



NOVEMBER 2006

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## CHAPTER NEWS, EVENTS AND ARTICLES

### Condolences

We send our deepest condolences to Red Gambrell whose wife Dona died on November 1, 2006. Red has been an active member of our chapter for many years. In addition, we send condolences to the family of Lee Slavin. Please give them your support.

### Do You Just Belong (Anonymous)

Are you an active member?  
The kind that would be missed.  
Or are just contented,  
That your name is on the list?  
Do you attend the meetings?  
And mingle with the flock  
Or do you meet in private  
To criticize and mock?  
Do you take an active part  
To help the work along  
Or are you satisfied to be  
The kind that just belongs?  
Do you work on committees  
To this there is no trick  
Or leave the work for just a few  
And talk about the clique?  
So come to meetings often  
And help with hand and heart  
Don't be just a member  
But take an active part  
Think this over members  
You know what's right from wrong  
Are you an active member  
Or do you just belong?

### Wild Game Dinner (Rich Fried)

We still need donations of food and items for the auction. If you have any game to donate, contact George Silva ([jgs49@starpower.net](mailto:jgs49@starpower.net)). The auction is one of the biggest fundraisers for the chapter. We need useable high-quality items, except for exercise equipment. Please contact Rich Fried (301-253-2789 or [TanRicFried@aol.com](mailto:TanRicFried@aol.com)) to donate items.

Tickets are \$20.00 and are available for sale at the Skeet house during open hours and at the membership meetings until we sell out. Get your tickets soon.

### Membership Meeting

Please note that the next two months the membership meetings are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month because of the holidays. This month's general membership meeting is on **Wednesday, November 15** and is the annual fried turkey Thanksgiving dinner. Social hour starts at 6:30 pm and we serve dinner at 7:30 pm. Come join in the camaraderie, meet other chapter members, and enjoy a meal. Family and friends are also welcome.

### 2007 BUDGET RATIFICATION

Pursuant to the By-Laws of the Wildlife Achievement Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, Inc., various committees submitted their budgets to the Finance Committee, which met on Wednesday, 1 November 2006. The Finance Committee completed the proposed budget and submitted it to the Board of Directors at their November meeting held that same day. The BOD approved the proposed budget.

The Finance Committee will present the Proposed 2007 Budget to the membership for ratification at the Membership meeting on 15 November 2006.

### 2007 Renewal Notices (Joe Gick)

Thank you to everyone who has sent his or her renewals back in a timely manner. A special thanks to those generous members who have included an extra donation to the chapter.

Now, to the 75% who have not renewed yet – please remember that it can take from four to six weeks from the time that you write your check until you will receive your 2007 membership card. This also includes your 2007 Range Access card. I cannot send the access card until I get your membership card back from the National Office. If you send in your payment past the middle of December, there is a very good chance that your privileges to use the ranges may temporarily expire if your card comes late. As I have said in the past, I have no control over the time that it takes to issue your new cards. PLEASE SEND IN YOUR PAYMENT TODAY

### Changes in Range Access Rules (Joe Gick)

As of April 1, 2007, every member who shoots on **any range**, including the rifle range, pistol ranges, outdoor air rifle range, the archery range, and the skeet/trap ranges, must be visibly wearing a Range Access card. If you do not have one, you must attend a Range Orientation class,

held at 10:00 A.M. on the last Sunday of the month. (Check the online calendar at [www.damascusIWLA.org](http://www.damascusIWLA.org))

The only exception to wearing a Range Access card is if you are shooting in an event where non-members are invited that are not specific guests of members under current Chapter Rules. Such events include Cowboy Action Shoots, Seneca Valley Matches, Breaking Clay to Save the Bay, etc.

You have five months to obtain your Range Approval card if you are not already in compliance.

### **Adult Airgun Program (Phillip Dean 301-865-8202)**

We would like to see an increase in the number of chapter members participating in the Monday night adult air gun program. Beginning in September, we emphasize air pistol target shooting. We shoot every Monday evening beginning at 7:00 PM in the indoor airgun range downstairs in the clubhouse. We fire a 60 shot practice course each Monday evening and then have a 10 shot 'quick match' for those interested.

