



MARCH 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

"A peculiar virtue in wildlife ethics is that the hunter ordinarily has no gallery to applaud or disapprove of his conduct. Whatever his acts, they are dictated by his own conscience, rather than a mob of onlookers. It is difficult to exaggerate the importance of this fact."
—Thomas Jefferson

What I think Leopold is getting at here is that there is a higher authority a person in the woods is answering to. Our actions are not being judged by anyone but ourselves, and I guess our standards are bound to be high, as, of course, we need to respect ourselves.

Our Chapter, being remote geographically and a private organization, is a little like a hunter in the woods; we are harsher critics of ourselves than any regional authority is likely to be.

Butch Mezick showed our reforested fields to a State official. He was asked if our work could be used as a model for others to follow. What could possibly be a stronger endorsement?

When our Farm Director, Phil Taylor, travels on vacation days to Pennsylvania to attend No-Till Farming seminars, there is no one looking over his shoulder and no state regulations requiring this action.

When member, R.J. Schissell, requests to look into our recycling methods to analyze possible areas of improvement, there is no "industry standard" to aim for, simply a desire to achieve a best practice for us in the context of county operations.

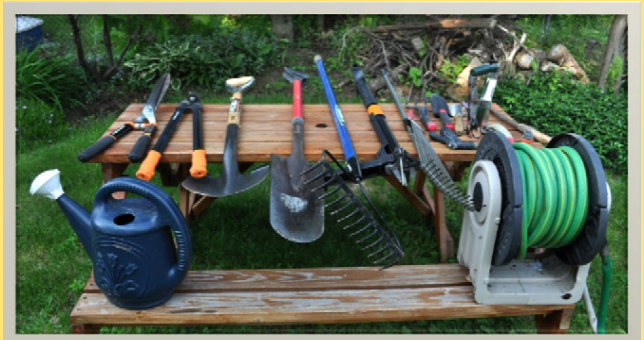
There are no mandates requiring: John Novak to monitor the fish populations in our ponds; Dave Drazen to expand our certifications to enable youth archery expansion on the grounds; Jim Hubbard, Butch Mezick and Mark Gochnour to sponsor Global Ecology Awards or give interpretive tours through our woodlands; Don Perino to investigate our farm's heritage through archaeological discovery; John Lamb to continually improve upon his already first rate Hunter Safety Program; Andy Wight to grow our Conservation Education program. We do not have to do these things; it's just how we roll.

We have been concerned with the possibility of highway construction in the Ag reserve. We decided that, as the best defense is a good offense, an honest assessment of our value to the community should be created and presented to county and state officials for their consideration. In the creation of our updated website and a promotional brochure, we will be able to see facts and figures boldly displaying what it is we are. Spoiler alert- it is impressive.

Legislators and neighbors will most definitely be wowed by our accomplishments, but I think we, ourselves, will all learn more about the depth and conscientiousness of the deeds of our fellow members.

Jack Mandel, B-CC IWLA President

IT'S TIME!



THE SPRING CLEANUP IS APRIL 6, 2019 BREAKFAST AT 8:00

The time is upon us to cut, trim, dig, drag, plant, rake, sweep and otherwise get the Chapter grounds ready for the new season. There is plenty to do – for nearly all levels of physical ability.

This is how things get done at the Chapter – by volunteers like YOU.

After the morning's work, we'll have lunch, part of which will be sourced from the Agricultural Reserve! Some of the projects will be completed before lunch, some may take longer, but please come regardless of whether you can commit to full day or just part of the day. Burn calories. Meet other members. Make memories. Help make improvements that you can enjoy all season long.

Need more information?

**Contact 1st VP Jeff Seaman – 301 775-4973
or jeff_seaman@hotmail.com.**

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

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301 785-8461 • snovak516@gmail.com

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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 February 2019 Dinner Meeting and the January 2019 Board of Governors Meeting

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

February 26, 2019 1000th Dinner Meeting

The 1000th consecutive Monthly Dinner Meeting was called to order at 7:31pm.

Chapter President Jack Mandel commented that we are celebrating 83 years of service, which shows the strength of our organization.

Scott Kovarovics, IWLA National Director, spoke about reaching this incredible milestone of 1000 consecutive meetings and what it represents. He noted that this chapter was formed before the Pittman-Robertson Act was passed in 1937 and the Duck Stamp Program which began in 1938, and prior to the Land and Water Conservation Act in 1964 which had been conceived of in the 1950s by an Ike, Joe Penfold, Izaak Walton League's Conservation Director. Before conservation really became a national concern, B-CC IWLA was chartered.

Earl Howard found the original petition for the chapter in the national organization's archives, and Scott presented a copy of this document to President Jack Mandel. Sixteen men from Bethesda, the District, and Chevy Chase are listed on the document.

