



## SEPTEMBER 2024 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

As we transition into fall, our chapter is buzzing with activity and the anticipation of a new season. This fall brings changes to our leadership as a new Board of Governors takes over. I want to extend my gratitude to our previous president, Carol Hulce-Efdimis, and the outgoing board members, Deborah Behrend, Phil Taylor, and Joe Finnegan, for their dedication and hard work. I'd also like to welcome Shannon Novak and Stephen Austin to the board as they step into their new roles.

With the theme of renewal in mind, you will shortly be receiving your membership renewal notices in the mail. I encourage you to reflect on why you joined the chapter, what you've enjoyed so far, and what more you have yet to discover. When I joined the Chapter in 2016, I was seeking a place where my kids could truly experience the outdoors. What I found was so much more – a community rich with shooting sports, fishing, hiking, pollinating gardens, nature trails, and even archaeology. I was introduced to the Global Ecology Program, interpretive walks in the woods, and research studies and conservation efforts focused on insects, chestnut trees, and wild birds.

Over time, I also came to realize the importance of giving back, whether through participating in committees, clean-up days, or other volunteer activities. Volunteering is a fulfilling way to contribute to the chapter and make it an even better place for everyone. I want to thank all the committee chairs, members, and volunteers who help make our Chapter what it is. You are the Chapter. Let's continue to work together to make this fall a season of progress, conservation, and community.

Andy Wight  
President



### Mark your calendars!!

The Annual Fall Cleanup Day has been scheduled for Saturday, October 5, starting at 8:30am with lunch being served at 1:00pm. Lunch menu will be based on the weather.

This is a great way to acquire the volunteer hours requirement for members and probationary members.

Use the link below to sign up for the Cleanup Day:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACC28A7F8C25-51104914-2024>

An eblast will be going out the week before with all the tasks we will need to do to button up the chapter for the upcoming winter months.

Contact 1st Vice President Jerry Murray at [jerrym5@comcast.net](mailto:jerrym5@comcast.net) with any questions.

## Family Friendly Chapter Dinner

Our next Family Friendly Chapter Dinner will be held October 16th. As usual, we will have kid's activities while adults enjoy the regular chapter meeting. Hot dogs, chips, cookies/ice cream, and juice boxes will be provided. Vegetarian options are available. Keep the date clear and use this opportunity to bring your kids to the chapter for a 'spooky' evening.



## R&P Range Open

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

## 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

**Position Open, 2nd Vice President**

**Bob Kelly, Treasurer**

202 445-7097 • rnkelly1974@gmail.com

**Scott Harmon, Membership Secretary**

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

**Janet Lamkin, Corresponding Secretary**

301 466-6557 • j.lamkin@comcast.net

**Position Open, Recording Secretary**

### BOARD MEMBERS

**Stephen Austin**

**Marc Bouchard**

**Dan Dutton**

**Shannon Novak**

**Position Open**

**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

## Calendar Submissions

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

## CAMPGROUND NOTICE

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

## Summary of the July 2024 Board of Governors Meeting and the August 2024 Membership Dinner Meeting

Jerry Murray, 2nd Vice President

### Wednesday, July 24, 2024 – Board of Governors Meeting

- Meeting was called to order at 7:39pm by President Carol Hulce-Efdimis.
- 2nd Vice President Jerry Murray provided an update on the Convention and discussed submitting for grants from the IWLA National Endowment.
- Treasurer Bob Kelly provided an update on the accounts and discussed insurance payments.
- Applications from two prospective members were circulated for approval.
- Deborah Behrend reported that the 990 form was done and sent in. Discussed preparations for next year's budget.
- A recommendation was made to transfer the Land Fund donations monthly.
- Carol talked about the impact of the recent electrical storm surge on the security system and the loop protector that had to be replaced.
- Marc Bouchard reported that archery got the gear back that they lent to Camp Sunshine. We should get a donation for the use of the equipment.
- Jerry Murray talked about Summer Biathlon event to be held on August 10.
- Reminder that we will be giving out the 2023 Awards at the August Dinner Meeting.

### NEW BUSINESS REQUIRING A MOTION:

- Motion to accept the 2 prospective members whose applications were circulated at the meeting. **Motion approved.**
- Motion to reimburse the operating account for the cost of the new computer and associated programs for the security system from the Near-Term Capital Account. The Board acknowledges that these items are a capital asset. **Motion approved.**

### TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER:

- 2nd VP Jerry Murray reported that we will be having an inspection by the County Range Committee of both ranges in April for the renewal of our permit. They will review our paperwork and our safety measures.

### Wednesday, August 21, 2024 – 1,066th Dinner Membership Meeting

- Membership meeting began at 7:30pm.
- The Board of Governors for 2024 – 2025 was sworn in.
- Perspective members introduced themselves, and one 3rd meeting member was inducted to the chapter.
- Membership Secretary Scott Harmon gave an update on membership totals and discussed membership renewals for 2025.
- Treasurer Bob Kelly reviewed the Chapter bank accounts.
- Maryland Division President Cherie Aker and IWLA National Director of Chapter Relations Earl Hower presented the 2023 Awards to the Chapter and to Chapter Members.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm.

