



**Wildlife Achievement Chapter**

Izaak Walton League of America

JANUARY 2014

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**CHAPTER NEWS, EVENTS AND ARTICLES**

The Game Dinner and Auction is right around the corner on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are sold out, but you still have time to donate items for the auction. Items can be left behind the bar in the Rathskeller . Tags are available to identify the donor.

**Holiday Party Entertainment (Judy Riley)**

We thoroughly enjoyed the relaxed entertainment and variety of songs provided by Professional Musician, Fran Scuderi - one of our very own IWLA-WAC members at our GM-Holiday Party, December 18th!

Fran has traveled extensively, entertaining as far North as Copenhagen and South to the tropical islands of Bermuda, Caymen and The Virgin Islands; not to mention Colorado and the fact he's played regularly at Clyde's (Georgetown & Virginia) which is an accomplishment all unto itself.

He has opened for Mary Chapin Carpenter, Jonathan Edwards and Hootie and the Blowfish; plus, he's working on his own CD.

Fran Scuderi is available for hire for your own parties by contacting him at:

[gosouth99@aol.com](mailto:gosouth99@aol.com)

c 240/460.8272

An extensive .pdf of his Song List may be downloaded at:

[http://franscudermusic.com/songlist/fran\\_scuderi\\_song\\_list.pdf](http://franscudermusic.com/songlist/fran_scuderi_song_list.pdf)

We thank you very much for gifting us with your talents and entertainment, Fran!

**Conservation** (Jeff Deschamps and Meo Curtis)

**RAIN BARREL WORKSHOP**

The Rain Barrel Workshop is Tuesday, March 11, from 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM. We are doing things a bit differently this year. If you want to sign up for the workshop you will need to pay \$10.00 to reserve a spot.

This does not even come close to paying for the hardware, let alone the barrel, so this is still a great deal. You can sign up for the workshop in person at either the January or February chapter member meetings.

Alternatively you can reserve your spot by sending a check payable to IWLA-WAC to: Jeffrey Deschamps, 8545 Pineway Court, Laurel, MD 20723. This workshop is open to the public so invite your friends and neighbors but do so quickly as we can only accommodate 30 participants (limit of one barrel per household). If you have any questions e-mail Jeff Deschamps at: [jeff.deschamps@verizon.net](mailto:jeff.deschamps@verizon.net).

### **Conservation News for January 2014**

January 1 was a great day to enjoy the outdoors, even if a bit cold. The next conservation work event won't happen until March though when the outside temperatures warm up. Keep an eye on the Chapter newsletter next month for announcements about upcoming conservation work events. We are continuing our partnership efforts with WSSC and the MNCPPC in Howard and Montgomery County to restore and maintain forested buffer areas, as well as our watershed clean ups to prevent litter and other pollution from getting into our local waterways.

Below are some upcoming environmental outreach and stewardship activities outside of the Chapter that you might be interested in.

### **Frogwatch**

This winter, learn more about frogs and toads and become a citizen scientist helping to document their distribution in our developed areas. Frogs and toads are among 'sentinel' animals whose presence, or absence, provide clues about possible pollution or other degradation in our wetlands and waterways. Frogwatch volunteers learn how to identify frogs and toads by their calls and then commit to weekly visits from March through August to pre-assigned monitoring sites and apply what they've learned. Volunteers can select the sites they want to monitor, so can be close to home for their field work. Volunteers record their results through an on-line application called 'Fieldscope' that was developed by the National Geographic Society. More details on the program are available at the Association of Zoos and Aquariums web site: <http://www.aza.org/frogwatch/> You can be a Frogwatch volunteer without joining a chapter, but it is helpful to participate in field training and have some technical support when you are just starting out. Howard County Recreation and Parks has had a Frogwatch volunteer program for many years, and this year Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection is starting a local chapter. This is a great program for parents and children, getting you into the outdoors at least once a week!

If you live in Howard County and are interested in finding out more about the local chapter, contact Sue Muller at Recreation and Parks ([smuller@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:smuller@howardcountymd.gov)). Jeff Deschamps (Chapter past-president) and I have been Frogwatch volunteers in Howard County for ten years and this is easy and fun and great to know that the data is being used for conservation purposes.

