

Wildlife Gazette

Wildlife Achievement Chapter Izaak Walton League of America

¹ DECEMBER 2009

President **First Vice President** Second Vice President **Third Vice President Guy Wright** Paul Turska Jeff Deschamps **Chuck Crooks** 301-253-4604 301-252-7011 301-604-0656 301-831-9666 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 are suggested changes to the IWLA/WAC Bylaws. They will be presented to the General Membership and voted on at the January 27, 2010 General Membership Meeting

Suggested changes to IWLA/WAC Bylaws.

UNDER Bylaws: Article I – Initiation Fees and Dues

ORIGINAL:

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall fix annual dues in this chapter, with membership approval. New members admitted after October 31 will pay a full year's dues and will be paid up for the ensuing year.

CHANGE:

Change date to October 1.

ORIGINAL:

- Section 5. Any member whose dues have not been paid before the first day of February in any year shall be deemed in arrears and not a member in good standing. The member's rifle and pistol range privileges and the right to purchase skeet and trap range cards or shooting and archery supplies, and all other membership privileges shall be suspended until the dues are paid.
- Section 6: The Membership Secretary shall mail a second and final bill to members in arrears by the first day of March advising them that they will be dropped from membership rolls if payment is not received by April 1st. A list will be made on April 1st of all members who have not renewed and shall be conspicuously posted in the Chapter and Range houses.

CHANGE:

- Section 5. Any member whose dues have not been paid before the first day of January in any year shall lose the privileges to use any range at the chapter until the dues are paid and the new Range Access Card has been received by the member. The date on the check does not suffice as proof of payment and a right to use any range. You must have the new card in your possession and properly displayed to use any range.
- Section 6: The Membership Secretary shall mail a second and final bill to members who have not paid by the second week of January advising them that they shall be deemed in arrears and not a member in good standing if payment is not received by February 1st. The member's right to purchase skeet and trap range cards or shooting and archery supplies, and all other membership privileges

shall be suspended until the dues are paid. A late fee may be assessed to the dues payment as noted on the second bill.

A list will be made on April 1st of all members who have not renewed and shall be conspicuously posted in the Chapter and Range houses. You may choose to renew at any time before the end of the current year and have your privileges restored by paying your bill with any associated late fees.

UNDER Bylaws: Article III – Elections

ORIGINAL:

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. 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.

CHANGE:

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. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the July meeting.

The candidate for the positions of President, First, Second, and Third Vice Presidents must have previously served in a Board of Directors position for at least one year to be eligible for these positions. 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.

UNDER Bylaws: Article V – Duties of Officers

ORIGINAL:

Section 8. The Parliamentarian shall be the final source of all questions concerning the Constitution, Bylaws, and procedures at meetings. Duties shall also include keeping an accurate listing of attendees at meetings.

CHANGE:

Section 8. The Parliamentarian shall offer his interpretation of all questions concerning the Constitution, Bylaws, and procedures at meetings. If any of these interpretations are challenged, the final authority shall be a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted by

Joe Gick

Membership Secretary Wildlife Achievement Chapter

2010 Range Access

Your RANGE ACCESS 2009 Card (with the Eagle and Flag) expires on 12/31/2009. The 2010 card (with the Blue Angels) is the <u>ONLY</u> card that will be valid on any range after January 1, 2010. A flyer was attached to the bill that you received last December stating the extended processing time needed to get you a 2010 card. If we have not received your payment before the end of this year, as of January 1, 2010, your Electronic Key Access Card will be deactivated on our system, and the gate to the ranges will not work until payment is received and we have time to process your payment and reactivate your card. Using any card other that your card marked "RANGE ACCESS 2010" with the Blue Angels on it is a violation of range rules as of January 1, 2010.

Turkey Chefs & Valiant Supporters



Left to right. Rich Fried, Guy Wright, Eddie Harren, Ed McNally and Jeff Deschamps.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

<u>CONSERVATION COMMITTEE</u> (Jeff Deschamps) <u>Heroes of Conservation</u>

Each month Field & Stream magazine profiles three Heroes of Conservation.

