



Wildlife Gazette
Wildlife Achievement Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America
April 2025

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CHAPTER NEWS AND EVENTS

President's Message – April 2025

Goodbye March, Hello, April. Please, be a month of rebirth, regrowth, and renewal.

As of March 20th, Spring finally arrived. Many of us, including our Chapter has “rolled up our sleeves” and started working on the grounds. Weeds have been pulled, butterfly bushes planted, and the gardens surrounding our chapter house is done – and it looks Great! Regarding our environmental efforts, our volunteers laid down landscape fabric and mulch to effectively control weed growth. Sincerely thank you to our new Garden Maintenance Chair, Nancy Snipe and the volunteers who did an amazing job!

We always need volunteers for the many projects in maintaining our chapter house and grounds. The next maintenance day is scheduled for Saturday, April 19th at 9:00 AM at the green equipment shed. Please check our chapter's website for opportunities to volunteer. Our IWLA chapter thrives because of our members' time contributions.

Maryland State IWLA Division will host an Invasive Plant presentation at our Chapter's Upstairs Hall on Saturday, April 19th from 10:30 AM to Noon. Lunch will be provided. The focus of the presentation is learning how to identify and control non-native invasive plants.

Mark Pennak, president of Maryland Shall Issue (MSI). He is also a lawyer volunteering his time challenging anti-carry legislation. He will speak at the April membership meeting on Wednesday, April 23rd.

At the April membership meeting, I will present the Tobin Chapter Volunteer Appreciation Award to a deserving member.

Hope to see you at our upcoming meeting, until then – Be Safe and Take Care!

Cherie Aker

NEW*****NEW*****NEW*****NEW

Beginning with the May Newsletter, we will be conducting a trial for a “For Sale/Wanted” section in the newsletter. Details will be forthcoming via email in the coming weeks.

Outdoor Airgun (Mark Mayer)

The Air Rifle Outdoors committee thanks Jim Pachulski for the donation and delivery of fence rails to repair the boundary fence on the outdoor airgun range. This saved the chapter \$200.

Conservation

LEARN HOW TO IDENTIFY, WHY, AND HOW TO CONTROL NON-NATIVE INVASIVE PLANTS IN YOUR LANDSCAPING AND EVERYWHERE

Featuring Judy Fulton, EcoPlant Consulting: Native and Invasive Plants. Judy is well-known throughout Maryland for her expertise on converting degraded areas from invasive and other non-native plants to healthier ecosystems with native plants.

Date: Saturday April 19 from 10:30-Noon. The Zoom link will be sent to any groups or individual who register by Friday April 11. Groups may decide to limit attendance at their own workshop sites.

Limited in person availability at the Wildlife Achievement Chapter (WAC), Damascus MD. Lunch will be provided at noon for all who register for the in-person session at WAC.

Field session from 1 to 2 p.m. at WAC following the workshop. Limited to 15 people, based on order of registration. WAC members will be given priority for the field session.

Contact Meo Curtis at recording.secretary@marylandiwl.org for either the in-person or via Zoom registration.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Adopt-A-Road: Friday, May 2nd 8:30 am–11:30 am. Volunteers needed.

Archery: Open House rescheduled for Saturday, April 26th 10am-Noon

Boy Scouts: 2025 Community Service Award presented March Membership Meeting.

Chapter & Range Orientation: Sunday, April 27th 8:30am. Pre-registration required.

Conservation: Thank you to the 6 volunteers for the 3/29 Watershed Clean-Up. Additional tree removal forthcoming. Plans to plant native fruit and nut trees on WAC property. Conservation Training scheduled for Saturday, April 19th 10:30 am to Noon.

Cowboy Shoots: Damascus Wildlife Rangers application fee will increase \$5. Cowboy Action Shoot scheduled Saturday, April 12th 8am-4pm. Rifle Range closed during the event.

Hall Rentals: Hall Rental Fee increase scheduled to start June 1st.

House & Grounds: Welcome to Bill Bonk as our new Assistant Chair to House & Grounds Committee. Nancy Snipe has replaced Meo Curtis as Garden Maintenance Chair. 6 Volunteers assisted with the installation of our new Butterfly Garden.

Rifle/Pistol: Stop the Bleed Class – Sunday, April 13th. Pre-registration required. Rifle range one bench replaced. All bench replacement should be completed 3-4 months. Please see WAC calendar for upcoming classes & events. Girls and Guns 4/27 Noon-2pm.

Save Our Streams: Mullinix Mill Site monitoring scheduled Sunday, April 13th Noon-3 pm.

Skeet & Trap: New replacement Cash Register will be ordered.

Wild Game Dinner & Auction: Starting 2026 – event will be held in March.

Wildlife Achievement Chapter Seed Swap 2025

Species below are pollinator plants native to the area. GREAT nectar and pollen sources for adult pollinators, including native bees, honeybees, butterflies, and moths.. Many are host plants for specific caterpillars. Without caterpillars, no butterflies or moths, and no plants that these pollinate. Without caterpillars, there would be many fewer birds because many birds need these 'protein packets' to feed their young.