If you are a Montgomery County resident, you can be a volunteer for the local chapter. The first training workshop will be held at the Rockville Library, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor training room, on Thursday January 30 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. You must pre-register to participate in the workshop: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/montgomery-county-frogwatch-volunteer-training-registration-9322215999>. Handouts and visual memory aids will be provided. There will be a follow up field session during late winter to early spring, once the frogs start calling!

### **Stream Waders**

The Stream Wader volunteers collect biological samples which are then delivered and identified by Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The Stream Wader volunteers help to fill in areas within the DNR's target watersheds for that year. Volunteers must go through training to assure the quality of sample collection. The areas to be monitored differ from year to year as the DNR completes its statewide monitoring cycles. During 2014, DNR will be monitoring in the Upper Patuxent and in the Anacostia in central Maryland as shown in this map: <http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/streams/streamWaders.asp>.

This winter, DNR will hold three Stream Waders training sessions as shown below. You must register in advance to participate in any of these training sessions  
<http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/streams/swTraining.asp>

- Martinak State Park (Caroline County)  
February 8th, 2014 (Register by January 31st)
- Robinson Nature Center (Howard County)  
February 22nd, 2014 (Register by February 14th)
- New Germany State Park (Garrett County)  
March 1st, 2014 (Register by February 21st)

If you are interested in monitoring in western Maryland (Garrett County and west), you must join with, or already be a part of a team that participated in the special Marcellus Shale sampling that occurred last year

#### H2O Summit

The H2O Summit is for Montgomery County residents interested in finding out more about local and regional efforts to protect our streams and waterways. Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection is the lead agency, in partnership with the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, the City of Rockville, the City of Gaithersburg, and the Maryland National Parks and Planning Commission. This year the free event will take place on Saturday March 22 at the Silver Spring Civic Center (web site) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The morning session will feature speakers and panel discussions on watersheds and streams, including perspectives from three of our local watershed groups. The afternoon session will provide family-oriented hands-on exhibits and demonstrations, including the WSSC remote camera that can look into sewer lines for blockages or other problems. More information is available at: <https://montgomerycountymd.mygreenmontgomery.org/my-community/calendar/?eid=ljd73a7r0672m865mhmcqf2csg&start=1395482400>

#### **Skeet and Trap** (Bob Cooley)

IWLA SHOTGUN RANGE ROSTER 2014

#### **February 2014**

Sat	2/1	Mash Esfanaji, Mary Esfanaji
Sun	2/2	Tony Hess, Mark Gay
Sat	2/8	Paul Fisher, Greg Myers
Sun	2/9	George King, Gary Giambalvo
Sat	2/15	Steve Olsen, Murray Welsh
Sun	2/16	Jim Crowell, Maj Tavakoli
Sat	2/16	Paul Turska, Jake Turska, Bob Reynolds
Sun	2/23	Bob Poth, Dave Stevenson

Substitutes:

Tim Mulreany, Gary Green, Stephen Meyers, Steve Rowcroft, Steve Meyers, Ron Roberson, Hank Williams, Mike Webb, Bob Cooley, Glenn Hubert, Joel Gross, John Davis, Mike Bowen, Roman Drew, Robin Dixon, Jim Arnold, Kieth Kosian, Charlie Weaver, Nunzio Litterio, Berle Cherney, Frank Bis, Ron Roberson, Jay Jeffrey, Carl McMahon, Brian Van Winkle, Bob Woodward, Debbi Perry, Jeff Greenhut, Ed Shifflett, Arden Young, Jay DeVan, Gerhard Bartsch

This is the time of year when the weather can play a significant role in our safety. Temperatures go below freezing and what was liquid is now ice. We wear bulky clothing that can impede our ability to move freely and obstruct our vision. Take extra precautions to ensure your safety. Know your surroundings and proceed deliberately slowly. Wooden steps, rocks and other hard surfaces can become very slick. If it looks wet and the temperature is below freezing, it's probably ice. If there is snow cover watch out for debris or holes that may be covered. Check the Chapter Web Page. Pay particular attention to the weather posted and any road closings or warnings. Use common sense and stay safe.

