



AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter of The Izaak Walton League of America

Serving the Community Since 1935

PO Box 542, Poolesville, MD 20837

www.bcciwla.org

President's Message

Summertime is coming to a close. Just like a change in seasons, many households are changing with kids heading off to school and sports. But one thing is for sure, the Chapter will still be here to take advantage of the outdoors with hunting season starting September 2 with opening of Dove season.

This past year has been a mixture of moving slowly and yet speeding by. There have been changes, increased efforts, planning, surprises, but yet, we have kept trudging along. This is only accomplished with the time spent by our members, chairpersons, and Board members. I have the confidence that incoming President Andy Wight will keep us trudging along.

At this month's dinner meeting, we will be having the continuation of electing members of the Board of Governors and the swearing in of 2024-2025 incoming Board. We will also be handing out awards to members who had their names submitted to IWLA State and National for recognition of their time and effort in the betterment of the chapter.

Welcome to the change of seasons.

Carol Hulce-Efdimis
President

BLUE FLOWER



PHOTO BY ARTHUR BELENDIUK

BUTTON BUSH BLOSSOM



PHOTO BY JOHN NOVAK

ROSE MALLOW BLOSSOM



PHOTO BY JOHN NOVAK

Board of Governors

Fiscal Year: September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024

OFFICERS

Carol Hulce-Efdimis, President

240 277-2494 • carol2017@aol.com

Andy Wight, 1st Vice President

240 205-3982 • andywight1@hotmail.com

Francis (Jerry) Murray, 2nd Vice President

202 438-4202 • jerrym5@comcast.net

Bob Kelly, Treasurer

202 445-7097 • rnkelly1974@gmail.com

Scott Harmon, Membership Secretary

301 467-0645 • scott.w.harmon@verizon.net

Janet Lamkin, Corresponding Secretary

301 466-6557 • j.lamkin@comcast.net

BOARD MEMBERS

Deborah Behrend

Marc Bouchard

Dan Dutton

Joe Finnegan

Phil Taylor

Walt Allensworth, Past President

301 221-3594 • twangermd@gmail.com

* Indicates Officers and Board Members who were absent from the previous month's Board of Governors meeting.

The Izaak Walton League of America – a non-profit conservation organization – is recognized as a Section 501(c)(3) public charity under the Internal Revenue Code.

Address, phone and email changes should be sent to the Membership Secretary at the above address.

Submissions to the *NEWSLETTER* should be sent to:

Janet Lamkin

j.lamkin@comcast.net

301 466-6557

COMING IN SEPTEMBER!

Dove Hunt and Cookout

Monday, September 2

Volunteers will be needed at the cookout.

Summary of the June 2024 Board of Governors Meeting

Jerry Murray, 2nd Vice President

Wednesday, June 26, 2024 – Board of Governors Meeting

- Meeting was called to order at 7:04pm by President Carol Hulce-Efdimis.
- There was a discussion about the cost of the monthly water testing and possibly reducing the frequency to quarterly. Deborah Behrend asked if there is a requirement to test monthly and if all the tests are necessary. George Coakley and Tony Gorski will be asked about the requirement for monthly testing. Dan Dutton asked if we could get a grant to help offset some of this cost?
- Blaine Elkins provided an update on the shotgun range lead reclamation efforts. He provided handouts of the proposal from MT-2. The proposal is being reviewed, and we will be sending them a list of questions. We are pursuing the pricing for shot fall curtains and any other options for re-opening the rest of the shotgun facilities. Phil Taylor will look into the possibility of burning the harvested organics on site.
- Discussion about the County proposal for solar farms in the Ag. Reserve. Carol asked Jeff Seaman to co-ordinate with Bob Cissell. There is a meeting in Dickerson in July and BOG will prepare a response to the proposal.
- Deborah Behrend requested that we look at our overhead expenses, such as trash service.
- Committee Chairs need to send in their budgets for 2025 as well as their input for ideas on how to attract a younger demographic to the chapter.
- Plans for Heritage Day were discussed.
- Farm Committee Chair Phil Taylor gave an update on the sunflower fields. Front field almost in full bloom but the B-3 did not do well. The vegetable garden started out great but the lack of rain has slowed things down.
- The Security System is up and running, and the new member cards have been activated.
- National Convention – we agreed to donate one of the donated muzzleloaders to the convention for the live auction.
- Archery Committee Co-Chair Marc Bouchard reported that archery is lending some equipment to Camp Sunshine at the end of July.
- Carol Hulce-Efdimis will follow up about selling donated firearms on Gun Broker.

