



JANUARY 2019 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

Happy New Year, Ikes.

This is a great opportunity to take stock in our successes of the past year and look forward to our upcoming efforts.

We are winding down another extremely active and successful hunting season on the Farm. We had many deer harvested from the property by longtime members and new members alike, and we continued our proud tradition of supporting Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry both monetarily and with venison!

We have continued to strengthen our ties with our local community and broader region with our youth activities including the Biathlon and Junior Rifle Teams, our many Scout events, Archery 3-D open shoots as well as forming new friendships with our Agricultural Reserve inhabitants.

The R&P, Shotgun, and Archery ranges have never looked better; a bunch of Larry's trees made their way into many happy homes this past December; Phil has managed to keep the fields green – even in the dead of winter using clever, cover crop methods; Brian has quietly and steadily maintained the paths in the woods beautifully; and Mr. Novak and friends have not only enhanced the beauty around the Ponds but have enabled them to team with life – there are many kids that can attest to that fact, as we had record numbers of fish caught – many by first time anglers!

Our Annual Conservation Dinner is one to look forward to. We are hosting the co-director of the film, **A River Runs Through Us**, a documentary exploring the Potomac River and man's impact on it and our reliance on its continued health. **Sean Furmage** will show us his film and will hold a discussion afterwards.

We have new committees forming and new roles to fill; we are an all-volunteer organization, so do not be shy – call or write me or a committee chair, and find the perfect spot for you to fill!

Cheers,
Jack Mandel, President
(Cell) 202 487-8440

UPCOMING EVENTS

for B-CC IWLA and Community

Annual Conservation Speakers Dinner

Saturday, January 26

1000th Consecutive Monthly Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, February 20

Wild Game Dinner

Saturday, February 23

8-Week Youth Archery Class

(16 and under)

April 24 – June 5

Thank You!

I would like to thank those who came out for the decorating and clean-up of the chapter house for the holidays.

Without your help, we would not be able to have such a festive place to come and enjoy.

Many Thanks and Happy New Year!

Carol Hulce-Efdimis

Board of Governors

Fiscal Year: September 1, 2018 – August 31, 2019

OFFICERS

Jack Mandel, President

202 487-8440 • jmandeldesign@gmail.com

Jeff Seaman, 1st Vice President

301 775-4973 • jeff_seaman@hotmail.com

Ron Marchessault, 2nd Vice President

202 320-3834 • rmarche12@comcast.net

Tucker Mostrom, Membership Secretary

301 252-8825 • MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

Billy Sherrill, Treasurer

240 418-6848 • billo3131@gmail.com

Janet Lamkin, Corresponding Secretary

301 466-6557 • j.lamkin@comcast.net

Mark Gochnour, Recording Secretary

301 642-3565 • mgdonutman@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS

Walt Allensworth

301 221-3594 • twangermd@gmail.com

Shannon Novak

301 785-8461 • snovak516@gmail.com

Christine Peterson

301 938-9773 • christineakcp@comcast.net

Jack Shaw

301 340-1624 • jshaw110@verizon.net

Joe Snider

240 876-4917 • joesnider2006@gmail.com

Jim Tate, Past President

202 841-2056 • jim@tate-tate.us

* 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 or
Newsletter.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com
301 466-6557



Summary of the December 2018 Dinner Meeting and the November 2018 Board of Governors Meeting

Mark Gochnour, Recording Secretary
301 642-3565 mgdonutman@gmail.com

December 19, 2018 Dinner Meeting

- Guest Speaker – Caroline Taylor, Executive Director of the Montgomery Countryside Alliance, reminded the meeting's attendees about the threat of the Second Potomac River Crossing to the Montgomery County's Ag Reserve. This organization is also interested in the County's Zero Waste Study. More information on MCA and their work can be found at www.mocoalliance.org.
- Carol Hulce-Efdimis and the Holiday Decoration Committee were commended for their work in getting the Chapter House decorated for the Holiday Party and meetings.
- In early December, at the Poolesville Town Hall, the new County Executive Marc Elrich met with local stakeholders and discussed multiple concerns including the internet access, lack of a large grocery store nearby, and the second bridge in the Up-County. The Sugarloaf Citizen's Association alerted the attendees about a plan to put up solar panels on farmland in the Ag Reserve but this will not be implemented.
- Butch Mezick reported on the Telethon for the Land Fund. As of the dinner meeting there was not a final tally for the funds received. Donations to the Land Fund began in 1994 and continue to the present with over 1 million dollars donated. Additionally, in November 80 students in the Global Ecology Program came to the chapter. These students plus those coming in the past means that over 1,000 Poolesville High School students have participated in the Interpretative Walk in the Woods.
- Rachael Behrend presented her request to the Board of Governors and attendees to approve her Girl Scout Gold Award Project. The plan is to replace some picnic tables and chairs at the Archery Range.
- The Chapter now has 1,011 members and 4 new members were sworn in at the meeting.
- Jim Tate and the 1000th Dinner Meeting Committee noted that the Conservation Farm Guide is out of date. A committee will be created to compile a History of the Chapter. Members will be interviewed to gather material for this endeavor.
- Farm Committee (Phil Taylor) – Reported that the cover crops are keeping erosion down. Fall soil test results are coming.
- Wildlife Management (Larry Anderson) – Deer hunting with muzzleloaders and archery are still on, short shotgun season in early January. 21 deer have been taken so far. There was a December Bird Count; Count Circle were guests on the farm. The chapter land is a hot spot for bird watchers
- Forestry (Joe Snider) – Reforestation Projects are underway and thirty trees are to be planted.
- Ponds & Streams (John Novak) – Noted there has been significant rain and the large pond has overflowed. The dam may need to be inspected to check its integrity. Attempts will be made to recover the fish from the overflow basin.
- Trails (Brian King) – too wet to inspect trails.
- Archery Range (David Drzen) – Looking for more range officers.
- IWLA National (Bob Pavlick) – January 19 meeting at the Rockville Chapter to discuss July 2020 Annual meeting at the Hyatt Regency in Cambridge.

