



JANUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

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

Serving the Community Since 1935

PO Box 542, Poolesville, MD 20837

www.bcciwla.org

President's Message

Happy New Year! 2025 is here, and it's time to make it a season of change and growth for our chapter. This year, let's work together to make an even greater impact on our community and environment.

In the newsletter, you'll find a list of committees and their chairs. Please take a moment to review it and consider how you can get involved. Reach out to a chair, join their committee, and help shape plans or volunteer for their events. We want to expand the opportunities for our members to enjoy the chapter, with more training classes, family events, and chances to try new things. Your participation in volunteering and attending helps drive our success!

You'll also find in the newsletter a report on recent damage to the property. As members, we all share the responsibility of keeping an eye on our property. If you see any signs of damage, trespassing, or abandoned vehicles, please notify the appropriate committee chair as soon as possible. You can also do your part by displaying your membership decal on your car and carrying your ID while on the property.

Let's make 2025 a year of collaboration, vigilance, and shared success. Thank you for your dedication to our chapter and its mission!

Andy Wight
President



NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS:

On Sunday, December 8, someone cut the cable supporting the gate to the Archery Range, removed the gate from its hinges, and gained access to our property. There was no other apparent damage.

A white work truck with the tailgate down with PVC pipes and other construction materials in the bed was seen on the property near the pump house and Archery sheds. If anyone has any information about this truck or its occupant(s), please contact the Archery chairs.

This event also reminds us that we all have a hand in looking out for our fellow members, the Chapter, and its assets. As you all know, you must have your membership card with you at all times while on the property and present it upon request. You are also expected to have your current, numbered IWLA decal visible in your car window.

Your card and decal allow others to know that you have a right to be on the property. Also, in the event that your vehicle is found at a time that suggests you may need assistance, we can know who we're looking for and take steps to help more quickly. If you hunt on the property and are likely to be in remote locations, this is particularly important for you.

Your part in all of this starts with making sure your contact information is up to date and you always have a current sticker in the window of your car.

On the other side of this, if a serious situation arises, the first step is to identify who may be at risk. That means you check the sticker number and pass it on to the President, the first VP, and the second VP. Someone will then reach out to the mobile contact info on file and, if necessary, to the emergency contact. If it's life-threatening, obviously call 9-11 immediately.

If you see something that just looks out of place or suspicious, then reach out to the appropriate committee chair. Again, check for a sticker, take a moment to snap pictures of vehicles and license plates. Be proactive. We all need to be aware even as we're out on our beautiful farm taking a break getting a breath of fresh air.

Marc Bouchard
Archery Range Committee Co-Chair
and Board Member

Board of Governors

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

OFFICERS

Andy Wight, President

240 205-3982 • andywight1@hotmail.com

Francis (Jerry) Murray, 1st Vice President

202 438-4202 • jerry5@comcast.net

Shannon Novak, 2nd Vice President

snovak516@gmail.com

Bob Kelly, Treasurer

202 445-7097 • rnkelly1974@gmail.com

Scott Harmon, Membership Secretary

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

Janet Lamkin,* Corresponding Secretary

301 466-6557 • j.lamkin@comcast.net

Sean-David Waterman, Recording Secretary

816 812-5763 • seandavid@me.com

BOARD MEMBERS

Stephen Austin

Marc Bouchard

Dan Dutton

Lloyd Iden

David Mecklenburg

Carol Hulce-Efdimis, Past President

240 277-2494 • carol2017@aol.com

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

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

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

Submissions to the *NEWSLETTER* should be sent to:

Janet Lamkin
j.lamkin@comcast.net
301 466-6557

DRIVING ON CHAPTER PROPERTY

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

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

Summary of the November 2024 Board of Governors Meeting and the December 2024 Membership Dinner Meeting

Sean-David Waterman, Recording Secretary

Wednesday, November 18, 2024 – Board of Governors Meeting

- Walter Robison made a request to use the Chapter House including the members kitchen for Professional Grounds Management Society annual meeting on January 9, 2025. **Motion made and approved.**
- NAVHDA requested to use the Chapter House and members kitchen for their Annual Meeting on February 23 from 12:00 noon to 5:00pm. **Motion made and approved.**
- Seneca Pony Club requested to use the Chapter House for their annual Christmas Party on December 20. **Motion made and approved.**
- President Andy Wight discussed the need to update the By-Laws to reflect current chapter practices including to allow prospective members to attend two well-defined chapter events in lieu of regular meetings. The third meeting would need to be a dinner meeting.
- Talked about clear expectations for probationary members including committee involvement.
- President Wight proposed adding a job description for committee chairs, including responsibilities for easement compliance and community involvement.
- Discussed consideration to update wording in Article VI Section 1 to allow the President flexibility in the timing of appointing an election committee.
- Considered to increase the volunteer work requirement for family memberships from six to twelve hours. Members can request exceptions due to circumstances.
- Land Fund Telethon and Volunteer Recruitment were discussed.
- The Board discussed the need for clear rules and consistent application to all members.
- There was a discussion about the payment process and Legacy Board involvement.
- Meeting adjourned.

