



MAY 2026 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

"To know the beauty and understanding of nature, and the value of wildlife, woodlands, and open space."

Every time I enter the chapter property I look with pride at everything our members have accomplished. While the foundation was there when we purchased the initial farm, it was through the hard work and dedication of our many members over the years to build it into a place that showcases the goals of our pledge. As members, we commit to this when we join the chapter and the members that come to the dinner meetings are reminded of this commitment when they repeat it as we swear in new members. If you have not read it in a while, please do so and recommit to working toward those goals and encouraging others to do the same.

Spring is a busy time here and we have many events coming up this month that I hope you will participate in. Our junior rifle program is starting back up, we have a fun shoot with prizes at the R&P range on military appreciation day in honor of our veterans, the family campout is this month, the sporting clays portion of the shotgun range is re-opening, we will be honoring our mothers at our monthly dinner, and we will be having our annual conservation education and awards dinner which showcases our commitment to community outreach and the education of our youth in the field of conservation. More information about these and the other happenings at the chapter are in the newsletter and on the website.

The final part of this message involves a topic I try very hard to avoid speaking about: "politics", but I am asking you as IKE's to be aware of political issues involving conservation. Those of you that have come to dinner meetings have heard about bills in the county and state legislatures that weaken the laws that protect our open spaces. Our governor recently spoke about using our parks to solve the housing crisis. The impact of the recent sewage pipe spill into our Potomac River is still being felt downstream. The repair for that pipe had been awaiting permit approval for 2 years! Our members in Minnesota are gearing up to try and help preserve the federally protected Boundary Waters wilderness area from the Interior Dept.'s recent approval to allow copper mining. All of these are threats to our commitment in our pledge. When the opportunity arises, regardless of your political party or leanings, please speak out on these issues and engage others to express your opinion on ways to protect and preserve our open spaces for the enjoyment of everyone.

Jerry Murray
President

HELP NEEDED IN THE KITCHEN -

Membership Dinner Meetings

We are still in need of additional cooks for our dinner meetings. If you can help out in any way, either short or long term, please get in touch with Carol Hulce-Efdimis. The help does not have to be a long-term commitment, even cooking or helping for one dinner would be appreciated.

Volunteers Needed to Assist Chapter Treasurer

We are looking for members to help our treasurer and the board to manage the chapter finances. The duties would include Data Entry (bookkeeping). If you are interested, please contact Jerry Murray at jerrym5@comcast.net or 202 438-4202.

Board of Governors

Fiscal Year: September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2026

OFFICERS

Francis (Jerry) Murray, President

202 438-4202 • jerry5@comcast.net

Shannon Novak, 1st Vice President

301 785-8461 • snovak516@gmail.com

Sean-David Waterman, 2nd Vice President

816 812-5763 • seandavid@me.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

BOARD MEMBERS

Stephen Austin

Alex Cowan

Sebastian Fainbraun

Lloyd Iden

Andy Wight, Past President

240 205-3982 • andywight1@hotmail.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 2026 Board of Governors Meeting and the March 2026 Membership Meeting

Wednesday, March 25, 2026 – Board of Governors Meeting

- Meeting called to order by President Jerry Murray at 7:10pm.
- Muzzleloader raffle: 45 tickets sold.
- One stove price to date/ awaiting two more; one parking lot/ramp price next week.
- Bookkeeping help needed by Treasurer Bob Kelly.
- Mark Gochmour will re-certify for kitchen and Brian Savage looking into taking the class.
- Grant update: Boats purchased, biathlon targets, equipment and rifles ordered.
- Remind committee chairs about spending requirements.
- Shotgun Range update – work progressing on getting equipment repaired and a sporting clays course set up.
- Next month's dinner meeting speaker to talk about concealed carry in Maryland.
- Treasurer Bob Kelly provided a financial summary of the chapter's accounts.
- President Jerry Murray would like to see a mid-year snapshot of actual vs. projected income and expenses.
- Current membership is 608.
- Spring clean-up April 18, get committee chairs to send in a list of projects.
- Fly tying class not well attended, need to work on getting the word out to promote our events.
- Discussion about upcoming events on the calendar.
- R&P update on range officer signup and April 4th clean-up/opening day.
- R&P will have annual payment cards for members again this year.
- John Lamb looking for guidance about setting up the awards in the chapterhouse and what do we do with the old awards.
- Give away and then donate many of our old books and magazines.
- Discussion about locking in a date for a trapping class. Mark Gochmour will check to see what date was proposed.
- Social media posting: Shannon Novak and Andy Wight have done it in the past.
- Revive the membership drive group.
- Jerry Murray will talk about sharing with the other chapters at the June Division Meeting.

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER:

- Mark Gochmour provided an update on the coyote hunting season at the chapter. No coyotes were harvested (weather was very poor). Discussion about the trapping presentation that was given by DNR at the last dinner meeting.
- Should members put their name or member number on their game cameras?
- Should we update our perimeter property markings? May see if the scouts want to help with this project.

Motion to Adjourn – 9:20pm

Wednesday, March 18, 2026 - 1,085th Dinner Meeting Minutes

- President Jerry Murray called the meeting to order at approximately 7:18pm.
- Welcomed new and returning members and encouraged introductions.

