



AUGUST 2025 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

It's a little strange writing this in the height of summer, surrounded by the buzz of activity on the property, while knowing that change is on the horizon. For me, this marks the end of my time as Chapter President. Next month, we'll welcome a new president, a new board, and begin a new cycle in the life of the Chapter. Time moves on and so must we.

I've been a member for ten years now, but I only truly got to know the Chapter by serving on the Board of Governors and later as an officer. As President, I've had the chance to think about, worry about, and learn about a wide range of things; from tax filings to woodland easements, porta-potty payments to algae blooms in the pond. I've explored citizen science projects, worked through environmental position statements, sat on committees, and flipped hot dogs at Chapter events. The role is varied and demanding but it's also a privilege. And it's completely encapsulated by our League's mission:

"To know the beauty and understanding of nature and the value of wildlife, woodlands, and open space; to the preservation of this heritage."

Over the past year, the board and our committees have worked hard to strengthen the Chapter's foundation. We updated the Bylaws, Standard Operating Procedures, and Rules and Regulations. We documented long-standing practices and established guidelines to support future Chapter leaders. We also launched or revitalized several key committees – IT, Grants & Donations, Membership Renewal, Accessibility – all focused on helping the Chapter grow and adapt. You can read more about their successes in this newsletter. Hopefully you will attend the August Dinner meeting for our Awards Ceremony to celebrate the successes and recognition of our members

We've seen people step into new roles, bringing fresh energy and new perspectives and building on the successes their predecessors drove. We have to adapt to changing member commitments and needs and sometimes change is essential to keeping the Chapter strong and relevant.

There is enormous opportunity at the Chapter right now. We're investing in growth, and that means we need people. It means we need you. Can you chair or help out on a committee? Can you lend your time and skills to support a project? Could you engage with new members, or simply help out at an event? Can you come to a dinner meeting, share your enthusiasm and experience with others. Can you support your fellow members. Every contribution matters.

This last message may have started with my experiences but it's not really about me. It's not even about you. It's about us – this unique community we've built together at B-CC, that we committed to, and the legacy we want to leave behind. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. I look forward to all we will accomplish next, together.

Andy Wight
President

Board of Governors

Fiscal Year: September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2025

OFFICERS

Andy Wight, President

240 205-3982 • andywight1@hotmail.com

Francis (Jerry) Murray, 1st Vice President

202 438-4202 • jerrym5@comcast.net

Shannon Novak, 2nd Vice President

snovak516@gmail.com

Bob Kelly, Treasurer

202 445-7097 • rnkelly1974@gmail.com

Scott Harmon, Membership Secretary

301 467-0645 • MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

Janet Lamkin, Corresponding Secretary

301 466-6557 • j.lamkin@comcast.net

Sean-David Waterman, Recording Secretary

816 812-5763 • seandavid@me.com

BOARD MEMBERS

Stephen Austin

Marc Bouchard

Dan Dutton

Lloyd Iden

David Mecklenburg

Carol Hulce-Efdimis, * Past President

240 277-2494 • carol2017@aol.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

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.

Summary of the June 2025 Board of Governors Meeting and the June 2025 Membership Dinner Meeting

Sean-David Waterman, Recording Secretary

Wednesday, June 25, 2025 – Board of Governors Meeting Minutes

- The meeting was called to order by President Andy Wight at 7:00pm.
- Emphasized the importance of committee chairs updating web page.
- Reminded chairs to prepare FY26 budget requests by July.
- Working on member communication improvements via invoice system and website updates.
- Looking into adding Venmo as payment option.
- Treasurer Bob Kelly gave an update on the Chapter's current financials.
- Lead reclamation paused due to rain.
- Members thanked for volunteer service.
- Reminder to attend and support Heritage Day.
- Final review of commercial use and guest policy deferred to July.
- Shotgun Range committee forming; maintenance and planning underway.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Motion passed to approve funds for farm seed and implement rental.
- Motion passed to approve steel target SOP amendments.

Motion to adjourn approved – 9:20pm.

Wednesday, June 18, 2025 – 1,076th Membership Dinner Meeting Minutes

- Meeting was called to order at 7:32pm by President Andy Wight.
- Election results were announced for 2025 – 2026 Officers and Board Members.
- Jeff Seaman was reelected to the Legacy Board.
- 50/50 raffle was held to support AV equipment upgrades.
- Prospective members introduced themselves.
- Motion to induct four new members was approved.
- Membership invoices to be issued by early September.
- Junior Rifle Program (Jerry Murray): Held first session with five participants; air rifle only.
- IT Committee – Focus areas are website update, email distribution, alternative payment methods.
- Treasurer Bob Kelly reported on the balances of the accounts.

