



Wildlife Achievement Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America
AUGUST 2016

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CHAPTER NEWS, EVENTS AND ARTICLES

Note: Please read an important message at the end of this newsletter regarding membership status.

Elections for Officers, 2016-2017.

Elections will take place at the August membership meeting. There were no nominations from the floor at the July meeting, so the slate remains as published last month. Steve Lefebvre, currently a Director, is expected to become Parliamentarian and therefore the Board of Directors will need to appoint a replacement for the vacated Director position.

Conservation (Meo Curtis)

Conservation News for August 2016.

Gardens Maintenance Friday July 29.

Great teamwork this month working at the Chapter for gardens maintenance. The gardens and azaleas behind the Chapter look great, and they even took on the lilac clump that had gotten super woody. Thanks to Roger Byrd, Cameron Ray, Dave Edwards, Joe Kmon, and Alan Burrows for their hard work.

Upcoming Conservation Work Credit Activities:

Chapter Gardens Maintenance. Friday August 26, 8:30-11:30 a.m. Weed removal, planting, and mulching. Register with Meo Curtis at meosotis58@verizon.net.

Adopt A Road. Friday August 26. 9:00-noon. 8 to 16 volunteers needed for each event, must pre-register with contact information - Contact [Judy Riley](mailto:Judy.Riley@verizon.net) 301-980-4057. Texting is okay. Please – clearly - provide name ,phone number , and Member ID#.

Montgomery County Fair. Workers needed for shifts each day from Friday August 12-Saturday August 20. To register, contact Don and Mary Hunt at ButterflyMary46@msn.com 301-946-4795

Other Conservation Activities:

FREE RAIN BARREL WORKSHOPS for Howard County residents. Alpha Ridge Landfill, 2350 Marriottsville Rd, Marriottsville, MD 21104

Time and Dates: 9-11 a.m. on the following Saturdays: August 20, September 3, September 17, October 1, October 15. For more information contact the Howard County Master Gardeners 410-313-2707 3300.

The Howard County Master Gardeners distribute rain barrels and teach people how to use them. Howard County residents are eligible to receive a free 55-gal barrel with cut-outs for fittings, to be used for a rain barrel (one barrel per address, please).

The rain barrel must be used in Howard County and the recipient of the barrel must fill out a pledge form and take part in the workshop. After the workshop, the recipient will know where to buy the parts and how to assemble and maintain the rain barrel.

WOODLAND STEWARDSHIP EDUCATION: The University of Maryland Extension's Woodland Stewardship Education program is offering the following programs designed to help Marylanders who own woodland property.

- **Deer Hunting 101** - *August 19th, 2016 from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m.* Western Maryland Research and Education Center at 18330 Keedysville Rd Keedysville, MD 21756. This workshop is part of the popular Forestry Friday series and is intended for landowners and other individuals interested in learning about hunting deer on their property. Many woodland owners and family members have an interest in hunting deer but do not have the experience or background to do so. This workshop will help novice hunters and shooters feel more comfortable with deer hunting. The workshop is a cooperative effort between the Woodland Stewardship Education program and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Wildlife and Heritage Service. Topics will include deer ecology and management, landowner liability, firearms and hunting safety, as well as a field session. The cost is \$5.00 per person. For more information, including how to register, go to <http://extension.umd.edu/events/fri-2016-08-19-1300-deer-hunting-101-0>.

- **The Woods in Your Backyard Workshop.** *September 29 and October 6, 2016 from 6:30pm - 9:00pm* at the Maryland Extension Office, 3300 North Ridge Road Suite 240. Ellicott City, MD 21043 The Howard County Forestry Board, together with University of Maryland's Extension Service, Howard County Recreation and Parks and some great volunteers, is offering a workshop on how to manage, expand or create Woods in Your Backyard. Aimed at owners of lots from 1 to 10 acres, this two-evening class offers information from experts and an opportunity to get hands-on advice about your specific property. Cost: \$25 per individual or \$30 per couple. Cost includes materials and light refreshments. Registration is by mail only (sorry, no on-line option). The agenda, registration form and contact info is found on the Howard County Forestry Board's webpage: <http://www.howardcountyforestryboard.org/index.cfm?objectid=FF8064B0-265C-11E6-9F6A0050560F037A>

- **The Woods in Your Backyard Online Course.** This new self-paced, non-credit course runs 10 weeks from September 5th to November 21st, 2016. The course will help landowners convert lawn to natural areas and enhance stewardship of existing natural areas. Based on the guide of the same name, the course provides strategies to landowners of small parcels of land (1-10 acres) that improve the stewardship of their property for personal enjoyment and

environmental quality. The course uses a hands-on learning approach to help participants develop and implement a plan for their property. Activities include how to map habitat areas, understand basic ecological principles about woodland and wildlife, choose and implement a few habitat management projects, and how to set a timetable and record your progress. The use of online discussion groups will allow participants to interact with others taking the course. Cost for the course is a \$85.00, which includes the 108-page “Woods In Your Backyard” guide, workbook, and a tree identification guide. To read more about the course, including seeing sample pages and how to register, please visit <http://extension.umd.edu/woodland/woods-your-backyard/online-course>.