NEW BUSINESS REQUIRING A MOTION:

- Motion to donate \$200 to the Maryland Division for the National Convention. Money to be split between the Maryland Room and the Youth Convention. **Motion passed.**
- Motion to bring to the membership changes to Sections 8 and 9 of the By-Laws as listed in the June newsletter to raise the work fee to \$75 and to change the way the 10% offset for the capital fund only applies to the membership dues. **Motion passed.**
- Motion to provide funds to be used for food for Heritage Day. **Motion passed.**

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER:

- Masons had a picnic at the chapter and are sending a donation check. They also donated 2 propane tanks.
- Jerry Murray mentioned that there are many e-mail's going around "From Carol, President of B-CC IWLA."

Meeting adjourned at 10:10pm.

**August 2024
1,066th Monthly Dinner /
Membership Meeting**

Wednesday, August 21

Dinner served starting at 6:15pm
Membership Meeting starts at 7:30pm

**IWLA National and Maryland Division Awards
2024 – 2025 Officer & Board Installation
50 / 50 Raffle**

**August 2024
Board of Governors Meeting**

Wednesday, August 28

7:00pm



**B-CC IWLA to Participate in
Poolesville Day 2024 Festival**

We are planning on attending and hosting a booth to showcase our Chapter at "Poolesville Day" which occurs on Saturday, September 21st 10:00am – 4:00pm. This family – oriented event, now in its 30th year, attracts over 12,000 visitors to the town and includes food, drink, entertainment, multiple kids' activities, art & craft vendors, and other exhibitors. It provides a great opportunity for us to connect with local residents and visitors, highlight what the IWLA is about, and more importantly what we do in our Chapter. This is a great day out for the family.

Anyone looking for some volunteer hours, we need your help in staffing the booth. Please use the link below to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACC28A7F8C25-50244039-2024>



Poolesville Day – September 2023

R&P Range Open

The Rifle & Pistol Range will be open on the evenings of the monthly dinner meetings from 4:00pm to 6:00pm for members and guests.

**BSA Potomac District Cub Scout Day
Camp**

On Saturday, August 24, the Potomac District Cub Scouts will be using the property to hold their annual Day Camp. There will be scouts and families on the property: at the R&P Range, chapter house, and pond.

Hunter Safety/Education Course

John Lamb
jpatricklamb@aol.com

On September 7 & 8, the chapter will host one of its bi-annual Hunter Safety / Education courses. This class is free of charge and open to anyone wishing to get certified through the State of Maryland. All new potential hunters must enroll-in and satisfy a certification program. Our class is a 2-day course from 8:00am to 4:00pm on each day. I do encourage those hunters, whom are exempt from completing this program due to grandfather clauses, to enroll as well. Typically, the class age range runs from 6 – 75 years of age. This certification is recognized throughout the U.S. and all over the world.

All participants must enroll online with the State of Maryland. Pull up www.register-ed.com, click on Maryland, click on Hunter Education Classroom Course, and find the date with Poolesville location. The site will ask a few questions pertaining to the student from there on. Once enrolled, mark the date on your calendar and then wait for further announcements. You can cancel your enrollment at any time if needed, but please try to do so at least a week ahead of time so that another student may occupy that spot.

Students can bring a lunch and an enthusiastic learning attitude to class. The state will provide all other materials required. Members wishing to work off volunteer hours are welcome to assist. If you have any questions, please contact me at jpatricklamb@aol.com.

AS A REMINDER...

If you intend on hunting on the Chapter property, you must register on the Chapter website <https://bcciwla.org/b-cc-iwla-chapter-hunting-rules/> to acknowledge understanding our rules and property boundaries. This is a yearly requirement.

Questions?

Contact Hunting Ethics and Oversight Committee Chair Larry Anderson at adupton9@hotmail.com

Membership Committee Report

Scott Harmon, Membership Secretary
scott.w.harmon@verizon.net 301 467-0645 (cell)

As of July 17th, membership stands at 748 voting Members: 413 Individuals, 248 Family, 2 Students, 1 Youth, 72 Retired, and 12 Associates.

This year has just flown by. I can't believe we are preparing for next year's renewals already. Our next fiscal year starts in September and with it comes the renewals for 2025. Some changes for next year are that volunteer hour fees have been changed to \$75. This is a by-laws change that was approved at the July dinner meeting. The amount of volunteer hours needed every year has not changed and is just 6 hours.

Work hours are easy to record. Just click or copy and paste the link below to record your hours.

<https://bcciwla.org/log-your-hours/>

A \$75 fee will be added to the renewals where we do not have volunteer hours recorded. There is still plenty of time to get 6 hours in so plug into a committee and help out.

