



August 2006

WILDLIFE GAZETTE

WILDLIFE ACHIEVEMENT CHAPTER

President	Richard Fried	(301) 253-2789
First Vice President	Georgia Townsend	(301) 588-8335
Second Vice President	Stephen L. Lefebvre, Esq.	(301) 482-1898
Third Vice President	Bill Ladd	(301) 482-1128

Wildlife Achievement Chapter • 26430 Mullinix Mill Road • Mt. Airy, Maryland 21771
Main House Phone: 301-253-2384 • Web Site: <http://www.DamascusWLA.org> • Range House Phone: 301-253-4779

AUGUST 2006 CALENDAR (Chuck Crooks)

Sat 12, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Sat 12, .22 Fun Shoot, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM **Rifle Range Closed During Event**
Sun 13, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Mon 14, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM
Wed 16, Skeet & Trap Open 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Sat 19, *** **Adopt-A-Road 8:30 AM**
Sat 19, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Sat 19, Bowling Pin Shoot 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Uncovered pistol range closed during event
Sat 19, Air Rifle Field Target Match 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Sun 20, Skeet & Trap 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Mon 21, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM
Wed 23, Skeet & Trap Open 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Fri 25, **Membership Meeting & 2006/2007 ELECTIONS & Cookout** 6:30 PM Social, Dinner 7:30 PM
Fri 25, *** **Cowboy Action Shoot Set Up 1:00 PM Rifle Pistol Ranges Closed**
Sat 26, *** **Cowboy Action Shoot 8:00 to 4:00 PM (Tear down approx 3:30 PM) Rifle Pistol Ranges Closed**
Sat 26, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Sun 27, Skeet & Trap 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Sun 27, *** **Rifle Pistol Range Clean Up 10:00 AM Ranges closed until 1:00 PM**
Sun 27, *** **Skeet/Trap Maintenance 10:00 AM Ranges closed until 1:00 PM**
Sun 27, *** **Christmas Tree Maintenance 10:00 AM** - Contact John Leaman 301-972-1572
Sun 27, Club and Range Orientation 10:00 AM - Contact [Ray Logan](#) 301-946-2651 or [Barry Ephraim](#)
Sun 27, *** **Chapter Maintenance Day 10:00 AM @ Equipment Shed**
Mon 28, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM
Wed 30, Skeet & Trap Open 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM

SEPTEMBER 2006 CALENDAR (Chuck Crooks)

Sat 2, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Sun 3, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Mon 4, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM
Tue 5, Junior Rifle & Rimfire *Registration Only* in Rathskeller 6:00 to 8:30 PM

Wed 6, Skeet & Trap Open 2:00 PM to 6:30 PM
Wed 6, **Board Of Directors Meeting 7:30 PM, ATTENTION prospective Members, Please Meet at 7:00 PM**
Wed 6, **Conservation/SOS Committee Meeting 6:30 PM**
Fri 8, Hunter Safety, Day 1, 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM Upstairs
Sat 9, Skeet & Trap 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Sat 9, Practical Defense Match 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM **Uncovered pistol range closed during event**
Sat 9, Seneca Valley Rifle Match 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM **Rifle range closed during event**
Sat 9, Air Rifle Field Target Match MARYLAND STATE CHAMPIONSHIP 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Sat 10, Air Rifle Field Target Match MARYLAND STATE CHAMPIONSHIP 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Sun 10, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM
Mon 11, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM
Tue 12, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Wed 13, Skeet & Trap Open 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Wed 13, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Thu 14, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Fri 15, Hunter Safety, Day 2, 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM
Sat 16, Junior Rifle Practice 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Sat 16, Skeet & Trap 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
Sat 16, Hunter Safety, Day 3, 9:00 AM **All ranges closed until 1:00 PM**
Sun 17, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

NOTE: BOLD BROWN Counts toward NEW MEMBER REQUIRED PROJECT PARTICIPATION CREDIT
BOLD GREEN COUNTS TOWARD MEMBER CONSERVATION REQUIRED PROJECT PARTICIPATION CREDIT

CALENDAR EVENT POC'S:

