



AUGUST 2026 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

"Here is your country. Cherish these natural wonders, cherish the natural resources, cherish the history and romance as a sacred heritage, for your children and your children's children. Do not let selfish men or greedy interests skin your country of its beauty, its riches or its romance." -Theodore Roosevelt

Last month I attended the IWLA National Convention in Minnesota along with almost 400 other IKE's. I had been reading Theodore Roosevelt's book on Bravery, and this quote struck a chord because of some of the speakers and panel discussions there.

We had Minnesota Congresswoman Betty McCollum talk about the threat to their Boundary Waters wilderness area from the proposed copper/mineral mine, IWLA President Scott Meyer lead a panel discussion on data centers and what we can do to make them less damaging to our environment, and Dr. Kelly Straka, the director of Minnesota's Department of Natural Resources Fish and Wildlife Division held a seminar on alternatives to lead in ammunition and fishing sinkers. The chapter delegates voted to update two of the organization's conservation policies; first to update our agricultural policy to reflect current programs and to support stronger consideration of the cumulative impacts of environmental laws during the permit review process.

These are not the only threats to the outdoors that we battle, even nature takes a swing every now and then. While we were there the campers in the Boundary Waters were being evacuated due to the nearby wildfires and deteriorating air quality. The particulates in the air were so high on Sunday that morning flights out of the Minneapolis airport were canceled.

What we do here at B-CC extends well past the borders of our chapter property. At the convention a member from Ohio told me that they used our by-laws as a template when the time came for them to re-write theirs and the president of a new Florida chapter whose membership went from 5 to 30 in one year told me that they have been using our website and newsletter to get ideas for their programs and activities. The question "How do you manage to win so many awards?" was asked by one of the IKE's at our table after I had made the trek up to the stage to pick up yet another award plaque. My reply was simple, 'We have a proud and dedicated group of members who work very hard and contribute a lot of their time and talent to make our chapter a great place to be.'

"What can I do?" You have heard me ask for your time and talent to help our chapter and now I am asking you to support the organization we belong to. Get involved in the Save our Streams, Salt and Nitrate watch programs, follow the League's Facebook page. The newsletters there present many opportunities for advocacy, fundraising and member recruitment. Develop contacts with local and federal policymakers and share your views on issues and pending legislation, be vocal because your opinions matter to them.

This month a new Board of Governors will be sworn in at the chapter and Shannon Novak will be scripting these monthly reports. I want to thank those of you who have read my monthly rants and hope they have encouraged you to participate more in the outdoor conservation programs that we, and the League have to offer.

Jerry Murray
President

Board of Governors

Fiscal Year: September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2026

OFFICERS

Francis (Jerry) Murray, President

202 438-4202 • jerrym5@comcast.net

Shannon Novak, 1st Vice President

301 785-8461 • snovak516@gmail.com

Sean-David Waterman, 2nd Vice President

816 812-5763 • seandavid@me.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

BOARD MEMBERS

Stephen Austin

Alex Cowan

Sebastian Fainbraun

Lloyd Iden

Andy Wight, Past President

240 205-3982 • andywight1@hotmail.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

IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA MISSION STATEMENT

To conserve, restore and promote the sustainable use and enjoyment of our natural resources, including soil, air, woods, waters and wildlife.

Summary of the June 2026 Membership Meeting and the Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, June 17, 2026 – 1,088th Membership / Dinner Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm by President Jerry Murray

- Continued call for volunteers for events and chapter operations
- Slate for 2026-2027 Officers & Board Members introduced - slate approved by membership
- Prospective members introduced themselves and several third-meeting candidates were inducted
- Membership Secretary Scott Harmon reported the current membership is at 668 members
- Account balances of Chapter's 6 accounts were reviewed by Treasurer Bob Kelly. Chapter remains in stable financial condition. Increased event activity contributing positively to operating cash flow
- Farm Chair Phil Taylor reported that preparations underway for summer and fall planting and equipment storage improvements ongoing
- Environmental Stewardship Chair Blaine Elkins reported that the wildflower and habitat restoration work is progressing
- Archery Chair Chuck Thornton reported that they are preparing for upcoming public shoots
- Bill Gordon reported on National updates shared regarding grant cycles and chapter reporting
- Sporting Clays now operational at the Shotgun Range. Additional Range Officers are needed
- Heritage Day educational programming finalized
- Continued support for habitat and educational displays
- Ongoing review of state legislation affecting conservation and hunting
- Eagle Scout project proposals remain under review
- Website member portal nearing live rollout and the testing phase ongoing
- Father's Day Picnic and Swap Meet - final logistics reviewed and budget confirmed
- Range Safety - continued emphasis on maintaining safe shot-fall zones at shotgun and archery range

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER:

- Reminder to support upcoming events. Members encouraged to: volunteer, submit photos for newsletter, assist with chapter cleanup

Motion to adjourn made and approved.