2024 – 2025

B-CC IWLA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

President:	Andy Wight
1st Vice President:	Jerry Murray
2nd Vice President:	<i>Position Open</i>
Membership Secretary:	Scott Harmon
Treasurer:	Bob Kelly
Corresponding Secretary:	Janet Lamkin
Recording Secretary:	<i>Position Open</i>
Board Member:	Stephen Austin
Board Member:	Marc Bouchard
Board Member:	Dan Dutton
Board Member:	Shannon Novak
Board Member:	<i>Position Open</i>
Legacy Board:	Lawrence Kotchek

The 2024 – 2025 B-CC IWLA Board of Governors has been voted in and will be formally inducted during the August Dinner meeting. The Nominating Committee would like to thank these chapter members for volunteering to dedicate their time and energy by agreeing to become the leaders and directors of our Chapter.

Calendar Submissions

Meetings and events that need to be added to the website calendar and newsletter calendar should be sent to 1st Vice President Andy Wight, andywight1@hotmail.com, and Corresponding Secretary Janet Lamkin, j.lamkin@comcast.net.

As a Reminder – R&P Range Closure

The Rifle & Pistol Range will be closed on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, October 17, 18, and 19 for the opening of Muzzleloader Season. Range will reopen on Sunday, October 20.

★★ OPENING DAY ★★ Dove Hunt & Cookout

Opening day of dove season is Monday, September 2nd (Labor Day), which will be here before we know it. As usual, we will be holding our annual members dove hunt with a cookout to follow. With acres of sunflowers planted this season, we are hoping for a lot of doves, so please clear this day on your calendar. Come and join us at the Shotgun range shortly after the shooting hours end for food and drink.

Leveraging from previous events, we have a few reminders for those both new and seasoned to ensure everyone's experience is safe and enjoyable:

- Check in at the table on Izaak Walton Way when you head into the property.
- Please be sure to register to hunt through our website by the night before on September 1: <https://bcciwla.org/b-cc-iwla-chapter-hunting-rules/>
- Bring your hunting license & current membership card with you. (If you don't have a card, please email the membership secretary to get a confirmation email of current membership)
- Ensure your car has a current year B-CC IWLA sticker on it.
- Shotguns cannot hold more than 3 shells at a time, per state regulations.
- Keep your barrel pointed in a safe direction at all times.
- Doves only may be hunted between 12:00pm and 5:00pm.
- Know what a dove looks like to ensure the correct species is harvested.
- Opening day is typically very warm, so please dress for the weather and bring lots of water to stay hydrated.

As mentioned above, there will be a cookout at the Shotgun range starting around 5:30pm, where we will have burgers, hotdogs, cold drinks & snacks. A suggested \$5 donation per person to cover our costs is greatly appreciated. We hope to see you on September 2nd.

ATTENTION New Members!

**The next Chapter House cleanup will be on:
Saturday, August 17
Starting at 9:00am**

Join us and earn volunteer hours

As a reminder – probationary (new) members need to help out in one chapter house cleanup as part of their sixteen volunteer hours.

Questions? Contact John Lamb –
jpatricklamb@aol.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All dates are tentative and subject to change. Check the website for updates.

Monthly Events

Saturdays & Sundays

Sundays

Mondays (starting in September)

R&P Range Open

Shotgun Range – Sporting Clays

BSA Scout Meetings (Chapter House)

9:00am – 5:00pm

9:00am – 4:00pm

7:30pm – 9:00pm

AUGUST

Thursday, August 1	MD Hunting License Year Begins	5:00am
Wednesday, August 7	Apollo Archery – Archery Range	6:00pm – Dusk
Saturday, August 10	Summer Biathlon Event	7:00am – 10:00am
Saturday, August 10	R&P Range will not open until 10:30am	Opens at 10:30am
Saturday, August 10	Archery 3-D Shoot	9:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, August 17	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, August 21	R&P Range Open before the Membership Dinner Meeting	4:00pm – 6:00pm
Wednesday, August 21	1,066th Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner starts 6:15pm Meeting starts 7:30pm
Saturday, August 24	BSA Potomac District – Summer Cub Scout Day	8:00am – 4:00pm
Saturday, August 24	New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour	10:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, August 28	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Friday, August 30	Articles for Septembers Newsletter due – send articles to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, August 31	Woodman's Private Event	10:00am – 6:00pm

