

Wildlife Gazette

Wildlife Achievement Chapter Izaak Walton League of America

DECEMBER 2014

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CHAPTER NEWS, EVENTS AND ARTICLES

Fellow Ike's,

Following are important updates regarding the 2015 membership renewals process:

More than 1/3 of members have yet to submit payment for their dues. Members are strongly encouraged to <u>submit payment as soon as possible</u> to ensure they get their 2015 range access cards before January 1st. On that date, existing range access cards expire and members without a new card will not be allowed to use the ranges. Processing payments and issuing range cards takes substantial time and labor and payments received after the middle of December will likely not get their range cards in a timely manner. The membership secretary would prefer to spend the holiday season with family, not processing payments and range cards. Please beat the end of year rush and write a check payable to IWLA WAC for the amount of your dues and send it to Tim Garrity, PO Box 1630, Olney, MD 20830-1630. Individual members owe \$135. Family members owe \$205. Those that failed to complete their 2-year probationary work requirements in a timely manner need to add \$60 to those amounts. Send related inquiries to membership@iwlawac.org.

The printer completed production of <u>2015 Range Access Cards</u> so the process of mailing them to members can begin. Those who made payments earlier rather than later will receive them before others. Likewise for those whose last name is earlier in the alphabet. No discrimination intended for members at the alphabetical end of the membership list, just a fact of the process used to keep track of renewals for our 1,500+ members.

In order to get 2015 Range Access Cards to members sooner than later, they will be issued as soon as possible after receiving your renewal payment. You will no longer have to wait the approximately 4-6 weeks after receipt of payment while IWLA National completes processing of your renewal and creates your membership card. This change in process also means you should not anticipate receiving your <u>2015 membership card</u> in the mail as this would incur substantial additional processing delays and postage costs. Members that receive only their Range Access Card through the mail can still pickup their 2015 membership cards at the chapter house. Your membership card is not required for any chapter-related activity. Please contact <u>Tim Garrity</u> as noted above if you wish to arrange to get your membership card.

All members are being sent a letter (most with their range access card) that includes the <u>current contact</u> <u>information</u> on file for them and are asked to update it as needed or simply verify the information is complete and accurate. This is critically important as we consider the possibility of electronic billing for 2016, making it faster and easier to pay dues, issue range cards more quickly, save money in postage and reduce the substantial administration burden associated with membership renewals. It also will make it easier for us to provide members with well-timed information about chapter news, upcoming activities, and availability of our facilities. You are asked to submit your response to Tim G. via US mail or email as noted above. Members consistently express strong levels of satisfaction and enjoyment with their membership. Your <u>membership feedback</u> is welcome and greatly appreciated. Feel free to share your thoughts about your membership experience to Tim G. as well as any recommendation you believe could increase the enjoyment of our chapter.(Tim Garrity)

Our Television Debut (Jim Piateski)

On December 7th, a group of WAC members traveled to Owings Mills to the studios of Maryland Public Television. Our mission was to answer phones and take pledges for the fundraising effort currently in progress. I'm sure most of you have at one time or another stumbled upon a fund raising campaign on public television.

It was interesting to see just how these programs are run. My only regret is that we couldn't watch the program on Pearl Harbor being show during the second segment of the program.

My thanks on behalf of the Maryland Division and the National office of the IWLA go to those participating in this effort to raise awareness of the IWLA and their mission. Participants were Susan and Charlie Baker, Judy Lefebvre, Meo Curtis, Jeff Deschamps, Matt Dill, Buzz Mooney, Kevin Mook, Andy Pozsgay, Aubrey Duley, and Steve Tiner.

Conservation (Meo Curtis)

Laurel – December 1, 2014 – WSSC announced a winter Pilot Program that will, for the first time, open the Triadelphia Access Road along the Triadelphia Reservoir for multipurpose use during the winter months. Effective today, horseback riders, birdwatchers and hikers will be able to enjoy year-round use of the Access Road through the winter as well as spring, summer and fall seasons.