Wednesday, June 24, 2026 - Board of Governors Meeting

- Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by President Jerry Murray
- Signage for chapter property has been ordered
- Concrete and gravel project estimates came in significantly higher than expected, alternative use of millings remains under review
- President continues gathering pricing for outside accounting/bookkeeping support
- Chapter received donation of a Henry rifle for future fundraising/auction use
- Bill Gordon announced intent to step down as Maryland Division Representative
- Jerry Murray confirmed his appointment as National Director representing B-CC and Freestate Chapters for the 2026 - 2029 term

(continued on page 3)

SUMMARY

(continued from page 2)

- Committee Chairs were reminded to submit expense projections and budget requests for FY 2026 - 27
- Treasurer requested authorization to finalize bequest paperwork
- Board acknowledged request for transparency on website management costs and PayPal processing
- Membership System Updates - online member portal nearing launch, new functions include: vehicle registration, online renewals, volunteer logging
- Forestry / Chestnuts / Environmental Stewardship Chair Blaine Elkins needs volunteers for chestnut grove cleanup, forestry work, invasive species control, silt fence inspections (land reclamation compliance)
- Security - front gate requires pressure washing and reflector replacement
- Log Cabin - Thursday workdays continue, current focus on trim and restoration
- Apiaries (beekeeping report) - late frost damaged nectar-producing trees, honey production expected to be significantly lower this season
- Shotgun Range - Sporting Clays operational - additional Range Officers needed
- Conservation Awards Dinner was held on May 28. Five \$500 awards were presented to students in the Global Ecology Program at Poolesville High School
- Wildflower Meadows - native fern installation completed, education efforts continue on native plants and shell-barren habitat
- IT Policy formally adopted, Google Workspace implementation underway

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

- Vendor contact list is still in development
- Liability Waivers - drafts remain under review for Facility use and Firearms events
- Board discussed whether donated firearms should be auctioned, raffled, or offered to members first via FFL
- Board directed IT Committee to ensure ownership/control of all website assets

OLD BUSINESS:

- Continued review of chapter policies and governance documents

MOTIONS APPROVED:

- Bequest paperwork authorization approved
- NAVHDA August event dates approved
- Legacy Board member nominations approved - Walt Allensworth and Jack Mandel
- New Member Applications - applications received for board review approved

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER:

- National Convention Resolutions - two national resolutions coming before the upcoming Izaak Walton League of America in Minnesota

Adjournment

Induction of 2026 – 2027 Board of Governors

The 2026 – 2027 Officers and Board Members will be inducted at the August 2026 dinner / membership meeting. Come to the meeting to welcome them and to thank the outgoing Officers and Board Members for their service.

The 2nd Vice President position is open. Contact Shannon Novak if you are interested in serving.

Officers

President	Shannon Novak
1st Vice President	Sean-David Waterman
2nd Vice President	Open
Treasurer	Bob Kelly
Corresponding Secretary	Janet Lamkin
Recording Secretary	Derek Woodward
Membership Secretary	Gina Staver
Past President	Jerry Murray

Board Members

Alexander Cowan
Vic Ezerski
Sebastian Fainbraun
Tom Moore
Dan Pasquale

August 2026 1,090th Monthly Dinner / Membership Meeting

Wednesday, August 19

50 / 50 Raffle

(tickets are available in the Boardroom)

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

Dinner Tickets are sold in the Boardroom

Adults – \$15; Kids – \$7

Menu

Appetizers

Italian (not Spaghetti), Garlic Bread, Salad

Desserts

Bring your own Libations

Dinner served starting at 6:15pm

Membership Meeting starts at 7:30pm

*Earl Hower, Chapter Member and
Director of Chapter Relations for IWLA,
will present National Awards to the
Chapter and Chapter members*

*Induction of 2026 – 2027
Chapter Officers and Board Members*

August 2026 Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, August 26

7:00pm

B-CC Operating Budget for FY 2026-2027

While we typically review and vote on the upcoming budget at the August dinner meeting, we are going to push this back to the September meeting this year. This past year has had a variety of issues relating to our financial tracking. We have been unable to get volunteer help for the member who has been doing our bookkeeping, so we have had to bring in our accounting firm (who usually only does our taxes) to help us get caught up on inputting the expense and income forms. The website changeover has slowed us getting an accurate accounting of membership and new member counts and the resignation of some of our committee chairs has slowed the collection of their budget requests for next year. This delay will allow the incoming BOG to have a better chance of reviewing the budget that they will be managing next year.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Jerry Murray
President
jerrym5@comcast.net
202 438-4202

New Chapter Policies

Recently two new policies were voted in by the Board of Governors. A copy of each complete policy is located on the Chapter Website. Contact Jerry Murray (jerrym5@comcast.net) or Shannon Novak (snovak526@gmail.com) if you have questions.