(continued on page 3)

SUMMARY

(continued from page 2)

- Highlighted upcoming events and volunteer opportunities including: Spring Cleanup Day, Hunter Education Class, Family Campout, ongoing committee and volunteer needs.
- Emphasized importance of volunteer participation across all committees.
- Guest speaker Joshua Debroah (MD DNR Fur Bear Biologist) presented on trapping and wildlife management in Maryland. Key discussion points included:
 - Definition and management of fur-bearing species (14 regulated species in Maryland).
 - Role of trapping in population control, disease mitigation, and habitat protection.
 - Economic and cultural benefits of trapping.
 - Use of regulated trapping to reduce nuisance wildlife and improve habitat balance.
 - Potential application of targeted trapping for species such as raccoons, foxes, and coyotes to support turkey recruitment and habitat health.
 - Safety considerations for pets and modern trap design standards.
 - Economic and cultural benefits of trapping.
- Eagle Scout candidate Michael Waterman of Troop 773 presented on scout activities and partnership with the chapter:
 - Multiple Eagle Scout projects completed and planned.
 - Community service activities (food drives, conservation work).
 - Ongoing collaboration with the chapter for outdoor education and service.
- Membership Secretary Scott Harmon reported that the Membership count stands at 602.
- Membership cards recently distributed; delays attributed to processing timelines.
- Database reconciliation with national organization underway.
- Three prospective members inducted as probationary members.
- Chapter House chair John Lamb reported on future floor refinishing and exterior touch-ups planned.
- Chapter Farm Phil Taylor – Fields prepared for spring planting, sunflower planting planned for dove fields, equipment maintenance ongoing; volunteers needed.
- Ponds & Streams – Fly-tying class scheduled (March 22) and approximately 100 trout remain in pond; members encouraged to fish and report catches.
- Forestry / Environmental Stewardship – Volunteers needed for clearing downed trees in shotgun range area.
- Log Cabin committee chair Dave Mecklenburg reported on plans for open house events and increased member engagement.
- Christmas Tree Grove – New volunteer lead (Ernie Koutras) – restoration efforts underway.
- Rifle & Pistol Range – Junior Rifle Program expanding; volunteers and RSOs needed.
- Shotgun Range – Ongoing restoration efforts; additional Range Officers required.

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER:

- Recognition of historical leadership contributions from past chapter presidents.
- Continued emphasis on volunteer engagement and stewardship.

Motion to Adjourn

May 2026 1,087th Monthly Dinner / Membership Meeting

Wednesday, May 20

50 / 50 Raffle

(tickets are available in the Boardroom)

**Dinner Tickets are sold in the Boardroom
Adults – \$15; Kids – \$7**

Celebrate Mother's Day

(champagne and a rose for all mothers)

Menu

**Appetizers, Fried Chicken, Tater Salad,
Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Rolls, Dessert
Bring your own Libations**

Flintlock Rifle Raffle Ticket Sale

Tickets – \$20 each

Dinner served starting at 6:15pm

Membership Meeting starts at 7:30pm

Speaker – Mark Whelan (World Turkey Slam)

May 2026 Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, May 27

7:00pm

Welcome to the B-CC IWLA Family!

The following were inducted as members to the Chapter:

February 2026 Membership Dinner Meeting

Jack St. John – Individual

Interests: Rifle & Pistol Range; Shotgun Range; Youth Activities & Scouting; Hunter Safety & Education

March 2026 Membership Dinner Meeting

Omar Hishmeh – Individual

Interests: Shotgun Range; Hunter Safety & Education; Conservation Education

Mustafa Ostrander – Individual

Interests: Shotgun Range; Farming; Legislation Affairs; Conservation

Dominic & Lindy Rizzo – Family

Interests: Rifle & Pistol Range; Shotgun Range; Hunter Safety & Education

April 2026 Membership Dinner Meetings

Abishek Aitha – Individual

Interests: Chapter Activities & Festivities

Nikki Ghorpade – Individual

Interests: Rifle & Pistol Range; Shotgun Range; Forestry; Chapter House

UPCOMING EVENTS / VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

B-CC IWLA and Community

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Flintlock Rifle Raffle Ticket Sales
See page 8

Membership / Dinner Meeting
Wednesday, May 20
See page 3

Military Fun Shoot
Saturday, May 16
See page 13

Spring Family Campout
Saturday May 16 – Sunday, May 17
See page 9

New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour
Saturday, May 23
See page 11

Swap Meet and Silent Auction
Sunday, June 21
See page 13

Heritage Day
Saturday, June 27
See page 8

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Log Cabin Schedule
See page 10

Chapter House Cleanup
Saturday, May 16
Saturday, June 13
See page 11

Assist Chapter Treasurer
See page 1

Heritage Day
Saturday, June 27
See page 8

Speaker for May Membership Dinner Meeting

B-CC IWLA member Mark Whalen recently completed a World Turkey Slam which involves harvesting all 6 subspecies of wild turkeys found in North America. He will be talking about his experience.

Donations and Grants Committee

Valerie Carregal, Chair
carregalv@gmail.com; 202 421 - 4964

Great News! The B-CC IWLA website will soon have a 'Donate' button in full view on the homepage. Now you can direct family and friends interested in helping our Chapter maintain the 624-acre property in Poolesville, Maryland, where we promote sustainable land use, native habitat restoration, and environmental education, to go to our website <https://bcciwla.org/> and donate. You will be able to make the donation in memory or in honor of a special someone. Our campaign to collect 100K will kick off this MAY 2026.

Just in time too, as beginning with the 2026 tax year (filed in 2027), and onward, you can deduct up to \$2000 in cash charitable contributions (\$1000 for single) on your IRS Form 1040 while taking the standard deduction, thanks to the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. This is an "above-the-line" deduction, meaning it reduces your adjusted gross income (AGI) even without itemizing.