(continued on page 3)

SUMMARY

(continued from page 2)

- Calendar – Attendees of the Conservation Education Dinner on January 26 will watch a movie “Potomac: The River Runs Through Us”. A producer and director of this movie will attend and talk about the making of this movie.
- Wild Game Dinner will be held on February 23.

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER

- Mark Shanker – Report from the Legacy Foundation – \$61,000. Nine members handle the investments received from various sources including the Land Fund, TDRs, and Conservation Easements. The President chooses five members and four are elected by Chapter members and serve two year terms, they meet quarterly.

November 21, 2018 Board of Governors Meeting

- Chapter President Jack Mandel called the meeting to order at 8:40pm.
- Board Members Billy Sherrill, Joe Snider, Shannon Novak, and Jack Shaw were absent from the meeting.
- Jim O’Connell, Scott Harmon, Bill Brockman, members in good standing, attended.
- Minutes were approved as amended.
- Several Committee Chairs are still needed.
- There will be an auction of donated items at the Wild Game Dinner, with proceeds going to the Land Fund.
- Jack Mandel and an Ad Hoc Committee are working on some ideas to celebrate the 1,000th Consecutive Chapter Dinner Meeting.
- Jim O’Connell, Jim Brown, and Richard Klein met with the BOG to discuss the Potomac River bridge crossing.
- A brochure will be created to promote the activities of the Chapter.

NEW BUSINESS (Motions from the meeting floor)

- Tucker Mostrom presented membership applications for the Board’s consideration – two applicants were approved for membership.
- Jim Tate will order, as promotional swag, 350 pens. Jim has offered to pay half, with the Chapter paying the balance.

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER

- Bill Brockman – volunteer opportunities going into Newsletter.
- Lin Tate, Byron Ricketts, Scott Harmon, and Billy Sherrill will meet to finalize audit by January 31, 2019.

Motion to Adjourn was seconded and approved by acclamation at 9:51pm.

2019 Adopt-A-Road Cleanup Schedule

The B-CC IWLA Adopt-A-Road team will meet at the Chapter House at 8:00am for cleanup on the following dates:

- Saturday, February 9
- Saturday, April 13
- Saturday, July 13
- Saturday, September 14

Litter bags, gloves, and orange traffic vests will be made available for participants. If you would like to participate or have questions concerning the upcoming road cleanups, contact John Robinson – 301 641-1188.



Mags for Vets

Douglas Smith
301 452-5650

This is the 7th year we will be able to provide various types of media to our veterans at the Walter Reed National Medical Center.

Items to Donate:

1. Current magazines NOT more than six (6) months old including but not limited to hunting, fishing, and shooting sports: *Life*, *People*, *Atlantic*, *Gourmet*, *Forbes*, sports of all types, etc.
2. CDs: any and all types of music, including ‘books on tape’
3. DVDs: action, documentary, comedy, sports, musicals, drama, etc.
4. Portable/personal CD/DVD players in good working order and all accessories like chargers, rechargeable battery packs that take and hold a charge.
5. Books (hardback/paperback)

Requirements for donation and delivery:

1. All magazines must be clean and current, not over six (6) months old or reading material that is dusty or musty, i.e. reading material stored in closets/basements
2. All items must be tied securely with heavy twine/cord in bundles NO MORE than 20 lb. each – clean and dust free boxes/paper bags OK

Drop off your donations on or a few days before Sunday, February 3, 2019 (10:00am at the latest) and put them on the table in the Board of Governors meeting room (room left of front door with the fireplace).

January Dinner Meeting Speaker

The speaker for the dinner meeting is Hedrick Belin, President of the Potomac Conservancy. Mr. Belin, who has previously served with the National Park Foundation, the League of Conservation Voters – and the Izaak Walton League of America. Mr. Belin will talk to us about the Potomac Conservancy’s work and the common goals of our organizations.

