



JULY 2023 NEWSLETTER

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

Serving the Community Since 1935

PO Box 542, Poolesville, MD 20837

www.bcciwla.org

President's Message

"Summertime, and the livin' is easy..." composer George Gershwin opined in the opera Porgy & Bess. Between cutting the grass, picking wild berries, preserving veggies, weeding the garden, and vacuum packing the fish we just caught, I'm about ready to argue with him!

At B-CC we're moving into a summer pattern as well. Our Farm Chair Phil Taylor has planted 27 acres of sunflowers that are currently soaking up the summer sun and should be ready for opening day of dove season on September 1st. Soon on it will be worth taking a hike out to one of the sunflower fields to see the beautiful sea of brilliant yellow blooms. Wild berries can be found around the sunny west and south facing field edges and are coming in now. Closer to fall our food plot will be taking off and we'll need help harvesting food to share with WUMCO. Please reach out to our farm chair and watch the newsletter to see when we'll start harvesting veggies to donate. The boy scouts just finished fixing up all the picnic tables at the chapter house, and our Chapter House Chair John Lamb is putting on some much-needed paint. Please reach out to him if you can lend a hand. The archery range is in full swing with Apollo archery, kids and newbie shoots, and the 3D range is open every weekend. The scouts just finished a week of day camp.

Now is the ideal time to try out that new rig at the rifle and pistol range, or maybe sight in that new scope. If you are like me the summer quickly slips away and suddenly there's a time crunch when the fall hunting seasons are only weeks away. Summertime is the perfect time to get your equipment and shooting form ready for the fall. A shot-fall test was scheduled in late June at the shotgun range, and another planned for July 9th. The objective is to determine what parts of the shotgun range may be able to be reopened soon and operated in compliance with EPA's Best Management Practices Guide. We understand that everyone is anxious to break some clays. We appreciate your patience, and please stay tuned.

Summer is also a great time to enjoy some fishing at the large and small ponds. There are plenty of bass and bluegill for catch and release, and it's a great way to introduce a kid to fishing. A bit farther afield there is plenty of fishing going on in the rivers of the Chesapeake Bay. My wife won a half-day charter for July 1st and we hit the jackpot of rockfish and channel cats in the Baltimore Channel, and the grandsons caught their first fish.

Whatever your interest, there is a lot going on at our conservation farm and close by. Hopefully you can make some time to get out there with your friends, with the kids, or grandkids. Summertime is the time to make memories that will last a lifetime!

Walt Allensworth



Board of Governors

Fiscal Year: September 1, 2022 – August 31, 2023

OFFICERS

Walt Allensworth, President

301 221-3594 • twangermd@gmail.com

Carol Hulce-Efdimis, 1st Vice President

240 277-2494 • carol2017@aol.com

Andy Wight, 2nd Vice President

240 205-3982 • andywight1@hotmail.com

Bob Kelly, Treasurer

202 445-7097 • rnkelly1974@gmail.com

Meg O'Rourke, Membership Secretary

301 275-5907 (text)

MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

Janet Lamkin, Corresponding Secretary

301 466-6557 • j.lamkin@comcast.net

Francis (Jerry) Murray, Recording Secretary

202 438-4202 • jerrym5@comcast.net

BOARD MEMBERS

Deborah Behrend

301 922-1174 • drbehrend@aol.com

Marc Bouchard

202 906-9406 • combat750@gmail.com

Dan Dutton

540 558-8253 • mr.dutton.CBGS@gmail.com

Joe Finnegan*

202 679-9135 • j.finnegan@comcast.net

Kenny West

301 758-3978 • west372ken@yahoo.com

Lin Schmale-Tate, Past President

703 517-3675 • lin@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
301 466-6557



Summary of the May 2023 Board of Governors Meeting and the June 2023 Membership Meeting