- **B-CC IWLA Grants and Donations Governance Policy**
Policy intent: This policy is intended to create a clear, fair and transparent policy for the chapter's fundraising through the solicitation of grants and donations for the chapter and its activities.
- **B-CC IWLA Website & Digital Systems Governance Policy**
Policy for IT Committee oversight, website change control, and digital systems governance
Policy intent: This policy is intended to create a clear, fair process for website and digital-system changes. It is not intended to prevent committees from promoting programs, fundraising, events, or member services. It ensures that all changes affecting the website, member portal, public-facing pages, payments, data, or third-party tools are reviewed and implemented safely.

NRA Basic CCW Course

An NRA Basic CCW Course will be held on August 23 from 8:30am to 6:30pm starting at the Chapter House. This second-day course satisfies the requirements for 16-hour initial MD Handgun Permit (HGP) and 8-hour HGP renewal training. As a prerequisite, students must have attended the first-day course (i.e., NRA Basic Pistol Shooting Course with MD Handgun Qualification License Training at B-CC IWLA) or possess a current HGP for renewal. The HGP initial/renewal training is valid for 2 years.



Register online at:
<https://www.nrainstructors.org/CourseDetails.aspx?Courseid=933196>

UPCOMING EVENTS / VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

B-CC IWLA and Community

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

1,090th Membership / Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, August 19

Dinner – 6:15pm; Meeting – 7:30pm

Induction of new BOG

Chapter Awards

See page 3 of the Newsletter

Trapper Education Training and Certification Opportunity

Saturday, August 29

10:00am – 6:00pm

See page 11 of the Newsletter

Opening Day Dove Hunt & Picnic

Tuesday, September 1

Hunt – 12:00 noon – 5:00pm

Picnic – 5:30pm

See page 13 of the Newsletter

Poolesville Day (in Poolesville)

Saturday, September 19

10:00am – 4:00pm

See page 9 of the Newsletter

Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, September 23

7:00pm

Fall Chapter Cleanup and Picnic

Saturday, October 3

8:30am – 3:00pm

See page 11 of the Newsletter

Membership Committee Report

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

As of the July Board Meeting, membership stands at 664 total Members: 327 Individuals, 228 Family, 62 Retired Individuals, 34 Retired Families, 9 Associates, 3 Student, and 1 Youth.

Please join me in welcoming Gini Staver as our new incoming Membership Secretary starting September 1st.

This being my last Newsletter article, I just wanted to give a sincere thanks to all members for the understanding and patience while serving as your membership secretary. It's been a pleasure serving the membership over the last three years, and I am looking forward to seeing everyone on the farm.

If you have an interest in joining the Membership Committee, reach out to me as we can always use the help.

Promote our great organization by inviting a friend to a dinner meeting or take them on a tour of our farm.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Weekly Events

<i>Sundays</i>	<i>Shotgun Range Open – Sporting Clays</i>	<i>9:00am – 3:00pm</i>
<i>Mondays</i>	<i>Troop 2027G Meetings (Board Room)</i>	<i>7:30pm – 9:00pm</i>
<i>Mondays</i>	<i>Troop 496B Meetings (Chapter House)</i>	<i>7:30pm – 9:00pm</i>
<i>3rd Thursdays of Month</i>	<i>Pack 694 Meetings (Chapter House)</i>	<i>7:00pm – 8:30pm</i>

AUGUST

Wednesday, August 19	Website Workshop* – before the Dinner Meeting	5:30 pm
Wednesday, August 19	Monthly Dinner & Membership Meeting BOG for 2026 / 2027 Inducteds	Dinner 6:15pm Meeting 7:30pm
Thursday, August 20	Weekly Log Cabin Workday	10:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, August 22	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Sunday, August 23	NRA Basic CCW Course – starting in the Chapter House	8:30am – 6:00pm
Tuesday, August 25	Junior Rifle Program	6:00pm
Wednesday, August 26	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Thursday, August 27	Weekly Log Cabin Workday	10:00am – 1:00pm
Friday, August 28	Articles for September Newsletter due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, August 29	3-D Archery Course Open to members and guests	9:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, August 29	Trapper Education Training and Certification	10:00am – 6:00pm
Sunday, August 30	3-D Archery Course Open to members and guests	9:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday, August 30	Welcome Back to Scouting Picnic – Grill Pavilion	12:00 noon – 6:00pm

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday, September 1	Opening Day Dove Hunt and Picnic	12:00 noon – 5:00pm
Tuesday, September 1	Opening Day Picnic	Starting at 5:00pm
Wednesday, September 2	Apollo Archery – Veterans & First Responders	6:00pm – dusk
Thursday, September 10	Weekly Workday at the Log Cabin	10:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, September 12	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, September 12	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, September 16	Monthly Dinner & Membership Meeting	Dinner 6:15pm Meeting 7:30pm
Thursday, September 17	Weekly Workday at the Log Cabin	10:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, September 19	Poolesville Day (in Poolesville)	10:00am – 4:00pm
Sunday, September 20	NRA FIRST Steps Shotgun Orientation Course	8:30am – 3:00pm
Wednesday, September 23	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Thursday, September 24	Weekly Workday at the Log Cabin	10:00am – 1:00pm
Friday, September 25 – 27	Troop 496 Camping at Campgrounds	All Day & Night
Saturday, September 26	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, September 26	Muzzleloader Site-In Day	9:00am
Friday, September 25	Articles for September Newsletter due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day