SEPTEMBER

Monday, September 2	Opening Day Dove Shoot	12:00 noon – 5:00pm
Monday, September 2	Opening Day Cook Out	5:30pm
Wednesday, September 4	Apollo Archery – Archery Range	6:00pm – Dark
Saturday, September 7	Fall Hunter Education Course in the Chapter House – R&P Range closes at 12:30pm	8:00am – 5:00pm
Sunday, September 8	Fall Hunter Education Course in the Chapter House – R&P Range closes at 12:30pm	8:00am – 5:00pm
Saturday, September 14	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 11:00am
Wednesday, September 18	R&P Range Open before the Membership Dinner Meeting	4:00pm – 6:00pm
Wednesday, September 18	1,067th Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Saturday, September 21	New and Prospective Members Orientation	10:00am – 11:30pm
Saturday, September 21	Poolesville Day (Chapter will be sponsoring a booth)	10:00am – 4:00pm
Wednesday, September 25	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Friday, September 27	Articles for October Newsletter due – send articles to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, September 28	Black Powder Day / Muzzleloader Event	9:00am – 4:30pm

OCTOBER

Wednesday, October 2	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm – Dark
Saturday, October 5	Fall Cleanup Day (lunch will be provided)	8:30am – 3:00pm
Saturday, October 12	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, October 16	1,068th Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Thursday, October 17	Rifle & Pistol Range Closed – Deer Muzzleloader Season	Closed All Day
Friday, October 18	Rifle & Pistol Range Closed – Deer Muzzleloader Season	Closed All Day
Saturday, October 19	New & Prospective Members Orientation Tour	10:00am – 11:30pm
Saturday, October 19	Rifle & Pistol Range Closed – Deer Muzzleloader Season	Closed
Wednesday, October 23	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Friday, October 25	Articles for November Newsletter due – send articles to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day

The Campground is closed during all black powder and firearms deer season.

DRIVING ON CHAPTER PROPERTY

Any vehicle including but not limited to cars, trucks, bikes, UTVs, or horses are **not** allowed off the designated roadways and parking areas due to the risk of soil displacement and erosion on our trails and fields.

Permission to drive on the property can be granted by the Board of Governors or the Committee Chairs in the event of participating with Committee events.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Chapter House Cleanup

Saturday, August 17, 9:00am

Probationary (new) members need to help out in one chapter house cleanup as part of their sixteen volunteer hours

Monthly Dinner/Membership Meeting

Wednesday, August 21

Contact Carol Hulce-Efdimis, carol2017@aol.com, if you can help with food preparation, setup, and/or cleanup.

Cleanup and Trim the Parking Lots

Chapter House, R&P Range, Shotgun Range, Archery Range, Outside the Garden Areas (near Archery Range) Report your hours to Janet Lamkin (j.lamkin@comcast.net) and log your hours on the chapter website, *Member Activities (Volunteering)*

Pick up Debris on the Chapter House Grounds

Dispose of debris in a wooded area.

Report your hours to Janet Lamkin (j.lamkin@comcast.net) and log your hours on the chapter website, *Member Activities (Volunteering)*

Dove Shoot and Cookout

Monday, September 2 (Labor Day)

Need help at the cookout starting at 3:00pm

Poolesville Day

Saturday, September 21

10:00 – 4:00pm

Volunteers are needed at our booth

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-50244039-2024>

Apollo Archery Program



The Apollo Archery program provides archery instruction and experiences for current and former members of the United States Armed Services and their families. Check out program details here: <https://bcciwla.org/apollo-archery/>

As in prior years, we host Apollo Archery sessions on the first Wednesday of each month through October. We will start at 6:00pm and finish at dark on:

September 4; October 2

- ◆ There is no fee for participation.
- ◆ Beginners and experts are welcome.
- ◆ All equipment provided for adult and child participants: bows, arrows, release aids, etc.
- ◆ We invite experienced archers to bring their own equipment.
- ◆ The course and facilities are wheelchair accessible.
- ◆ Check out Apollo Archery on the chapter **website** [CLICK HERE](#) and on **facebook** [PAGE HERE](#)
- ◆ For additional details contact Chuck Thornton (apolloarchery.bcciwla@gmail.com)!

Please share this opportunity with veterans and current Service members near the Montgomery County, Maryland area.

50/50 Raffle
Help Support the Chapter!