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

Wednesday, May 24, 2023 – Board of Governors Meeting

- President Walt Allensworth called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
- Big thanks to Andy Wight, Mark Gochnour, Christine Peterson and others for organizing the Conservation Awards Dinner.
- Jack Mandel sent in a proposal to use scaffolding for the new tower at the archery range instead of lumber as originally proposed. There were several questions about access and securing the towers.
- The wetlands and stream buffers have been staked out by WSSI's survey crews. There are wooden stakes with flagging and labels identifying the boundaries. We also have the GPS locations of the stakes.
- Getting the road repaired to improve access to the big pond should be a priority.
- Stove/Range, painting of chapter house (inside and out), and AED's are the priorities for CapEx.
- National Awards help us say 'thank you' to members who go above and beyond in the time and talent they provide the chapter. We submitted applications in 10 categories for division, chapter and individual recognition awards.
- Treasurer's Report – a summary of our account balances was provided.
- Archery had a veteran's group out. 4 are prepping for a tournament.
- There was a discussion about obtaining written permission from parents to use photos of their children. Deborah suggested adding a photo release to the hold harmless agreement.
- A new door has been installed at the members' kitchen to the exterior.
- Dan Dutton would like to put together a talk about Pittman-Rogers Act and how it helps fund outdoor activities.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Recording Secretary Jerry Murray reported that he has signed us up for the Maryland AED program (he is the coordinator).

NEW BUSINESS (requiring a vote):

- Motion was made to approve 2 applicants for membership. **The Motion passed unanimously.**
- Motion was made to approve the Potomac District BSA to hold their Cub Scout Summer Event on Saturday, August 26 with a rain date of August 27. **The Motion passed unanimously.**
- Motion was made to allocate funds from budget Code 652 (Maryland Room for the National Convention) as a donation to the American Chestnut Foundation for a year-round greenhouse at their Meadowview Farm in Virginia. **The Motion passed unanimously.**
- Motion was made to make a donation to the IWLA Endowment from Code 809 Donations and Grants. **The Motion passed unanimously.**

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER:

- Bill Gordon suggested that we look into sponsoring a "Service Members Day" for families staying at local Fisher

(continued on page 3)

SUMMARY

(continued from page 2)

Houses. Fisher Houses are attached to military hospitals and provide a place for the families of veterans who are being treated at the hospitals to stay.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm.

Wednesday, June 21, 2023 – 1,052nd Membership Dinner Meeting

- President Walt Allensworth called the meeting to order at 7:30.
- We are still in need of cooks for our dinner meetings. If you can help out in any way, either short or long term please get in touch with Jack Mandel, Scott Harmon or myself. The help does not have to be a long term commitment, even cooking or helping for one dinner would be a great help.
- A preliminary shot fall test was conducted at the shotgun range. Results will be used to determine what portions of the range may be reopened prior to the lead reclamation process.
- Past President Bill Gordon presided over the election process. The new slate of Board members was introduced: Carol Hulse-Efdimis, Andy Wight, Jerry Murray, Walt Allensworth, Janet Lamkin, Bob Kelly, Scott Harmon, Mark Lauver, Deborah Behrend, Marc Bouchard, Dan Dutton, Joe Finnegan, and Phil Taylor. A motion was made to approve the slate for election to the Board. **The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.** The new Board will be sworn in at the August meeting and take office September 1.
- 9 prospective members (and families) stood up and introduced themselves and expressed what interests brought them to the chapter.
- 3 member candidates were presented for membership. A motion was made to accept the candidates into the chapter. **The Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**
- Pat Tarquinio raised a question regarding the status of the "Long Term CapEx" funds that are being collected for future lead reclamation projects. He wanted to make sure that the funds are being set aside separately from the regular CapEx funds so that they will not be used for other purposes.
- Blaine Elkins provided an update on the status of the permits for the reclamation work.
- Farm Chairman Phil Taylor is looking for volunteers to help monitor the electric fence around the sunflowers.
- Wildlife Management Chair Larry Anderson reported that DNR has resumed testing for Chronic Wasting Disease in deer in Allegany, Washington, Carroll, and Fredrick counties. This means that the deer must be processed in the county in which it was harvested.
- Log Cabin Chair Dave Mecklenburg could use some help with maintenance on the cabin.
- State Division and National: Bill Gordon gave a brief summary of the State Division meeting and Bob Pavlick's role as our National Director. Planning is underway for the 2024 National Convention here in Maryland. Cherie Acker is the State Division President and is handling the coordination with National and the Maryland chapters.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Newly Elected Maryland Division Officers and National Directors

Maryland Division Officers:

Cherie Aker (2023 – 2025) *President*
Curt Howard (2023 – 2025) *Vice-President*
Anita Stonebraker (2023 – 2025) *Treasurer*
Meo Curtis (2023 – 2025) *Recording Secretary*
Jeff Deschamps, *Executive Secretary*
Jim Piateski, *Past Division President*

