



MAY 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](http://www.bcciwla.org)

## President's Message

Spring is in full swing, and May marks the beginning of one of the busiest and most exciting seasons at our Chapter! With a full calendar of conservation events, outreach programs, and family-friendly activities, there are countless ways to get involved – and the May Dinner Meeting is the perfect place to start.

Join us early at 5:00pm for a special demonstration of the lead reclamation machines at the Shotgun Range. This is a rare opportunity to see the equipment in action and get a firsthand look at the progress being made on this important environmental project.

During the dinner meeting, we'll also take a moment to honor the mothers in our community. It's a wonderful opportunity to invite your wife, mother, or grandmother to the Chapter for an evening of connection and appreciation. Our guest speakers this month, Linda Green and Patrick McNeilly, will share their work on the Chapter's Citizen Science programs, including NestWatch and FeederWatch – an inspiring example of how our members contribute to meaningful, real-world conservation and research.

A big thank you to the Election Committee for their time and effort in preparing a strong slate of candidates for the upcoming Board of Governors and Chapter Officer elections. If you would like to be considered for a position, please attend the meeting. Details on how to be added to the slate are included elsewhere in this newsletter.

As always, there's plenty to enjoy around the Chapter this season. The Rifle & Pistol Range is open on weekends, the 3D Archery Course opens May 29th, the small pond is still stocked with trout, and garden plots are available for those who want to dig into gardening this spring. All details can be found in this newsletter.

Lastly, I would like to encourage you all to attend the Conservation Education and Awards Dinner on Thursday, May 22nd which demonstrates our ongoing commitment to conservation education and community outreach, and its a great spaghetti dinner.

Andy Wight  
President

## Vandalism in Chapter House

During our most recent clean-up day, we were deeply disturbed to discover that one of our tables had been vandalized with graffiti, including a symbol closely resembling a swastika. This act of hate and defacement is not only unacceptable – it is in direct violation of the values our Chapter stands for.

We are treating this incident with the utmost seriousness. An active investigation is underway, and should the individual or individuals responsible be identified, they will face appropriate disciplinary action without exception.

As part of our response, a communication has been issued to all guests and Scout troops who used the Chapter during the relevant time period, informing them of the situation and reaffirming our zero-tolerance policy toward hate and vandalism.

Let us be absolutely clear: **there is no place for hate, racism, intolerance, or vandalism at our Chapter – none.** Acts like these are a direct attack on our community and on the principles we strive to uphold. They will not be ignored, minimized, or tolerated under any circumstances.

## May Dinner Meeting Speakers

Linda Green and Patrick McNeilly, NestWatch and FeederWatch Committee members, will give the membership an update on the committee's projects for 2025. Come and enjoy a delicious dinner and listen to Linda and Pat's presentation.

## Conservation Education Dinner Help is Needed

Looking to earn easy volunteer hours, come and help prepare for the Conservation Dinner on Thursday, May 22. We need help with food prep, serving, and setting up the Chapter House. Click on the link below to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-56184038-2025>

## 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 • jerrym5@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 • MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

**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**

## IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA MISSION STATEMENT

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

## Summary of the March 2025 Board of Governors Meeting and the March 2025 Membership Dinner Meeting

Sean-David Waterman, Recording Secretary

### Wednesday, March 26, 2025 – Board of Governors Meeting

- President Andy Wight called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
- David Drazen gave an overview of the relationship between the scout groups and the chapter and the scout's requirements for Eagle scout projects.
- Discussion of chapter use by outside groups.
- Andy Wight provided an update on Alarms.com negotiations.
- Update on the Nominating Committee's search.
- Jerry Murray provided an update on cleaning/pump out of the septic system.
- Lead reclamation mobilization has started with equipment deliveries.
- Procedures and Policies: Committees should write down description of their tasks to help educate the next person.
- Discussed weekly payments to EN Range and how to streamline.
- Membership Secretary Scott Harmon provided an update on National's conversion to a new membership system.
- Need new Forestry Chair and looking into getting DNR to do a new Forestry Stewardship Plan.
- UTV usage – users need to be more careful, the skid plates were damaged recently.
- R&P Range proposed an annual Range Card for members at R&P range instead of paying every visit.
- Andy Wight talked about having a combined shoot and dinner card on Wednesday nights.
- Archery organizing events and setting up to rearrange the 3D course to avoid the buffer areas established by the easements.
- Andy Wight talked about Conservation Education dinner.
- Janet Lamkin submitted applications to National for the Tobin Award and the Defenders Award.

### NEW BUSINESS (that requires a motion)

- Motion to revise the R&P SOP's to allow for the use of steel targets at the range. **Motion passed.**
- Motion to allow the approval of invoices for the lead reclamation work without a motion and full board vote. The President, 1st VP, and 2nd VP would have to agree to approve the payment. This is to streamline the payments to existing vendors and keep us in compliance with their contract terms. **Motion passed.**
- Motion to accept 'Mac' McDonald's proposed Eagle scout project for improvements at the campground. **Motion passed.**
- Motion to approve the proposals submitted by John Lamb for the repair of the siding on the south gable of the chapter house and the purchase of the stain needed to re-stain the chapter house. **Motion passed.**
- Motion made to approve requested work day funds for Trails and R&P. **Motion passed.**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.

