



Wildlife Gazette

Izaak Walton League of America Wildlife Achievement Chapter OCTOBER 2005

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Range House Phone: 301-253-4779

OCTOBER 2005 CALENDAR

Mon 17, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Tue 18, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Wed 19, Skeet & Trap Open 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Wed 19, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Thu 20, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Fri 21, *** **Cowboy Action Shoot Set Up** 1:00 PM **Rifle Pistol Ranges Closed**

Sat 22, *** **Cowboy Action Shoot** 8:00 to 4:00 PM (**Tear down approx 3:30 PM**) **Rifle Pistol Ranges Closed**

Sat 22, Junior Rifle Practice 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Sat 22, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

Sat 22, *** **Fall Watershed Clean-Up & Adopt-A-Road**

Sun 23, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

Mon 24, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Tue 25, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Wed 26, **Membership Meeting** 6:30 PM Social, Dinner 7:30 PM

Wed 26, Skeet & Trap Open 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Wed 26, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Thu 27, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Sat 29, Junior Rifle Practice 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Sat 29, Air Rifle Field Target Match 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Sat 29, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

Sun 30, Skeet & Trap 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Sun 30, *** **Rifle Pistol Range Clean Up** 10:00 AM **Ranges closed until 1:00 PM**

Sun 30, *** **Skeet/Trap Maintenance** 10:00 AM **Ranges closed until 1:00 PM**

Sun 30, *** **Christmas Tree Maintenance** 10:00 AM - Contact John Leaman 301-972-1572

Sun 30, Club and Range Orientation 10:00 AM

Mon 31, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM

NOVEMBER 2005 CALENDAR

Tue 1, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Tue 1, Conservation /SOS Committee Meeting 7:30 PM

Wed 2, Board Of Directors Meeting 7:30 PM, ATTENTION prospective Members, Please Meet at 7:00 PM

Wed 2, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Thu 3, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Fri 4, Astronomy Club Meeting, 7:00 P.M. in the Office or BBQ Shed

Sat 5, Junior Rifle Practice 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Sat 5, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

Sun 6, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

Sun 6, Public Hunter Sight In/Qualification Day On Rifle Range 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM - Contact Ray Shaver (Rifle Range Closed During Event)

Mon 7, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Tue 8, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Wed 9, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Thu 10, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Fri 11, Hunter Safety, Day 1, 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM - Contact Geoff Hornseth 301-253-2384 choice 2

Sat 12, Practical Defense Match 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM (Uncovered pistol range closed during event)

Sat 12, Air Rifle Field Target Match 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Sat 12, Skeet & Trap 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Sat 12, Junior Rifle Practice 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Sun 13, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

Mon 14, Adult Airgun 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Tue 15, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Wed 16, **Membership Meeting** 6:30 PM Social, Dinner 7:30 PM

Wed 16, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Thu 17, Junior Rifle Practice 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Fri 18, Hunter Safety, Day 2, 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM - Contact Geoff Hornseth 301-253-2384 choice 2

Sat 19, Hunter Safety, Day 3, 9:00 AM (**All ranges closed until 1:00 PM**) - Contact Geoff Hornseth 301-253-2384 choice 2

Sat 19, Skeet & Trap 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

Sat 19, Junior Rifle Practice 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

NOTE: * Counts toward NEW MEMBER REQUIRED PROJECT PARTICIPATION**

CALENDAR EVENT POC's:

Skeet & Trap POC: Conley Phipps
301-460-8528
S&T Range Officers POC: Bill Rahn 301-774-6234
Junior Airgun POC: Bob Inness
301-340-9185 email:
binness@starpower.net or John Watson 301-929-3583
Air Rifle Field Target POC: Joe McDaniel 301-865-8257
Adult Airgun POC: Phil Dean
301-865-8202
Christmas Tree POC: John Leaman
301-972-1572
Cowboy Shoot POC: Chuck Crooks
301-831-9666
Rifle Pistol Range POC: Ray Shaver
301-598-4163
Range Orientation POC: Ray Logan
301-946-2651,
nagolyar@starpower.net, or Barry Ephraim, eyebear@aol.com
Bowling Pin Shoot & Practical Defense Match POC: Jesse Lim
301-540-0860
Seneca Valley Rifle Match POC:
Mike Gugulis 301-417-0987
Conservation Committee POC: Jim Piatetski 301-253-4486 or Jeffrey Deschamps 301-604-3736
Fall Clean-up and Adopt A-Road
POC: Michelle Chesnut 301-831-0237 smc_geek@msn.com
Boy Scouts, Order of The Arrow
Terry Springer 301-428-0216
Hunter Safety POC: Geoff Hornseth
301-253-2384 ext.2
.22 Fun Shoot POC: Tom Riley 301-774-7426
Military Shoot POC: Ray Shaver
301-598-4163

RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGE REPORT

INFORMATION: For more information about any of the rifle/pistol range activities mentioned in this article, contact **Guy Wright** by e-mail to

guywright@comcast.net or telephone **301-253-4604**. If you can't reach **Guy**, try **Ray Shaver** by e-mail to MRShaver@msn.com or telephone **301-598-4163**.

SHOOTING HOURS: Permitted rifle/pistol range shooting hours are posted on the box that contains the range sign-in register. **For October 2005, starting time is 10 AM daily and ending time is 6:30 PM**, unless some activity has preempted the range.

NOTE FROM RAY SHAVER: Please note the change in the order of names to contact in the "INFORMATION" paragraph above. There is a good reason for that change. I plan to resign at the end of December 2005 upon completing ten years as chairman or co-chairman of the rifle/pistol range committee, and my current co-chairman, **Guy Wright**, is taking over. My first *RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGE REPORT* appeared in the February/March 1996 edition of the WAC newsletter, and this report (shared with **Guy**) is my last. However, being involved in various activities besides the rifle/pistol range committee, this is not the last you will hear from me. I continue to assist Joe Gick on membership issues and will continue to collect and publish the names of those who come out to help with chapter events. Thanks to all; it's has been a privilege and pleasure to work with you. I'll see you on the range.

OUT OF BOUNDS: On September 5, 2005, **Tom Riley**, a former co-chair of the rifle/pistol range committee and director of the WAC, stood up from his left-handed shooting position at the rifle range, turned around and noticed two persons about six feet in front of the firing line – a girl or young woman in a prone shooting position and a man kneeling next to her. Given that the range was hot (i.e., nobody had called a cease fire) and shooting was going

on, Tom proceeded to chew out the member involved, who had been kneeling beside his daughter "teaching her to shoot prone" (WITH A .30 CALIBER MILITARY RIFLE AT 25 YARDS!). I (Ray Shaver) heard about the incident shortly afterwards when the member called, admitted he had been in the wrong, but indicated that he didn't like the way Tom had treated him. Nor, by the way, was he happy with the fact that Tom had told his son-in-law to stop shooting rapid fire with an AR15 from the bench. At the time of the call I was having difficulties communicating (darn Parkinson's), so unable to get into many details, I told the caller, that the issue would be raised at the upcoming board meeting, where I did indeed report it. The board members responded like I would have expected: One, putting themselves in Tom's place, they could understand why he had not been diplomatic upon encountering a major breach of range safety rules. Furthermore, everyone wondered why in the world the other three or four range approved members on the rifle range had not done the same. Yes, Tom Riley violated Range Rules item 19 under CONDUCT (*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.*), but his violation was trivial compared to the safety violations by other shooters on that range. By chance Guy Wright happens to be discussing one item (#5 under SAFETY) below. **Again, let me remind you, although he may not have been courteous or diplomatic, Tom Riley was doing what we expect every range-approved member to do – "calling immediate attention to a safety problem on our range. If you commit a major safety violation, don't be surprised if someone shouts at you." Although our goal is no injuries on WAC ranges, injured feelings are much preferred over injured people.**

HUNTER SIGHT-

IN/QUALIFICATION DAYS: The WAC will hold the second and last of two hunter qualification events this fall on **Sunday, November 6.**

Registration starts at 9:30 AM.

