



Wildlife Gazette
Wildlife Achievement Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America
August 2023

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CHAPTER NEWS AND EVENTS

Convention News

For those who didn't attend the National Convention held last month in Lincoln, Nebraska, the link below will highlight all that happened.

<https://www.iwla.org/news-events/convention2023>

Chapter Elections August 23, 2023

The slate of officers and directors is as follows.

President	John Porter
1st Vice-president	Jesse Lim
2 nd Vice-president	Joe Pauley
3 rd Vice-president	Rodger Moran
Treasurer	Paul Turska
Parliamentarian	Steve Lefebvre
Chaplain	Adol Owen-Williams II
Sergeant-at Arms	Rich Fried
Corresponding Secretary	Jim Piatetski
Recording Secretary	John Hartwell
Membership Secretary	Chuck Crooks
Director	Jean Aker
Director	Dave Goldberg
Director	Mindy Goldsborough.

WAC CHAPTER ORIENTATION AND RANGE SAFETY CLASS IS NOW MANDATORY

There are some members that do not use the rifle, pistol or shotgun ranges. Many of these members have never attended the chapter "Orientation and Range Safety Class". Members that have not attended the Orientation and Range Safety class are not issued member range passes and cannot use these ranges on their own until they complete the class.

This causes the members using only the airgun or archery ranges to not have credentials indicating that they are members. This is a particular concern on the archery range due to its location at the main entrance to our property.

The board of directors has a long standing policy that you must display a range pass when using any of the chapter ranges. This includes Rifle, Pistol, Shotgun, Archery and Airgun ranges. Not covering the airgun and archery ranges was an oversight and needs to be corrected.

Effective January 1, 2024, all members must display a WAC range pass when using any of the above ranges. This will also limit guests to only two per qualified member. An archery and airgun component has been added to the orientation and range safety class.

A green member range pass and red Visitor pass must be displayed while on any chapter range with the exception of organized and supervised events.

The orientation and Range Safety classes are held on the last Sunday of the month at 8:30 AM. The class is approximately 3 hours long and is held in the main hall. You must pre-register by email. You can email [John Randall](#) to let him know you are coming.

Members that have not taken the range Orientation and Range Safety class must complete the class by the end of this year. Any member that has not completed the class by January 1, 2024 cannot use any range on their own and can only use the ranges as a guest of a member that has completed the class. All members and their guests must display their range card while on any of our ranges.

PENALTY INCREASE FOR INCOMPLETE VOLUNTEER HOURS

Starting with the 2024 dues renewal process, all members that have not completed the required 4 volunteer work projects within their probationary period will be charged a \$100 penalty instead of the current \$60 penalty.

Two of the four projects must be a conservation project. All four can be conservation but a minimum of two is required. The club calendar has all conservation projects listed in Bold Green letters. Regular credit projects are written in Bold Brown letters.

The Board of Directors approved the increase in an effort to encourage members to volunteer for chapter conservation and regular work projects. We are a volunteer organization and of late, the number of volunteers has not been sufficient to complete all of the needed work activities.

As long as members have not completed their requirements, they will remain on probationary status. If you complete your projects in year one, you are still on probation until your two years are up.

Conservation

This first section is especially important if you are an applicator or manager of a complex of any sort that uses salt on roadways ,parking lots or sidewalks.

Montgomery County Smart Salt Applicator Training

August 30th, 2023

9am - 2pm, Virtual

[Register Here](#)

Hosted by the Izaak Walton League of America, Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and Bolton and Menk, Inc, this event will teach contracted salt applicators how to save money and protect water resources by using less salt while keeping roads, parking lots, and sidewalks safe. The tons of salt used every year to manage snow and ice damages infrastructure and vegetation and pollutes our lakes, streams, and groundwater. Oversalting costs you money and can threaten the health of our ecosystems and drinking water. Participating organizations have been able to reduce their salt use by 30 to 70%! While this training is FREE, spaces are limited, so [register soon](#)! Please contact Izaak Walton League staff at saltwatch@iwla.org with any questions.

RainScapes Rewards Rebate Program Application Portal Reopens August 1st

Be ready to go with your RainScapes project; the RainScapes Rebate Program portal will reopen on Tuesday, August 1st! Most applicants should plan for a Spring 2024 installation.

County residents can complete the online application found [here](#) starting on August 1st. It is quick and easy and will get you on the path to a new RainScapes project. The portal will be open until we reach the limit of applications we can support. We expect to be open until October 15th.

Check out our [FAQ page](#) to get your questions answered. Visit RainScapes.org for a wealth of resources to help select and plan your project.

August 11-19, Montgomery County Fair Volunteers needed to man IWLA Booth -

Contact Don & Mary Hunt is ButterflyMary46@msn.com 301-946-4795

August 20 Save Our Streams Committee, Chemical testing at Mullinix Mill monitoring site Noon to 1:00 PM. Observers welcome on a limited basis with prior notice. Contact John Hartwell 240-543-0156

Spring is right around the corner. Keep an eye on the calendar for upcoming conservation events

The Way We Think About the Earth Might Teach Us to Dig Deeper—Anita Stonebraker, Conservation Committee

In the past, I have written about the book, Braiding Sweetgrass, by Robin Wall Kimmerer, author, scientist, and member of the Potawatomi Indigenous Peoples' community.