### Wednesday, March 19, 2025 – 1,073rd Dinner Meeting

- Meeting was called to order by President Andy Wight at 7:25pm.
- Olivia Wight led the kid's activities for the evening.

(continued on page 3)

## SUMMARY

(continued from page 2)

- Farm Committee Chair Phil Taylor gave a talk to update the membership on the farm. He spoke about organic matter in the soil, what is planted in each field, working with WUMCO, the controlled burn from last year and its benefits, the value of the fruit trees.
- John Lamb, President of the Legacy Board, and Ted Whitehouse, Legacy Board Past President, spoke to the membership about the Legacy Board and its involvement with the lead reclamation project.
- Membership Secretary Scott Harman reported that the national database is going to be scrubbed and they're going to a new system.
- Ponds & Streams Committee held their opening day trout fishing derby on Saturday, March 8.
- Archery Committee Chair Chuck Thornton reported there is a new archery committee. They're now holding monthly meetings.
- R&P Committee reported that on May 17 there will be a Military Fun Shoot. There will also be an Intro to Shooting Class in May and Bianchi match in October.
- Log Cabin Committee Chair Dave Mecklenburg reported that there is maintenance to be done on the log cabin.
- Family Campout is being held on Saturday afternoon, May 17 to Sunday, morning May 18.
- Conservation Education and Awards will be on Thursday, May 22. Event begins with a spaghetti dinner. Awards will be given to students from the Poolesville High School Ecology Program. We will have a guest speaker after the awards are presented.
- IT Committee Chair Julie Wight is having monthly meetings.
- Wildflower Meadows Chair Don Perino has been in touch with Bennett Drzen about native plants that could be used in a flower bed project in front of the entrance fence.
- If you are not receiving the monthly eblasts, come talk to a BOG member. Members were reminded that newsletters can be viewed on the Chapter website.

Motion to adjourn: Approved and meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

B-CC IWLA and Community

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

### 1,075th Membership / Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, May 21

Dinner – 6:15pm; Meeting – 7:30pm

### Conservation Dinner and Awards

Thursday, May 22

6:00pm – 9:00pm

### Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, May 28

7:00pm

### Apollo Archery Session

Wednesday, June 4

6:00pm – dusk

### Stop the Bleed Course

Saturday, June 7

10:00am – 2:00pm

### Introduction to Hunting Seminar

Saturday, June 14

8:30am – 4:00pm

### Swap Meet and Silent Auction

Saturday, June 21

8:00am – 3:00pm

### Heritage Day

Sunday, June 29

12:00 noon – 4:00pm

## Junior Rifle Program

Andy Wight

240 205-3982 andywright1@hotmail.com

We're excited to kick off our Junior Rifle Program this summer with a series of introductory sessions held on the second Wednesday of each month in June, July, and August. Sessions will run from 5:30 – 6:30pm for air rifles (ages 8 and up) and 6:30 – 7:30pm for .22 rifles (ages 12 and up). These opening events will focus on safety, basic marksmanship, and equipment handling.

A full, structured program will launch in September, offering regular practices, skills development, and opportunities to participate in local competitions. Opening sessions are free for members, with a suggested \$5 donation for guests to help offset program costs.

Please sign up below for the Air Rifle Program:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-56870894-junior>

Please sign up below for the .22 Rifle Program:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-56871646-2025>

### May 2025 1,075th Monthly Dinner / (Mother's Day Special) Membership Meeting

Wednesday, May 21

50 / 50 Raffle

Dinner served starting at 6:15pm

Bring your wives and mothers out for our  
Special Monthly Dinner

Membership Meeting starts at 7:30pm

**Speakers** – Linda Green and Patrick McNeilly,  
NestWatch & FeederWatch Committee

### May 2025 Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, May 28

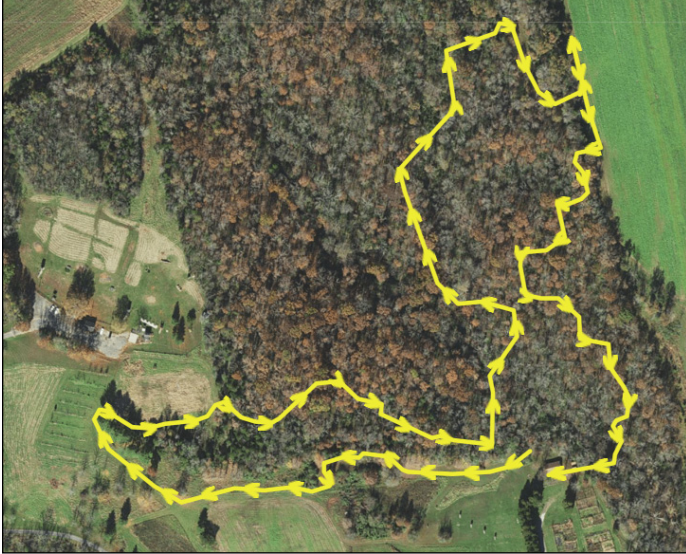
7:00pm



## Shoot the New 3D Archery Course This Year

Dan Dutton, 3D Manager  
Archery.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

Come enjoy the new 3D course beginning May 29. Our 30 target course includes much of the old courses but also includes some new areas of the farm with challenging shots.