So not only a wonderful gift to our qualified 501(c)3 non-profit, but the donation will help offset your AGI resulting in a lower tax bill. A win-win for everyone.

Until active the link can be found in the Newsletter & on our Facebook page.

Donate Now! Every single dollar makes a difference. No donation is too small.

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/donate-to-protect-vital-natural-resources-from-soil-to-wildlife-and-clean-water>

Click above to open link!



**FATHER'S DAY
EVENTS
Sunday, June 21**

Swap Meet and Silent Auction
9:00am — 3:00pm
in the Chapter House

★ ★ ★

Shotgun Range Open
Sporting Clays
9:00am — 3:00pm

★ ★ ★

Rifle & Pistol Range Open
9:00am — 4:00pm

★ ★ ★

Cookout at the Chapter House
12:00 noon

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Weekly Events

<i>Mondays</i>	<i>Troop 2027G Meetings (Board Room)</i>	<i>7:30pm – 9:00pm</i>
<i>Mondays</i>	<i>Troop 496B Meetings (Chapter House)</i>	<i>7:30pm – 9:00pm</i>
<i>Sundays</i>	<i>Shotgun Range Open</i>	<i>9:00am – 3:00pm</i>

MAY

Thursday, May 14	Log Cabin Workday	10:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, May 16	Chapterhouse Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon Saturday
Saturday, May 16	4th Annual Military Fun Shoot at R&P Range	9:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday, May 17	Shotgun Range Open	9:00am – 3:00pm
Wednesday, May 20	Membership Dinner Meeting Speaker – Mark Whalen	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Thursday, May 21	Log Cabin Workday	10:00am – 1:00pm
Thursday, May 21	Cub Scout Pack 694 Meeting in Chapter House	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Saturday, May 23	New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour SignUp Genius: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DCAA28A7F8C25-62715355-bcc	10:00am – 11:30am
Saturday, May 23	Spring Family Campout	Beginning at 3:00
Sunday, May 24	Spring Family Campout – Cleanup & Breakfast	by 9:00am
Sunday, May 24	Shotgun Range Open	9:00am – 3:00pm
Wednesday, May 27	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Thursday, May 28	Log Cabin Workday	10:00am – 1:00pm
Friday, May 29	Articles for June 2026 Newsletter are due – send articles to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Friday, May 29	NAVHDA Spring Test – Chapter House, Front Field, Small & Large Ponds, A-1 & C-3 Fields	All Day
Saturday, May 30	NAVHDA Spring Test – Chapter House, Front Field, Small & Large Ponds, A-1 & C-3 Fields	All Day
Saturday, May 30	SOS Stream Monitoring Spring Sampling – meet at Archery Pavillion	1:00pm
Saturday, May 30	3-D Archery Course Open	9:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, May 30	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am – 9:30am
Sunday, May 31	NAVHDA Spring Test – Chapter House, Front Field, Small & Large Ponds, A-1 & C-3 Fields	All Day
Sunday, May 31	3-D Archery Course Open	9:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday, May 31	Shotgun Range Open	9:00am – 3:00pm

JUNE

Wednesday, June 3	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range – Veterans & Active Military Invited	6:00pm – dusk
Thursday, June 4	Log Cabin Workday	10:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, June 6	No Maryland DNR Fishing License Required	6:00am – 10:00pm
Saturday, June 6	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am – 9:30am
Saturday, June 6	Introduction to Hunting Seminar	9:00am – 3:00pm
Sunday, June 7	NRA Basic Pistol Training Class	8:30am – 6:00pm
Thursday, June 11	Log Cabin Workday	10:00am – 1:00pm
Thursday, June 11	Legacy Board Meeting – Board Room	7:00pm – 9:30pm
Saturday, June 13	No Maryland DNR Fishing License Required	6:00am – 10:00pm
Saturday, June 13	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am – 9:30 am
Saturday, June 13	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Saturday, June 13	NAVHDA Dog – Testing “Aims and Rules” Clinic – Chapter House & Fields	All Day
Saturday, June 13	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Sunday, June 14	NAVHDA Dog – Testing “Aims and Rules” Clinic – Chapter House & Fields	All Day
Wednesday, June 17	Monthly Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner 6:15pm Meeting 7:30pm
Thursday, June 18	Log Cabin Workday	10:00am – 1:00pm
Thursday, June 18	Cub Scout Pack 694 – Chapter House	6:00pm – 9:00pm
Saturday, June 20	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am – 9:30am
Saturday, June 20	IWLA MD Division Meeting	9:00am – 2:00pm
Sunday June 21	Father's Day Swap Meet & Silent Auction & Picnic & Fishing & Shotgun Range Shoot	9:00am – 3:00pm
Saturday, June 20	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am – 9:30am
Saturday, June 20	New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour SignUp Genius: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DCAA28A7F8C25-62715355-bcc	10:00am – 11:30am
Wednesday, June 24	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm – 10:00pm
Thursday, June 25	Log Cabin Workday	10:00am – 1:00pm
Friday, June 26	Articles for June Newsletter due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, June 27	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am – 9:30am
Saturday, June 27	3-D Archery Course Open	9:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, June 27	Heritage Day at the Chapter	12:00 noon – 4:00pm
Sunday, June 28	3-D Archery Course Open	9:00am – 1:00pm

SOS Stream Monitoring Spring Sampling

Dan Dutton
mr.dutton.cbgs@gmail.com

If you're interested in seeing what lives in the creeks on the conservation farm, what the quality of the water is, or how those change over time, plan to come to our spring Save Our Streams sampling event at 1:00pm on May 30, meeting at the archery pavilion. We will use nets to sample the organisms living in the stream and will conduct chemical water quality



measurements to see the exact condition of the water quality. These data are used as part of a nation-wide citizen science initiative to track changes in water quality.