.22 Fun Shoot : Tom Riley 301-774-7426
Air Rifle Field Target: Joe McDaniel 301-865-8257
Adult Airgun: Phil Dean 301-865-8202
Blacksmith: Dick Smith at 301-309-2289 or rsmith@lofstrand.com
Bowling Pin Shoot & Practical Defense Match: Jesse Lim 301-540-0860
Boy Scouts Liaison: Joe Pauley 301-428-0216
Christmas Tree: John Leaman 301-972-1572

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

Cowboy Shoot: Chuck Crooks 301-831-9666

Fall Clean-up and Adopt A-Road: [Michelle Chesnut](mailto:Michelle.Chesnut@adelphia.net) 301-831-0237

Hunter Safety: Geoff Hornseth 301-253-2384 ext.2

Junior Airgun: Tom Malarkey 301-371-6123
tmalarkey@adelphia.net or John Watson 301-929-3583

Maintenance Day Coordinator: Tom Riley, 301 518-0973
Membership: Joe Gick, 301-774-9399

Military Shoot: [Jose Tassara](mailto:Jose.Tassara@adelphia.net) 301-431-2799

Range Orientation: Ray Logan 301-946-2651,
nagolyar@verizon.net or Barry Ephraim,
eyebear@aol.com

Rifle Pistol Range: Guy Wright 301-253-4604

Seneca Valley Rifle Match: Mike Gugulis 301-417-0987

Skeet & Trap : Conley Phipps 301-460-8528

S&T Range Officers Schedule: Bill Rahn 301-774-6234

SKEET & TRAP RANGE OFFICERS LIST (Bill Rahn)

AUGUST 2006

Sat 8/5 Ryan Cooley, Bob Cooley, Tim Mulreany

Sun 8/6 Steve Hunt, Ronnie Gravitt, Paul Turska, Jake Turska, Peter Sittner

Sat 8/12 "The Fichter Gang", Mike Webb

Sun 8/13 Randy & Evan Stewart, Joel Gross

Sat 8/19 Peter Currall, Ira Wein, Dave Gold, Scott Wood

Sun 8/20 Jim & Judy Crowell, Tim Olsen, Robert Case

Sat 8/26 Richard Zabell, Red Gambrell, Tony Evans, Charlie Weaver

Sun 8/27 Rob Van Tassell, Frank Saenz, Paul Fisher

SEPTEMBER 2006

Sat 8/2 Bob Cooley, Ryan Cooley, Tim Mulreany

Sun 8/3 Ronnie Gravitt, Steve Hunt, Jake Turska, Paul Turska

Sat 8/9 "The Fichter Gang", Mike Webb

Sun 8/10 Randy & Evan Stewart, Joel Gross

Sat 8/16 Ira Wein, Dave Gold, Peter Currall

Sun 8/17 Robert Case, Jim & Judy Crowell

Sat 8/23 Red Gambrell, Tony Evans, Richard Zabell, Charlie Weaver

Sun 8/24 Rob Van Tassel, Frank Saenz, Robert Jeffrey

Sat 8/30 Scott Wood, Paul Fisher, Martin Cherry

WEDNESDAY RANGE ROSTER (Conley Phipps)

AUGUST 2006

2 August - Mike Fleisher, Jeff Waters, Bob Woodward

9 August - Mike McNally, Jeff Greenhut, Bill Douwes

16 August - Frank Bis, Milton "Rip" Van Winkle, Ron Roberson

23 August - Mike Fleisher, Jeff Waters, Tom Moore, Bob Woodward

30 August - Mike McNally, Jeff Greenhut, Conley Phipps

SEPTEMBER 2006

6 September - Frank Bis, Milton "Rip" Van Winkle, Ron Roberson

13 September - Mike Fleisher, Jeff Waters, Tom Moore, Bob Woodward

20 September - Mike McNally, Jeff Greenhut, Conley Phipps

27 September - Milton "Rip" Van Winkle, Bill Douwes, Scott Wood

If you would like to become an RO please contact either Bill Rahn at 301-774-6234, call or email Conley Phipps at 301-460-8528 or phippscd@hotmail.com. Many thanks Bill and Conley!

CHAPTER NEWS, EVENTS AND ARTICLES

GRADUATES TO FULL-MEMBER STATUS: The following probationary members completed their second required activity during the past month and are now full-fledged members of the WAC. Congratulations to: **Paolo Amedeo, Marc Fortier, Bill Gunther, Bob Loesch, Robert Russin, Ted Shema, Walt Sikora, Evan Stephens and Darryl Swiggett.**

NEXT 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, August 27.** Please report to the maintenance coordinator, **Tom Riley**, at the green equipment shed for an assignment.

