



Wildlife Gazette
Wildlife Achievement Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America
March 2024

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CHAPTER NEWS AND EVENTS

The IWL A Maryland state division is hosting this year's National Convention. The convention will be at the Hyatt Regency hotel in Cambridge, Maryland. The convention is a two-day event (Monday July 15th & Tuesday 16th). For our early attendees arriving on Sunday, July 14th, we will be hosting the Early Bird Dinner and Auction. Following the Your Help Is Needed!

convention, for the attendees staying an extra day or two, we will be offering group activities. Convention registration will be launched approximately April 1st on the IWL A National Web site www.IWL A.org The Hyatt Regency is accepting hotel reservations at the discounted rate of \$175 plus tax for a standard room. Upgrades are available. If you are interested in reserving a room, you can do it now at [IWLA Annual Conference \(hyatt.com\)](http://IWLA Annual Conference (hyatt.com)) or call (410) 901-1234 and provide our group code G-IZWL for discount rate. The Early Bird Auction is our major source of fundraising for the convention. I am hoping this year's convention surpasses all previous conventions. I want Maryland to be the best! You can help by attending the convention, but also by donating items for the auction, placing an ad in our convention program, or sponsoring.

Please donate new items or handcrafted items that would appeal to our members.

Handcrafted items could be duck nesting boxes, bat or bird houses, honeybee hive, custom wood signs, themed baskets, hunting or fishing accessories, etc.

Another option is to place an ad in our convention program booklet. The ad could focus on your business or a personal note wishing the Maryland convention success.

Full-Page Ad 7.5h x 4.5w = \$200

Half-Page Ad 3.75h x 4.5w = \$100

All Ads are full color

Ad request can be sent to Jeff Deschamps executive.secretary@verizon.net using a PDF or a high-resolution image (TIFF, JPG, etc), or even a Word file

In regard to sponsoring the convention – there are several benefits. If you are interested, please contact me at president@marylandiwl.org with your request for a Sponsorship Package outlining sponsorship levels and the benefits received in advertisement in our local region and nationally.

Thank you

Cherie Aker

President, IWL Maryland State Division

If you are interested in lending a hand by joining a committee, please attend the next Maryland Division quarterly meeting scheduled for March 16th at the BCC Chapter in Poolesville. The address is 20601 Izaak Walton Way, Poolesville, Maryland 20837. The meeting begins about 9:30am – the portion of the meeting to discuss the convention is scheduled to begin around 1:30 pm. Lunch is provided for attendees at 12:30 pm.

If you have any questions, please email me at Cherie.aker@gmail.com

Conservation (Calendar)

Gardens Maintenance. Meo Curtis. email meosotis58@verizon.net

When you visit the Chapter, you may have noticed areas with flowering plants and trees-.across from the green maintenance shed, around the Chapter House, and nearby. These areas were planted over many years to add color and variety to our landscape and also to provide food for adult and young pollinators. ‘Pollinators’ are any creatures that visit flowers and carry the pollen from one plant to another to create more plants! Folks know about the introduced honeybee as an important pollinator for crops and for the terrific honey made from the nectar of those flowers. There are many other pollinators including native bees, wasps, flies, butterflies and moths, birds, and even bats. These are important in keeping the biodiversity of our natural areas.

It turns out that native bumblebees are better pollinators than honeybees for certain crops (e.g. strawberries and greenhouse grown vegetables)

<https://nwdistrict.ifas.ufl.edu/phag/2022/02/25/the-pollinating-power-of-bumble-bees/>. And although they are much larger and more noisy than honeybees, these flying teddy bears very rarely sting. In fact, you can pet a bumblebee (ask Jeff Deschamps).

At the Chapter, we’ve had monthly gardens maintenance as a separate work day for many years—directly in response to member requests to have weekday as well as weekend work days. The separate work day assures routine attention for keeping down the weeds and overgrowing vines, keeping the growth trimmed back as needed, and mulching for moisture retention.