- Six new members were inducted into the Chapter.
- Joe Snider reminded members that the Endowment Foundation and the Legacy Foundation were created to provide funding to buy more land and to pay for large items for the chapter when the opportunity or need arises. Monetary donations have allowed the chapter to expand its property.
- Second Vice President Ron Marchessault acknowledged that Range Committee Chairs and the Committee members have put in a lot of time and effort to make the ranges available to the members and guests. Ron urged members to take advantage of the ranges for learning and to consider becoming range officers.
- Izaak Walton (Ben Davies) provided some wisdom from the *The Compleat Angler* and later gave a champagne toast in recognition of the 1000th Dinner Meeting. He offered a philosophical discourse related to the Members Pledge and urged the chapter to continue to preserve water, air, and earth in the future and to recycle more.
- New website will allow Chapter Chairs to input directly. Shannon Novak and members Ben Davies and Hiep Nguyen will be putting this together for the chapter over the next few months.
- Door prizes were distributed to the members holding winning numbers. Shannon Novak, Nita, and Carol Hulce-Efdimis helped with this process.
- Motion to Adjourn was seconded and approved by acclamation at 8:41pm.

January 23, 2019 Board of Governors Meeting

- Chapter President Jack Mandel called the meeting to order at 7:34pm.
- George Coakley, John Lamb, Dave Drazen, Lin Tate, Bob Pavlick, and Scott Harmon – members in good standing attended.
- George Coakley presented the annual Environmental Stewardship Committee Report.
- Christine Peterson will organize the 1000th Dinner Meeting Decorations.

(continued on page 3)

SUMMARY

(continued from page 2)

- Treasurer (Bill Sherrill) presented his report on the chapter's accounts and finances.
 - The Chapter purchased more Farm Books for new members, dinner speakers and other special guests.
 - The Chapter purchased a new propane tank at the end of 2018, and we received credit for the propane that was in the old tank.
 - The Chapter Accounts are up to date and correct as determined by the audit review.
- Membership Secretary (Tucker Mostrom) – Total membership as of the BOG is 743. He is still receiving and processing renewals and expects this number to increase.
- Jim Tate reported that C&S Cuts in Damascus has venison that is to be donated to a local food kitchen/charity for distribution.
- The Maryland Environmental Trust is holding their 2019 Land Conservation Conference on May 16 and 17. The Chapter intends to send a representative to this event.
- Mark Gochnour is gathering material for a Chapter promotional brochure to be given out at public events and other venues. Chapter Chairmen, past and present, as well as past Presidents are encouraged to send him material.
- Forestry (Joe Snider) – 25 to 30 Red Cedar trees will be planted in the C3 field. These are good harsh weather habitat for deer. Joe and Butch will collaborate on this project.
- Recycling Committee – RJ Schissell is exploring how our trash and recycling is being handled.
- A committee has been created to investigate the use and issues of the chapter purchasing a UTV. Walt Allensworth has volunteered to be the chairman.
- Hunter Ethics Committee (Scott Harmon) – There will be a Hunter Orientation for new chapter members. 100 people are currently registered to hunt on the property.

NEW BUSINESS (Motions from the meeting floor)

- Approved – Motion to transfer funds from management reserve to farm guide budget line to pay for the extra farm guides.
- Five new members were approved for membership.

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER

- George Coakley – Draft Master Plan created, copies to be sent to Board Members.
- Mark Gochnour – On April 6, Chapter Cleanup Day, there is also a C&O Canal cleanup. Jack Mandel will reach out to get more details and to alert those involved as to our interest in participating.
- Scott Harmon is gathering members together for this year's nominating committee.
- Tucker Mostrom – Andy Wight is accepting ideas and concerns for ways to improve the area around the Chapter House – new porch chairs, etc.
- Doug McKenney – Scouts need service hours, consider using them on Cleanup Day. Looking for ideas for jobs to do.
- Adjourned at 10:16pm.

Hunter Safety

The Spring Hunter Safety / Education Class will be held on the weekend of May 4 & 5. This is a 16-hour minimum 2 day course which starts promptly at 8:00am that Saturday. To register for the event, please go to www.register-ed.com and select Maryland. Click on Hunter Education Classroom Course and then find the date and location. All materials are provided by the State of Maryland. The chapter will have lunch prepared on both days for the class but cannot meet special dietary needs. Therefore, please consider bringing your own lunch if necessary.

UPCOMING EVENTS

for B-CC IWLA and Community

Shotgun Range Fun Shoot

Sunday, March 24

Black Powder / Muzzleloader Event

Saturday, March 30

Tuesday Sporting Clays

Beginning Tuesday, April 2

Kid Friendly Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, April 17

Explore Archery Program

8-Week Youth Class

(Ages 8 – 16)

Wednesdays, April 24 – June 5

Hunter Safety / Education Class

May 4 and 5

Sign up required – www.register-ed.com

Shotgun Range Fun Shoot

Sunday, May 26

Maryland Division Meeting

Saturday, June 8

Father's Day Silent Auction and Swap Meet

Father's Day Shoot at the Shotgun Range

Father's Day Family Picnic

Sunday, June 22

B-CC QUIZ

Question: How many different species of Crows can be found on B-CC Conservation Farm? How can they be identified?

Answer can be found elsewhere in the newsletter.

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, 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.

The following interview is part of a series reporting on recipients of the President's Award during 2017-18 at B-CC IWLA.