OCTOBER

Thursday, October, 1	Weekly Workday at the Log Cabin	10:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, October 3	Summer Biathlon Program Practice (note earlier start time)	7:00am – 9:00am
Saturday, October 3	Fall Chapter Cleanup and Picnic	8:30am – 3:00pm
Saturday, October 3	Pack 773 Campout at Chapter House and Grounds	4:00pm until
Sunday, October 4	Pack 773 Campout at Chapter House and Grounds	12:00 noon
Wednesday, October 7	Apollo Archery – Veterans & First Reponders	6:00pm - dusk
Thursday, October 8	Weekly Workday at the Log Cabin	10:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, October 10	Bianchi Pistol Match at the R&P Range	Starting at 9:00am
Saturday, October 10	Rural Republican Women's Club Dinner	12:00 – 8:00pm
Thursday, October 15	Weekly Workday at the Log Cabin	10:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, October 17	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, October 21	Monthly Membership Dinner Meeting – Kids' Friendly Dinner	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Thursday, October 22	Weekly Workday at the Log Cabin	10:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, October 24	Fall Family Campout	Gates open at 3:00pm
Sunday, October 25	Fall Family Campout	Breakfast and Cleanup
Wednesday, October 28	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday, October 28	Articles for October Newsletter due – send articles to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Thursday, October 29	Weekly Workday at the Log Cabin	10:00am – 1:00pm

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

Donations and Grants Committee

Valerie Carregal, Chair
carregalv@gmail.com 202 421-4964

It is my pleasure to inform the members of the B-CC IWLA that we have been awarded a matching grant of \$100,000 for the project "The Willard Log House: Charles F.M. Willard House, Izaak Walton League property (MIHP No. M:17-45) – Development for heritage tourism purposes."

The project will stabilize and improve our historic Log House. The \$100,000 cash grant, combined with a required \$100,000 **match**, will support total project costs of \$200,000. This includes contractor services for log-wall stabilization, roof replacement, chimney repair, outbuilding restoration, electrical and safety upgrades, ADA improvements, interpretive signage, insurance, and permits.

Our chapter must provide a one-to-one **match** during the two-year grant period that began July 9, 2026. **Qualifying match contributions include cash donations, donated materials, on-site work, and volunteer hours.** It is essential that all volunteer hours directly related to this project be recorded, because **each hour of work converts to dollar value (\$36.51)** that counts toward our **match**.

Please use this specific link to log your hours:
<https://forms.gle/Za53T48MZsA66C2F8>

Feel free to email or call me if you need help recording your time. QR codes are also posted at the LogHouse site and Chapter House.

We request The Board of Governors review and accept this awarded \$100,000 grant toward completing the rehabilitation of the Willard Log House.

We are delighted and honored by the support of the Maryland Heritage Areas Program and Heritage Montgomery for this important project.



This project has been financed in part with State funds from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority but does not necessarily reflect its views or policies.

Click this link to donate

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/donate-to-protect-vital-natural-resources-from-soil-to-wildlife-and-clean-water>

Scanning the QR code will also access the Zeffy donation site.



A Salute to Alan Munter and David Mecklenburg who have recently donated to fund the Log House 100K Match

Initial Installation Chapter House Wi-Fi Network

Alan Munter

We are excited to announce that the initial installation of the Chapterhouse Wi-Fi network is complete! Chapter members can now stay connected while on-site by connecting to the "B-CC IWLA Members" Wi-Fi network using the password "conservation". This new network foundation paves the way for several convenient upgrades coming down the line. Future improvements will enable electronic payment processing at both the chapter house and the shooting ranges, as well as digital signage designed to help members quickly check their status and to allow prospective members to seamlessly register attendance at dinner meetings and other chapter events.

IT Committee Report

IT@bcciwla.org

- WiFi is now available at the Chapter House. Network name: BCC IWLA Members. Password: conservation
- Still having trouble resetting your password? Have you tried doing a Clear Cache?
- The IT Committee will have a Website Workshop at 5:30pm on August 19, before the Dinner Meeting. Please come by if you have questions or problems.
- Some of the new .org Committee email addresses are not working. Use old personal email addresses for now. But you can contact the IT Committee at: IT@bcciwla.org
- All committee chairs should send their volunteer opportunities to IT@bcciwla.org. There is a page in the Member Area documenting all current volunteer opportunities.

Montgomery County Ag Fair Booth

Steve Poss
bandsposs@gmail.com



We are looking for volunteers to help work the booth at this year's Montgomery County Agricultural Fair. The fair starts on August 14, 2026 and runs through August 22, 2026.

