



OCTOBER 2006

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## **CHAPTER NEWS, EVENTS AND ARTICLES.**

### **The Cost of Water** (Jim Piateski)

We hear about the costs of cleaning up our waters, curbing pollution, stemming the runoff into streams, emissions from coal fired plants, etc. Have you thought about those costs in your home? That dripping faucet, the toilet that runs constantly and the daily long, hot showers are all contributing to excessive water use; we have to clean that water, too.

Aside from the costs of treatment and delivery, you also pay to dispose of the wastewater you generate. This is true whether connected to WSSC or on a private well and septic, you pay. WSSC bases your sewer rates on your water usage. If you are on a private system, you pay the electric bill to pump the water you use and the "Honey Dipper" to empty the septic tank every few years. In any case, the less water you use the more you save. Well pumps last longer, gas and electric bills are lower, and WSSC won't hit as hard.

Simple things like turning the water off while shaving or brushing your teeth, installing a one button shut off on your shower head that allows you to stop water flow while you lather, and replacing an old toilet with a low volume model all save a little water each time you brush, shave, shower or flush. It may seem like small potatoes, but it adds up. You will trim your costs and help to save our most precious resource.

### **Changes in Range Access Rules** (Joe Gick)

As of April 1, 2007, every member who shoots on **any range**, including the rifle range, pistol ranges, outdoor air rifle range, the archery range, and the skeet/trap ranges, must be visibly wearing a Range Access card. If you do not have one, you must attend a Range Orientation class, held at 10:00 A.M. on the last Sunday of the month. (Check the online calendar at [www.damascusiwla.org](http://www.damascusiwla.org))

The only exception to wearing a Range Access card is if you are shooting in an event where non-members are invited that are not specific guests of members under current Chapter Rules. Such events include Cowboy Action Shoots, Seneca Valley Matches, Breaking Clay to Save the Bay, etc.

You have six months to obtain your Range Approval card if you are not already in compliance.

### **2007 Renewal Notices** (Joe Gick)

By the end of October, you will receive your IWLA renewal bill for 2007. It is **very important** that you get your payment in early so that you do not have a gap in your range privileges. Because of new National IWLA procedures, it can take 45 days to get your new membership and Range Access cards **after** you send in your check. I have no control over this delay. I only have bills, **not** the 2007 cards. The National office prints and mails the cards back to me after National receives your payment. They have to process 30,000 to 40,000 applications during the renewal period. After I receive the membership cards, I still have to attach your Range Access card before mailing it all back to you. Additionally, the National office closes from Christmas until the New Year. If you wait until December to send in your payment, you probably will not get your new cards until February. This means you will lose access to the ranges. Your membership ends December 31, 2006

### **FALL CLEAN-UP** (Meo Curtis)

Get a Free t-shirt and lunch at the fall watershed clean-up on Sunday October 22, 2006 at 8:30 AM. Join other chapter and community members for fun, food and a cleaner environment. Wear comfortable cloths and shoes. In addition to FREE T-shirts and lunch, we will provide bags, gloves and water. Meet at the "green" maintenance shed. **NOTE NEW CONTACT:** Meo Curtis ([meosotis@verizon.net](mailto:meosotis@verizon.net)) 301-604-3736.

### **Pig Roast**

Saturday, October 14, 2006, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., live entertainment, exhibits by blacksmiths, ceramics and wood carving artists, entry fee for adults is \$15.00, which includes a pulled pork sandwich and three sides (cole slaw, potato salad and baked beans). There will also be a door prize. We need volunteers for setup and cooking from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., serving food from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and cleanup from 6:00 p.m. to around 7:00 p.m.

## **Airgun Field Target Fun Shoot** (Phil Dean)

We are having a Field Target Fun Shoot on Saturday, October 14 at 9:00 am. This is a great time to try an exacting and challenging shooting sport. We will be letting the participant choose the targets so we can include all those targets with larger "kill-zones". This event requires an air rifle with a scope, but, because it is a friendly group, come shoot even if you do not own an air rifle. We can team you up with someone willing to share. Contact Phil Dean by email at [pd10X@adelphia.net](mailto:pd10X@adelphia.net) or by phone at 301-865-8202.