The 3D course is available for all members and their guests to shoot at the dates and times listed below. Keep on the lookout for additional openings and special events at the 3D course this year. Members can shoot for \$7 and guests are \$10. If you would like to shoot the 3D course at any time and shoot for free, contact the archery committee to find out about becoming an archery range officer.

The archery field range by the pavilion is available to all members and their guests at all times.

### 3D Archery Range Schedule

Thursday, May 29	6:00pm to dark
Saturday, May 31	9:00am to 1:00pm
Sunday, June 1	9:00am to 1:00pm
Thursday, June 26	6:00pm to dark
Saturday, June 28	9:00am to 1:00pm
Thursday, July 24	6:00pm to dark
Saturday, July 26	9:00am to 1:00pm
Sunday, July 27	9:00am to 1:00pm
Thursday, August 21	6:00pm to dark
Saturday, August 23	9:00am to 1:00pm
Sunday, August 24	9:00am to 12:00pm

### Quorum Needed at May Dinner / Membership Meeting

Please consider attending the May meeting so that the membership can vote on a proposed change to the By-Laws.

## Proposed Changes to the By-Laws

(Edits in red – to be voted on at the May 21, 2025 Membership Meeting)

### Article III – Membership

**Section 2.a** Any person may become a Probationary Member upon completion of the following steps. First, the applicant shall attend two regular monthly meetings of the Chapter. For extenuating circumstances, and on a case-by-case basis, the Board of Governors may elect to offer prospective members the option of attending two other meetings or events instead of attending the first two dinner meetings. Applicants must still attend the 3rd dinner meeting to be sworn in. Second, the applicant shall file with the Membership Secretary a properly completed application for membership which shall be signed by three (3) Chapter Members in good standing, each of whom shall have been a member for more than one (1) year, one of whom shall be on the Board of Governors, and another of whom shall be over twenty-one (21) years of age. Third, the Membership Secretary shall submit the completed application to the Board of Governors at its next regular monthly meeting. Fourth, the Board of Governors shall review the application and make its recommendation to the Chapter Membership at the following regular monthly meeting of the Chapter. Fifth, the applicant may be accepted for Probationary Membership by affirmative vote of a majority of the members present ~~and constituting a quorum~~. Sixth, after being properly sworn in, an accepted applicant shall become a Probationary Member upon payment of the appropriate amounts of monies as prescribed in Article VIII of these By-Laws. (Adopted August 16, 1972; amended February 16, 1977, January 19, 1983, February 21, 1991, and July 1992, September 2006, February 19, 2025, **May 21, 2025**)

**SAVE THE DATE**

### Black Powder Day / Muzzleloader Event

This event has been **scheduled** for  
**Saturday, September 27.**

Updated information about the event will be posted in the June newsletter including a signup genius link.

Contact Mark Gochnour at  
mgdonutman@gmail.com if you have questions.



### Demonstration and Q & A Session

EN Range has offered to have a demonstration of their equipment and question & answer session at the range for the members on Wednesday, May 21 at 5:00pm before the dinner meeting. This is an opportunity to better understand what goes into this operation and see the benefits.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

## Monthly Events

*Mondays  
Mondays*

*Troop 2027 Meetings (Board Room)  
Troop 496 Meetings (Chapter House)*

*7:30pm – 9:00pm  
7:30pm – 9:00pm*

## MAY

Saturday, May 3	Summer Biathlon Program Practice (note earlier time)	*7:00am
Saturday, May 3	Spring Hunter Education Course	7:00am – 6:00pm
Sunday, May 4	Spring Hunter Education Course	7:00am – 6:00pm
Sunday, May 4	Montgomery Bird Club's Spring Walk	7:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, May 7	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm to dusk
Saturday, May 10	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Thursday, May 15	Cub Scout Pack 694 Meeting – Chapter House	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Saturday, May 17	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, May 17	3rd Annual Military Fun Shoot at R&P Range	9:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, May 17	New and Prospective Members Orientation	10:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, May 17	Spring Family Campout	Begins at 3:00pm
Sunday, May 18	Spring Family Campout – Breakfast and Cleanup	Completed by 9:00am
Sunday, May 18	Advanced Planning and Finance Committee Meeting in Chapter House	4:00pm – 4:00pm
Wednesday, May 21	1,075th Membership Dinner Meeting Mother's Day Special	Dinner 6:15pm Meeting 7:30pm
Thursday, May 22	Conservation Education Dinner and Awards Night	6:00pm – 9:00pm
Friday, May 23	Articles for June Newsletter due – send to <a href="mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net">j.lamkin@comcast.net</a>	By End of Day
Wednesday, May 28	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Thursday, May 29	3D Archery Course Open	6:30pm – Dark
Saturday, May 31	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, May 31	3D Archery Course Open	9:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, May 31	Private Event – Chapter House	11:00am – 10:30pm

