

Wildlife Gazette

Wildlife Achievement Chapter Izaak Walton League of America FEBRUARY 2009

President Stephen L. Lefebvre, Esq (301) 482-1898

First Vice President Esq Guy Wright 301-253-4604

nt Second Vice President Paul Turska 301-252-7011

**Third Vice President Jeff Deschamps** 301-252-7011

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

# CHAPTER NEWS, EVENTS AND ARTICLES

The following Bylaws Amendment will be offered for adoption at the February Membership Meeting (February 25, 2009):

# ARTICLE XI - FUNDS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Current:

Section 2. All disbursements of funds shall be by check signed by the Treasurer, or by the President in the absence of the Treasurer.

Proposed:

Section 2. All disbursements of funds shall be by check signed by the Treasurer or by electronic payment of funds from the checking account approved by the Treasurer, or by the President in the absence of the Treasurer. This amendment was requested by the Treasurer and has been reviewed and approved by the Bylaws

Committee.

(Carried over from January, since meeting was cancelled)

## **MEMBERSHIP BILLS**

## DUES RENEWAL

Over 300 members have regrettably not renewed their membership for 2009. A 2<sup>nd</sup> and final billing was sent out on January 8<sup>th</sup>. Any payment not received by March 1, 2009 will be charged an additional \$25.00 late fee. Remember that it still takes several weeks to process your renewal and send you your new membership and range cards. Your membership officially expired on December 31, 2009. Please do not delay any longer in sending it to us.

### RANGE ACCESS IN 2009

As of February 1, 2009, you must be wearing the new 2009 Range Access card which shows an eagle in front of an American flag. You must be wearing this card visibly in order to shoot on <u>any</u> range. No other card will be valid after February 1<sup>st</sup>. Please adhere strictly to these rules, and challenge anyone who does not.

## **CALENDAR EVENTS OF NOTE**

## NEW COWBOY SHOOTER CLINIC

The first of two New Cowboy Shooter Clinics in 2009, at our IWLA-WAC Chapter, will be on March 7, 2009. The second class will be October 31, 2009. Class sizes are limited, and seats are on a first come, first serve basis.

Applications and a class description are available on the IWLA-WAC web site

\_www.DamascusIWLA.org\_ (http://www.DamascusIWLA.org) or our Cowboy web site \_www.WildlifeRangers.com\_ (http://www.WildlifeRangers.com). The purpose of the clinics is to introduce the sport to potential enthusiasts who'd like to give it a try without "the whole world watching." Though playing the game under the watchful eye of the Range Officer and their timer is part of the fun, that can be a little intimidating if you're new at it. SAFETY and fun are the real focus of the sport, and we'd like to be sure everyone gets off to the right start. Students will learn how the game is played, hear the SASS rules, see the equipment and accessories that are required, and get a chance to try out the range of firearms that are appropriate to the sport. A history of the sport is included in the classroom portion. You can look at the Clinic Outline on the web sites to see what's covered. Atlantic Guns and the Damascus Wildlife Rangers provide all equipment and ammo, if students do not have their own yet. Each person will get the chance to shoot a real cowboy scenario or two using the ol' hoglegs, scatter gun and lever action rifle! You will feel the fear of that dang buzzer and learn what real brain fade is like!

The clinics are not meant to be initial firearms training. Students must already be familiar with the safe use and the loading of revolvers, rifles and shotguns. For additional information contact Chuckaroo by E-mail WildlifeRangers@aol.com, or call 301-831-9666.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The 2008 IWLA / WAC Christmas tree sales event was a huge success with over \$2,700 in sales, all from existing trees on the property.

Opening day was Saturday, November 29<sup>th</sup> and the blacksmith team was onsite with their demonstrations and ornament sales. We had the pleasure of meeting many new customers, greeting members that we know and participating in many families long-standing tradition of coming to the WAC for their annual holiday tree cutting. We were also paid a visit by our own Bob Mabie who helped plant many of the trees we sold some years ago! He was also happy to see the Moline tractor was still there!

We would be terribly remiss if we did not take the time to thank John Leaman for his many years of unconditional service to the IWL / WAC Christmas tree sales event. We had MANY repeat customers that came and fondly recalled John and the wreaths he made for them. We are honored to help carry on his legacy and hope to make him proud. And a very special thanks to Bill Ladd and Jim Piateski whom graciously offered to cover the Thanksgiving weekend sales for us while we were out of town.