## **Air Rifle Field Target Match** (Joe McDaniel)

For the more serious air rifle shooter, we are also hosting an Air Rifle Field Target Match on Saturday, October 28. We will setup starting at 9:00 am with "warm-ups" to follow. Contact Joe McDaniel at [mcdanieljr@adelphia.net](mailto:mcdanieljr@adelphia.net)

## **New Archery Club:** (Tom Ouellette and John Walter)

Members of the Damascus Wildlife Achievement Chapter have initiated a traditional archery club. The traditional archery club's focus will be on the instinctive shooting of recurves and longbows. We are a small group that enjoys the fellowship and challenge of casting arrows from stick-bows with other traditional archers. We meet on Wednesday @ 6:00 PM to cast arrows at the club's archery range. Future events will include seminars on arrow making, hunting with bow and arrow and other interesting topics related to traditional archery. Interested members are encouraged to drop by on Wednesday. Contact John Walter by email at [jwalter45c@aol.com](mailto:jwalter45c@aol.com) or by phone at 301-371-7036 for more information.

## **Up-Coming Events Affecting Range Availability:**

**Bowling Pin Shoot** on Saturday October 7, 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](mailto:jljm@phillips.com) or telephone 301-540-0860 (evenings only please).

**Hunter Safety Class 3** on Saturday October 21, 2006 from 9:00AM to 1:00PM. Rifle and Pistol ranges will be closed.

**Cowboy Action Setup** on Friday October 27, 2006. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed beginning at 1:00PM.

**Cowboy Action Shoot** on Saturday October 28, 2006 from 8:00AM to 3:00PM. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed during this time.

**Hunter Sight-in and Qualification** on Sunday November 5, 2006 from 10:00AM to 12:00PM. Rifle Range is closed.

**Practical Defense Match** on Saturday November 11, 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](mailto:jljm@phillips.com) or telephone 301-540-0860 (evenings only please).

**Hunter Safety Class** on Saturday November 18, 2006 from 9:00AM to 1:00PM. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed.

**Cowboy Action Setup** on Friday November 24, 2006. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed beginning at 1:00PM.

**Cowboy Action Shoot** on Saturday November 25, 2006 from 8:00AM to 3:30PM. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed during this time.

## **CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS PROPOSED**

### **AMMENDMENTS:**

### **To be voted on at the October Membership Meeting**

#### **Constitution Article III Membership**

#### *Current Reading*

**Section 3.** Members may be elected at any meeting, provided that the Board of Directors shall have previously approved each application, and that the name of the applicant shall have appeared in at least one general notice to the membership.

#### *Proposed Revision*

**Section 3.** Before being presented for election to membership at a general membership meeting, an applicant for membership must first obtain the approval of the Board of Directors by a majority vote of the Board members present at a regularly scheduled Board meeting with a quorum, and notice of same must be distributed to the general membership. If requested by a Board member, the chairman of the Board meeting must suspend the meeting for the purpose of meeting in executive session before returning to regular session and the vote for approval of any membership application by the Board. Any applicant for membership who fails to obtain approval of the Board of Directors may reapply for membership only after the expiration of six months from the date of the Board meeting at which such applicant failed to obtain such approval.

#### **Constitution Article III Membership**

#### *Current Reading*

**Section 4.** The casting of three or more negative votes of the members in good standing, present at any meeting will

reject an applicant for membership. Those applicants who have been rejected may again apply for membership after expiration of six months from the date of the meeting at which their applications were rejected.