MAINTENANCE CO-ORDINATOR NEEDED(Tom Riley)

To all members:

Needed one good person to do the job of being the front man or woman on clean up day at the Green Equipment shed. This is a one day a month position on the last Sunday of the month taking about 4-5 hours telling the members where to go and what to do and maintaining a record of who came to help out.

For further information contact Tom Riley at vze3h59t@verizon.net. It's your club and your help is always needed.

.22 FUN SHOOT CO-ORDINATOR NEEDED(Tom Riley)

To All Members,

As of this Aug 12th 2006 this will be my last time doing the .22 Fun Shoots. Any member interested in taking over the shoots should contact me at vze3h59t@verizon.net or at 301-518-0973. Thanks, Tom Riley

WANTED: Interest has been expressed by many young people about having a youth archery program similar to the junior rifle program in our chapter. If you would like to be a part of such a program or become a co-ordinator, coach or teacher, please call Georgia Townsend at 301-588-8335 or gtownsend@rcn.com

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS (Ray Shaver)

Probationary members are required to help in two chapter events during their first year of WAC membership. 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.

CAS CLINICS (April 29 and July 29): Martin Blake, Paul Buteau, Chuck Crooks, Philip DeMattia, Doug Hutchison,

Kaylan Hutchison, Ron Peddicord, Mike Sage, Steve Shoemaker, Dan Welch and at least thirteen guests (CAS shooters).

MEMBERSHIP MEETING (June 28): Mac McCollum, Rob Hallin, Ken Lefebvre, Steve Lefebvre, Dick Smith, Steve Slovon and Milton J. ("Rip") Van Winkle.

CONSERVATION WORK DAY (July 1): Paolo Amedeo, George Barnaj, Meo Curtis, Jeff Deschamps, Joe Pauley, Nathaniel Pauley, Sheridan Pauley, Robert Russin, Carol Russin, Douglas Johnson and Darryl Swiggett.

CAS SETUP (July 21): Neil Benson, Paul Bluteau, Chuck Crooks, Marc Fortier, Chuck Limparis, Nick Limparis, Rich Rankin and Eddy Tang.

CAS TEAR DOWN (July 22): Paul Bluteau, Mike Sage and at least five guests (CAS shooters).

MEMBERSHIP MEETING (July 26): Mac McCollum, Lisa Fahistrom, Rob Hallin, Joe Koontz, Ken Lefebvre, Dick Smith, John Walter and Eddy Tang.

RANGE ORIENTATION (July 30): Ray G. Logan and Lou Ferguson.

SITE MAINTENANCE (July 30): Michelle Chesnut, Pete Doubroff, Marc Fortier, Bill Gazdik, Al Goldschmidts, Andy Goldschmidts, Aleks Goldschmidts, Bill Gunther, Bill Ladd, Jacob Lambert, Bob Loesch, Jim Piateski, Tom Riley, Ray Shaver, Walt Sikora, Evan Stephens, Jimmy Arnold and Guy Wright.

NEW MEMBERS

Duane Gray, Damascus, MD., SPONSOR: John Cerny
Gap Imjaiharm, Silver Spring, MD., SPONSOR: Frankie Rogers

Thomas E. Johncox, Damascus, MD., SPONSOR: Doug Johncox

Bryan Payne, Germantown, MD., SPONSOR: Bill Schneider

Robert G. Poth, Woodbine, MD., SPONSOR: Phil Dean

Chris Reposa, Rockville, MD., SPONSOR: Tim Bond

Michael B. Rinkus, Columbia, MD., SPONSOR: Tim Avara

David Wright, Germantown, MD., SPONSOR: Bill Schneider

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2006 NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Elections will be held at the **FRIDAY** the 25th of August Dinner Meeting. Below is the slate of officers advanced by the Nominations Committee. This list also includes nominations from the floor. Committee members are: Chuck Crooks, Bob Cumberland, Pete Doubroff, Tom Ouellette and Jim Piateski.