The one-year Pilot Program will open the 4.5 mile Triadelphia Access Road that traces the southern boundary of the reservoir in Montgomery County. A new parking lot located on Triadelphia Lake Road will be the only entrance to the Access Road during the winter. The newly constructed lot provides ample parking space for six to eight horse trailers. Once the reservoir reopens to all visitors on March 15, the upper parking lot at Green Bridge will be open to horse trailers as well, providing entrance to the Access Road from both ends. There will be no other trail entrances between Triadelphia Lake Road and Green Bridge Recreational Areas.

The Pilot Program applies to land activities on the Access Road only. All other areas of the reservoir will close for the 2014 season on November 30. All fishing or boating activities will resume on March 15, 2015 for the new season.

WSSC will enforce its same watershed use regulations on the Access Road.

- Anyone 16 years or older must possess a valid WSSC Watershed Use Permit.
- Minors under the age of 16 must be accompanied by someone 18 years of age and hold a valid Use Permit.
- All horseback riders must wear a helmet.
- No animal waste can be left on parking lots or roadways.
- Season and day permits are valid for use of the Access Road.
 - o 2014 season permits are valid thru March 14, 2015
 - o 2015 season permits are required starting March 15, 2015
- Season and day permits can be purchased online or in person at:
 - o <u>www.wsscwater.com</u>
 - o Richard G. Hocevar Building Cashier's Window
 - o Brighton Dam Visitor's Information Cabin
- 2015 season permits can be purchased beginning February 1, 2015.

Horseback riding, bird watching and hiking are allowed on the Access Road only. The creation of or use of side trails will not be permitted. Riders, birdwatchers and hikers will need to strictly adhere to the "Stay on Trail" signs visibly posted along the Access Road.

The trail will be closed to horseback riding in wet weather and when the trail is wet and muddy to protect the watershed from erosion. Daily open/closed updates will be available by calling 301-206-4FUN. Access Road trail map and complete rules and regulations are available online under the <u>Public Information section</u> of our site.

The Access Road will be open daily from sunrise to sunset. On days when managed hunts occur on Triadelphia Reservoir, the entire reservoir including the Access Road will be closed until 1 p.m.

Hunts are currently scheduled for:

- December 3, 17, 29, 30
- January 5, 9, 2015

The pilot program is consistent with recommendations in a 2012 study performed by EA Engineers on behalf of WSSC and several months of working with the local community and equestrian enthusiasts. The study determined that Triadelphia Access Road only has a small amount of highly erodible soil (HES) allowing WSSC to provide public access to the road. The program will be re-evaluated based on erosion and environmental impact on the Access Road and the reservoir prior to next winter season.

Skeet and Trap (Bob Cooley)

Shotgun Range Roster

January 2015

Sat	1/3	Tim Mulreany, Gary Green
Sun	1/4	Steve Rowcroft, Stephen Meyers
Sat	1/10	Jim Arnold, Keith Kosian
Sun	1/11	Hank Williams, Mike Webb
Sat	1/17	Roman Drews, Bill Murphy
Sun	1/18	Joel Gross, Gerhard Bartsch
Sat	1/24	Robin Dixon, Glenn Hubert
Sun	1/25	Bob Poth, Dave Stevenson
Sat	1/31	Bob Reynolds, Arden Young

Substitutes:

Mash Esfanaji, Mary Esfanaji, Tony Hess, Mark Gay, George King, Gary Giambalvo, Murray Welsh, Jim Crowell, Maj Tavakoli, Berle Cherney, Ed Shifflet, Frank Bis, Ron Roberson, Jay Jeffrey, Carl McMahon, Brian Van Winkle, Bob Woodward, Debbi Perry, Bob Cooley, Paul Fisher, Greg Myers, Jay DeVan, Paul Turska, Jake Turska, Steve Olsen

SAFETY THOUGHTS

If you SEE something, SAY something!! If you SAY something DO something!! - Robert Morgan

WAC Range Safety Officer Committee, Rifle and Pistol (Jesse Lim and Wendy Smith)

(from the November issue)

Important! It is **<u>YOUR RESPONSIBILITY</u>** TO READ AND KNOW ALL WAC Rifle/Pistol range safety, conduct and rules! They are available on our website and posted at the ranges as well.

http://www.damascusiwla.org/RiflePistolRules.html

If you have any questions, please contact Jesse Lim via cell at 240-832-0354.

