



NEWSLETTER



Izaak Walton League of America
Wildlife Achievement Club Chapter
June-July 2002

President
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Main House Phone: 301-253-2384

Web Site: <http://members.aol.com/RumRiverC>

Range House Phone: 301-253-4779

Schedule of Events

JUNE

Sat 15 Skeet & Trap - Noon to 5 pm
 Sun 16 Skeet & Trap - Noon to 5 pm
 Sun 16 Jr. Precision Air Rifle - 9:30 am
 Mon 17 Adult Airgun - 6 pm
 Wed 18 Skeet & Trap - 2-7 pm
 Fri 21 Cowboy Action Shoot Setup 1pm
 Sat 22 Cowboy Action Shoot - 8 am
 [Ranges C lost During Event]
 Sat 22 Skeet & Trap - Noon to 5 pm
 Sat 22 Junior Precision Rifle - 10 am
 Sun 23 Junior Precision Rifle 9:30 am
 Sun 23 Skeet & Trap - Noon to 5 pm
 Mon 24 Adult Airgun - 6:30 pm
 Wed 26 **MEMBERSHIP MEETING**
 6:30 Social Hour - 7:30 Dinner
 [Nominating Committee Report]
 Wed 26 Skeet & Trap - 2:00 to 7:00 pm
 Sat 29 Junior Precision Rifle - 9:30 am
 Sat 29 Bowling Pin Shoot - 1 pm - 6 pm
 [Uncovered range closed during
 Bowling Pin Shoot]
 Sat 29 Skeet & Trap - Noon - 5 pm
 Sun 30 Junior Precision Rifle - 10 am
 Sun 30 Skeet & Trap - Noon - 5 pm
 Sun 30 **CHAPTER MAINTENANCE
 AND CLEANUP - 10 am**
 Sun 30 **CLUB AND 10 am
 RANGE ORIENTATION**

JULY

Mon 1 Adult Airgun - 6:30 pm
 Tue 2 Conservation/Save our Streams
 Committee Meeting - 7:30 pm
 Wed 3 Board of Directors - 7:30 pm
 Wed 3 Skeet & Trap - 2 - 6:30 pm
 Sat 6 Junior Precision Rifle - 10 am
 Sat 6 Skeet & Trap - Noon to 5 pm
 Sat 6 Seneca Valley Rifle Match-10am
 [Rifle Range will be Closed
 during event]
 Sun 7 Skeet & Trap - Noon to 5 pm
 Mon 8 Adult Airgun - 6:30 pm
 Wed 10 Skeet & Trap - 2:00 to 7:00 pm
 Sat 13 Junior Precision Rifle - 9:30 am
 Sat 13 Skeet & Trap - Noon to 5 pm

Bowhunter Education Class
A Dept. of Natural Resources bow hunter education class will be held from 6 to 9 pm on Friday, June 21 and continuing from 9 am to about 1 pm on Saturday, June 22. Call Bill McGiffin at 301-831-7079.

It's YOUR WAC

ENJOY IT ----- SUPPORT IT

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, June 26th
6:30 Social - 7:30 Dinner

WAC MAINTENANCE DAY

Sunday, June 30th - 10 am

New Members

The following new 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 June 26th:

Steven Hunt, Damascus, Md.
Pawel Wlodarczyk, Olney, Md.
Ronald Gravit, Monrovia, Md.
John Gowin, Ijamsville, Md.
Rhonda Herbert, Gaithersburg, Md.
Michael Miller, Silver Spring, Md.
Earl Golden, Damascus, Md.
Derek Harding, Derwood, Md.

A SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to new member Franny Davidson for bringing a stake body truck and a lot of power equipment to tidy up the tree and bushes growth on the range road. Franny met our House & Grounds Chairman, Chuck Crooks, at the early hour of 6:00 A.M. and they worked until 9:30 trimming the trees and bushes and loading the brush. Four big truck loads of trimmings were hauled off to the dump and the job was done. Thanks, Franny!