The first gardens maintenance day is scheduled for Friday March 15. This early in the season, the work will be trimming back dead top growth and pulling out early weeds and vines. As the season progresses, there will be thinning, transplanting, and mulching. There may even be opportunities to take home a plant or two from the thinning process.

If you'd like to learn more about our Chapter gardens and are interested in helping to design and oversee some garden changes this year, volunteer at one of our monthly work days. I'd love to hear your ideas and help you implement them to add even more beauty to our Chapter grounds.

Rifle/Pistol (Mindy Goldsborough, WAC Education Coordinator)

Are You Using All Of Your WAC Membership Benefits?

One of greatest benefits of your WAC membership is the ability to take instructional firearms and safety classes right on site. These classes cover a wide variety of topics including handgun safety and proficiency, how to use and select a holster, rifle safety and proficiency, personal protection inside the home, personal protection outside the home, and stop the bleed. The classes are taught to high standards by trained and certified instructors who also happen to be fellow WAC members that volunteer their time to help enhance knowledge and safety within our membership.

The Basic Pistol Class is one of WAC's most popular firearm classes and participants can qualify to obtain their HQL (handgun qualification license) which is needed to buy or transfer a handgun in MD. This class also serves as the prerequisite for members who want to go on to obtain a MD concealed carry permit.

And who doesn't want to learn how to save someone's life? The stop the bleed course can do just that.

The firearms classes have both a classroom portion and a range portion - this enable you to practice what you just learned in class on the range under the eyes of the instructors/range safety officers.

Classes are available to WAC members, family, and friends and are offered throughout the year so you can build your skills. In addition, these classes are a great value compared to costs at local ranges and all funds go directly to support WAC.

The current class schedule is below, but always be sure to check the WAC Calendar for the most up to date information.

March 17- Stop The Bleed

March 30 - Wear and Carry Day 2

April 14 - Stop The Bleed

April 27 - Practical Defense Holster Clinic

May 11 - Personal Protection In The Home

June 1 - Basic Pistol

August 11 - Personal Protection In The Home

September 15 - Stop The Bleed
 September 21 - Basic Pistol
 October 12 - Stop The Bleed
 October 13 - Personal Protection Outside The Home
 November 10 - Stop The Bleed
 November 17 - Basic Rifle
 December 1 - Stop The Bleed

The Rifle and Pistol Committee is also interested in hearing what other types of safety and instructional courses you would like to have offered. Please get in touch with Mindy Goldsborough, WAC Education Coordinator, at wacedu@iwlwac.org with your ideas!

IWLA WAC Training Committee has added **STOP THE BLEED** classes to the calendar again this year. Please come out on **Sunday, March 17, 2024**, from 9 am to 1 pm and take advantage of this life saving training.

Through our **STOP THE BLEED**[®] course, you'll gain the ability to recognize life-threatening bleeding and intervene effectively. The person next to a bleeding victim may be the one who's most likely to save him or her. Take the course and become empowered to make a life or death difference when a bleeding emergency occurs. **STOP THE BLEED**[®]. Save a Life! To Learn more, go to Home | Stop The Bleed.

(\$) Must Pre-register by email: wac.stopthebleed@gmail.com Attendance is limited. - Contact Dean Elliott

Shotgun Range Schedule (Steve Meyer)

April 2024 RO Schedule

Saturdays

Week	Name	email Address
6-Apr	Tim Mulreany	tmulreany@yahoo.com
13-Apr	John DuChaj	johnd@cedarbrookinc.com
13-Apr	Ron Hoggard	rjhoggard@verizon.net
20-Apr	Roman Drews	drewsr04@gmail.com
20-Apr	Kevin Wolf	kevinwolf3@hotmail.com
27-Apr	Adam Buynak /Kim Buynak	akbuynak@yahoo.com

