



Wildlife Gazette  
**Wildlife Achievement Chapter**  
Izaak Walton League of America  
NOVEMBER 2021

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**Wildlife Achievement Chapter 26430 Mullinix Mill Road Mt. Airy, Maryland 21771**  
Main House Phone: 301-253-2384 Web Site: <http://www.DamascusIWLA.org>  
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**CHAPTER NEWS AND EVENTS**

*It's that time of year*  
*Note new range hours*  
*10 AM until 5:00 PM*

**Christmas Cookie – Bake and Exchange Event**

Saturday – December 11<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am to 2:00 pm WAC is hosting our Annual Christmas Cookie Bake and Exchange. In previous years – approximately 150 dozen cookies were baked – not counting the children decorated Sugar Cookies. All attending would exchange their baked cookies and some attendees donate cookies to WAC. The donated cookies are available at WAC's Holiday Party and proceeds go towards our WAC's Junior programs.

WAC will provide the flour, butter, sugar, and eggs. Attendees – please bring special items for your cookies. Children are welcome to attend and show their decorating Sugar Cookies skills. If you would like to attend – please RSVP to [Cherie.aker@gmail.com](mailto:Cherie.aker@gmail.com). Space is limited.

Hope to see you on December 11<sup>th</sup> for the Cookie bake and on Wednesday December 15<sup>th</sup> for the Membership Meeting and Holiday Party.

## Interested in Learning More, Renewing Skills, Start a New Hobby?

As I am approaching my time to retire – I have given a lot of thought which direction my life will go. Did I want to expand my knowledge in the environment, refresh my computer skills, or start a new hobby? I have never been one to sit and wait for an opportunity. So, before I retire, I plan to take advantage of an opportunity my current employer provides.

If you are 60+ years old and work less than 20 hours a week – you could be eligible for the Golden ID program with University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC). This program allows FREE tuition each semester for one or two courses. For an undergraduate three semester hour (sh) course – your cost would be \$45 for technology fees. The tuition cost is zero!

For the environment – you could enroll in NSCI 362 Our Environment: Human Impact and Sustainable Choices.

To Refresh Computer Skills – you could enroll in a one semester hour course - CMST 100B Word Processing, CMST 100D Presentation Graphics (PowerPoint), or CMST 100G Spreadsheet Applications (EXCEL). CMIS 111 Social Networking and Cybersecurity Best Practices is a 3-semester hour course teaching how to protect your virtual self and your social networking accounts.

Art as a hobby – enroll in ARTT 110 Introduction to Drawing or ARTT 152 Basics of Photography.

Golden ID students can receive a Letter Grade, Pass/Fail, or Audit for a course grading method.

If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity – please contact me Cherie.Aker@gmail.com. The Spring Semester courses are beginning January 12<sup>th</sup>.

There are some upcoming activities on the calendar.

The pandemic has curtailed most of our activities .

If there is an activity that you are interested in, it is suggested that you get a hold of the contact person to verify whether or not it will be held. Their contact info is on the web page listed with the event

**Shotgun Range Schedule** (Steve Olsen)  
**Rifle/Pistol Committee**  
December, 2021

Sat	12/4	Arden Young, Tim Mulreany
Sun	12/5	Ron Hoggard Dan Cimbora
Sat	12/11	Kevin Wolf, Rodger Moran
Sun	12/12	Maj Tavakoli, Mike Webb
Sat	12/18	Adam & Kim Buynak
Sun	12/19	Gary Giambalvo, Craig Leopard
Sat	12/25	Christmas Day - Range is Closed to all
Sun	12/26	Dave Stevenson, John Duchaj

Check Chapter calendar for upcoming events

**Rifle/ Pistol Committee** (Hans Varmer)  
Safety First !

The tragic incident on the set of “Rust” reminds us of the dangers that firearms pose when safety rules are taken for granted or treated casually. All of our NRA courses are founded upon the foundations of Knowledge, Skills, and Attitude. But of the three, **Attitude** is the most important. A bad attitude can result in danger, destruction or death despite a wealth of knowledge and skill.