**Scott Harmon;
Mentor and Hunting Ethicist**

Anything can be accomplished with a good attitude and an open mind.
-Scott Harmon



B-CC: *Congratulations on this recognition of your years of service to Izaak Walton League and to our Chapter. What brought you to these accomplishments?*

Scott: It has become hard to find a place to hunt with bow and arrow in the modern world. About a dozen years ago I learned that there was a conservation farm in the Montgomery County Ag Reserve that not only welcomed hunting as a game management

tool, but also was populated with people like me who appreciated natural resource values and the outdoors. With the enthusiastic cooperation of my wife and two sons I joined the B-CC Chapter. Over time, I served B-CC as Archery Chair, Hunters Ethics Chair, First and Second Vice President, and as President 2015/16. I continue to serve B-CC as our representative to the Maryland Division of IWLA. Throughout that time, my work career has been in the heavy equipment rental and sales, and more recently in compressed gas industries.

B-CC: *Our current members know you as 'Maryland Regional Director' and as a wildlife mentor and hunting ethicist. How do you accomplish all of this?*

Scott: Our working Conservation Farm is known as a safe place to build shooting skills at our archery, trap and skeet, and rifle and pistol ranges. The skills needed by an ethical hunter with accurate and well-maintained equipment. Helping to teach these skills at our twice-annual State sponsored Hunter Safety Course has been a welcome chore for me. I received the prestigious Tobin award from National IWLA in the 90's for my work in archery shooting sports. Last year I was pleased to receive a second national award for the advanced hunter's course I co-authored with another member. I am quite proud to have mentored at least twelve new hunters in safe natural harvest of wildlife. The thing that makes me proud is when those that I have introduced to the outdoors have continued with fishing, hunting, hiking, and just enjoying the great outdoors.

B-CC: *What do you think are the most important things B-CC should do in the future?*

Scott: Continue to be a force in our community for conservation and resource management. B-CC should be a force for Conservation through our programs and by example at our Conservation Farm.

B-CC: *What advice would you give to our members?*

Scott: Get involved in our work in the areas that interest you the most. Bring guests to visit the farm and share the outdoors with others.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Chapter House Cleanup – Saturday, March 16

This is a perfect opportunity for members who need annual work hours. Contact Tucker Mostrom, Chapterhouse.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com, for more details.

Monthly Dinner Meeting – Wednesday, March 20

Contact Chip Dunn, cdunn20842@aol.com, if you can help with food preparation, setup, and/or cleanup. 1:00pm setup start time.

Annual Spring Cleanup – Saturday, April 6

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 – Saturday, April 13

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

Father's Day Family Picnic – Sunday, June 22

Adopt-A-Road – Saturday, April 13

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

Archery Range Work Days – March 16, April 6, and April 13

Contact Dave Drazen, daviddrazen@gmail.com.

Archives and History of the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter

Bill Gordon, wgordon14@verizon.net and Jim Tate, jim@tate-tate.us
Co-Chairs, Committee of the Whole for Chapter History

The 1K Dinner meeting held on February 27 turned out to be a great party enjoyed by all. It also marked the announcement that B-CC President Jack Mandel had named every B-CC member to a committee!



For several years we have been talking about establishing an archives of Chapter history and activities in a centralized storage where it will be safe from fire, flood and deterioration. The first step we took at the 1K dinner meeting was to

announce a Committee of the Whole for Chapter History.

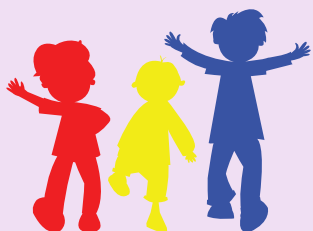
Every Chapter member, past and present, is a member of this committee. Please contact Bill or Jim if you have anything of potential value to our Archives. In exchange, you can expect regular updates on progress toward our common goal.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date(s)	Activity	Time
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
Wednesday, March 6	Board of Governors Meeting – rescheduled from February 27	7:30pm
Friday, March 8	Hunter Safety Advance Training – Chapter House	5:00pm – 9:00pm
Saturday, March 9	Shotgun Range – Current Range Officer Signup – in the Chapter House	9:00am
Saturday, March 9	R&P Range – Current 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
Sunday, March 10	R&P Range – Current Range Officer Signup (tentative)	9:00am
Monday, March 11	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Saturday, March 16	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Saturday, March 16	Ponds and Streams Committee Meeting	10:00am
Monday, March 18	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday, March 20	Monthly Dinner Meeting	6:30pm
Thursday, March 21	Arrow of Light Ceremony	6:00pm – 9:00pm
Saturday, March 23	Summer Biathlon Practice	8:00am
Saturday, March 23	Eagles Junior Rifle Club – Practice at R&P Range	Starting at 1:00pm
Sunday, March 24	Sporting Clays Fun Shoot	9:00am
Monday, March 25	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday, March 27	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Saturday, March 30	Black Powder Clinic and Shooting Match at the R&P Range	9:00am – 4:30pm
APRIL		
Monday, April 1	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Tuesday, April 2	Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – dusk
Saturday, April 6	Annual Spring Cleanup Day (Rain Date, Saturday, April 13)	7:30am – 2:00pm
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
Tuesday, April 9	Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – dusk
Saturday, April 13	Rain Date – Annual Spring Cleanup Day	7:30am – 2:00pm
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
Tuesday, April 16	Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – dusk
Wednesday, April 17	Monthly Dinner Meeting – Kid Friendly Dinner	6:30pm
Saturday, April 20	Summer Biathlon Practice – R&P Range	7:30am
Monday, April 22	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Tuesday, April 23	Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – dusk
Wednesday, April 24	Explore Archery Youth Class – Archery Range	6:00pm – 7:30pm
Wednesday, April 24	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Saturday, April 27	Summer Biathlon Practice – R&P Range	7:30am
Saturday, April 27	Eagles Junior Rifle Club – Practice at R&P Range	Starting at 1:00pm
Saturday, April 27	Annual Spring Family Campout	beginning at 3:00pm
Sunday, April 28	Annual Spring Family Campout	through 10:00am
Monday, April 29	Scout Troop 496 Meeting	7:00pm
Tuesday, April 30	Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – dusk

