



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

Serving the Community Since 1935

www.bcciwla.org

President's Message

I thank you, our B-CC members, for the honor of serving as your Chapter President for the next few months. You have elected a great team of officers and board of governors. We are in the process of filling vacancies in committees and working groups with willing and able volunteer leaders.

Your officers and board have set the theme for FY2017-18 as our chapter's year '**Devoted to Outreach: keeping the pledge.**'

At each dinner meeting we cite together the IWLA pledge when we swear in new members – *To strive for the purity of water, the clarity of air, and the wise stewardship of the land and its resources; to know the beauty and understanding of nature and the value of wildlife, woodlands, and open space; to the preservation of this heritage and to man's sharing in it.*

Keep these words in mind as we go through the next year –

- We will support National IWLA's Clean Water Challenge.
- We will be good stewards of the resources on our Conservation Farm, in the surrounding Agricultural Reserve, and in our contacts with our neighbors.
- We will share our knowledge of the beauty and utility of nature, the value of wildlife, woodlands and open space.
- Possibly most important of all, we will continue to celebrate our hunting, fishing, teaching and learning heritage.

We challenge each of you to help us achieve our goals. Contact any of your officers and board members with your ideas and your volunteer time. We will do this together.

Jim Tate



FALL CLEAN-UP/WORK DAY Saturday, September 30

The chapter membership and their families are invited to take part in this event and help prepare the farm for the coming winter. This is a great opportunity for new members to become acquainted with the Chapter, and for new and current members to work off their required volunteer hours.

The Clean-Up/Work Day will begin at 8:30am. Committee chairs will have a list of projects. Bring your work gloves, shovels, rakes, loppers and leaf blowers. If you bring a chain saw or weed wacker, please be sure you have the necessary safety equipment.

Lunch will be served after the clean up is completed.

Board of Governors

Fiscal Year: September 1, 2017 – August 31, 2018

OFFICERS

Jim Tate, President

202 841-2056 • jim@tate-tate.us

Jack Mandel, 1st Vice President

301 202-487-8440 • jmandel@design@gmail.com

Jeff Seaman, 2nd Vice President

301 775-4973 • jeff_seaman@hotmail.com

Tucker Mostrom, Membership Secretary

301 252-8825 • MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

Billy Sherrill, Treasurer

240 418-6848 • billo3131@gmail.com

Tom Lamkin, Corresponding Secretary

301 706-3934 • tomlamkin@comcast.net

Shannon Novak, Recording Secretary

301 785-8461 • snovak516@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS

Walt Allensworth

301 972-7357 • twangermd@gmail.com

Art Duffy

301 570-0737 • artbevduffy@gmail.com

aduffy@freestateelectric.com

Jack MacGregor

301 972-8857 • jackmac0316@gmail.com

Dave Myers

301 774-4767 • drmyers68@gmail.com

Bill Thelemann

301 620-1535 • thelemann@comcast.net

Carol Efdimis, Past President

301 407-0025 • 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:

Tom Lamkin
tomlamkin@comcast.net or
Newsletter.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com
301 706-3934



Summary of the August 2017 Dinner Meeting and Board of Governors Meeting

Tucker Mostrom, Recording Secretary
301 252-8825 tuckermostrom@gmail.com

August 16 Membership Monthly Dinner Meeting

The 982nd consecutive Monthly Dinner Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm. Attendees enjoyed a pit-roasted beef dinner. Chapter President Carol Efdimis thanked everyone who attended this, the last dinner meeting of her administration. Carol thanked the membership in general and specifically all the volunteers who helped make the past year so productive and prosperous. Scott Harmon swore in the members of the 2017-2018 Board of Governors: Jim Tate (President), Jack Mandel (1st VP), Jeff Seaman (2nd VP), Bill Sherrill (Treasurer), Tucker Mostrom (Membership Secretary), Tom Lamkin (Corresponding Secretary), Shannon Novak (Recording Secretary), five Board Members: Walt Allensworth, Art Duffy, Jack MacGregor, Dave Myers, and Bill Thelemann.

