



**Wildlife Achievement Chapter**  
**Izaak Walton League of America**  
APRIL 2016

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**CHAPTER NEWS, EVENTS AND ARTICLES**

**Conservation** (Meo Curtis)

Conservation News for April 2016.

*Watershed Clean Up. Saturday April 2.* Despite the ominous skies and uncertain weather, we had 25 members and non-members come out for our annual spring watershed clean up. We collected about 27 bags of litter, plus 2 tires and pieces from the front end of a Honda that we left for the Montgomery County DOT pick up. Recyclable beverage containers made up a big portion of the litter along the roadsides. The team at the Windsor Forest Rd site collected a trailer load of debris that the Department of Natural Resources took away for disposal.

Thanks to Jim Piatetski and Jeff Deschamps for roving around from site to site to make sure we didn't leave anyone or any bags behind; Ranger Technicians Alan Zlotkowski and Hayes Ambush at the Windsor Forest Rd. site; and Ed Maynes, our photographer.

*From the Montgomery County Adopt-A-Road News. (2015) OCTOBER's* winner is **Izaak Walton League Wildlife Achievement Chapter** who reported picking up **35 bags** of trash along Mullinix Mill Road in Damascus! (NOTE: We had cleaned up Mullinix Mill Road and also Long Corner Road, a good portion of Gue Road, Annapolis Rock Road, and an old dump site in the very upper part of the watershed!)

*Gardens Maintenance. Thursday 3/24.* Our seven-person crew (including two father and son teams!) weeded and trimmed the butterfly garden beside the entrance road and the gardens around the Chapter House. The back gardens got a nice coat of mulch that had been donated by Rodger Moran.

*Conservation Credit Events coming up:*

Rachel Carson Park Tree Planting and Maintenance. Sunday April 17. 9 am to noon. No rain date. This is an off-site project. For more info and directions contact Contact Barry Fleming [barryjflem@verizon.net](mailto:barryjflem@verizon.net) or Rodger Moran [rodger.j.moran@gmail.com](mailto:rodger.j.moran@gmail.com)

Chapter Gardens maintenance. Thursday April 21 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Weed removal, planting, and mulching. Register with Meo Curtis at [meosotis58@verizon.net](mailto:meosotis58@verizon.net).

*Other Conservation Activities:*

National Park Service 100th Anniversary This year is the 100th anniversary of the founding of our National Park Service. There are many events and activities throughout 2016 to celebrate the

centennial and the goal that the most wondrous and spectacular landscapes in the world's largest democracy should be accessible to everyone, and that our indigenous plant and animal life should be provided protected free-range habitats. More information is available at:

[nps.gov/subjects/centennial/](http://nps.gov/subjects/centennial/)

June 4 is National Trails Day; U.S. park sites host events demonstrating their array of trail activities, including hiking, biking, paddling, horseback riding, and wildlife spotting.

For more information: [nationaltrailsday.americanhiking.org](http://nationaltrailsday.americanhiking.org)

On National Park Week (April 16-24) and on the Park Service's 100th anniversary (Aug 25-28), admission fees will be waived at all park sites, and many parks are also hosting their own free days throughout the year. ([nps.gov/findapark/national-park-week.htm](http://nps.gov/findapark/national-park-week.htm))

•And fourth-grade students — hurry! you can visit free through the rest of the 2015-2016 school years, thanks to the Every Kid in a Park initiative. ([everykidinapark.gov](http://everykidinapark.gov))

Howard County Greenfest Come out for a FREE family event celebrating Earth Month on Saturday, April 16 from 10:00am – 4:00pm at Howard Community College 10901 Little Patuxent Parkway Columbia, Maryland 21044 in the Burrill Galleria. Over 80 displays will provide easy steps we can all take to promote environmental responsibility. Lunch will be available for purchase. Check [HCGreenfest.org](http://HCGreenfest.org) for more information. Rain or shine event but most activities are inside.

Montgomery County Greenfest Saturday April 30 from 11 am to 4 pm at Takoma Park Community Center at [7500 Maple Avenue Takoma Park, MD 20912](http://7500%20Maple%20Avenue%20Takoma%20Park,%20MD%2020912). A one-day festival focused on the people and environment of Montgomery County! Activities for all ages to create a greener community. Check [montgomerycountyGreenfest.org](http://montgomerycountyGreenfest.org) for more information.

- Enjoy live music.
- Watch an environmental film!
- Learn how to green your home and neighborhood.
- Explore the approximately 100 exhibitors and vendor booths.
- Listen to a nationally recognized speaker, including EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy.
- Grab a snack at a food truck.