To create a little more interest, we might each contribute a \$1.00 to the match pool and the winner and second place shooter will spit the money each Monday. On the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday evening each month, we will have a 60 shot air pistol match and keep records of the scores. If there are enough participants, we will initiate a handicap scoring system for these matches. We are hoping that we can have some air pistol competition with other IWLA chapters in the area during the year. These practice matches will help you prepare for the "real" thing.

There will be a \$1.00 target fee collected from each participant each evening to pay for the targets used. If you would like to begin air pistol shooting but don't have a gun, come out anyway. There are several air pistols available for your use. If you want to shoot target air rifle, we will make accommodations for you. We can fire both air rifles and air pistols on the indoor range.

Plan ahead and try to come out on Monday evenings and participate in some air pistol target shooting. Shooters of all levels of proficiency are welcome. We can give instruction to the beginning shooter and you can learn from some of the more experienced target shooters. We welcome new shooters every Monday evening at 7:00 PM. For additional information, contact Phillip Dean (301-865-8202).

### **Committee Reports**

#### **NEW MEMBERS October 2006** (Joe Gick)

Please welcome the following new members to our chapter. Jason Hall sponsored by Joe Gick, Troy Muller sponsored by Dick Bardelmeier, and Richard Mark Osborn sponsored by Phil Omenitsch.

#### **CONSERVATION** (Meo Curtis and Bill Ladd)

The fall watershed clean up was the major conservation committee event for October. The clean up took place on Sunday 10/22/06, along Mullinix Mill, Long Corner,

Annapolis Rock, Gue Road, and Howard Chapel Roads. This was the transition from Michelle Chesnut to Meo Curtis for the clean ups and adopt-a-roads. There were about 30 participants, including the kitchen crew. We filled up 3/4ths of a 30 c.y. rolloff which was donated by the DPWT. We found three sofas, mattresses, and an old oil tank. There were quite a few new members, including Marshall Bell who drove around to the sites and kept communications open. Special recognition goes to Lisa Fahlstrum, new member, who worked overnight at Emergency Communications Center and then came right to the clean up. Thanks also to 'old' members: Jose Scoseria for his extremely yummy lunch; Michelle Chesnut for arranging the tee-shirts; Bill Ladd for supervising the roll-off arrangements; and Jeff Deschamps, Jim Piateski, Bryan Haddix, Karl Krchma; Gregg and Joe McDonald, Dave and Erik Anderson; and Ray Ladbury. New member participants: Joe Munoz, Joe Koontz, Keith Kosian, Tom Crabill, Evan Stephens, Carlos Rivera-Silva, Jerry Spring, Bob and Carole Poth, Nicolas Dagher, Martin Begosh, David Jacobson, Pasqualel Tata; and Jeff Greenhut.



**Figure 1- Dumpster with collected trash.**

### **Rifle and Pistol Range Report** (Guy Wright)

For more information about any rifle or pistol range activities mentioned in this article, contact Guy Wright, by e-mail, at [guywright@verizon.net](mailto:guywright@verizon.net) or telephone 301-253-4604(home) or 301-775-3741(cell).

**Shooting Hours:** Permitted rifle and pistol range shooting hours are posted on the box, which contains the range sign-in register, as well as above the range entry card reader. For November 2006, starting time is 10:00 AM daily and ending time is 5:00 PM, unless some activity has preempted the range (see "Upcoming Events Affecting Range Availability" below).

### **New Items:**

**Range Sign-In Information Change:** Beginning immediately all members must write the member number shown on their range badge in the area provided next to their name. Please write as legibly as possible.

**Using Sandbags on Pistol Range 1:** Occasionally some of you use the sandbags that reside on the covered pistol range as supports on the tables of pistol range 1 – and that is okay. However, please move the bags back to the covered pistol range before you leave. I have found several sandbags left on pistol range 1 after it rained. The

sandbags take forever to dry out. Since our supply of sandbags is finite, please take good care of them.