Wednesday, December 18, 2024 – 1,070th Dinner Meeting

- Minutes for the meeting were not available at time of newsletter.

January 2025 1,071st Monthly Dinner / Membership Meeting

Wednesday, January 15

Dinner served starting at 6:15pm

Menu

Cold Weather Comfort Foods

Membership Meeting starts at 7:30pm

50 / 50 Raffle

January 2025 Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, January 22

7:00pm

IN MEMORIAM

THOMAS ANDREW LAMKIN

July 19, 1939 – January 3, 2025



Tom passed away at home on January 3, 2025 after battling cancer.

He was a Past President of the Chapter as well as serving as a Board Member and Corresponding Secretary. He oversaw the Chapter's monthly newsletter for over 15 years.

Tom loved the outdoors whether he was shooting a round of sporting clays at the

Shotgun Range, hunting, mowing the Chapter grounds, taking walks on the canal, or spending time at his favorite place – the beach (including eating hard shell crabs).

Surviving are his wife Janet Lamkin, five daughters, 15 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, one brother and two sisters.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Chapter at a later date.

Archery Range Committee Report

Marc Bouchard, Archery Range Chair

TARGET RANGE

The Range is open during sunlight hours every day, all year long.

Guests must sign a Hold Harmless Form and deposit it in the range box along with optional contribution.

Broadhead use on designated gel medium targets only, please.

YOUTH ARCHERY

We will likely have spring and summer sessions this year.

3-D ARCHERY

The course is closed until next spring.

Interpretive Walk in the Woods

Our Annual Interpretive Walk in the Woods will take place between Wednesday the 19th and Friday the 21st of February. The walk in woods is part of our Conservation Education program together with Poolesville High School. Students will walk from River Road back through the West Woods and back to the Chapter.

Note – on these three days, hunting will be suspended (it's rabbit and squirrel season) across the chapter.

B-CC IWLA Summer Biathlon Program 2025 Practice Schedule

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

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

ELIGIBILITY: Summer Biathlon is open to all B-CC IWLA members 12 years and older, as well as sponsored guests. B-CC IWLA members no range fee. **Non-member rate is \$5.00 per session.**

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

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

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

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

2025 Practices

Saturday, March 22	7:30am
Saturday, April 5	7:30am
Saturday, April 19	7:30am
Saturday, May 3	7:00am*
Saturday, May 17	7:30am
Saturday, May 31	7:30am
Saturday, June 14	7:30am
Saturday, June 28	7:30am
Saturday, July 12	7:30am
Saturday, July 26	7:30am
Saturday, August 9	7:30am
Saturday, August 23	7:30am
Saturday, September 6	7:30am
Saturday, September 20	7:30am
Saturday, October 4	7:00am*

2025 Muzzleloader Hunting Season

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

2026 Firearms Hunting Season

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

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Chapter House Cleanup

Sunday, January 12

Starting at 9:00am

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

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-51060445-monthly>

Undecorate the Chapter House

Sunday, January 12

Starting at 10:00am

Questions – contact Carol Hulce-Efdimis, carol2017@aol.com

Monthly Dinner/Membership Meeting

Wednesday, January 15

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

Wild Game Dinner

Saturday, February 22

Contact Shannon Novak, snovak516@gmail.com, if you have photos for the slideshow or can help with the event.

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.



HOLIDAY DECORATIONS . . .
will be taken down in and around the Chapter House on Sunday, January 12.
No need to signup,
just show up starting at 10:00am.

Membership Committee Report

Scott Harmon, Membership Secretary

301 467-0645 (cell) scott.w.harmon@verizon.net

As of the December Board Meeting, Membership stands at 773 Voting Members: 428 Individuals, 258 Family, 2 Students, 1 Youth, 72 Retired, and 12 Associates.