Hunter Safety Announcement

The 2019 Hunter Education for the B-CC IWLA will be held on the weekends of May 4 & 5 and September 8 & 9. Registration will begin after January 1, 2019. This class is a two-day course that starts at 8:00am sharp and finishes approximately at 4:00pm on both days. There is no charge for the class, it is open to all ages, and all materials are provided by the state. If you wish to enroll, you must go to www.register-ed.com and click on the state of Maryland then find Hunter Education Classroom Course. Make sure you choose the correct location and dates.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please submit all articles for the February 2019 newsletter **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, JANUARY 25.**

2020 IWLA National Convention

The Maryland Division of the IWLA will host the 2020 IWLA National Convention at the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Golf, Resort, Spa and Marina in Cambridge, MD, July 19-22, 2020 (*note change of dates*). Special rate – \$165 per night.



A committee has been formed to plan the event. Three B-CC members have joined the committee. If you would like to help plan or just be involved with the event, please contact Bob Pavlick (301 348-5892, roberpav@verizon.net), Shannon Novak (301 785-8461, snovak516@gmail.com), or Scott Harmon (215 450-6903, scott.w.harmon@verizon.net).

MEMBERSHIP DINNER MEETING

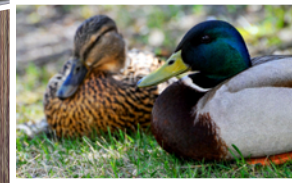
The **999th** dinner meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 16** at the B-CC IWLA Chapter House. Dinner will be served beginning around 6:15pm. All members and guests are invited.

Appetizers will be available before dinner. Dinner this month will include **Salad, Ham, Potatoes, Vegetable, Rolls, Lemonade, and Dessert.**

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

The Board of Governors meeting will be held at the **B-CC IWLA Chapter House** on **Wednesday, January 23**. Board members are expected to attend.

Wild Game Dinner Slide Show Pictures Needed



If you have hunting pictures or pictures of nature you would like to share for a slide show shown at the wild game dinner, please email them to Scott Harmon (scott.w.harmon@verizon.net) and/or Jeff Seaman (jeff_seaman@hotmail.com).
Call with any questions –
301 467-0645.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date(s)	Activity	Time
JANUARY 2019		
Monday, January 7	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Saturday, January 12	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Monday, January 14	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday, January 16	Monthly Dinner Meeting	6:30pm
Saturday, January 19	Shotgun Range Current Officer Signup – in the Chapter House	9:00am
Sunday, January 20	Eagle Scout Court of Honor in Chapter House (Private Event)	1:30pm – 6:30pm
Monday, January 21	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday, January 23	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Saturday, January 26	Eagles Junior Rifle Club – Practice at R&P Range	Starting at 1:00pm
Saturday, January 26	Conservation Speakers Dinner with free spaghetti dinner	6:00pm
Monday, January 28	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
FEBRUARY		
Saturday, February 2	Eagles Junior Rifle Club – Practice at R&P Range – Groundhog Target Shoot	Starting at 1:00pm
Monday, February 4	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Sunday, February 9	Adopt-A-Road Cleanup – meet at the chapter house parking lot	8:00am
Sunday, February 10	NAHVDA – General Meeting	8:00am – 2:00pm
Monday, February 11	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Saturday, February 16	Shotgun Range Current Officer Signup – in the Chapter House	9:00am
Saturday, February 16	R&P Range Committee Meeting – Chapter House Board Room	10:00am
Saturday, February 16	Girl Scout Troop Father/Daughter Dance	3:00pm – 10:00pm
Sunday, February 17	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Monday, February 18	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday, February 20	Monthly Dinner Meeting – 1000th Consecutive Meeting	6:30pm
Saturday, February 23	Annual Wild Game Dinner	6:00pm – 10:00pm
Sunday, February 24	Eagle Scout Court of Honor in Chapter House (Private Event)	1:30pm – 6:30pm
Monday, February 25	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday, February 27	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
MARCH		
Sunday, March 2	R&P Range – Current Range Officer Signup – in the Chapter House	9:00am
Monday, March 4	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Saturday, March 9	Shotgun Range Current Range Officer Signup – in the Chapter House	9:00am
Saturday, March 9	R&P Range – Range Officer Signup – in the Chapter House	9:00am
Saturday, March 9	Eagles Junior Rifle Club – Practice at R&P Range	Starting at 1:00pm
Monday, March 11	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Saturday, March 16	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Monday, March 18	Boy Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday, March 20	Monthly Dinner Meeting	7:00pm
Saturday, March 23	Eagles Junior Rifle Club – Practice at R&P Range	Starting at 1:00pm
Monday, March 25	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Saturday, March 30	Annual Spring Cleanup Day (Tentative Date)	8:00am
APRIL		
Monday, April 1	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Saturday, April 6	Eagles Junior Rifle Club – Practice at R&P Range	Starting at 1:00pm
Monday, April 8	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Saturday, April 13	Adopt-A-Road Cleanup – meet at the chapter house parking lot	8:00am
Sunday, April 14	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Monday, April 15	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday, April 17	Monthly Dinner Meeting	6:30pm
Monday, April 22	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday, April 24	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Saturday, April 27	Eagles Junior Rifle Club – Practice at R&P Range	Starting at 1:00pm
Monday, April 29	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
The Campground is closed during all black powder and firearms deer season. Check the online www.bcciwa.org electronic calendar for current and updated scheduled times of events.		