#### *Proposed Revision*

**Section 4.** An applicant for membership shall be elected to membership only upon the vote of at least a 2/3 majority of the members in good standing present at any general membership meeting with a quorum, as defined in Article VIII. Any applicant who fails to be elected to membership may reapply for membership only after the expiration of six months from the date of the general membership meeting at which such applicant failed to be elected to membership.

#### **By-laws**

##### **Article II - Meetings**

#### *Current Reading*

**Section 4.** The Corresponding Secretary shall mail notice of both regular and special meetings to each member in good standing, not less than four days prior to the date of the meeting.

#### *Proposed Revision*

**Section 4.** The Corresponding Secretary shall distribute notice of both regular and special meetings to each member in good standing, not less than four days prior to the date of the meeting.

#### **By-laws**

##### **Article III - Elections**

#### *Current Reading*

**Section 2.** The Nominating Committee shall present a slate at the June meeting consisting of at least one candidate for each of the elective offices, and for each Delegate provided by Article VI thereof. The slate of candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee shall be published and mailed by the Corresponding Secretary to each member with the notice of the July meeting.

#### *Proposed Revision*

**Section 2.** The Nominating Committee shall present a slate at the June meeting consisting of at least one candidate for each of the elective offices, and for each Delegate provided by Article VI thereof. The slate of candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee shall be distributed by the Corresponding Secretary to each member with the notice of the July meeting.

*New Article for the purpose of defining the term "Distributed" used in all references to correspondence.*

## **ARTICLE XVI - DELIVERY OF NOTICES AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**

Any notice, or other correspondence, to be distributed pursuant to the provisions of these By-laws, may be delivered by any of the following methods: U.S. mail, E-mail, publishing in the official Newsletter either delivered by U.S. mail or as posted on the club's official website.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **NEW MEMBERS September 2006** (Joe Gick)

Please welcome the following new members to our chapter. Marshall Bell sponsored by Sandy Burk, Burton E Bouldry, Jr sponsored by Peter Jackson, Frank Colbert and Ron Colbert sponsored by Barry Ephraim, Nicolas, F Dagher sponsored by Wayne Berkebile, William Garoni, Neal London and Scott Whittle sponsored by Joe Gick, Andrew Hardin sponsored by Bill Schneider, Brian A Tallerico sponsored by Bob Schneider

#### **CONSERVATION** (Meo Curtis and Jeff Deschamps)

The "Energy Wisdom in Your Home" workshop held on September 27 was a success! Eric Coffman, Energy Planner with the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, provided tips on energy savers in home lighting, building shell, and heating, ventilation, and cooling. Not only did participants get their own compact fluorescent lamp (CFL) to install at home, but the event also received local press coverage in the Damascus Gazette. The workshop was the second phase of our chapter's efforts to reduce energy use. The first phase was an energy efficiency audit of the facilities and operations at our chapter conducted by Mr. Coffman. The third phase will be actually implementing recommendations from his report.

Did you know that replacing a single 60W light that you use regularly with a CFL can save over \$8 per year in energy costs? That's almost four times the typical unit cost of a CFL so this is an energy saving tip that will pay for itself in the first year and continue saving you money for 8 to 10 years - the expected lifetime of the lamp. Saving energy is not only good for your wallet, but it's good for the environment.

This is a good month to change to CFLs as part of the EPA's "Energy Star Change a Light, Change the World" campaign. This is a two-month campaign with a national call to action to save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, one light at a time. According to the EPA if every American household changed a single light bulb to an Energy Star bulb, it would provide enough power to light more than 2.5 million homes.

By reducing the amount of energy you use you help to reduce the use of fossil fuels (coal and oil) - the source of most of our electric power and air pollution in this country. Most of the acid rain and all of the atmospheric mercury are the result of burning fossil fuels. Fossil fuels are non-

renewable resources, i.e. limited in supply. Resource conservation and alternative, less polluting energy sources are needed for future generations to know 'the value of wildlife, woodlands, and open space'-this what the league means by "wise stewardship".

So look around your home and make some changes to reduce energy use, save money, AND conserve our natural resources.