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER:

- Encouraged broader member participation and review of newsletter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

DUE DATE

**for September Newsletter Articles is
Saturday, August 23.**

**Submit articles to: j.lamkin@comcast.net
If the article contains photos, please submit
them as separate jpg files and
include a caption and photo credits.**

UPCOMING EVENTS / VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

B-CC IWLA and Community

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

Membership / Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, August 20
Dinner – 6:15pm; Meeting – 7:30pm
See page 3

Volunteer Make Up Days

Make Up Day 1 – Saturday, August 16
Make Up Day 2 – Saturday, August 23
Make Up Day 3 – Saturday, August 30
9:00am – 12:00 noon
Need volunteer hours for the 2025 year,
join us at the chapter for make up days.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-57839153-2025>
See page 9

Dove Shoot & Cookout

Monday, September 1
Shoot – starting at 12:00 noon
Cookout – starting at 5:30pm
Need help at the cookout.
See pages 3 and 11

Hunter Safety / Education Course

Saturday, September 6 & Sunday, September 7
8:00am – 4:00pm
See page 4

Apollo Archery Session

Wednesday, September 3
6:00pm – dusk
See page 4

Poolesville Day

Saturday, September 20
10:00am – 4:00pm
Volunteers are needed at out booth
See page 7

Introduction to Blackpowder/Muzzleloader Sight-In & Shooting Match

Saturday, September 27
9:00am – 4:30pm
See page 9

Fall Chapter Cleanup Day

Saturday, October 4
Starting at 8:30am
See page 4

"Bianchi" Pistol Match

October 11
Starting at 9:00am at the R&P Range
See page 10

Induction of 2025 – 2026 Board

The 2025 – 2026 Officers and Board Members will be inducted at the August 2025 dinner / membership meeting. Come to the meeting to welcome them and to thank the outgoing Officers and Board Members for their service.

Officers

President	Jerry Murray
1st Vice President	Shannon Novak
2nd Vice President	Sean-David Waterman
Treasurer	Bob Kelly
Corresponding Secretary	Janet Lamkin
Recording Secretary	Jason (Andy) Abell
Membership Secretary	Scott Harmon
Past President	Andy Wight

Board Members

Stephen Austin
Alexander Cowan
Sebastian Fainbraun
Lloyd Iden
Warner Parks

Opening Day Dove Hunt & Cookout

Opening day of dove season is Monday, September 1st (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 20 acres of sunflowers planted this season, we are hoping for a lot of doves, so please clear this day on your calendar.

Come join us outside the Chapter House shortly after the shooting hours end for food and drink. Starting around 5:30pm, where we will have burgers, hotdogs, cold drinks & snacks. A suggested \$10 donation per person to cover our costs is greatly appreciated. We hope to see you on September 1st.

More information in the Wildlife Committee Report on page 11.

August 2025 1,078th Monthly Dinner / Membership Meeting

Wednesday, August 20

50 / 50 Raffle

Dinner served starting at 6:15pm

Membership Meeting starts at 7:30pm
Awards from Maryland Division and National IWLA
Induction of 2025 – 2026 Board

August 2025 Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, August 27

7:00pm



Save the Date!!

The Annual Fall Cleanup Day has been scheduled for Saturday, October 4, 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 1st Vice President Shannon Novak at snovak516@gmail.com with any questions.

Hunter Safety / Education Course

John Lamb
jpatricklamb@aol.com

On September 6 & 7, 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.

R&P Range Open

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



Apollo Archery Committee Report

John Gorney, Chair
apolloarchery.bcciwl@gmail.com

The next session of Apollo Archery is on Wednesday, September 3. Please come out and visit us for an evening of target practice.

Check out program details here:
<https://bcciwla.org/apollo-archery/>

As we've expanded the program to first responders and their families, please spread the word to anyone interested who qualifies (chapter member or not).

And remember, if you'd like to volunteer, regardless of your skill level with a bow, please reach out.

There is no fee for participation, and we have equipment for use for folks of all ages and abilities.

Looking for something to do with that backup bow, now that you've upgraded? We're always in search of modern equipment donations. We store the Apollo equipment in a dedicated shed with access limited to use by our participants. Please contact us if you'd like to make a contribution.

For additional details, contact John Gorney at apolloarchery.bcciwl@gmail.com!

Proposed Increase in Membership Rates

Over the last few years, the Board of Governors (BOG) and committees have worked hard to control expenses and avoid raising membership rates. However, as part of our current budget planning, the Board is recommending a modest dues increase for the next renewal cycle. This adjustment will help offset an anticipated decline in membership and cover higher operating expenses. Since 2021, fixed costs have risen by 12% and the cost of living has increased by 20%.

