



NEWSLETTER

Izaak Walton League of America Wildlife Achievement Chapter February 2003

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PRESIDENTS CORNER

I received a phone call one very cold Saturday afternoon last month from one of our members. Buddy Michael wanted to talk to me about the "new" Dodge truck, which was recently donated to us. He said that he was checking the truck over and just wanted to make sure that it was running well. We talked about what little I knew of the truck's condition and what he thought needed to be done. After a few minutes not one but two light bulbs went on in my dim brain. One: It was very cold, too cold to be working outside, in my opinion, and two: It occurred to me that I had never talked to Buddy about the truck. In fact, I was a little surprised that he knew we had it. I asked him if perhaps Chuck Crooks (with his house and grounds, truck maintenance hat on) asked him to check the truck out. Bear in mind, Buddy has been keeping our old Chevy on the road for some time. In fact, last year, a few days before Thunder Valley Days, when we desperately need the old banger, Buddy came to the rescue on very short notice and raised it from the dead. "No," Buddy replied, "I talked to Chuck and he told me we had the "new" truck, but he never asked me to work on it. I just thought I should check it out. Is that ok?" Was that ok!!! Damn right it was ok! Buddy keeps very busy all week long running 144 Automotive in Mt. Airy, when he has a little free time he likes to come out and relax at the chapter but, as he said, "I just thought that while I was here I should take a look at the truck." Thanks, Buddy.

.22 RIMFIRE SILOUETTE SHOOT

9 March, 2003 Sign up early POC Tom Riley 301.774.7426 call before 6PM.

WILDGAME DINNER and AUCTION KUDO'S

The Wild Game Dinner & Auction chairperson, Rich Fried, wishes to thank the many volunteers for their help in putting on the auction and fabulous dinner. Rich also extends a special thank you to all of the generous members that donate items for the auction. Their contributions made this years auction and dinner one of the most successful events in recent memory. Thanks !!

ASTRONOMY CLUB

The Astronomy Club will meet the FIRST Monday and THIRD Friday of each month.

SKEET & TRAP NEWS

This past Sunday I stepped back to look over our range and observed a wonderful sight. Every field was full! The five stand was going strong, the winter skeet league in full swing, a overly full squad of the usual suspects, and a group of new shooters learning the game. Each of them enjoying a safe and fun day at the range. With the warmer weather around the corner this will become more common occurrence, and with it more opportunities for safety violations. We are all responsible for keeping the ranges safe for ourselves and each other. Always have firearm safety first in your thoughts while on the range. Stay safe and have fun. If you are interested in shooting competitive skeet through the NSSA and are not sure how to get started drop me an email. We are planning a for a day(s) that will allow you to shoot targets and record your scores to get you placed in the proper class. Shotgun Range Officers are vital to our continued operation. As expected, each

year some of the Range Officers elect to drop off of the rotation. All of us appreciate the time and work they have given to the club in this area. If you have an interest in becoming a Shotgun Range Officer, or would like more information, please contact Bill Rahn at 301-774-6234 / Pawarahn2@aol.com or Bob.Cumberland@verizon.net.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Backyard Buffers Program

The Potomac Watershed Partnership, in cooperation with the Maryland Forest Service, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and other State and local conservation organizations, presents the "Backyard Buffers" program. This program provides a free "buffer in a bag" to homeowners in Frederick County, Maryland who have a stream or other waterway on or adjacent to their property. The bag will consist of twenty-five tree and shrub seedlings made up of five native species; Green Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), Sweet Crabapple (*Malus coronaria*), Silky Dogwood (*Cornus amomum*) and Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*). Also included are informative brochures on wildlife, tree planting techniques, and proper tree maintenance, and a coupon that will be redeemable at several local nurseries in Frederick County.

Contact the Maryland Forest Service office in Hagerstown at 301.416.7261 or email rismith@dnr.state.md.us. There is a short application for interested persons to fill out. The buffer bags will be available the first week of April.