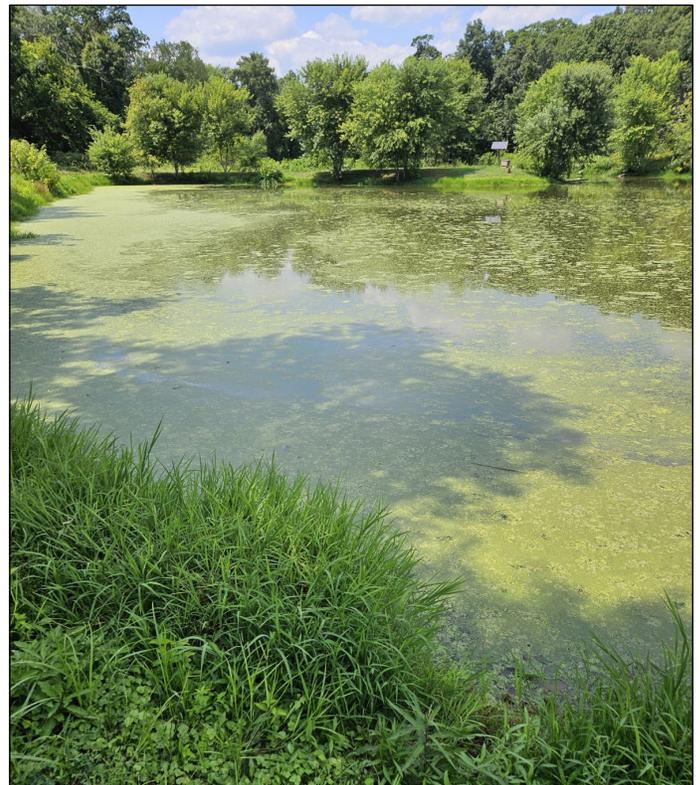


Raffle tickets will be available at the monthly dinner meeting

\$1 per ticket or 6 tickets for \$5

50% goes to the ticket holder – 50% goes to the Chapter to help purchase new Adirondack chairs for the Chapter House porches

Our goal is to purchase 15 chairs



Surface Algae and Pond Weed on Big Pond

PHOTO BY JOHN NOVAK

Rifle & Pistol Range Committee Report

Jerry Murray, Chair
202 438-4202 jerrym5@comcast.net

The extreme heat over the last few weeks has put a damper on the range activities. We have closed the range early on several weekend days when the heat index got over 100 degrees. If you are going out to the range in the late afternoon on a very hot day, feel free to give me a call to confirm that the range has not closed early.

We have several events on the calendar. By the time you read this Steve Eschholz will have put on our first biathlon competition (weather permitting). A full report on the event will be in next month's newsletter. Muzzleloader day is scheduled for September 28 and the Hunter Safety course is scheduled for September 7 and 8. If you are interested in these, there is more information in other parts of the newsletter. We will be having another AR-15 match in October and a Turkey shoot in November, dates TBD.

If there are events, matches, or training you would like to see us put on at the range, please send Larry Hess (our event coordinator) or myself an e-mail. We are always looking for new ideas.

We have a new addition in the range house. The Maryland Hunter Safety division has 'loaned' us a gun safe and cabinet. Once they are secured in place, we will use them for the temporary storage of firearms and/or ammo for events and for RO's to use during the day if they want a place to temporarily secure their firearms. At this time there will be no overnight storage of firearms allowed.

Reminder: The range will be closing at 12:30pm on Saturday, Sept. 7 for Hunter Safety.



Gun Safe and Cabinet on loan from Maryland Hunter Safety Division

PLEASE REMEMBER

- New Fee's: Chapter Members are \$8 and Guests \$10.
- Use of Empty Chamber Indicators (ECI)'s is required.
- Put paper in the trash. If the cans are full, please empty them.
- Keep watch on the guests you bring. It is your place to brief them on the SOP's.
- Be safe and enjoy the range respectfully.
- All must **PICK UP THEIR BRASS!**

RANGE OFFICER SCHEDULE:

AUGUST

Saturday, August 3	Weixel, P.; Gochnour, G.; Samms, G.
Sunday, August 4	Efdimis, C.; Whalen, M.
Saturday, August 10	Harmon, S.; Vinokurov, A.
Sunday, August 11	Harmon, S.; Whalen, M.; Shafer, D.
Saturday, August 17	Lowe, C.; Geer, D.; Farmer, M.; Samms, G.
Sunday, August 18	Shafer, R.; Farmer, M.
Saturday, August 24	Crowley, D.; Sypes, E.
Sunday, August 25	Bouchard, M.; Adams, J.; Schmidt, K.
Saturday, August 31	Zoulis, T.; Sauri, M.

SEPTEMBER

Sunday, Sept. 1	Hammes, P.; Zoulis, T.
Saturday, Sept. 7	Boynton, D.; Meima, S.; Ma, A.; Maisel, J.; Morissette, C.
Sunday, Sept. 8	Ma, A.; Hunt, J.; Minehart, B.; Bissett, R.
Saturday, Sept. 14	Crowe, C.; Minehart, B.; Woodman, G.; Roth, A.