## September 2024 1,067th Monthly Dinner / Membership Meeting

Wednesday, September 18

Dinner served starting at 6:15pm

### Menu

Pulled Beef BBQ, Potato Salad,  
Cole Slaw, Baked Beans  
Assorted Desserts

Membership Meeting starts at 7:30pm  
50 / 50 Raffle

Presentation of Honor Roll Awards

## September 2024 Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, September 25

7:00pm



## B-CC IWLA to Participate in Poolestown Day 2024 Festival

We are planning on attending and hosting a booth to showcase our Chapter at "Poolestown Day" which occurs on Saturday, September 21st 10:00am – 4:00pm. This family – oriented event, now in its 30th year, attracts over 12,000 visitors to the town and includes food, drink, entertainment, multiple kids' activities, art & craft vendors, and other exhibitors. It provides a great opportunity for us to connect with local residents and visitors, highlight what the IWLA is about, and more importantly what we do in our Chapter. This is a great day out for the family.

Anyone looking for some volunteer hours, we need your help in staffing the booth. Please use the link below to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-50244039-2024>



Poolestown Day – September 2023

## Membership Committee Report

Scott Harmon, Membership Secretary  
scott.w.harmon@verizon.net 301 467-0645 (cell)

As of the August 28th Board Meeting, membership stands at 758 voting Members: 419 Individuals, 252 Family, 2 Students, 1 Youth, 72 Retired, and 12 Associates.

All renewal notices will be mailed by late September. Our new 2024 / 2025 fiscal year started September 1st. By renewing early, you help the chapter continue operating the farm and ranges during the fall months.

There are three ways to renew:

### 1. By mail

The mail method is easy but takes extra time for delivery and pickup. You increase your exposure to identity theft by writing a check and mailing it. This is now the most common way to have your banking information stolen.

### 2. In person at a dinner meeting

The second way is to see me at a dinner meeting and hand me a check or cash. This is a more preferred way to renew and will require a copy of your renewal notice.

### 3. Online

The third way, and most preferred way, is to renew online. To renew online, use the following link.

<https://bcciwla.org/memberrenew/>

Please choose the method that works best for you but also helps the chapter the most.

If you did not volunteer 6 work hours (members) or 16 hours (Probationary members) at the chapter this past year, a \$75 in lieu of Volunteer Fee has been added to your renewal notice. Also, please note that a late fee will be assessed for any renewals after January 31, 2025.

If you have not recorded your work hours, you may use this link to record them.

<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 for a hike around the farm or bring someone to a dinner meeting.

## From the MDDNR website:

### Report Your Bird Bands Online: [WWW.REPORTBAND.GOV](http://WWW.REPORTBAND.GOV)

Each year state and federal biologists mark tens of thousands of migratory birds with numbered leg bands. Hunters who report bands recovered from harvested birds receive specific information on when and where the bird was banded while providing important information for migratory bird management. The 1-800 telephone number for reporting bird bands has been discontinued. Hunters who recover a banded migratory bird should now use [pwrc.usgs.gov/BBL/bblretrv/](http://pwrc.usgs.gov/BBL/bblretrv/). Anyone reporting a band will need the following information: the band number, hunters name and address, and the date and location (nearest town) of the harvest.

## Welcome to the B-CC IWLA Family!

At the August 2024 Membership Meeting,  
the following was inducted into the Chapter:  
**Brock Dahl**

## ARCHERY RANGE COMMITTEE REPORT

Jack Mandel, [jmandel@design@gmail.com](mailto:jmandel@design@gmail.com)  
Marc Bouchard, [combat750@gmail.com](mailto:combat750@gmail.com)

### TARGET RANGE

The target range is open 365 days a year, from sunrise to sunset. Guests must sign "Hold-Harmless" agreement form and deposit in field box by shooting stations. No RO's need be present, but if you wish to get instruction, please contact us, and we'll get you started!

### 3-D COURSE IS CLOSED UNTIL SPRING 2025

### APOLLO ARCHERY

The final event of the year will be on:  
**Wednesday, October 2**  
Starting at 6:00pm

### CAMPING

Camping is available at the range. Contact us for scheduling.

*To receive regular updates, email Jack or Marc to get on the mailing list.*

### ATTENTION New Members!

*Chapter House cleanups for the next three months will be on:*

**Saturday, September 14**

**Saturday, October 12**

**Saturday, November 16**

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)

### DRIVING ON CHAPTER PROPERTY

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

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

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### Chapter House Cleanups

Saturday, September 14, Saturday, October 12, Saturday, November 16  
Starting at 9:00am

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

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

### Monthly Dinner/Membership Meeting

Wednesday, September 18

Contact Carol Hulce-Efdimis, [carol2017@aol.com](mailto:carol2017@aol.com), if you can help with food preparation, setup, and/or cleanup.

### Cleanup and Trim the Parking Lots

Chapter House, R&P Range, Shotgun Range, Archery Range, Outside the Garden Areas (near Archery Range)  
Report your hours to Janet Lamkin ([j.lamkin@comcast.net](mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net)) and log your hours on the chapter website, <https://bcciwla.org/log-your-hours/>

### Pick up Debris on the Chapter House Grounds

Dispose of debris in a wooded area.