60% of our membership have renewed for 2025. By renewing your membership, you are confirming a commitment to conservation, education, and land preservation. If you have not renewed for 2025, time is running out to not incur a late fee of \$37.50. If you do not renew by January 15th or we do not hear from you, you will get a new invoice with the \$37.50 added. Below is a link to renew online.

<https://bcciwla.org/memberrenew>

Many have been asking what the renewal rates are. Below are the basics but it is best to call me for your renewal rates.

Individual

\$205.00 Renewal Rate

\$ 75.00 Work Fee if you did not volunteer 6 hours at the chapter last year.

\$280.00 Total

Family

\$307.50 Renewal Rate

\$ 75.00 Work Fee if you did not volunteer 6 hours at the chapter last year.

\$382.50 Total

If you have renewed as of January 1st, you should have gotten your membership card by now. If you have not, please reach out to me.

Lastly, it's important to increase our membership during the coming year and you can help. Invite someone to a dinner meeting, go for a hike, or shoot at our ranges. I often think that if everyone just brought in one new member this year, we would double in size.

Izaak Walton League of America

Maryland State Division Meeting

NOTICE

Saturday, March 8, 2025

Wildlife Achievement Chapter
26430 Mullinix Mill Road
Mt. Airy, MD 21771

Coffee and refreshments will be served at 9:15 a.m.
The meeting will convene at 10:00 a.m.

Members in good standing are invited to attend.
Only Members of the Board can vote.

Calendar Submissions

Meetings and events that need to be added to the website calendar and newsletter calendar should be sent to 1st Vice President Jerry Murray, jerrym5@comcast.net, and Corresponding Secretary Janet Lamkin, j.lamkin@comcast.net.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Monthly Events

<i>Saturdays & Sundays</i>	<i>FeederWatch – through March</i>	<i>9:00am – 4:00pm</i>
<i>Sundays</i>	<i>Shotgun Range – Sporting Clays</i>	<i>9:00am – 4:00pm</i>
<i>Mondays</i>	<i>Troop 2027 Meetings (Board Room)</i>	<i>7:30pm – 9:00pm</i>
<i>Mondays</i>	<i>Troop 496 Meetings (Chapter House)</i>	<i>7:30pm – 9:00pm</i>

JANUARY 2025

Wednesday, January 1	New Year's Day Brunch	12:00 noon – 3:00pm
Thursday, January 9	Professional Grounds Management Society (PGMS) Annual Meeting	5:00pm – 10:30pm
Sunday, January 12	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Sunday, January 12	Undecorate the Chapter House	10:00am
Wednesday, January 15	1,071st Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Thursday, January 16	Cub Scout Pack 694 in Chapter House	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Wednesday, January 22	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Friday, January 24	Articles for February Newsletter due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day

FEBRUARY

Saturday, February 1	Pack 694 to use the Chapter House	4:30pm – 8:30pm
Saturday, February 8	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Sunday, February 16	Cub Scout Pack 694 Pinewood Derby	12:00 noon – 3:00pm
Wednesday, February 19 - Friday, February 21	Interpretive Walk in the Woods with Poolesville High School Students	All Day Each Day
Wednesday, February 19	1,072nd Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner 6:15pm Meeting 7:30pm
Saturday, February 22	Wild Game Dinner	5:30pm – 10:00pm
Saturday, February 23	NAVHDA Annual Meeting	12:00 noon – 5:00pm
Wednesday, February 26	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Friday, February 28	Articles for March Newsletter due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day

MARCH

Saturday, March 15	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Saturday, March 15	New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour	10:00am – 11:30am
Wednesday, March 19	1,073rd Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner 6:15am Meeting 7:30pm
Saturday, March 22	Summer Biathlon Practice	7:30am
Wednesday, March 26	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Friday, March 28	Articles for April Newsletter due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day

HUNTING ON CHAPTER PROPERTY

If you intend on hunting on the Chapter property,
you must register on the Chapter website

[https://bcciwla.org/b-cc-iwla-
chapter-hunting-rules/](https://bcciwla.org/b-cc-iwla-chapter-hunting-rules/)

to acknowledge understanding our
rules and property boundaries.

This is a yearly requirement.

Questions?

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

ATTENTION New Members!

**Chapter House cleanup will be on:
Sunday, January 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 clean-
up 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](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-51060445-monthly)

Questions? Contact John Lamb –
jpatricklamb@aol.com

Rifle & Pistol Range Committee Report

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

The R&P Range is now closed to the general membership. The range will re-open in April. Range Officers and their guests can use the range unless otherwise closed to all. The SOP's are to be followed at all times.

