



Wildlife Achievement Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America
SEPTEMBER 2013

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CHAPTER NEWS, EVENTS AND ARTICLES

Clays to Save Chesapeake Bay



Wildlife
Achievement
Chapter, Inc.
Damascus, MD

The Izaak Walton
League of America
Est. 1937

**Sunday
October 20, 2013**

Proceeds to



Potomac-Patuxent Chapter Trout Unlimited

No Pre-Registration

Open to the Public

Event Hours - 10:00AM – 3:00PM

(must start shooting by 2:00PM)

Lunch Served 11:30AM – 1:00PM

**2 Rounds
Trap or Skeet**

\$30

**Lunch and
Event Hat**

OUR MEMBERSHIP CAP HAS BEEN REACHED

In March of 2013, the Board of Directors established a membership cap of 1,500 members.

Our recent growth created some concern about how many members our facility could support. Because this is an arbitrary number, the BOD decided to establish the cap, monitor the effects, and then review the cap and its effects during the first year of the caps initiation. Left open are the options to adjust the cap, suspend it, or to eliminate the cap.

It was also decided that it was unfair for the children of members to be excluded from membership when a cap was in place. As children of adult members grow older, and are no longer eligible for the family membership due to their age, we wanted them to be able continue as members, if they chose to join on their own. Sons and daughters of a member in good standing will be exempt from the membership cap. Their parent must be their sponsor and must accompany them to the board meeting, when they submit their application.

The process, for joining the chapter, will change with a membership cap in place. Potential members will still be required to present their applications, in person, at a Board of Directors meeting. Once approved by the BOD, their applications will be placed on the waiting list, in the order that they were received. When an opening becomes available, the applicant will be notified. They will then be asked to submit their dues and to attend a membership meeting to be sworn in.

When there is a membership cap in place, the application, that is on the web site, will be slightly different as will the instructions associated with that application. It will be very clear that the cap is in place.

As a courtesy, should an existing member move out of the area, it would be appreciated if they could let the membership secretary know, so that we could fill the vacancy without having to wait for the renewal process to begin.

With a cap in place, we believe the bulk of the openings would occur after the first of the year when members do not renew. It will be very important, for existing members to renew as soon as possible, in order to avoid having to submit a new application with a cap in place.

In the past years, we have relied on the new members for volunteer help during their probationary period. With fewer new members, we will need current members to step up to the plate and fill the possible void created.

This change requires a modification to the bylaws of the Wildlife Achievement Chapter. It is included in this edition of the *Wildlife Gazette*. It will be voted on at the November 20th membership meeting .

Please read and understand. This may affect your membership.

Proposed Bylaw change

Old Section 5.

Any member whose dues have not been paid before the first day of January in any year shall lose the privileges to use any range at the chapter until the dues are paid and the new Range Access Card has been received by the member. The date on the check does not suffice as proof of payment and a right to use any range. You must have the new card in your possession and properly displayed to use any range.

New Section 5.

Any member whose dues have not been paid before the first day of January in any year shall no longer be a member in good standing and shall lose all Chapter privileges.

Old Section 6.

The Membership Secretary shall mail a second and final bill to members who have not paid by the second week of January advising them that they shall be deemed in arrears and not a member in good standing if payment is not received by February 1st. The member's right to purchase skeet and trap range cards or shooting and archery supplies, and all other membership privilege shall be suspended until the dues are paid. A late fee may be assessed to the dues payment as noted on the second bill. A list will be made on April 1st of all members who have not renewed and shall be conspicuously posted in the Chapter and Range Houses. You may choose to renew at any time before the end of the current year and have your privileges restored by paying your bill with any associated late fees.

New Section 6.

By the second week in January the Membership Secretary shall mail a second and final bill to members who have not paid by December 31. A late fee may be assessed to the dues as noted on the second bill. If payment is not received by February 1st, the member shall be dropped from the rolls and must re-apply for membership.

FROM THE GREEN SHED (Guy Wright)

WOW!! What a turnout. Chapter Maintenance Day for August 2013 was one of the most productive in my memory. So many new faces, hopefully to become familiar faces, and a healthy group of repeat helpers to supplement the regular cadre of hard working members, including juniors. Again it is so gratifying to see our juniors out helping Mom and/or Dad with the work of the Chapter.