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

<u>Congratulations</u> The following probationary members have successfully completed their probation and are now graduated to Full Member status.

Paul LargentDavid EscalanteAlfred ChunDaniel FemianoJoe ByrdLenny ByrdTony CartsLarry HillJimmy LessigJames M. LessigHenry FlannerDavid SelmanJim HitchcockRobert NugentMichael Howerton

Chapter Maintenance Day

November 16 Members, Family and Nonmembers: Al Goldschmidts, John Leaman, John Cianflone, Aleksandr Shtirberg, Guy Wright, Billy Ramos, Joseph Smith and Wendy Smith Probationary Members: (Regular credit) Andy Goldschmidts, Nick Hewitt, Bud Gates, Jamie De Moss, Matthew Olson, Kim Hewitt, James Nail, Alex Bush, Dan Leaman, Rick Garbett, Debbie Garbett, William Leaman, Larry Hill, Kirk Lattner, Neil Balfour and **Richard Rawlings Shotgun Maintenance Day** November 16 Brian White, Joe Pauley, Steve Myers, Shah Iftikhar and Mark McKevitt Probationary Members: (Regular credit) Ed Shifflett, Jimmy Lessig, Matthew Konas and Larry Camper **Kitchen Setup for Membership Dinner** November 18 Probationary Member: (Regular credit) Neil Balfour **Membership Dinner** November 19 Members, Family and Nonmembers: Keith Mangolas and Linda Stanley Probationary Members: (Regular credit) Adrian Jackman, Steve Emerick, Philip Falcone and Andrew Falcone

If you volunteered for an activity in the past month and your name does not appear in this issue of the newsletter or you are incorrectly listed or you need a reminder as to your work history please email me at <u>nicolasgiu@yahoo.com</u>.

PROBATIONARY MEMBERS!

IF YOU JOINED IN 2012 OR BEFORE

CHECK YOUR WORK STATUS

RENEWAL TIME IS HERE AVOID THE

\$60 PENALTY

Probationary members have a work requirement. Most understand that. But, there is some confusion as to how that work requirement is fulfilled. New members must help with a minimum of two projects in each of their first two years of membership. Failure to do so will prevent a renewal of your membership the following year (you could be charged an additional registration fee in order to renew). When you work on a project you are required to be there for the entire project. You are expected to arrive on time for the project. If you leave early you will not get credit for the project.

In year one of your membership, you are required to work on a minimum of two projects. One of which must be a conservation based project. The second project can be any club project including another conservation event.

In year two, you are required to work on a minimum of two projects. One of which must be a conservation based project. The second project can be any club project including another conservation event.

You cannot work additional projects in year one and have them carried over to year two. The work requirement is set up to span two years with the hope that members will find projects they are interested in and want to support after they have completed their probation.

All projects will have a signup sheet. FIND IT. If you do not sign the sheet we do not mark you as there. It is your responsibility to sign in for proper credit. If you are a probationary member, be sure to check the box that says you are probationary, otherwise it will not be recorded.

Each monthly newsletter will show the credit given, by project, and who was there. Check to see if your name is listed. It is possible your name was not legible.

Mistakes can happen. When they do we want to correct them as soon as possible. Check the newsletter after volunteering and report any error as soon as possible. Our newsletters are archived back to 2005.

Due to the poor legibility of a number of names, I am forced to guesstimate these names. This Thank You list of volunteers is made up of Full Members, Probationary Members and Non-members so my guess could be wrong.

If you are working towards getting credit please give me a legible name.

<u>Editor's note: It will make my life much simpler if future submissions are in 12 point Times New Roman font</u> and in Word format. I thank you for your consideration.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS (Jim Piateski jimpiateski@verizon.net)

Thanks to Nicolas Giuliano for mailing the printed version of the newsletter every month and tracking volunteer hours. Thanks to Meo Curtis, Bob Cooley, and Tim Garrity for their contributions to this newsletter. Thanks to Chuck Crooks for posting and contributing to 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 <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:

Tim Garrity PO Box 1630 Olney, MD 20830-1630