



Wildlife Achievement Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America
OCTOBER 2016

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CHAPTER NEWS, EVENTS AND ARTICLE

Please read!

Despite repeated attempts to explain the probationary period, it seems that some members don't understand.

You must complete two events in each of the first two years of your membership. At least one of these events each year must be a conservation event. Please read the section at the end of the newsletter about determining your status if you are in doubt as to your situation.

Membership Approves Dues Increase for 2017

IWLA Wildlife Achievement Chapter (WAC) members approved a membership dues increase at the August 24th membership meeting. The proposed increase goes into effect for the 2017 membership year. IWLA WAC members will see the following changes in rates to renew their membership:

- Individual member dues would increase from \$135 to \$145.
- Family member dues would increase from \$205 to \$220.
- Student member dues would increase from \$40 to \$45.
- Youth member dues would increase from \$30 to \$32.

Your overall membership dues include support for our Chapter, the Maryland State Division, and the National organization. Those with a lifetime membership to the IWLA National organization will not see any dues increase.

The increase simply represents passing along a rate increase in the National portion of your dues that was approved by delegates attending the National Convention in July. It reflects challenges with IWLA National finances which have suffered from declining revenue for the past five years. National successfully reduced its expenses over the past few years, but needs additional revenue to strengthen the league for the future. It will use the revenue increase to:

- Enhance the visibility of the League at all levels (i.e., local, state, national),
- Add staff to support chapters and members; and,
- Increase advocacy on conservation and outdoor recreation policy.

If you have any related questions, contact Membership Secretary Adol Owen-Williams II at membership@iwlawac.org

Updated Contact Information Requested

I am continually working to keep membership records updated and ask that you notify me right away if your email address(es), phone number(s) or street address have changed within the past 12 months. Membership renewal notices are expected to go out within a few weeks and it is vital your information is current. To reduce postage costs and consume less paper, invoices will be sent via email to the greatest extent possible. Paper-based renewal forms will be sent to those that do not have email accounts.

Probationary members are urged to complete any remaining work requirements before the end year of the second membership year is finished. Opportunities for conservation work credits diminish near the end of the calendar year so do not delay. If you are unsure about your probationary membership status, please contact Nick Giuliano at nicolasgiu@yahoo.com. If you have any other questions or concerns about your membership contact Membership Secretary Tim Garrity at membership@iwlawac.org. If you do not plan to renew your membership, please let him know as soon as possible.

Probationary Work Requirements for Members with Limited Abilities

All members, regardless of physical abilities, are required to complete two work projects per year for the first two years of their membership in order to fulfill the terms of their probation. At least one of these projects, each year, must be conservation oriented. Chapter leadership will provide opportunities for members to make a contribution during work projects that require physical labor (i.e., range maintenance). Tasks can be assigned that require minimal or no physical labor.

Each work project listed on the chapter's web site includes a point of contact and that person's name, email address and phone number. Members with limited abilities should contact this person ahead of the event to discuss the nature of the event and determine what work they can perform. Opportunities to complete conservation related work projects diminish later in the calendar year, so you are urged to fulfill any related obligations sooner than later.

You need to legibly complete the sign in sheet made available for each work project. Likewise, you should check the chapter newsletter in the following month to ensure you receive credit for your service.

NEW RANGE POLICY Effective January 1, 2017 -- Visitor Badges

Starting on January 1, 2017 WAC members who bring their family and guests to any of the ranges will need them to wear a WAC visitor's badge. Each member that has a 2017 range access card will be provided TWO visitor badges that must be visibly worn at all times by family and other guests. Visitor badges will be distributed with members' 2017 range access cards after receipt of renewal payments. Visitors are only allowed on the ranges when accompanied by



members. Therefore, anybody on the ranges without a 2017 range access card or a visitor's badge will be deemed trespassing and will be requested to leave the property.

Unlike range access cards, the design of visitor badges is permanent will not change each year. Members should retain their visitor badges as long as they remain members. Lost visitor badges will be replaced for a cost of \$10. Visitor badges will be printed with the member's name and ID number. The member must be present with the guests that are using their visitor cards.

Adult Airgun

The Adult Airgun Program is up and running for the 2016-17 season. Blow the dust off your springer or pump action gun and put a few rounds of lead down range. We're welcoming back our regulars and our old friends we haven't seen in a while. 7:00pm every Monday night in the Rathskeller. Don't miss out on all the fun!

Shoot straight,

Jim Pachulski [\(202\) 487-6237](tel:2024876237)

Conservation (Meo Curtis)

Gardens Maintenance Friday September 30.