Sampling should take a little over an hour and if you have students who need SSL hours,

bring the forms and we can sign them. Bring boots or waders if you have them and plan to get wet, learn something about the farm, and have fun.

If you have sampled in the past or are interested in becoming a certified monitor, the Rockville IWLA is hosting a SOS training July 12, 1:00 -5:00pm. You can sign up at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/save-our-streams-training-iwla-rockville-tickets-1986349764617>

If you have any questions about our local sampling, contact Dan Dutton mr.dutton.cbgs@gmail.com.



Membership Committee Report

Scott Harmon, Membership Secretary & Committee Chair
301 467-0645 (cell) membershipsecretary.bcc.iwla@gmail.com

As of the April Board Meeting, membership stands at 635 total members: 315 Individuals, 214 Family, 59 Retired Individuals, 34 Retired Families, 9 Associates, 3 Student, and 1 Youth.

There are still a few members that have not renewed for 2026. If you have contacted me about your renewal, no worries, I am just getting caught back up with responses to your calls and emails. In May we will be contacting those that have not renewed in hopes of getting more returning members.

This year it is on our members to log your work hours. Please use the link below to log your hours.

<https://bcciwla.org/log-your-hours/>

Lastly, it's important to increase our membership this year. Share our beautiful farm by inviting friends and family to join you at our ranges, fish at the big pond, go for a hike, or bring them to a dinner meeting.

Small Pond Trout Fishing

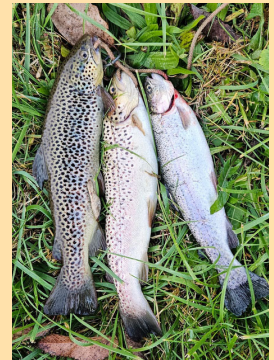
There are still plenty of trout in the small pond!

***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.**



OPEN TO PUBLIC!!



IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE 3-D ARCHERY

20601 IZAAK WALTON WAY
POOLESVILLE, MARYLAND

-WARM UP ON TARGET BAG RANGE!
-SHOOT OVER 30 LIFE-SIZE ANIMALS
ON OUR NATURE TRAIL COURSE IN WOODS

2026 SEASON CALENDAR

Weekends 9am-1pm

May 30-31

June 27-28

July 25-26

August 29-30

Guests-\$15 Members-\$10 KIDS-FREE!



Archery.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

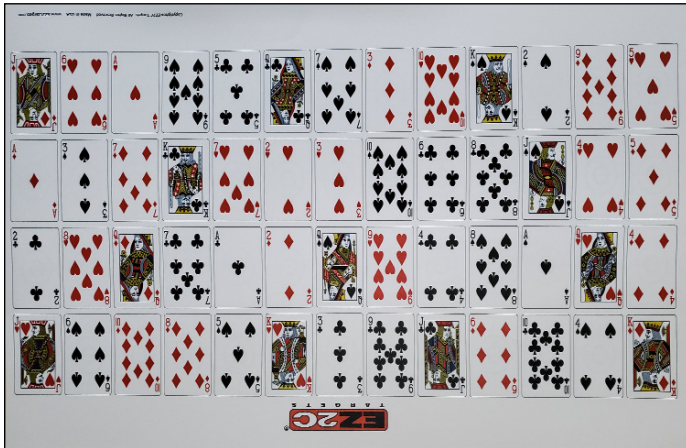
Rifle & Pistol Range Committee Report

Larry Hess, Chair
larry.a.hess@gmail.com

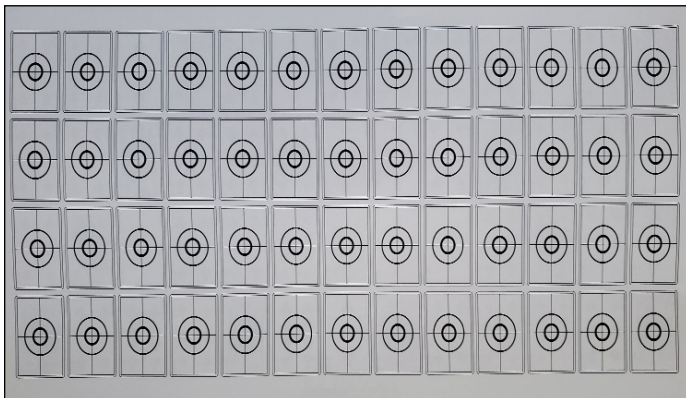
Any current Range Officer who has not received their duty day assignment should contact Larry Hess (larry.a.hess@gmail.com).

4th Annual Military Fun Shoot

The shoot will be held on May 16th (Armed Forces Day) from 9:00am – 1:00pm. The target contains likenesses of a deck of 52 cards (see target photos). Best poker hand wins. Prizes will be awarded for each relay. \$20 admission includes lunch and one target (range fee waived).



Card Deck Target – Front



Card Deck Target – Back

NRA Shorting Sports Training Courses Update

We will be hosting a variety of firearms training courses at the chapter this year thanks to member Rich Clement who is certified in a wide variety of firearms training courses. Below are the next three upcoming NRA training classes that will be offered at the chapter.



The classes will start out in the chapterhouse and then shift to the appropriate shooting range for the hands-on portion of the class. To get additional information and sign up, use the link to go to the NRA website.