## JUNE

Sunday, June 1	3D Archery Course Open	9:00am - Dark
Wednesday, June 4	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm to dusk
Thursday, June 5	Past Presidents' Dinner	6:00pm – 9:00pm
Saturday, June 7	No Maryland DNR Fishing License Required	6:00am – 10:00pm
Saturday, June 7	Stop the Bleed Class – Chapter House	10:00am – 2:00pm
Thursday, June 12	Cub Scout Pack 694 – Chapter House	6:00pm – 9:00pm
Thursday, June 12	Legacy Board Meeting – Board Room	7:00pm – 9:30pm
Saturday, June 14	No Maryland DNR Fishing License Required	6:00am – 10:00pm
Saturday, June 14	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, June 14	Introduction to Hunting Seminar	9:00am – 4:00pm
Wednesday, June 18	1,076th Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner 6:15pm Meeting 7:30pm
Saturday, June 21	Swap Meet & Silent Auction	9:00am – 3:00pm
Saturday, June 21	New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour	10:00am – 1:00pm
Wednesday, June 25	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm – 10:00pm
Thursday, June 26	3D Archery Course Open	6:00pm – Dark
Friday, June 27	Articles for July Newsletter due – send to <a href="mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net">j.lamkin@comcast.net</a>	By End of Day
Saturday, June 28	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, June 28	3D Archery Course Open	9:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday, June 29	Heritage Day at the Chapter	12:00 noon – 4:00pm

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

## Welcome to the B-CC IWLA Family!

At the April 2025 Membership Meeting, the following was inducted as a member to the Chapter:

**John Hosky**

**Interests:** Hosting Guest Events; Legislative Affairs; Rifle & Pistol

## 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.

## 50/50 Raffle

Help Support the Chapter!



Raffle tickets will be available at the monthly dinner meeting

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

**50% goes to the ticket holder**

**50% goes to the Chapter**

**to improve the A/V system:**

**update sound/projector system, with ability to host and record zoom meetings**

## Vegetable Gardens

A few garden plots are still available. Contact Larry Anderson (240 246-5301 or andupton9@hotmail.com) if you are interested in renting a plot this year. Single plots (~ 25 x 25 ft) rent for \$ 20 each.



## Small Pond Trout Fishing 2025

1. Trout fishing is for chapter members and immediate family only.
2. Anglers 16 and older must have a Maryland fishing license and \$5.00 trout stamp. Those aged 65 and older qualify for a senior consolidated fishing license; no trout stamp required.
3. Fish from shore only; do not use the boat.
4. Anglers may keep 3 trout per day - no size limit.
5. Anglers may use only one fishing rod at a time.
6. Anglers should park in the chapter house parking lot.
7. Pick up and take all trash out of the small pond area when leaving.
8. Report the number and species caught to:



John Novak, novakgang4@comcast.net,  
301-385-0943 or

Peter Wirth, Peter\_Wirth@verizon.net,  
301-915-6763.

## 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 rate is \$2.00 per session. 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, 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

### 2nd Annual Summer Competition\*

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

## R&P Range Open

The Rifle and Pistol Range will be open on the evening of the monthly dinner meetings from 4:00pm to 6:00pm for members and guests.



## New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour

Come join us on the B-CC IWLA Orientation Tour. The next tours will take place on **Saturdays, May 17 and June 21** from 10:00am to approximately 11:30am *if weather permits*.

This event is open to all members (new and old) and those who are interested in membership to the chapter or just curious about what we do.

Meet Christine Peterson at the Chapter House. Follow Izaak Walton Way through the gate to the Chapter House parking lot where we will be meeting to start the tour.

Signup for the tour using the signup genius link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-54255111-newmember>

Please make sure you include your email address and cell phone number so that if the tour needs to be canceled due to a change in the weather, Christine will be able to contact you.

Contact Christine – christineakcp@comcast.net or 301 938-9773 (cell) if you have questions.



**June 7, June 14, and July 4, 2025**

**No recreational fishing license required on these days.**

**All other state fishing regulations apply.**

Go to [dnr.maryland.gov](http://dnr.maryland.gov) for more information.

### ATTENTION New Members!

**Chapter House cleanups will be on:**

**Saturday, May 17**

**June is canceled due to a Chapter House event**

**Saturday, July 12**

**Starting at 9:00am**

Join us and earn volunteer hours

**As a reminder – probationary (new) members need to help out in one chapter house cleanup as part of their sixteen volunteer hours.**

Signup for the cleanups using the signup genius link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-51060445-monthly>

Questions? Contact John Lamb – [jpatricklamb@aol.com](mailto:jpatricklamb@aol.com)



## UNTIL HELP ARRIVES – STOP THE BLEED CLASS

**Saturday, June 7**

**10:00am – 2:00pm in the Chapter House**

***Class is for members only and is free***

Class space is limited to 30 slots

All equipment is provided

Participants do not need to bring any equipment, unless they would like to

Only thing to bring is a teachable attitude

Email Jack Kang – [jackhkang@gmail.com](mailto:jackhkang@gmail.com) – to sign up

Minutes Count! A person can bleed to death in as little as 5 minutes. Become an active bystander. Learn the skills needed to save a life from the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department.

The ***Until Help Arrives – Stop the Bleed*** training includes:

- Learn about active violence attacks
- Learn how to apply a tourniquet
- Learn other life-saving techniques
- Learn mental strategies to help during a crisis



***Excitement. Challenge. Community service.***

***Self-satisfaction. Camaraderie.***

***Experience it all.***

Join the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department as a volunteer firefighter or EMS provider.