This month we worked on the gardens behind the Chapter House, taking out weeds (especially the viny ones overgrowing the azaleas) and adding native plants and mulch. The flowering plants included phlox and butterfly weed, both great nectar sources for honeybees and other pollinators. The butterfly weed which has a bright orange flower is in the milkweed family and is thus a host plant for the larvae of the monarch butterfly. We also (re)planted native grasses in the landscaped area over the septic tank. Thanks to the Holl family, Ken Brenner, and Mike Skinsacos for helping out.

Upcoming Conservation Work Credit Activities

Christmas Tree Maintenance on the monthly Chapter work days (next is Sunday October 30).

Lee Cascio is the chair of the Christmas Tree Committee. This fall, he is working on getting the Christmas tree area ready for next spring's planting. Contact him at lccascio@gmail.com if you want to help out.

Tree maintenance at the Brookeville Site. Sunday October 16. 9:00 AM to Noon. – Weed removal, repairing and installing deer protection. The Chapter provides gloves, tools, and water. Must pre-register. Contact Jeff Deschamps at jeff.deschamps@verizon.net

Tree maintenance at the WSSC Pigtail Area. Sunday October 23. 9:00 AM to Noon. – Weed removal, repairing and installing deer protection. The Chapter provides gloves, tools, and water. Must pre-register. Contact Jim Piatieski at jimpiateski@verizon.net

Fall Watershed CleanUp. Saturday October 29. 9:30 AM to Noon. –Meet at the green maintenance shed. Gloves, trash bags, and water provided. Lunch at noon for all participants. Contact Meo Curtis at meosotis58@ verizon.net for more information.

Other Conservation Activities:

SAVE OUR STREAMS WORKSHOP: Saturday October 15 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. The Lois Green - Sligo Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America is sponsoring an SOS Workshop on the Chapter property at 8721 Snouffer School Road, Gaithersburg, MD. Save Our Streams is a fun and easy way to rate water quality by collecting and identifying underwater insects and other organisms. Classroom training in the Chapter meeting room will be followed by field training in a nearby stream. The cost of the workshop is normally \$25 BUT THE CHAPTER IS SPONSORING 15 ADULTS TO ATTEND THIS WORKSHOP AT NO CHARGE! Reservations are on a first come first served basis! Go to <http://sostraining.eventbrite.com> to register. High school students will be considered with IWLA National's permission. BREAKFAST AND LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED. Please bring your own water bottle.

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 Saturday 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.

FARM ACADEMY: The Farm Academy is a chance to visit Howard County farms for an up-close and personal tour and information session including methods used to reduce environmental impacts. There will be a Farm Academy day this fall: October 15-Breezy Willow Farm at Hopkins Spring. Each will be on a Saturday from 9 a.m. -noon, rain or shine. Registration is required. To register and for more information about each farm, visit the <http://livegreenhoward.com/live/your-community/farm-academy/>. Contact the Howard County Soil Conservation District at 410-313-0680 or KMMcCormick@howardcountymd.gov with questions.

Other Events nearby:

MARYLAND DIVISION MEETING: Saturday October 15 from 9:15 a.m.-2 p.m. At the Rockville Chapter on Waring Station Road in Germantown. In the afternoon, we will have a presentation by Danielle Donkersloot, the new Clean Water Program Coordinator for IWLA

National. She will be giving an overview on the League's Clean Water Challenge and also on results from the partnership study on volunteer monitoring in the Chesapeake Bay region. Contact Meo Curtis at meosotis58@verizon.net for more information.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY WEED WARRIOR PROGRAM: (Ms.) Tenley Wurglitz recently joined Montgomery County Parks as the Weed Warrior Program coordinator. The Weed Warriors are trained volunteers who help manage invasive plants that are trying to take over the County's natural areas. More information about the program is available at: http://www.montgomeryparks.org/PPSD/Natural_Resources_Stewardship/Veg_Management/weed_warriors. The next scheduled training is for Wednesday, October 26 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. at Meadowside Nature Center in Rockville. If you are interested in becoming a Weed Warrior, please contact Tenley at MCP-WeedWarriors@montgomeryparks.org.

WSSC YOUTH AND WOMEN HUNT DAYS: The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) is sponsoring hunt days on their property specifically for youth and women. Upcoming days are Saturday November 12 in the T. Howard Duckett (Rocky Gorge) watershed and on Saturday December 3 in the Triadelphia watershed. The hunters will be assigned tree stands. Allowed firearms include shotguns only (no muzzleloaders), rifled slug, or sabot ammunition. All managed hunts end at 11:00 a.m. and hunters must sign out at Brighton Dam regardless of success. *Applications for groups of four or less on the same day will be accepted.* The Deer Hunt application is available directly from Eddie Franceschi, Watershed Manager, at (301) 206-7488 or manageddeerhunts@wsscwater.com.