For more information about the EPA's "Energy Star Change A Light" campaign go to:  
[http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=change\\_light.change\\_light\\_about](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=change_light.change_light_about)

### **SKEET & TRAP RANGE REPORT** (Conley Phipps)

As of 1 September, the Chairmanship of the Skeet & Trap ranges passed to Paul Turska. Paul has been a member of WAC for 20 plus years. He enjoys shotgun-shooting sports very much. He competes, along with son Jake, at shooting events in Maryland and the Mid-Atlantic area thru out the year.

Paul was also just installed as a Director of our IWLA Chapter. Given these responsibilities, I'm very sure his plate is running over. Please continue your support of our range program. Support those that give so much of their time to serve as Range Officers, so all Chapter members can enjoy the shooting sports, in the great outdoors.

In the coming months, some rules and procedures will change. We have planned several projects that should improve the ranges and improve access for handicapped shooters. Improvements include a parking area for handicap shooters, new release stands, planting groups of trees behind some of the ranges to provide shaded areas during those all to hot and humid summer months and repositioning some existing growth areas that are effecting the field of vision on some ranges.

If you have suggestions for range improvements please contact any member of the Range Committee. Committee members are Steve Lefebvre, First Vice President; Paul Turska, Chairman; Conley Phipps, Vice Chairman; Bill Rahn; Bob Woodward; Bob Cumberland; Jim Arnold and Joel Gross.

Check the range house for the schedule of Range Officers.

### **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](mailto: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 October 2006, starting time is 10:00 AM

daily and ending time is 6:30 PM, unless some activity has preempted the range (**see "Upcoming Events Affecting Range Availability" below**).

**Range Sign-In Information Change:** Effective immediately, all members must write the member number shown on their range badge in the area provided next to their name. Please write as legibly as possible.

**24<sup>th</sup> Consecutive IWLA-WAC High Power Season:** The 24<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of the Chapter's NRA approved high power season has come to a successful and rewarding conclusion. Participants have enjoyed many satisfying experiences gained from becoming skilled high power competitors.

Each year, the season begins with great anticipation and much enthusiasm in April. This year was no different. While the season started with a light rain falling, it ended on a bright, sunny day with not a cloud in the sky.

Participant scores and proficiencies have steadily increased over the years to the point where the WAC has developed a strong nucleus of highly skilled competitors. Several dedicated competitors have even reached the pinnacle of the NRA high power classification system by achieving either a High Master or Master ranking. These hard-earned accomplishments place them with the elite competitors nationwide. The 2006 competitors who have reached this level include Jack Chomko, James McKeown, Paul Patel, Bruce Tarpinian and James Schinner.

While the high power program has facilitated such highly prized achievements for its many dedicated competitors, it has also introduced hundreds of WAC participants to the safe handling of high power rifles. They have further gained personal satisfaction from learning fundamental marksmanship skills and confidence to "hit the target" from extended distances.

To the many men, women and juniors who participated over the years, the Chapter is honored and privileged to provide the venue for so many of its members successfully gain safe high power firearms skills. Congratulations to everyone involved. There is much more to come. In 2007, we embark on our silver anniversary of continuous high power training and competition; the 25<sup>th</sup> season will begin anew in April 2007.

**Shooter Qualification Card Program:** The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) facilitates the Shooter Qualification Program. Through this program local sportsman's clubs, shooting clubs, and other groups offer their facilities and expertise to certify hunters. Hunters who meet the shooting qualification standards receive certification and a Maryland State Shooter Qualification Card valid for the current year. This card serves as "proof of proficiency" and proves that a hunter is eligible to apply for many of the managed deer hunts held across Maryland. For more information, visit the website: <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/huntersguide/>

Word of Safety Caution: Please do not bring your brand new firearms unless you are familiar with the mechanic of the firearm, and 'NO' testing of reloads will be permitted at or during shooter qualification. Mandatory: You must use safety eyeglasses and hearing protection during shooter qualification and every time you use our ranges.