Our last two increases (2013 and 2021) were focused on funding capital projects such as major repairs and improvements. This increase is intended to support day-to-day operating costs, ensuring we can maintain programs and services without reducing quality.

We continue to look for ways to offset expenses. Increased grant applications are bringing in \$17,500 in new funding, and a new fee structure for chapter facility rentals will further support our operating budget.

Proposed new rates:

- **Individual:** \$205 → \$230
- **Family:** \$307.50 → \$340
- **Student:** \$102.50 → \$115
- **Youth:** \$25 → \$30
- **Senior (Retired):** \$92.50 → \$105
- **Family (Retired):** \$138.75 → \$155

Welcome to the B-CC IWLA Family!

At the July 2025 Membership Meeting, the following were inducted as members to the Chapter:

Richard Clement – Individual
Interests: Rifle & Pistol; Shotgun; Archery

David Lenard – Family
Interests: Rifle & Pistol; Shotgun; Youth Activities

Alan Munter – Individual
Interests: Shotgun; Conservation Education; Nature Trails

Brian Poore – Family
Interests: Rifle & Pistol; Archery; Conservation Education; Forestry

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Monthly Events

Mondays (starting in September)
Mondays (starting in September)

Troop 2027 Meetings (Board Room)
Troop 496 Meetings (Chapter House)

7:30pm – 9:00pm
7:30pm – 9:00pm

AUGUST

Friday, August 1	MD Hunting License Year Begins	5:00am
Sunday, August 3	Private Event – Celebration of Life for Tom Sigman	12:00 noon – 3:00pm
Wednesday, August 6	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Saturday, August 9	Summer Biathlon – 2nd Annual Summer Competition	7:30am
Wednesday, August 13	Junior Air Rifle Introductory Session	5:30pm – 6:30pm
Wednesday, August 13	Junior .22 Rifle Introductory Session	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Saturday, August 16	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Saturday, August 16	Volunteer Make Up Day 1	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, August 20	Monthly Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Thursday, August 21	3-D Archery Course Open	6:00pm – 9:00pm
Saturday, August 23	NO New and Prospective Members Orientation this month	---
Saturday, August 23	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, August 23	Volunteer Make Up Day 2	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Saturday, August 23	Articles for September Newsletter due – send articles to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, August 23	3-D Archery Course Open	9:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday, August 24	3-D Archery Course Open	9:00am – 1:00pm
Wednesday, August 27	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm – 10:00pm
Saturday, August 30	Volunteer Make Up Day 3	9:00am – 12:00 noon

SEPTEMBER

Monday, September 1	Opening Day Dove Shoot	12:00 noon – 5:00pm
Monday, September 1	Opening Day Cook Out	Starting at 5:30pm
Wednesday, September 3	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm – Dark
Saturday, September 6	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, September 6	Fall Hunter Safety / Education Course in the Chapter House	8:00am – 4:00pm
Sunday, September 7	Fall Hunter Safety / Education Course in the Chapter House – R&P Range closes at 12:30pm	8:00am – 4:00pm
Sunday, September 7	R&P Range Closed at 12:30pm for Hunter Safety/Education Course	Closes at 12:30 noon
Saturday, September 13	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, September 17	Monthly Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Saturday, September 20	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, September 20	New and Prospective Members Orientation	10:00am – 11:30pm
Saturday, September 20	Poolesville Day (Chapter will be sponsoring a booth)	10:00am – 4:00pm
Wednesday, September 24	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Friday, September 26	Articles for October Newsletter due – send articles to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, September 27	National Hunting & Fishing Day	All Day
Saturday, September 27	Black Powder Day – Clinic / Sight-In / Shooting Match	9:00am – 4:30pm

OCTOBER

Wednesday, October 1	Apollo Archery	6:00pm – Dark
Saturday, October 4	Summer Biathlon Program Practice (note earlier start time)	7:00am
Saturday, October 4	Fall Chapter Cleanup and Picnic	8:30am – 3:00pm
Saturday, October 11	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Saturday, October 11	"Bianchi" Pistol Match at R&P Range	Starting at 9:00am
Wednesday, October 15	Monthly Membership Dinner Meeting – Kids' Friendly Dinner	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Saturday, October 18	Rural Republican Women's Club Dinner	12:00 – 8:00pm
Wednesday, October 22	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Saturday, October 25	Articles for October Newsletter due – send articles to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, October 25	Fall Family Campout	Gates open at 3:00pm
Sunday, October 26	Fall Family Campout	Breakfast and Cleanup

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

B-CC IWLA Summer Biathlon Program 2025 Practice Schedule

MISSION: To provide a venue for novice through world class summer biathletes to learn and/or refine the skills inherent to the sport.