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.



April Kid Friendly Chapter Dinner

Just a reminder that the chapter dinner on April 17 will be **kid friendly**. Dinner will be held as normal, but at the start of the meeting, kids will be asked to go to the boardroom where there will be child friendly activities and education. Kids and parents will be reunited at the end of the meeting.

Membership Committee Report

R. Tucker Mostrom, Membership Secretary
301 252-TUCK (8825)
MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

The chapter has been granting volunteer service hours for FeederWatchers to gather data that is uploaded to the Audubon Society / Cornell University as a Citizen Science program. These efforts are a key component in the chapter's nationwide visibility as a conservation group and vital to our core mission as a 501(c)(3) organization. This year, membership will be working with the chapter's Ponds & Streams committee and Save Our Streams coordinator to expand participation in two relatively new Citizen Science programs through IWLA National: StreamWatch and SaltWatch. Watch the newsletter and email blasts for details about how you can earn volunteer hours participating from streams local to your homes, offices, and local parks.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS PROGRESS UPDATE

- Members who have not yet renewed their membership for 2019 will be assessed a late fee along with their appropriate renewal fee. If you need a 2019 invoice, email me at MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com.
- All but a dozen or so 2019 renewals have been processed with IWLA National and mailed out. Those should have been all received by members at their listed street address.
- Please also email me at the email address above if you do NOT intend to renew. The chapter would truly appreciate it if members who are not renewing mail back any access cards or padlock keys they have to the chapter PO box: B-CC IWLA, PO Box 542, Poolesville, MD 20837-0542.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Membership stands at the following levels as of the March 8 (new & renewed members):

Associate	14
Family	258
Individual	461
Retired	82
Retired Family	22
Student	7
Youth	2
TOTAL	846

MEMBERSHIP DINNER MEETING

The **1001st** dinner meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 20** 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, Corned Beef, Boiled Cabbage, Potatoes, 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, March 27**. **Board members are expected to attend.**

B-CC IWLA SUMMER BIATHLON 2019 PRACTICE SCHEDULE

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@earthlink.net, chairman B-CC IWLA Biathlon Committee. Other points of contact are: Thoran Menser (thoran.menser2@verizon.net); Rex Gori (aurelius.gori1@verizon.net); Chris Efdimis (bcciwla.rp@gmail.com).

SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 23	8:00 am
Saturday, April 20	7:30 am
Saturday, April 27	7:30 am
Saturday, May 11	7:30 am
Saturday, May 25	7:30 am
Saturday, June 8	7:30 am
Saturday, June 22	7:30 am
Saturday, June 29	7:30 am
Saturday, July 13	7:30 am
Saturday, July 27	7:30 am
Saturday, Aug. 10	7:30 am
Saturday, Aug. 24	7:30 am
Saturday, Sept. 7	7:00 am
Saturday, Sept. 21	7:30 am
Saturday, Oct. 12	7:30 am

Firearms Hunting Season

Saturday, Nov. 2	7:30 am
Saturday, Nov. 9	7:30 am

Firearms Hunting Season

Saturday, March 2, 2020	8:00 am
Saturday, April 18, 2020	7:30 am
Saturday, April 25, 2020	7:30 am

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

On Saturday, May 18th, 2019 starting at 9:00am – 2:00pm in the chapterhouse, the R&P Range Committee will be holding training for NEW R&P Range Officers and any other members interested in learning how day-to-day operations on the R&P are managed.

To become a range officer on the R&P range, a member must have **completed** their probationary year of membership and be in good standing.

At this time you will be briefed on range rules and procedures and at the conclusion take a test, on which you must score at least 80 in order to become a Range Officer. If you plan on attending this session, please bring the following: your current 2019 Chapter membership card, exact cash or check for the fee, a pen and paper to take notes. Your RO dues are based on your Chapter membership type. If you have an Individual membership to the Chapter, you are eligible for Individual RO dues at \$35/year. If you have a Family membership, you are eligible for Family at \$50/year or \$35 for an Individual. **RSVP FOR THIS CLASS TO MARK GOCHNOUR AT MGDONUTMAN@GMAIL.COM.**

The Range will officially open to the general membership on Saturday, April 6 after the Chapter Spring Clean-up.