Report your hours to Janet Lamkin ([j.lamkin@comcast.net](mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net)) and log your hours on the chapter website, <https://bcciwla.org/log-your-hours/>

### Poolesville Day

Saturday, September 21  
10:00 – 4:00pm

Volunteers are needed at our booth

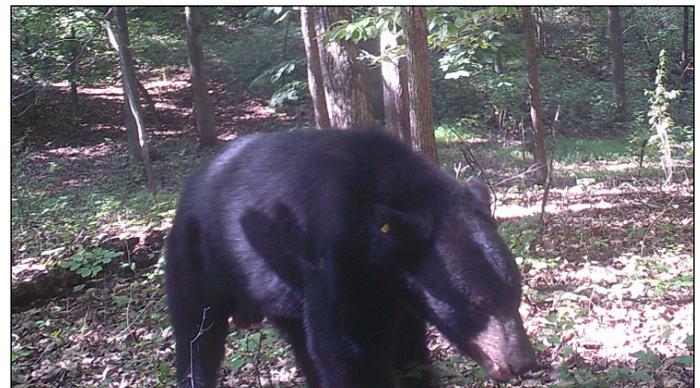
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-50244039-2024>

### Chapter Fall Cleanup

Saturday, October 5

Starting at 8:30am with lunch at 1:00pm  
Use the link below to signup:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-51104914-2024>



Mr. Bear in West Woods

PHOTO SENT IN BY JOHN GORNEY

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

## Monthly Events

Saturdays & Sundays  
Sundays  
Mondays  
Mondays

R&P Range Open  
Shotgun Range – Sporting Clays  
Troop 2027 Meetings (Board Room)  
Troop 496 Meetings (Chapter House)

9:00am – 5:00pm  
9:00am – 4:00pm  
7:30pm – 9:00pm  
7:30pm – 9:00pm

## SEPTEMBER

Monday, September 2	Opening Day Dove Shoot	12:00 noon – 5:00pm
Monday, September 2	Opening Day Cook Out	5:00pm
Tuesday, September 3	Tuesday Sporting Clays at the Shotgun Range	4:00pm
Wednesday, September 4	Apollo Archery – Archery Range	6:00pm – Dark
Saturday, September 7	Fall Hunter Education Course in the Chapter House – R&P Range closes at 12:30pm	8:00am – 5:00pm
Sunday, September 8	Fall Hunter Education Course in the Chapter House – R&P Range closes at 12:30pm	8:00am – 5:00pm
Saturday, September 14	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 11:00am
Tuesday, September 17	Tuesday Sporting Clays at the Shotgun Range	4:00pm
Wednesday, September 18	R&P Range Open before the Membership Dinner Meeting	4:00pm – 6:00pm
Wednesday, September 18	1,067th Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Thursday, September 19	Pack 694 Meeting in Chapter House	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Saturday, September 21	Poolesville Day (Chapter will be sponsoring a booth)	10:00am – 4:00pm
Saturday, September 21	NAVHDA Fall Test – Training Fields, Both Ponds	8:00am – 5:00pm
Sunday, September 22	NAVHDA Fall Test – Training Fields, Ponds, Chapter House for BBQ/Diner	8:00am – 5:00pm
Tuesday, September 24	Tuesday Sporting Clays at the Shotgun Range	4:00pm
Wednesday, September 25	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Friday, September 27	Articles for October Newsletter due – send articles to <a href="mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net">j.lamkin@comcast.net</a>	By End of Day
Saturday, September 28	Black Powder Day / Muzzleloader Event	9:00am – 4:30pm
Saturday, September 28	New and Prospective Members Orientation	10:00am – 11:30pm

## OCTOBER

Wednesday, October 2	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm – Dark
Saturday, October 5	Fall Cleanup Day (lunch will be provided)	8:30am – 1:00pm
Saturday, October 12	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, October 16	R&P Range Open before the Membership Dinner Meeting	4:00pm – 6:00pm
Wednesday, October 16	1,068th Membership Dinner Meeting Family Friendly Dinner – bring the children!	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Thursday, October 17	Cub Scout Pack 694 Meeting in Chapter House	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Thursday, October 17	Rifle & Pistol Range Closed – Deer Muzzleloader Season	Closed All Day
Friday, October 18	Rifle & Pistol Range Closed – Deer Muzzleloader Season	Closed All Day
Saturday, October 19	New & Prospective Members Orientation Tour	10:00am – 11:30pm
Saturday, October 19	Rifle & Pistol Range Closed – Deer Muzzleloader Season	Closed
Wednesday, October 23	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Friday, October 25	Articles for November Newsletter due – send articles to <a href="mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net">j.lamkin@comcast.net</a>	By End of Day

## NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 16	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00noon
Saturday, November 16	New & Prospective Members Orientation Tour	10:00am – 11:30pm
Wednesday, November 20	1,069th Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Wednesday, November 20	Board of Governors Meeting	Following Dinner Meeting
Thursday, November 21	Cub Scout Pack 694 in Chapter House	6:00pm – 8:00p
Friday, November 29	Articles for November Newsletter due – send articles to <a href="mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net">j.lamkin@comcast.net</a>	By End of Day

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

### As a Reminder – R&P Range Closure

The Rifle & Pistol Range will be closed on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, October 17, 18, and 19 for the opening of Muzzleloader Season. Range will reopen on Sunday, October 20.