Membership Committee Report

Tucker Mostrom, Membership Secretary
MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

CHANGE TO CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP POLICY:

As approved by the B-CC IWLA Board of Governors in their December 2018 meeting, the period for earning volunteer hours will now end on August 31 instead of at year's end. This September-to-August schedule conforms to both the chapter's fiscal year and to IWLA National's renewal schedule. Changing this schedule will also be one step toward getting renewed membership cards back to members sooner. This will eliminate the perennial confusion for members who earn their annual hours AFTER renewal statements have been mailed out but with the 'in lieu of volunteer service' fee included.

- Volunteer hours earned by members since September 1, 2018 will automatically be credited toward 2020 renewals down to the 6-hour minimum for 2019 renewal.
- Members may ask for a one-time transfer of hours earned in 2019 after September 1 to apply back toward their 2020 renewal.
- The September 1st to August 31 schedule will apply universally thereafter for members to accumulate volunteer hours.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS UPDATE

1. There are two weeks remaining until the \$33 late fee will be assessed for outstanding 2019 membership renewals. Email me at MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com immediately if you intend to renew but cannot meet this deadline.
2. As of the end of December 31, almost 60 renewal requests have been received and processed with IWLA National.
3. Reminder: 2018 has ended for the purposes of earning volunteer hours toward your 2019 membership renewal as affected by the above-described policy change.
4. Members should have received an email confirming receipt of their payments before the January 4th late firearms season. Members who hunted on the property, and those STILL hunting during the late archery season in January 2019 MUST have that email printed-out and on their person for the legally-required written permission to hunt on the B-CC IWLA property.
5. Membership cards received from IWLA National are being sent out in January. The chapter has yet to receive the bulk of 2019 renewals processed since October.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Membership stands at the following levels as of the December Board of Governors meeting:

551 Individual members
174 Family members (x2=348)
2 Youth members
15 Student members
13 Associate members
83 Retired members
<hr/>
1,012 Total Active Memberships

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Monthly Chapter House Cleanup

Saturday, January 12 – 9:00am – 12:00 noon

Contact Chapterhouse.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com.

Monthly Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, January 16

Contact Tucker Mostrom, tuckermostrom@gmail.com, if you can help with food preparation, setup, and/or cleanup. 1:00pm setup start time.

Conservation Speaker Dinner

Saturday, January 26

Contact Andy Wight at andywight1@hotmail.com if you are able to help with the planning. Contact Mark Gochnour at mgdonutman@gmail.com if you can help with the setup and cleanup.

Wild Game Dinner

Saturday, February 23

Volunteers needed for setup and/or cleanup. Contact Jeff Seaman, jeff_seaman@hotmail.com, Scott Harmon, scott.w.harmon@verizon.net, or Tucker Mostrom, Events.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com.

Annual Spring Cleanup

Saturday, March 30 (tentative date)

Help get the chapter back in shape and ready for spring and summer. Contact 1st VP Jeff Seaman – jeff_seaman@hotmail.com.

Adopt-A-Road

Join the Adopt-A-Road crew to clean up West Willard Road. See article in newsletter for details.

Chapter House Maintenance

Volunteers needed to help deep clean the Chapter House. Contact Chapterhouse.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com.

Log Cabin

Help the chapter reinvigorate the restoration and maintenance of our Chapter's historic 19th-century cabin. Contact Jack Mandel, jmandel@design@gmail.com, for details.

Trails

Brian King, Trails.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com, is looking for help with marking and maintaining the chapter trails.

Archery Range 3D Course Setup

Date to be announced. Contact Dave Drazen, daviddrazen@gmail.com.



B-CC IWLA Wild Game Dinner *Share the Tradition*

Appetizers, Pot Luck Dinner, and Door Prizes

**Saturday, February 23
6:00pm – 10:00pm**

The theme this year is "Share the Tradition." Toward that end, we encourage you to bring a non-hunter guest who is curious about hunting, or who may have hunted in the past but who may be interested in taking it back up. All who care to will have an opportunity to tell a hunting story and share photographs. So send your hunt-related photographs to Scott Harmon (scott.harmon8@gmail.com) or Jeff Seaman (jeff_seaman@hotmail.com). Also, if you have a favorite game recipe and you're willing to share it, send that, too. If we receive enough recipes, we will collect them in a booklet and hand them out at the dinner.

This is a potluck event – wild game dishes are especially welcome. But if you don't have any game to share, that's OK – we all need salad, vegetables, bread, and desserts too.