Other Chapter News

Awards from the National Convention

At the July member meeting, we saw many awards to our members and partners. From left in the photo below: Jesse Lim, National Tobin Award; Lisa Stadler (and Stadler Nurseries), National Honor Roll Awards for their conservation and outreach work; Rodger Moran, National Conservation Award; Geoff Hornsreth and Dave Goldberg, Division President's Award for the Chapter with the best youth programs last year; Ken Lefebvre, National Defender's Award for the Chapter; and Jeff Deschamps, just elected National President.

Our Chapter is also being represented at the National level by Jim Piateski, Vice-Chair for the Executive Board and National Director, and Ken Lefebvre, National Director.



Shotgun Range Roster (Steve Olsen)

September, 2016

Sat	9/3	Tim Mulreany, Gary Green
Sun	9/4	Hank Williams, Jeremy Dvorak
Wed	9/7	Berle Cherney, Ed Shifflett

Sat	9/10	Jim Arnold, Keith Kosian
Sun	9/11	Joel Gross, Gerhard Bartsch
Wed	9/14	Frank Bis, Ron Roberson
Sat	9/17	Roman Drews
Sun	9/18	Paul Turska, Jake Turska
Wed	9/21	Jay Jeffrey, Mark Lawson
Sat	9/24	Robin Dixon, Glenn Hubert
Sun	9/25	Dave Stevenson, Bob Poth
Wed	9/28	Bob Woodward

Substitues:

Bob Cumberland, Mash Esfanaji, Mary Esfanaji, Mark Gay, Ed Gilpin,

Murray Welsh, Steve Olsen, Paul Turska, Jake Turska, George King,

Gary Giambalvo, Maj Tavakoli, Bob Reynolds, Arden Young, Jay DeVan

WAC Range Safety Officer Committee, Rifle and Pistol (Jesse Lim and Wendy Smith)

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Important! It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO READ AND KNOW ALL WAC Rifle/Pistol range safety, conduct and rules! They are available on our website and posted at the ranges as well.

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

If you have any questions, please contact the WAC Rifle and Pistol Chairman, Jesse Lim via cell at 240-832-0354. REMINDER! All WAC members and guests using our rifle / pistol ranges, must strictly sign in on the logbook located at the WAC main building PRIOR to proceeding to the ranges. The logbook box is on the lower level of the chapter house brick wall next to the emergency phone.

Important! All guests must sign in and be accompanied by a current member while on club grounds. Guest not signing in will be asked to immediately leave the club grounds and considered as trespassing.

WAC Board of Directors have approved the request from the Rifle and Pistol Chairman to implement "Guest Identification Badges" for 2017 membership year. The Rifle and Pistol Rules will be updated accordingly and more information will come in advance of the 2017 membership year.

Guests must be signed in with their full first and last name, and members are limited to **bringing 2 guests per day**. Additional guests are NOT permitted, even if they are not shooting or just observing. **IMPORTANT:** When you are finished using the range, you are responsible for cleaning up the range, and signing yourself out and any guest(s) in the logbook.

Safety warning: Shooting steel targets is restricted at WAC to specialized events (cowboy shoots, bowling pin shoots or practical defense) and/or per the safety requirements listed below. Even then, shooting at steel targets carries the risk of ricochet or lead-splatter.

Please refer to the following sections of the Rifle and Pistol Safety Rules:

11. Permissible free standing targets include, commercially made steel or "self-sealing" plastic targets which swing, spin, or fall when hit by a bullet.

A. Explosive targets (e.g., Tannerite) are strictly prohibited.

12. Homemade target frames and metal targets must be approved by the Rifle/Pistol Committee Chairman or a designated representative before use on the Chapter ranges.

13. The target being fired upon must be directly in front of the firing point. Shooters must ensure that only one target is in the line of fire. Each shot must be discharged in a controlled manner so as to ensure that it hits the target and no bullets leave the range area.

14. Steel targets must be placed at least 25 yards from the firing line and directly in front of the earth bank backstops.

15. Only unjacketed lead or frangible bullets in the correct caliber for the target are permitted for use on steel targets.