President: Rich Fried

1st Vice President: Steve Lefebvre

2nd Vice President: Bill Ladd

3rd Vice President: Jeff Deschamps

3rd Vice President: Guy Wright – nominated from the floor

Treasurer: Chuck Limparis

Recording Secretary: Red Skillings

Membership Secretary: Joe Gick

Corresponding Secretary: Vacant

Sgt-At-Arms: Rob Hallin

Parliamentarian: Mac McCollum

Chaplain: John Leaman

Director: Ken Lefebvre

Director: John Walter

Director: Michelle Chesnut

Director: Paul Turska – nominated from the floor

Director: Chuck Crooks - Term Continues

Director: Meo Curtis – Term Continues

Director: Tom Ouellette - Term Continues

Director: Pete Doubroff - Term Continues

Immediate Past President: Jim Piateski

NATIONAL CONVENTION REPORT (Jim Piateski)

This year was one of the best most fast-paced conventions I've ever attended. KUDOS to our chapter! We did pretty well in the awards department. Awards received, as follows:

Membership Recognition Award

Defenders Award; we received a new metal plaque for 2005, to attach to our wall-plaque.

Maryland's Best Division Newsletter, Best in League, Nationally, "The Waltonian" (Editor WAC member, Jeff Deschamps)

James Lawton Childs Award for Best Conservation Program; this award was accompanied by a \$500.00 check for our chapter

Honor Roll Award for maintaining 100% membership

AIR PISTOL SHOOTING PROGRAM(Phil Dean)

We would like to see an increase in the number of chapter members participating in the Monday evening Adult Airgun pistol shooting program. To help achieve this we have made the following changes in the program which is held on Monday evenings at the indoor airgun range in the Chapter House. **This will begin on Monday evening, September 11.** The program will begin at 7:00 PM.

Each Monday evening there will be a 60 shot 10 meter air pistol practice match fired. After that, those wishing to do so, will fire in a 10 shot match for score. There will be a \$1.00 entry fee for this match and the 1st and 2nd highest scores will split the 'pot'.

On the 4th Monday night of each month there will be a 60 shot match fired and the match scores will be recorded. If there are enough shooters, we may set up a handicapping score system.

We hope to have some air pistol competition with other IWLA chapters. A Chapter Air Pistol Championship Match will be held in late spring.

Competition grade air pistols will be available for those of you who do not now have one. Beginning shooters can get instruction from the more experienced shooters at these Monday evening sessions. If you are interested in doing some 10 meter air rifle shooting, we can make arrangements for you to do this at the same time the air pistol shooting is taking place. A charge of \$1.00 per

shooter per session will be collected for the purchase of targets. For additional information or questions, contact Phillip Dean at 301-865-8202 or at pd10x@adelphia.net.

CONSERVATION REPORT (Meo Curtis for Jeff Deschamps)
Bill Leaman (John's brother) is coordinating efforts for the IWLA booth at this year's county fair. The focus is on conservation and youth activities. The conservation committee has already agreed to supply our exhibit from the open house plus some native plants for the display. We may still need volunteers to help staff the booth from August 11 through the 19, especially during the daytime. If you are interested, contact Bill Leaman of the Rockville Chapter at 301-972-9416. The conservation committee is hosting a visit to "Patuxent River Park" Jug Bay Natural Area in Upper Marlboro on Saturday, September 9. As part of this visit there will be a sunset tour with a naturalist on the Park's pontoon boat. The boat is limited to 20 people so you MUST pre-register with Jeff Deschamps (jeff.deschamps@verizon.net) if you want to go on the boat tour. If you are not going on the boat tour you are welcome to join the group going to the Park, but please let Jeff know so he knows how many people to expect. There is a per-car day-use fee, so carpooling is recommended. The park is home to the Patuxent Rural Life Museums, a collection of late 19th century and early 20th century buildings with furnishings and tools of life in southern Maryland. Visitors can also enjoy the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Tour, a four-mile roadway that connects the park with Merkle Wildlife Sanctuary. For more information about the Park, visit their web site at <http://www.pgparcs.com/places/parks/patuxent.html>

Eric Coffman, the Montgomery County DEP energy planner, conducted an energy audit of the chapter on Wednesday, July 12. He is putting the results together now, and definitely had some low-cost suggestions to keep down our energy usage. In keeping with the energy conservation theme, the chapter will be hosting an "Energy Workshop" for chapter members and the local community. See announcement below.

September 27th, 2006

Introduce some Energy Wisdom into your Home!