- June 7: NRA Basic Pistol Shooting Course with MD Handgun Qualification License
<https://www.nrainstructors.org/CourseDetails.aspx?Courseid=922851>
- July 12: NRA Basic Pistol Shooting Course with MD Handgun Qualification License
<https://www.nrainstructors.org/CourseDetails.aspx?Courseid=922852>
- August 9: NRA Basic Shotgun Shooting Course
<https://www.nrainstructors.org/CourseDetails.aspx?Courseid=893704>

More courses are planned subject to scheduling restrictions.

Junior Rifle Program

We are starting the new season of the junior rifle program on May 12th and continuing twice a month on Tuesday evenings. We will start with some introductory sessions followed by a structured marksmanship program with regular practices that include safety briefings and skill development with the opportunity to compete in local competitions. All equipment will be provided. If interested, please contact Larry Hess: larry.a.hess@gmail.com or Daniel Koehn: dkoehn13@gmail.com.



Archery Range Committee Update

Chuck Thornton, Chair
Archery.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

We have resumed hosting military service members and veterans and the first responder community for Apollo Archery on the first Wednesday of each month through October. Apollo Archery dates: June 3rd; July 1st; August 5th; September 2nd; October 7th.

We will offer the 3D shoots from 9:00am – 1:00pm on the last weekend of each month. Public 3D shoot dates: April 25 – 26, May 30 – 31, June 27 – 28, July 25 – 26, and August 29 – 30.

The Archery Committee will also be offering instructional sessions throughout the Summer. Stay tuned to the archery email list for announcements.

Finally, we are planning to host a fun tournament this Summer. Specifics to be announced soon. Please contact Scott Gordon at Archery.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com if you would like to help us with planning and logistics.

And of course, the range is always open – come out and shoot any time!

DUE DATE
for June Newsletter Articles is
Wednesday, May 27.

Submit articles to: j.lamkin@comcast.net
If the article contains photos, please submit them as separate jpg files and include a caption and photo credits.

Shotgun Range Update

Jerry Murray
jerrym5@comcast.net

Thanks to a very dedicated group of volunteers who have been spending every weekend the past several months getting it ready, a 50 target sporting clays course has been set up at the shotgun range.

The range will be open on Sundays starting on May 17th from 9:00am to 3:00pm. The fees will remain the same as before: \$14 for guests, \$12 for members (same for members from other IWLA chapters w/ ID) and \$55 for a book of 5 tickets.

If you are interested in being a range officer at the shotgun range, please contact me.

Izaak Walton League of America

Maryland State Division Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for:
Saturday, June 20, 2026

Bethesda – Chevy Chase Chapter

Coffee and refreshments will be served at 9:15am.
The meeting will convene at 9:30am.

All members of the Maryland Division are welcome to attend. Only members of the Board can vote on any issues.

Questions: contact Jeff Deschamps
(jeff.deschamps@verizon.net).

FLINTLOCK RIFLE RAFFLE

\$20 Per Ticket



Austin & Halleck

Half Stock Mountain Rifle
(1.66 twist)
.50 Caliber Flintlock
and related items

Tickets are available at the May Dinner Meeting
or
Contact Jerry Murray – jerrym5@comcast.net

Winning Ticket will be drawn at the
May Membership Meeting
(Wednesday, May 20)

Need not be present to win



Heritage Days Celebration at the Chapter

Saturday, June 27

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 27th annual Heritage Days weekend, a countywide festival offering programs, activities, and tours appealing to visitors of all ages and interests.

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 Saturday, June 27th (Rain or Shine).

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

Have time to volunteer or need volunteer hours? Please sign up using the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-63229059-2026>

Introduction to Hunting Seminar 2026

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter will sponsor its annual "Introduction to Hunting Seminar" on Saturday, June 6. 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 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 Chapter House. Check in begins at 8:30am, we will start at 9:00am and will continue until around 3:00pm. 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 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 Agreement – link below.

<https://bcciwla.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/B-CC-IWLA-Hold-Harmless-Docment-1907124-5.pdf>

Contact the instructors at hunting.seminar.bcciwla@gmail.com.

Any questions about the seminar should be sent to this same email address. Participants will be sent a preliminary questionnaire so the instructors are more informed about those who are attending

Use the SignUp Genius below to register –

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-62715996-intro>

Class size is limited to 15, so registering early is recommended. Registration deadline is usually around the end of May/beginning of June.



The Annual Spring Family Campout is scheduled for Saturday, May 16 (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 chapterhouse 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 chapterhouse firepit

SUNDAY

- Breakfast will be served Sunday morning to campers starting at 7:00am
- Breakdown & 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 by May 13 so we can plan for food and provide updates due to weather.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-63229055-2026>

Hunter Education Course Update

John Lamb, Committee Chair
jpatricklamb@aol.com

The B-CC IWLA Hunter Education Team graduated 21 students on April 26th, 2026.

It was a cold and rainy weekend but the entire class passed with an average score of 96 percent!

Special thanks go to the instructors whom donated their time and expertise: Nita and Jim Adkins, Shannon Novak, Gary Monroe, Rich Clement, Frank Och, Butch Mezick, Scott Harmon, Walt Allensworth, Tad Bodmer, Dave Bixler and Doug Smith. A special thank you goes to Carol Hulce-Efdimis for acquiring the necessary hot dogs!!! :)



They all passed!