To provide a vehicle to introduce athletes of other sports to the shooting sports and consequently an understanding of firearms and the Second Amendment (B-CC IWLA members please recruit, in particular, middle school, high school, and collegiate athletes – freedom/liberty is never more than one generation away from extinction).

ELIGIBILITY: Summer Biathlon is open to all B-CC IWLA members 12 years and older, as well as sponsored guests. **B-CC IWLA members rate is \$2.00 per session. Non-member rate is \$5.00 per session.**

EVENT: Running distances at B-CC IWLA are set at 5 kilometers (3.1 miles) split into 5 loops or 3 – one mile loops. Currently, a single course at each length has been laid out. A short course for those working up to the other distances has been laid out as well. The regulation shooting distance is 50 meters, however, targets are also set at 25 meters for development of the shooting art. There are four shooting stops on the 5km course and two stops on the 3 mile course. Shooting stops alternate between prone (lying down) and off-hand (standing) positions. Five rounds are fired at each stop for a total of 20 shots on the 5km course and 10 shots on the 3 mile course. An equal number of shots are fired from each shooting position.

SCORING: Scoring is based on a time to complete basis. A penalty of either one (1) minute or a 50-100 meter penalty lap will be assessed for each shot missed.

EQUIPMENT: .22 caliber biathlon rifles are the standard; however, any magazine fed, .22 caliber rifle with either bolt or lever action is permitted. **Only standard velocity .22 caliber target ammunition is allowed.**

If you have questions or wish to be on the B-CC IWLA mailing list, contact **Steve Eschholz c:240-472-6512** (text is best)/fitnesscrafters@proton.me, Chairman B-CC IWLA Biathlon Committee.

2025 Practices

Saturday, August 23	7:30am
Saturday, September 6	7:30am
Saturday, September 20	7:30am
Saturday, October 4	7:00am*

2025 Muzzleloader Hunting Season

Saturday, November 1	7:30am
Saturday, November 8	7:30am

2026 Firearms Hunting Season

Saturday, March 21	7:30am
Saturday, April 4	7:30am
Saturday, April 18	7:30am

Family Friendly Chapter Dinner

Our next Family Friendly Chapter Dinner will be held October 15. As usual, we will have kid's activities while adults enjoy the regular chapter meeting. Hot dogs, chips, cookies/ice cream, and juice boxes will be provided. Vegetarian options are available. Keep the date clear and use this opportunity to bring your kids to the chapter.

Bullseyes & Burgers: A Perfect Day at the Range!

Scott Bender
Archery Range Committee



What do you get when you mix sunny skies, over 20 eager new and beginner archers, a sizzling grill, and a whole lot of enthusiasm? One unforgettable Saturday at the archery range! The range was alive with the twang of bowstrings, the sizzle of hot dogs, and the laughter of newfound archery fanatics. Youngsters and grown-ups alike stepped up, learned the ropes, and soon had arrows flying like they were auditioning for the next Robin Hood reboot. We had sunshine. We had bullseyes! We had burgers! All Archers hit their mark, literally and figuratively.

We welcomed beginners of all ages who bravely picked up a bow and arrow, and by the end, were confidently landing shots on target like seasoned pros. Whether it was the thrill of the bullseye or the smell of burgers and hot dogs wafting through the air, smiles were everywhere. If joy could be measured in arrows shot and bullseyes hit, well, we were off the charts.

Enormous thanks to everyone who helped make the event a success (Dan D., Jeff S., Ryan B., Scott G. & Deb B.). To every helper, family member, and curious archer, thank you for bringing the energy! The range was buzzing, and the feedback was pure gold and we're already hearing buzz from kids and grown-ups alike who can't wait to come back to the archery range and hone their new skills.

We hope to see our new archers, and maybe a few future B-CC IWLA members back at the archery range soon, showing off their newly developed skills. Keep aiming true and shooting straight!

ATTENTION New Members!

Chapter House cleanups will be on:

Saturday, August 16
Saturday, September 13
Saturday, October 11
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.

Signup for the cleanups using the signup genius link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-51060445-monthly>

Questions? Contact John Lamb –
jpatricklamb@aol.com



B-CC IWLA to Participate in Poolestown Day 2025 Festival

Saturday, September 20; 10:00am - 4:00pm

Come and join us at Poolestown Day, an annual tradition celebrating more than 25 years of community, fun, and entertainment! This family-oriented festival attracts over 12,000 visitors to the historic downtown commons in Poolestown. The Town Parade starts around 10:00am and then you can stay for the day enjoying music, children's activities, arts and craft vendors, and other exhibitors, electric car show, and food stations.