**Range Violations:** Recently, members have alerted me to a series of range violations. The fact that we have members that are still vigilant when it comes to our ranges and rules is a good thing. The fact that many safety violations are occurring is not.

Please be reminded that Safety Rule #1 states, "Adherence to all standard rules of firearms safety is mandatory -- the flagrant violation of safety rules shall be cause for immediate termination of range privileges."

Our range rules fall into three categories – Safety, Conduct, and Firearms. We expect all range-approved members to stay current in their knowledge of the rules and to abide by them. Some of the frequently violated rules are listed below. Are you guilty?

#### **Safety Rules:**

3. Always keep the firearm pointed in a safe direction. Aiming and pointing a firearm is only permitted toward the target area from the firing line.  
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 shall not be touched during this period.

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.

20. Eye and ear protection is required for all personnel in the immediate shooting areas.

#### **Conduct Rules:**

1. Unauthorized persons using the rifle/pistol ranges will be deemed trespassing. Unauthorized rifle/pistol range users include anyone who does not display a current range-approved membership card, has not signed the range register, has or is a guest who has not signed the range register, or is violating any directives restricting access for use of the ranges.  
5. Range-approved members shall challenge all shooters not displaying a valid range-approved membership card.  
7. A member may bring a maximum of two guests to the rifle and pistol ranges at a time, and must remain with his/her guests at all times.

Finally, please remember the last rule of 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."

#### **Reminders:**

Rifle and Pistol Range Rules: The rules governing Rifle and Pistol Range safety, conduct, permissible firearms, and violation policy are posted at the covered pistol range, the covered rifle range, the notice board between the pistol ranges, the notice board at the path leading to the covered rifle range, on the chapter WEB site (damascusiwa.org) and in MS Word format from me via

email, when requested. Sometimes questions come up. Though our bylaws indicate that you can call any Board of Directors member about these rules, you will be better served to start with the folks closest to them, i.e., range orientation instructors or the committee chair.

#### **Up-Coming Events Affecting Range Availability:**

Rifle-Pistol Combo Event and Trip Down Memory Lane for Veterans of Foreign Wars on Saturday November 4, 2006 from 10:00AM to 2:00PM. Rifle and Pistol Range is closed

Hunter Sight-in and Qualification on Sunday November 5, 2006 from 10:00AM to 12:00PM. Rifle Range is closed.

Practical Defense Match on Saturday November 11, 2006 from 9:00AM to 2:00PM on Pistol Range 1. (Please note that participants will meet at 9:30 AM in the Rathskeller for registration; don't go directly to the range). Pistol Range 1 will be closed during this time. For additional information, you can contact Jesse Lim via e-mail at [jljm@phillips.com](mailto:jljm@phillips.com) or telephone 301-540-0860 (evenings only please).

Hunter Safety Class on Saturday November 18, 2006 from 9:00AM to 1:00PM. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed.

Cowboy Action Setup on Friday November 24, 2006. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed beginning at 1:00PM.

Cowboy Action Shoot on Saturday November 25, 2006 from 8:00AM to 3:30PM. Rifle and Pistol Ranges will be closed during this time.

Bowling Pin Shoot on Saturday December 9, 2006 from 9:00AM to 2:00PM on Pistol Range 1. (Please note that participants will meet at 9:30 AM in the Rathskeller for registration; don't go directly to the range). Pistol Range 1 will be closed during this time. For additional information, you can contact Jesse Lim via e-mail at [jljm@phillips.com](mailto:jljm@phillips.com) or telephone 301-540-0860 (evenings only please).

#### **Blacksmith Committee Report**

Dick Smith and Hank Van Deursen attended an impromptu open forge in the pole barn on past Saturday, October 21, 2006. Following some general housekeeping chores, they lit the forge and Hank, a first-timer, had the opportunity to practice some basic blacksmithing skills. He first drew a point on a 1/2-by-1/2 inch mild steel bar, and then scrolled over the end and finished by forming a hook. His next project will be to hand forge nails in the fashion used by Thomas Jefferson's slaves at Monticello, his plantation in Virginia.