PHOTO BY WALT ALLENSWORTH

The Log Cabin and the Chapter Spring Workday

David Mecklenburg, Chair
Log Cabin Committee

Thank you to all the chapter members who came down and helped at the log cabin on April 18th. We had several projects completed and a great time. The inside windows were cleaned and primed. Several smaller but necessary tasks were also completed. The log cabin committee has an email list of current members who are willing to help with future tasks. We meet on weekdays and weekends. If you would like to be added the email list, please send your contact information to me at dmecklenburg1@gmail.com. Helping at the cabin is a great way to earn work hours.



My favorite place at the chapter is sitting on the log cabin porch. The cabin is a perfect place to unwind. So, the next time you are at the chapter come on down and enjoy it. When you see the flag flying from the front porch of the cabin this is a sign the cabin is open for visits.



While you are enjoying the chapter think of how nice it would be for the log cabin to be used more often. Dennis Hockman, the Editor of Preservation, the magazine for the

National Trust for Historic Preservation, in the Spring 2026, Vol. 28, No. 2 page 2 states, *"Through adaptive reuse, we are reminded that preservation isn't just about honoring the past. It's about ensuring that historic places continue to serve, inspire, and support the communities around them."* Over the years the chapter has strived for this and a dedicated group of members are striving to keep what we have but looking to find ways to utilize the log cabin in more ways. Do you have an idea?



PHOTOS BY DAVID MECKLENBURG

Chapter Elections and the Election Committee

Andy Wight, Committee Chair
240 205-3982 andywight1@hotmail.com

Our Chapter is entirely volunteer run, with all officers and members of the Board of Governors serving one year terms. Each term begins on September 1 and concludes at the end of August. Thanks to strong participation and steady leadership, we maintain excellent continuity from year to year. Officers typically progress through the leadership ranks toward the presidency, which allows them to serve for multiple years. The immediate past president also remains on the board as a voting member for the year following their term.

Each year, the current president appoints an Election Chairperson, who then selects four additional members to form the Election Committee. This committee is responsible for assembling a slate of officers and board members for the June election, as well as recommending candidates for the Legacy Foundation Board.

The Legacy Foundation is a supporting 501(c)(3) nonprofit entrusted with stewarding the majority of our liquid assets. Its board members serve staggered three year terms to ensure continuity. All members are installed by our Chapter: some (Category A) are proposed by the president and approved by the Board of Governors, while others (Category B) are nominated by the Election Committee and voted on by the membership.

To build the annual slate, the Election Committee consults current officers and board members regarding their interest in continuing to serve and reaches out to active members who may wish to join the board. The resulting slate serves as the baseline for the election process; however, any member may petition to be added to the ballot at the May dinner meeting.

The proposed slate is published below and posted on the Chapter House notice board. Elections take place at the June dinner meeting, and the incoming board is sworn in at the August meeting.

If you are interested in serving on the B-CC Board of Governors, please feel free to contact the Election Committee Chair, Andy Wight, at 240-205-3982 or andywight1@hotmail.com, or speak with any current Board member. Serving is a wonderful way to learn more about the League and all that our Chapter offers its members.

Proposed Slate for Board of Governors 2026 – 2027

Officers

President	Shannon Novak
First VP	Sean-David Waterman
Second VP	Open
Treasurer	Bob Kelly
Membership Secretary	Gina Staver
Recording Secretary	Derek Woodward
Corresponding Secretary	Janet Lamkin

BOG Members

Alex Cowan	Tom Moore
Vic Ezerski	Dan Pasquale
Sebastian Fainbraun	

Past President

Jerry Murray

Legacy Board – B

Ted Whitehouse



CONSERVATION IS OUR MISSION

Conservation Education Free Spaghetti Dinner Awards and Speaker

Thursday, May 28, 2026

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.



Our guest speaker this year will be Samantha Puckett, Clean Water Program Director: Samantha joined the Izaak Walton League in March of 2016 as the Clean Water Fellow. She has held 4 positions at the League; Clean Water Fellow, Save Our Streams Coordinator, Save Our Streams Manager, and now Clean Water Program Director. Samantha currently directs multiple staff within the Clean Water Program, overseeing the Save Our Streams, Salt Watch, and Nitrate Watch volunteer monitoring programs. Samantha is an experienced stream monitor and hands-on educator, including one year as a Chesapeake Conservation Corps member. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Science of Natural and Environmental Systems from Cornell University, and a Master of Environmental Science and Policy at Johns Hopkins University.



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 from 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/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-63885254-2026>

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/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-63892190-2026>

We look forward to seeing you all on Thursday night, May 28th at 6:00pm!

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 23, June 20 and July 18** 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.

Sign up for the tour using the signup genius link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-62715355-bcc>

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.

**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**

ATTENTION New Members!

Chapter House cleanups will be held on:

Saturday, May 16

Saturday, June 13

Saturday, July 11

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/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-51060445-monthly>

Questions? Contact John Lamb –
jpatricklamb@aol.com

3D Archery Course

Dan Dutton
mr.dutton.cbgs@gmail.com

Come out to shoot the expanded 3D archery course –
The targets are all set up for the 2026 3D archery season. Archers, please join us to shoot our 1.25 mile course with over 32 targets. Last year we added a new loop and for 2026 we have even more new shots and 10 brand new targets.



The course is open to members and guests from 9:00am – 1:00pm on May 30 – 31, June 27 – 28, July 25 – 26, and August 29 – 30. The cost for members is \$10, \$15 for guests, and kids are free. Please bring cash.

If you are interested in shooting more often or would like to help out with the course, consider becoming an archery range volunteer. You don't need to be an expert in archery, just be available to direct archers to the course, and get their paperwork. Range volunteers are able to shoot the course for free and at times when the course isn't open to other members and guests.