Starting in November 2008 they recognized individual chapters of national conservation organizations rather than individuals. Thanks to a nomination from IWLA National and the hard work of many members of this chapter our chapter was recognized in the November issue of Field & Stream. The photo of some of our conservation committee was taken by Bob Cumberland and also appeared in the magazine. Previous organization that have received this award include local chapters of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Pheasants Forever, and the National Wild Turkey Federation.

Christmas trees update (Wade Dayberry and Wendy Smith)

Final preparation for December Christmas tree sales was held on chapter maintenance day, November 22nd. A special thank you to Ronald Brooks daughters whom helped paint the signs.

Tree sales will be held weekends in December starting December 5th and concluding December 20th from 10 AM to 4 PM.

We are still in need of volunteers for tree sales from 10 AM to 4 PM on the following dates: December 12th and 19th. Ideally the volunteers should be able to withstand the elements, be able to assist customers with cutting their tree and getting the tree in or on their vehicle and making a few wreaths. Please contact Wendy Smith via email at smitty446@hotmail.com to sign up as soon as possible.

We encourage WAC members and their friends and family to come out and purchase your holiday tree and wreath from the chapter. All trees are priced at \$35 (some discounted) and wreaths at \$10, which is a great value and supports our chapter.

Advertising for the December sales is in the Gazette newspapers. Refreshments will be made available and we are working with Ed McNally to line up a reasonably priced lunch each of the sale dates for customers and volunteers, should they want to grab something to eat.

December 2009

- Sat 12/5 Tim Mulreaney, Bob Cooley, Murray Welsh
- Sun 12/6 Mark Gay, Paul Turska, Martin Cherry,
- Sat 12/12 George Fichter, Dave Fichter, Paul Fisher
- Sun 12/13 Seamus Webb, Mike Webb, Jay Jeffrey,
- Sat 12/19 Mike Bowen, Dave Gold, Ira Wein,
- Sun 12/20 Jim Crowell, Judy Crowell, Joel Gross, Bob Griffin
- Sat 12/26 Richard Zabell, Charles Weaver, Bill Rahn, Gary Green
- Sun 12/27 Peter Sittner, Bob Poth, Mike Agnelli, Buddy Michael

Gerhard Bartsch 19th or 26th

Rifle and Pistol RSO Update (Jesse Lim, Wendy Smith, Barry Ephraim)

The five months re-engineering project finally paid off and we have recently complied with the Montgomery County Firearms Safety Committee approval. Our Rifle and Pistol range permit will be re-instated for another 3 years. During this coming year in 2010, we will continue working on improving the aesthetics and safety on all of our ranges. We will also be working with the NRA to certify our ranges in the future.

The November 1 (and final) DNR hunter qualification day was held with 15 candidates (3 minors and one adult did not pass qualification). A special thank you to the following for assisting either as an RSO and/or with the logistics:

R/P WAC RSOs: John Randall, Chad Gordon, James Fort, Jose Tassara, Paolo Amedeo

The requisitioned beautiful Sunday arrived on schedule for the November Range Orientation Class. We were again able to use the Shotgun and Lower Ranges for more practical instruction. The newly Range Certified Members are Doug Barneski, Ronald Brooks, Kathy Chapman, Jim Funk, Jim Kelly, Eric Speights, and Dan Vandenberg. Spouse Chuck Chapman and Offspring Timothy Brooks, Erik Chapmen and Bryce Kelly also attended and did very well on the exam. The course was taught by Barry Ephraim. We are looking for a few more members to help with the course instruction. If you are interested in working long hours for no pay, please e-mail me at <u>eyebear@aol.com</u>.

Range Safety Officer Committee Sportsmanship Awards

Rifle and Pistol Chairman, Jesse Lim, is pleased to announce the recipients of the Range Safety Officer Committee Sportsmanship Award for 2009.

The Sportsmanship Award is given annually to range safety officer(s) who perform above and beyond the call. It is given in recognition of improved safety on our rifle and pistol ranges and for the safe use of firearms.

The first recipient I want to honor is Wendy Smith, Range Safety Officer and Secretary of Communications.