Sunday, Sept. 15
Saturday, Sept. 21
Sunday, Sept. 22
Saturday, Sept. 28
Sunday, Sept. 29

Novak, J., Ricketts, R., Manan, F.
King, D., King, N., King, J., Herald, P.
King, D., King, N., King, J., Ricketts, R.
Kipfer, J., Donovan, P., Ziner, M.,
Draley, D.,
Sanfuentes, J., Roth, A., Dickerson, C.

ARCHERY RANGE

TARGET RANGE

The target range is open 365 days a year, from sunrise to sunset. Guests must sign "Hold-Harmless" agreement form and deposit in field box by shooting stations. No RO's need be present, but if you wish to get instruction, please contact us, and we'll get you started!

3-D COURSE

The 3-D course is now closed for the rest of the year.

APOLLO ARCHERY

Held on the first Wednesday of the month from 6:00pm to dark. The remaining scheduled dates for the season are:
September 4; October 2

CAMPING

Camping is available at the range as well. Contact us for scheduling.

Jack Mandel, jmandel@design@gmail.com
Marc Bouchard, combat750@gmail.com

To receive regular updates, email Jack or Marc to get on the mailing list.



Deer in Velvet

PHOTO BY ARTHUR BELENDIUK



Mark your calendars!!

The Annual Fall Cleanup Day has been scheduled for Saturday, October 5, starting at 8:30am with lunch being served at 1:00pm. Lunch menu will be based on the weather.

This is a great way to acquire the volunteer hours requirement for members and probationary members.

An eblast will be going out the week before with all the tasks we will need to do to button up the chapter for the upcoming winter months.

Contact Vice President Jerry Murray at jerrym5@comcast.net with any questions.

Shotgun Range Committee Report

Warner Parks, Chair
240 620-6942 wparks29@gmail.com

The Shotgun Range is open on Sundays for Sporting Clays only at this time. Range Officers may open the range during the week and on Saturdays.

Tuesday Sporting Clays are back starting August 20 at 4:00pm.



Log Cabin at Sunset

PHOTO BY ARTHUR BELENDIUK

New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour

Come join us on the B-CC IWLA Orientation Tour. The next tour will take place on **Saturday, August 24, 2024** from 10:00am to approximately 11:30am *if weather permits*.

This event is open to all members (new and old) and those who are interested in membership to the chapter or just curious about what we do.

The guided tour of our property will include an overview of our history and mission, our facilities, the partnerships with local schools and organizations, and a chance to meet and ask questions to current members.

Meet Christine Peterson at the Chapter House. Follow Izaak Walton Way through the gate to the Chapter House parking lot where we will be meeting to start the tour.

Signup for the tour using the signup genius link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACC28A7F8C25-48977796-newmember>

Please make sure you include your email address and cell phone number so that if the tour needs to be canceled due to a change in the weather, Christine will be able to contact you.

Contact Christine – christineakcp@comcast.net or 301 938-9773 (cell) if you have questions.



Check out our Facebook page!

Izaak Walton League of America
Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter

If you would like an event to be posted on Facebook, contact Andy Wight at ConservationEd.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

Chapter Entrances

Members must not block chapter entrances (main gate and cattle gates) along Izaak Walton Way and West Willard Road. Emergency vehicles and farm equipment must have access at all times.

Black Powder Day / Muzzleloader Event 2024

Muzzleloading enthusiasts and the newly interested are invited to come for the annual Black Powder Clinic and Shooting Match on Saturday, September 28 from 9:00am – 4:30pm.

Did you receive a blackpowder firearm as a gift or inherited one and don't know what to do with it? Are you ready to test your skills against others in the afternoon shooting match and compete for prizes? Don't miss out on this marvelous opportunity for knowledgeable instruction, loads of fun, and the unique smell of blackpowder smoke!

Participants will meet at the Rifle & Pistol Range at 9:00am. Inline, percussion, or flintlock shooters are all welcome. There will be instruction time for new muzzleloader shooters to develop a workable shooting load, for "veterans" and more experienced shooters to sight-in their guns, and for all to practice shooting.

Bring the muzzleloader that you want to shoot or let Mark Gochnour know in your email that you would like to try one out so he can arrange for a loaner. If you are new to shooting a muzzleloader, a veteran shooter will be assigned to work with you. (Mark is a certified NRA/NMLRA Blackpowder Instructor.) If you have never fired a black powder gun or you have one you have never used or are having issues with one you have forgotten about in the gun safe, come for the morning but stay for the afternoon shooting match!