There were people out for Adopt-a-Road who returned to help with other work. Gardens were groomed and a significant amount of weed whacking has things looking very nice.

A large contingent of folks moved from gardens maintenance to a large project in the Christmas Tree area to prune up and remove low branches on a significant number of super large pines that will probably never be Christmas Trees due to their sheer size, presence of split trunks, and other defects. But they still produce oxygen and now the area around the can be better maintained.

While this was going on a group cleaned out the area at the back of the Green shed, something I have had on my mind for years. Now I can spray to kill all the weeds and sort through the junk to finally get it organized.

Inside the green shed Joe Smith got a lot of old sheets of particle board cut up and turned into rifle range target backers.

And let's not forget Al Goldschmidts and the folks who again put the rifle and pistol range back in shape, and the hard working group who restocked the skeet houses with the help of Chuck Crooks on the Case 580 Super L and also got the grounds in their area spruced up.

The Chapter as a whole looks fantastic, which is very important to me because I have always believed that if we are to be known for our "...wise stewardship of the land and its resources..." we should start on our own grounds.

Well done to you all, and please come back as often as you can.

Conservation (Meo Curtis)

Conservation News for September

Adopt A Road

On Sunday August 25th, 2013, 10 of our members picked up litter along Mullinix Mill Road (County line to Rte. 108) and also Long Corner Rd. (Patuxent River to Rte. 108). From 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., they collected 11 bags of mostly beverage containers and fast food litter,, an old rabbit hutch and other wooden debris with nails, a trash can partially filled with nasty materials, and some tire pieces.

Those who worked close to the river at Long Corner Rd found a larger dump site on State Parkland. We'll be coordinating with DNR to clean that up during our Fall Watershed Clean Up scheduled on Saturday November 2. More details on that in next month's newsletter.

Grounds and Christmas Tree Maintenance

Also on the August Chapter Maintenance Day We had another dozen members who worked on grounds and Christmas trees maintenance. They pulled out, lopped off, and whacked down the many unwanted weedy vines, plants, and shrubs that keep threatening to take over the Chapter landscaping and desirable trees. Thanks to all those new members who worked so hard that day.

Upcoming Conservation Work Events

Sunday September 29. Chapter Maintenance Day. We'll be adding some new plants, mulching, and continuing the pull/lop/whack of previous work days. If you want to learn a bit more about 'invasive' plants and why we are trying to keep them out of our landscaped areas, meet at the large Green Shed on the Chapter grounds at 8:30 a.m. We'll begin working at 9 a.m. The Chapter provides tools, gloves, and water.

Saturday October 12. Stream forest buffer maintenance in Brookeville. 9:00 AM to Noon. – Gloves, tools, and water provided. This is a long-term project to protect the trees we've planted and cage up more native trees that are naturally reforesting this area along a tributary to the Reddy Branch. For more details, contact **Jeff Deschamps** at jeff.deschamps@verizon.net or **Jim Piateski** at jim.piateski@verizon.net

Skeet and Trap (Bob Cooley)

IWLA SHOTGUN RANGE ROSTER 2013

October 2013

Wed 10/2 Nunzio Litterio, Berle Cherney
Sat 10/5 Mash Esfanaji, Mary Esfanaji
Sun 10//6 Tony Hess, Mark Gay
Wed 10/9 Frank Bis, Ron Roberson
Sat 10/12 Paul Fisher, Greg Myers
Sun 10/13 George King, Gary Giambalvo
Wed 10/16 Jay Jeffrey, Carl McMahon
Sat 10/19 Steve Olsen, Murray Welsh
Sun 10/20 Jim Crowell, Maj Tavakoli
Wed 10/23 Brian Van Winkle, Bob Woodward
Sat 10/26 Paul Turska, Jake Turska, Bob Reynolds
Sun 10/27 Bob Poth, Dave Stevenson
Wed 10/30 Debbi Perry, Jeff Greenhut

Substitutes:

Tim Mulreany, Gary Green, Stephen Meyers, Steve Rowcroft, Steve Meyers, Ron Roberson, Hank Williams, Mike Webb, Bob Cooley, Ira Wein, Glenn Hubert, Joel Gross, John Davis, Mike Bowen, Roman Drew, Robin Dixon,, Jim Arnold, Kieth Kosian, Charlie Weaver, Jay DeVan, Gerhard Bartsch

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

Important! It is your responsibility to read and understand our WAC R/P range's safety conduct and rules

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

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

18. No member may use our ranges for commercial training purposes. Using any WAC firearms range for financial gain, personal or otherwise, jeopardizes our charitable organization status and is a major conduct violation of our range rules. Anyone found to be in violation of this rule will have his or her range privileges suspended pending investigation by the Rifle and Pistol Range Safety Officer Committee, which will present its findings to the Board of Directors for their action.

