



Wildlife Achievement Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America

MARCH 2010

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Wildlife Achievement Chapter 26430 Mullinix Mill Road Mt. Airy, Maryland 21771

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CHAPTER NEWS, EVENTS AND ARTICLES

It is with sadness I have to inform you that we lost Tommy Riley the morning of Thursday February 18th, 2010. Tommy was our House and Grounds Chairman, one of the hardest workers we have had at WAC.

Some called him Tinker. In fact we named our newest piece of equipment "Tinker" after him. He worked at running a tight ship around the club. He was the first in my memory who tackled the job cleaning the floor in our main room, a major job, which he handled well. He would volunteer to cut, move, fix, clean, paint what ever needed it before any requests were made, sometimes even if the job didn't need doing. He made an adjustment to the roof of one of our trap houses one afternoon although I'm not sure that was a needed adjustment. His sense of humor and willingness to help anyone he could was well known to his friends and fellow members here at WAC. He will be missed.

So, Tommy,

May the road rise up to meet you

May the wind be always at your back,

May the sun shine warm upon your face,

May rain fall safe upon your fields,

And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand...

Greg Talamini



Tommy Riley AKA "Tinker"

IWLA Awards (Jeff Deschamps)

It's the time of year when we should be thinking about those in our chapter who do so much to keep them on track with the mission of the league. The Maryland Division made a good showing at the National Convention last year.

We would hope for a repeat performance this year when the convention is so close to home. We always have deserving members, but to be recognized they need to be nominated for an award.

The chapter has the National Award criteria (and chapter award criteria) on our web site (www.damascusiwla.org). Please look these criteria over and if you know of someone who might deserve an award, forward the information to one of our chapter Vice-Presidents (i.e. Paul Turska, Jeff Deschamps, or Chuck Crooks). If you have any questions, refer those to the Vice-Presidents.

The deadline for award submissions at the division level is May 15. These are then acted on by the division and forwarded to the National Awards Committee for a final decision. Our Vice-Presidents need some time to consider your input so please don't wait until the last minute.

The conservation committee has a limited number of custom embroidered polo shirts (see photo) available. Shirts are \$20 each (our cost for each shirt). If these sell out and there is enough interest we may place an order for additional shirts. Contact Jeff Deschamps (jeff.deschamps@verizon.net or 301-604-3736) for more information.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

CONSERVATION (Meo Curtis)

The snow is indeed melting and that means SPRING with plantings and clean ups right around the corner. There will be plenty of opportunities for conservation work during March and April.

Managing invasives and planting native shrubs. Saturday March 20 from 8 to 11 a.m. Scott's Cove off of Harding Road. Laurel MD. WSSC has asked for long term, volunteer assistance to reclaiming one of its reforestation areas. The young native trees were planted a number of years ago, but the kudzu and other vines are taking over. Water, gloves, and pruning tools will be provided. Contact Meo Curtis at meosotis58@verizon.net or 301-604-3736 for more details.

Join the Wildlife Achievement Chapter of the Izaak Walton League and fellow community members at our annual Spring watershed clean up on Saturday, April 10. Meet at the green maintenance shed at 26430 Mullinix Mill Road near Damascus, MD. at 9:00 a.m. Gloves, bags, water, and lunch at noon will be provided for all participants. Last fall, our chapter had the dubious honor of collecting the most bags at any one Adopt-A-Road event (20 bags in October). For youngsters, community service learning hours can be credited if the completed forms are brought for signature on the day of this event. Contact Meo Curtis at 301-604-3736 or via e-mail at meosotis58@verizon.net

Rain Barrel Workshop

Tuesday March 16th from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Chapter House on Mullinix Mill Rd. near Damascus. Collect the rainwater from your rooftops and help control stormwater impacts from your yard and store water to use on your landscaping. Build your own rain barrel! Free! All materials and easy instructions provided. Limited to 30 households, one rain barrel per household. Registration required. Contact Jeff Deschamps at 301-604-3736 or via e-mail jeff.deschamps@verizon.net for more information or to register. Don't forget to bring a vehicle large enough to carry a 55-gallon barrel home!

