah
- Sat 16 Robt Taylor, Bill Rahn, Joel Gross
- Sun 17 Dave Gold, Peter Currall, Ira  
Wein
- Sat 23 The Fichter Gang
- Sun 24 Burt Mullineaux, Frank Saenz
- Sat 30 Chris & Suzan Smarte
- Sun 31 Easter Sunday

#### Five-Stand Tournament

A three-game event, including a 12 or 20 gauge round, a pump gun round and a sub-gauge (28 ga. Or .410) round will be held on Saturday, February 23rd. This is a fun event, less structured than skeet & trap and is shootable for all shotgunners. Prizes will be awarded!

#### Work Days Planned:

**Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>.** 9:00 am - 1 pm:

Tree planting and Hole-Filling day on our roads. Need a lot of help!

**Late April (watch for date):**

Planting of 800-900 Christmas Trees!  
Refreshments will be furnished by WAC!

## Presidents Corner

People have asked where our chapter fits into the grand scheme of things with the national Izaak Walton League of America. Simply put, we are at the bottom of a very large pyramid. I can't think of a better place to be.

There is one concept that drives the league and makes us a lot different from most, if not all, other conservation organizations. League policy, the stand our national organization takes on environmental issues, comes from the bottom up. Membership, not senior staff folks, decide what we collectively think and say when our staff speaks for us on Capitol Hill and anywhere else.

You are a member of an organization that has chapters in nearly every state in the country. These chapters are made up of people, who like us, are anglers, hunters, campers, boaters, and many who just love the outdoors. As our pledge says, we "strive for the purity of water, the clarity of air, and the wise stewardship of the land and its resources." We believe that it is vital that the resources that we enjoy must be protected and sustained so that our children and grandchildren will be able to enjoy them as well. There are, of course, those who would disagree with us. There are folks who would argue that our natural resources should not be harvested at all. No fishing. No hunting. Of course, these same folks probably had sushi or steak for dinner last night. It is the lack of a logical basis to their thinking, coupled with the understanding that our membership (read: voters) sets our official policy that makes our opinion well respected on the hill and in state houses throughout the country.

So, how does it work? The system is simple. Our chapter is a member of the Maryland Division of the league. If, for example, you had an idea about an environmental or conservation issue that you think the league should take a stand on, you would propose it to the chapter's board of directors. The board, convinced that your thoughts are sound, would approve your idea and pass it on to the state division. Where, since you had a really great idea, it would be approved. The division would in turn take this idea, now officially called a "Resolution," to the national convention. The Convention, held annually in July, would then review this new resolution to ensure that it was not something already covered by league policy and vote to approve. You have just set league policy!

There is a lot more to our relationship with the national organization. Briefly, national staff folks are available to help us out with issues or concerns we may have. For example, recently the chapter waded in on a development issue in Damascus. We wrote a letter opposing the cluster development of what is now open land. National staffers helped research our idea to insure that our argument made good environmental sense. National Saves Our Streams staffers have provided training for chapter members who have then developed and presented our workshops on stream monitoring. Training, workshops, and help are available from National on a host of other issues.

You are part of a great group of folks who are trying to preserve what we all hold dear. If you want to get more involved, our chapter conservation committee is always looking for a few good folks. The Maryland Division is always searching for people to get on board at the division level where committees work to keep an eye on issues that concern the state.

- Ed Burrows