Five new members were inducted into the chapter. Notable among committee business: September 1st marks the beginning of Dove Season and the beginning of fall hunting season in general. The membership were reminded of the requirements to hunt on chapter property: Have your valid MD Hunting License in your possession for the current season, follow all MD Hunting rules, have your valid/current B-CC IWLA membership card in your possession, follow all chapter hunting rules, have read, understood, and register your understanding of the current chapter hunting rules after June 30, 2017 and BEFORE you begin your hunt. Members should have their current numbered B-CC IWLA decal on their vehicles at all times when they attend the chapter, especially when hunting on the property.

The membership was encouraged to come out at noon on the 1st to join in the opening Day Dove Shoot and/or at 5:00pm for the Dove Shoot "cookout" afterward.

August 23 Board of Governors Meeting

Chapter President Carol Hulce-Efdimis called the meeting to order at 7:38pm.

- The entire sitting Board was present. Eleven members in good standing attended as well, including members of the incoming 2017-2018 Board.
- The Chapter president gave her report and opening remarks, including she has a 10:00am meeting on Friday with the County for exemption for one of the West Woods parcels. MC will try to assemble all 7 parcels and schedule of exemptions for all of them. Property tax bill is still incorrect
- Carol Efdimis-Hulce on behalf of the chapter treasurer presented his report on the chapter's accounts and finances
- The Membership Secretary (Lynn Adams) presented her accounting of the size and breakdown of the chapter membership and presented 5 membership applications for the Board's consideration during New Business

The following officers and committee chairs presented their updates to the Board:

- Chapter 1st Vice President Jim Tate (Conservation & Farm Operations) – Jim presented upcoming calendar dates for verification
 - o Forestry (Butch Mezick) – Saturday maintenance of forestry fields went well; trees are healthy; the Snyders have completed the surveying but for a single tree that they believed needs to be removed to access marker stone; Snyder will return to finish survey; Butch summa-

(continued on page 3)

SUMMARY

(continued from page 2)

- o rized the credits remaining in the Forest Mitigation Bank; Butch is stepping down as Forestry Chair
- o Ponds and Streams (John Novak) – Saturday's meeting was productive, including reinstallation of kiosk at the Big Pond; life rings were installed at both ponds; fishermen have been using the small pond – members must wait until notified pond is open; "No Fishing" signs have been installed; no restocking of the small pond by the members is allowed as disease could be introduced and ill-planned stocking could upset the small pond's ecosystem; looking for outside disease-free largemouth bass; Bill Gordon will need help taking census of streams; class for census-takers is October 7 at Sportsman's Chapter; Chapter will be testing Horsepen Branch and Seneca Creek; Bill presented an anti-littering sign with the suggestion that the chapter might want to buy more for key areas
- o Chapter House Maintenance (Tucker Mostrom) – New well-house plumbing is installed. Finishing on the member kitchen is still pending
- Chapter 2nd Vice President Jack Mandel (Recreation):
 - o Rifle and Pistol Range (Thoran Menser) – RO course is this weekend; the R&P committee will likely be replacing May RO course with NRA course
 - o Shotgun Range (Warner Parks) – Ruffed Grouse shoot this weekend
 - o Campground (Jack Kang) – Campground looking good
 - o Dove Hunt & Picnic (Tucker Mostrom) – hunt starts at noon, picnic at 5:00pm
- Chapter Corresponding Secretary Tom Lamkin (Public Relations & Education)
 - o Conservation and Education (Andy Wight) – There is a grant for public education of members project program funding – due date September 21; committee meeting Saturday, August 26 at 9:30am
 - o Hunter Education (John Lamb) – Next class (September 9/10) is already on waiting list; May 5/6 and September 8/9 tentative dates for upcoming 2018 classes
 - o Legislation (Carol Efdimis-Hulce) – The Board has results of meeting to discuss Rockville incinerator issue; primary goal is clean air; incinerator and power plant are the two biggest polluters in county; County is starting initiatives to reduce restaurant food waste

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Website (Tucker Mostrom) – Waiting on RFP from Websight Design for chapter website upgrades
- Maryland State IWLA Division (Bill Gordon) – October 14th meeting of State Division will take place at the B-CC chapter house; will need food handler, etc., for breakfast and lunch