**Appetizers start at 6:00pm
with dinner to follow**

Welcome to the B-CC IWLA Family

The following members were inducted at the December dinner meeting:

Rob Cooper

Interests: Legislation; Rifle & Pistol; Trap, Skeet & Sporting Clays

David E. Escalante

Interests: Archery; Hunter Education; Wildlife Management; Chapter Functions (Cleanup, Foodservice); Archaeology

Chris Raffo

Interests: Forestry; Scout Camp Area; Trap, Skeet & Sporting Clays

Shotgun Range Report

Warner Parks, Committee Chair

301 540-1947 (Home) 240 620-6942 (Cell)

wparks29@gmail.com

All current range officers – please mark your calendars – there will be three sign-up meetings for the upcoming year: **Saturday, January 19; Saturday, February 16; and Saturday, March 9.** All three meetings will be held in the Chapter House at 9:00am. After the March range officer sign up, there will be a range officers training class for anyone interested in becoming a shotgun range officer.

Range hours for January, February, and March will be 9:00am to 4:00pm.

Remember to stand to the side when cocking all arms. THE TRAP MACHINE needs a few minutes to warm up before you cock the throwing arm.

Refill and restock the skeet houses and uncock all machines when done. Additional targets are stored in the container next to the parking lot, the trailer under the tower, and the low skeet house on the left field.

Please pick up your empty shotgun shells and trash when finished shooting. Keep the range clean and restocked for the next range officer and shooters.

All Shotgun Range Equipment is to be used by pre-qualified Shotgun Range Officers ONLY. If any equipment is malfunctioning, please let Joel or me know ASAP.

RANGE OFFICER SCHEDULE

JANUARY

Sunday, January 6	Joel Graham
Sunday, January 13	Joel Graham
Sunday, January 20	Need RO's
Sunday, January 27	Need RO's

HOURS OF OPERATION

Sunday's (January, February, and March)

9:00am to 4:00pm

Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays

Archery Report

Dave Drazen, Committee Chair

301 655-8459 (Cell) daviddrazen@gmail.com

With days getting longer, it won't be much longer before we get back into swing of things with the 2019 archery season. As I mentioned last month, we will be running an 8-week class for youth (16 and under) from April 24 to June 5 next spring. It starts the week after Montgomery County Spring Break and runs to the week before school ends. We are working out the remaining details now. There will be a small fee for the class, but it will be significantly less than options at nearby locations. If there is sufficient interest, we can provide a similar class for adults. Let me know if you want more information.

If you're interested on getting on the archery email list, just shoot me an email. We will hold a planning meeting in February for those who are interested in helping us out next year. We always need help setting up and taking down our 3D course, and we will have plenty of repairs next season around the course. Course set up should be sometime in early April, but we will work out details soon. Come help us and work off your volunteer hours.

Hunters Ethics and Oversight Committee Report

Scott Harmon, Chair
301-467-0645 (Cell) scott.w.harmon@verizon.net

So far this year we have had 105 people register to hunt the Farm. A new record. Great job folks! That means that everyone who registered has acknowledged that they know the rules and our property lines. Unfortunately, we still have rules being broken.

- You can't leave your climbing stands or ground blinds in the woods overnight. We removed a ground blind and climbing stand that had remained in the woods for over two weeks. If they are yours, give me a call to discuss.
- You should never cross the property line onto a B-CC IWLA neighbor's property without direction and permission from our neighbors. We have added a picture to this article to see if anyone can identify the person in the photo. They are clearly on our neighbor's property with a bow in hand. This is trespassing and not acceptable. I was hunting on the opening Saturday of gun season 150 yards away from the B-CC IWLA property line and witnessed and yelled at someone that was 75 yards into our neighbor's property. If you are caught and don't have a very good reason why you are trespassing, you will face expulsion proceeding in front of the board of governors. Let's be good neighbors and honor the property lines.



- If you are going to use a tracking dog to recover a deer, you have to follow the state laws for tracking. You must keep the dog on a leash and be in control of that leash. And if you are going off of our property onto state owned land you need to call DNR to let them know.
- Make sure you are parking in designated parking areas only. Please do not park inside the gates on Izaak Walton Way. You may park at the archery range and designated parking areas on West Willard.

If you have shot a deer, help us out by registering your deer harvest in the notebook that is located outside the front of chapter house.

Call with any questions and be safe out there.

Rifle & Pistol Range Report

Thoran Menser, Committee Chair
301 972-8353 bcciwla.rp@gmail.com

Chris Efdimis, Chief Range Officer
240 372-2258 bcciwla.rp@gmail.com

Our Chapter's Rifle & Pistol Range is being maintained much better this month. Thanks to those that are watching and pitching in keeping our range house clean and the target backers organized. New backers are in the shed as needed.

Range officers let's pay attention: Complete opening Forms each time you open, check each member sign-in, and confirm their card is current when they sign in.

Thanks to Jerry Murry and Blane Elkins for taking on the design and installation of the horizon Boards on the Rifle side, this design allows adjustment and the duty RO to see down range. We hope to complete these in January-February time frame. The horizon boards on both sides need to be adjusted each time for the individual, blocking the shooter's vision above the target frame.