### From the Farm Committee

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

## Apollo Archery Program



The Apollo Archery program provides archery instruction and experiences for current and former members of the United States Armed Services and their families. Check out program details here: <https://bcciwla.org/apollo-archery/>

We will start at 6:00pm and finish at dark. The final event of the year will be held on:

### Wednesday, October 2

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

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



## 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.

## Rifle & Pistol Range Committee Report

Jerry Murray, Chair  
202 438-4202 [jerrym5@comcast.net](mailto:jerrym5@comcast.net)

**R&P Range will be closed on October 17, 18, and 19 (all day) for Deer Muzzleloader Season.**

### PLEASE REMEMBER

- New Fee's: Chapter Members are \$8 and Guests \$10.
- Use of Empty Chamber Indicators (ECI)'s is required.
- Put paper in the trash. If the cans are full, please empty them.
- Keep watch on the guests you bring. It is your place to brief them on the SOP's.
- Be safe and enjoy the range respectfully.
- All must **PICK UP THEIR BRASS!**

### RANGE OFFICER SCHEDULE:

#### SEPTEMBER

Saturday, Sept. 1	<b>Hammes, P.</b> ; Zoulis, T.; Roth, A.
Sunday, Sept. 7	<b>Boynton, D.</b> ; Meima, S.; Ma, A.; Maisel, J.; Morissette, C.
Saturday, Sept. 8	<b>Ma, A.</b> ; Hunt, J.; Minehart, B.; Bissett, R.
Sunday, Sept. 14	<b>Crowe, C.</b> ; Minehart, B.; Woodman, G.
Saturday, Sept. 15	<b>Novak, J.</b> ; Ricketts, R.; Manan, F.
Sunday, Sept. 21	<b>King, D.</b> ; King, N.; King, J.; Herald, P.
Saturday, Sept. 22	<b>King, D.</b> ; King, N.; King, J.; Ricketts, R.
Sunday, Sept. 28	<b>RANGE CLOSED FOR MUZZLELOADER EVENT</b> – Kipfer, J.; Donovan, P.; Ziner, M.; Draley, D.
Saturday, Sept. 29	<b>Sanfuentes, J.</b> ; Roth, A.; Dickerson, C.

#### OCTOBER

Saturday, October 5	<b>Johnson, G.</b> ; Fainbraun, S.; Deegan, J.
Sunday, October 6	<b>King, B.</b> ; Chung, J.; Kawamoto, D.
Saturday, October 12	<b>Pederson, P.</b> ; Richards, M.; Widenhofer, S.; Woodman, G.
Sunday, October 13	<b>Richards, M.</b> ; Lowe, C.; Fainbraun, S.; Deegan, J.
Saturday, October 19	<b>Calderwood, J.</b> ; Bowie, J.; Bissett, R.; Kipfer, J.
Sunday, October 20	<b>Jones, R.</b> ; Bryan, K.; Capalupo, P.; Calderwood, J.
Saturday, October 26	<b>Epstein, G.</b> ; Keller, A.; Chung, J.
Sunday, October 27	<b>Keller, A.</b> ; Kawamoto, D.; Flinchum, J.; Sanfuentes, J.

#### NOVEMBER

Saturday, Nov. 2	<b>Dowlut, R.</b> ; Pedersen, P.
Sunday, Nov. 3	<b>Ossi, G.</b> ; Flinchum, D.; Mense, M.; Drummond, R.
Saturday, Nov. 9	<b>Drummond, R.</b> ; Widenhofer, S.; Yau, T.
Sunday, Nov. 10	<b>Mense, M.</b> ; Roth, A.
Saturday, Nov. 16	<b>Sypes, E.</b> ; Epstein, G.
Sunday, Nov. 17	<b>Bryan, K.</b> ; Johnson, G.
Saturday, Nov. 23	<b>Schweikert, B.</b> ; Kim, D.
Sunday, Nov. 24	<b>Schweikert, B.</b> ; Kim, D.; Bixler, D.; Manan, F.
Friday, Nov. 29	<b>Bixler, D.</b>

## Survey Results and Insights

At the end of February, we invited members to complete a survey about their use of the Chapter. The survey aimed to help us better understand how we can manage the Chapter and identify areas our members would like us to focus on. The survey was emailed to all members, with links and reminders included in the March and April newsletters and periodic email blasts. We received responses from 194 people (190 current members and 4 former members), representing approximately 25% of the voting membership. While we had hoped for a higher response rate, we observed a consistency with the results from our last membership survey conducted in 2010, which had over a 50% response rate. This consistency suggests that the insights gathered, though from a smaller group, remain relevant.

### Why Members Join and Use the Chapter

We asked members why they joined the Chapter, and common responses included Shooting Sports and Ranges; Conservation and Land Stewardship; Outdoor and Family Activities; Dog Training; access to property and resources; and family history.

Overall, the Chapter is well-utilized. Outside of dinner meetings, 70% of members visited 1 to 20 times, and 26% visited more than 20 times. Only 4% hadn't visited the Chapter in the last year. Additionally, 53% of members attended at least one dinner meeting over the past year, and 93% of members typically take one hour or less to travel to the Chapter.

### Popular Activities and Trends

The most popular activities on the property include using the Rifle & Pistol Range, Shotgun Range, trails, participating in Chapter events, hunting, fishing, and using the Archery Range. It's important to note that members often participate in multiple activities during their visits. Table 1 compares the 2010 and 2024 survey results, showing no significant statistical differences in activities, except for an increase in Hiking, Bird Watching, Archery, Gardening, and Scouting.