APRIL

Saturday, April 6	Hoover, J. , Saiz, J., Kerr, A., Bruno, F., Konrad, E.
Sunday, April 7	Hunt, J. , Saiz, J., Bixler, D., Sullivan, A., Cho, F.
Saturday, April 13	Ryba, J. , Kerr, A., Hoover, J., Shanley, P., Turner, J.
Sunday, April 14	Shanley, P. , Ryba, J., Chong, W., Hunt, J., Cho, F.
Saturday, April 20	Richards, M. , Bryan, T., Lan, K., Lastra, C., Waterman, S.
Sunday, April 21	Evans, R. , Panashchenko, O., McUlsky, A., Shi, P., Waterman, S.
Saturday, April 27	McUlsky, A. , Behrend, D., Williams, B., Bouchard, M., Donovan, P.
Sunday, April 28	Hess, L. , Williams, B., Bouchard, M., West, K.

Monthly Chapter House Cleaning

The Chapter's monthly cleaning is scheduled for Saturday, March 16 beginning at 9:00am, just in time for the following Wednesday's monthly dinner meeting.

This is the perfect opportunity for members who need annual work hours. Bring your "favorite" cleaning gloves and comfortable clothes for mopping, dusting, and cleaning.

With a good crew, the list will be finished well before noon.

See you there at 9:00am! There is usually a pot of hot coffee by start time.

B-CC Quiz Answer: The Common Crow and the Fish Crow can't be readily told apart except by their voices.

See page 12 of the Birds Section of the Conservation Farm Book for details.



Sporting Clays Fun Shoots at the Shotgun Range
Sunday, March 24
and
Sunday, May 26
9:00am

Archery Range Report

Dave Drazen, Committee Chair
301 655-8459 (Cell) daviddrazen@gmail.com

The long, cold wait is over and we are in the midst of getting ready for the upcoming 3D season. There will be work-days on March 16, April 6, and April 13 to clear and prep the trails as well as set up the target. As of right now, the first official shoot will be April 28. We will start posting the dates in the newsletter next month and they will also be available on the club calendar. We will look to change up the course to keep it fresh, and we have four new targets to replace some of the older ones.

We also purchased some broadhead targets that will get put out on the range, likely at 20 and 30 yards. This will give members an opportunity to practice and tune with their hunting setups. The hope is to have those up and available by May.

We will be running an 8-week class for youth (ages 8-16) 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 (\$10 for members, \$20 for non-members), 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 or if you want to reserve a spot.

Can't make the classes, but want to bring the family out to the range? We will have supplies (bows and arrows) available for members during the staffed archery shoots. They are the same time as the days the 3D course is open. The equipment was purchased using money from a grant the chapter received from IWLA National.

If you're interested on getting on the archery email list, just shoot me an email. In addition to the work weekends, we have plenty of volunteer opportunities around the course.

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.

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.

Vegetable Gardens

Larry Anderson
240 246-5302 anduption9@hotmail.com

Pat Tarquinio
ptarq@hotmail.com

The days are growing longer and even without warmer temperatures yet, gardeners are eagerly anticipating and planning for the next growing season. At B-CC IWLA we have an active gardening community, full of members who enjoy the opportunity to play in the soil. Generally, our gardeners find the gardens a pleasant distraction from the hustle and bustle of daily life even with our onslaught of amazing weeds. Again this year, Pat and I will be the organizers of the garden plots.



As has been our custom, current gardeners have first choice of reserving garden plots, so now is the time to contact either Pat or me with your intentions for this year. Single plots (~25x25 ft) will rent for \$20 each. For members wishing to become new gardeners please contact either Pat or me, and we will compile a list and start assigning plots as they become available. We hope to have the list and assignments ready to go in early April in time for early crop planting.

SAVE THE DATE!
Tuesday Sporting Clays
begins on April 2
3:00pm until dusk
Come join the fun!
For more information contact:
Warner Parks
301 540-1947
wparks29@gmail.com

Mags for Vets Winter 2019

Douglas Smith

Thanks to all who dropped off their mags and books for our veterans recuperating at Walter Reed National Medical Center. Your donations will provide hours of reading material to help them pass the time during their recovery.

For our summer donation and pickup please remember:

- We cannot take bundles of mags that have a few current dates on top of older issues.
- We cannot take paper or plastic bags of reading material as they tend to tear and break; use strong twine.
- We cannot take plastic tubs filled with reading material in excess of 20 lbs.

Had a little help from my friend George.



Black Powder / Muzzleloader Event

Muzzleloading enthusiasts will gather for the annual Black Powder Clinic and Shooting Match, Saturday, March 30 from 9:00am – 4:30pm.

Did you receive a blackpowder firearm as a present and don't know what to do with it? Are you ready to test your skills against others in the afternoon shooting match and compete for prizes? Don't miss out on this marvelous opportunity for knowledgeable instruction, loads of fun, and the unique smell of blackpowder smoke!