***It's an experience you will never forget.***

## Annual Rifle & Pistol Range Card

Jerry Murray

[jerry5@comcast.net](mailto:jerry5@comcast.net)

This year we are offering an Annual Range Pass to the chapter members for the Rifle & Pistol Range. For \$40.00, you get a card that allows you to shoot at the R&P Range on the weekends when it is open as many times as you want without paying the daily fee. You no longer have to remember to bring a check or cash. Just show the pass along with your membership card to the range officer when you sign in and write 'annual' in the fee paid box of the sign-in sheet. We will have the cards for purchase at the dinner meetings, or contact me if you have questions or to make arrangements to purchase one.



# Annual Spring Family Campout

The Annual Spring Family Campout is scheduled for Saturday, May 17 (weather permitting). This event is open for members and their guests. As usual, the events will start Saturday afternoon and continue into Sunday morning (dinner and breakfast provided). The Chapter House will remain open throughout the event. This is a great opportunity for first-time campers.

## SATURDAY

- Tent setup around the chapter house begins at 3:00pm
- Fishing and Crafts 4:00pm – 6:00pm
- Evening cookout will be provided from 6:00pm – 7:00pm
- S'mores around the campfire at the chapter house firepit

## SUNDAY

- Breakfast will be served Sunday morning to campers starting at 7:00am
- Breakdown and cleanup will be completed by 9:00am

This is a great time to spend time with your immediate family and to meet other B-CC IWLA members, families, and guests. The event is free to members, but we ask for donations from guests to help offset our costs.

Please register so we can plan for food and provide updates due to weather.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-55546043-2025>

## IT Committee Report

Julie Wight, Chair  
jwight00@gmail.com

The IT Committee is actively working on several initiatives to better serve our members. These include expanding payment options, improving email communications, enhancing members-only website functionality, and developing a tool to help both members and prospective members find information more easily.

We welcome your input! Let us know what features or improvements you'd like to see on the website by clicking the link below to share your thoughts.

<https://forms.gle/vEd6iMPfAmVv7vVu8>

## Chapter Elections and the Election Committee

Christine Peterson, Committee Chair  
301 938-9773 christineakcp@comcast.net

Our Chapter is entirely volunteer run, and our officers and board of governors all serve one-year terms. Terms begin on September 1st of each year and conclude at the end of August. We seem to maintain a great deal of continuity in the administration and experience on the board, as the officers typically move through the ranks towards the presidency, thereby serving multiple years. Our most recent past president remains on the board as a voting member for the year immediately following his or her presidency.

An Election Chairperson is selected each year by the current president. This Chairperson selects 4 other members. This committee is responsible for assembling a slate of board members and officers for the June election. The Election Committee also makes selections for the Legacy Foundation board.

The Legacy Foundation is a supporting 501(c)3 non-profit charged with the stewardship of the majority of our liquid assets. Their board has three-year terms that are staggered by design, and they are installed entirely by our chapter. Some members (Category A) are proposed by our president for the election slate and approved by the BOG, some by our nominating committee (Category B) and voted on by the membership.

The Election Committee arrives at a slate by checking with current officers and board members with regards to their intentions of running again for the board and by reaching out to active members that we believe might have an interest to serve. The slate is put together as a baseline for the election process, but any member can also petition to be included on the election ballot at the **May** dinner meeting.

The election slate is posted in this **newsletter (May)**, as well as on the Chapter House notice board. The election is held at the **June** dinner meeting; the incoming board is sworn in at the **August** meeting.

As always, if you are interested in serving on the B-CC Board of Governors, feel free to contact the **Committee Chair, Christine Peterson at 301-938-9773 or christineakcp@comcast.net** or Board of Governors to discuss possibilities. This is a marvelous way to learn more about how much this league and chapter have to offer its members.

## Proposed Slate for Board of Governors 2025 – 2026

### Officers

President	Jerry Murray
1st Vice President	Shannon Novak
2nd Vice President	Sean-David Waterman
Treasurer	Bob Kelly
Corresponding Secretary	Janet Lamkin
Recording Secretary	Jason (Andy) Abell
Membership Secretary	Scott Harmon
Past President	Andy Wight

### Board Members

Stephen Austin	Lloyd Iden
Alexander Cowan	Warner Parks
Sebastian Fainbraun	

### Legacy Board – B

Jeff Seaman	John Lamb
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### Legacy Board – A

Walt Allensworth (to cover the remainder of Joe Snyder's term who has left the area)



## Military Fun Shoot

Please join us for the 3rd annual **Military Fun Shoot** on **Saturday, May 17, 2025, from 9:00am – 1:00pm** to honor our Military past and present. Prizes will be awarded and lunch will be served. **Anyone can win!** Bring your 20th Century or later US Military rifle, carbine or handgun, (AR-15, M1A, .22 caliber training rifles and any pistol firing 9mm .45ACP or .38 Special will also be allowed. Don't have any of those options? Bring your favorite .22 caliber rifle or borrow one at the event. Iron sights, scopes, and red-dot sights will all be allowed, but in separate categories. Bi-pods, rests and slings will also be allowed. **Please bring your own ammo.** We will be using non-standard targets at 100yds, 50yds and 50ft, **designed to allow everyone an equal chance to win a prize.**



The target here shows the front side of a random arrangement of playing cards but the shooting will be done from the back of the target. Best poker hand in each relay wins a prize. If we have enough willing participants, we will have an optional skill competition (shooting at the front side of the target) to determine the best shot in each category. Cost will be \$20 for the event with range fees waived. Intrigued?