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- (Carol Efdimis) – Discussing Wildlife Achievement Chapter's request for chapter support of Youth Shooting and Hunting Sports program; feeling is that this is a conflict of interest for the chapter due to WAC membership included in fee
- (Tucker Mostrom) Request chapter rules change to "Prohibit exterior use of grills, campfires, firepits, torches, and open flame or any other than heat source larger than a cigar lighter within 25 feet of chapter house slab"

OLD BUSINESS (Motions suspended from previous BOG Meeting)

- Motion to untable email motion passed 6-5-1
- Motion to discuss planter was not approved

NEW BUSINESS (Motions from the meeting floor)

- Motion to accept 5 new members seconded and approved
- Request chapter rules change to "Prohibit exterior use of grills, campfires, firepits, torches, and open flame or any other than heat source larger than a traditional cigar/cigarette lighter within 25 feet of chapter house slab" was seconded but not approved
- Motion to increase the funding for the new farm planter from \$9,000 to \$11,000 and allow the chapter to use the current planters for trade-in was seconded and approved

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER

- (John Lamb) – Request to address the ditch/swale from the Chapter house to the shotgun range that presents a trip/fall hazard
- (Jim Tate) – 2017-2018 budget is ready for new Board to vote on in October
- (Scott Harmon) – Requested that the review be scheduled for chapter books (accounting) from previous year
- (Jim Tate) – Board will meet 30-60 minutes early for September meeting to introduce new to old
- (Tom Lamkin) – Updated the Board on chairs for the porch and dais

Motion to Adjourn was seconded and approved by acclamation at 9:10pm.



Cathedral of Pines
Photo by Christy Mullis

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date(s)	Activity	Time
SEPTEMBER		
Friday, September 1	Dove Shoot	12:00 noon – 5:00pm
Friday, September 1	Opening Day Cook Out	5:00pm
Tuesday, September 5	Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – Dusk
Saturday, September 9	Summer Biathlon Practice	7:30am
Saturday, September 9	Adopt-A-Road Cleanup – meet at Chapter House	8:00am
Saturday, September 9	Hunter Safety Course	8:00am – 4:00pm
Sunday, September 10	Hunter Safety Course	8:00am – 4:00pm
Monday, September 11	Boy Scout Troop 496	7:00pm
Tuesday, September 12	Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – Dusk
Sunday, September 17	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am
Sunday, September 17	Sporting Clays Fun League	9:00am – 1:00pm (final sign up 1:00pm)
Monday, September 18	Boy Scout Troop 496	7:00pm
Tuesday, September 19	Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – Dusk
Wednesday, September 20	Monthly Dinner Meeting	6:30pm
Thursday, September 21	Cub Scout Troop 694	7:00pm
Saturday, September 23	Summer Biathlon Practice	7:30am
Monday, September 25	Boy Scout Troop 496	7:00pm
Tuesday, September 26	Tuesday Sporting Clays Finale	3:00pm – Dusk
Wednesday, September 27	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Saturday, September 30	Fall Clean-Up / Work Day	8:30am – TBD
OCTOBER		
Monday, October 2	Boy Scout Troop 496	7:00pm
Friday, October 6	Rural Republican Women's Night in the Country – set up	1:00pm – 6:00pm
Saturday, October 7	Biathlon Practice	7:30am
Saturday, October 7	Rural Republican Women's Night in the Country	All Day
Monday, October 9	Boy Scout Troop 496	7:00pm
Saturday, October 14	Biathlon Practice	7:30am
Saturday, October 14	State Division Meeting	9:00am
Monday, October 16	Boy Scout Troop 496	7:00pm
Wednesday, October 18	Monthly Dinner Meeting	6:30pm
Sunday, October 22	Sporting Clays Fun League	9:00am – 1:00pm (final sign up 1:00pm)
Monday, October 23	Boy Scout Troop 496	7:00pm
Wednesday, October 25	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Monday, October 30	Boy Scout Troop 496	7:00pm
NOVEMBER		
Saturday, November 4	Biathlon Practice	7:30am
Monday, November 6	Boy Scout Troop 496	7:00pm
Saturday, November 11	Biathlon Practice	7:30am
Sunday, November 12	Chapter House Clean-Up	9:00am
Monday, November 13	Boy Scout Troop 496	7:00pm
Monday, November 15	Monthly Dinner Meeting	6:30pm
Monday, November 15	Board of Governors Meeting	immediately following Dinner Meeting
Sunday, November 19	Sporting Clays Fun League	9:00am – 1:00pm (final sign up 1:00pm)
Monday, November 20	Boy Scout Troop 496	7:00pm
Monday, November 27	Boy Scout Troop 496	7:00pm
<p>The Campground is closed during all black powder and firearms deer season. Check the online www.bcciwla.org electronic calendar for current and updated scheduled times of events.</p>		