Groups of prospective hunters will qualify in ten-person relays between 10:00 AM and approximately noon, concentrating first on shotgun (slug) hunters and inserting relays of muzzleloaders as appropriate. There is a \$5.00 fee for each qualification attempt. Afternoons, from around noon until 2:30 PM we will provide individual assistance for prospective hunters who need to sight in their firearms before attempting to qualify. The fee for sight-in assistance is \$5.00 per firearm. Those who wish to qualify after signing in may do so individually for a separate fee of \$5.00 per attempt. During the afternoon, we will provide qualification for rifles and handguns as well as shotguns and muzzleloaders. Remember, you are expected to qualify with the firearm you will be using to hunt with. **The rifle range will be closed during these events.**

22 FUN SHOOT DECEMBER 3:

Everyone is welcome and families are encouraged to attend our last .22 rimfire rifle fun shoot of 2005. It will be held from **10:00 AM until approximately 12:30 PM on Saturday, December 3.** Participants in this special event will be able to shoot at the chapter's steel knock-down targets and silhouettes, along with novelty targets like balloons and earth-bound clay pigeons. Bring a .22 rimfire rifle (i.e., short, long, long-rifle, but not .22 WRM please), lots of inexpensive .22 ammunition, plus eye and ear protection for participants and observers. For additional information about this event, contact **Tom Riley** by e-mail to vze3h59t@verizon.net or telephone **301-774-7426** (before 6 PM, please).

BLACK POWDER SAFETY: A question was asked recently if it was ok to work on a black powder rifle on

the firing line when a cold range has been declared. It seems some have the notion that if certain criteria are met then this action is ok. The answer is contained in Safety Rule 5, which applies to both rifle and pistol ranges and states:

“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 shall not be touched during this period.”

While one could argue that something could be done to a black powder rifle to render it safe, the same could be said of any rifle, such as remove the bolt. This, however, misses the whole point of the rule. People who are down range do not want to worry about their safety. The best way to do this is to take the main threat to their safety (accidental discharge of a firearm) out of the equation and the best way to do that is Safety Rule 5.

So during a cold range take a break, chew the fat with fellow shooters, be patient and above all be safe.

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Probationary members are required to help in two chapter events during their first year of WAC membership. **At least one of those events must be a conservation activity.** If you are a probationary member, and don't see your name in the newsletter after helping out in an event, it would be prudent to contact the person who ran the event and find out why. Following are the names from the sign-up sheets for several recent events. Thanks to all.

CAS TEAR DOWN (August 27): Blix Winston (added from recovered sign-up sheet).

SHOOTER QUALIFICATION (September 18): Barry Ephraim, Paul Bluteau, Jim Fedis, Robert Griffin, Bill McGiffin, Karl Moline, Dennis Price, Tom Riley, Bruce Roth, Jim Schinner, Jose P. Scoseria, Ray Shaver, Joe Spence, Robert Van Tassell, M. J. "Rip" Van Winkle and Guy Wright.

CAS SET UP (September 23): Ron Appler, Paul Bluteau, Chuck Crooks, Chuck Limparis, Ralph Roderick, Ray Shaver and Guy Wright.

KITCHEN & SERVICE (September 23): Jorge Silva, Pat Ramsey and Bob Rounds.

HOSPITALITY (September 23): Rob Hallin, Ken Lefebvre and Tom Oulette.

CAS TEAR DOWN (September 24): Paul Bluteau, Greg Christensen, Jennifer Christensen, John Leaman, Bill Leaman, Ray Shaver, Terry L. Springer and Guy Wright.

RANGE ORIENTATION (September 25): Barry Ephraim and Rex Gori.

RIFLE/PISTOL RANGE MAINTENANCE (September 25): Josh Jonas, Ray Shaver and Guy Wright.

CONSERVATION TASKS (September 17 and 25): Don & Joshua Thompson.

CONSERVATION TASKS (September 25): Ryan Cooley, Bob Cooley, Mike Creighton, Meo Curtis, Jeff Deschamps, Ruben Gerena, Bryan Haddix, Saul Honigsberg, Bill Kight, John Leaman, Chuck Limparis, Jon

Marr, Tim Mulreany, Mark Phillips and Pete Rogers.

OCTOBER SITE

MAINTENANCE: The next monthly maintenance of WAC ranges, Christmas trees, house and grounds will be done from **9:30 AM until 1 PM on Sunday, October 30.** Please report to the maintenance coordinator, **Tom Riley**, at the green equipment shed for an assignment.