Volunteers are needed to work the 6 hour shifts. The early shift runs 10:00am to 4:00pm and the late shift 4:00pm to 10:00pm. Volunteers get free admission and a parking pass. It's a great way to earn your volunteer hours, as well as an opportunity to promote our organization and educate the community about our mission.

I'm also looking for any promotional material about the chapter and our activities that can be displayed or handed out at the booth.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Poss (301 332-5259) bandsposs@gmail.com, or Bill Leaman with the Rockville Chapter to schedule a time slot (240 888-7600).

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.

Rifle & Pistol Range Committee Report

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

STEEL TARGETS

CLANG! At long last the R&P Committee is pleased to announce the availability of Steel Targets on the range, one at 100 yards in lane 9 of the Rifle side and one in lane 1 at 50 yards on the Pistol side. There are very specific rules governing the use of the steel targets. There is an SOP and a posted list of allowed ammo for each side. It is required to check the "zero" of your firearm on a standard paper target at the respective distances prior to attempting the steel target.

RANGE OFFICER DUTY DAYS

Any current Range Officer who has not received their duty day assignments should contact Larry Hess (larry.a.hess@gmail.com). Range Officers should have received a link to the Sign-up Genius to choose their duty days. There are several days in August and September which are understaffed. We will be forced to close part or all of the Rifle and Pistol Range on any day with less than three ROs on duty. Serving the minimum required duty days is a condition for continuing Range Officer enrollment. Anyone serving more than the required number of duty days can get credit toward their Chapter Volunteer Hours.

FIREARMS TRAINING COURSES

We will be hosting a variety of firearms training courses at the chapter thf firearms training courses. The next training offering:

An **NRA Basic CCW Course** will be held on **August 23** from 8:30am to 6:30pm starting at the Chapter House. This second-day course satisfies the requirements for 16-hour initial MD Handgun Permit (HGP) and 8-hour HGP renewal training. As a prerequisite, students must have attended the first-day course (i.e., NRA Basic Pistol Shooting Course with MD Handgun Qualification License Training at B-CC IWLA) or possess a current HGP for renewal. The HGP initial/renewal training is valid for 2 years.



Register online at:

<https://www.nrainstructors.org/CourseDetails.aspx?Courseid=933196>

JUNIOR RIFLE PROGRAM

We are continuing the junior rifle program on August 11th and August 25th and will be continuing approximately twice a month on Tuesday evenings at 6:00pm. We have started with some introductory sessions followed by a structured marksmanship program with regular practices that include safety briefings and skill development with the opportunity to compete in local competitions. Newcomers welcome! All equipment will be provided. If interested, please contact Larry Hess: larry.a.hess@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events:

MUZZLE-LOADER SIGHT-IN DAY

Get ready for the early **Muzzle-loading Deer Season!** Bring your Muzzle-loading rifles to the R&P Range on **September 26th** beginning at 9:00am for help with load selection and sight-in.

BIANCHI PISTOL MATCH

This match will be held on October 10th starting at 9:00am. Competitors use up to four different classes of pistol, Semi-auto Centerfire, Semi-auto Rimfire, Centerfire Revolver and Rimfire Revolver with 40 rounds each. Shoot one, two three or all four classes. Anyone shooting all four classes and scor-

ing 1500 or better gets their name on the Chapter Plaque. Prizes will be awarded in each class.

CENTERFIRE SIGHT-IN DAY

Check your zero before deer season. On Saturday, November 7th we will have equipment and additional range officers available to help you get sighted in before the season starts.

Shotgun Range Committee Report

Jerry Murray, B-CC President
jerrym5@comcast.net

RANGE UPDATE

The sitework contractor has just completed a re-seeding of several bare areas of the range where the seed mix did not take last time they seeded. We need to achieve growth in these areas in order to get signed off on the permit that was issued for the reclamation work. Once we are off that permit we can look into making changes to the range. We are evaluating proposals from several engineers for an analysis of the range to determine what changes need to be made to reopen the other venues.

TRAP

Thanks to some very dedicated volunteers we have gotten one of the trap fields operational. So you now have the option to shoot rounds of trap in addition to the sporting clays.

RANGE OFFICER DUTY DAYS

We are in desperate need of Range officers to help keep the range open for members and guests on Sundays. We have a range officer orientation course scheduled for September 20 for anyone that wants to be a range officer at the shotgun range. The information and sign up for the class is listed below. If we can get enough ROs we would like to extend the range schedule to the end of the year and if possible open the range on the Wednesdays of the dinner meeting starting at 3:00pm, but to do this we will need more range officers. If you have any questions, please contact me or Roy Bowman at: roy@roybowman.com.