National Directors and Assigned Chapters:

Adol Owens-William (2023 – 2024) *Mt. Airy & Rockville*
Curt Howard (2022 – 2025) *Harford & Sportsman's*
Ken Lefebvre (2023 – 2026) *Mid-Shore & Woodmont*
Rodger Moran (2021 – 2024)
Frederick #1 & Washington County
Bob Pavlick (2023 – 2026)
Bethesda-Chevy Chase & Free State
Jim Piateski (2022 – 2025)
Wildlife Achievement & Lois Green-Sligo

First Aid Class

Gus Zinsser, Committee Chair
Rifle & Pistol Range
guszinsser4@gmail.com

The R&P Committee is putting together another first aid class for the middle of October. More information will be available next month including a signup genius. Class will be open to the Chapter membership.

Help Needed in 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 Jack Mandel, Scott Harmon or Walt Allensworth. The help does not have to be a long-term commitment, even cooking or helping for one dinner would be a great help.

New-Member Orientation Tour

- The next tour will take place on **Saturday, July 22** from 10:00am to approximately 11:30am **if weather permits.**
- Meet Christine Peterson at the Chapter House.
- The front gate will be open until the tour begins.
- New members, prospective members, and current members are invited to take the tour.
- Contact Christine – christineakcp@comcast.net if you have questions.

AS A REMINDER...

All chapter members wishing to hunt on our farm must register on the Chapter website
<https://bcciwla.org/b-cc-iwla-chapter-hunting-rules/>
to acknowledge understanding our rules and property boundaries. This is a yearly requirement.

Apollo Archery Program



We're hosting our next session of the Apollo Archery program on Wednesday, August 2 starting at 6:00pm and ending at dark.

Our mission is to provide archery instruction and experiences for current and former members of the United States Armed Services and their families.

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

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



Don't Forget – We Have a Weather Station!



The weather station is located in the field across from the shotgun range. We have linked our weather station to the Weather Underground Network (listed below).

<https://www.wunderground.com/dashboard/pws/KMDPOOLE41>

Before venturing out to the Chapter, check the conditions on the weather station.

2023 – 2024

B-CC IWLA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

President:	Carol Hulce-Efdimis
1st Vice President:	Andy Wight
2nd Vice President:	Jerry Murray
Membership Secretary:	Scott Harmon
Treasurer:	Bob Kelly
Corresponding Secretary:	Janet Lamkin
Recording Secretary:	Mark Lauver
Board Member:	Deborah Behrend
Board Member:	Marc Bouchard
Board Member:	Dan Dutton
Board Member:	Joe Finnegan
Board Member:	Phil Taylor
Legacy Board:	Ted Whitehouse

The 2023 – 2024 B-CC IWLA Board of Governors has been voted in and will be formally inducted during the August Dinner meeting. The Nominating Committee would like to thank these chapter members for volunteering to dedicate their time and energy by agreeing to become the leaders and directors of our Chapter.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Monthly Events

2nd and 4th Saturdays through August
2nd and 4th Sundays through August
Saturdays & Sundays
Mondays – starting in September

Archery Range 3-D Courses Open
Archery Range 3-D Courses Open
R&P Range Open
BSA Scout Meetings in the Chapter House

9:00am – 1:00pm
9:00am – 1:00pm
9:00am – 5:00pm
7:30pm – 9:00pm

JULY

Tuesday, July 4	License Free Fishing Day in Maryland (dnr.maryland.gov)	All Day
Wednesday, July 5	Apollo Archery – Archery Range	6:00pm – 7:30pm
Saturday, July 8	Summer Biathlon Practice at the R&P Range	7:30am
Saturday, July 8	Adopt-A-Road Cleanup – meet at the Chapter House	8:15am
Saturday, July 15	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, July 19	1,053rd Membership Dinner Meeting (Kid Friendly Dinner & Activity)	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Thursday, July 20	Archery Range 3-D Courses Open – includes special events, fun competitions, and prizes!	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Thursday, July 20	Beginner Adult and/or Child Archery Seminar – at Archery Range	6:00pm – 7:15pm
Saturday, July 22	Summer Biathlon Practice at the R&P Range	7:30am
Saturday, July 22	Chapter House in use – private event	12:00noon – 8:00pm
Saturday, July 22	New-Member Orientation Tour	10:00am – 11:30am
Sunday, July 23	RAIN DATE – Chapter House in use – private event	12:00noon – 8:00pm
Wednesday, July 26	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Thursday, July 27	Beginner Adult and/or Child Archery Seminar – at Archery Range	6:00pm – 7:15pm
Friday, July 28	Articles for August Newsletter due - send articles to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, July 29	Pack 694 Bingo Night	5:00pm – 9:00pm