The number of members who hunt, from 68% (346 out of 521 respondents) in 2010 to approximately 60% (115 out of 190) this year showed no statistical change although it was interesting that 36% of those hunters do not hunt on Chapter grounds. Among those who do, deer (bow and firearm), dove, turkey, and squirrel are the most hunted animals.

Activity	2010		2024	
	(521 respondents)		190	respondents
Organized chapter events	-	-	90	47%
Hiking / Walking Trails	197	38%	102	54%
Bird Watching	45	9%	34	18%
Astronomy / Stargazing	18	3%	6	3%
Photography	35	7%	11	6%
Target Shooting (R&P)	346	67%	141	74%
Target Shooting (Shotgun)	298	57%	102	54%
Target Shooting (Archery)	113	22%	57	30%
Camping	49	9%	26	14%
Dog Walking	-	-	42	22%
Dog Training	63	12%	23	12%
Fishing	150	29%	65	34%
Gardening	16	3%	15	8%
Scouting	35	7%	28	15%
Nature Studies	33	6%	8	4%
Picnicking	68	13%	31	16%
Trail Running	-	-	6	3%
Archeology	-	-	7	4%
Hunting	197	38%	69	36%
Orienteering	8	2%	0	-
Other	34	7%	20	11%

### Areas of Focus and Member Feedback

We also asked members about their concerns and areas for improvement. Key themes included finalizing the lead remediation at the Shotgun Range, improving communications and processes, increasing social events and member involvement/volunteering, and making enhancements to Chapter facilities.

Finally, we asked members what they appreciate most about the Chapter. The top responses were the land and facilities, community and camaraderie, tranquility, conservation mission, activities, location and accessibility, preservation of history, and the people and relationships.

A more detailed breakdown of the survey results will be made available shortly.

Andy Wight  
President

**50/50 Raffle**

Help Support the Chapter!



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

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

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

**Our goal is to purchase 15 chairs**

## Shotgun Range Committee Report

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

The Shotgun Range is open on Sundays between 9:00am and 4:00pm for Sporting Clays only at this time.

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

Last day in 2024 for Tuesday Sporting Clays is September 24. Start time is 4:00pm.

### RANGE OFFICER SCHEDULE

#### SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 1 Leahy, M.  
 Sunday, September 8 Poss, S.; DiPietro, J.  
 Sunday, September 15 **NEED ROs**  
 Sunday, September 22 **NEED ROs**  
 Sunday, September 29 Craig, D.; Reid, J.

#### OCTOBER

Sunday, October 6 **NEED ROs**  
 Sunday, October 13 **NEED ROs**  
 Sunday, October 20 **NEED ROs**  
 Sunday, October 27 Jodts, E.; Spear, S.

## New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour

Come join us on the B-CC IWLA Orientation Tour. The next two tours will take place on **Saturday, September 28** and **Saturday, October 19** 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.

The guided tour of our property will include an overview of our history and mission, our facilities, the partnerships with local schools and organizations, and a chance to meet and ask questions to current members.

Signup for the tour using the signup genius link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COD4DACAA28A7F8C25-48977796-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 Peterson will be able to contact you.

Meet Christine 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.

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

### AS A REMINDER...

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

<https://bcciwla.org/b-cc-iwla-chapter-hunting-rules/> to acknowledge understanding our rules and property boundaries. This is a yearly requirement.

#### Questions?

Contact Hunting Ethics and Oversight Committee Chair Larry Anderson at [andupton9@hotmail.com](mailto:andupton9@hotmail.com)



Check out our Facebook page!

Izaak Walton League of America  
Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter

*If you would like an event to be posted on Facebook, contact Andy Wight at [ConservationEd.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com](mailto:ConservationEd.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com)*



## Fall Family Campout

Bring your Family & Friends to the Fall Family Campout this October !!!

The Conservation Education Committee welcomes chapter members, their families, and their escorted guests to the Annual Fall Family Campout on Saturday / Sunday, October 26th / 27th!

This is a great time to spend time with your immediate family and to meet some of the chapter family of B-CC IWLA members, spouses, and kids. Events will start Saturday afternoon and continue overnight for those camping into Sunday morning.

### SATURDAY

- The chapter's front gate will be locked open from 2:15pm until 6:00pm
- Family tent setup around the chapter house begins at 2:30pm
- Fishing at the small pond and visit a pumpkin patch 3:00pm – 5:00pm
- Burgers & 'dogs cooked up for campers 6:00pm – 7:00pm
- "Mystery Activities" 7:30pm – 8:00pm
- S'mores & hot chocolate by firelight 8:00pm – 8:45pm

### SUNDAY

- Breakfast served to campers 7:30am – 8:30am
- Breakdown & cleanup should be completed by 10:00am

Schedule some more family time at the farm on your own for the day!

There is NO fee for the family campout, but non-members are encouraged to make a donation towards costs.

Sign-up using the SignUp Genius below with your name and number of people in your party attending in parenthesis to let us know for food planning. Please indicate any dietary restrictions. This will help us ensure we have enough food to go around and contact you if weather forces a postponement.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COD4DACAA28A7F8C25-51074865-2024>

Conservation Education Committee  
[ConservationEd.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com](mailto:ConservationEd.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com)

## Black Powder Day / Muzzleloader Event 2024

Muzzleloading enthusiasts and the newly interested are invited to come for the annual Black Powder Clinic and Shooting Match on Saturday, September 28 from 9:00am – 4:30pm.