JUNIOR AIR PROGRAM

Good News and Bad News To my dismay, this month saw two of the finest juniors ever to participate withdraw from our junior rifle programs. Megan Bobrow, who was a part of our sporter team which travelled to a national competition in Atlanta two years ago, came in last week and nearly in tears said she was withdrawing because it was no longer "fun" and she felt her scores weren't improving. Megan is a contagiously and delightfully happy spirit, who briefly held a national sub-junior air rifle record. Brendan Bauer, a precision shooter, and the current holder of two national rim-fire records withdrew from our program (and other programs) citing his difficulty in dealing with the pressure of competition. In spite of their somewhat different statements, both of these enormously talented youngsters probably withdrew for essentially the same reason. Competition can be very demanding. Coaches and teammates will miss these two very special individuals. I wish them both continued success in all their future endeavors! Meanwhile, other juniors were producing happier news. Brian Watson, competing in a NRA 4 position sectional fired an incredible 396/400; and Daniel Pearce, set a new personal match high with a 546/600 in the American Legion National Postal 3 position air rifle match, leading his four person sporter team (Dan, Kevin Gracey, Steven "Andy" Carr, and Aleem Sheikh) to a team score of 1984, which is a very substantial improvement on last year's team score of 1741.

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 February 2003, starting time is 10 AM daily and ending time is 5:30 PM**, unless some activity has preempted the range. Please help us to be a good neighbor by firing no shots before the posted starting time and none after the posted ending time.

YEAR 2003 CARDS: As of February 1, shooters must display a year 2003 range-approved membership card to use the rifle and pistol ranges. Shooters without such a card are trespassing, and should be asked to leave if encountered on the ranges. Please report any such incidents to the rifle/pistol committee chairman, **Ray Shaver**, or the chapter caretaker. If you haven't renewed your membership, or have renewed but haven't received your year 2003 range-approved membership card, contact the membership secretary (**Joe Gick, 301-774-9399**) immediately, and stay off of the ranges until you get your new card. **BRING YOUR NEW CARD TO A WAC MEETING OR THE MONTHLY SITE MAINTENANCE TO HAVE IT LAMINATED FREE OF CHARGE. WE ALSO PROVIDE A CLIP SO YOU CAN WEAR THE CARD VISIBLY, AS REQUIRED, WHILE AT THE RANGE.**

GATE CARD NOT WORKING? If you failed to renew your membership, your proximity card for opening the range road gate and Rathskeller door should no longer be working by the time you receive this newsletter. However, please don't throw it away. The card's functions will be reinstated within one week after you renew your expired membership.

BOWLING PIN MATCH: A bowling match will be held on **Saturday, February 22 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM**. Please note that participants will meet at **9:00 AM 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).

UPCOMING PROJECTS: Your skills in carpentry, construction, and roofing will all be useful on the rifle range this spring and summer. One of our projects will be to repair the cover over the wood chips and straw which serve as a sound barrier behind the firing line. Take a look and you will notice that the beam for that cover is pulling loose from the poles to which it was fastened, and everything is headed downhill. Another project is to repair several leaks in the roof which covers the firing line, while also replacing the rotted plywood sheathing underneath. Then, once the roof is repaired, we will install fiberglass insulation, like that under the roof on the covered pistol range, as an

additional step in our continuing noise reduction effort. We also expect to install a second sea container for storing targets, props, and supplies for special activities. Making the best use of that container will require building shelves or other storage devices inside. **Ray Shaver** will be scoping out an approach to the sound barrier cover repair during the maintenance activities on February 23. If you are interested in helping out, please join him.

SHOTGUN PATTERNING: The movable 4'x4' target frame on the right side of the rifle 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.

FEBRUARY 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, February 23**. Please report to the maintenance coordinator, **Tom Riley**, at the green equipment shed for an assignment.