Our initial plan is to hold an open forge each Saturday from about 10 A.M. until 2 P.M. while the weather stays comfortable enough to work in the pole barn. There will be a short instructional demonstration in basic skills, followed by member-initiated projects. We will provide coal and steel, and there will be at least one forging station available, complete with hammers and tongs. Please contact Dick Smith ([rsmith@lofstrand.com](mailto:rsmith@lofstrand.com) or 301-309-2289) before arriving on Saturdays to confirm that the

forge will be open, and plan on bringing something for your lunch. These open forge meetings are open to all WAC members and guests so please let me know by the preceding Friday so that I know how many forging stations to set up.

**SKEET & TRAP RANGE REPORT** (Paul Turska 301-253-2059)

**Nov 2006 Range Officers**

Sat 11/11 Mike Bower, Bill Rahn, Charles Weaver  
Sun 11/12 Michael Fleisher, Randy & Evan Stewart, Joel Gross  
Sat 11/18 Dave Gold, Ira Wein, Peter Currall, Robert Jeffery  
Sun 11/19 Jim & Judy Crowell, Robert Case, Mike Webb  
Sat 11/25 Red Ganbrell, Tony Evans, Richard Zabell, Charles Weaver  
Sun 11/26 Rob Van Tassell, Frank Saenz, Peter Sittner

Please make a note that range cleanup is Sunday 11/26 at 9:30AM. We need all the help we can get. Any questions, contact Jake Turska 301-253-2059. Dec 2007 maintenance chairs will be Peter Sittner and Jim Arnold.

Skeet and Trap Committee will be planting trees this fall either Nov or Dec on the skeet range. We are currently taking bids for repairs to the woodwork on the skeet and trap houses. Please contact me if interested.

It is interesting, but painfully true that only a small percentage of our membership accounts for all the non-paid volunteer work that makes organizations like ours tick. Therefore, I feel that the least we can do is acknowledge these individuals for their selfless devotion and hard work. Huge thanks to Michelle Chesnut, Bill Ladd and George Keeney (Non-member volunteer) for their work on the skeet/trap erosion control project. They performed a lot of hard work. Also thanks to Conley Phipps, past skeet chair and current vice-chair, for all of his dedication and hard work; to Tom Riley and Chuck Crooks who are always there when you need them and as well Rich Fried and Ken Lefebvre for their work with the county permit office and all the problems that come with that. To Jim Arnold and Jake Turska for month after month of work on skeet cleanup along with all the other range officers who are there every weekend and Wednesdays to run the ranges. I thank you all for your time, work, and ask that others also step forward to help.

We are currently planning some fun shoots. Jay Jeffery has volunteered to chair these efforts. Please contact Jay if you wish to help.

**THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS:** (Conley Phipps)

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. The following 13 probationary members have graduated to full membership status as having completed their required projects: **Nicholas Dagher, Robert McCary, James Heckman, Greg Milsom, Scott Ackland, John Bradbury, Martin Begosh, James Mills, Jeff Greenhut, Mark Gay, Lisa Fahlstrom, Joe Koontz and Robert Poth.**

**Watershed Clean Up**

Thanks to Joe Munoz, Joe Koontz, Lisa Fahlstrom, Keith Kosian, Tom Crabill, Karl Krahma, Marshall Bell, Eian Stephens, Carlos Rivera Silva, Jerry Spring, Bob Poth, Carol Poth, Nicoles Dagher, Gregg McDonald, Joe McDonald, Dave Anderson Jr., Erik Anderson, Michelle Chesnut, Ray Ladbury, Martin Begosh, David Jacobson, Bryan Haddix, Meo Curtis, Jeff Deschamps, Jose Scoseria, Bill Ladd, Jim Piateski, Pasquale Tata and Jeff Greenhut for participation in this project on 22 October.



Figure 2 -- Jim Piateski with his collected treasures.

**2006 PIG ROAST - NOTES OF APPRECIATION**



Figure 3 -- Eileen Pederson at work.