AUGUST

Wednesday, August 2	Apollo Archery – Archery Range	6:00pm – 7:30pm
Saturday, August 5	Summer Biathlon Practice at the R&P Range	7:30am
Saturday, August 12	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, August 16	1,054th Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Thursday, August 17	Archery Range 3-D Courses Open – includes special events, fun competitions, and prizes!	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Saturday, August 19	Summer Biathlon Practice at the R&P Range	7:30am
Saturday, August 19	New-Member Orientation Tour	10:00am – 11:30am
Wednesday, August 23	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Friday, August 25	Articles for September Newsletter due – send articles to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, August 26	Potomac District BSA – Cub Scout Summer Event	All Day
Sunday, August 27	RAIN DATE – Potomac District BSA – Cub Scout Summer Event	All Day

SEPTEMBER

Friday, September 1	Opening Day of Dove Season	12:00noon – 5:00pm
Friday, September 1	Cookout After Dove Shoot – at the Shotgun Range	5:30pm
Wednesday, September 6	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm – dark
Saturday, September 9	Summer Biathlon Practice at the R&P Range – CANCELLED	7:00am
Saturday, September 9	Fall Hunter Safety / Education Course – Chapter House & Chapter Grounds	8:00am – 4:00pm
Saturday, September 9	Rifle & Pistol Range CLOSED for Hunter Safety / Education Course	ALL DAY
Sunday, September 10	Fall Hunter Safety / Education Course – Chapter House & Chapter Grounds	8:00am – 4:00pm
Saturday, September 16	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00noon
Wednesday, September 20	1,055th Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner starts 6:15pm Meeting starts 7:30pm
Friday, September 22	Scout Wilderness First Aid Training Class – in the Chapter House (setup)	6:00pm – 10:00pm
Saturday, September 23	Summer Biathlon Practice at the R&P Range	7:30am
Saturday, September 23	New-Member Orientation Tour	10:00am – 11:30am
Saturday, September 23	Scout Wilderness First Aid Training Class – in the Chapter House	7:00am – 9:00pm
Sunday, September 24	Scout Wilderness First Aid Training Class – in the Chapter House	7:00am – 9:00pm
Wednesday, September 27	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Friday, September 29	Articles for October Newsletter due – send articles to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day

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

Summer Biathlon Committee Report

Steve Eschholz, Chair
240 472-6512 (text is best) fitnesscrafters@earthlink.net

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

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.

If you have any questions or wish to be on the B-CC IWLA mailing list, contact Steve Eschholz. Contact information is listed above.

This year's practice schedule is below:

Saturday, July 8	7:30am
Saturday, July 22	7:30am
Saturday, August 5	7:30am
Saturday, August 19	7:30am
Saturday, September 9	7:00am
Saturday, September 23	7:30am
Saturday, October 7	7:00am
Saturday, November 4	7:30am
Saturday, November 11	7:30am

Interested in Archeological Dig?



This summer we plan to investigate the basement of the Log Cabin. This is a great family event and will be a great way to learn about archeological processes, or to find out what secrets are contained under the log cabin.

Exact dates haven't been confirmed. Please send an email to ConservationEd.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com, and we will confirm the date.

Calendar Submissions

Meetings and events that need to be added to the website calendar and newsletter calendar should be sent to both 1st Vice President Carol Hulce-Efdimis, carol2017@aol.com, and Corresponding Secretary Janet Lamkin, j.lamkin@comcast.net.

COMING IN SEPTEMBER! Dove Hunt and Cookout

Volunteers will be needed at the cookout.

**50/50
Raffle**
Help Support
the Chapter!



**Raffle tickets will be available
at the monthly dinner meeting**

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

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



Kid Friendly Dinner with Activity!