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS: Probationary members are required to help in two chapter events during their first year of WAC membership. If you are a probationary member, and don't see your name in the newsletter after helping out in an event, it would be prudent to contact the person who ran the event and find out why. Following are the names from the sign-up sheets for several recent events. Thanks to all.

RANGE ORIENTATION (Jan. 26): Barry Ephraim and Ray Logan.

SITE MAINTENANCE (Jan. 26): **Mike Aaby, Michelle Chesnut, Thomas (Steve) Bower, Mathew Buccini, R.G. Christensen, Meo Curtis, Jeff Deschamps, Michael Feuer, Bill Gazdik, Bryan Haddix, S. Junaid Hassan, S. Omar Hassan, Mary Heine, John Hughes, Bill Ishmael, Bill Kelly, Bill Ladd, Charlie Lasko, Cheryl Miller, Jim Piatetski, Tom Riley, Chuck Rybos, Ray Shaver, and Dallas Subock.**

KITCHEN WORKERS (Jan. 24): The sign-up sheet for kitchen workers at the wild game dinner has been misplaced. To claim credit for working that night, please contact **Ray Shaver (301-92-0465; MRShaver@aol.com)** or **Tom Riley (301-774-7426; tejas1@bellatlantic.net).**

IWLA Skeet and Trap Range Roster February 2003

Saturday 2/1 Robert & Vivian MacLoed
 Sunday 2/2 Joel Gross, Kevin O'Neill, Robert Taylor
 Saturday 2/8 Tony Evans & Lew Allnutt
 Sunday 2/9 Burt Mullineaux & Shep Burton
 Saturday 2/15 "The Fichter Gang"
 Sunday 2/16 Peter Currall, Dave Gold
 Saturday 2/22 John & Rebecca Henrich Charles Weaver, Bill Rahn
 Sunday 2/23 Frank Saenz, Rob Van Tassel

March 2003

Saturday 1 Vivian & Robert MacLoed
 Sunday 2 Robert Taylor, Kevin O'Neill
 Saturday 8 Tony Evans, Bill Rahn
 Sunday 9 Shep Burton, Burt Mullineaux
 Saturday 15 "The Fichter Gang"
 Sunday 16 Dave Gold, Peter Currall
 Saturday 22 John Henrich, & Rebecca
 Sunday 23 Rob Van Tassel, Frank Saenz
 Saturday 29 Charlie Weaver, Richard Zabell
 Sunday 30 Bob Cumberland, Bill Wright

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Thu 13, Junior Airgun 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Sat 15, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Sat 15, Junior Airgun 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Sun 16, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Mon 17, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM
Tue 18, Junior Airgun 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Thu 20, Junior Airgun 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Fri 21, Jr. Airgun Match Set Up -
Sat 22, Jr NRA Airgun Match 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM (Upstairs & Down)
Sat 22, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Sat 22, Bowling Pin Shoot 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM (uncovered pistol range closed during event)
Sun 23, Jr NRA Airgun Match 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM (Upstairs & Down)
Sun 23, Skeet & Trap 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Sun 23, Rifle Pistol Range Clean Up 10:00 AM Ranges closed until 1:00 PM
Sun 23, Skeet/Trap Maintenance 10:00 AM Ranges closed until 1:00 PM -
Sun 23, Christmas Tree Maintenance 10:00 AM
Sun 23, Club and Range Orientation 10:00 AM
Mon 24, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM
Tue 25, Junior Airgun 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Wed 25, Membership Meeting 6:30 PM Social, Dinner 7:30 PM
Thu 27, Junior Airgun 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

