



Wildlife Gazette

Izaak Walton League of America Wildlife Achievement Chapter March 2004

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CONSERVATION REPORT

The conservation committee held a Nest Box Workshop on Wednesday February 18. The workshop was very well attended with about 45 participants. Lonnie Darr of Montgomery County DEP talked about the distribution of birds in the county based on surveys he has been working on for several years. At the end on the workshop one person commented on how successful 'my' workshop had been. This workshop was a combined effort of MANY people. The original idea came from Phil Dean; Jim Piatetski collected the plans, procured the materials and coordinated the volunteers that cut out parts for each kit; Meo Curtis located and recruited our speaker; Michell Chesnut took pictures at the event. Everyone on the conservation committee and several other chapter members contributed to the success of this workshop - this was OUR workshop. Our chapter has over 1000 members and this workshop was an example of what we as a group can achieve. I hope we can continue to see this kind of cooperation throughout the year. I would like to thank all of the members that helped make this workshop a success. If you missed the workshop (or would just like more information on nest and bat boxes) check the chapter web site as we are adding links to information we used in planning the workshop. You might also check out a recent episode of the

"Greenman Show" devoted to nest and bat boxes on the Montgomery county cable channel or on the net at <http://greenmanshow.com/>.

The conservation committee is co-sponsoring a "Rainscapes Workshop" at 7:30 pm on Thursday March 18. To register contact Jeff Deschamps (deschamps@nrl.navy.mil) at (301) 604-3736 or Jim Piatetski (piaski@erols.com) at (301) 601-2954.

ANNUAL WATER SHED CLEAN-UP DAY

The annual watershed clean up is scheduled for Saturday April 3 at 8:30. We need all the help we can get for this event. Please come out to help make this one of the best clean ups ever. All volunteers will receive a tee-shirt and lunch.

MARCH CALENDAR

Sun 14, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

Sun 14, Jr., State Airgun Match 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM (upstairs & down)

Sun 14, Military Fun Shoot 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM - (Rifle range closed during match)

Mon 15, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM -

Tue 16, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Wed 17, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Thu 18, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00

Thu 18, Rain Barrel Workshop 7:30 PM ***

Sat 20, Practical Defense Match 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM (Uncovered pistol range closed during event)

Sat 20, Airgun Field Target Match 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Sat 20, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

Sat 20, Junior Airgun Practice 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Sun 21, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

Mon 22, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Tue 23, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Wed 24, Membership Meeting 6:30 PM Social, Dinner 7:30 PM

Wed 24, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Thu 25, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Fri 26, Cowboy Action Shoot Set Up 1:00 PM Rifle Pistol Ranges Closed ***

Sat 27, Cowboy Action Shoot 8:00 to 4:00 PM (Tear down approx 3:30 PM) Rifle Pistol Ranges Closed ***

Sat 27, Skeet & Trap 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Sat 27, Junior Airgun Practice 9:30 AM to 12:30

Sun 28, Skeet & Trap 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Sun 28, Rifle Pistol Range Clean Up 10:00 AM Ranges closed until 1:00 PM ***

Sun 28, Skeet /Trap Maintenance 10:00 AM Ranges closed until 1:00 PM ***

Sun 28, Christmas Tree Maintenance 10:00 AM ***

Sun 28, Club and Range Orientation 10:00 AM

Mon 29, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Tue 30, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00

Wed 31, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00

APRIL CALENDAR

Thu 1, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Fri 2, Astronomy Club Meeting, 7:00 P.M. at the Shotgun Range House

Sat 3, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Sat 3, Skeet & Trap 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Sat 3, Seneca Valley Rifle Match 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM (Rifle range closed during event)

Sat 3, River Clean-Up 8:30 AM ***

Sat 3, Adopt-A-Road 8:30 AM ***

Sun 4, Skeet & Trap 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Mon 5, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Tue 6, Conservation/SOS Committee Meeting 7:30 PM ***

Tue 6, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Wed 7, Board Of Directors Meeting 7:30 PM, **ATTENTION prospective Members, Please Meet at 7:00 PM**

Wed 7, Skeet & Trap Open 2:00 PM to 6:30 PM

Wed 7, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Thu 8, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Sat 10, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

Sat 10, Junior Rifle 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM (Covered Pistol Range closed during event)

Sat 10, Airgun Field Target Match 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Sun 11, **EASTER, ALL RANGES ARE CLOSED**

Mon 12, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Tue 13, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Wed 14, Skeet & Trap Open 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Wed 14, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00