#### Local Geocaching with an environmental theme!

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC): The WSSC six geocaches are spread out within the T. Howard Duckett Reservoir (Rocky Gorge). Each cache contains information about WSSC, our programs, tips for being a responsible water user, and possibly some cool “swag.” Remember, if you take something, it’s polite to leave something of greater or equal value for the next person to find! \*Please note that geocachers do not need a Watershed Use Permit when searching for caches on our property.. For more information see: <https://www.wsscwater.com/watershed>.

Montgomery County. The Caching the Rain geotrail's theme is stormwater awareness. Improving water quality is in your hands! The Caching the Rain Geotrail takes you on a tour of some of Montgomery County's stormwater management practices. There are geocaches placed nearby various practices that help improve water quality in our local streams. More information is available at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/water/caching-the-rain.html>.

Chapter Gardens maintenance. Sunday April 24 from 10 to noon on the Chapter monthly work day. Weed removal, planting, and mulching. Register with Meo Curtis at [meosotis58@verizon.net](mailto:meosotis58@verizon.net).

- Enjoy live music.
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### **Shotgun Range Roster** (Steve Olsen) **May, 2016**

Sun	5/1	Stephen Meyers, Steve Rowcroft
Wed	5/4	Berle Cherney, Ed Shifflett
Sat	5/7	Tim Mulreany, Gary Green
Sun	5/8	Hank Williams, Jeremy Dvorak
Wed	5/11	Frank Bis, Ron Roberson
Sat	5/14	Jim Arnold, Murray Welsh, Keith Kosian,
Sun	5/15	Joel Gross, Gerhard Bartsch
Wed	5/18	Jay Jeffrey, Carl McMahon
Sat	5/21	Bill Murphy, Roman Drews
Sun	5/22	Paul Turska, Jake Turska

Wed 5/25	Bob Woodward, Berle Cherney
Sat 1/28	Robin Dixon, Glenn Hubert
Sun 1/29	Bob Poth, Dave Stevenson

Substitues:

Bob Cumberland, Rodger Moran, Mash Esfanaji, Mary Esfanaji, Tony Hess, Mark Gay, Ed Gilpin, Greg Myers, Steve Olsen, , George King, Jim Crowell, Maj Tavakoli, Gary Giambalvo, Arden Young, Jay DeVan, Jeff Tokar

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

WAC Range Safety Officer Committee, Rifle and Pistol (Jesse Lim) Important! It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY 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.damascusiwa.org/RiflePistolRules.html> If you have any questions, please contact Jesse Lim via cell at 240-832-0354.

REMINDER! All WAC members and guests using our rifle / pistol ranges, must strictly sign in on the logbook located at the WAC main building PRIOR to proceeding to the ranges. The logbook box is on the lower level of the chapter house brick wall next to the emergency phone. Important! All guests must sign in and be accompanied by a current member while on club grounds. Guest name not sign in will be removing immediately from the club ground and consider as trespassing.

WAC board has approved the request from the Rifle and Pistol Chairman to implement new guest identification badges and conduct rules for using the guest badges in January 2017. The badges will be part of the annual membership renewal activity later this year.

Important!

Guests must be signed in with their full first and last name, and **members are limited to bringing 2 guests per day.** Additional guests are NOT permitted, even if they are not shooting or just observing. IMPORTANT: When you are finished using the range, you are responsible for cleaning up the range, and signing yourself out and any guest(s) in the logbook.

Effective immediately: Any member receiving a violation will require them to attend the orientation class within 30 days from the citation date. If the orientation class is not re-taken within 30 days of the citation, the members range gate card will be suspended until the orientation class is recorded upon completion. A suspended candidate will not be able to use any of our shooting ranges and will not be allowed as a guest.

**April New Cowboy Shooters Clinic:**

The first cowboy shooting clinic of the year was held on April 10<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the clinic is to introduce the sport to potential enthusiasts who'd like to give it a try without "the whole world watching." **SAFETY** camaraderie and fun are the real focus of the sport. Thank you to Atlantic Guns for providing equipment and ammo. Thank you to our instructors: Sagebrush Kid, Short Toed Steve, Old Baldy, Mt. Airy Undertaker, Snapshot Sandy, Balderado, J.R. Gomez, Catocin, Tom Tobin and Annie Jean Oakely.