Carolina elephant foot <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/elephantopus-tomentosus/> (lavendar to white flowers on triangular bracts—spreads easily)

Evening primrose <https://www.thespruce.com/evening-primrose-plant-profile-4774593> (yellow flowers, tends to spread easily)

False sunflower <https://www.thespruce.com/how-to-care-for-heliopsis-false-sunflowers-4125540> (yellow flowers)

Maryland goldenaster <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/chrysopsis-mariana/> (yellow flower, late summer into fall blooms)

NY ironweed <https://www.thespruce.com/new-york-ironweed-plant-profile-5069722> (pink to purplish flowers, low germination rate)

Wild senna <http://www.gardening.cornell.edu/homegardening/scenec9ef.html> (yellow flowers, host for clouded and other sulfur butterfly caterpillars)

These also attract hummingbirds

Obedient plant <https://www.thespruce.com/obedient-plant-1402852> (pink flowers—spreads easily)

Trumpet vine <https://www.thespruce.com/stop-spreading-of-trumpet-vines-2132896> (orange flowers—very aggressive growing)

HOST plants for Monarch caterpillars

common milkweed <https://www.thespruce.com/milkweed-plants-monarch-butterfly-host-2132954> (pink to purplish flowers)

Butterfly milkweed <https://www.thespruce.com/growing-butterfly-weed-in-your-garden-2539531> (orange flowers)



Seed Swap

at the General Membership
Meeting on Wednesday

April 23, 2025

6:30 p.m.



Share your surplus flower and vegetable seeds! Maybe find some that you want to experiment with this growing season. We'll set up a 'sharing table' along one side of the main room for deposits and withdrawals.

Bring the seeds in small bags (like snack bags) or envelopes clearly labeled with plant name and a little more descriptor information (i.e. sun tolerant, needs afternoon shade, large size produce, large flowers, fragrant, etc.)

Contact: Pat Dorr at pvdorr@gmail.com with questions.

Your Guide to 2025 Firearms Training at WAC (Mindy Goldsborough)

There is an array of firearms safety and education programs that are available to WAC members as well as family and friends of members. These all-day classes have both classroom and range portions and are excellent for both newer shooters as well as those of us interested in brushing up on skills.

Some of the classes have prerequisites - so this is the perfect time of year to do some advanced planning so you don't miss out on a class you'd like to take.

The classes are given by certified instructors who also happen to be fellow WAC members that volunteer their time to this program. The cost for each class is \$150, all of which goes to our Chapter.

Below is a brief description of the classes, if you have additional questions, or are interested in registering for a class e-mail wacedu@iwlwac.org

Basic Pistol - reviews types of handguns, their mechanics, safety topics, ammunition, shooting positions and mechanics, storage, transportation and maintenance of handguns, and more. This class satisfies the training requirement to obtain a MD HQL (handgun qualification license) which is needed to purchase a handgun in MD. This class is the prerequisite for the MD Wear and Carry and Personal Protection in the Home (PPIH) classes. , MAY 31, SEPTEMBER 30

MD Wear & Carry - Prerequisite passing Basic Pistol within the last year. This class is for both new MD W&C licenses and those needing to renew existing MD licenses (renewal participants have no prerequisite requirement). The class covers methods to avoid the use of deadly force, physiological reactions to the stress of an encounter, what is and is not legal, how to deal with the aftermath of an encounter and other relevant topics. MARCH 29, JUNE 21, OCTOBER 4

Personal Protection Inside the Home (PPIH) - Prerequisite passing Basic Pistol within the last year. Learn about ways to protect yourself, your family, and your home. The class covers developing protection plans, defensive shooting, selection of home defense firearms, and relevant legal topics. MAY 10, AUGUST 10

Personal Protection Outside the Home (PPOH) - Prerequisite PPIH within the last year. Learn about the stages of awareness and how to use them for ensuring your personal safety, how to select carry handguns and holsters, proper draw techniques, and legal topics are part of the curriculum. OCTOBER 12

Basic Rifle - reviews types of rifles and their mechanics, safety topics, ammunition, shooting mechanics and positions, storage, transportation, and maintenance of rifles and more. NOVEMBER 16

Other training opportunities for members, family, and friends are the Stop The Bleed Classes - this hand-on training can be a life-saving addition to your safety knowledge. The next class is being held on Sunday, March 2nd, 9 AM - 1 PM, cost is \$30.00. Use the link on the website to register.

As always, check the WAC calendar for updates

Thanks to our Volunteers

If you joined the chapter on or before March 2023 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.

Karey Kimmel, Michael Silverstone

Congratulations to our new Full Members

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

Victoria Bortniak, Christopher Donati, Paul Jordan Jr., Dawn Pollard, Chad Pollard

Welcome Aboard

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

Kathy Stanley, Dwayne London, Jason Karlin, Christopher Chapman

Cowboy Action Shoot Set Up/Tear Down

3/7-8/2025 (Chair) Chuck Limparis

Members and Nonmembers:

George Hughes, "The Cowboys"

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Ally Babay, Mike Silverstone, Michael Berlinger, Andy Weir,

Invasive Species Management

3/7/2025 (Chair) Chuck Crooks

Members and Nonmembers:

None

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

Karey Kimmel

Chapter Maintenance Day

3/15/2025 (Chair) Paul Turska

Members and Nonmembers:

John Porter

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

Nancye Shipe, William Wilmer

Stream Monitoring

3/16/2025 (Chair) John Hartwell

Members and Nonmembers:

None

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

Anatoly Pokrashevsky, Klimentiy Pokrashevskiy

Rifle and Pistol Range Clean Up

3/23/2025 (Chair) Al Goldschmidts

Members and Nonmembers:

Joe Pauley, Kevin Wolf, Dean Elliott

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

None

Watershed Cleanup

3/29/2025 (Chair) Jim Piateski

Members and Nonmembers:

None

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

Karey Kimmel, Alexey Sorokin, Marcel Moone, Terrence Dacre, Anatoly Pokrashevsky, Klimentiy Pokrashevskiy

Butterfly Garden Maintenance

3/29/2025 (Chair) Nancye Shipe

Members and Nonmembers:

None

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

Chip Schwartz, Chris Lauer, Frank Sanders, Jason Karlin, Karey Kimmel

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 and Mark Mayer 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:

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Chuck Crooks

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