Use the following Sign-up Genius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-56217516-3rdannual>

The R&P range will be closed to regular shooting during the event. Watch for the E-Blast. Contact Event coordinator, Jerry Murray or Larry Hess if you have any questions: jerrym5@comcast.net or larry.a.hess@gmail.com.

## Introduction to Hunting Seminar

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America will sponsor its annual "Introduction to Hunting Seminar" on June 14th. Women, men, and teens are all welcome.

This nationally recognized and award winning training will include instruction and discussions about conservation and ethical behavior, the five W's and How of hunting, what is hunting success, preparing to go hunting, techniques and skills for being in the woods, trailing game, animal habitats and habits, choosing a tree stand location, safety and first aid, hunting apps, being skunked, what can you learn when you miss, advantages and disadvantages of hunting companions, choosing an appropriate bow, long gun or muzzleloader and more. There will be plenty of time for questions. There should be an opportunity to work with an experienced tree stand user and determine if climbing one is for you.

This seminar does not replace the required Hunter Education course but is to supplement that course and to expand one's hunting knowledge. The instructors have had

nearly 100 years of hunting experience and what they will share is intended to help participants have a more enjoyable time while hunting.

The seminar will be held at the B-CC IWLA Chapter House in Poolesville, MD. Check in begins at 8:30am, we will start at 9:00am and will continue until around 4:00pm. The cost is \$15 to cover materials. We will be walking in the woods and fields for at least a mile or more so participants should be prepared for that level of activity. Bring your own lunch, drinks, and wear clothes for outdoor walking and going through briars. Participants should make sure that their clothes and exposed body parts are treated with bug spray to resist ticks and other critters.

All non-B-CC IWLA members must bring their printed and signed off Hold Harmless Agreements which are available from [B-CC IWLA Hold Harmless Document-190712.docx](#).

Individuals should contact the instructors at [hunting.seminar.bcciwla@gmail.com](mailto:hunting.seminar.bcciwla@gmail.com). Any questions about the seminar should be sent to this same email address.

Please use the SignUp Genius link below to register for the event:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-intro3>

Class size is limited to 25, so registering early is recommended. Registration deadline is June 2nd.

## Bees and a Bear

David Mecklenburg  
Log Cabin and Apiary Committee Chair  
[dmecklenburg1@gmail.com](mailto:dmecklenburg1@gmail.com)

While I was on vacation in Spain and Portugal, a bear visited the apiary at the chapter. My bees and equipment were damaged, looking more like a war zone than an apiary. The bear was seen several times entering and leaving. Thankfully, some fellow beekeepers cleaned up while I was away. Despite this, the bear continued visiting, causing me to lose several hives, although the ratcheted hives mostly survived.

I am not upset with the bear. We are relocating the hives to a chestnut grove on the property, hoping the bear will lose interest. Contrary to popular belief, the bear mainly seeks larva for protein but also enjoyed the honey, cleaning off all accessible frames. He even rested in flower beds in the apiary.

The bear also damaged some chapter birdhouses and feeders. Please stay alert for the bear.

We had an introductory meeting of Chapter Beekeepers and those interested in beekeeping in March. The meeting was fun and informative. We are looking forward to getting together in the near future. Please look for an announcement in the Newsletter on when the next meeting will be held. If you are a beekeeper, interested in bees, or keeping bee, please attend.



PHOTOS BY DAVID MECKLENBURG



## Heritage Days Celebration at the Chapter

**Sunday, June 29  
12:00 noon – 4:00pm**

The B-CC IWLA Chapter is pleased to open its doors once again for Heritage Days and will offer access to our site to promote our conservation message as well as share our local history. This year marks the 26th annual Heritage Days weekend – a countywide festival offering programs, activities, and tours appealing to visitors of all ages and interests.

We will be opening our doors on Sunday, June 29th. We encourage you to come to the Chapter, enjoy our displays, activities, and discover things about the chapter you may not know. Family activities such as fishing, archeology, colonial living, archery, air pistols, bird watching, wildlife and insect displays, in addition to a picnic lunch and soft drinks. This is a great chance to visit the chapter with your family and/or bring guests to show what the IWLA is all about. Gates will be open from 12:00 noon to 4:00pm on Sunday, June 29th (Rain or Shine).

Questions – contact Andy Wight –  
ConservationEducation.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

Have time to volunteer? We always need volunteers. Please sign up using the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-56828917-2025>

## Shotgun Range Reclamation Update

Jerry Murray  
Chapter 1st Vice President

EN Range has cleared most of the underbrush in the 3 work sections and is sifting the chopped up underbrush and first 2" of soil from the first section. The soil is very wet so they will be adding lime to help dry it out. The lime will also alter the Ph of the soil so we will get better growth from the seed mix when it is put back. EN Range should start a second 2-3" cut thru the first section next week and plan to move on to the second section the following week.