Thu 15, Junior Airgun Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00

Sat 17, Air Rifle Field Target Fun Shoot 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Sat 17, Bowling Pin Shoot 9:00 AM to 2:00 (Uncovered pistol range closed during event)

Sat 17, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

Sun 18, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

NOTE: * Counts toward NEW MEMBER REQUIRED PARTICIPATION**

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

Air Rifle Field Target POCs: Steve Schulz 301-365-0291, Joe McDaniel or Tim Berlett

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 or Tom Riley 301-774-7426 (Before 6:00 PM)

Astronomy Club & Range Orientation POC: Steve Lefebvre 301-482-1898, lefebvre01@earthlink.net

Bowling Pin Shoot & Practical Defense Match POC: Jesse Lim 301-540-0860

Seneca Valley Rifle Match POC:

Mike Gugulis 301-417-0987

Conservation Committee POC: Jim Piatetski 301-253-4486 or Jeffrey Deschamps 301-604-3736

River Clean-up and Adopt A-Road POC: Michelle Chesnut 301-831-0237 smc_geek@msn.com, Ed Burrows 301-774-9090

Boy Scouts, Order of The Arrow

Terry Springer 301-428-0216

Hunter Safety POC: Mac McCollum 301-854-3707

SKEET & TRAP RANGE

OFFICERS:

March 2004

Sat 3/6 Robert & Vivian MacLoed

Sun 3/7 Steve Hunt, Ronnie Gravitt

Sat 3/13 "The Fichter Gang"

Sun 3/14 Debbie Maxey, Shep Burton

Sat 3/20 Mike Bowen, Robert Taylor, Tony Evans

Sun 3/21 Ira Wein, Peter Currall, Dave Gold

Sat 3/27 Charles Weaver, Richard Zabell, Bill Rahn

Sun 3/28 Frank Saenz, Rob Van Tassel

APRIL 2004

Sat 4/3 Vivian & Robert MacLoed, John & Rebecca Henrich

Sun 4/4 Ronnie Gravitt, Steve Hunt, Debbie Maxey, Shep Burton

Sat 4/10 "The Fichter Gang"

Sun 4/11 **EASTER SUNDAY RANGES CLOSED**

Sat 4/17 Charles Weaver, Richard Zabell, Bill Rahn

Sun 4/18 Dave Gold, Peter Currall, Ira Wein

Sat 4/24 Mike Bowen, Rob Taylor, Tony Evans

Sun 4/25 Rob Van Tassel, Frank Saenz, Tyler Watson

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 to MRShaver@aol.com or telephone **301-926-0465**. If you can't reach Ray, try Tom Riley by e-mail to tejas1@bellatlantic.net or telephone **301-774-7426** (before 6 PM, please).

SHOOTING HOURS: Permitted rifle/pistol range shooting hours are posted on the box which contains the range sign-in register. **For March 2004, starting time is 10 AM daily and ending time is 6:00 PM**, unless some activity has preempted the range.

MILITARY RIFLE FUN SHOOT: At the rifle range from **10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on Sunday, March 14.**

PRACTICAL DEFENSE MATCH: Meet in Rathskeller at **9:00 AM on Saturday, March 20.**

HIGH POWER MATCH: Heralding the start of a new shooting season, the first of five annual high powered rifle matches sponsored by Seneca Valley Sports Association will be held on **Saturday, April 3**. Show up by 9:30 for registration. Shooting takes place from 10 AM until early afternoon. Participation in this activity will qualify you for purchasing M1 Garands and other rifles through the Civilian Marksmanship Program.

GOOD DEED OR SLIPUP? What do you do when someone asks you to use your keycard to let him into the range road because his keycard seems to have died? Our written policies indicate that you shouldn't do so, but many people really hate to say no to another member who has driven out to the WAC site only to find that his keycard isn't working. There are several reasons that one keycard may not work while another seems to work fine. One is of course that it has failed, and in that situation the system will usually not respond to it at all. Another is that the person has failed to pay his dues on time or has been banned from the facility because of range violations and his keycard access has been disabled. In that case the system will usually beep, but not open anything. If you decide to be a good Samaritan, please do at least one thing: **ask to see the person's WAC membership card and verify that it has a range-approved sticker for the current year.** That won't get you off the hook completely, since someone in trouble for range violations may still have his identification card in hand, but at least, it will help avoid letting in someone who doesn't belong at the ranges. Remember, it is your identification which is recorded when you open the gate for someone else; so it's you we will be contacting if something happens around that time.