Just a reminder – the chapter dinner on July 19th will be a kid friendly dinner. Dinner will be held as normal but with Dogs, Chips and Juice Boxes. At the start of the meeting, kids will be asked to leave for kid friendly activities and education. Kids and parents will be reunited at the end of the meeting.

Previous activities have included live rabbits, Leprechaun Scavenger hunt, tour of the haunted log cabin, archery, and tracks and scat. Who knows what will be next, but it is always designed to be fun.

Archery Seminars Beginner Youth and Adult Archery & Instruction

Thursdays, July 20 & 27
6:00pm to 7:15pm

- Instruction for adults and kids 12 years of age and older
- Learn bow safety and shooting techniques
- The Chapter's USA Archery-certified instructors teach these classes
- Contact Jack Mandel, jmandeldesign@gmail.com, for more information

Join Us for Special Sessions of 3D Archery Archery + Prizes + Food + Bonfire = a fun evening for the whole family!

Thursdays, July 20 & August 17
6:00pm – Dark

Entry fee:

\$10 for B-CC members; \$15 for non-members;
Veterans shoot for free!

Entry fee includes:

- Unlimited shoots on both courses (30 total targets): Red Course (15 targets); Blue Course (15 targets)
- Unlimited shots on the practice range during the event
- Food including sausages grilled over the bonfire
- Water and soda
- Prizes

If you have any questions, contact Chuck Thornton at clthornton@gmail.com.

DUE DATE for August Newsletter Articles is Friday, July 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 credit.

**Please submit your articles on time –
after the due date, we only have one week to
ask questions and edit the articles before
proceeding to the layout stage.**



Check out our Facebook page!

Izaak Walton League of America
Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter

UPCOMING EVENTS

B-CC IWLA and Community

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

Chapter House Cleanup

Saturday, July 15
9:00am – 12:00 noon

1,053rd Membership Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, July 19
Dinner – 6:15pm; Meeting – 7:30pm
Induction of New Officers
Kid Friendly Dinner with Activity

New-Member Orientation Tour

Saturday, June 22
10:00am – 1:00pm
Meet Christine Peterson at the Chapter House

Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, July 26
7:00pm

Adopt-A-Road Cleanup Schedule

The B-CC IWLA Adopt-A-Road team will tentatively meet at the Chapter House on Saturdays at 8:15am for cleanup on the following 2023 dates:

- July 8
- September 9
- December 9

Point of contact for Adopt-A-Road is John Robinson, 301 641-1188.



Thanks go to Mike Noble
for trimming around the entrance sign!

Rifle & Pistol Committee Report

Gus Zinsser, Chair
240 750-0979 guszinsser4@gmail.com

Matthew Chambers, Chief Range Officer
202 854-8671 matthewschambers@gmail.com

The R&P Range is now open on Saturday and Sunday from 9:00am – 5:00pm.

The R&P Range is allowing only 2 guests per member.

REMINDER:

The Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) for the range have changed. Please review the SOP's before coming to the range to re-familiarize yourself and guests with the firearms transporting and safety procedures for our range. This will help you and our range officers to maintain a safe environment.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

- 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.
- All must **PICK UP THEIR BRASS!**

RANGE OFFICER SCHEDULE:

JULY

Saturday, July 1	Rogers, B.; Daniel, B.; Behrend, D.
Sunday, July 2	Gori, R.; Dutton, D.; Scott, D.
Saturday, July 8	Eschholz, S.; Kawamoto, D.; Donovan, P.; Leahy, M.
Sunday, July 9	Leahy, M.; Spence, P.; War, S.; Dady, P.
Saturday, July 15	Gorney, J.; Dutton, D.; Myers, J.; Weixel, P.
Sunday, July 16	Riccio, R.; Urgo, C.; Ives, A.
Saturday, July 22	Gorney, J.; Sypes, E.; Plata, D.; Steves, D.
Sunday, July 23	Thornton, C.; War, S.; Hess, D.
Saturday, July 29	Stopher, D.; Plata, D.; Krause, P.; Hollar, D.
Sunday, July 30	King, K.; Manan, F.; Krause, P.; Davis, P.