More information is available online at:

https://www.wsscwater.com/files/live/sites/wssc/files/Deer%20Hunts/Deer_Hunt_Information_2016.pdf.

To participate in the program, all hunters must have the following:

- Valid Maryland hunting license;
- Maryland or other State Hunter Safety Certification. The Certification does not need to be included with application if it was previously submitted to WSSC. *The Pre-1977 exemption is not acceptable for WSSC hunts.*
- Current Maryland or equivalent shooter qualification certificate.
- WSSC Watershed use permit if over 16 and under 65 years of age (\$6 per day or \$70 per year) and
- 2016 WSSC Deer Hunt Application.

Shotgun Range Roster (Steve Olsen)

November 2016

Wed 11/2 Berle Cherney, Ed Shifflett

Sat 11/5 Tim Mulreany, Gary Green

Sun 11/6 Hank Williams, Jeremy Dvorak

Sat 11/12 Jim Arnold, Keith Kosian
Sun 11/13 Joel Gross, Gerhard Bartsch
Sat 11/19 Roman Drews, Chris Hamrick
Sun 11/20 Paul Turska, Jake Turska
Sat 11/26 Robin Dixon, Rodger Moran
Sun 11/27 Dave Stevenson, Jay DeVan

Substitutes:

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, Frank Bis,

Ron Roberson, Jay Jeffrey, Mark Lawson, Bob Woodward, Debbi Perry, Bob Poth

WAC Range Safety Officer Committee, Rifle and Pistol October Update –(Jesse Lim)

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.

Rifle and pistol Chairman / RSO committee will soon implement and update safety and conduct rules regarding “Guest Identification Badges” for the 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 email to alphashooter@usa.com.

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 **October 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.

Chris Miller Eric L. Wood
Kenneth Brenner Marc Shaffer
Carl Coakley Vince A. Sempronio
Arnie Carlson Ron Colbert
Dean E. Mihalovits

Junior Air Rifle (Assistant)

9/10/2015 through 4/28/2016

Probationary Member: **(Regular Credit)**

Martin Kane

Save The Bay

9/10/2016

Members, Family and Nonmembers:

Debra Perry, Gary Giambalvo, Roger Moran, Jim Crowell, Steve Olsen, Maj Tavakoli, Kim Buynak, Jim Arnold and Carl Coakley

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

Jeremy Dvorak and Dakota Merson

Rachel Carson Park

9/11/2016

Members, Family and Nonmembers:

Rodger Moran, Barry Fleming, Thomas Jordan, Andrew Jordan, Jerry Klinger, Carl Coakley, Sydney Coakley, Lilly Dvorak, Pamela Porter and John Porter

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

Scott Henderson, Dave Lane, Aron R. Tweedy, David Bergtold, Charles Jordan, Erika Jordan, Bahman Adeli, Dave Stout, Erin Stout, Eric Wood, Vince Sempronio, Marc Shaffer, Leslie Harrelson, John Kent, Mike Snyder, Rob Baklarz, Ron Colbert, Rick Ebrey, Manuel Perez, Lloyd Ballou, Stephen Mason, Kevin Clair, Jim Smith, Jeremy Dvorak and Kelly Dvorak

Membership Dinner (Prep work)

9/21

Members:

John Porter and Pam Porter

9/22

John Porter

Membership Dinner 9/23

Members:

John Porter and Pam Porter (Kitchen work)

Will Carbone (Dining Room setup)

Cowboy Setup

9/23/2016

Members:

John Randall, Tom Preston, Paul Bluteau and George Hughes,
Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)
Arnie Carlson, Bill Hermach, John Kent and Ken Brenner

Chapter Maintenance Day

9/25/2016

Members, Family and Nonmembers:

Al Goldschmidts, Bud Gates, Tom Ouellette, Nick Hewitt, John Randall, Marty Svrcek, Billy Ramos, John Leaman, Rodger Moran and Guy Wright

Probationary Members: (Range Maintenance)

William Fraga and Scott Henderson (Regular Credit)

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

Adam Dube, Peter Nowak, Lee Cascio and Lee Porter

Shotgun Maintenance

9/25/2016

Members, Family and Nonmembers:

Mark Gay, Donald Koss, Paul Fisher, Rodger Moran, Arden Young and John Porter

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Philip Walsky, C.B. Givens, Doug Chapman and Lee Porter

Garden Maintenance

9/30/2016

Member: Meo Curtis

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

James Holl, Frank Holl, Nancy Holl, Ken Brenner and Michael Skinsacos

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, Jim Pachulski, Tim Garrity and Jesse Lim for their contributions to this newsletter. Thanks to Chuck Crooks for posting and 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:

Adol Owen-Williams II
membership@iwla.org