An extra special thanks to the 2008 Christmas tree sales help:

Alan Fischer, Ben Tedesco, Bill Ladd, Bill Pritchard, Bill Stansel and sons, Bob Mabie, Brian Van Winkle, Chris Gotwols and son, Cyril and Ian St. Martin, Daniel Floyd, Danny Smith, Darrick Gutting and friend Ross, Dave Tung, Evan Cohen, Gerhard Bartsch, Jim Murphy, Jim Piateski, Joseph Smith, John German, Kenny and Jake Karanovich, Mike King, Patrick Brice, Ralph Gerharz, Steve McKaskill, and Terry Smith. (If I have left anyone out, please email me and I'll get this corrected immediately – <u>smitty446@hotmail.com</u>).

Special thanks to:

Joseph Smith for making the sandwich board signs, Jake Karanovich for painting the signs, Gerhard Bartsch for the Red Rooster chicken and Ed McNally for delightful hot coffee and cheeseburger lunch on the last day of sales. We also need to thank and send our appreciation to Paul Turska and all the shotgun range officers for putting up with our customers and opening the ranges at 1PM during the sale days.

This was a very rewarding experience for us this year, and are looking forward to a very successful 2009 (and future) seasons!

Thank you !

Wade Dayberry and Wendy Smith







#### SHOTGUN RANGE ROSTER

#### **MARCH 2009**

- Sun 3/1 Mark Gay, Martin Cherry, Jake Turska, Paul Turska
- Sat 3/7 Gary Green, Tim Mulreaney, Jay Jeffrey
- Sun 3/8 Seamus Webb, Mike Webb
- Sat 3/14 Paul Fisher, George Fichter, Dave Fichter
- Sun 3/15 Jim Crowell, Judy Crowell, Joel Gross
- Sat 3/21 Mike Bowen, Dave Gold, Ira Wein
- Sun 3/22 Bob Poth, Bill Wright
- Sat 3/28 Tony Evans, Richard Zabell, Red Gambrell, Charles Weaver, Bill Rahn, Gary Green
- Sun 3/29 Nunzio Litterio, Bob Cooley

### THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS: (Nick Giuliano)

As the new volunteer manager of the members who have donated their time to the chapter, I have completed the September, October and November volunteer listing. The following list of names and projects may have some duplicates and omissions. If you worked on a project in those months that had a sign up sheet and your name is not listed, please send a note to nicolasgiu@yahoo.com including your name, date of the project and your membership status (probation or not).

Thanks. Nick Giuliano

#### SEPTEMBER:

**Cowboy Setup** September 26, 2008: Paul Bluteau, Richard Lee Rankin, Nick Peters, Guy Wright and Spotted Horse (Neil Benson).

#### Cowboy Cleanup September 27, 2008:

Stephen Adams, Nicholas Peters, Paul Bluteau, John Leaman, Doug Hutchison Ming Chow; the next four names are a total mystery to me and as best that I can read from the Sign-In-Sheet: Two Gun Toco, Most Wanted, Spotted Horse and Humphrey Hook.

### Skeet and Trap September 28, 2008:

Martin Cherry, Perter Sittner, Paul and Jake Turska, Conley Phipps, Steve Adams and Paul Shutta who worked Skeet and Tree cutting.

The following members worked, but no Activity was noted. Tony Evans, Guy Wright, Al Goldschmidts and Troy Agnew.

#### Non-Native Invasive Plants Workshop September 28, 2008

Thomas Bragg, Michelle Chesnut, Jeff Deschamps, Bill Gazdik, Mike King, Jim Murphy, Mr. And Mrs. Alf Shupe, Scott Springer and Son, Georgia Townsend, and Mladen Udbinac. Workshop organizer: Meo Curtis.

### OCTOBER:

Chapter Membership Meeting October 22:

Thanks for the delicious meal provided by Jorge Silva and Ed McNally Steve Lefebvre assisted them in serving. Thanks to the bar staff, Rob Hallin and Ken Lefebvre. New member Philip Link and Jose Tassara did the cleanup.

Chapter Maintenance Day October 26: Many of the following members worked in one or more of the activities that encompass the Chapter Maintenance Days.

General Maintenance (No Activity noted): Jefferey Deschamps, Troy Agnew, Thomas King, and Patrick Dibella.