Wendy started working with me in the spring of 2009, and devoted time and provided a great deal of assistance to me in forming the Range Safety Officer Committee. She also proposed and sponsored a firearms training class entitled: "Ladies, Daughter and Son -- Introduction to Basic Firearms." Finally, Wendy helped me coordinate and set up the 2010 classes as part of the training curriculum.

The second recipient of the Sportsmanship Award goes to Al Goldschmidts, Range Safety Officer and Rifle/Pistol Range Maintenance Coordinator.

Al was very dedicated in working with me on the re-engineering project of our rifle and pistol ranges. Al is meticulous, easy going and always compliant with the rules and regulations of the Montgomery County Firearms Safety Committee.

Further, he has, at times, donated his own equipment and materials to help in completing his tasks and stayed in close communication with me -- facilitating both of our efforts to assure the engineering project was on schedule and the required testing phases were completed before we signed off on the completed project.

Once again, I am proud to honor these individuals for their efforts in showing true sportsmanship and dedication to WAC throughout the year,

These awards demonstrate that WAC has an outstanding community and many members who help fellow member accomplish its goals with character and sportsmanship.

INFORMATION: For more information about any rifle or pistol range activities mentioned in this article or suggestions for topics for this article contact Jesse Lim (240)832-0354 or <u>alphashooter@usa.com</u>.

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

REMINDERS

Rifle Range Target Placement is permitted at the 50, 75, & 100-yard berms. This is perfect for all center-fire and some rim-fire rifles. If you want to shoot at 25-yard targets with rim-fire ammo then use the covered pistol range, where all currently available rim-fire caliber rifles may be used.

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

<u>Chapter Maintenance Day</u> November 22 **We had a very nice turnout for this Activity.**

Christmas trees Phil Howard, Brian White, G. Bartsch, Danny Smith, Joe Smith, Juliette Brooks, Rachel Brooks, Wade A. Dayberry and Wendy Smith.

Ranges, Pistol and Rifle Brian Baldwin, Al Goldschmidts, Troy Agnew, Andrew Mikan, D. Crossen, Danny Smith and Joe Smith.

Air Gun Range Mary Hunt, Bill Hunt and John Leaman.

Skeet / Trap and Shotgun Ranges Phil Howard, Rudy Werner, Ted Holden, Berle Cherney, Peter Sittner, Dave Stevenson, Ravi Goonasekeram, Nate Goonasekeram, Sammy Goonasekeram and Jeff Opiekun.

Green Shed Guy Wright and John Leaman.

General Cleanup

Don Hunt, Steven Stanfield, Phillip Dean, Paolo Amedeo, Singson Tiu, Mary Hunt, Bill Hunt, Karl Krchma, Tim Avara and Bill Gazdik.

Cowboy Action Shoot Set up

November 27

Don Hunt, Rayn Romig, Ron Romig, Chuck Limparis, Paul Bluteau, Steve Peck, Kaylan Hutchison and Doug Hutchison.

Cowboy Action Shooting Teardown

November 28

Thomas M. King, Ronald Thomson, Brian Hornbeck, No One, River Banks and Dogmeat Dad.

Volunteers

If your name does not appear in this issue of the newsletter and you signed an activity sheet, please send an email with your information to

nicolasgiu@yahoo.com

Note to all Probationary Members

Please, if you have any questions or concerns about your status, just contact either Joe Gick at <u>joe.gick@verizon.net</u> or Nick at <u>nicolasgiu@yahoo.com</u>. We will be more than happy to work with you to address your concerns, (that's why we get the big bucks).

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS (Jim Piateski at jimpiateski@verizon.net)

Thanks to Nicolas Giuliano for mailing the printed version of the newsletter every month. Thanks to Wendy Smith, Barry Ephraim, Jeff Deschamps, Joe Gick ,Jesse Lim and Bob Cooley for their contributions to this newsletter. Thanks to Chuck Crooks for posting the newsletter on the web in such a timely fashion. If anyone has an article, picture or topic, which they wish to have included in future newsletters, send to Jim Piateski at jimpiateski@verizon.net 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

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

as the date and name of the event.