If you'd like to help, sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B49ABA62BA3FF2-62824799-bcc#/>

or contact Dan Dutton mr.dutton.cbgs@gmail.com. Hope to see you on the course this year.

Calendar Submissions

Meetings and events that need to be added to the website calendar and newsletter calendar should be sent to 1st Vice President Shannon Novak, snovak516@gmail.com; Andy Wight, andywight1@hotmail.com; and Corresponding Secretary Janet Lamkin, j.lamkin@comcast.net.

B-CC IWLA Summer Biathlon Program 2026 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. SEASON PASS:** member – \$25; non-member – \$65

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/best) / fitnesscrafters@proton.me, chairman B-CC IWLA Biathlon Committee. Other points of contact are: Sonny Lacey c: 469-360-3500 (text best) / sonny@coldwaterdesign.com; Sean Stevens c: 202-230-2256 (text best) / seanhoya@gmail.com.

Practice Schedule Dates

Saturday, May 30	7:30am
Saturday, June 6	7:30am
Saturday, June 20	7:30am
Saturday, June 27	7:30am
Saturday, July 11	7:30am
Saturday, July 25	7:30am

Saturday, August 8 (3rd Annual B-CC IWLA Biathlon)

Saturday, August 22	7:30am
Saturday, Sept. 12	7:30am
Saturday, Sept. 26	7:30am
Saturday, Oct. 3	7:00am*

*Note earlier start time

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.

NAVHDA (North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association) Events

The NAVHDA group will be using parts of the Chapter on both May 29, 30 and 31 and June 13 and 14 for a Clinic and Spring tests. Please do not interfere with the group when you see them on the property.

Saturday & Sunday June 13 & 14
8:00am – 6:00pm each day

Aims and Rules Clinic – the purpose of the clinic is to teach members and those aspiring to be NAVHDA judges to understand how judging is done.

Group will be using the Chapter House and small pond throughout both days.

Friday, Saturday & Sunday May 29, 30 & 31
8:00am – 6:00 each day

Spring Tests

Group will be using the Chapter House, small and large ponds, A-1 & C-3 Fields



June 6, June 13, and July 4, 2026
No recreational fishing license required on these days.

All other state fishing regulations apply.

Go to dnr.maryland.gov for more information.



4TH ANNUAL MILITARY FUN SHOOT

May 16, 2026
(Armed Forces Day)
9:00am-1:00pm

at

Bethesda-Chevy Chase Izaak Walton League

The target contains the likeness of a random 52-card Poker Deck, Fire 10 shots per target at the back side of the target (card values not shown), Best 5-card Poker Hand wins the relay. Prizes will be awarded for each relay. If you can hit 5 shots on a 12"x18" target you could win a prize. Optional skill competition using the front side of the target. Any rifle, carbine, or pistol, firing a 20th century or later US Military cartridge may be used (including but not limited to .30-06, .308, 5.56x45, .30 Carbine, .30-40 Krag, .22 Hornet, 38 Special, 9mm, .45ACP and .22LR). Lunch will be served.

\$20 Admission includes lunch and one target (Range fee waived). Additional targets may be purchased for \$1 each. Bring your favorite Military Firearm and Ammo or borrow one at the Range. Contact: Larry Hess 301-461-7585 or Jerry Murray 202-438-4202.



IT'S TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT...
the FATHER'S DAY SWAP MEET
and SILENT AUCTION
SUNDAY, 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 **Father's Day swap meet** or to **donate** an item for the **silent auction**, please call or email:

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 Spring Walk

Diane Seward
Citizen Science Projects Coordinator

The Montgomery Bird Club held its annual spring walk about the chapter on May 3. Pat McNeilly escorted the 10 participants. Emily Huang, president of the Bird Club, led the walk, assisted by Lauren Carey. The outstanding photographs were snapped by Gaurav Kapoor.

The group tallied 62 species, listed below.

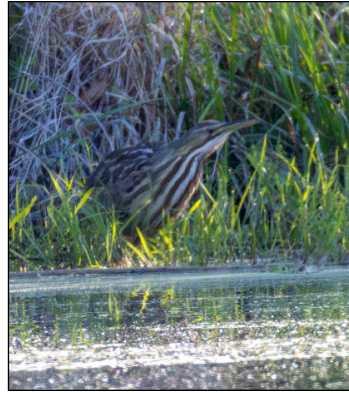
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|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| American Bittern | Magnolia Warbler |
| American Goldfinch | Mourning Dove |
| American Redstart | Northern Cardinal |
| American Robin | Northern Harrier |
| American Woodcock | Northern Mockingbird |
| Black-and-white Warbler | Northern Parula |
| Black-throated Green Warbler | Orchard Oriole |
| Black Vulture | Ovenbird |
| Blue-grey Gnatcatcher | Pileated Woodpecker |
| Blue-headed Vireo | Prairie Warbler |
| Blue Jay | Purple Martin |
| Brown-headed Cowbird | Red-bellied Woodpecker |
| Canada Goose | Red-eyed Vireo |
| Carolina Chickadee | Red-tailed Hawk |
| Carolina Wren | Red-winged Blackbird |
| Cedar Waxwing | Rock Pigeon |
| Chipping Sparrow | Rose-breasted Grosbeak |
| Common Grackle | Savannah Sparrow |
| Common Yellowthroat | Scarlet Tanager |
| Downey Woodpecker | Song Sparrow |
| Eastern Bluebird | Swamp Sparrow |
| Eastern Kingbird | Tree Swallow |
| Eastern Phoebe | Tufted Titmouse |
| Eastern Towhee | Turkey Vulture |
| European Starling | White-breasted Nuthatch |
| Field Sparrow | White-eyed Vireo |
| Great Blue Heron | Wood Thrush |
| Great Crested Flycatcher | Yellow-billed Cuckoo |
| Grey Catbird | Yellow-breasted Chat |
| House Sparrow | Yellow-rumped Warbler |
| Indigo Bunting | Yellow-throated Vireo |