We need volunteers to help host our booth, an easy way to get volunteer hours (sit at the booth for 2 hours and enjoy the rest of the day). Use the link below to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-57476665-2025>



Membership Committee Report

Scott Harmon, Membership Secretary & Committee Chair
301 467-0645 (cell) MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

As of the July board meeting, membership stands at 708 total Members: 362 Individuals, 226 Family, 67 Retired Individuals, 38 Retired Families, 11 Associates, 3 Student, and 1 Youth.

Our next membership committee meeting will be on Tuesday, August 26 at the chapter house at 7:00pm. At this meeting we will be discussing the upcoming renewal season and the processes involved. We are looking for help with increasing our social media presence. We are looking for social media experts to help expand our social media footprint. Reach out to me with ideas and join us at our August meeting.

Hope everyone is having a great summer.

**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 improve the A/V system:
update sound/projector system, with
ability to host and record zoom meetings**

REMEMBER...

Guest hunters **are not** permitted
at B-CC IWLA.

2025 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, Poolestown, MD 20837, donate via paypal on the Chapter's website, or give your donation to a Board Member at a monthly dinner meeting.

2025 IWLA National Convention Update

Jerry Murray

The Izaak Walton League's National Convention was held in Green Bay, Wisconsin this year from July 18-19. This year's theme was, "Defending America's Great Outdoors: A Promise to Future Generations". There were over 180 adults and 32



youth attendees. Our current National IWLA membership (June) is: 34,858 and that is down about 11% from last year.

The discussions focused on what our chapters are doing to develop and promote conservation activities at our chapters and in our communities. Many of our chapters have robust conservation programs aimed at providing an opportunity for youths in their communities. But we need to get the word out to more people about these programs and look at new programs to help people of all ages rediscover their love of the outdoors.

There was one change to the national bylaws that will require our state divisions to review their bylaws every 5 years. This will align the state divisions with the chapters' 5 year review requirement that was instituted last year.

The IWLA Endowment Board received 33 grant requests and sponsored 24 of those requests in the amount of \$116,364. They have established a new grant category for renewable energy projects and they award two \$2,500 scholarships each year to college students who are working or studying in environmental fields.

AS A REMINDER...

Registering to Hunt on Chapter Property

If you intend on hunting on the Chapter property, you must register on the Chapter website to acknowledge understanding our rules and property boundaries. This is a yearly requirement.

Link to register is below:

<https://bcciwla.org/b-cc-iwla-chapter-hunting-rules/>

Questions?

Contact Hunting Ethics and Oversight Committee Chair Larry Anderson at andupton9@hotmail.com

New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour

Come join us on the B-CC IWLA Orientation Tour. The next tour will take place on Saturday, September 20 from 10:00am to approximately 11:30am **if weather permits. Tour will not be held in August.**

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.

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.

Sign up for the tour using the signup genius link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-54255111-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.

Tree Removal

Many thanks to Farm Committee Chair Phil Taylor and Trails Committee Chair Brian King for removing the part of the tree that fell by the parking lot.



Fly-casting Class

John Novak
novakgang4@comcast.net

On Saturday morning, June 28, 2025, starting around 10:00am, twelve-chapter members and some guests participated in a fly-casting class held down at the small pond. After an introduction on the various types of fly rods and fly lines, participants were given a rod and instructed how to cast it into the water. Through practice, the participants honed their fly-casting technique as they spent a fun, sunny morning by the pond. Another fly-casting class is planned for this fall. Many thanks to Vic Ezerski and Rob Rumer for sharing their expertise in fly casting for the day.



OPEN TO PUBLIC!!

Archery.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com



3-D ARCHERY

WARM UP ON TARGET BAG RANGE!
SHOOT OVER 30 LIFE-SIZE ANIMALS
ON OUR TRAIL COURSE IN WOODS

2025 SEASON

Thursday, 08/21/2025 – 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Saturday, 08/23/2025 – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Sunday, 08/24/2025 – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Lead Reclamation/Shotgun Range Update

The range is mostly cleared of trees and about 80% of the range has had a first pass of lead removal. The crew is alternating between completing first pass and working in some second pass areas as the ground dries out. We have hauled off the first truckload of lead bags and are working on our second load. EN Range should be close to wrapping up lead removal by the end of this month, and we will start the mulching/removal of debris piles this month followed by respreading topsoil and seeding.