REMINDERS

- Each person must police their Brass and Place it in the provided buckets or take it with them.
- Put paper in the trash. If the cans are full, please empty them.
- **Keep watch on Guests you bring.** It is your place to brief them on the SOP's.
- Be safe and enjoy the range respectfully.

Range Officer sign up is scheduled for Saturday, March 2 and Saturday, March 9 at 9:00am. Further info will follow in February's newsletter.

The R&P Committee will hold a committee meeting on Saturday, February 16 at 10:00am in the chapter house Board Room. If anyone would like to attend or has any ideas, please email Thoran.



Check out our Facebook page!

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

Chapter House Report

Tucker Mostrom, Committee Chair
Chapterhouse.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

Make a resolution to enjoy the chapterhouse with your family and guests in 2019!

The chapterhouse volunteers worked especially hard in 2018 to spruce up this communal space and make it more available to chapter members and committees. The coffee-maker is available with filters in the bar area, and a full array of sweeteners, coffee cups, and donated coffee mugs are available for member use in the member kitchen cabinets over the sink. The stove in the member kitchen is once again fully functional, and the refrigerator is being fully cleaned and cleaned-out on a more frequent basis. Come out to enjoy a weekend lunch or supper with your family. Watch the deer come through at sunset. Enjoy the display of birds at the feeders. Make the most of the season!

In order to keep the chapterhouse clean and available to your fellow 1,000+ members, please respect the chapterhouse use policy (<http://www.bcciwla.org/our-chapter/bcciwla-policies-and-resources/rules>) and the following guidelines:

- Unless previously cleared with the Chapterhouse Committee, members must leave the refrigerator empty and clean.
- Please refill ice trays as you go.
- All utensils, pots, pans, cutlery, etc. left behind becomes available for general use or disposal by the chapterhouse committee without notice.
- After all meetings, events, and visits to the chapterhouse, there must be NO food trash, food-trash receptacles, or food-residue anywhere in the chapterhouse. The presence of insects and field rodents, even in common areas of the chapterhouse, will threaten the chapter's commercial-kitchen license to serve members and guests at meetings and events.
- All trash and recyclables must be placed in the correct receptacles: trash cans, smaller blue bins for bottles and cans, large blue bin for recyclable paper (<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/resources/file/s/store/recycling-basics.pdf>).
- Trash and recycling bins should be emptied into the appropriate dumpsters after use.
- As announced in the November newsletter, the restroom lights are now fully controlled by timer-switches. Check the timer-settings if you enter the restrooms when the lights are already turned on. Please remember to use the attached doorstops to prop the bathroom doors open when the bathrooms are unoccupied. The improved air circulation helps on multiple fronts.
- Fireplaces must be used with extreme discretion. Please remember that the previous chapterhouse was destroyed by fire. Appropriate care must be taken to get the smoke flowing up the flue when lighting the fireplaces. The chimney flues are OPEN when the handle is pulled fully FORWARD and CLOSED when the handle is pushed fully BACK. Members who use the fireplace should leave time the next day to swing by the chapter to close the flues to reduce propane usage in the furnaces.
- Thermostats may be adjusted using the triangular up and down arrows in the upper-right corner of each. Please try to limit adjusting heat to the section of the chapterhouse in use:
 - The thermostat behind the bar controls the kitchen, bathrooms, and boardroom
 - The thermostat opposite the bar controls the bar-end of the great room

- The thermostat by the bird-feeder windows controls that end of the great room
- Thermostats reset themselves to the original program periodically throughout the day.
- If you bring a grill to the chapter, please use it a safe distance from the chapterhouse. Grilling under the eaves presents an unacceptable risk to the chapterhouse and is not permitted. If you borrow a grill from another committee area of the chapter, please do so with the permission of that committee and be kind enough to return it to them before you leave. Please dump any cinders and coals into the chapter fire ring opposite the barbecue area

As the chapter encourages more members to enjoy the chapterhouse as a focal point for conservation activities around the conservation farm, we remind members to conserve this space for the other hundreds of members with whom they share it.

B-CC IWLA Eagles Junior Rifle Club

Rex Gori, Head Coach

301 922-8328 aurelius.gori1@verizon.net

Do you want to learn to shoot .22 rifles well? If you or any youth you might know (11 and up) who wishes to learn to shoot safely and effectively, give me a call or send me an email. We practice approximately twice a month until June. We normally meet at the R&P Range on specific Saturdays at 1:00pm. Check below for our updated schedule. Participants earn NRA qualification awards and medals, have fun, and gain great skills. There are even several fun in-house competitions with prizes! If interested, please give me a call or send me an email (listed above).

2019 SHOOTING SCHEDULE

We meet on Saturdays listed below from 1:00 to 3:00pm unless otherwise noted.

Clean Up begins 1/2 hour before end of Practice.