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.

Upcoming events:

Saturday, September 14th for an Introduction to NRA Bullseye Matches from 2 – 5PM.

Sunday, September 15th, Maryland DNR Hunter Qualification (shotgun and muzzleloader only) from 9:30AM to noon.

Sunday, September 29th – Maintenance Day – 9AM.

Saturday, October 19th – Bowling Pin Match from 9AM to 2PM.

NRA Training – Wendy Smith:

Our next class will be NRA Basic Pistol on September 21st and October 13th, the class roster and wait list are full.

The last NRA Basic Pistol class of the year will be the Ladies/Daughters and Teens dinner and class. The first day of class is the afternoon of Saturday, October 19th and will include a spectacular dinner by Chefs Cherie, Ed and Randy. The second day of class is Sunday, November 10th, all day. Registration will be announced October 1st. Please watch for a special WAC announcement at that time. **CLASSES FILL UP FAST – USUALLY WITHIN 2 DAYS – DO NOT DELAY REGISTERING ONCE IT IS ANNOUNCED!**

A reminder to our probationary members:

It's membership renewal time again. For members (1) that are at the end of their second year of probation or (2) might be over it and have not completed the minimum required work activities, you will need to pay the initiation fee of \$60.00 again along with the renewal fee of \$135.00.

You still have time to get whatever work activities you need done and not to pay the extra \$60.00.

If you are not sure as to your work status, please email me at 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

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Congratulations

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

Mark Coggeshall
Anton Steuer

Cowboy Set Up

August 23

Mash Esfanaji, Mary Esfanaji, Ed DeSantis, Chuck Crooks, Barb Crooks, James Borum, Paul Largent, Ryan Cooley, Matt Dill, Allan Snyder, Michael Kerr, Kevin Dukes, Alexander Flavin, Michael Husband, Stephenie Husband, Matt Morehouse, Michael T. Holder, Jerry Klinger, Ginger Dietsch, David Riedman and Philip Knowles.

Chapter Maintenance Day

August 25

Conservation Work (Adopt A Road)

Jeff Deschamps, Meo Curtis, Michael Bennett, Bruce Burgess, Carl Coakley, Gail Wolfe, AJ Janks, Michael Murrie, Joe Winters, Michael Wolfe, Jeff Williams, Bud Gates, Eric Matson, Dale Buschling, T.J. Monahan, Art Paholski, Jim Funk, Alisa Funk, Nancy Ostrove, Will Corbin, Lenny Byrd, Lois Byrd and Joe Freeman.

Chapter Maintenance Day (Continued)

Range Maintenance (Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun)

Al Goldschmidts, Nick Hewitt, Dean Elliott, Joe Forsha, Sue Celeste, Jay Hannam, Nathan Pratt, Judith Schneider, Stephen Rowcroft, Tom Barlow and son, Gary Giambalvo, George King, Tom Hess and Tim Mills.

General Ground Maintenance (Everywhere)

Steve Via and Connor Walsleben.

Green Shed (operations shack)

Joe Smith.

Membership Dinner

August 28

Kitchen and Dining Room Duties

Mac McCollum and Cherie Aker supported by: Ian Cashwell, Daniel Galati, Stephen Lefebvre and Rachel Engling.

(Side note) Mac wants to thank Ian and Daniel for the extra work they did for the dinner.

Dining Room Setup

Will Carbone

At the Bar

Mash Esfanaji, Mary Esfanaji, Tom Ouellette and David Goldberg.

If you are a probationary member and volunteered during the past month and your name does not appear in this issue of the newsletter please send an email with your information to:
nicolasgiu@yahoo.com

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 Piatieski jimpiateski@verizon.net)

Thanks to Nicolas Giuliano for mailing the printed version of the newsletter every month. Thanks to Meo Curtis , Chuck Crooks, Wendy Smith, Jesse Lim, Debbi Perry 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 Piatieski 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 Piatieski 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
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