MARCH CALENDAR

Sat 1, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Sat 1, Junior Airgun 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Sun 2, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Mon 3, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM
Tue 4, Junior Airgun 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Tue 4, Conservation/SOS Committee Meeting 7:30 PM
Wed 5, Board Of Directors Meeting 7:30 PM, Perspective Members Please Meet at 7:00 PM
Thu 6, Junior Airgun 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Sat 8, Jr., National Guard Airgun Match (upstairs & down)
Sat 8, Airgun Field Target Match 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Sat 8, Junior Precision Rifle 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Sat 8, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Sun 9, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Sun 9, Silhouette .22 Rifle Match 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM Rifle range closed during match - Contact Tom Riley 301-774-7426
Mon 10, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM
Tue 11, Junior Airgun 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Thu 13, Junior Airgun 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Thu 13, DNR Hunter Safety Instructors Class (upstairs) - Contact Mac McCollum 301-854-3707
Sat 15, IWLA State Division Meeting 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM upstairs
Sat 15, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Sat 15, Junior Airgun 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Sat 15, Practical Defense Match 9:00 AM to 12: PM - Contact Jesse Lim 301-540-0860 (uncovered pistol range closed during event)
Sun 16, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

CALENDAR EVENT POC's:

Skeet & Trap POC: Bob Cumberland 301-253-1348
Junior Airgun POC: Bob Inness 301-340-9185 email: binness@starpower.net or John Watson 301-929-3583
Adult Airgun POC: Phil Dean 301-865-8202
Christmas Tree POC: John Leaman 301-972-1572
Cowboy Shoot POC: Chuck Crooks 301-831-9666
Rifle Pistol Range POC: Ray Shaver 301-926-0465
Astronomy Club & Range Orientation: Steve Lefebvre 301-428-9400
Bowling Pin Shoot POC: Jesse Lim 301-540-0860
Conservation Committee POC: Jim Piatetski 301-253-4486 or Jeffrey Deschamps 301-604-3736
Air Gun Field Target: Contact Steve Schulz 301-365-0291
Junior Precision Rifle: Contact John Watson 301-929-3583

FEBRUARY NEW MEMBERS

Matt Altobelli, Olney, MD
Sponsor: Michelle Chesnut

Robert J. Arnold, Gaithersburg, MD
Sponsor: Rich Fried

Gary Bumgarten, Clarksburg, MD
Sponsor: Ed Dennis

John A. Carlo, Woodbine, MD
Sponsor: Bob Schneider

Robert E. Case, Germantown, MD
Sponsor: Jack Chomko

Albert E. Crandall, Gaithersburg, MD
Sponsor: Joe Gick

Jim Crowell, Rockville, MD
Sponsor: Joel Gross

Victor Dottellis, Damascus, MD
Sponsor: Ed Burrows

Jim Fedis, Silver Spring, MD
Sponsor: Chuck Crooks

Albert Freiling, Finksburg, MD
Sponsor: Rich Fried

Stephen M. Hill, Germantown, MD
Sponsor: Red Skillings

Joe Hydro, Wheaton, MD
Sponsor: Bill Schneider

Mark Jesmer, Clarksburg, MD
Sponsor: Francis Saenz

Scott Kirkpatrick, Gaithersburg, MD
Sponsor: Bill Schneider

Ling Liu, Gaithersburg, MD
Sponsor: Steve Schneider

Matthew B. Majkrzak, Olney, MD
Sponsor: Michelle Chesnut

Rodney Michael, North Potomac, MD
Sponsor: Don Ackad

Ronald W. Parkhill, Ijamsville, MD
Sponsor: Geoff Hornseth

Richard Lee Rankin, Highland, MD
Sponsor: Barry Ephrain

Janet Rusk, Potomac, MD
Sponsor: John Stringer

Leo Rusk, Potomac, MD
Sponsor: John Stringer

Tyler L. Watson, Monrovia, MD
Sponsor: Steve Carr

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL'S Delinquent Notice

By the time you read this, you will have had your final bill for at least 30 days. **You will not be allowed to shoot on ANY range, and your magnetic access card that allows you into the building or onto the range road will have been removed from the system.** Membership Secretary, Joe Gick, at 301-774-9399 or Gick@erols.com.