There is a lot of work to be done to get the range ready to re-open and we will need your help. If you want to get in some work hours and can assist with the cleaning, painting, and repairs, please contact Andy Wight at: andywight1@hotmail.com.

Black Powder Day - Clinic / Sight-In / Shooting Match

Muzzleloading enthusiasts and newcomers alike are invited to the Annual Black Powder Clinic, Sight-In, and Shooting Match on Saturday, September 27, 9:00am – 4:30pm (check-in beginning 8:45am) at the Rifle & Pistol Range. Whether you've inherited a blackpowder firearm and want to learn to use it, or you're ready to test your skills in friendly competition, this event offers expert instruction, practice time, and an afternoon match. Inline, percussion, and flintlock shooters are all welcome; bring your own muzzleloader or arrange for a loaner when registering. Lunch is included, and the cost is \$15 plus any applicable range fees. Contact Mark Gochnour at mgdonutman@gmail.com with questions or to arrange equipment needs.



Advanced registration required, please sign up below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-56853413-2025>

NestWatch Committee Report

Linda Green and Pat McNeilly

Citizen Science Project Co-coordinators

Activity at the nest boxes and Purple Martin towers has been slowing down, with most of the Eastern Bluebirds and Tree Swallows fully fledged by the end of July. As the NestWatch Team monitored the nests of the Purple Martin Gourds late last month, they had a big surprise of a brand new single hatchling making its way into the world as late as July 18th, after nearly all other chicks had already fledged! It was a wonderful little discovery and, of course, now means another month of monitoring for the team!

Many thanks to Gini Staver and guest, Annie Mealey, for their tireless efforts with monitoring and managing these nests! Final reports on the success of this year's project will follow in next month's newsletter.



NestWatch Team



Purple Martin surprise hatchling!



Eastern Bluebirds about to fledge

Volunteer Make Up Days

As we approach the end of our financial year, we're offering opportunities for members to complete any outstanding volunteer hours. We'll be holding three workdays from 9:00am to 12:00 noon:

Makeup Day 1 – Saturday, August 16

Makeup Day 2 – Saturday, August 23

Makeup Day 3 – Saturday, August 30

These workdays will focus on vegetation clearing and trash cleanup across the chapter grounds. Please sign up using the link below, and bring gloves, bug spray, and weed whackers if you have them.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-57839153-2025>

Reminder: Members who have not completed their required volunteer hours; 6 hours for individual members; 12 hours for family memberships, and 16 hours for probationary members will be required to pay the volunteer fee when enrolling next year.

Rifle & Pistol Range Committee Report

Larry Hess, Chair
larry.a.hess@gmail.com

As a Reminder:

The Rifle & Pistol Range will be closed on the following dates and times:

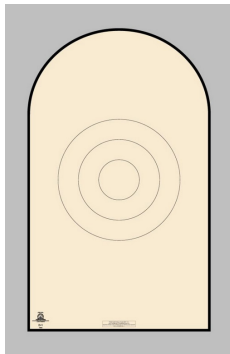
- Sunday, September 7 – 12:30 noon to 5:00pm for Fall Hunter Safety / Education Course.
- Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, October 16 – 18 for the Opening of Muzzleloader Season. The Range will reopen on Sunday, October 19.

We will have another range officer training class in October. Additional information and the links will be in the September newsletter and e-blast.

Please remember to put away target frames when you are done shooting and police your brass.

Calling all Pistol Enthusiasts...

The R&P range will hold a "Bianchi" Pistol Match on October 11, 2025. The full course of fire (posted in the Chapter House and Range House) includes four types of pistols (rim-fire revolver, rim-fire semi-auto, center-fire revolver, center-fire semi-auto) with 40 rounds for each type with the targets placed at the 50' line. The NRA Bianchi Cup D-1 target will be used (scoring values are not printed in the target) with the smallest circle being "X" counting as 10, the next larger circle counting as 9, the largest circle counts as 8, and anything inside the outer perimeter counts as 5.



You need not shoot all four segments to participate. Each segment of the course of fire includes trigger manipulation by strong and weak hand, one and two hand hold and slow and timed rate of fire, testing the participant's skill, endurance and versatility. Anyone achieving a score of 1500 out of a possible 1600 will get their name on the chapter plaque. Prizes will be awarded.

The match will start at 9:00am with a break for lunch and continue into the afternoon depending on the number of participants. Targets are available in the Range House for practice.

★★ ATTENTION HUNTERS ★★

Tree stands, ground blinds, or any other material that might "save" a location for a hunter must not be left out on chapter grounds overnight.