**Rifles on the Pistol Ranges:** Please remember that the only rifles allowed on the covered pistol range are air pellet guns and rim-fire calibers. We prohibit the use of shotguns and all firearms in traditional center-fire rifle calibers on the pistol range. You may shoot handguns in traditional center-fire rifle calibers on the rifle range. Pistol-caliber carbines are permitted only on the open (uncovered) pistol range as well as the rifle range. Acceptable pistol-calibers include 30 M1 Carbine, 357 Magnum, 38 Special, 9mm Luger, 40 S&W, 10mm, 44 Special, 44 Magnum, 44-40 Winchester, 45 ACP, and .45 Colt.

**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](http://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 chair.

**THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS:** 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.

#### **Chapter maintenance**

Tom Riley, Fred Beam, Jeff Deschamps, Meo Curtis, Ron Roberson, Frank Wood, John Bradbury, Bill Gazdik, Rick Mills, Alexei Zemskov, Keith Kasiar, James Heckman, Neil Heckman, Greg Milsom, Jerry Gusev, Peter Sittner, Martin Begosh and Scott Ackland

#### **Damascus Wildlife Rangers (CAS) setup/tear down**

Chuck Limparis, Bill Whitmore, Neil Benson, Steve Lederer, Day James, Ty Harding, Greg Milsom, Martin Begosh, J.D. Dillon, "Deadlee, Headlee", "Sagebrush Kid", Tug Hill.

#### **General membership meeting help**

Jorge Silva, David Raynie, Jerry Spring, Ignacio Lulli, Rob Hallin and Ken Lefebvre,

**NEXT SITE MAINTENANCE:** We will be doing the next monthly maintenance of WAC ranges, Christmas trees, house and grounds from **9:30 AM until 1 PM on Sunday, October 29.** Please report to the maintenance coordinator at the green equipment shed for an assignment. This is a great opportunity to get to know the other Chapter members.

#### **Adult Airgun** (Phil Dean)

#### **Indoor Airgun**

Every Monday, we meet for indoor shooting in the Rathskeller room downstairs. It is lots of fun and a great way to improve your aim at a low cost. Even if you do not own an airgun, you can shoot with us. There are chapter pistols that you may use. Set up starts at 6:30 pm and shooting begins at 7:00 pm. Contact Phil Dean by email at [pd10X@adelphia.net](mailto:pd10X@adelphia.net) or by phone at 301-865-8202.

#### **Membership Meeting**

This month's general membership meeting is on Wednesday, October 25. Social hour starts at 6:30 pm and we serve dinner at 7:30 pm. We will be voting on the proposed by-law and constitution changes, so make your voice heard. Come join in the camaraderie, meet other chapter members, and enjoy a meal.

#### **Changing Times** (Michelle Chesnut)

As most of you know, we have a new board of directors. We have three new members: Paul Turska, Ken Lefebvre, and Guy Wright. Several long-time board members have taken new positions; I am the new Corresponding Secretary, Steve Lefebvre is our First Vice-president, and Bill Ladd is our Second Vice-president. Come to chapter events to meet the board, and get involved.

Additionally, say thank you to last year's board for a job well done. Specifically, say thanks to Jeff Deschamps, Conley Phipps and Georgia Townsend for their service to you and the chapter.

The best way to show your appreciation is to get involved in the chapter's business. We need new people to run committees and plan events. We need new ideas for conservation and other chapter projects. You do not have to be a board member or have years with the League to be a committee member or chair.

This is your chapter; please do all you can to help our board, old and new, to help our chapter remain the best IWLA chapter in the world.

If anyone has any items to include in future newsletters, send them to Michelle Chesnut at [smc\\_geek@msn.com](mailto:smc_geek@msn.com). Include contact info in case additional clarification is necessary.

You can find our chapter calendar at [www.damascusiwla.org](http://www.damascusiwla.org).