AUGUST

Saturday, August 5	Rogers, B.; Crowe, C.; Hollar, D.; Shafer, R.
Sunday, August 6	Kelly, P.; Thornton, C.; Manan, F.; Chung, J.; Scott, D.
Saturday, August 12	Pedersen, P.; Dady, P.; War, S.; Kim, H.
Sunday, August 13	Woodman, G.
Saturday, August 19	Stopher, D.; Gage, K.; Shafer, R.; Thorburn, M.
Sunday, August 20	NO RO ON DUTY
Saturday, August 26	Suleman, S.
Sunday, August 27	Adams, J.; Crowley, D.; Hammes, P.; Ives, A.

FIRST AID CLASS

The R&P Committee is putting together another first aid class for the middle of October. More information will be available next month including a sign-up genius.

REMEMBER...

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

Shotgun Range Committee Report

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

The shooting activities on the Shotgun Range continue to be suspended until further notice, but the pavilion is open to members and other organizations to use (with reservations).

Second set of shotfall tests were conducted on Sunday, July 9.

Opening Day Dove Hunt & Cookout

It's time to start planning for Dove Season. Opening day is Friday, September 1st, which will be here before we know it. As usual, we will be holding our annual members dove hunt with a cookout to follow. With over 27 acres of sunflowers planted this season, we are hoping for a lot of doves, so please clear this day on your calendar. Please come and join us at the Shotgun range shortly after the shooting hours end for food and drink.

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

- Please check in at the table on Izaak Walton Way when you head into the property.
- Please be sure to register to hunt through our website by the night before on August 31: <https://bcciwla.org/b-cc-iwla-chapter-hunting-rules/>
- Bring your hunting license & current membership card with you. (If you don't have a card, please email the membership secretary to get a confirmation email of current membership)
- Ensure your car has a current year B-CC IWLA sticker on it.
- Shotguns cannot hold more than 3 shells at a time, per state regulations.
- Keep your barrel pointed in a safe direction at all times.
- Doves only may be hunted between 12:00pm and 5:00pm.
- Know what a dove looks like to ensure the correct species is harvested.
- Opening day is typically very warm, so please dress for the weather and bring lots of water to stay hydrated.

As mentioned above, there will be a cookout at the Shotgun range starting around 5:30pm, where we will have burgers, hotdogs, cold drinks & snacks. A suggested \$5 donation per person to cover our costs is greatly appreciated. We hope to see you on September 1st.

ATTENTION New Members!

Chapter House cleanup this month will be on:

Saturday, July 15

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.

NestWatch Committee Report

Diane Seward, Citizen Science Projects Coordinator
trina65@verizon.net

June was an active month for the three songbird species we track. Several Tree Swallow and Eastern Bluebird broods fledged, and a few Eastern Bluebird second nesting attempts are underway as well as a few late Tree Swallow nestings.

Our team focused primarily on Purple Martin young in June. They occupy nearly all of the 46 nesting spaces in our two martin towers and gourd system. Replenishing the nesting materials with fresh pine needles takes place when the young are about 15 days old, about halfway through their pre-fledging period of 28 days. Unlike the other two cavity nesting species we follow, young Purple Martins return to their nests at dusk after fledging. If you watch these aviators from the chapter house side porch, you will see them disappear into their slots just before the sun goes down. The martins chatter as they hunt for insects and grab them on the fly. Almost all young will fledge in July, so take the time to come out this month and enjoy their acrobatics and song.

Many thanks to our dedicated NestWatch team, Pat McNeilly, Linda Green, and Ella Green. In June we welcomed Sandi Garcy who, though she claims to be a novice, quickly contributed to our mission.



Pat McNeilly at Purple Martin Tower

PICTORIAL CHRONOLOGY OF PURPLE MARTINS FROM EGGS TO FLEDGING



Purple Martin Eggs, May 23



Purple Martin Hatch Day, June 7



Six Purple Martin Chicks, 7 days old



Six Purple Martin Chicks, 12 days old



Purple Martin Chicks, June 22,
15 days old



Purple Martin Chicks, July 4,
27 days old, ready to fledge

PHOTOS BY DIANE SEWARD, LINDA GREEN, AND PAT MCNEILLY

July 2023 1,053rd Monthly Dinner / Membership Meeting (Children Friendly Event)

Wednesday, July 19

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

Children's Menu
Hot Dogs, Chips, Cookies/Ice Cream,
and Juice Boxes

July 2023 Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, July 26

7:00pm

Montgomery County Ag Fair Booth



We are looking for volunteers to help work the booth at this year's Montgomery County Agricultural Fair. The fair starts on August 11, 2023 and runs through August 19, 2023. We are looking for volunteers 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. Please contact Steve Poss (301 332-5259) bandsposs@gmail.com if you have any questions, or Bill Leaman with the Rockville Chapter to schedule a time slot (240 888-7600).