Match participants will be provided opportunities to shoot at some unusual novelty targets again this year, including – The Flopping Plate. Targets will be shot at a variety of ranges from up close and out to 100 yards with prizes awarded to individual shooters. An overall Grand Prize could be a frozen turkey or ham. A donation from a generous member who moved will enable some unique prizes to be awarded.

Lunch will be served in the Chapter House around noon with the shooting competition beginning at 1:00pm.

Only muzzleloader shooting participants will be allowed to use the Range during the event. Upon its conclusion, Range Officers and their guests may shoot until shooting time expires.

Contact Mark Gochnour at mgdonutman@gmail.com for further details or questions. It is important to contact him; especially if you are bringing a new gun because you may need extra equipment or gear that you were unaware of and their lack could sabotage your experience.

Members and their guests may register using the following link:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-black#/#](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-black#/)

A small fee will be charged to cover lunch and the event. Any applicable R&P range fees are extra.

2023 Land Fund

As a member of the B-CC IWLA, I want to do my part and contribute the following amount to the B-CC IWLA Land Fund Campaign.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$200 _____ \$500 _____ \$1000 _____ OTHER

Your contribution is tax deductible.

Please mail contribution form and check (made payable to B-CC IWLA) to B-CC IWLA, PO Box 542, Poolesville, MD 20837 or donate via paypal on the Chapter's website, www.bcciwla.org.

Reviving the Trails: A Day of Hard Work and Big Wins

Maximilian Pazicky

On Saturday, August 10, my dad and I spent a productive day performing trail maintenance at the Chapter. Our efforts began with the trail behind the rifle range, where we touched up on a few branches and thorns before moving on to tackle the more challenging task around the Boy Scout campsite.

The trails in this section were overrun by weeds presenting a formidable task. Despite the obstacles, we successfully cleared all the trails, including the campsites and fire pits. The amphitheater was particularly difficult as it was so densely overgrown that even our weed wacker, which eventually ran out of fuel, struggled to make an impact. This area would greatly benefit from a dedicated volunteer project in the future to restore it to its former glory. Additionally, we came across an abandoned black bike at the amphitheater that may need attention.

Despite the challenges, it was a rewarding day of hard work. I hope our efforts will enhance the experience for everyone who enjoys these trails.



PHOTOS BY LUKE PAZICKY

NestWatch Committee Report

Linda Green, Citizen Science Project Co-coordinator
lindakpgreen@gmail.com

July was very busy month for the NestWatch team, with continued weekly nest checks of the Bluebird / Tree Swallow boxes, as well as routine nest material changes for the Purple Martin Towers and Gourds. Despite the elevated temperatures this season, the nests have been very success-



Linda Green, Pat McNeilly & Ela Green monitoring Gourd nests



Annie Mealy & Ela Green changing a Purple Martin nest

ful, with only a few remaining chicks left to fledge. Stay tuned for our wrap-up nest report in next month's newsletter.

From the Farm Committee

As a friendly reminder – if you are in the fields hunting, always pick up your empty shells.

ADVENTURE COMMITTEE PREPARES FOR FALL



The Adventure Committee is gearing up for autumn! The committee organizes outdoor skills workshops taught by B-CC IWLA members like YOU for the benefit of other members. Last year's workshops covered being stealthy in the woods, shotgun shooting, making fire, and managing potentially fatal bleeding. Ideas for the future include subjects like shelter-building and other bushcraft, orienteering, fishing basics, fly tying, firearms skills (cleaning, reloading, etc.) ... whatever YOU bring to the table!

Don't let undue modesty hold you back. This is an easy way to make an outsized contribution to the chapter. The commitment is minimal, limited to one workshop on a single day. Just pick a topic and the committee will handle the rest. You'll be helping fellow Ikes get more from their time outdoors, both through what they learn from you and the bonds they form with each other. So don't wait – if you have skills to share, email Adventure Committee Chairman Mike Dobson at michaelvdobson@protonmail.com.

Wildlife Committee Report

Larry Anderson, Chair
240 246-5302 andupton9@hotmail.com

HUNTING SEASON

The 2024-2025 hunting season is almost upon us, with several seasons opening the first week of September, notably dove season and resident goose on Friday, September 2nd (Monday), and Deer archery season on Friday, September 6th. All chapter members wishing to hunt on our farm **must**:

- 1) Have a valid MD hunting license (including all necessary stamps, i.e. HIP stamp for doves)
- 2) Have a current and valid B-CC- IWLA membership card as proof of permission to hunt on private land
- 3) Have a current and valid parking sticker displayed on their vehicle
- 4) Register on our website to acknowledge understanding our rules and property boundaries. This is a yearly requirement.