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

Participants will meet at the Rifle & Pistol Range at 9:00am. Inline, percussion, or flintlock shooters are all welcome. There will be instruction time for new muzzleloader shooters to develop a workable shooting load, for "veterans" and more experienced shooters to sight-in their guns, and for all to practice shooting.

Bring the muzzleloader that you want to shoot or let Mark Gochnour know in your email that you would like to try one out so he can arrange for a loaner. If you are new to shooting a muzzleloader, a veteran shooter will be assigned to work with you. (Mark is a certified NRA/NMLRA Blackpowder Instructor.) If you have never fired a black powder gun or you have one you have never used or are having issues with one you have forgotten about in the gun safe, come for the morning but stay for the afternoon shooting match!



Match participants will be provided opportunities to shoot at some unusual novelty targets again this year, including – The Flopping Plate. Targets will be shot at a variety of ranges from up close and out to 100 yards with prizes awarded to individual shooters. An overall Grand Prize could be a frozen turkey or ham. A donation from a generous member who moved will enable some unique prizes to be awarded.

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

Only muzzleloader shooting participants will be allowed to use the Range during the event. Upon its conclusion, Range Officers and their guests may shoot until shooting time expires.

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

Members and their guests may register using the following link:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-black#/#](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-black#/)

A small fee will be charged to cover lunch and the event. Any applicable R&P range fees are extra.

## 2024 Land Fund

As a member of the B-CC IWLA, I want to do my part and contribute the following amount to the B-CC IWLA Land Fund Campaign.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$200 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ \$1000 \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER

*Your contribution is tax deductible.*

Please mail contribution form and check (made payable to B-CC IWLA) to B-CC IWLA, PO Box 542, Poolesville, MD 20837 or donate via paypal on the Chapter's website, [www.bcciwla.org](http://www.bcciwla.org).

## Log Cabin Committee Report

David Mecklenburg, Chair  
dmecklenburg1@gmail.com

### Fall is My Favorite Time of the Year

Fall is here with crisp air, great temperatures, hunting, fishing, and Fall Clean Up. I look forward to this time of the year. It is a great time to work and have fun at the Chapter. We have a few projects to do on the log cabin and the shed. I am thinking about small tasks that can be completed on the workday. Chinking some walls where it has crumbled on the shed and cabin. I also need help filling in the carpenter bee holes. The cabin needs a good fall cleanup as well.

We have some larger projects we would like to do. If you are handy with tools, I would like to talk with you.

We had a dendrochronologist come out and look at the log cabin complex and see if it is possible to do some dating. It doesn't look promising, but we found out many interesting things including that the shed never was a smokehouse, perhaps it was just a storage shed.

Be wary of the yellow jackets this time of year. This is the time of year when the colonies are the strongest. I have found two ground nests this year in the apiary. They use the honeybees as a protein source. The stings are painful. I like to leave the nests alone if I can, and if they are in an awkward place, I will then use a non-chemical way to get rid of them. Most of the time this works. Mix 1 gallon of water with 1 cup of dishwashing liquid. Pour down the hive at night when everyone is home.

### 2024 NestWatch Wrap-Up

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

This was a productive season for the three avian species we track at the chapter, Purple Martins, Eastern Bluebirds, and Tree Swallows. We monitored 71 nest sites and followed 82 total nesting attempts, all species, producing 394 eggs; 285 nestlings, and 274 fledglings.

The Purple Martins had a difficult breeding season this spring: 46 nesting attempts produced 224 eggs but only 141 young, and 132 fledglings, their lowest fledgling numbers since 2019. The martins had an unusually high number of unhatched eggs, 72 in all (roughly 32% of eggs laid). The failure of so many eggs to hatch clearly had an impact on the number of new martins that fledged. Perhaps the record heat we experienced in June affected the martin hatching rate.

Eastern Bluebirds did well this year. Their 83 fledglings in 25 nests exceeded last year's 60 that fledged from 30 nests, but far below the record 101 that fledged from 28 nests in 2021. The Tree Swallows' 12 nesting attempts yielded 49 fledglings, compared to 47 fledglings from 15 nesting attempts in 2023 and 66 in 2022.

The chapter's NestWatch data, reported to Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology for 2017 through the current season, appear below.

#### I. Total nesting attempts, all species:

	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young	Fledglings
2024	82	394	285	274
2023	91	406	342	310
2022	98	459	334	299
2021	84	436	354	341
2020	79	402	310	284
2019	52	226	182	162
2018	34	142	123	104
2017	24	109	102	92

#### II. Species summaries:

##### Purple Martins

	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young	Fledglings
2024	46	224	141	132
2023	46	240	218	203
2022	52	252	175	154
2021	43	234	185	176
2020	36	221	170	153
2019	19	78	51	38
2018	5	unknown	19	15

##### Eastern Bluebirds

	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young	Fledglings
2024	25	103	94	83
2023	30	104	73	60
2022	28	116	89	79
2021	28	131	102	101
2020	25	110	94	85
2019	22	95	82	81
2018	17	unknown	72	64
2017	18	86	79	74

##### Tree Swallows

	Nesting attempts	Eggs	Young	Fledglings
2024	12	61	50	49
2023	15	62	51	47
2022	14	76	68	66
2021	13	71	67	63
2020	14	71	46	46
2019	11	47	44	43
2018	7	unknown	32	25
2017	5	18	18	13

First egg and first fledge dates for the three species appear below.