Pistol / Rifle: Al Golschmidts, Dennis Crossen Skeet: Paul Turska Shed / Wood Splitting: John Leaman Christmas Trees: Dennis Crossen.

### NOVEMBER:

Chapter Membership Meeting November 19: Thanks to the following members for tonight's Great Dinner (Deep Fried Turkey): We start with Lead Chef Rich Fried who was closely assisted by Eddy Harren with the turkey cooking. Food preparations were handled by Ed McNally, Greg Talamini and Chuck Crooks also Billy Carbone assisted; he stood by the Fire Extinguisher (just kidding). KP duties were in the hands of Tommy Howe he was assisted by Steve Adams. Bar Staff: Rob Hallin, Ken Lefebvre and Dolores Gick.

November 22: Cowboy Action Shoot Clean Up: Nicholas Peters, Paul Bluteau, Spotted Horse, John Leaman, Doug Hutchison and Ming Chow.

Chapter Maintenance Day November 23:

General Maintenance (No Activity noted): Troy Agnew, John Leaman.

Trap / Skeet: Alan Palestine, Heather Barber, Peter Sittner and Paul Turska.

Shed / Wood splitting: Ming Chow, Benjamin Tedesco,

Range Clean Up: Al Goldschmidts, Bill Gazdik, Bret Hadfield, Steve Wass, and Paul Turska.

Christmas Tree: Benjamin Tedesco, Chuck Limparis, Terence Smith, Ken Karanovich, Jake Karanovich, Alan Fischer, John Fischer, Demetri Giakoumatos, Terence P Smith, Bill and Matt Pritchard, Wendy Smith, and Wade Dayberry.

Last by not least, Kitchen Duties: Tom Ouellette.

Belated thanks for past work done by our volunteers:

The following volunteered their time doing the Cowboy Setup back in August 22, 2008.

Thomas L. Bragg, Guy Wright, Chuck Limparis, Paul Bluteau, Rich Rankin, Dean Snapp, Gary M Schneider, Jim Krantz, Spotted Horse

The following volunteers worked on the Chapter Maintenance Day December 08, 2008.

Andy Abrams, Walter Frear, James Mooney, Al Goldschidts, Philip Palestine, Heather Palestine, Guy Wright, John Leaman, David Stevenson, Stephen Adams

I hope that this brings us up to date on past work that was done in 2008 by our volunteers.

Here is the list of members that worked the Chapter Maintenance Day on January 25, 2009.

John Mullaney, Al Goldschmidts, John Leaman, Guy Wright, Edward Grim, Wendy Smith, Wade Dayberry, Phillip Howard, Martin Cherry, Peter Sittner, Berle Cherrney, Josh Jonas, Paul Turska, Nunzio Litterio

We would like to do a big shout out of thanks to our Range Orientation Instructors:

Ray Logan, Bud Bell, Bruce Roth, Rod Teel, Barry Ephraim, Tim Urban

Also, Lou Ferguson, who has retired this year, will still keep his hand in on a part-time as-needed basis.

## RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGE REPORT

INFORMATION: For more information about any rifle or pistol range activities mentioned in this article, contact Jesse Lim, by e-mail, at jlim@investormedia.com or telephone 301-540-0860 (evenings only please).

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 February 2009, starting time is 10:00 AM daily and ending time is 5:30 PM, unless some activity has preempted the range (see "UPCOMING EVENTS AFFECTING RANGE AVAILABILITY" below).

My thanks to Josh Jonas, Al Goldschmidts, and John Mullaney for maintaining the rifle and pistol ranges on our January Maintenance Day.

You may notice a new shotgun patterning board on the rifle range. It is for shotgun patterning ONLY. It is your responsibility to police improper activity when you observe it. So if you see someone shooting other than a shotgun at this board – please ask them to stop.

This new patterning board was built and donated by Al Goldschmidts. The next time you see him – give him you thanks.