Introduction to Hunting Seminar

We only had two participants this year, one a member and one non-member. There were others who had used the SignUp Genius link to register but due to scheduling conflicts and sickness and they had to cancel. Mark Gochnour and Scott Harmon taught the class again this year.

The goal of this day, held once a year for nearly 10 years on the first Saturday in June, is to explore the hunting tradition and skills more deeply than is done with the Hunter Education program. There is a manual, paid for by the \$15 fee, which is given to each participant and covers various topics including preparation, trailing, tree stands, purchasing of weapons, developing one's personal ethics, seeing game, scent control, what to do when one misses or not. Most of the manual Mark wrote based on his 55 years of hunting experiences and knowledge, and Scott Harmon supplied the material on bowhunting, scent control, and tree stands. Participants were sent out pre-seminar questions, asking them about what they wanted to learn, their hunting experience or knowledge. As usual, the morning is spent on discussing the manuals' content and more in depth exposition of the manual. After lunch, a walk was taken into the Nature Trail woods and tree stand or hunting spots were suggested and why, and deer trails, animals signs, food sources are pointed out. Very few nut hulls were spotted on the fallen trees which suggested it was a poor crop of acorns and hickory nuts. Hopefully, this year will



Fungi



Deer Rub

be different, and next year, when the seminar is held again, the signs that squirrels have been active will be looked for. An evaluation of the day's events were filled out, collected, and reviewed to determine if ways to improve are required and Mark and Scott received high marks again. After the group returned from the woods' walk, Scott worked with one participant and he practiced raising a tree stand up a tree by the Chapter House. The advantages and disadvantages were discussed and safety was emphasized and practiced.

This program was originally set up to expand the Chapter's Outreach to non-members and young hunters and its origin was part of the national organization's strategic program from years ago. The program won a national award a couple of years ago. Please talk with Scott or Mark for more details, and if you are interested in taking part next year, watch for the notifications in the April and May newsletter about the Seminar and email blasts for the SignUp Genius link.

–March Gochnour
mgdonutman@gmail.com

Scott Harmon
scott.w.harmon@verizon.net

Maryland Division – Annual Convention

The Annual Convention was held in June at the Wildlife Achievement Chapter. Bill Gordon was presented a Special Award of Appreciation and a cake for his years of service and commitment to the Division as Executive Secretary and National Director.



Welcome to the B-CC IWL A Family!

The following were inducted into the Chapter
at the June 2023 Membership Meeting:

Jimmy Colihan • Eduardo Martell • Brian McGregor

SUNFLOWERS SHOULD BE IN FULL BLOOM BY JULY 15



Farm Chair Phil Taylor planted sunflowers
in two fields – 9 acres in the front field
and 18 acres in B field.

*Come out to the fields and
enjoy the beauty of the Sunflowers!*

Thank you Phil!!!!

Heritage Days 2023

On June 24th and 25th, the Chapter participated in Heritage Days, a free festival that highlights historic, cultural, and outdoor recreation sites offering special programs including exhibits & demonstrations, live music, and activities for children. It was our third year of participating in this event (after taking a break due to Covid) which aligns perfectly with our mission of conservation education. We have expanded our exhibitions over previous years to include butterfly, farm, Save our Streams and deer exhibitions as well as a station demonstrating how to tie fly's for fly fishing. Our outside activities included the ever-popular log cabin tour, fishing, archery, mock archeological digs, and bird watching. This year at the log cabin Mark Gochmour, Daniel Hess and Larry Hess in period costume, demonstrated black powder shooting and period fishing. With an ever-changing weather forecast, we had reduced numbers from our previous openings. We ended the weekend with about 37 guests, significantly down on 2018's total of 120 visitors. This year all the visitors were non-members, and we had several people interested in membership. We also sold hats and t-shirts

A big thank you to all the volunteers who came out to help including Archery, Archeology, Ponds and Streams, Log Cabin, and Farm committees. This weekend would not have been possible without all the individual volunteers' dedicated help and enthusiasm. Thank you for making this a great day.