Participants will meet at the Rifle & Pistol Range at 9:00am. Inlines, percussion or flintlock shooters are all welcome. There will be instruction time for new shooters or those with new muzzleloaders while "veterans" and more experienced shooters will sight-in their guns.



Bring the muzzleloader that you want to shoot or let Mark Gochnour know in your email that you would like to try one out so he can arrange for a loaner. Learn directly from individuals having experience and knowledge. (Mark is a certified NRA/NMLRA Blackpowder

Instructor.) If you have never fired a black powder gun or you have one you have never used before or are having issues with one you have forgotten about in the gun safe, come during the morning but stay for the shoot! Last year, one shooter used a loaner gun to compete in the shooting match and turned out to be excellent marksman!

Lunch will be served in the Chapter House around 12:00 noon with the shooting competition beginning at 1:00pm.

Match Participants will be provided opportunities to shoot at some unusual novelty targets again this year, including last year's favorite – The Flopping Plate. Targets will be shot at a variety of ranges from up close and out to 100 yards with prizes awarded to individual shooters. An overall Grand Prize could be a frozen turkey or ham.



Due to safety issues, only muzzleloader shooting participants will be allowed to use the Range since the availability of shooting lanes may be limited. (After the afternoon shooting match, Range Officers and their guests may shoot.)

Contact Mark Gochnour at mgdonutman@gmail.com for further details, questions, or to pre-register for the event. It is important to contact him; especially, if you are bringing a new gun because you may need extra equipment or gear that you were unaware of and its lack could sabotage your experience.

Cost is only \$20 for the entire event, which includes lunch and the shooting match. Any applicable R&P range fees are extra.

Cost is only \$20 for the entire event, which includes lunch and the shooting match. Any applicable R&P range fees are extra.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Please submit all articles for the March 2019 newsletter
NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MARCH 29.

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 for range duty sign up. Final sign-up is on Sunday, April 7 at 9:00am in the chapter house.

Range hours for March are 9:00am to 4:00pm.

Range Officers – please double check and make sure all release cords and extension cords are returned to the range house.

Fun Shoots for 2019 will be on Sunday, March 24 and Sunday, May 26. Please remember that there will be no trap or skeet shooting until the last squad has shot.

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, in 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

MARCH

Sunday, March 3	John Novak, Tim Jorgensen
Sunday, March 10	Ken Gentzel, Mike King
Sunday, March 17	Need R.O.
Sunday, March 24	Ken Gentzel, Mike King
Sunday, March 31	Lawrence Kotchek, Need R.O.

APRIL

Sunday, April 7	Andrew Silverberg, Mike Burns
Sunday, April 14	David Boynton, Need R.O.
Sunday, April 21	Lawrence Kotchek
Sunday, April 28	Michael Leahy, Dale Beitzel

HOURS OF OPERATION

Sundays through March

9:00am to 4:00pm
Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays

Sundays beginning in April

9:00am to 5:00pm
Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays

Tuesdays beginning April 2

3:00pm to 6:00pm
Sporting Clays Only

March 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.

Celebrating and Storytelling at the Wild Game Dinner: Sharing Tradition

More than fifty members and guests gathered for dinner on Saturday, February 23 to share in the tradition of our Wild Game heritage. The team of **Mostrom, Peterson and Speed** had the Chapter House ready with cocktails and appetizers at the bar. On view throughout was a program of select photographs donated by members and assembled by **Scott Harmon**.

As the platters emptied, and after a toast to the game, **Jim Tate** started off the lively storytelling session with his tale of mentoring by his German grandfather in the ways of hunting in the European tradition. He then provided an illustration of how rapid environmental change can lead to the replacement of **Traditional Ecological Knowledge** with **Current Ecological Knowledge**. Jim told of an Inuit community he visited a few years ago, in which the traditional elders had hunted in seal-skin umiaks. The elders lamented today's youth, who must travel further out to sea because of the melting ice, and thus hunt in motorized aluminum skiffs with explosive harpoons.

Jim's stories, and the ones that followed, brought to mind the 1963 Bob Dylan song *The Times They Are A Changin'*. Some of you may remember the lyrics: "Come gather 'round people wherever you roam, and admit that the waters around you have grown, . . . for the times they are a-changin'."

We had stories from **Walt** and **Barbara Allensworth** about changes in the way of the African Safari resulting in improved animal conservation, with a walk on the wild side to see a giraffe. **Butch Mezick** provided a meditation on ethics with a story about a solo pheasant hunt to South Dakota; **John Gorney** told of his self-education hunting as a kid in Indiana, and of his successful hunt on the B-CC IWLA Conservation Farm last year. **Ron Marchessault** provided observations and reflections about animals' (including humans') uses of camouflage, based on his experience in Namibia.

The Silent Auction netted nearly \$400 for the Land Fund at the end of the day. Our sincere thank you to donors of auction items: **Walt Allensworth, Bill Miller, Jim Tate, and Bill Thelemann**.

The whole evening had the warm and friendly feeling of an evening spent in a mountain cabin, spinning yarns around the fire! A fine time was had by all. Thank you to all who shared their game and their experiences.