Workshop: Quail Habitat Restoration in Maryland

By Farm Committee

On Thursday, July 24th the Chapter hosted a workshop focused on restoring Bobwhite Quail populations in Maryland, which have suffered dramatic declines across Maryland, with an estimated 99% since 1966 bird survey estimates. Our speakers Dr. Luke Macaulay (University of



Maryland Extension), Jason Keppler (Maryland Department of Agriculture), Sierra Patterson (Quail Forever), and Kyle Magdziuk (Tall Timbers) gathered to share data, practical guidance, and funding opportunities with landowners and conservation-minded attendees.

After a welcome introduction from John Brader (President, Chesapeake Bay Chapter, Quail Forever), Dr. Luke Macaulay previous CE Dinner speaker explained that quail depend on "early successional habitats" which are areas with a mix of grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, and bare ground. These were historically maintained by fire, grazing, and other disturbances. Today, these habitats make up just 1% of Maryland's land cover, as forests and cropland dominate the landscape.

Speakers emphasized that quail recovery requires active, large-scale land management. While prescribed fire was a central theme, highlighted by Kyle's discussion of how fire removes thatch, promotes diverse plant growth, and resets habitat structure which are all critical for quail nesting and chick survival, other farming methods were discussed. These included selective herbicide use, disking, delayed mowing, and strategic logging to restore savanna-like forest conditions, some of which are already in use at the Chapter today.

Jason Keppler and Sierra Patterson emphasized that farmers and landowners have strong financial backing to restore wildlife habitat. Programs like CREP offer payments and state incentives for establishing grass buffers and trees, while MACS can cover up to 100% of the costs for practices that improve water quality and support wildlife. Through the NRCS, landowners can also access EQIP and CSP, which provide cost-sharing and annual payments for habitat work under flexible multi-year contracts. For larger efforts, WRE offers long-term funding for wetland restoration all while allowing landowners to retain access and hunting rights.

Although the title of the workshop was about Quail, really the focus was about bringing back diverse, healthy ecosystems. Creating early successional habitat benefits pollinators, songbirds, and water quality, not just quail. With over 40 people in attendance and a Hot Dog and Drink reception afterwards, this proved to be a successful first step in raising awareness.

Interested in more information? Sign up for future workshops and wildlife management education at wildlife.umd.edu.

Wildlife Committee Report

Larry Anderson, Chair

Opening Day Dove Hunt and Picnic

Monday, September 1, 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 5:00pm, 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 Taylor and all the volunteers working with him have worked hard to prepare our farm for hunting seasons. Thanks all!

The sunflowers in field B3 will be manipulated in accordance with MD DNR guidelines, so the fields will be ready for opening dove season.

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:

- Check in at the table on Izaak Walton Way when you head into the property. (9:00am – 3:00pm)
- Please be sure to register to hunt through our website by the night before September 1.
<https://bcciwla.org/b-cc-iwla-chapter-hunting-rules/>
- Bring your hunting license and 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, a state regulation
- No shot larger than 7.5 may be used during the first split of dove season
- Keep all shots between "10 and 2"
- Shoot time for the first split of dove season starts at noon
- It is usually very warm on 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

Usually, we also suggest that bird hunters come out to our shotgun range to reacquaint themselves with their shotguns and get some practice by enjoying our range by busting some clays. Obviously, this year that won't happen, our shotgun range is still closed. For the conscientious sportspeople that value practice and proficiency, a few alternatives do exist:

- The Damascus Chapter of IWLA has a well functioning shotgun range with skeet and trap fields and a well equipped 5-stand field. They charge current IWLA members the same rate as they charge their own members.
- The Tuscarora Gun Club has skeet and trap fields and on Wednesdays afternoons, set up a sporting clays course. They are currently looking for members.
- Prince George's Trap and Skeet center, a county run facility, is a modern fully equipped shotgun range, offering

skeet, trap, 5-stand, wobble trap, and a 22 station sporting clays course. They are open to the public 7 days a week.

- Bull Run Public Shooting Center, another county run facility in Centreville, VA, is also a modern fully equipped facility offering trap, skeet, wobble, 5-stand, and a 15 station sporting clays course. They are open Wednesdays through Sunday.
- There are a few more shotgun ranges in the area, but most are not usually open to the public, requiring membership or a specific invitation to be able to shoot there. Please ask around, a friendly smile may be rewarded with an invite.

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.



SAVE THE DATE! 2025 Fall Family Campout

This year's Fall Family Campout will be held from Saturday, October 25 – Sunday, October 26. Chapter members, prospective members, their families, and their escorted guests are all welcome. Events will start Saturday afternoon and end after breakfast on Sunday morning. Please register in advance and look for details in September's newsletter.

