



Wildlife Gazette
Wildlife Achievement Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America
February 2025

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CHAPTER NEWS AND EVENTS

Editors request

In the future ,please submit all copy in 12 pt. Times New Roman font .It will save me lots of time.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

This month's focus for outstanding WAC member is Al Goldschmidts. Our rifle and pistol ranges at WAC have a Gold Standard rating in Montgomery Conuty.. We are proud of our WAC ranges. The ranges are clean and maintained; and we owe Al a debt of gratitude for his leadership role in our monthly Rifle/Pistol range clean up. Al's carpentry expertise has repaired our range benches and targets. When we needed to replace our covered pistol range, he was instrumental in the construction.



Al is a Range Safety Officer (RSO) assisting with our range events, (e.g. Practical Defense, Bowling Pin Shoot). He is very generous with his time, his skills, his knowledge and we appreciate him! I know I do. Thank you very much Al for all you do at 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 Chuck Crooks.

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 provided 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 received 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

Junior Airgun (Ed Mondonedo)

January 2025 - News and Update

- **Junior Rifle Season - September 2024 to July 2025**
24 junior shooters (Ages 9-18) registered this year. 11 of the shooters are WAC members.

19 returning shooters and 5 new shooters.

12 Coaches and 3 parent coaches (Trained NRA Coach level 1 and SafeSport Trained).
6 of the coaches are former junior shooters with 4 of them from DARC.
6 coaches are parents of current and former junior shooters.
5 coaches have been with the program over 15 and two of them over 25 years
Team practice nights: Tuesday Nights – 8 Competitive Precision shooters

Wednesday Nights – 8 Intermediate Sporter shooters

Thursday Nights – 8 Beginner Sporter shooters
Friday Nights – Precision Shooters practice
- **Event/Match schedule January 2025 thru July 2025**
January 5 “Palmyra Invitational” Palmyra, PA
January 11 “MD JORC” USA Shooting Naval Academy
Jan 30-Feb 1 “Junior Air Nationals Championship” – Camp Perry, Ohio
February 8 “Robert Inness STS Final” IWLA WAC range.
February 9 “Queen Anne” - 60 Standing Air/3p x 20 Smallbore

February 22 (Trigger Time Cup) , Manassas, Va (Manassas Guard Armory)
 March 8 “CMP MD State” qualifier Annapolis, MD - 3p x 20 Air
 April 14-18 “USA Shooting Jr. Olympic Rifle Championships” (JORC) Anniston,
 Alabama
 April 3-5 “CMP Regionals” - Camp Perry - 3p x 20 Air
 June 19-21 “CMP Nationals”- Camp Perry - 3p x 20 Air
 July 7-9 “CMP Nationals” Camp Perry - 3p x 20 Air

- **Current Results from DARC shooters at the USA Shooting Maryland Junior Olympics, Robert Inness STS Finals Match and the Junior Air Nationals Championships:**

- Maryland JORC – Naval Academy – 7 DARC Juniors and one DARC Alumni Collegiate Shooter participated. Benjamin Roche a DARC Alumni and Collegiate shooter won the Air Rifle and 3 position Small-bore matches qualifying for the Junior Olympics in Anniston, Alabama
- 12th Annual Robert Inness Memorial STS Finals match – 6 of DARC’s Precision shooters and one DARC Sporter shooter qualified for the Robert Inness memorial Finals match on February 8, 2025.
- Junior Air Rifle Nationals – DARC’s Precision Air Rifle Team qualified for the Junior Air Rifle Nationals at Camp Perry, Ohio. It’s a three day two match event that takes place January 31 – February 1, 2025.

- **Midway USA Foundation**

The Damascus Air Rifle Club implemented the funding grant endowment program through MidwayUSA Foundation. This program gives our community the ability to help financially support the DARC junior rifle shooting team. It will help grow an endowment to ensure funding for the life of the team. The endowment provides a donation matching program that helps assist the growth of the team. Through online donations it will match those funds monthly. Donations are made through the MidwayUSA Foundation. DARC’s Endowment program is currently listed at \$29,377. To donate to DARC online click on this link and follow the prompts:

<https://www.midwayusafoundation.org/team-profile/?id=R11852>

If you would like to instead search on the web, enter Midway USA Team Endowment Program. Click on Team Endowment Program – then Click on Find Team – Enter Damascus under Team Name – Click on Search – then Click on Team Damascus Air Rifle Club.

Team Name	ID	City	State
Damascus Air Rifle Club	R11852	Damascus	Maryland

- **Maryland State Rifle and Pistol Association**

Coach Doug Griggs Awarded MSR&PA 2024 Top Shot Coach for his long time service (over 25 years) coaching air rifle for junior air gun at the Damascus Air Rifle Club. The award was presented to Doug at DARC's Air Rifle Range in Rathskeller.