EN Range has offered to have a demonstration of their equipment and question & answer session for the members on Wednesday, May 21 at 5:00pm before the dinner meeting at the range. This is an opportunity to better understand what goes into this operation and see the benefits.

## Membership Committee Report

Scott Harmon, Membership Secretary & Committee Chair  
301 467-0645 (cell) MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

As of the April 2025 Board of Governors meeting, membership stands at 665 total Members: 336 Individuals, 210 Family, 66 Retired Individuals, 38 Retired Families, 11 Associates, 3 Student, and 1 Youth.

The renewal season is almost over. Those that have not renewed will have their access cards turned off, no longer being able to get in the main gate or chapter house. You will also not receive a newsletter by email.

We understand life can be busy. You can still maintain your membership by renewing and adding a \$75 work fee, if you have not volunteered 6 hour at the chapter last year, and a late fee of \$37.50.

Below is a link to renew online.

<https://bcciwla.org/memberrenew>

Please find the below renewal rates:

### Individual

\$205.00 Renewal Rate

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

\$ 37.50 Late Fee

\$317.50 Total

### Family

\$307.50 Renewal Rate

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

\$ 37.50 Late Fee

\$420.00 Total

Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

## Apollo Archery Is Ready For Spring!

John Gorney, Committee Chair  
apolloarchery.bcciwla@gmail.com



The next session of Apollo Archery is quickly approaching. As the weather gets warmer and the days longer, please come out and visit us for an evening of target practice on Wednesday, June 4th. Because it's turkey season, in May we'll be rolling out the 3D gobbler targets to offer some simulated hunting shots.

Check out program details here: <https://bcciwla.org/apollo-archery/>

As we've expanded the program to first responders and their families, please spread the word to anyone interested who qualifies (chapter member or not).

And remember, if you'd like to volunteer, regardless of your skill level with a bow, please reach out.

### 2025 dates:

April 2nd; May 7th; June 4th; July 2nd; August 6th;  
September 3rd; October 1st

There is no fee for participation, and we have equipment for use for folks of all ages and abilities.

Looking for something to do with that backup bow, now that you've upgraded? We're always in search of modern equipment donations. We store the Apollo equipment in a dedicated shed with access limited to use by our participants. Please contact us if you'd like to make a contribution.

For additional details, contact John Gorney at [apolloarchery.bcciwla@gmail.com](mailto:apolloarchery.bcciwla@gmail.com)!



## Yes, Let's Support the Monarch!

Don Perino  
Wildflower Committee Chair  
BCC\_Wildflowers@yahoo.com

In fact the Chapter has been doing this since 2012. That's when I formed the Wildflower Committee. (Currently the Committee consists of myself, David Mecklenburg, Margaret Willson, and Janet Lamkin.)

The field next to the Chapter House has been designated as "The Meadow" and has about 2 acres of Milkweed.

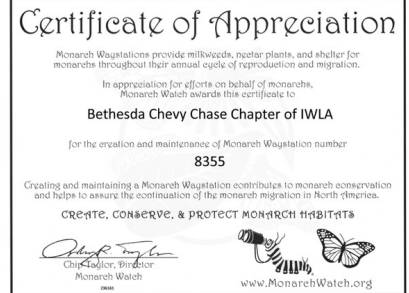
There is a sign located at the edge of the lawn describing our meadow and how it helps the Monarch. We have been awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from a group named Monarch Watch. Our meadow has been designated as a "A colossal size Monarch Waystation" in their database. BTW, we are Monarch Waystation number 8355.



PHOTOS BY DON PERINO

But our work is not done!  
The main battle we face is invasive plants like Common Vetch that is choking out the Milkweed. And the field is full of Tall Fescue grass. It provides zero benefit, and wildlife won't run through tall fescue – it slows them down too much.

In addition, our meadow should have more variety of native wildflowers. But the



invasive plants have to be reduced first.

If you want to help support the Monarch, then please contact me. Phil Taylor (Farm Committee Chair) and I would like to work toward improving our meadow by removing invasive plants. But it is labor intensive.

## DUE DATE

for May Newsletter Articles is

## Saturday, May 24

(note early date)

Submit articles to: [j.lamkin@comcast.net](mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net)

If the article contains photos, please submit them as separate jpg files and include a caption and photo credits.

## It's not on Father's Day this year... but the **SWAP MEET AND SILENT AUCTION** will be on **SATURDAY, JUNE 21**

Set up – 8:00am  
Event – 9:00am to 3:00pm



**We all have too much stuff!**  
**And you've had a year to see just how much...**

If you have anything **outdoors** related and would like a **table** for the **swap meet** or to **donate** an item for the **silent auction**, contact -

**Lawrence Kotchek 240 793- 5316**  
**lawrence@print1.com**

Tables are limited and will be reserved in the order requested.

Open to both members and prospective members.  
Tables cost **\$10.00** with money going to the Land Fund.  
Silent auction benefits the Land Fund.



## Montgomery Bird Club Annual Spring Walk

Diane Seward  
Trina65@verizon.net

The Montgomery County chapter of the Maryland Ornithological Society held its annual spring walk at the Conservation Farm on Sunday, May 4, led by Emily Huang, President of the Bird Club, and escorted by Larry Anderson.