	First Egg Date	First Fledge Date
Eastern Bluebird	March 27	May 1
Tree Swallow	May 2	June 7
Purple Martin	May 11	June 30

Many thanks to our dedicated NestWatch team who monitored nesting activity from mid-March through mid-August: Pat McNeilly, Linda Green, Ela Green, and guest Annie Mealey. The team appreciated Ela Green's contributions during her summer break from college: each week she checked Purple Martin nesting progress and replaced the nests' pine needles mid-way through each nest's cycle. We are grateful to Tom Lamkin, Janet Lamkin, and Mike Noble for keeping the grass around the boxes well trimmed.

### Courtesy Post – Skeet Clinic

**THE ARL-FX IWLA  
BENDER CLINIC**

*Todd Bender*  
Todd Bender Performance Systems Intl.

Arlington-Fairfax Chapter  
Izaak Walton League

October 17, 2024

Contact Evan at  
SkeetClinic@protonmail.com  
for clinic scheduling and information.

## First Annual Poolesville Summer Biathlon

On August 10, 2024, the B-CC IWLA Summer Biathlon Program hosted the First Annual Poolesville Summer Biathlon at B-CC IWLA. While the B-CC IWLA Summer Biathlon Program, initiated by Richard Azzaro, has been a staple on at least half the Saturday mornings between late March/early April and Thanksgiving since 1992, this is the first time a formal competition was held.

Each summer biathlon program has its own course layout and course of fire. The vast majority of summer biathlon programs incorporate three (3) miles to five (5) kilometer (3.1 miles) total distance with two (2) to four (4) shooting stops integrated equi-distance apart. Shooting stops alternate between prone and off-hand positions using a five (5) round magazine in a bolt action rifle with iron sights. Authorized ammunition is standard velocity 22LR. Missed targets are penalized by either adding a specified time penalty or running a penalty lap, usually 70 meters, for each missed target. The targets are resettable, reactive targets with five (5) plates set at 50 meters.



PHOTO BY MARC BOUCHARD

The B-CC IWLA Summer Biathlon Program operates a five (5) kilometer course with four shooting stops and a seventy (70) meter penalty lap. The one kilometer loop uses the existing trails north of the Rifle and Pistol Range. The penalty loop is laid out in the Rifle and Pistol Range parking lot.

Prior to the event, course layout and maintenance was conducted over several Saturdays. This effort included trimming vegetation along the route, filling holes with sand and top soil, and filling a portion of the ruts in the road ascending to the bird cages with gravel. Material costs were between \$425-\$500 dollars donated by members of the Summer Biathlon Program. This maintenance and upgrade effort was conducted by Joe Downey, Scott Conlon, Sonny Lacey, Sean Stevens, Sang Kim, and Steve Eschholz. Jerry Murray provided valuable guidance making sure Eschholz' exuberance stayed focused and within the parameters of the B-CC IWLA by-laws and conventions.

On event day, we were blessed with good weather and despite the rain the previous several days, the course was in remarkably good condition. The gravel placed on the road showed evidence that it had done its job in mitigating further erosion and maintaining a safe running surface. David King and his son Noah showed early to facilitate the marking of the course.

The event kicked off at roughly 8:15am with four competitors: Sean Stevens, Joe Downey, Noah King, and Sonny Lacey. In that order, competitors departed the start line at one minute intervals. Forty-five minutes later the event concluded with all competitors completing the five-one kilometer loops and the appropriate number of penalty laps. Joe Downey's total time was 37min47sec; Noah King's 40min22sec; Sean Stevens' 41:35; and Sonny Lacey's 43:16. On this day, youth showed the benefits it bestows. After policing the course, participants and the supporting staff feasted on some fine chow provided by the Germantown Mission BBQ.

The B-CC IWLA Summer Biathlon Program is taking lessons learned from this, our first official event, to plan for a larger event next year. In the interim, all are welcome to come out for our practice sessions. Here are the remaining dates for this year:

Saturday, August 24 – 7:30am  
 Saturday, September 14 – 7:30am  
 Saturday, September 21 – 7:30am  
**Saturday, October 5 – 6:45am\***  
 Saturday, November 2 – 7:30am

If you desire more information about the B-CC IWLA Summer Biathlon Program, contact Steve Eschholz via text at 240-472-6512.

## How to Become a Member!

- 1 Start by going to our BECOME A MEMBER page.   
 Here you can download the application and get some basic questions answered.
- 2 Once your application is completed, email it to: [Applications.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com](mailto:Applications.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com)
- 3 Attend 2 dinner meetings AND make sure to sign in so we know you are here! 
- 4 Once you have attended 2 dinner meetings, your application will be presented at the next board meeting.
- 5 Go to the NEW MEMBER FEES page and decide which type of membership suits you and your family! 
- 6 Attend your 3rd meeting and get sworn in! You must attend in person to be sworn in.

New member tours happen monthly! Check the newsletter for the date. You may attend a tour before you are sworn in!