Please remember to keep watch on your guests, it is your responsibility to ensure they understand and follow the SOP's.

The Range Officer sign-up's will be held in early March followed by a Sign-up Genius for choosing duty days. Dates to follow.

We will be having several instructional classes and new events this year so please keep an eye on the newsletter and e-blasts.

If you are interested in becoming a Range Officer, we will be having another class in February. To be eligible to participate you must:

- Be a current member of the B-CC IWLA Chapter in good standing who has completed their probationary membership year.
- Be 21 or more years of age.
- Eligible to legally possess a firearm.
- Current in all B-CC IWLA Chapter dues.

If you are interested, please reach out to Jerry Murray at jerrym5@comcast.net.

Shotgun Range Committee Report

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

The Shotgun Range is open on Sundays for Sporting Clays only at this time. Hours of operation are 9:00am – 4:00pm.

Range Officers may open the range during the week and on Saturdays.

Trout at the Small Pond

The Ponds & Streams Committee was not able to stock the small pond with rainbow and brown trout this past fall due to the drought conditions. Hopefully the pond can be stocked in March 2025. Questions – contact John Novak, novakgang4@comcast.net.

New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour

There will **not** be a tour in January nor February. The next tour will be held on Saturday, March 15 from 10:00 – 11:30am. Contact Christine – christineakcp@comcast.net or 301 938-9773 (cell) if you have questions.

Use the signup genius link below to sign up for the March tour.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COD4DACAA28A7F8C25-54255111-newmember>

Welcome to the B-CC IWLA Family!

At the December 2024 Membership Meeting, the following prospective member was inducted into the Chapter:

Lance Milsted

Interests: Astronomy; R&P Range; Sporting Clays

From the Farm Committee

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

Great Backyard Bird Count - February 14 - 17, 2025

Celebrating 28 years of coming together to watch, learn about, count, and celebrate birds.

Sponsored in part by:



The Great Backyard Bird Count is an inter-organizational effort between the **Cornell Lab of Ornithology, National Audubon Society, and Birds Canada**. They work together to bring the joys of birdwatching to our members.

Participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count. Spend at least 15 minutes a day, on at least one of the four count days, observing and counting the birds in your back yard, local park, or wherever you spot a bird, and submit your observations online. Go to www.birdcount.org to learn how to participate using your smart phone and the Merlin or Audubon app., or your computer.

Have you noticed robins, chickadees, starlings, woodpeckers or cardinals in your yard or neighborhood? Here is an opportunity to count them all for science. The annual count helps scientists assess species populations.

Join the fun! Mark your calendar!
Friday, February 14 through Monday, February 17
Diane Seward, Citizen Science Projects Coordinator



Join a Committee at B-CC IWLA!

In addition to volunteering for our projects and events, **we need members to step up and join our committees.** Committees are the backbone of our chapter, helping to plan and drive initiatives, organize activities, and ensure that we're meeting our goals effectively.

Why Join a Committee?

- **Make an Impact:** Play an active role in shaping the direction of our chapter and its activities.
- **Support Collaboration:** Work with others to share the responsibilities and lighten the load.
- **Build Community:** Connect with members who share your interests and passion for the outdoors.
- **Grow Together:** Learn new skills and make a lasting difference for our chapter and community.

Please reach out to the committee chairs below if you are interested in helping to make a difference:

Committee	Committee Chair	Email
Adventure Committee	Michael Dobson	michaelvdobson@protonmail.com
Archery	Jack Mandel	jmandel@design@gmail.com
Campgrounds	Jack Kang	jackhkang@gmail.com
Chapter Farm	Phil Taylor	farm.bcc.iwla@gmail.com
Chapter House	John Lamb	jpatricklamb@aol.com
Chestnut Grove	Blaine Elkins	blaineelkins@verizon.net
Christmas Trees	Larry Anderson	andupton9@hotmail.com
Conservation Education	Andy Wight	andywight1@hotmail.com
Environmental Stewardship	Blaine Elkins	blaineelkins@verizon.net
Forestry	Joe Snyder	joesnider2006@gmail.com
Hunter Safety	John Lamb	jpatricklamb@aol.com
IT Committee	Julie Wight	jwight00@gmail.com
Kitchen Committee	Carol Hulce-Efdimis	carol2017@aol.com
Log Cabin	Dave Mecklenburg	dmecklenburg1@gmail.com
Membership Committee	Scott Harmon	membershipsecretary.bcc.iwla@gmail.com
Ponds and Streams	John Novak	novakgang4@comcast.net
Rifle and Pistol	Jerry Murray	jerrym5@comcast.net
Shotgun Range	Warner Parks	wparks29@gmail.com
Trails	Brian King	plsvllking@msn.com
Vegetable Gardens	Larry Anderson	andupton9@hotmail.com
Wildlife Management	Larry Anderson	andupton9@hotmail.com
Donations and Grants: Ad Hoc Committee	Lance Branmann	lbrannma88@gmail.com
Membership Drive: Ad Hoc Committee	Shannon Novak	snovak516@gmail.com