Thanks, too, to Bill Ladd for weeding and feeding the new tree seedlings that were recently planted near the range house. They are doing well!

PRESIDENTS CORNER

I am always happy to note how many of our new members report that one of the reasons they join the club is to introduce their children to the outdoors. Given that most of us live in the suburbs, it is not surprising that kids these days need some open spaces to roam around in. I love to watch the children at Christmastime bust out of the family wagon and run into the field searching for the perfect tree and not incidentally, enjoying the freedom of our fields.

I am happy to report that our nature trail is now complete. Field guides that explain what you may be looking at have been prepared and can be found on the table beside the back door entrance to the Rathskeller. Pick one up and walk to the far back corner of our property near the large holly trees and take the kids for a walk in our woods. I can think of a lot worse ways to spend a little time with the kids.

You might also take a walk in our wildflower field. To be honest, the field doesn't look like much from the Range house, but when you get your feet moving and actually walk around and through it you'll find a lot to look at up close. It might be fun to get a wildflower field guide from the library and see how many different kinds of flowers the little ones can find and identify. At any given time we estimate that there are between fifteen and twenty different species of plants and wildflowers blooming in the field. And, aside from keeping our bees busy, the field and adjoining woods are habitat for a host of butterflies, birds, and other wildlife as well. Just be sure to take the wildflower field walk **BEFORE NOON** on Wednesdays

and Weekends; the wildflower field is just beyond the impact zone of the skeet and trap ranges.

By the end of the month we hope to have installed a rather strange looking chain link fenced area just to the left of the Airgun range path. It will demonstrate the effect that deer have on our woods. They will not be able to feed within the enclosure but will, naturally, have free access to the undergrowth around it. In a year we should see quite a difference within the fenced area and around it. Keep an eye on it!

- Ed Burrows

COWBOY NEWS

We had 121 shooters at our last cowboy match. To date, 10% of our Ike's have participated in Cowboy Action Shooting at our club. The set up and tear down procedure has provided a good opportunity for new probationary members to get in their work requirements. If you can help with set up, it begins at 1:00 PM on the Friday before the match and clean up is around 3:00 PM the day of the match. All matches are held on the fourth Saturday of the month from March through November.

THUNDER VALLEY DAYS

Thunder Valley Days, The SASS Maryland State Championship, will be held August 21, 22, 23 and 24, 2002. All ranges will have some form of closure during this event. Check the club calendar or the web calendar for actual closures. We will need a LOT of volunteers for this event. Each volunteer will receive a thank you Thunder Valleys Days 2002 badge. A meeting will be held at the Chapter House on Sunday, July 21st. The Chapter Web Site will have a listing of contacts for various areas to volunteer to help with. They will include, parking, cooking, set up, tear down, trash, shuttle drivers, first aid station and others.

Thunder Valley Days 2003 will be held in June next year. Hopefully, we will keep it in June from then on.

SHOOTERS CLINIC

Chuck Crooks will be conducting a new shooters clinic at the Thurmont Conservation and Sportsman's Club on June 29, 2002. This is free and will explain the sport of Cowboy Action Shooting in detail plus you will get to shoot a stage or two. Everything is provided. For additional information go to our Damascus Wildlife Rangers web site <http://members.aol.com/chuckaroo3>.

HOUSE & GROUNDS

We have been working with a government agency and may be able to get an additional Conex Box (sea container) but we will have to pick it up and transport it ourselves. It will be a 20' container. We are looking for someone with access to a roll back type truck that can transport the container from the Bethesda area to the club should the deal be made. Please contact Chuck Crooks if you can help. 301-831-9666 or IzaakWaltonWAC@aol.com.

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 June 2002, starting time is 10 AM daily and ending time is 8:00 PM, unless some activity has preempted the range. This is the latest ending time permitted by WAC policy, and will remain in place until late August. Please help us to be a good neighbor by firing no shots before the posted starting time and none after the posted ending time.