FeederWatch News

Diane Seward, Citizen Science Project Chair
trina65@verizon.net

This year, for the first time, we participated in the Great Backyard Bird Count, an annual world-wide event sponsored by Audubon, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and Bird Studies Canada. The feeder birds we noted during that count, which took place the third weekend in February, were also entered in FeederWatch.

This season we have begun submitting data on eBird. eBird, another Cornell Lab project, helps scientists identify trends, increasing or declining, among specific bird populations. It is world-wide in scope, and collects data on all species of birds. So, for example, in addition to the normal contingent of feeder birds, such as Dark-eyed Juncos, White-throated Sparrows, and Titmice, we have reported Red-shouldered and Red-tailed Hawks, a Cooper's Hawk, a Northern Flicker, Common Goldeneye, Hooded Mergansers, and American Wigeons.

A few species exceeded our region's averages. Blue Jays were over the top, often numbering 12 to 13, when the aver-

age number in our region (Feederwatch's Northeast Region), is 3. The Red-winged Blackbird average is 4 in the Northeast Region; we observed 9 one weekend. The highest number of individual species counted at our feeders this season was 20; the highest number of individual birds reported per species on a single weekend was 84. The highest count for a single feeder species so far was 30 Dark-eyed Juncos.

You may note more than the usual number of Blue Jays or other species in your own yard this winter. If you enjoy watching and identifying birds in your back yard or elsewhere, create an account at eBird.org and begin submitting your findings.

FeederWatch wraps up at the end of March. Heartfelt thanks are due to our intrepid counters and feeder-stockers: Tim Ames, Peter Cappellino, Brett Davis, Anita Goldshine, Suzanne Novak, Bob Plumb, Lin Schmale, Jim Stables, Jim Tate, and Bill and Ayala White. Thanks to Jim Stables for redesigning and improving our tally sheet. And thanks also to Larry Anderson, who purchases the seed and stocks the feeders between counts.

Annual Spring Family Campout

Andy Wight, Conservation Education Chair
ConservationEd.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

The B-CC IWLA Conservation Education Committee will host our Annual Spring Family Campout on Saturday, April 27!

This is a great time to spend time with your immediate family and to meet some of the family of B-CC IWLA members. Events will start Saturday afternoon and continue into Sunday morning.

If you can't squeeze that much fun into your busy schedule, then join us for the parts of the weekend that you can manage:

SATURDAY

- Tent setup around the chapterhouse begins at 3:00pm.
- Fishing for the kids at the big pond/little pond 4:00pm-6:00pm.
- Evening cookout will be provided from 6:00pm-7:00pm.
- S'mores around the campfire at the chapterhouse firepit.
- The Chapterhouse will be accessible all night for campers who had a little too much hot chocolate.

SUNDAY

- Breakfast will be served Sunday morning to campers starting at 7:30am.
- Breakdown and cleanup will be completed by 10:00am.
- Schedule some more family time at the farm on your own for the day!

There is NO fee for the family campout, but RSVPs are needed! The chapter needs your RSVP to organize the meals, and we want to be able to contact you directly to keep you abreast of any updates or potential weather problems.

Please RSVP by Thursday, April 25.

This is also a great event for new members, an introduction to the chapter and its facilities.

See you there, and again, please RSVP at my email address.



Big Pond Voluntary Creel Census Report 2018

John Novak, Co-Chair, Ponds & Streams Committee
 novakgang4@comcast.net

The fourth voluntary creel census was conducted from April 12, 2018 to November 21, 2018, at the big pond (Walton). As in the previous three years, the purpose of this census was to continue gathering information on angler interest, fishing effort and success, and to get an idea of the abundance of the fish resource in the big pond. Currently the big pond provides “catch and release” angling opportunities for B-CC IWLA members and accompanied guests. Anglers were requested to enter their fishing information and catch results in the log book in the metal box on the kiosk. The following summarizes the data voluntarily provided by anglers for 2015-2107 and 2018:

	2015-2017	2018
Total hours fished	124-255	155
Average number of hours fished per angler	1.7-2.2	2.1
Number of angler trips	68-130	74
Angler trips per month	9-13	9
Total number of bluegills caught	131-274	177
Percent bluegills <5”	43-74	47
Percent bluegills >5”	26-57	53
Total number of largemouth bass caught	271-313	177
Percent largemouth bass<10”	27-40	42
Percent largemouth bass>10”	60-73	58
Largest largemouth bass caught	6-8 lbs.	7 lbs.
Catch rate for bluegills	0.9/hr.-1.4/hr.	1.1/hr.
Catch rate for largemouth bass	1.1/hr.-2.4/hr.	1.1/hr.
Catch rate for bluegills & largemouth bass	2.0/ hr.-3.8/hr.	2.3/hr.