### **WAC NRA Training Update – Wendy Smith**

The first class of the year was the NRA Basic Rifle on March 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to our instructors: Jesse Lim, Billy Ramos, Buzz Vogel, Dean Elliott, Gregg McDonald, Hans Varmer, Jean Alker, Marc Hinthier, Paul Largent, Pete Ott, Tom Ouellette and Wendy Smith (logistics).





On April 9<sup>th</sup> we had our first ever WAC offering of the NRA Range Safety Officer (RSO) training course delivered by Jesse Lim. The purpose of the course is to teach:

- ☐ The Role of the NRA Range Safety Officer and Range Standard Operating Procedures
- ☐ Range Inspection and Range Rules
- ☐ Range Safety Briefing
- ☐ Emergency Procedures
- ☐ Firearm Stoppages and Malfunctions

There was great interest and demand for the course. We hope to offer another one later this year.



Please stay tuned for special WAC announcements regarding the May 15<sup>th</sup> NRA Basic Pistol Class which now requires the student to **FIRST TAKE AN ONLINE CLASS VIA COMPUTER** directly from the NRA website. As we have more details on how that will be implemented, including cost and system requirements, we will publish a special announcement.

### **THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS**

#### **A REMINDER TO OUR MEMBERS**

If you joined the chapter on or before **April 2014** and you have not seen your name listed in any issue of the newsletter as being graduated to full member status, you are **still on probation**. If you need a work status update, email Nick at nicolasgiu@yahoo.com

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW FULL MEMBERS**

The following probationary members have successfully completed their probation and are now graduated to Full Member status.

No members met their work requirement as of the date this column was turned in (3/30/2016).

### **SPECIAL REMINDER TO OUR PROBATIONARY MEMBERS**

We have quite a few probationary members that have completed all four required work activities in their first year of probation and think they have met their obligation, they have not. If you think you may be one of these members, drop me an email at nicolasgiu@yahoo.com and I will send you your work status update.



**Membership Dinner/Meeting**

2/24/2016

Members, Family and Nonmembers:

Mash Esfanaji, Mary Esfanaji, Adrian Jackman, Kris Goldberg, Tresi Pawlsh, Ryan Mondoneda

Probationary Member: (Regular Credit)

John Porter

**Board of Directors Meeting**

3/2/2016

Probationary Member: (Regular Credit)

John Porter.

**Rain Barrel Workshop**

3/7/2016

Probationary Member: (Conservation Credit)

John Porter

**Chapter Range Maintenance Day**

3/20/2016

Members, Family and Nonmembers:

Al Goldschmidts, Bud Gates, Billy Ramos, Tom Ouellette, Lee Cascio

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Keith Stroud, Karl Plitt, Mindy Goldsborough,

Al Goldsborough, Ed Maynes and John Porter

**Membership Dinner/Meeting (Set-up)**

3/22/2016

Probationary Member: (Regular Credit)

John Porter

**Membership Dinner/Meeting**

3/23/2016

Probationary Member: (Regular Credit)

John Porter

**Chapter Garden Maintenance**

3/24/2016

Members, Family and Nonmembers:

Tim Whipp, Emily Whipp, Moe Curtis, Jeff Deschamps, August Plitt and Jim Piatetski

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

Melissa Dilla, Karl Krchma, Michael Veirs Sr., Michael Veirs Jr., Karl Edward Plitt and Vince Burakiewicz

**Cowboy Set Up**

3/25/2016

Members, Family and Nonmembers:

Chuck Crooks, Barb Crooks, Greg Stearns, Lee Trunnell and A. Cbrueckmana  
Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)  
Bahman Adeli and Ed Maynes

#### **SPECIAL REMINDERS:**

**This reminder is directed to the many probationary members that have devoted many, many hours to the maintenance of our ranges. This is great; the Ranges require a lot of maintenance. However, as stated in the Chapter's Bylaws all probationary members must participate in at least one Conservation Activity in each of their probationary years.**

**We have quite a number of probationary members that have completed all four required work activities in their first year of probation and think they have met their obligation, they have not. If you think you may be one of these members, drop me an email.**

If you need a work status update, email Nick at [nicolasgiu@yahoo.com](mailto:nicolasgiu@yahoo.com)

#### **NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS** (Jim Piateski [jimpiateski@verizon.net](mailto:jimpiateski@verizon.net))

Thanks to Nicolas Giuliano for mailing the printed version of the newsletter every month and tracking volunteer hours. Thanks to Steve Olsen, Meo Curtis, Wendy Smith and Jesse Lim 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 [jimpiateski@verizon.net](mailto: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:

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