GREAT DAY FOR A FUN SHOOT (Report from Bob Inness): Saturday, May 11th, we had the best weather of the year for our rimfire fun shoot. Fourteen souls took advantage of a magnificent day and attended, with eleven shooters on the line. Geoff Hornseth kept the group focused on various target challenges. The "over 50" group was as well represented as the "under 15" group and all appeared to have fun! The next .22 fun shoot is scheduled from 10 AM until 1 PM on Sunday, August 4.

BOWLING PIN/PRACTICAL DEFENSE MATCHES: The monthly bowling pin fun shoots now include or are replaced periodically by practical defense shooting

matches. There were ten participants at the match held on May 28. The next shoot is scheduled for Saturday, June 29 from 2 to 6 PM. Please note that participants will meet at 1:30 PM in the Rathskeller; don't go directly to the range. For additional information, you can contact Jesse Lim via e-mail to jlim@phillips.com or telephone 301-540-0860 (evenings only please).

SHOOTERS DOWN RANGE: Within one week at the end of May, there were two occasions in which a shooter on the rifle range failed to coordinate a routine cease fire for target maintenance with other shooters and started down range while shooting was still underway or firearms were not unloaded and put in a safe condition. This is, of course, an extremely dangerous mistake. Never start down range without ensuring that all shooters are aware of and agree to a break in shooting (i.e., that the range is "cold"). Furthermore, when someone is down range, all firearms must be placed on or behind the shooting benches, unloaded, with action open, chamber empty, magazine removed, and safety on if available. Firearms shall not be touched when someone is down range or in front of the shooting benches.

LIVE AMMO DISCARDED: After accidentally spilling the contents of the misfire can at the covered pistol range into the trash can, a very responsible Ike dug through the trash can to recover the spilled ammunition. In doing so, he found considerably more live ammunition in the trash can than he had originally observed in the misfire can. Clearly, somebody had simply thrown their misfires or discarded live ammunition into the trash can! Please don't be the same. Either carry all your live and misfired ammunition away, or leave it in the misfire cans on the rifle range and covered pistol range.

DRAWING AND SHOOTING: As hard as we try to be clear when writing guidelines and rules, there is always room for a different interpretation. Item 18 under SAFETY in the RIFLE/PISTOL RANGE RULES AND REGULATIONS ends as follows: "Fast draw shooting and assault fire exercises are prohibited." Some shooters have

interpreted this to mean, "I can draw and shoot as long as I do it slowly." WRONG! What we intended to say is that ANY TYPE OF DRAWING AND SHOOTING IS PROHIBITED. Beyond the possibility of shooting yourself in such activities, they also put others in the vicinity at risk. If you want to draw and shoot a loaded, holstered handgun, get involved in cowboy action shoots or practical defense matches where it is permitted under closely supervised conditions. Otherwise, please don't do it on the WAC ranges.

JUNE SITE MAINTENANCE: The next monthly maintenance of WAC ranges, Christmas trees, house and grounds will be done from 10 AM until 1 PM on Sunday, June 30.. Please check in with the maintenance coordinator, Tom Riley, at the green equipment shed for an assignment. And don't forget to sign the work credit sheet.

Many New Books have been added to our "Take a Book - Leave a Buck" Library in the Rathskeller. Check 'em out!

MID-ATLANTIC AIRGUN SHOW

The annual airgun show will be held in the Chapter House on Saturday, August 10, 2002 from 9:00 am til 4:00 pm.

Our previous shows have been well attended and we are looking forward to another successful even this year.

There will be dealer sale tables on each floors featuring new air rifles and air pistols, antique airguns, and airgunning accessories. There will also be several airgun displays. Shooting ranges will be in operation outside where you may try out your skill with an air rifle or air pistol. Lunch and light refreshments will be available. Admission is \$5.00 per adult with a \$1.00 discount for WAC-IWLA members who show their membership card. There will be several tables where WAC-IWLA members may sell airguns during the show. If you have an

airgun to sell, contact Phil Dean. We will need some volunteers to help set up tables and the range tents on Friday afternoon. Assistance will also be need on Saturday to staff the admissions area and the outdoor ranges and to help "take down" at the end of the show. If your can help, Contact Phil Dean (301-865-8202).