With the cooling season winding down and the heating season warming up natural gas, oil, propane and electricity cost woes approach. This educational workshop, provided by the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection and hosted by the Wildlife Achievement Chapter (WAC) will help you find the energy savings opportunities you need to avoid the winter budget crunch.

The workshop will highlight options for improving the energy efficiency of your current or future home by choosing measures that provide a high rate of return for your investment and maintain a comfortable living space. Insulation, windows, doors, heating systems, air conditioning systems, lighting and changes in behavior will be discussed.

The workshop will be held at the Damascus WAC, 26430 Mullinix Mill Rd., Mt Airy from 7 to 9 PM. DEP will provide a free compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL) to the attendees

(supplies limited). This low cost measure can save you up to \$60 over the life of the lamp and will show participants the proverbial light of how new technology can provide efficiency and performance.

Questions about the workshop should be addressed to Eric R. Coffman, the Montgomery County DEP's Senior Energy Planner, at 240-777-7754. RSVP's are appreciated.

RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGE REPORT

 (Guy Wright)

Information: For more information about any rifle or pistol range activities mentioned in this article, contact Guy Wright, by e-mail, at guywright@verizon.net or telephone 301-253-4604(home) or 301-775-3741(cell).

Shooting Hours: Permitted rifle and pistol range shooting hours are posted on the box, which contains the range sign-in register, as well as above the range entry card reader. For August 2006, starting time is 10:00 AM daily and ending time is 8:00 PM, unless some activity has preempted the range (see "Upcoming Events Affecting Range Availability" below).

REMINDERS:

Rifle and Pistol Range Rules: The rules governing Rifle and Pistol Range safety, conduct, permissible firearms, and violation policy are posted at the covered pistol range, the covered rifle range, the notice board between the pistol ranges, the notice board at the path leading to the covered rifle range, on the chapter WEB site (damascusiwla.org) and in MS Word format from Guy Wright via email, when requested. Sometimes questions come up. Though our bylaws indicate that you can call any Board of Directors member about these rules, you will be better served to start with the folks closest to them, i.e., range orientation instructors or the committee chairman.

Donations: Thanks to the anonymous donor of 2'x2' plywood target backers, that were left in and around the green maintenance shed.

Up-Coming Events Affecting Range Availability:

Seneca Valley HP Match on Saturday August 5, 2006 from 8:30AM to 2:00PM. Rifle Range is closed.

22 Rimfire Fun Shoot on Saturday August 12, 2006 from 10:00AM to 2:00PM. The Rifle Range will be closed during this time. For additional information you can contact Tom Riley at 301-774-7426 (before 6:00pm please).

Bowling Pin Shoot on Saturday August 19, 2006 from 9:00AM to 2:00PM on Pistol Range 1. **(Please note that participants will meet at 9:30 AM in the Rathskeller for registration; don't go directly to the range).** Pistol Range 1 will be closed during this time. For additional information, you can contact Jesse Lim via e-mail at jlim@phillips.com or telephone 301-540-0860 (evenings only please).

Cowboy Action Setup on Friday August 25, 2006. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed beginning at 1:00PM.

Cowboy Action Shoot on Saturday August 26, 2006 from 8:00AM to approximately 3:00PM. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed during this time.

Seneca Valley HP Match on Saturday September 9, 2006 from 8:30AM to 2:00PM. Rifle Range is closed.

Practical Defense Match on Saturday September 9, 2006 from 9:00AM to 2:00PM on Pistol Range 1. **(Please note that participants will meet at 9:30 AM in the Rathskeller for registration; don't go directly to the range).** Pistol Range 1 will be closed during this time. For additional information, you can contact Jesse Lim via e-mail at jljm@phillips.com or telephone 301-540-0860 (evenings only please).

Hunter Safety Class on Saturday September 16, 2006 from 9:00AM to 1:00PM. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed.

Cowboy Action Setup on Friday September 22, 2006. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed beginning at 1:00PM.

Cowboy Action Shoot on Saturday September 23, 2006 from 8:00AM to approximately 3:00PM. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed during this time.

If anyone has a topic or item they wish to include in a future newsletter, send them to me at my above email address and include contact info in case I have questions.

ADOPT-A-ROAD (Michelle Chesnut)

The next Adopt-A-Road is 19 August. Please come out and lend your support to this effort.