NEW MEMBERS

SEPTEMBER

Glenn Hubert, Montgomery Village, MD

Sponsor: Berle Cherney

William S. Gunther, Clarksburg, MD

Sponsor: Greg Dilla

Thomas Michael Hanagan, Dickerson, MD

Sponsor: Greg Dilla

William Inman, Germantown, MD

Sponsor: Frank Saenz

Keith Kosian, Gaithersburg, MD

Sponsor: Bill Schneider

L. K. (Ken) Lubel, Olney, MD

Sponsor: Brian Oettinger

Tom Roebaugh, Damascus, MD

Sponsor: Richard Marler

SKREET & TRAP RANGE

OFFICERS:

OCTOBER 2005

Sat 10/16 Dave Gold, Ira Wein, Peter Currall

Sun 10/17 Jim & Judy Crowell, Robert Case

Sat 10/22 Tony Evans, Charles Weaver, Mike Bowen

Sun 10/23 *** Peter Sittner, Randy & Evan Stewart (change)

Sat 10/29 Mike Webb, Paul Fisher, Robert Taylor

Sun 10/30 Rob Van Tassel, Frank Saenz, Michael Fleisher

NOVEMBER 2005

Sat 11/5 "The Fichter Gang", Carl McMahon

Sun 11/6 Steve Hunt, Paul & Jake Truska, Ronnie Gravitt

Sat 11/12 Vivian & Robert MacLeod, Robert Jeffery, Rob Taylor, Tim Mulreany

Sun 11/13 Martin Cherry, Peter Sittner, Randy Stewart & Evan

Sat 11/19 Ira Wein, Peter Currall, Dave Gold, Mike Webb

Sun 11/20 Jim & Judy Crowell, Tim Olsen, Robert Case

Sat 11/26 Red Gambrell, Tony Evans, Richard Zabell, Charles Weaver, Paul Fisher

Sun 11/27 Frank Saenz, Rob Van Tassel, Michael Fleisher

FLY FISHING FORUM

By Richard Phelan unodir@comcast.net

Length, rod types, rod materials and fly fishing outfitters

Length

The best information I have found for beginners on rods is at:

http://pa.essortment.com/flyfishing_rmdn.htm by *Wayne McDowell*.

He recommends your first rod should be at least eight to eight and a half feet long, since the longer rods handle line better and make longer casts.

There are some notable exceptions, but my feeling is that those situations are specialized and more in the realm of an experienced fly fisher.

Rod Types and Materials

The fly rod you are most likely to find today is a graphite rod. They are light, flexible and in many cases, inexpensive. Bamboo rods of any quality are generally very pricey. A well made bamboo rod is a wonderful thing to see, and (IMHO) great to cast, although most I have used are generally much slower action. As far as I know, fiberglass rods are not being made any more. If you are interested in getting more information on bamboo rods I recommend talking to one of our own members, Bill Douwes. I defer to his experience and expertise when it comes to issues

beyond an interested amateur like myself.

There is also the question of how many pieces a fly rod should have. It used to be that the more pieces a rod had, the worse it cast. With the new lightweight materials, and better design technology, that is no longer an issue. If you are fishing only locally, or only drive to out of town sites, then a two piece rod is fine. But if you travel by air, you might encounter issues with a four or five foot long rod case. I recently purchased a L.L. Bean six piece travel rod which will fit easily in my suitcase. There are even nine piece rods which pack down to a tiny 13".

Final note: I personally do not recommend the "dual use" fly/spinning rods as I think these provide the worst of both.

Fly fishing outfitters

This is a really tough question, since much of it can be based on subjective opinion. Unless you know an experienced fly fisher who can guide you, I would recommend sticking with the larger names in the business like L.L. Bean, Cabela's, Outdoor World, and, of course, Orvis.

Finally, I am writing as an interested amateur, for beginners. If you would like to add or correct anything above, contact me at: unodir@comcast.net. I want to hear from you fly fishers out there, and hopefully start a club at the IWLA WAC.

Future topics: **Flies, fly tying materials, tying your own, local fishing spots, wading gear, vests and stream bags**

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

As IKE's we are charged with the wise stewardship of our wildlife, woodlands and open space. Rejoice that we live in a Country where we can travel the width and breadth and enjoy all the bounty nature has given.

