



Wildlife Gazette

Wildlife Achievement Chapter Izaak Walton League of America January 2025

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CHAPTER NEWS AND EVENTS



President's Message – January 2025

"Be the change you wish to see in the world." GANDHI

With the new year beginning, take a moment to reflect on the Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA) member pledge. We promised to make a difference in conservation and environmental protection. One person can make a difference, but a combined effort in our IWLA community can be substantial.

The Wildlife Achievement Chapter (WAC) provides opportunities for their members to be more involved in conservation. In the spring, please check out our WAC calendar for upcoming conservation events and projects.

We have had a lot of snowfall in January; and traveling in snow and ice can be perilous. In our communities, sometimes road salt is used to make parking lots and sidewalks safer. Please be aware storing road salt uncovered can wash into our soil and streams contaminating our waterways. Learn more about IWLA programs protecting our nation's clean water and what you can do to help: Clean Water

Please be safe and I hope to see you at our next membership meeting on Wednesday, January 22nd

Cherie Aker

WINTER WEATHER CLOSURES

With a potential event in the forecast, it is time to let everyone know the procedures during winter weather events.

During snow, sleet and ice events, there is the potential that ranges or chapter events could be closed, cancelled or rescheduled.

Snow removal is done in the following order: Chapter main road and upper parking lot is first. The road to the back of the building and the skeet parking is second. The road to the airgun range is third. The road to the ranges and lower parking lot is last. Any road closures will be listed on the main header of the chapter website. If there is less than 3 inches of snow, we do not plow.

The range road is difficult to clear completely. For two wheel drive vehicles it can remain unusable while 4 wheel drive vehicles may be permitted. Much of the road does not get direct sunlight to clear the remaining snow after being plowed. We do not clear all the way to the gravel. In either case, you use the road at your own risk when it is open. Keep in mind that all ranges are not cleared of snow or ice.

When we totally close the range road, no one is to use it even if you have a 4 wheel drive vehicle. When the road is closed due to snow or ice conditions, the gate will be made inoperable and the rifle and pistol ranges are officially closed.

Walking to the ranges, when the road is closed due to weather, is not permitted. This is a safety precaution. Should there be a need for medical reasons, the responders must be able to get to the patient.

Event closures will be listed on the web calendar and it will be updated as conditions warrant. Event contacts must let Chuck Crooks (IzaakWaltonWAC@aol.com) know if you have canceled your event, so I can post it on the calendar and send a club email to all members. During severe weather, it is possible that we may cancel all activities due to unsafe conditions. That notice will be on the main header of the web page and an email will be sent to all members that have a valid email address on file.

Keep in mind that those that clear the road must be able to get there and that it could take more than a day to complete the plowing. If you have a vehicle with a plow, and are willing to volunteer it and you, contact Chuck Crooks during the snow event (IzaakWaltonWAC@aol.com).

If you are in doubt about an event being canceled, use the contact person's information on the calendar listing to verify the status of the event.

Wild Game Dinner and Auction

Where: Wildlife Achievement Chapter House
Tickets: \$35 in Advance - \$40 at the Door
When: Saturday, January 18, 2025
Time: Auction Preview (lower Hall) starts at 3:00 p.m.
Live and Silent Auction starts at 5:00 p.m.
Wild Game Dinner at 7:30 p.m.

Snow Date: Saturday, January 25, 2025

Tickets can be purchased during the next Membership Meeting and Holiday Party on Wednesday, December 18th. Social hour begins 6:30 p.m. and the meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are also available for purchase at the Shotgun House and our January 2025 Board of Directors meeting on Wednesday, January 5, 2025.

The Wild Game Dinner & Auction is our largest fundraising event. This event is open to members, guest and the public. Please help our Chapter make this event a success by donating wild game and auction items. Gift Baskets and Gift Cards are a Big Hit for our Silent Auction.