JUNIOR AIRGUN (Bob Inness/Tom Malarkey); REPORT BY (Chuck Limparis)

This years season is officially over. The USA Junior Olympics National Competition was held in Bowling Green, Kentucky in July and our team (comprised of Aleem Sheikh, Steve "Andy" Carr, Zack Keyser, and Dan Reed) placed 13th, so we made a good showing.

At the NRA Nationals in Redmond, Oregon our club was combined with another team (the Maryland team was comprised of two of our shooters, Amber Kalmar and Nick Limparis, and two shooters from other Maryland clubs, Rebecca Mena and Phil Tepper) and, our kids shot slightly above average. The kids did really well and with 80-shooters on the line it was very impressive.

DARC Rifle Raffle (Chuck Limparis)

Once again we have had an extremely successful year with our Junior Air Rifle program. We are extremely proud of these kids and their success winning the right to have two teams attend National events this year. That success carries with it the price of raising the money to partially defray the cost of travel to these matches. Many of the coaches donate not only their time, but also most of their travel costs to these matches and this still leaves these kids with costs of up to \$1,200.00 per shooter to attend these National matches.

To offset some of those costs, we are again raffling a rifle

with all proceeds directly benefiting the Junior Air Rifle Program. The Grand Prize is a new Marlin 1894 Lever Action Cowboy Rifle in either .45 Colt, 38Spcl/357Mag, or 44Spcl/44Mag, winners choice. As an alternate, the winner can select to receive \$500.00 cash.

All proceeds from this raffle directly benefit the Junior Air Rifle program, specifically helping to defray the cost of travel to these national matches. The tickets went on sale at the Bull Roast and will be on sale at general membership meetings and Cowboy Shoots. They cost \$5.00 each or you can get 5 tickets for \$20.00. Only 750 tickets will be sold and about 450 are already gone so, DON'T DELAY, show your support and purchase your tickets today!

HUNTER EDU CLASS to BEGIN (Geoff Hornseth), Chief Instructor geoffhornseth@hotmail.com. Our Chapter's offering of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Hunter Education course will begin Friday, Sept. 8, at 7pm in the chapter house. It is open to the public. Cost is \$2. This course provides the certification required to purchase a hunting license. It is mandatory for all persons who wish to purchase a hunting license who were born after 1976, and anyone, regardless of age, who never previously held a hunting license. The course certification is also required for any hunter who wishes to participate in the various special, managed deer hunts sponsored by DNR that take place in the metro area in locations that are normally closed to hunting. Course certification is also now required by many states for out-of-state hunters.

Check the club calendar and the DNR Hunter Safety section of the club web site for further info, including the newly added "Frequently Asked Questions" (FAQ) about the course on our club web site at:
<http://www.damascusiwa.org/HSFAQ.htm>

The September offering of the course begins Fri. Sept. 8, and continues on Sept. 15, and 16. The October course is held on Oct. 13, 20 and 21. No pre-registration is needed for Sept. or Oct. The November course is Nov. 10, 17, and 18. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR NOVEMBER.** Do not wait until November to take the course as it always fills to capacity!!

BLACKSMITH COMMITTEE (Dick Smith)

This new committee was approved by the WAC Board of Directors at this month's meeting. Although this activity is new at the WAC, they are fully equipped and ready to begin operations and accept applications for membership (forms will be posted on the web site). The chairman of this new venture, Dick Smith, is a long time member of the League and has been blacksmithing for approximately eight years. He is a board member at the Blacksmith Guild of the Potomac (BGOP) and was the chairman of last year's Blacksmith Days sponsored by the Blacksmith Guild of Central Maryland (BGCM) and held at the Carroll County Farm Museum in Westminster, Maryland, and is the founder of the Montgomery County Association of Blacksmiths (MCAB), the group that demonstrated at the WAC open house in May and during the recent Thunder Valley Days and a member of the Mid Atlantic Smiths Association (MASA) and the national group, the Artist

Blacksmith's Association of North America, Inc. (ABANA). The committee currently consists of four WAC members and will hold their first membership meeting Saturday, August 12, near the pole barn. This meeting is open to all interested members, and will be a great opportunity for you to meet us again and hopefully become a member. No prior blacksmithing experience is required for membership.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Life teaches us that eternity is but a breath away.

Conley Phipps – Newsletter Editor