January 26	Practice – 1:00pm
February 2	Practice – 1:00pm ***Groundhog Target Shoot***
March 9	Practice – 1:00pm
March 23	Practice – 1:00pm
April 6	Practice – 1:00pm
April 27	Practice – 1:00pm
May 11	Practice – 5:00pm
May 25	Practice – 5:00pm
June 15	Fun Targets / Final Match and Picnic Shoot – 5:00pm

Always check your e-mail before heading out to practice. If weather conditions or range conditions change, we may have to cancel. I will notify all of you via email. **This schedule may be subject to change. You will be notified in advance via phone or email.**

B-CC IWLA Telethon

Byron "Butch" Mezick, Land Fund Chairman

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter of the Izaak Walton League held its annual Land Fund Telethon on Sunday evening, December 9. The telethon team called over 750 members in three hours speaking directly with individual members or leaving a detailed message.

Every successful telethon stands on the foundation of a database comprising all the names and phone numbers of those to be called. Many thanks to Tucker Mostrom and Carol Efdimis who provided our telethon team with an extremely accurate list of over seven hundred and fifty names and phone numbers. Telethons need a bank of phones located in a large area with a family-style table. Many thanks go to Ted Whitehouse for donating such a room. Our team enjoyed a large conference room located at Ted's K Street law office in NW Washington, DC complete with coffee and soft drinks. Many thanks to Janet Lamkin who will provide tax receipts to everyone who contributed, as well as a letter from the current president to personally thank those members who donated five hundred dollars or more. The following individuals participated in the 2018 telethon, many of whom have donated their time and talent to the chapter's telethon year after year. When you see them around the farm please thank them personally for their time and talent. Many Thanks to: Tucker Mostrom, Ernie Smith, Byron Ricketts, Frank Parker, Jim Tate, Lin Tate, Hope Rutley, Michael J. Ryan, Eugene Katzman, Jeff

Seaman, Frank Parker, George Coakley, Walt Allensworth, Jack Mandel, Patrick Twomey. A special thank you to our membership who continually support one another in our efforts to protect the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Conservation Farm. Our chapter is truly an outstanding example of what can be accomplished when a thousand plus members come together for a common cause in conservation.



Land Fund Telethon 2018

Kneeling: Patrick Twomey, Eugene Katzman

Standing Left to Right: Frank Parker, Lin Tate, Jack Mandel, Ernie Smith, Michael Ryan, Tucker Mostrom, Walt Allensworth, Byron Ricketts, George Coakley, Jim Tate, Hope Rutley, Butch Mezick Not Pictured: Jeff Seaman, Ted Whitehouse

2019 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 (written out to B-CC IWLA) to B-CC IWLA, PO Box 542, Poolesville, MD 20837

Christmas Bird Count

Diane Seward
Citizen Science Projects Coordinator
trina65@verizon.net

For the seventh year straight, we hosted the Montgomery Bird Club on December 16 for the annual Seneca Christmas Bird Count, which was sponsored by Audubon and Cornell University. An enthusiastic group of 20 MBC "birders", gathered at the chapter house before 7:00am. We offered them coffee and pastries before they set out in two groups for the morning's count on the farm. MBC's Jim Nelson was the Seneca CBC compiler and led one of the two groups who walked the farm that morning. Larry Anderson and Scott Harmon escorted the two parties around the farm. Tucker Mostrom made sure the birders had hot coffee when they returned to the chapter house for a mid-morning break.

In addition to counting the birds in the fields and woods, participants observed and counted birds eating seed and suet at the feeders behind the chapter house. The feeder count was submitted to Cornell in connection with our FeederWatch project and was also included in the Seneca CBC, Sector 7 (our sector), total. Purple Finches were observed at our feeders, but not elsewhere on the farm.

The two groups walked the farm until noon in light, but steady rain with temperatures in the low 40s. Combined, the field counters and the FeederWatchers tallied 31 species and about 317 individual birds. The 31 species observed this year were down from 40 species observed in 2017, but closer to the 33 species counted in 2015. One species, the Barred Owl, was found only in our sector of the Seneca CBC and was not seen last December.

The number of individual birds reported declined dramatically from last year when 645 birds were observed. Several species illustrate the point:

Species	2017	2018
American Robin	88	2
Crows, American and Fish	96	18
European Starling	148	40
Cedar Waxwing	32	0
Eastern Bluebird	23	4
Carolina Wren	15	7
House Finch	16	0
American Goldfinch	9	3

The lower numbers this year may have been attributable to the steady rain during the count.

On the brighter side, a few species were observed in higher numbers this December than last:

Species	2017	2018
Canada Goose	17	50
Blue Jay	14	29
Northern Flicker	6	10
White-throated Sparrow	9	24
Dark-eyed Junco	12	20

The numbers of other species counted—Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Purple Finch, White-breasted Nuthatch, Hermit Thrush, Northern Mockingbird, to name a few-- remained relatively stable in the two counts.

We expect to amplify this report in the February newsletter with total species counted in the Seneca CBC (which includes parts of Montgomery, Fairfax, and Loudon counties).

Annual Conservation Dinner with Guest Speaker Saturday, January 26 • 6:00pm

Every year in January the Conservation Education Committee holds a free spaghetti dinner with a speaker who addresses some aspect of conservation. This year the dinner is scheduled for 6:00pm on Saturday, January 26 and our speaker will be Sean Furrage, one of the producers and directors of the locally-produced, multiple-award-winning film "Potomac: The River Runs Through Us." There will be a showing of the half-hour film followed by discussion.