Sundays

Week	Name	email Address
7-Apr	Mark Gay	markdgay@gmail.com
14-Apr	Gary Giambalvo	garygandtinak@hotmail.com
21-Apr	Madj Tavakoli	madj.tavakoli@gmail.com
21-Apr	Jim Shay	jes233@verizon.net

28-Apr	Dave Stevenson	granmariandgrumpydave@gmail.com
28-Apr	Brooke Jeu	brookejeu@gmail.com

Wednesdays - during DST (Sun, Mar 10, 2024 – Sun, Nov 3, 2024)

Week	Name	email Address
3-Apr	Frank Bis	frank.bis@comcast.net
10-Apr	Jay Jeffrey	appraisalsplus@aol.com
17-Apr	Jeremy Dvorak	mountainman820@hotmail.com
24-Apr	Craig Leopard	vcleopard@icloud.com

Thanks to our Volunteers

If you joined the chapter on or before February 2022 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.

Darrell Hylla, Maureen Holland

Congratulations to our new Full Members

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

Patana Wong

Welcome Aboard

The following individuals were sworn in at the February Membership Meeting and are now considered probationary members until they have passed their 2 year anniversary and have completed the required 4 work credits.

Mason Holmes, Min Lwin, Carol Miller, Brett Miller, Frank Miller, Julio Mirando, Justin Rix, Todd Rork, Alexey Sorokin

Stream Monitoring

2/18/24 (Chair) John Hartwell

Members and Nonmembers:

None

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

Brian Brennan, Patana Wong

Wild Game Dinner Auction Table Setup

2/22/24 (Chair) Susan Bortniak/Jesse Lim

Members and Nonmembers:

Robert Leonard, Pat Wong, Steven Elko, Lightning Rod Jim, John Bortniak

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Matt Elmore, Andy Weir

Wild Game Dinner Auction Computer Input, Labeling and Sorting

2/23/24 (Chair) Jesse Lim

Members and Nonmembers:

Griffin Duffy, Kevin Wolf, Chase Ford, Brittany Lefebvre, the Goldbergs

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Ryan Lackey

Wild Game Dinner Auction Setup

2/23/24 (Chair) Susan Bortniak

Members and Nonmembers:

Dave Lane, Ben Haggard, Robert Bloom, Forrest Neal, Kevin Wolf, John Hinkel, John Bortniak, Susan Bortniak

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

John Yeager, Patrick Dorr, Michael Brol, Paul Jordan, Michael Hancock, Matthew Elmore, Stan Grabia, Andy Smith, Maureen Holland, Lauren Elmore, Steven Stanhope

Wild Game Dinner Auction Jr. Air Rifle Setup Help

2/23/24 (Chair) Ed Mondoneda

Members and Nonmembers:

Max Kuminon, Michael Newman, Beth Mondoneda

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Mark Phillips

Wild Game Dinner Auction Jr. Air Rifle Runners

2/24/24 (Chair) Ed Mondoneda

Members and Nonmembers:

Jennifer Peters, Tom Biegler, Rick Lagazon, Sean Erb, Pat Akins, Michelle Akins, Matt Watkins, Max Kuminon, Sam Bonk, Robert Morell,

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Ashley Lefave, Jake Howard, Justin Rix, Mark Phillips

Wild Game Dinner Kitchen Help

2/24/24 (Chair) Randy Mckenzie

Members and Nonmembers:

None

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Darrell Hylla, John Yeager, Patrick Dorr, Brian Brennan

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

2/25/24 (Chair) Paul Turska

Members and Nonmembers:

John Porter, Joe Pauley, Dean Elliott, Guy Wright, Ronnie Hoggard, John Hartwell, Kevin Wolf, Al Goldshmidt, Brooke Jeu, Bob Shelley

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Mike Hancock, Patana Wong, Michael Brol, Eric Haggard, Alexey Sorokin, Frank Miller, Brett Miller

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, Mindy Goldsborough, Meo Curtis, Cherie Aker and Steve Meyer 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
Membership Secretary
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