An **NRA FIRST Steps Shotgun Orientation Course** will be held on **September 20** from 8:30am to 3:00pm starting in the Chapter House. This is an abbreviated NRA Basic Shotgun Shooting Course combined with practical site-specific Shotgun Range Operations training for members to become qualified Shotgun Range Officers (ROs). As a Shotgun RO, you will serve at least two duty days annually to receive complimentary tuition. A \$10 donation is suggested to help cover student materials. Register online at:



<https://www.nrainstructors.org/CourseDetails.aspx?Courseid=933265>

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.

B-CC IWLA Summer Biathlon Program 2026 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.**

If you have questions or wish to be on the B-CC IWLA mailing list, contact Steve Eschholz c: 240- 472-6512 (text best) / fitnesscrafters@proton.me, chairman. Other points of contact are: Sonny Lacey c: 469-360-3500 (text best) / sonny@coldwaterdesign.com; Sean Stevens c: 202-230-2256 (text best) / seanhoya@gmail.com.

Practice Schedule Dates

Saturday, August 22	7:30am
Saturday, September 12	7:30am
Saturday, September 26	7:30am
Saturday, October 3	7:00am*

*Note earlier start time

Firearms Hunting Season

Saturday, Nov. 7	7:30am
Saturday, Nov. 14	7:30am

The Poolesville Invitational 3rd Annual B-CC IWLA Biathlon Competition

On Saturday, August 8th, the chapter hosted it's summer biathlon competition for the third straight year. Despite the high temperature and humidity the competitors in this combination running and shooting event tackled the 5-kilometer cross country course and the four shooting stops with great enthusiasm. The course that was laid out by Steve Escholtz, Sonny Lacey, and the rest of the biathlon group was labeled as "very challenging" by the competitors, and while putting in a fast time on the running stages was important, being able to hit the target during the shooting stops was equally so since each missed target required the competitor to run a 100-meter penalty lap. This was the first time that the new biathlon targets that were purchased with the funds from the IWLA Endowment grant to the rifle programs were used in a competition. If this sport sounds interesting, the biathlon program has several more practice sessions in September and October. See the website for additional information.



OPEN TO PUBLIC!!



IZAACK WALTON LEAGUE

3-D ARCHERY

20601 IZAACK WALTON WAY
POOLESVILLE, MARYLAND

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

2026 SEASON
CALENDAR
Weekends 9am-1pm

August 29-30



Guests-\$15 Members-\$10 KIDS-FREE!



Archery.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

NestWatch Committee Report

Linda Green and Pat McNeilly
Citizen Science Project Co-coordinators

Activity at the Purple Martin towers and field nest boxes has been gradually waning over the past month. Significant avian competition over the nest boxes at Big Pond led to fewer successful fledglings for subsequent Bluebird and Tree Swallow broods. We have now completed all nest changes for the Purple Martin chicks and are monitoring the last few of these nests with maturing chicks. Not surprisingly, the South Tower nest with 11 eggs was likely abandoned and did not hatch a single chick. Less than a quarter of the adult Purple Martins can be seen now still flying around the towers, with the stragglers most likely hatched this year. Most of the older adults have already left the area, beginning their long journey to winter grounds as far as the Amazon Rainforest! They will roost on river islands and feed in the tributaries and farmlands in that region during the day. We will miss their chortles near the Chapter House, but look forward to their return in even greater numbers next Spring! Many thanks to Annie Mealey for contributing so much time and energy to monitoring and managing the nests. Final outcomes from this year's project will be reported in next month's newsletter.



ATTENTION New Members!

Chapter House cleanups will be held on:

**Saturday, August 15
and Saturday, September 12**

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

HELP NEEDED IN THE KITCHEN -

Membership Dinner Meetings

We are still in need of additional cooks for our dinner meetings. If you can help out in any way, either short or long term, please get in touch with Carol Hulce-Efdimis. The help does not have to be a long-term commitment, even cooking or helping for one dinner would be appreciated.



B-CC Chapter to Participate in Pooleville Day 2026 Festival

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, September 19

10:00am – 4:00pm

Come and join us at Pooleville 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 Pooleville.

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.

It provides a great opportunity for us to connect with local residents and visitors and highlight what the IWLA is about, and more importantly what we do in our Chapter.

We need volunteers to help host our booth, an easy way to get volunteer hours. Use the SignUp Genius below to signup for a 2-hour slot.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-64974127-2026>

**Questions? Contact Andy Wight,
Conservation Education Chair
ConservationEducation.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com**



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**

New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour

There will not be a tour in August. The next tours will take place on:

Saturdays, September 19, October 24, and November 21
from 10:00am to approximately 11:30am if weather permits.

The tours are 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.

Signup for the tour using the signup genius link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-62715355-bcc>

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 about the tour.



PHOTO BY ALAN MUNTER



SAVE THE DATE! 2026 Fall Family Campout

This year's Fall Family Campout will be held from Saturday, October 24 - Sunday, October 25. 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>

COMING IN SEPTEMBER! Dove Hunt and Cookout Tuesday, September 1

Volunteers will be needed at the cookout.

DUE DATE for September Newsletter Articles is Friday, August 28.