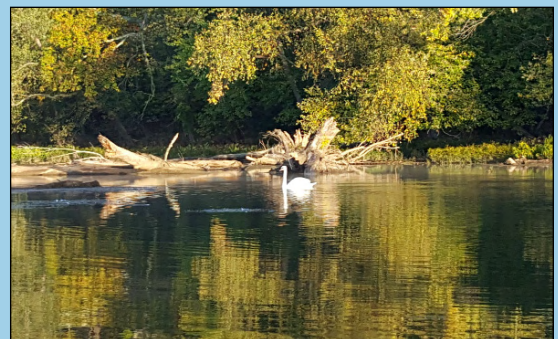
The dinner is open to all members, their families, and the general public. Most people living in the Potomac River watershed do not realize that their drinking water comes from the Potomac. The film follows the flow of the Potomac water from its origin, into our homes and businesses, and back into the river and is relevant to us all. Please feel free to invite anyone you know that has an interest in conservation or that would be interested in understanding our relationship with the Potomac River.

As usual, Mark Gochnour and his kitchen crew will serve a robust spaghetti dinner. However, help is needed with the set up, preparation, serving, and cleanup. Please contact Mark, mgdonutman@gmail.com, if you are able to help.

In addition, while the dinner is free of charge, please RSVP to Mark Gochnour by Tuesday, January 22 including the number of attendees. We want to make sure that there is enough spaghetti for all!!!!

We look forward to seeing you all on the 26th.

Andy Wight, Conservation Education Committee Chair
andywight1@hotmail.com



Signing for McKee-Beshers Wildlife Management Area

Jim Hubbard, Legislative Chair

Those of our members using River Road to access our chapter may have noticed that the original wooden signs for McKee-Beshers have been removed and replaced with metal signage. In attempt to determine the reasons for the change, Jim Tate asked me to investigate. I wrote the following letter to Mark Belton, Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources:

Sir,

I am the legislative chair for the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, a group of 1,000+ conservation-oriented citizens. Our chapter is located south of Poolesville, MD on 627 acres of conservation easement protected land. We are also close to the McKee-Beshers wildlife management area.

McKee-Beshers was signed in the past with some attractive wood signs, which, among other things, cited the Pittman- Robertson Act as being the genesis for the preservation of the property as a game management area. Those signs have been replaced with some less attractive signs that contain no reference to the law, which allowed the purchase and development of McKee-Beshers. Our membership is quite curious and perhaps a bit upset over the less than desirable replacement signs and the complete absence of a reference to Pittman-Robertson.

It would be very helpful if you or someone on your staff could provide me with the reasons for the change in signage and the lack of a citation for Pittman-Robertson. We teach two classes of hunter safety each year to people needing to take the course and we strongly cite the Pittman-Robertson Act as the reason for the existence of McKee-Beshers. We believe that each of our course attendees come to know the importance of the act and the source of funds for conservation purposes.

I am prepared to write an article for our chapter newsletter addressing this topic when I receive an answer from your office.

Thank you for your interest and consideration of this request.

*James B. Hubbard
Legislative Chair
Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter IWLA*

Secretary Belton replied as follows:

Mr. Hubbard;

Thank you for sharing your concerns regarding the new Wildlife Management Area (WMA) signs installed at McKee-Beshers WMA. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has been working hard to ensure all of our public lands are properly marked with signage that makes those lands more consistently identifiable and uses materials that have a longer lifespan than the former routed wood products. This project includes new signs at State Parks, Forests and WMA's across the state. In our view, the new WMA signs are more inviting and go a long way toward the goal of ensuring those areas are recognized as part of an overall system of public lands while maintaining the unique features that distinguish WMA's from our Park and Forest tracts. We have received many compliments in regards to the new signs since initiating the effort.

Finally, all of our signs include the U.S. Department of Interior logo for the "Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration" program. This logo is on each sign in the lower right hand corner near the DNR logo. The federal logo represents the current U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service official symbol for the program assigned to administer Pittman-Robertson funding.

I hope this is helpful information and reassures you that we are fully committed to recognizing the importance of our WMA system of lands, our federal partners, and the concomitant funding source that plays a critical role in the management of those wonderful public parcels.

*Thank you.
Mark Belton*

*Mark J. Belton
Secretary
Department of Natural Resources
580 Taylor Ave., C-4
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-260-8101 (office)
mark.belton@maryland.gov*

I am not optimistic that anything can be done short of our chapter funding the manufacture of signs highlighting the message we would prefer to see about the Pittman-Robertson act. That would involve requesting the Maryland Department of Transportation to approve placement of our signs in the right-of-way for River Road. I don't believe the DOT would approve, nor do I think the legislature would consider a request to have the DNR make new signs to reflect our wishes re. Pittman-Robertson. Our best bet is to continue to emphasize the importance of the Act to our students at our hunter safety classes.