Use the link below to sign up for the campout with your name and the number of people in your party attending in parenthesis to let us now for food planning. Please indicate any dietary restrictions.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-57867474-2025>

**Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA
FY2025-2026 Operating Budget**

Below is the FY2025-2026 proposed operating budget that will be voted on by the Chapter membership at the monthly membership meeting on Wednesday,

ANTICIPATED INCOME		BUDGETED AMOUNT (\$)	ANTICIPATED EXPENSES		BUDGETED AMOUNT (\$)
401 Membership Renewal Fees		120,881.00	604 Gasoline and Diesel Fuel		1,580.00
402 New Member Initiation Fees		8,200.00	605 Wildlife Management		0.00
403 Shotgun Range		2,000.00	606 Ponds and Streams		0.00
404 Dinner Meeting		8,100.00	607 Forestry Management		0.00
405 Rifle & Pistol Range Fees		10,550.00	609 Trails		1,535.00
406 Archery Range		2,100.00	610 Conservation Education		3,000.00
407 Family Picnic / Auction		0.00	613 Environmental Stewardship		3,275.00
408 Dove Shoot		150.00	614 Log Cabin Maintenance		3,140.00
409 Rural Republican Women's Dinner		1,000.00	615 Floral Gardens		150.00
411 Adventure Committee		0.00	617 Spring Cleanup		300.00
412 Christmas Trees		200.00	618 Fall Cleanup		300.00
416 Keys and Locks		223.00	620 Building Maintenance		3,000.00
417 Chapter House Use Donations		500.00	621 Road Repair and Snow Removal		0.00
418 Interest (Sandy Spring Bank)		6,050.00	622 Kitchen Equipment and Maintenance		1,500.00
419 Garden Plots		280.00	624 Chapter House Expenses		3,000.00
420 Misc. Sales		0.00	630 Property Insurance		35,640.00
421 Donations and Grants		5,000.00	631 Newsletter		5,060.00
422 Campground		800.00	632 Propane		4,387.00
423 Biathlon		500.00	633 Trash Removal		5,215.00
425 Security Cards		637.00	634 Electricity		4,259.00
426 Conservation Education		0.00	635 Telephone		0.00
427 Apollo Archery Program		2,000.00	636 Misc. Administration		0.00
490 Land Fund Contributions		925.00	637 Operating Port-O-Lets		6,489.00
800 Other Income		11,850.00	638 Website Infrastructure		6,013.00
802 Scouts		0.00	640 Shipping and Postage		98.00
803 Volunteer (In Lieu of Work Hours)		20,250.00	641 Security		694.00
804 Membership Late Fee		500.00	642 Keys and Locks		250.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$202,696.00	644 Memorials and Flowers		50.00
ANTICIPATED EXPENSES		BUDGETED AMOUNT (\$)	645 Subscriptions		1,421.00
501 National / State IWLA Dues		30,941.00	650 Scout Support		1,800.00
502 Membership Administration		815.00	651 Hunter Safety Course		1,100.00
503 Shotgun Range Expenses		2,000.00	652 National Convention MD Room /		
504 Food and Kitchen Supplies		8,200.00	IWLA Endowment Fund		300.00
505 Rifle & Pistol Range Expenses		4,800.00	653 National / MD Convention - Attendance		500.00
506 Archery Range Expenses		2,950.00	655 Youth Convention		100.00
508 Dove Shoot		75.00	660 Taxes		3,027.00
509 Rural Republican Women's Dinner		400.00	661 Bank Fees and Service Charges		108.00
510 Wild Game Dinner		200.00	671 Chapter Awards		300.00
511 Family Day / Campout		500.00	700 Other Expenses		1,889.00
512 Christmas Trees		3,525.00	809 Donations and Grants		0.00
514 Christmas Party		200.00	810 Accounting Fees		2,861.00
517 Supplies - Chapter House		150.00	TOTAL EXPENSES		\$179,799.00
519 Vegetable Gardens		2,400.00			
522 Campground Maintenance		875.00	Net Operating Revenue		\$22,897.00
524 Past President's Dinner		1,350.00	Loan Repayment		-8,000.00
526 American Chestnut Orchard		350.00	Capital (NT) set aside (10% membership revenue)		-14,933.00
527 Apollo Archery Expenses		4,150.00	Capital (LT) set aside		-13,158.00
550 Land Fund Expenses		0.00	Net Cash Impact		-\$13,194.00
601 Farm Operations		10,875.00			
603 Farm Equipment Maintenance		2,700.00			
SUBTOTAL EXPENSES		\$77,456.00			