CONSERVATION & ADOPT-A-ROAD REPORT

All new members must complete one work day for conservation at the Chapter during their first year. This fall there will be many opportunities to get involved.

One such event to become involved with is the National Tree Trust (NTT) tree planting on Saturday October 15 at 8:30. Expenses to date for this project are \$7262. We have already received a payment of \$6567 from the NTT. The NTT funds need to be matched with either chapter funds or volunteer labor. In the proposal we planned for a mix of labor and chapter funds. At present we would need about 422 hours of volunteer labor to match the NTT funds received to date. In addition to the planting date we will be doing maintenance on the trees on 2006. If you have time and are interested in protecting and improving what 'wilderness' areas we have left please consider helping out with these events.

The annual Watershed Clean-up on October 22 is another great activity. This is in combination with the fall Adopt-A-Road, meet at the Chapter Tool Shed. Another great activity is the Lois Green Sligo Chapter clean up on November 5. Meet at the Lois Green Sligo Chapter near Montgomery Village. Details and directions for ALL events (other than maintenance day!) will be posted on the Conservation Committee web site. Go to the Chapter website and click on the Icon.

WILD GAME DINNER & AUCTION

Our annual Wild Game Dinner and Auction will be on Saturday, January 28th, 2006. This will also be our January Membership Meeting.

Tickets will be \$15 per person. Tickets will only be for sale at the

October, November and December membership meetings. They will also be on sale at the Skeet & Trap range house during their regular hours. Tickets will be sold during these time periods only. There are no mail in or pick ups except at membership meetings and the regular hours of the Skeet & Trap range house. There is limited seating so do not expect to purchase tickets at the door. We have sold this event out, long before the meeting, for the last several years. You do not have to buy a dinner ticket to be able to bid in the auction. However, those not eating dinner will have to wait downstairs, or out side, during the dinner itself.

We do need wild game donations for this dinner. If you have any wild game to donate, please bring it to a meeting, contact a board member or our cook, **Jorge Silva** 301-258-0377.

We also need donated items for the auction. Please bring your new or used items, in working order, to the lower level of the clubhouse. There is a supply of donation stickers on the wall, over top of the fire extinguisher, by the office door. Fill out a sticker and place it on each item you donate. Place your items behind the bar in the Rathskeller. **PLEASE, no exercise equipment, books, magazines, broken or incomplete items or computer parts.** For additional information on donations, contact **Richard Fried** 301-253-2789.

Donated firearms must be handled through **Chuck Crooks** 301-831-9666 or **Jim Piatetski** 301-601-2954.

OCTOBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP GUEST SPEAKER

The guest speaker for our October General Membership Meeting will be Mr. Bill Hamilton. Mr. Hamilton is well credentialed and knowledgeable regards Deer and Wildlife Management in Montgomery County. Please come out to hear an interesting

presentation, partake of a wonderful dinner and enjoy chatting with other WAC members.

Bill Hamilton- Wildlife Ecologist and Deer Program Manager
Department of Park and Planning-
Montgomery County
Manage Deer and other wildlife in MC for the last decade. Member of the county's Deer Management Work Group
B.S in Wildlife Management from Frostburg State University
Also completed course work at Virginia Tech's, Forestry and Wildlife Resource Institute

ROAD DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Sometime during the next 6 weeks the main club road will be excavated to install a drainage system to aid in expelling the excess water that accumulates during the spring. As the exact dates are worked out additional information will be posted on the Chapter website.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

"He that is good, will infallibly become better, and he that is bad, will as certainly become worse; for vice, virtue, and time, are three things that never stand still." Colton

Contributing Articles By:

Chuck Crooks: Web Calendar
Mac McCollum: Hardcopy Calendar
Guy Wright: Range Report
Ray Shaver: Volunteers
Joe Gick: New Members
Bill Rahn: Range Officers
Richard Phelan: Fly Fishing Forum
John Leaman: Chaplain
Jeff Deschamps: Conservation
Rich Fried: Wild Game Dinner
Bill Kelly: Guest Speaker
Tom Riley: Road Improvements
Editor: Conley Phipps, TFT