### **Rifle and pistol**

**WAC Range Safety Officer Committee, Rifle and Pistol (R/P)** ( Jesse Lim)(*rerun from December issue*)

Important! It is your responsibility to read and understand our WAC R/P range's safety conduct and rules  
<http://www.damascusiwla.org/RiflePistolRules.html>

Although members should read and understand **ALL** R/P rules, we would like to highlight a section under SAFETY and CONDUCT that we need to ensure all members are aware of:

SAFETY Rule# 5. While personnel are in front of the shooting benches or down range, all firearms shall be placed on the shooting bench, unloaded, with action open, chamber empty, magazine removed, and safety on if available. Firearms, ammunition magazines, ammunition, firearm scopes and accessories shall not be touched during this period.

SAFETY Rule# 16. Only the firearm in use is permitted at the firing point while shooting.

CONDUCT Rule# 16. All range-approved members are range officers, and as such, are expected to maintain an attitude of SAFETY, PATIENCE, and COURTESY at all times when using the ranges.

If at any time you are approached by anyone at WAC for individual training for a fee on our rifle or pistol ranges, have any questions about the R/P rules, concerns about member conduct on the R/P ranges, do not hesitate to contact Jesse Lim.

### **WORK ACTIVITY RECORDING**

Probationary members have a work requirement. Most understand that. But, there is some confusion as to how that work requirement is fulfilled. New members must help with a minimum of two projects in each of their first two years of membership. Failure to do so will prevent a renewal of your membership the following year (you could be charged an additional registration fee in order to renew). When you work on a project you are required to be there for the entire project. You are expected to arrive on time for the project. If you leave early you will not get credit for the project.

In year one of your membership, you are required to work on a minimum of two projects. One of which must be a conservation based project. The second project can be any club project including another conservation event.

In year two, you are required to work on a minimum of two projects. One of which must be a conservation based project. The second project can be any club project including another conservation event.

You cannot work additional projects in year one and have them carried over to year two. The work requirement is set up to span two years with the hope that members will find projects they are interested in and want to support after they have completed their probation.

All projects will have a signup sheet. FIND IT. If you do not sign the sheet we do not mark you as there. It is your responsibility to sign in for proper credit. If you are a probationary member, be sure to check the box that says you are probationary, otherwise it will not be recorded.

Each monthly newsletter will show the credit given, by project, and who was there. Check to see if your name is listed. It is possible your name was not legible.

Mistakes can happen. When they do we want to correct them as soon as possible. Check the newsletter after volunteering and report any error as soon as possible. Our newsletters are archived back to 2005.

## **THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS**

### **Congratulations**

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

Andrew Huo  
John G. Hartwell  
Thomas B. Kummer  
Matthew R. McGuire  
Paul J. Turska, Jr.

### **Chapter Maintenance Day**(Pistol/ Rifle Ranges)

December 23

Members and Nonmembers:

Al Goldschmidts, Steve Houck, Karl Krchma, Mash Esfanaji and Mary Esfanaji.

Probationary Members: (regular credit)

Nick Hewitt, Peter Nowak, Andrew Huo, Helen Zupnik, Bob Zupnik, John Hartwell, Mark Evans, Kevin Kittka, Brady Hill, Dirk Wiersma, David Morrow, Katherine Morrow/Grasson, Barry Fleming, Joe Donoghue and Billy Ramos.

Skeet & Trap:

Members and Nonmembers:

Mark Mckevitt, Guy Wright, Chuck Crooks and Barb Crooks.

Probationary Member: (regular credit)

Jacob Brodsky.

Also, if you volunteered for an activity in the past month or so and your name does not appear in this issue of the newsletter or you are incorrectly listed, please send an email with your information to:

[nicolasgiu@yahoo.com](mailto:nicolasgiu@yahoo.com)

A reminder to our probationary members:

If you are not sure as to your work status, please email me at [nicolasgiu@yahoo.com](mailto:nicolasgiu@yahoo.com) and I will get back to you in short order. No need for a lengthy email, just put the word Status and your name in the subject line and I'll do the rest.

Nick Giuliano

Due to the poor legibility of a number of names, I am forced to guesstimate these names. This Thank You list of volunteers is made up of Full Members, Probationary Members and Non-members so my guess could be wrong. If you are working towards getting credit please give me a legible name.

*Editor's note: It will make my life much simpler if future submissions are in 12 point New Times Roman font and in Word format.*

*I thank you for your consideration.*

**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. Thanks to Chuck Crooks, Judy Riley, Jesse Lim, Meo Curtis, Jeff Deschamps and Bob Cooley for their contributions to this newsletter. Thanks to 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 :

Judy Riley

P O box 1737

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