We are a large chapter with many hunters and non-hunters that all enjoy a day in the field, so we ask that everyone be safe, courteous and respectful in their activities on our farm. We adhere to and endorse MD DNR hunting regulations and policies. The MD hunting regulations can be found at: <http://www.eregulations.com/maryland/hunting/> and can be downloaded on our website. Again, there are not many changes to the MD DNR hunting regulations this year from last, with the exception that Montgomery County is now in the CWD management area. The bag limit remains at 2 antlered deer per year across all hunting seasons (archery, muzzleloader, and firearm) and only one of those deer may have fewer than 3 points on one antler. In region B (our farm is in Region B), hunters may purchase a bonus antlered deer stamp that allows harvest on 1 (one) additional antlered deer. The bag limit of antlerless deer is now unlimited for archery seasons (we are in the Suburban Deer Management Zone), 10 for muzzleloader seasons and 10 for shotgun seasons.

Please report any sightings of bears on our farm to the wildlife committee; we have had numerous sightings this year, and we like to believe our habitat is healthy enough to support an occasional bear or two. Bears in Montgomery County are protected and should not be harassed.

Happy hunting and think safety.

Catch a Poacher 24 Hour Hotline 1-800-635-6124

OPENING DAY DOVE HUNT AND HUNTER'S PICNIC

Monday, September 2nd, will be opening day for dove hunting and is usually a busy day at the chapter. As is our tradition, we welcome the new hunting seasons with our dove opening day picnic. The picnic will start around 5:30pm, with the philosophy to encourage our hunters to come out of the fields around 5:00pm to let doves roost and feed, thereby extending future hunting opportunities to those that might be able to only come out on weekends.

The farm committee has been busy tending the fields to improve habitat and attract a wide variety of wildlife to our farm. Once again, Phil and all the volunteers working with him have worked hard to prepare our farm for hunting seasons. Thanks all!

The sunflowers will be manipulated in accordance with MD DNR guidelines, so the fields will be ready for opening dove season. Doves have been spotted in the fields and across the farm already.

The planting of crops are also benefiting other wildlife, including our deer population and a wide variety of birds. We do ask that our members do not place salt blocks in our fields; they wreak havoc with our crops and equipment. As a reminder, we do not allow baiting on our farm.

As with most dove opening days, we anticipate that there will be many hunters in the field. A few things to remember and consider for early dove season:

- shotguns cannot hold more than 3 shells, a state regulation
- no shot larger 7.5 may be used during the first split of dove
- keep all shots between "10 and 2"
- shoot time for the first split of dove season starts at noon
- it is usually very warm opening day, lightweight camo and lots of water is the order of the day
- know what a dove looks like, we are very proud of the wide variety of birds on our farm, but only doves are in season
- please pickup and carry out empty shotgun hulls
- have fun and be safe

FROM THE MDDNR WEBSITE:

Report Your Bird Bands Online: WWW.REPORTBAND.GOV

Each year state and federal biologists mark tens of thousands of migratory birds with numbered leg bands. Hunters who report bands recovered from harvested birds receive specific information on when and where the bird was banded while providing important information for migratory bird management. The 1-800 telephone number for reporting bird bands has been discontinued. Hunters who recover a banded migratory bird should now use pwrc.usgs.gov/BBL/bblretrv/. Anyone reporting a band will need the following information: the band number, hunters name and address, and the date and location (nearest town) of the harvest.

AWARDS PRESENTATION

This year we applied for awards for 2023 from both National IWLA and the Maryland Division. Bill Gordon, Chapter member and representative of the Maryland Division as well as Earl Hower, Director of Chapter Relations for National, will be presenting the awards at the August 21 Dinner / Membership Meeting. Please come to the meeting and celebrate with the awardees. Awardees will be announced at the meeting.

2023 MARYLAND DIVISION AWARDS:

Conservation Award
Honor Roll Award
Elizabeth Weih Award
Ed Turner Award
Best Chapter Newsletter Award

2023 NATIONAL IWLA AWARDS:

John W. Tobin Chapter Volunteer Appreciation Award
Save Our Streams Award
Robert O' Hair Award
James Lawton Childs Award
Honor Roll Award
Defenders Chapter Achievement Award
Thelma "Pete" Reed Memorial Award
Conservation Award
Shooting Sports Award
Outdoor Ethics Award