Hunters Ethics Report

Scott Harmon
301 467-0645 (Cell) scott.w.harmon@verizon.net

Hunting season is in so don't forget to register online to hunt the B-CC IWLA Farm. We held a class on how to register online in August, but if you need help with registering don't hesitate to give me a call. It's an easy and simple process that only takes 5 minutes max. The seasons that are in in September are,

- 1) **Early Resident Canada Goose: September 1 – 25.** Daily Bag Limit is 8 with a possession limit of 24.
- 2) **Mourning Dove Season: September 1 – October 14, October 26 – November 18, December 16 – January 6.** Daily Bag Limit is 15 with a possession limit of 45.

To hunt migratory birds, you need a MD Migratory Game Bird Stamp that must be printed as proof of purchase. You need a Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Conservation Stamp. If you are hunting Geese and are over the age of 15, you also need a Federal Duck Stamp.

- 3) **White Tailed Deer Bow Season: September 8 – October 18, October 22 – November 24, December 11 – December 15, January 1 – January 4, and January 8 – January 31.** Sunday hunting starts in October. You can only hunt till 10:30am.

You need a MD hunting license with a Bow Stamp to hunt white tailed deer. If you hunt with a bow during the early muzzleloader season in October, you need a muzzleloader stamp as well. The safety zone is now 50 yards, but if you are within 100 yards of an occupied dwelling you need to be in an elevated stand. You still need written permission on you to hunt within 50 yards of an occupied dwelling.

Most important if you are hunting the B-CC IWLA farm, you need to carry your membership card with you as proof of permission, a form of picture ID, and hunting license with appropriate stamps.

Finally, I welcome you to reach out to me for help if you wound a deer that crosses onto our neighbor's property, need help understanding hunting rule and state laws, or just want to share a great hunting story. Above all be safe out there.

REMEMBER...

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

No Fishing In Small Pond

Since the small pond refilled this past spring, the Ponds & Streams Committee has and will continue to stock fingerling fish. Until these fish have a chance to grow to a catchable size, no fishing is permitted in the small pond. The Ponds & Streams Committee will notify the chapter membership when fishing can begin.

Stocking of Small Pond with Fish

Please do not place any fish or other aquatic life in the small pond without the prior approval of the Ponds & Streams Co-Chairmen, John Novak (novakgang4@comcast.net) or Pete Wirth (peter_wirth@verizon.net).

A Memorial Service for
Andy Dabbs
will be held on Wednesday morning
October 11, 2017
at
Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery
Cheltenham, MD

*Please call the cemetery at
301-372-6398 several days before
as the time is yet to be determined.*

Archery Report

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

The 3D archery season came to a close in the end of August. I want to thank all of those who came out and volunteered their time to set up, maintain, oversee, and take down the course. We do appreciate your efforts and the archery offerings at our chapter are better for it. I would also like to thank Scott Harmon, who, along with Walt Allensworth, was instrumental in getting archery at Bethesda-Chevy Chase to where it is today.

While the 3D course is down for the rest of the season due to most of the committee out busy hunting, the range will still have a couple of 3D targets out for practice or warm-up before you head out to the fields. We have some great plans for next year and always welcome input on how to improve archery at the chapter. We are hoping to offer kids classes and a chapter shoot.