Our Conservation Farm is considered a "hot spot" on eBird ([www.eBird.org](http://www.eBird.org)) based on the number and variety of species observed at the farm over the years. In total, 143 species have been recorded (primarily by sight, a few by sound) at the farm. Our first eBird record was made in June 1965. This year, despite the rain, the party observed 62 species of birds on the campus and reported them to Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology site [www.eBird.org](http://www.eBird.org)

Woods, hedgerows, streams, fields, and ponds provide a wide range of habitat and migration is underway, so that early May is an optimum time to enjoy birding at the farm.

The following birds were observed and counted (Data from Emily Huang's Summary Report):

Mourning Dove	4	Gray Catbird	1
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	2	Northern Mockingbird	3
Chimney Swift	2	Eastern Bluebird	9
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1	Wood Thrush	3
Great Blue Heron	1	American Robin	3
Black Vulture	3	Cedar Waxwing	13
Osprey	1	House Sparrow	2
Cooper's Hawk	1	House Finch	2
Red-tailed Hawk	1	American Goldfinch	4
Barred Owl	1	Grasshopper Sparrow	5
Red-bellied Woodpecker	6	Chipping Sparrow	9
Downy Woodpecker	2	Field Sparrow	6
Pileated Woodpecker	1	Eastern Towhee	4
Eastern Wood-Pewee	1	Yellow-breasted Chat	3
Eastern Phoebe	2	Eastern Meadowlark	1
Great Crested Flycatcher	4	Orchard Oriole	6
Eastern Kingbird	8	Baltimore Oriole	3
White-eyed Vireo	3	Red-winged Blackbird	14
Yellow-throated Vireo	1	Brown-headed Cowbird	11
Warbling Vireo	1	Common Grackle	1
Red-eyed Vireo	3	Common Yellowthroat	5
Blue Jay	2	Northern Parula	4
American Crow	3	Blackburnian Warbler	1
Carolina Chickadee	2	Chestnut-sided Warbler	1
Tufted Titmouse	4	Blackpoll Warbler	1
Tree Swallow	10	Yellow-rumped Warbler	4
Purple Martin	50	Yellow-throated Warbler	1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	14	Prairie Warbler	2
Northern House Wren	1	Scarlet Tanager	1
Carolina Wren	2	Northern Cardinal	10
European Starling	1	Indigo Bunting	8

Many thanks to Larry Anderson who escorted the participants and to Emily Huang who organized the participants.



PHOTOS BY MICHELLE HERRMANN AND DAN RYDER



# CONSERVATION IS OUR MISSION

## Conservation Education Free Spaghetti Dinner Awards and Speaker

Thursday, May 22

Dinner – 6:00pm – 7:00pm;

Awards – 7:00pm; Speaker – 7:30pm

Please block your calendars and register for this year's Conservation Education Dinner. This annual spaghetti dinner is open to members, their guests, and interested members of the public. The event traditionally features a speaker who addresses a conservation-oriented area, work, or issue.



Montgomery  
SCD

Our guest speaker this year will be John Zawitoski. John serves as the District Manager for the Montgomery Soil Conservation District, where he supports local farmers with conservation planning, land preservation, and technical assistance. He has over 30 years of experience working with Maryland's agricultural community through state, federal, and county programs focused on soil and water quality, environmental stewardship, and farm viability.



The Global Ecology Program

We will also be presenting our B-CC IWLA Conservation Education Awards to selected projects from the Global Ecology Program at Poolesville High School. These awards are given to projects that our review team felt were aligned with the conservation values of our chapter. The Global Ecology Program at PHS is a field-based program that provides students with the knowledge and understanding of the scientific, cultural, social, political, economic, and technological conditions that affect the quality of life on our planet. All seniors in the program are required to complete a hands-on environment-related project prior to graduation.

Dinner will be served 6:00pm – 7:00pm, with the awards starting at 7:00pm, followed by our guest speaker. Dinner is free of charge, but reservations are required. Please sign up on the link below: (We want to make sure that there is enough spaghetti for all!!!)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-56182749-2025>

If you are able to help with the setup, preparation of the dinner, and cleanup for this event please sign up below. This is a great way to earn Volunteer hours.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-56184038-2025>

We look forward to seeing you all on Thursday night, May 22 at 6:00pm!



Please Join Us for the  
**2025 NATIONAL CONVENTION**  
**Green Bay, Wisconsin, July 18-19**  
At the Tundra Lodge Resort, Water Park and Conference Center

## Defending America's Great Outdoors: A Promise to Future Generations



**Please join us at the League's 2025 convention in  
Green Bay, July 18-19! Everyone is invited.**

The League has a 100-year legacy of defending the great outdoors so we hope you will help us keep that promise to future generations. Our work is never finished. Today, the threats to clean water and a healthy environment are different than the challenges we faced in the 1920s but are no less urgent.

In Wisconsin, you will meet like-minded members and supporters, enjoy our convention meetings, celebrations and opportunities to see sights around Green Bay. The early bird reception is Thursday evening, July 17. See details and updates at [iwl.org/convention2025](https://iwl.org/convention2025).