Your Guide to 2025 Firearms Training at WAC

There is an array of firearms safety and education programs that are available to WAC members as well as family and friends of members. These all-day classes have both classroom and range portions and are excellent for both newer shooters as well as those of us interested in brushing up on skills.

Some of the classes have prerequisites - so this is the perfect time of year to do some advanced planning so you don't miss out on a class you'd like to take.

The classes are given by certified instructors who also happen to be fellow WAC members that volunteer their time to this program. The cost for each class is \$150, all of which goes to our Chapter.

Below is a brief description of the classes, if you have additional questions, or are interested in registering for a class e-mail wacedu@iwlwac.org

Basic Pistol - reviews types of handguns, their mechanics, safety topics, ammunition, shooting positions and mechanics, storage, transportation and maintenance of handguns, and more. This class satisfies the training requirement to obtain a **MD HQL** (handgun qualification license) which is needed to purchase a handgun in MD. This class is the prerequisite for the **MD Wear and Carry** and **Personal Protection in the Home (PPIH)** classes. MARCH 1, MAY 31, SEPTEMBER 30

MD Wear & Carry - Prerequisite passing Basic Pistol within the last year. This class is for both new MD W&C licenses and those needing to renew existing MD licenses (renewal participants have no prerequisite requirement). The class covers methods to avoid the use of deadly force, physiological reactions to the stress of an encounter, what is and is not legal, how to deal with the aftermath of an encounter and other relevant topics. MARCH 29, JUNE 21, OCTOBER 4

Personal Protection Inside the Home (PPIH) - Prerequisite passing Basic Pistol within the last year. Learn about ways to protect yourself, your family, and your home. The class covers developing protection plans, defensive shooting, selection of home defense firearms, and relevant legal topics. MAY 10, AUGUST 10

Personal Protection Outside the Home (PPOH) - Prerequisite PPIH within the last year. Learn about the stages of awareness and how to use them for ensuring your personal safety, how to select carry handguns and holsters, proper draw techniques, and legal topics are part of the curriculum. OCTOBER 12

Basic Rifle - reviews types of rifles and their mechanics, safety topics, ammunition, shooting mechanics and positions, storage, transportation, and maintenance of rifles and more. NOVEMBER 16

Other training opportunities for members, family, and friends are the **Stop The Bleed Classes** - this hand-on training can be a life-saving addition to your safety knowledge. The next class is being held on Sunday, March 2nd, 9 AM - 1 PM, cost is \$30.00. Use the link on the website to register.

As always, check the WAC calendar for updates.

Thanks to our Volunteers

If you joined the chapter on or before January 2023 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 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.

Frederick Depp, Marc Sauro

Welcome Aboard

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

Lester Greer, Dustin Kirby, James Smith

Snow Plowing

1/7/2025 (Chair) Chuck Crooks

Members and Nonmembers:

None

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Frederick Depp

Stream Monitoring

1/12/2025 (Chair) John Hartwell

Members and Nonmembers:

None

Probationary Members: (Conservation Credit)

Nancye Shipe

Wild Game Dinner Auction Setup

1/17/2025 (Chair) Paul Turska

Members and Nonmembers:

Forrest Neal, Sid Everhart, Jon Lewandroski, Dave Lane, Griffin Duffy, Wandelene Smith, Kevin Wolf, Lee Trunnell

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

None

Wild Game Dinner Auction Computer Input, Labeling and Sorting

1/18/2025 (Chair) Ken Lefebvre

Members and Nonmembers:

Brittany Ford

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Charles Ford

Wild Game Dinner Clean Up

1/19/2025 (Chair) Paul Turska

Members and Nonmembers:

Jan Lewandrowski, Daryl Price, Bob Bird

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

William Wimer, Joe May, Vadim Startsev, Alexandre Rozental, Walter Vanden Valentyn, Ally Babay

Wild Game Dinner Kitchen Help

1/18/2025 (Chair) Randy Mckenzie

Members and Nonmembers:

Kevin Wolf, Olivia Greer, Pam Porter

Probationary Members: (Regular Credit)

Ally Babay, Lester Greer

I know that there were a lot of people helping out at the Wild Game Dinner, especially the team that labeled the auction items and those that helped to bring the items upstairs during the auction. If the chairperson for those activities, and any others that I may have missed,

please send me the sign in sheets so I can update the database and list them in next months newsletter. Thank you

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, Mindy Goldsborough,Cherie Aker,and Ed Mondonedo 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:

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