If you have any questions or feedback for the upcoming year, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

MEMBERSHIP DINNER MEETING

The 983rd dinner meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 20** at the B-CC IWLA Chapter House. Dinner will be served at 6:30pm. All members and guests are invited.

Appetizers will be available before dinner. Dinner this month will include **Salad, Pit Roasted Chicken, Vegetables, Parsley Potatoes, Cole Slaw, Rolls, Lemonade, and Dessert.**

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

The Board of Governors meeting will be held at the **B-CC IWLA Chapter House** on **Wednesday, September 27.** Board members are expected to attend.

Shotgun Range Report

Warner Parks, Committee Chair
301 540-1947 (Home) 240 620-6942 (Cell)
wparks29@gmail.com

2017 WINTER LEAGUE SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 17 Sunday, October 22
Sunday, November 19 Sunday, December 17
No Trap & Skeet shooting until the last squad has shot.

All Range Officers – please remember to double check and make sure all trap and skeet houses are locked, the arms on the machines have been released, the safe is closed and locked, and the range house door is locked before leaving.

The card reader is now working. If for any reason your card does not work, please check with me.

Stand to the side when cocking all arms. THE TRAP MACHINE needs a few minutes to warm up before you cock the throwing arm.

Refill and restock the skeet houses and uncock all machines when done. Additional targets are stored in the container next to the parking lot, the trailer under the tower, and the low skeet house on the left field. Pick up your empty shotgun shells and trash when finished shooting. Keep the range clean and restocked for the next range officer and shooters.

All Shotgun Range Equipment is to be used by pre-qualified Shotgun Range Officers ONLY. If any equipment is malfunctioning, please let Joel or me know ASAP.

RANGE OFFICER SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 3 Slim Suleman, Need 2nd RO
Sunday, September 10 Ed Stewart, Bernard Winkle
Sunday, September 17 Tim Jorgensen, John Novack,
Pat Santighian (Winter League)
Sunday, September 24 Mike Noble, Steve dell'Acqua

HOURS OF OPERATION

Sunday's 9:00am to 5:00pm Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays
Tuesday's 3:00pm (through Sept. 26) Sporting Clays Only

Adopt-A-Road Cleanup Schedule

The final 2017 cleanup day for the B-CC IWLA Adopt-A-Road is **December 9**. Meet at the Chapter House at 8:00am. Litter bags, gloves, and orange traffic vests will be made available for participants. If you would like to participate or have questions concerning the upcoming road cleanups, contact John Robinson, 301 641-1188.



As a reminder...

All chapter members wishing to hunt on our farm must register on the Chapter website to acknowledge understanding our rules and property boundaries. This is a yearly requirement.

Membership Report

Tucker Mostrom, Membership Secretary
MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

As of the August BOG meeting, chapter membership stands at 1,035 total members: 568 Individual, 350 Family, 14 Associate, 2 Youth, 20 Student, and 81 Retired.

2018 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS (Next Year's Dues)

Membership renewals will be sent out by mid-September. Your dues must be received no later than December 31, 2017 or a late fee of 1/4 of your annual Chapter dues payment will be added to your annual dues (see Article VIII, section 4(a) of the Chapter By-Laws). An information form will be included for you to fill out with updated information and needs to be returned with your payment.

Email Addresses are critical now more than ever!!! The chapter newsletter is now sent in softcopy ONLY!

Please ensure that you are receiving chapter emails at the addresses you expect to or email me if you are not.

2018 Renewals for probationary members: If you have completed your 16 work hours, please send your paperwork to me via email or the post office. If you are unsure of when your probationary period ends or how many hours you have accumulated, contact me. Any probationary member whose probationary period ended in 2017 who has not completed their work hours will be dropped from the membership. If you would like to re-apply for membership, you will need to go through the acceptance process again (see Article III, section 2.b of the Chapter Bylaws).