View other conservation items at <http://mysite.verizon.net/vzeo63qr/index.html>

Conservation Landscaping Techniques. Two separate sessions on Thursday May 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Saturday May 22 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Brookside Gardens in Wheaton. Learn techniques to beautify your yard and neighborhood, restore native habitat, and help improve the environment while saving time and money over conventional lawns and landscaping. Cost for the workshop is \$10. Registration is limited to 40 people per session. Register online at www.parkpass.org for course #105103.

IWLA RANGE ROSTER 2010 (Bob Cooley)

March 2010

- Sat 3/6 Tim Mulreaney, Bob Cooley, Jay Jeffrey, Ron Trenti
- Sun 3/7 Mark Gay, Paul Turska, Martin Cherry, Jay DeVan
- Sat 3/13 George Fichter, Dave Fichter, Paul Fisher, Murray Welsh
- Sun 3/14 Seamus Webb, Mike Webb, Gerhard Bartsch, Bob Poth
- Wed 3/17 Brian Van Winkle, "Rip" Van Winkle, Bob Woodward, Ron Roberson
- Sat 3/20 Mike Bowen, Dave Gold, Ira Wein, Mike Agnelli
- Sun 3/21 Jim Crowell, Judy Crowell, Joel Gross, Bob Griffin
- Wed 3/24 Richard Maple, Conley Phipps, Frank Bis, Carl McMahon
- Sat 3/27 Richard Zabell, Charles Weaver, Bill Rahn, Gary Green
- Sun 3/28 Buddy Michael, Peter Sittner, Robin Moore, Dave Stevenson
- Wed 3/31 Debbi Perry, Heather Barber, Alan Palestine, Berle Cherney

RIFLE/PISTOL (Barry Ephraim)

The February Chapter and Range Orientation was held on February 28th as scheduled. The Ranges and range road were closed due to the snow so class was held in the Clubhouse. New members receiving their Range Access Cards were Student member Sean Geiser and regular members Mike Laroi, and Chris Wright. Steve Lefebvre as welcomed back as a member of the Range Orientation committee, teaching this class along with Barry Ephraim. We are looking for a few good men or women to join our committee and help with Range Orientation. If you would like to assist new members become acclimated to our club, and receive service hours, please e-mail Barry Ephraim at eyebear@aol.com.

RSO NEWS (Wendy Smith/Jesse Lim)

The Rifle and Pistol RSO team members extend our sincere thoughts and prayers to Judy Riley and their family and friends for the passing of her husband, Tommy Riley. In Tommy's memory, the R/P RSO team will place a placards on the uncovered pistol range dedicating it in the memory of Tommy Riley. It will be named the Tommy Riley Open Range.

The team is also pleased to announce the naming of the .22 Fun Shoot Matches moving forward as The Tommy Riley .22 Fun Shoot Matches, in Tommy's memory. Tommy founded the .22 Fun Shoot Matches at WAC and we are proud to continue this event in his memory.

Invitation to all members. April 25th Sunday morning Introduction to RSO; a 4 hour attendance certification class. The class will have an overview on safety use of rifle and pistol ranges, know the WAC Rifle and pistol safety rules update, information on how to get assistance for rifle and pistol sight-in and provide information on NRA classes available at our club. Any questions please contact Jesse Lim, Cell: 240-832-0354 and to reserve your seats for the Introduction to Range Safety Officer please send an email to Wendy Smith:
smitty446@hotmail.com

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

Thanks to Nicolas Giuliano for mailing the printed version of the newsletter every month. Thanks to Meo Curtis, Jeff Deschamps, Barry Ephraim, Wendy Smith, 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 as the date and name of the event.

If you would like to receive a printed newsletter, write to

Joe Gick

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