Donated Wild Game should be labeled (such as deer, bear, game birds, etc.) and dated (Kill Date) and dropped off at the Kitchen.

Auction items can be left behind the downstairs bar. Donation sticky labels are located on the wall next to the office door. Please label your donated items.

Please no computers or exercise donations. Items must be in usable condition. All donated items become the property of IWLA-WAC.

Volunteers Needed for set-up, cooking preparation, take down, ticket taker host, and auction prep and setup. New members, this is a great opportunity to complete your Service Hours!

If you are interested in volunteering your time or have questions, please contact Paul Turska treasurer@iwlwac.org or Cherie Aker cherie.aker@gmail.com

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Adult Airgun – Monday evening practices scheduled 7:00 – 9:00 pm in Rathskeller
- Boy Scout Troop 945 – 109th Eagle Scout Approved. Boy Scout Troop will provide their assistance with Wild Game Dinner & Auction.
- Club & Range Orientation – January 26th 8:30 am (pre-registration required)
- Cowboy Shoots – Cowboy Shooter Clinic April 6th (pre-registration required)
- Hall Rentals – Rental Agreement under review.
- House & Grounds – Maintenance Day February 15th 9:00 am (meet at Equipment Shed) Please remember to sign-in to receive work credit. Benches on Rifle Range will be scheduled for replacement. Doors for Green Shed – Trap House Field #1 will be replaced.
- Rifle & Pistol – MoCo Range Inspection Passed; 8 WAC RSOs will be certified as USCCA Instructors – USCCA Classes will be added in 2025. NRA classes will resume in March. Bowling Pin Shoot scheduled for January 25th 1:00-4:00 pm on uncovered pistol range.
- Save Our Streams – January 12th stream monitoring Mullinix Mill site Noon – 4:00 pm. Observers are welcome on a limited basis with prior notice.
- Wild Game Dinner & Auction – set up January 17th, Dinner & Auction January 18th and Clean-up January 19th. Volunteers Needed – Auction Items Needed. All firearms must be dropped off on January 18th with FFL representative. Tickets are still available at \$35 each.

For Point of Contact and pre-registration information please see the Wildlife Achievement Chapter Calendar 2025



If you have attended a membership meeting or a special event at the Wildlife Achievement Chapter (WAC), most likely you have had the pleasure of meeting Jim and Scott. While providing their experience, knowledge and skill in bartending, they also provide a sense of comradery. Each time I order a “fufu” drink, I not only walk away with a very tasty beverage, but I had the pleasure of lighthearted conversation. Both have received Outstanding Service awards for their volunteer time and commitment to WAC.

I’m not just raving about our Beverage Committee members, but two of our WAC members who are always willing to lend a helping hand. Jim serves as Green Energy Chair and volunteers time with conservation projects. Scott is an NRA instructor – providing his expertise with NRA classes, Chapter & Range Orientation, and serves as an RSO.

I can always count on Jim and Scott – Thank you for all you do for WAC!

NEW COWBOY SHOOTER CLINIC AT DAMASCUS IWLA

The next new cowboy shooter clinic, at Damascus, will be on **April 6th, 2025**. Class size is limited to 15 shooting students and seats are on a first come, first serve basis. Pre-registration is required, no walk ins.

This class sells out often and class size is limited. **Applications must be mailed with class registration fee in order to guarantee your reservation.** If, after registering, you cannot make the class, please let us know so we can make your seat available.

You can fill out the application while viewing it on your PC and then print it. You can make yourself a copy and I will be able to read the one you send me! **APPLICATION HERE**

The purpose of the clinics is to introduce the sport to potential enthusiasts who'd like to give it a try without "the whole world watching." Though playing the game under the watchful eye of the Range Officer and their timer is part of the fun, that can be a little intimidating if you're new at it. SAFETY and fun are the real focus of the sport, and we'd like to be sure everyone gets off to the right start. Students will learn how the game is played, hear the SASS rules, see the equipment and accessories that are required, and get a chance to try out the range of firearms that are appropriate to the sport. A history of the sport is included in the classroom portion. You can look at the Clinic Outline to see what's covered. **Atlantic Guns** and the Damascus Wildlife Rangers provide all equipment and ammo, if students do not have their own yet. Each person will get the chance to shoot real cowboy hoglegs, a scatter gun and lever action rifle! You will feel the fear of that dang buzzer and learn what real brain fade is like!