The amount of fishing pressure or effort in the big pond was less in 2018 compared to 2017. In 2018, the number of angler trips (74) and total hours (155) fished were less than in 2017, but greater than in 2015 and 2016, however, the number of angler trips per month was nearly the same for all four years. One angler made 36 trips to the big pond in 2018, nearly half of all recorded angler trips. Six anglers made multiple trips in 2018 compared to nineteen in 2017 and eight in 2015 and 25 in 2016. The highest number of angler trips per month (12) in 2018 occurred in July but this was significantly less than the high of 40 trips recorded in April 2017. The number of largemouth reported caught in 2018 was less than in the preceding three years. The catch rate for largemouth bass was the same as reported in 2017 but about 50 percent less than in 2015 and 2016. The reported catch of bluegills was down compared to 2017 when 247 bluegills were caught. However, the catch rate (1.1/hr.) for bluegills was about the same for all four-creel census years. As in the previous three-census years brown bullhead up to 14 inches in length were reported caught in 2018.

The hot and often times rainy weather during the fishing season may explain in part the reduced catches of largemouth bass and bluegills recorded in 2018. These weather conditions likely affected anglers’ interest in making the hike down to the big pond. An electrofishing study conducted in the big pond by Solitude Lake Management in June 2018 collected less than 100 fish and found that the 2017 and 2018 year classes of largemouth bass were missing. Because the electrofishing study was not a population study, it cannot be concluded with certainty that the largemouth bass population is down compared to previous years. However, the missing 2017 and 2018 year classes of largemouth bass could reduce the

quality and quantity of largemouth bass catches in the future. As recommended by the study report, 70, 8” to 10” largemouth bass were stocked in the big pond in October, which should fill the void created by the absence of the two-year classes. Also, 125 pounds of golden shiners and 900 small bluegills were stocked for forage for largemouth bass. A future electrofishing study will evaluate the results of this stocking. Anglers should see an increase in the size and abundance of largemouth bass in the big pond starting in the 2019 fishing season.

The Ponds and Streams Committee thanks those anglers who took the time to enter their catch data in the logbook.

Wildlife Report

Larry Anderson, Committee Chair
 240 246-5302 andupton9@hotmail.com

The 2018-19 deer season has drawn to a close. By all accounts, we had a pretty good year on our farm. 27 deer were reported taken on our farm, up from the 20 deer reported last year and 16 reported in 2016-17. Thank you all that reported their deer and from the reports, some large mature deer were harvested. Across the state, MD DNR reports that 77382 deer were harvested this season, which is 11% lower than last year. The prevailing reason for this decrease was the inclement weather, particularly on the key weekends that “limited success for hunters”. In Montgomery County, the reported total deer harvest was 18% lower then last year and antler-less deer off 24%. Overall, we seem to have fared well.



Winter Aconite



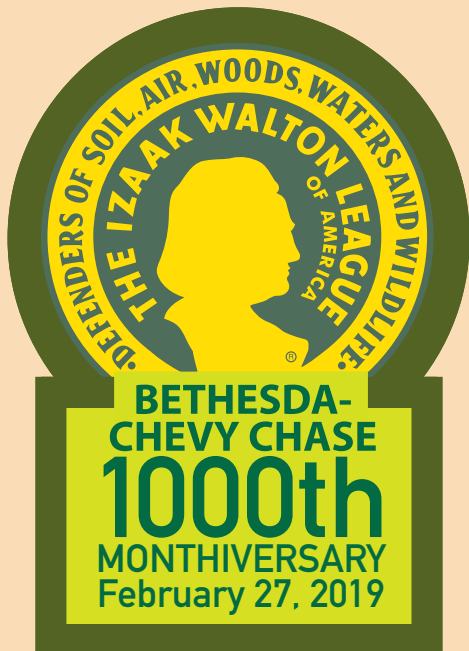
Snowdrops

Even with the wet weather and muddy conditions, now is a good time to wander around the farm and explore, the leaves on the trees and bushes have not blossomed yet making it easy to see through the woods. During the next few weeks, bucks will have finished shedding their antlers leaving them as prizes in the woods. If members find sheds that they don’t have an use for, please consider contacting our group that puts on the global ecology programs, they are have uses for visual aids in their demonstrations. Also in the woods, spring wildflowers are starting to make their appearances; snowdrops are particularly vibrant at this writing. We have many areas throughout the farm that will be awash in color from many different species of flowers. In short, now is a nice time for a walk in the woods.



The 1000th consecutive B-CC IWLA monthly dinner meeting was held, Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at the chapter house. The dining room and bar were decorated in green and yellow IWLA colors with animal themed centerpieces on the tables. It was standing room only, the most attended dinner event in years.

Thank you to the great team of volunteers, without whose help this would not have been such a huge success.





B-CC IWLA's Spring Archery Class

Spring 2019 Explore Archery Program

B-CC IWLA Members and Non-Members welcome
Ages 8-16
All Equipment is provided

Wednesdays from April 24 – June 5*
6:00-7:30 pm

B-CC IWLA Archery Range

Fee: \$10/members, \$20/non-members
Class capped at 15, members get preference

**Come learn to shoot or just improve
your archery with us this spring!**

You can RSVP to David Drazen,
daviddrazen@gmail.com.

*Classes may be canceled due to
weather conditions. Participants
will be notified by email before
12pm that day if classes are canceled.