Special thanks to our "Pit Crew": John Walter and Joe Gick for staying up all night and were on the job cooking the pork shoulders for over 19 hours. Also, thanks to Greg Talamini, Steve Peck, Pasquale "Pat" L. Tata, Lisa Fahlstrom, Jose Scoseria, Nicolas Dagher, Ken Lefebvre, Tom Riley and the other members that helped to make this a wonderful event. I also thank Troop 945 members: Mike Myers, Ryan Myers, Joe Gentile, Mike Gentile, Doug

Zellers, Chris Pederson, Collin Miller, Stephen Ernst, Brandon Miller, Eric Wilcox, Sam T., Sebastian Cruz, Joe Tabor, Matthew Sisson, Alex Zucotsui, John Dollar, Bill Dollar, and Wayne Benjamin. Extra special thanks to Eileen Pederson for her outstanding contribution in organizing and supervising the food service and cleanup. Thanks so much for all your help, Stephen L. Lefebvre, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President



Figure 4 -- The Usual Suspects

#### Chapter maintenance

Tom Riley, Rick Mills, Peter Sittner, Paul Vitek, Alan Pressman, Mark Gay, Paul Turska, Jake Turska, Conley Phipps, James DeBerry, Mark Lawson, Tuan Le, Troy Agnew, John Leaman, Guy Wright and Josh Jonas

#### Damascus Wildlife Rangers (CAS) setup/tear down

Tug Hill, Maud 'Dib, Highland Ranger, Cactus Jack Harlin, Scattergun Dave, Whistlin Whiplash, Renegade Lee, Tom Malarkey, Lee Trunnell, Dueling Jim, also two whom I could not decipher your writing.

#### General membership meeting help

Jorge Silva, master chef of the night's dinner, Steve Lefebvre, Chuck Crooks and Steve Peck assisted Jorge generally and in serving. Thanks also to Rob Hallin and Ken Lefebvre, Hospitality Staff.

**NEXT SITE MAINTENANCE:** We will be doing the next monthly maintenance of WAC ranges, Christmas trees, house and grounds from **9:30 AM until 1 PM on Sunday, November 26.** Please report to the maintenance coordinator at the green equipment shed for an assignment. This is a great opportunity to get to know the other Chapter members and help to keep the Wildlife Achievement chapter the best in the league.

#### MAINTAINENCE DAY ACTIVITY - WOOD SPLITTING

In conjunction with the November maintenance day, 26 Nov 2006, we will be cutting and splitting wood to heat the chapter house during the winter. This activity conserves energy, saves the chapter money, keeps the Junior Air Rifle Shooters from freezing, while at the same time utilizes the natural resources of the chapter grounds by turning the dead fall into energy. The more help we get, the more wood we can split! This activity will count as a Conservation work event!

#### Trash Talk (Michelle Chesnut)

Have you ever wondered what happens to your trash and recyclables once it leaves your curb? Recently, John O'Hara, Chief of the Bureau of Environmental Services in Howard County Maryland gave me a tour of the Alpha Ridge Landfill and I found out. Several things at the landfill impressed me. First, the facility itself is huge with a variety of uses. Second, they handle many types of waste for recycling and disposal. Third, and most impressive, the county has implemented new technologies to prevent groundwater pollution and to remediate the groundwater pollution from the older landfill cells.



Figure 5 -- John O'Hara, Chief of the Bureau of Environmental Services.

Alpha Ridge is a 600-acre site built in 1980. Of those 600 acres, 200 of it are landfill. The rest of the facility is a multi-use area. There is a police and firefighter training facility, a park, a trash transfer station, a household hazardous waste storage facility and, of course, a recycling center. The Alpha Ridge landfill is located in the headwater area of the Little Patuxent watershed at 2350 Marriottsville Road, Marriottsville, Maryland 21104.