At our club we enjoy a safety record going back decades. But to continue in that vein we will need to double down on our attitude of safety. Just as one incident on a movie set has brought national attention to gun safety and the call for tighter restrictions, one accident on our range could shut us down.

So, I encourage all members who enjoy the shooting sports to renew their dedication to not only the rules of safety but keeping the attitude of safety foremost in mind. Furthermore, I would encourage shooters to attend one of our monthly range orientation classes held near the end of each month to update and remind you of our safety rules and code of conduct.

To review online go to: <http://www.damascusiwla.org/RiflePistolRules.html>

## **October Club and Range Orientation** ( Jean F.Aker)

The class was held on 31 October 2021.

Instruction was conducted by Billy Ramos, Buzz Vogel and me, with support from Jesse Lim.

This month, 9 members signed up for the class and 8 showed up.

One spouse was not able to attend.

All passed.

Jean F. Aker

Chairman, Range Orientation Committee

## **RANGE SAFETY** (Chuck Crooks) (*This can't be posted enough*)

The club has had security cameras in place for about 6 years. The cameras became necessary after some property thefts and general safety concerns.

Range rules are established for a reason. They are designed to protect the safety of all members, their guests, our neighbors and our property. For these reasons, we take range violations very seriously. No matter how trivial you might think a rule is, there is a basis for safety that must be adhered to.

All range safety rules are accessible from our web site's main menu under the Rifle and Pistol Safety Rules link or you can take this direct link

<http://www.damascusiwa.org/RiflePistolRules.html>

Recently there has been a series of range rule violations including; shooting from a holster at a non-sanctioned event, failure to display range cards for members and their guests, shooting from the hip, shooting beyond the posted hours, failure to wear safety glasses, failure to write a guests name on the sign in log, using rifle caliber firearms on the pistol ranges and having more than one firearm on the firing line at the same time.

Initial violations (handled by the rifle and pistol committee) can be a warning and/or suspension from the ranges until you retake the range safety course. Serious violations may be reviewed by the board of directors for disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the club.

As you know, firearm ranges are always on the radar, especially in our area. Therefore we take our rules and the safety of our members and guests a priority.

As range officers, you are asked to report known violations to the rifle and pistol chairman.

### **THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS**

If you joined the chapter on or before **November 2019** and have not seen your name listed in any newsletter issue as being graduated to full member status, you are **still on probation.**

If you are not sure about your member status, email Nick at nicolasgiu@yahoo.com, and you will receive an email of your work history on record.

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

Amraj Singh	Hussain Bharmal
John Duchaj	Kenneth Milcetic
John M. Kenyon	Michael R. Smith
Claude K. Mc Dow	Samual J. Mazur

### **Kitchen Duty**

11/20/2019

Randy McKenzie (Chair)

**Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)**

Rick Swoboda and a New member, Peggy Winkler?  
There was no Peggy Winkler on record for this date.

**Range Maintenance Day**

9/26/2021

Chuck Crooks (Chair)

**Members, Family, and Nonmembers:**

Al Goldsmiths, Joe Pauley, Dean Elliott, Paul Turska, Robert Mongelluzzo, Guy Wright and  
John Hartwell

**Cowboy Setup**

10/28/2021

Chuck Limparis (Chair)

**Probationary Member: (Regular Credit)**

Phil Raum and Gerry Benedick

**Cops & Cowboys**

10/30/2021

Chuck Limparis (Chair)

**Probationary Member: (Regular Credit)**

Phil Raum and Gerry Benedick

**Chapter Maintenance Day**

10/31/2021

**Members, Family, and Nonmembers:**

Joe Pauley, Al Goldschmid, Keven Wolf,  
Dean Elliott, Paul Tarsha, Guy Wright,  
Chuck Crooks, Jhon Hartwell and Tom Ouellette

**Probationary Member: (Regular Credit)**

Phil Raum

**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 Chuck Crooks ,Cherie Aker, Jean Aker, Hans Varmer and Steve Olsen for their contributions to this newsletter. 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](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:

IzaakWaltonWAC@aol.com or

Chuck Crooks

Membership Secretary

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