MARCH SITE MAINTENANCE: The next monthly maintenance of WAC ranges, Christmas trees, house and grounds will be done from **9:30 AM until 1 PM on Sunday, March 28**. Please report to the maintenance coordinator, **Chuck Limparis**, 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 joined after August 31, 2003, at least one of those events must be a conservation activity.** 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.

BIRD HOUSE WORKSHOP (February 18): Gene Fritz, David Hannemann, John Hanson, Mark Holmes, D. Hooper and D. Mandeville.

MAINTENANCE DAY (February 28):
COORDINATION – **Chuck Limparis**.
SPLITTING WOOD – **Marvin Crenshaw** and **Bill Gazdik**.
CLEARING BRUSH – **Pete Doubroff** and **Ruben Gerena**.
GARDEN CLEANUP – **Guy G. Wright III**.
RIFLE/PISTOL RANGES – **Carter Laws, Meredith Laws, Eugene Reesman, Ray Shaver, John Valentine, Diane Valentine** and **Tyler Valentine**.
SKEET/TRAP RANGES – **James E. Arnold, Paul Fisher, Sung Han, Dana Hooper, and Larry Peterson**.
TREES – **Meo Curtis, Jeff Deschamps** and **John Leaman**.
CONSERVATION STUFF – **Ray Ladbury** and **Michelle Chesnut**.
MISCELLANEOUS – **Bill Ladd, Jules Korner, Jim Piatieski** and **J. P. Scosera**.

ASTRONOMY CLUB

The Astronomy Club meets the **FIRST** Friday of each month, at the Range House.

CHRISTMAS TREES

Christmas tree maintenance, on Sunday 25 April will also include the planting of **700 NEW SEEDLINGS**. Please come out and lend a hand. Participation counts for a Conservation required project.

JUNIOR RIFLE PROGRAM

In the past two months, our precision competitors have competed in three different matches. In a classified match at our facility and in a NRA Junior Sectional International match in Centreville, Virginia, Nick Limparis earned individual medals. Today we learned that our precision team, in the American Legion Postal National Competition finished first in Maryland and will advance to the National Competition qualification round. We congratulate Neil Heckman, Nick Limparis, Dan Reed and Aleem Sheikh for their accomplishment!

Our sporter shooters competed both in that Postal and in the National Guard Bureau Postal and we await scores and results for those competitors.

Finally, we have just learned that Brian Watson, formerly a member of our junior program and now competing in rifle for Xavier University has been named a Second Team All-American competitor in Air Rifle and currently ranks **sixth** in the nation among NCAA shooters. This is an exceptional accomplishment for a freshman!

Major state championship matches are scheduled in the second half of March and April and all of our shooters are working to prepare for those events.

ADOPT-A-ROAD and RECYCLE PROGRAMS

We do a great job keeping the byways leading to our Chapter free of debris, while sometimes forgetting to be as thoughtful on our own grounds. Please don't allow litter to collect on our own lanes. If you see trash along our lanes or paths take a second and pick it up and place it in any of several trash containers on the Chapter grounds. We provide containers for glass, aluminum, cardboard, and general type refuse.

THE AMERICAN ELM

During the 28 March workday we will be planting American Elms. If you are interested in the American Elm project this is a good time to help out and find out more about our long term goals.

VISIT TO NEW ZEALAND

In November-December 2003, Michelle Chesnut and husband Ray Ladbury visited New Zealand with a stay of about four weeks. There they traveled, sometimes afoot, to the major cities and many of the natural wonders. They took many still photos with a mere fraction of which we were regaled with this night. During the viewing Michelle explained in some depth of the flora, fauna and ecological history of this beautiful country. Thanks for the wonderful presentation.

MARCH NEW MEMBERS

Guy Blocker, Mitchellville, MD
Sponsor: Ricardo Royal

Annie Cumberland, Damascus, MD
Sponsor: Bob Cumberland

Wilber Desjardins, Clarksburg, MD

Sponsor: Joseph Rosenwald

John Diehl, Washington, DC
Sponsor: Steve Hunt

Alan Dor, Gaithersburg, MD
Sponsor: Bob Inness

Doug Hutchison, Silver Spring, MD
Sponsor: Bill Schneider

Robert Kaiser, Damascus, MD
Sponsor: Joe Gick

Michael Katz, Ellicott City, MD
Sponsor: John Watson

Jeffery Rachel, Damascus, MD
Sponsor: Rob Hallin

Blix Winston, Mt. Airy, MD
Sponsor: Joe Gick