Any WAC shooter violating the any posted warning, safety and conduct rules AT A MINIMUM will receive a citation, have their range card suspended pending an investigation and required to re-attend the range orientation class.

All WAC Range-approved members are Range Officers and are responsible for being aware of and reporting any range conduct/safety violations to the Rifle and Pistol Chairman. Please also utilize your self-awareness at any point in time relative to Maryland's gun possession laws and restrictions. Please report any suspicious activity to the Rifle and Pistol Chairman.

Subject to some exceptions, possession of "assault weapons" is generally prohibited in Maryland. Additionally, Maryland's prohibited person categories for possession of firearms are more

extensive than federal law. **Possession of a firearm or ammunition is prohibited by any person who:**

- Has been convicted of a disqualifying crime;
- Has been convicted of a violation classified as a common law crime and received a term of imprisonment of more than 2 years;
- Is a fugitive from justice;
- Is a habitual drunkard;
- Is addicted to a controlled substance or is a habitual user;
- Suffers from a mental disorder and has a history of violent behavior against himself or another person;
- Has been found incompetent to stand trial;
- Has been found not criminally responsible;
- Has been voluntarily admitted for more than 30 consecutive days to a facility for a mental disorder;
- Has been involuntarily committed to a facility for a mental disorder;
- Is under the protection of court appointed guardian, unless the guardian was appointed solely for a physical disability;
- Is a respondent against whom a current non ex parte protective order has been entered under; or
- Is 30 years old or younger and has been adjudicated delinquent by a juvenile court for an act that would be a disqualifying crime if committed by an adult.

A person who moves into the state must have all handguns and "assault weapons" registered with the Secretary within 90 days after establishing residency.

A person who is subject to a firearms disqualification as a result of an adjudication or commitment that occurred in the state MAY be authorized to possess a firearm if: the person is not subject to another firearms restriction, the Health Department (in accordance with this section) determines that the person MAY possess a firearm, a person who seeks relief from a firearms disqualification shall file an

application with the Health Department in the form and manner set by the Health Department.

Ref: <https://www.nraila.org/gun-laws/state-gun-laws/maryland/>

A SPECIAL REMINDERS TO OUR PROBATIONARY MEMBERS

As of August 5, 2016

We have a large number of probationary members that will be short of meeting the minimum work required for full member status by the upcoming membership renewal time. That means an Additional \$60 to your renewal. Most of these members only need one or two work activities. This reminder encompasses the following groups:

Range oriented members:

These members have devoted many hours to the maintenance of our ranges. This is great; the Ranges require a lot of maintenance. However, as stated in the Chapter's Bylaws all probationary members **must** participate in at least one Conservation Activity in each of their probationary years.

Members who think that they met the work requirement:

We have quite a number of probationary members that have completed all four required work activities in their first year of probation and think they have met their obligation, they have not. Judging from the number of members that are in these groups I think there is some confusion as to what a Probationary year is. Your first probationary year starts at the time your application is accepted at the Board of Directors Meeting and ends 12 months later. At that time your second year of probation starts.

If you think you may be one of these members, send an email to nicolasgiu@yahoo.com.

No need for a lengthy email just put the word **status** in the subject line and I will respond as soon as I can. There will be plenty of work days in the next three months for all to meet their work requirements.

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

If you joined the chapter on or before **August 2014** 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 need a work status update, email Nick at nicolasgiu@yahoo.com

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW FULL MEMBERS

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

Loratto Anthony Joseph

Jeffrey T. Adcock

Cowboy Setup

7/22/2016

Members, Family and Nonmembers:

Paul Bluteau, Tom Preston, Rick Garbett, Mark Scuderi and Jerry Klinger

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Viana Winston, Mike Snyder, Philip Rafferty, Riley Rafferty and Cameron Ray

Garden Maintenance

7/29/2016

Member: Meo Curtis

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

David Edwards, Cameron Ray, Alan Burrows, Roger Byrd and Joseph Kmon

Range Maintenance Day

7/31/2016

Members, Family and Nonmembers:

Al Goldschmidts, Tom Ouellette, Guy G. Wright, Bud Gates, Billy Ramos, Joe Pauley, Dakotah Merson, Alan Pressman, Mary Gay, Jerry Klinger and John Porter

Probationary Member(Regular Credit)

Rick Ebrey

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS (Jim Piateski jimpiateski@verizon.net)

Thanks to Nicolas Giuliano for mailing the printed version of the newsletter every month and tracking volunteer hours. Thanks to Steve Olsen, Meo Curtis, Jesse Lim and Wendy Smith for their contributions to this newsletter. Thanks to Chuck Crooks for posting and 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 to:

Tim Garrity
PO Box 1630
Olney, MD 20830-1630

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