Recycling is critical to the county in part because there are no more land parcels in Howard County that are suitable for development of a new landfill facility. Ten years ago, the county buried all county trash that wasn't recycled in the county landfill. Now, Alpha Ridge has one 40-acre landfill cell currently used for burial of trash. However, the county ships most of the trash collected in the county to a larger landfill in King George, Virginia. Most large commercial trash collectors use a transfer station facility located in Annapolis Junction, Maryland so there is very little commercial traffic at the Alpha Ridge location. Most of the incoming traffic is from county residents and small businesses. Residents of Howard County do not have to pay a fee to use the landfill for normal home recyclables or trash, though there may be a tipping fee (\$65.00/ton) to dispose of the trash from construction, demolition, and remodeling projects. The county uses a transfer station facility at Alpha Ridge to ship the majority of trash collected at Alpha Ridge to the King George landfill.

Howard County was the first county in Maryland to have a permanent household hazardous waste facility open to residents. The hazardous waste facility is only open on Saturdays because it is a secure area and requires staffing during hours it is open. Once collected, the county sends hazardous materials that cannot be recycled to an

incinerator, but donates usable materials, like latex paints, to local charities that are able to use them. The county considers the following household materials as hazardous waste: all-purpose cleaners, batteries (Household) – including button batteries, bathroom cleaners, brake fluids, degreasers, drain cleaners, finishing strippers, furniture polish & wax, fungicides, gasoline, herbicides, metal polish, mildew removers, nail polish remover, oil based paints, oven cleaner, paint thinners, pesticides, photography chemicals, rug cleaners, rust removers, scouring powders, solvents, spot removers, swimming pool chemicals, transmission fluids, upholstery cleaners, wood preservatives, and other household chemicals. (Please remember to follow package directions for use and disposal of all hazardous products.)

Recycling at Alpha Ridge is inclusive. The following materials may be recycled at the Alpha Ridge Residential Drop Off Area: metal cans, glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles, mixed paper, cardboard, usable building materials, oil, antifreeze, automobile batteries, scrap metal, tires, propane tanks, latex paint, roof shingles, polyurethane foam, old clothing and textiles, electronic equipment including computer monitors and TV's. Yard waste and Christmas trees are also recycled though in a different area of the landfill.

Because the landfill is located in the headwaters of the Little Patuxent, the most impressive aspects of the Alpha Ridge landfill are the efforts that the county makes to ensure clean water. The county built the original landfill cell in 1980 using the state-of-the-art techniques of the time. However, that did not include a liner underneath the cell. In order to mitigate leachate (the liquid produced in a landfill from the decomposition of waste within the landfill) drainage into groundwater, the county capped the cell, drilled extraction wells for methane and polluted water, and drilled water-monitoring wells around the landfill. The cap keeps rainwater from draining through the buried waste and increasing the amount of polluted water. In order to control erosion on the ground covering the cap, there are ridges installed along the side slopes that direct the rainwater flow into stormwater management ponds near the old cell. Methane (a by-product of trash decomposition) builds up under the cap. The pressure from the methane buildup could damage the cap so the methane extraction wells pump the methane to an enclosed-flare burn facility. Burning using an enclosed flare is more efficient than an open flare and burns at a high enough temperature that it destroys methane, which is a potent greenhouse gas, and other potentially toxic gases. The county treats the polluted water pumped from other wells on site and then releases the treated water into the watershed. The water monitoring wells let the county test for the effectiveness of their efforts. Fortunately, the new landfill cell has a two-layer plastic liner underneath the cell. The county pumps leachate from the new cell into a 500,000-gallon holding tank and then pumps it through the sewer system to the County's Little Patuxent Wastewater Treatment plant.



**Figure 6 -- Leachate Tank**

Next time you put out your trash or recyclables, think about what happens once they leave your curb. I thank John O'Hara for his time and expertise.

### **Newsletter Contributions**

I welcome articles or ideas for articles that you think would be of interest to the membership. Topics can include, but are not limited to conservation, shooting, hunting or other outdoor pursuits. If anyone has any items to include in future newsletters, send them to Michelle Chesnut at [smc\\_geek@msn.com](mailto:smc_geek@msn.com). Include contact info in case additional clarification is necessary.

You can find our chapter calendar at [www.damascusiwla.org](http://www.damascusiwla.org).