Questions?  
[MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com](mailto:MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com)

**Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter  
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA  
FY2024-2025 Operating Budget**

**Below is the FY2024-2025 proposed operating budget that will be voted on by the Chapter membership at the monthly membership meeting on Wednesday, September 18, 2024.**

<b>ANTICIPATED INCOME</b>	<b>BUDGETED AMOUNT ( \$ )</b>	<b>ANTICIPATED EXPENSES</b>	<b>BUDGETED AMOUNT ( \$ )</b>
401 Membership Renewal Fees	125,406.32	609 Trail Maintenance	0.00
402 New Member Initiation Fees	—	610 Conservation Education	3,550.00
403 Shot Gun Range Fees	7,000.00	611 Adventure Committee	0.00
404 Dinner Meeting	7,200.00	613 Environmental Stewardship	10,395.00
405 Rifle & Pistol Range Fees	7,000.00	614 Log Cabin Maintenance	500.00
406 Archery Range Fees	465.00	615 Floral Gardens	150.00
407 Family Picnic/Auction	0.00	616 Greenhouse	0.00
408 Dove Shoot	100.00	617 Spring Cleanup	300.00
409 Republican Women's Dinner	0.00	618 Fall Cleanup	300.00
411 Adventure Committee	0.00	620 Building Maintenance	1,900.00
412 Christmas Trees	210.00	621 Road Repair and Snow Removal	0.00
413 Junior Rifle Team	0.00	622 Kitchen Equipment and Maintenance	1,000.00
416 Keys and Locks	342.71	624 Chapter House Expense	1,200.00
417 Chapter House Use Donations	300.00	630 insurance	35,564.93
418 Interest (Sandy Spring Bank)	3,000.00	631 Newsletter Publishing	5,060.00
419 Garden Plots	260.00	632 Propane	3,500.00
420 Misc Sales	0.00	633 Trash Removal	4,830.00
421 Donations and Grants	0.00	634 Electricity	4,236.00
422 Campground	1,230.00	635 Telephone	0.00
425 Security Cards	711.45	636 Misc Administration	179.00
426 Conservation Education	250.00	637 Operating Port-O-Lets	6,982.50
427 Apollo Archery Program	2,000.00	638 Internet Web Site Maintenance	5,000.00
490 Land Fund Contributions	0.00	639 Printing & Photocopying	0.00
800 Other Income	5,000.00	640 Shipping & Postage	300.00
802 Scouts	800.00	641 Security	1,300.00
803 Volunteer (in lieu of Work Hours)	20,250.00	642 Keys and Locks	1,050.00
804 Membership Late Fee	0.00	644 Memorials and Flowers	50.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$181,525.48</b>	650 Scout Support	1,800.00
<b>ANTICIPATED EXPENSES</b>	<b>BUDGETED AMOUNT ( \$ )</b>	651 Hunter Safety Course	800.00
501 National/State IWLA Dues	36,000.00	652 National Convention MD Room/ IWLA Endowment	200.00
502 Membership Administration	1,700.00	653 National/MD Convention (Travel)	1,050.00
503 Shotgun Range Expenses	5,000.00	655 Youth Convention	100.00
504 Food and Kitchen Supplies	7,200.00	657 Legislature	0.00
505 Rifle & Pistol Expenses	2,825.00	660 Property Taxes	2,835.89
506 Archery Expenses	2,905.00	661 Bank Fees & Service Charges	0.00
507 Family Picnic/Auction	0.00	671 Chapter Awards	300.00
508 Dove Shoot	75.00	700 Other Expense	0.00
509 Republican Women's Dinner	0.00	807 Misc Items (Hat, Mug, Etc.)	0.00
510 Wild Game Dinner	200.00	809 Donations and Grants	0.00
511 Family Day/Campout	400.00	810 Accounting Fees	2,600.00
512 Christmas Trees	200.00	811 Chapter Archives	0.00
513 Junior Rifle Team	0.00	812 Signage	0.00
514 Christmas Party	157.50	813 Office Supplies	789.00
515 New Years Party	200.00	814 Interest Expense	-12.00
517 Supplies - Chapter House	0.00	815 Subscriptions	0.00
519 Vegetable Garden	0.00	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$181,316.82</b>
522 Campground Maintenance	2,000.00	<b>Net Operating Revenue</b>	<b>\$208.66</b>
523 Summer Biathlon	300.00	<b>Changes in Cash beyond Operations</b>	
524 Past President's Dinner	1,300.00	<b>Cash Provided by Operations</b>	\$208.66
526 American Chestnut Orchard	200.00	<b>Non Operating Uses of Cash</b>	
527 Apollo Archery Expenses	2,000.00	Transfer to Near Term Capital Fund	
550 Land Fund (phone-a-thon)	0.00	(10% set aside)	-14,565.63
601 Farm Operations	9,800.00	Reserve for Long Term Capital Fund	-13,158.00
603 Farm Equipment Maintenance	4,000.00	Loan Repayment	-8,000.00
604 Gasoline and Diesel Fuel	2,500.00	Expected overpayment	2,687.26
605 Wildlife Management	294.00	<b>Net Cash Impact</b>	<b>-32,827.71</b>
606 Ponds and Streams	4,250.00		
607 Forestry Management	0.00		
<b>SUBTOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$83,506.50</b>		