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.

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

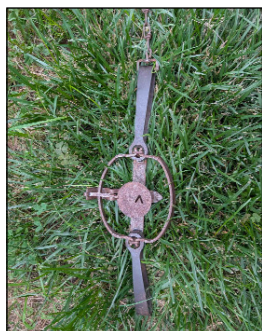
50% goes to the Chapter
to improve the A/V system and
Wi-Fi network connection.

Trapper Education Training and Certification Opportunity

Saturday, August 29th 10:00am – 6:00pm

On Saturday, August 29, from 10:00am – 6:00pm, there will be a training at the Chapter to be certified as a Trapper as part of the Maryland Advanced Hunter Education program. Attendees will be taught by experts with years of experience. Take advantage of this opportunity as this training is usually hours away; instead the instructors will be coming to Poolesville.

This class is the in-person Maryland Trapper Education Course. This is part of the Maryland Hunter Safety Program's Advanced Hunter Education Series. However, a Maryland Furbearer Permit AND Trapper Ed Certification is required if a person intends to trap furbearers in Maryland.



Here is the link to register:

<https://www.register-ed.com/events/view/244359>

It is important to follow all of the instructions in this registration announcement including reading the Welcome Letter and using the QR code to download and print the Maryland Trapper Ed Workbook which needs to be filled out ahead of time as part of the training. The Maryland Trapper Student Manual is also downloadable as an aid.



Save the Date!!

The Annual Fall Cleanup Day has been scheduled for Saturday, October 3, 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 Sean-David Waterman at 816 812-5763 or seandavid@me.com with any questions.

Welcome to the B-CC IWLA Family!

The following were inducted as members to the Chapter at the July Dinner Meeting:

Zachary Borman – Family Membership
Interests: Hunters Education; R&P; Star Gazing

Adam Hager – Family Membership
Interests: Family Picnic; Forestry; Wildlife

William Kutzke – Family Membership
Interests: Archery; Campgrounds; R&P

AJ Mohammadi – Family Membership
Interests: Archery; Campgrounds; Forestry

Pat Rollins – Individual Membership
Interests: Archery; R&P; Shotgun

Tim Trigger – Individual Membership
Interests: Archery; R&P; Shotgun

WANTED: Carpenter/Sign maker



We are looking for someone who can make a duplicate of our chapter sign at West Willard/Izaak Walton Way. It has been pointed out that you cannot see our sign if you are driving south on West Willard except in your rear-view mirror. To increase our visibility, we would like to have a duplicate made that we can install facing north. We understand that this could be a costly and time-consuming job and while donations are welcome, we would like to get some pricing in order to put this on the project list. If you know of a person or company who would be interested, please contact Jerry Murray.

Calendar Submissions

Starting in September, meetings and events that need to be added to the website calendar and newsletter calendar should be sent to IT **Committee**, IT@bcciwla.org; **1st Vice Sean-David Waterman**, seandavid@me.com; **Corresponding Secretary Janet Lamkin**, j.lamkin@comcast.net.

Willard Log Home Report

David Mecklenburg, Committee Chair
dmecklenburg1@gmail.com



Hopefully the heat of the summer has passed but it is always nice down at the Willard Log Home, even in August. We are continuing our work on the cabin on Thursdays between 10:00am and 1:00pm. We are also looking at additional dates for the future. Please email me at dmecklenburg1@gmail.com if you can lend a hand, and keep a lookout on the Chapter calendar and email blast for additional dates.



PHOTOS BY DAVID MECKLENBURG

The Rodent Control Chair decided to supervise painting in the log cabin.

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:

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

Questions? Contact Hunting Ethics and Oversight Committee Chair Paul Spangler at spanglerpaul63@gmail.com

Update: Big Pond Fish Kill

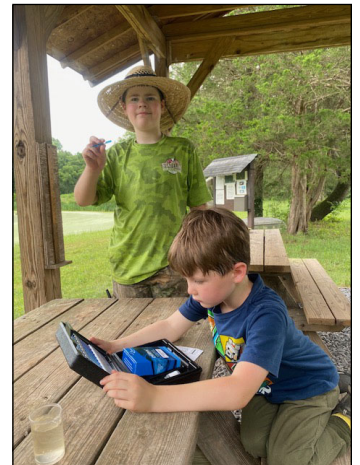
John and Suzanne Novak, Ponds & Streams Committee

On June 24th, an angler reported a fish kill at the big pond. Later that day, we observed between 400 and 500 dead fish, mostly bluegills; however, there were some largemouth bass. A water quality analysis, conducted on June 25th, showed dissolved oxygen (DO) at 4-5 parts per million (ppm) and a pH of 5.5-6 which indicated poor water quality conditions. We consulted an ecologist with the Maryland Department of the Environment and he revealed that the fish kill was likely a result of the low DO levels.