Holiday Sportsman's Gun Raffle Update

A big thank you to everyone who participated in the raffle.

The winners of the raffle are:
Jason Griffin and L.D. Hample.

Thanks goes to
Walt Allensworth for donating the shotguns for the raffle!

Hunting Logbook

Larry Anderson
Wildlife Committee Chair

We ask that deer and turkeys taken on our farm be recorded either in our game logbook, located outside the chapterhouse's main door, or by sending an email to andupton9@hotmail.com. When reporting your deer (or turkeys), we ask for the following information; your name, doe or buck (antler count), date and weapon used and the total number of ticks found on the ears of your deer. Other details may also be included such as estimated weight or unusual features.

Barbeque Pit

The barbeque pit is closed for the winter and only authorized persons are allowed to use it. Questions? Contact Carol Hulce-Efdimis, carol2017@aol.com.



Share the Tradition!
Bring your family & friends
to the annual B-CC IWLA
Wild Game Dinner

Saturday, February 22, 2025
6:00pm – 10:00pm

Share your harvest! Join your fellow chapter members, their families and friends for a great evening of food, stories and fun. This is a potluck – so bring your favorite wild game (or other) dish – main course, appetizer, salad or dessert. We'll start with appetizers at 6:00pm and dinner shortly thereafter.

Share your photos! We will be putting together a slideshow to run throughout the event and want your hunting and great outdoors photos from this year to share!

Share your stories! After dinner, we'll have a storytelling session where members and their guests can share their best hunting stories.

For more information or to provide slideshow photos, please contact Shannon Novak, 2nd Vice President
snovak516@gmail.com

Interested in becoming a member?

- 1** Start by going to our BECOME A MEMBER page. Here you can download the application and get some basic questions answered. 
- 2** Once your application is completed, email it to: Applications.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com
- 3** Attend 2 dinner meetings AND make sure to sign in so we know you are here! 
- 4** Once you have attended 2 dinner meetings, your application will be presented at the next board meeting.
- 5** Go to the NEW MEMBER FEES page and decide which type of membership suits you and your family! 
- 6** Attend your 3rd meeting and get sworn in! You must attend in person to be sworn in. New member tours happen monthly! Check the newsletter for the date. You may attend a tour before you are sworn in! Questions? MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

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**

FeederWatch News

Diane Seward
Citizen Science Projects Coordinator
trina65@verizon.net

The overwintering birds are here, and our 14th FeederWatch season is underway! Counting birds is both enjoyable and educational. Please consider joining other chapter members who count species and numbers of birds observed within species on weekends from early November through late March.

Our data is reported to Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology, along with data submitted from thousands of other participants across the country. Our data helps Cornell scientists analyze shifts in bird species and numbers within species in the United States and Canada. Next Spring the Cornell Lab will publish results by geographic area. Maryland falls in the Lab's southeast region.

We welcome and seek new participants. Please email me if you can help. I will send you our tally sheet and instructions. Count birds for at least an hour on two successive days, or on one day if you are pressed for time, from the comfort of the chapter house. Reserve a weekend, or a single weekend day, using our Signup Genius. Here is the link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACC28A7F8C25-bcc#/>

Happy Feeder Watching!



PHOTOS BY ARTHUR BELENDIUK



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*

Holiday Season in the Chapter House!

On Saturday December 14th, we hosted our annual B-CC IWLA Christmas Party! It was a wonderful celebration filled with holiday cheer, delicious food, and great company. The clubhouse looked festive and inviting, thanks to our amazing volunteers who decorated beautifully. The potluck was the highlight, with a fantastic variety of savory dishes and sweet treats brought by our generous members, and it seemed that everyone won a door raffle prize. It was heartwarming to see members and their families connecting, sharing stories, and enjoying the holiday spirit together. A huge thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to organize and run the event.