The clinics are not meant to be initial firearms training. Students must already be familiar with the safe use and unassisted loading of revolvers, rifles and shotguns. If you do not have experience, you can take the classroom portion but, you can only observe the live fire portion. For additional information contact Chuckaroo 301-831-9666. You will be required to complete a waiver that includes your experience competency in order to participate in the shooting portion. Having fired a gun sometime in your life, is not sufficient experience with firearms in order to participate in the live fire portion of the class.

Many thanks to **Atlantic Guns** for again providing all of the clinic ammo! Clinic volunteers on September 8, 2024 made it happen!, JR Gomez, Annie Jean Oakley, Tom Toben, Snapshot Sandy, Mt. Airy Undertaker, Lightning Rider, Short Toed Steve, old Baldy, Maureen Holland and Chuckaroo.

Range Schedule

Feb 2025 RO Schedule
Saturdays

Week	Name	email Address
1-Feb	Tim Mulreany	tmulreany@yahoo.com
1-Feb	Paul Webster	prwsenior@gmail.com
8-Feb	John DuChaj	johnd@cedarbrookinc.com
8-Feb	Ron Hoggard	rjhoggard@verizon.net
15-Feb	Roman Drews	drewsr04@gmail.com
15-Feb	Kevin Wolf	kevinwolf3@hotmail.com
22-Feb	Adam Buynak /Kim Buynak	akbuynak@yahoo.com

Sundays

Week	Name	email Address
2-Feb	Bill Bonk	fewgtive@verizon.net
9-Feb	Gary Giambalvo	garygandtinak@hotmail.com
9-Feb	Matt Brennan	McBX2@comcast.net
16-Feb	Madj Tavakoli	madj.tavakoli@gmail.com
23-Feb	Dave Stevenson	granmariandgrumpydave@gmail.com

5-Stand RO

Week	Name	email Address
23-Feb	Brooke Jeu	brookejeu@gmail.com

Thanks to our Volunteers

If you joined the chapter on or before December 2022 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 are not sure as to your status, email Forrest at fpnthree@gmail.com and you will receive an email of your work history on record.

The following probationary members have completed their required volunteer projects and will become a full member after their two year anniversary date.

None for this month

Congratulations to our new Full Members

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

Richard Rekus

Welcome Aboard

The following individuals were sworn in at the December Membership Meeting and are now considered probationary members until they have passed their 2 year anniversary and have completed the required 4 work credits.

None for this month

Stream Monitoring

12/15/2024 (Chair) John Hartwell

Members and Nonmembers:

None

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

Nancye Shipe

Chapter Maintenance Day- Rifle, Pistol and Shotgun Range Clean Up

12/15/2024 (Chair) Paul Turska

Members and Nonmembers:

Al Goldschmidts, Joe Pauley, Kevin Wolf, Dean Elliott

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Terrence Dacre

Thanks to Jim Piateski for mailing the printed version of the newsletter every month and Forrest Neal for tracking volunteer hours. Thanks to Chuck Crooks, Cherie Aker and Steve Meyer for their contributions to this newsletter. 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 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:

IzaakwaltonWAC@aol.com

Chuck Crooks

Membership Secretary

3147 Pheasant Run

Ijamsville, MD 21754-8919

Editors note:

The February edition of the newsletter will be about two weeks late. I will be out of the country and not have access to my normal tool set. I will be able to receive and respond to email, but have no facility to compose the newsletter.

Thank you for your understanding.