I highly recommend the book, Braiding Sweetgrass, for anyone looking to understand our natural world more deeply and from a place of better understanding.

In a recent interview with the New York Times, Ms. Kimmerer's wise words bear repeating:

NYT Interviewer: But in “Braiding Sweetgrass,” you write about nature as capable of showing us love. If that’s true, doesn’t it also have to be capable of showing us the opposite?

Robin Wall Kimmerer: The answer that comes to mind is that it’s not all about us.

NYT: What?!

RWK: [Laughs.] Some of these cycles of creation and destruction that promote renewal and change might be bad for us, but we’re one of 200 million species. They might be bad for other species too, but over evolutionary time, we see that major changes that are destructive are also opportunities for adaptation and renewal and deriving new evolutionary solutions to tough problems. I think often think about Aldo Leopold's-quoted line, “One of the penalties of an ecological education is that one lives alone in a world of wounds.” But those destructive forces also end up often to be agents of change and renewal. It is a mistake to romanticize the living world, but it is also a mistake to think of the living world as adversarial.

Junior Airgun

The Damascus Junior Air Rifle Club season is coming up soon! New junior shooters are welcome to join!

An introduction to Air Rifle meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 6:30 PM in the upstairs hall.

This is a great shooting program for kids from ages 10 - 17 years old.

Practices are once a week for beginners on Thursday nights from 6 -8 PM.

The shooting season runs from September through May. First practice is Thursday, September 14, 2023.

The fee is \$180.00 for IWLA members and \$200 for non-members.

8 spots are available for beginners on Thursday evenings.

For additional information and to pre-register for the meeting, please contact Ed Mondoñedo at (301) 437-6285 or by email at eddarc2016@gmail.com

Ed Mondoñedo

Rifle/Pistol (Hans Varmer)

The 2023 Calendar is now posted on the website. For your convenience, we are including the Rifle & Pistol Committee events in one convenient place, with the online class pre-registration link for you to plan. The cost of all classes, such as NRA Basic Pistol and Wear & Carry Day 2, is \$150, Utah non-residence carry permits is \$150. Stop the Bleed classes will be \$50 and, the NEW Practical Defense Holster will be \$30.

Shotgun Range Schedule (Steve Olsen)

September 2023

Sat	9/2	George King, Bob Shelley
Sun	9/3	Steve Meyers
Wed	9/6	Frank Bis
Sat	9/9	Paul Turska, Lee Becknell
Sun	9/10	Joel Gross, Gerhard Bartsch
Wed	9/13	Jay Jeffrey
Sat	9/16	Phil Butler
Sun	9/17	Al Cross, Eric Huber
Wed	9/20	Jeremy Dvorak
Sat	9/23	Ryan Turner, Michael Levendusky
Sun	9/24	Dave Stevenson
Wed	9/27	Craig Leopard
Sat	9/30	Doug Chapman

Thanks to our Volunteers (Forrest Neal)

If you joined the chapter on or before July 2021 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 are not sure as to your status, email Forrest at fpnthree@gmail.com and you will receive an email of your work history on record.

The following probationary members have completed their required volunteer projects and will become a full member after their two year anniversary date.

None

Congratulations to our new Full Members

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

Camille Park, Kwon Park, Max Kuminov, Gilbert Castillo,

Cowboy Action Shoot Set Up/Tear down

7/7-8/2023 (Chair) Chuck Limparis

Members and Nonmembers:

Dogmeat, Tom Ogle, Marian Ogle

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Joshua Fowler, Franklin Sanders, Troy Chevalier, Steve Robinson, David Vaughn

Garden Maintenance

7/14/2023 (Chair) Meo Curtis

Members and Nonmembers:

Amrai Singh, Jeff Deschamps

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

David Vaughn, Juan Gomez, Gilbert Castillo, Troy Chevalier

Stream Monitoring

7/16/2023 (Chair) John Hartwell

Members and Nonmembers:

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

Sherry Neal

Chapter Maintenance Day- Rifle, Pistol and Shotgun Range Clean Up

7/30/2023 (Chair) Paul Turska

Members and Nonmembers:

Al Goldschmidts, John Porter, Joe Pauley, Peter Mott, Dean Elliott, Tom Ouellette, Tracy Schaff

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Michael Belcher, Eric Pedowitz, Gilbert Castillo, Rich Clement

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS (Jim Piateski jimpiateski@verizon.net)

Thanks to Jim Piateski for mailing the printed version of the newsletter every month and Forrest Neal for tracking volunteer hours. Thanks to Chuck Crooks, Hans Varmer , Anita Stonebraker, Ed Mondonedo 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 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:

IzaakwaltonWAC@aol.com

Chuck Crooks

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