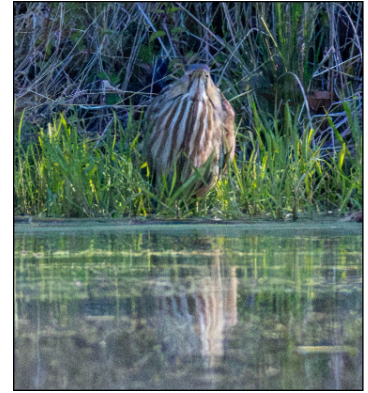
Scarlet Tanager



Tree Swallow



American Bittern



American Bittern



White Eyed Vireo



Cowbird



Cedar Waxwings



Tree Swallow



Eastern Kingbird

PHOTOS BY GAURAV KAPOOR

Muzzleloader Day 2026

This year's Muzzleloader Day event on March 28th was very special learning experience for all. Dan Pasquale was our sole R.O. (Thank you!) and it worked because the range was closed except for those participating - four shooters. Keith Midberry and Mark Gochnour (are also R.O.s) were the one on one instructors for Nita Adkins and Ben Rose.

Keith worked with Nita with his own flintlock rifle but had to leave at lunch so in the afternoon shooting match, she shot Larry Hess' percussion rifle which she had used precious years. In the morning, during the training and sight in time, Nita was plastering the targets with incredible accuracy under Keith's supervision. Teenager Nita has become a knowledgeable and experienced blackpowder shooter over the years while coming to the event with her grandfather Jim.



PHOTO BY AL MUNTER

Ben's flintlock rifle had a few issues but with teamwork, they were resolved or will be.

Ben was having difficulties due to the high front sight which will need to be adjusted once consistent and accurate loads are achieved. By working with Mark the shot groups improved but more work is necessary. The current load is five inches low and to the right by two inches, making it difficult to adjust for shooting at small targets, especially with its hard trigger pull.

One incredible thing teaching experience did happen with Ben's rifle. The gun wouldn't fire. All started questioning whether the rifle had been loaded with blackpowder. The ball was pulled and the barrel was measured the inside and out and it was determined that something was stuck in the barrel. More cleaning solution was poured down the barrel and while using ramrods to loosen whatever was blocking the barrel, it broke apart sending black liquid all over the place. It appears the additional powder mixed with the cleaning solution acted like a plug and once that was cleared and the barrel was cleaned out, the rifle was usable again. Keith and Mark have fired muzzleloading firearms for decades and had never experienced anything like what happened before.

Pizza for lunch was obtained from Poolesville's Cugini's Restaurant, thanks to Carol Efdimis for the delivery of it. Ben brought doughnuts from Krispy Kreme and coffee for a morning snack, plus mini drinks for lunch. Mark brought liters of drinks which are not used but also cookies and chips.

Mark had created two new targets for the afternoon match. Limes on skewers were shot at 12 feet and Nita hit one of them. Ben's Kentucky windage meant aiming to the left and above but missed and for some reason Mark shooting offhand missed his chosen lime. Hanging clay pigeons were set

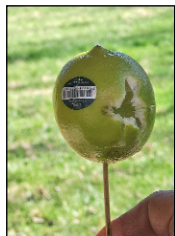


PHOTO BY MARK GOCHNOUR

up at 25 yards and Mark demolished one of them but that was the only one hit.

The challenging target of splitting a playing card is a blast but takes precision shooting. In order to shoot the cards close up and hit the berm in the right area, careful arrangements had to be made. Mark shot first while kneeling at the firing line and his card went flying. Unfortunately, though Nita had split a card in a previous year's match, no card was hit. Ben wanted to use Mark's nearly 50 year old rifle instead of trying to hit a card while aiming at unknown point on the berm with his own. Ben, sitting down, shot from the rest and his card flew off the stand. Once the range was cold and the targets picked up off the ground and were examined, Mark learned he had only cut half the card while Ben's king was cut totally in two. That is fine shooting no matter.



The final target was the paper buffalo target shot off of cross sticks at 90 yards. Ben used his own rifle with its challenges but even with adjustments no holes were found on his target. Nita shot high but hit the paper target and Mark hit the target in a scoring ring.



PHOTOS BY BEN ROSE

Ignition and Smoke

Early on in the match, Ben was concerned he would only get a participation conciliation prize but outshooting Mark with his gun is very commendable. Ben decided he wanted to make a powder horn so he chose that kit. Nita choose a prize which is currently a secret because there will be a future recipient.

In the near future, Ben working with Mark intends to get the trigger pull reduced by an expert and he will be acquiring what he needs to determine the best load for his rifle before getting his sights fixed. That way he will be ready for next year's Muzzleloader Day.

Not sure why only a two new people came this year but it was a fun time. Attending this event is the best way to introduce new shooters, especially kids to shooting a muzzleloader in a less intensive time. Plus, you get to shoot at targets on the range that no one else gets to shoot at, with trained and experienced instructors there to teach and help.

Maybe a lottery winner will be shooting the Austin & Halleck rifle next year. There are tickets still available for \$20 each, so contact Jerry Murray to purchase one or more of them.



PHOTO BY DAN PASQUALE