JUNIOR AIR RIFLE NEWS

The Junior Air Rifle Club's TV Raffle Drawing was held at the Chapter's membership meeting on Wednesday May 22nd. Michelle Chesnut drew the winning ticket which was purchased by Mr. Jack Chcmko, Clarksburg, Maryland. Jack is a regular competitor at the High Power matches sponsored by the Seneca Valley Sports Association.

The Maryland State NRA Junior 3 Position Air Rifle Precision and Sporter class Championships, sponsored by our junior club and hosted by Gilbert Indoor Range in Rockville was held on Sunday, May 19th. 28 competitors, varying in age from 10 to 17 years, from 15 different towns and cities in Maryland participated in the match. Four potential (pending) Sporter class national Junior records were recorded during this match and have been forwarded to the NRA.

The six top medal winners were:

PRECISION

Gold Medal

Brian Watson, 568 pts, DARC, WAC-IWLA

Silver Medal

Daniel Peterson, 565 pts, DARC, WAC-IWLA

Bronze Medal

Brendan Bauer, 560 pts, DARC, WAC-IWLA

SPORTER

Gold Medal

Daniel Pearce, 526 pts, DARC, WAC-IWLA

Silver Medal

Kate Duncan, 523 pts, DARC, WAC-IWLA

Bronze Medal

Karla Goyes, 509 pts, Seneca Valey HS JNROTC

These six competitors with four others will comprise the MSRPA State Teams (and alternate(s) and will compete in the NRA National Junior 3-Position Air Rifle Competition to be held August 1 through August 4 in Richmond, Virginia. We wish to acknowledge and thank the owner, manager, and staff of the Gilbert

Indoor Range for donating the use of their facility, match materials, and their time to the junior competitors of Maryland and to acknowledge and thank National Target Company for their donation of the targets used to complete the match.

RANGE OFFICE SCHEDULE

June

Sat 6/1 Robt & Vivian MacLeon
 Sun 6/2 Chris & Suzan Smart
 Sat 6/8 Lew Allnutt, Charles Weaver
 Sun 6/9 Tony Evans, Kevin Manning, Burt Mullineaux
 Sat 6/15 Robert Taylor, Bill Rahn
 Sun 6/16 Dave Gold, Peter Currall
 Sat 6/22 "The Fichter Gang"
 Sun 6/23 Kevin O'Neill, Joel Gross
 Sat 6/29 Richard Zabell, Bill Rahn
 Sun 6/30 Frank Saenz, Bob Cumberland

July

Sat 7/6 Charles Weaver, Lew Allnut
 Sun 7/7 Chris & Suzan Smart
 Sat 7/13 Robert & Vivian MacLeod
 Sun 7/14 Tony Evans, Kevin Manning, Burt Mullineux
 Sat 7/20 Robert Taylor, Bill Rahn, Jim Guthrie
 Sun 7/21 Dave Gold, Peter Currall
 Sat 7/27 "The Fichter Gang"
 Sun 7/28 Frank Saenz, Rob Van Tassell

ODE TO MY SPELL CHECKER

Eye halve a spelling chequer
 It came with my pea see
 It plainly marques four my revue
 Miss steaks eye kin know sea.

Eye strike a cay and type a word
 And weight four it two say
 Weather eye am wrong oar write
 It shows me strait a weigh.

As soon as a mist ache is maid
 It nose bee fore two long
 Any eye can put the error rite
 It's rare lea ever wrong.

Eye have run this poem threw it
 I am shore you pleased two no
 It's letter perfect awl the weigh
 My chequer tolled me sew.

To Err
 Is Human
 To Really Screw Up
 You Need
 A Computer.

Be a Real Winner
PARTICIPATE !!!
 In YOUR WAC Activities