Prior to the fish kill there had been heavy rains and runoff which could have churned up oxygen depleted water on the bottom of the pond. This combined with prolonged very high temperatures could have created the perfect storm for such conditions. Around the same time, there were similar fish kills on the Potomac and Rappahannock Rivers due to low DO.

We put up signs shortly after the fish kill discovery asking people to avoid all contact with water in the big pond since at that time we were not sure of the cause (one at the pond and one at the chapter house). We also stopped the automatic fish feeder and re-set the timers on the three aerators in the pond to run from midnight to 6:00am, the time for the greatest demand on DO. On July 10th, DO levels were 8 ppm and pH was 7, both very good readings, so we restarted the fish feeder. At this time, there were no visible dead fish within or on the shoreline of the pond, so we removed the sign at the big pond (the chapter house sign had already been removed). Another analysis was done on July 30th and readings held steady at a DO of 8 ppm and a pH of 7. The water temperature was 84 degrees F. Based on these consistently good readings, fishing and dog training can resume at the big pond.

Many thanks to Dan Dutton and his sons, Simon and Banks and Phil Taylor's son, Austin, for conducting the water quality testing.



Wildlife Committee Report

Paul Spangler, Chair
240 246-5301 spanglerpaul63@gmail.com

HUNTING

The 2026-2027 hunting season is almost upon us, with several seasons opening the first week of September. 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 MD DNR hunting regulations and policies which can be found at <http://www.eregulations.com/maryland/hunting/> and downloaded on our website.

SEPTEMBER SEASONS

- **Dove** (Sept. 1 to Oct. 17), daily bag limit 15, shooting hours 12:00 noon to sunset through Oct. 14
 - **Resident Goose** (Sept. 1 to 25), daily bag limit 24, shooting hours 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.
 - **Archery Deer** (Sept. 11 to Oct. 21), daily bag limit 1, shooting hours 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset
- **check regulations online regarding Sunday hunting hours.**

REQUIREMENTS

All chapter members engaging in hunting on our farm must:

- Have a valid MD hunting license including all necessary stamps (on their person at all times)
- Have a current and valid B-CC- IWLA membership card as proof of permission to hunt on private land (on their person at all times)
- Have a current and valid parking sticker displayed on their vehicle
- Register on our website to acknowledge understanding our rules and property boundaries. This is a yearly requirement.

Due to recent increases in issues in our area, we're requesting everyone to **report any sightings of coyotes and bears on our farm to the wildlife committee.** Reminder, bears in Montgomery County are protected and should not be harassed.

Please note that the chapter will sponsor and host a MD DNR Trapper Education Course on Sunday, August 29. Please see the below notice for additional details.



MANAGED AND APPROVED BY
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
<http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/>

You're registering for:
Trapper Education Course

Registration Open 50 of 50 seats remaining

Register Now

LOCATION & SCHEDULE

Meeting on: Saturday, August 29, 2026	10:00am - 6:00pm	Located at: BCC - Poolesville IWLA 20601 Izaak Walton Way Poolesville, MD 20857 Rooms: Inside Get directions
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About the Event

***This class is the in-person Maryland Trapper Education Course. This is part of the Maryland Hunter Safety Program's Advanced Hunter Education Series. A Trapper Ed Course is NOT required to purchase a Maryland Furbearer Permit or to hunt furbearers in Maryland without a trap. However, a Maryland Furbearer Permit AND Trapper Ed Certification is required if a person intends to trap furbearers in Maryland.

***This training will be held at the Poolesville, IWLA in Montgomery County, Maryland.

***Students of any age are welcome; however, a written test will be given, and must be passed, in order to receive certification. Every student must bring a completed "Maryland Trapper Education Workbook". This workbook will be examined and scored by an instructor at this class and is mandatory. You can easily complete the workbook by using the "Maryland Trapper Student Manual" as a reference and study guide and it makes a great base of knowledge before the class.

***Both of these books can be downloaded on the Maryland Trapper Education webpage.

***Please see the printable "Welcome Letter" file for a direct link to the Trapper Webpage as well as a detailed description of the class, what to bring and what to expect.

DETAILS

Required Files
Required information or forms needed for this event.

[Welcome Letter](#)

Organized by:
Harold W Dixon III
[Send a message](#)

Cancellation Policies
You must cancel your registration before Saturday, August 29, 2026, at 10:00am CDT.

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

OPENING DAY DOVE HUNT AND PICNIC

Tuesday, September 1st is the opening day for dove hunting. 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.

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.

The sunflowers will be manipulated in accordance with MD DNR guidelines, so the fields will be ready for opening dove season. These and the other crops on our farm are selected to specifically benefit wildlife, including our deer population and a wide variety of birds. **As a reminder, we do not allow baiting on our farm.**

DOVE SEASON HUNTING

- 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,
- shoot time for the first split of dove season starts at noon,
- 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 shells before exiting the woods or fields,
- have fun and be safe

Hunter Safety / Education Course

John Lamb
jpatricklamb@aol.com

On September 12 & 13, 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.