### <u>REMINDERS</u>

Safety Reminder: As we move towards mid-winter and closer to spring we are certain to see increased activity on WAC rifle/pistol ranges. Please remember that our ability to keep the ranges open almost every day throughout the year depends upon the fact that all range-approved WAC shooters are pledged to serve as range officers and to help ensure that the range rules and regulations are being followed whenever they are at the range. For reference when questions arise, copies of the range rules are posted on the bulletin boards at both the rifle range and covered pistol range. The WAC continues to invest a lot of time and money ensuring compliance with the special zoning exemptions which permit the operation of our ranges. There is little sympathy or patience among the Board of Directors for any member who voluntarily violates the range rules, putting our permit to operate the ranges at risk. Intentional violations can be expected to result in, at least, a temporary revocation of range-approved status and, depending upon the violation, possible expulsion from membership in the WAC. THIS IS YOUR CLUB, PLEASE HELP TO ENSURE ITS CONTINUAL OPERATION. SHOOT SAFELY AND ENJOY THE RANGES.

Winter arrived officially between December 21 and December 22, and with it comes the likelihood of snow and ice accumulation on the rifle/pistol range road. If the road becomes impassable or overly soft due to heavy precipitation, it may be closed even though the ranges remain open for use. In such cases, a sign explaining the closure will be posted at the box containing the range sign-in register, and the gate will be locked closed. Please watch for Range Road Closures:

and comply with such notices. If the sign indicates that the road is closed but the ranges are open, you may walk to the ranges. However, even if you have an off-the-road vehicle that might make it through snow-covered fields, DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DRIVE TO THE RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGES WHEN THE RANGE ROAD IS CLOSED!

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 me via email, when requested. Sometimes questions come up. Though our bylaws indicate that you can call any Board of Directors member abo*ut these rules, you will be better* served to start with the folks closest to them, i.e., range orientation instructors or the committee chairman.

UP-COMING EVENTS AFFECTING RANGE AVAILABILITY:

Junior Rifle Practice on Saturday February 7, 2009 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Contact Tom Malarkey 240-246-6941 (Covered pistol range closed during event)

Junior Rifle Practice on Saturday February 14, 2009 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Contact Tom Malarkey 240-246-6941 (Covered pistol range closed during event)

Bowling Pin Shoot on Saturday February 14, 2009 from 9:00AM to 2:00PM on Pistol Range 1. Pistol Range 1 will be closed during this time. For additional information, you can contact Jesse Lim via e-mail at jlim@investormedia.com or telephone 301-540-0860 (evenings only please).

Junior Rifle Practice on Saturday February 21, 2009 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Contact Tom Malarkey 240-246-6941 (Covered pistol range closed during event)

Maintenance Day/Range Cleanup on Sunday February 22, 2009 from 10:00AM to 1:00PM. Report to the green shed for assignments.

Junior Rifle Practice *on Saturday February 28*, 2009 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Contact Pistol Range 1. 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).

Junior Rifle Practice on Saturday March 21, 2009 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Contact Tom Malarkey 240-246-6941 (Covered pistol range closed during event)

Cowboy Action Setup on Friday March 27, 2009. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed beginning at 1:00PM.

Cowboy Action Shoot on Saturday March 28, 2009 from 8:00AM to 3:30PM. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed during this time.

1:00PM. Report to the green shed for assignments. Tom Malarkey 240-246-6941 (Covered pistol range closed during event) New Cowboy Shooter Clinic on Saturday March 7, 2009. Classes start at 8:00 AM and 11:15 AM - Contact Chuck Crooks 301-831-9666. (One pistol range closed during clinic.)

Practical Defense Match on Saturday March 14, 2009 from 9:00AM to 2:00PM.

Thanks to Nicolas Giuliano for mailing the printed version of the newsletter every month. Thanks to Mac McCollum, Chuck Crooks ,Joe Gick, Guy Wright, Jesse Lim ,Nick Giuliano ,Wendy Smith, and Bob Cooley for their contributions to this newsletter.

If anyone has an article, picture or topic, which they wish to have included in future newsletters, send them to Jim Piateski at <u>jimpiateski@verizon.net</u> and include some contact info in case there are questions. If you have photographs of chapter events that you would like to share with the membership in the on-line newsletter, please send them to Jim Piateski at the above email address. Please include the names of those pictured as well as the date and name of the event.

If you would like to receive a printed newsletter, write to Joe Gick 16601 Cavalry Drive Rockville, MD 20853-1219

## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

For the latest developments in Chapter events, visit us at: http://www.DamascusIWLA.org

.....To know the beauty and understanding of nature and the value of wildlife, woodlands and open space; to the preservation of this heritage and to man's sharing in it... ..I AM AN IKE!