2018 Renewals for regular members: If you have completed your 6 work hours, send in your paperwork to me when you send in your dues. If you have not completed your 6 work hours by December 31, you are subject to a \$50 work fee that is added to your dues. These hours can be sent to me by email (listed above) or posted to the address below:

The chapter's mailing address:

B-CC IWLA
PO Box 542
Poolesville, MD 20837

Welcome to the B-CC IWLA Family

The following members were inducted at the August 16 dinner meeting:

Ferdous Alfaruque 573 239-3343
Interests: Hunter Safety; Photography; Rifle and Pistol

Julie and Patrick Carroll 301 869-1450
Interests: Photography; Chapter Activities; Trap, Skeet, and Sporting Clays

David Daniel 202 333-5278
Interests: Building and Facilities; Conservation and Education; Trap, Skeet, and Sporting Clays; Log Cabin

Steve and Melissa Widenhofer 301 972-1431
Interests: Steve: Ponds and Streams Management; Rifle and Pistol; Trap, Skeet, and Sporting Clays

Melissa: Archery/3-D Archery; Conservation and Education; Youth Activities

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please submit all articles for the October 2017 newsletter **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.**



SPORTING CLAYS FUN LEAGUE 2017

Frederick County Fish & Game

Pt. of Rocks, MD
Contact: John Ortaldo – 301 695-8322

Shoot Dates

September 10 ♦ October 8
November 5 ♦ December 3

9:00am until 1:00pm (final sign-up)



Bethesda-Chevy Chase Izaak Walton League

Poolesville, MD
Contact: Warner Parks – 240 620-6942

Shoot Dates

September 17 ♦ October 22
November 19 ♦ December 17

9:00am until 1:00pm (final sign-up)



League Details

League will consist of 8 shoots held at 2 different clubs. Each shoot will be 50 Targets.

Entry Fee: \$15.00

Load Limit: 12 Gauge 1-1/8 oz. – 3 Dram Equiv. 7-1/2

Optional Lewis (\$5) Purse [3 places/(60-40%)]
Lucky Draw \$ Game

Rifle & Pistol Range Report

Thoran Menser, Committee Chair
301 972-8353 bcciwla.rp@gmail.com

Chris Efdimis, Chief Range Officer
240 372-2258 bcciwla.rp@gmail.com

RANGE OFFICER SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, Sept. 2 **Reilly, J.**, Goldshine, W., Zoulis, A., Youssef, K., Suleman, S., Dyke, J.

Sunday, Sept. 3 **Mense, M.**, Cho, B., Chung, K., Adams, B.

Saturday, Sept. 9 **Haake, T.**, King, D., Eschholz, S., Johns, P., Latimer, R., Lamb, J.

Sunday, Sept. 10 **King, D.**, Haake, T., Leahy, M., Rikhter, Y., Spence, P.

Saturday, Sept. 16 **Bush, L.**, Bush, L., Raredon, G., Petron, C., Dyke, J.

Sunday, Sept. 17 **Burns, M.**, King, K., Schilling, J., Donovan, P.

Saturday, Sept. 23 **Kosogof, J.**, Morgan, R., Reilly, J., Howard, C.

Sunday, Sept. 24 **Smelson, D.**, Jones, R., Antolli, P., Princiotto, M., West, K.

Saturday, Sept. 30 **Lan, K.**, Leahy, M., Shi, P., Mendoza, A.

OCTOBER

Sunday, Oct. 1 **King, B.**, Mense, M., Sy, K., Smith, E.

Saturday, Oct. 7 **McKenney, D.**, Moffat, A., Dickerson, C., Terrell, J.

Sunday, Oct. 8 **Johnson, G.**, Terrell, J., McKenney, D., Dickerson, C.

Saturday, Oct. 14 **Greenberg, R.**, Riccio, R., Ives, S., Bissett, R.

Sunday, Oct. 15 **Elkins, B.**, Murray, J., Pickrel, T., Sanfuentes, J.

Saturday, Oct. 21 **RANGE CLOSED (MUZZLELOADER)**

Sunday, Oct. 22 **Solis, J.**, Griffin, J.

Saturday, Oct. 28 **Hess, L.**, McUlsky, A., Pickrel, T., Burns, M., Hess, A.

Sunday, Oct. 29 **Pedersen, P.**, Griffin, J., Finnegan, J., Boynton, D., Trotter, L.

Sunday, Oct. 29 **McUlsky, A.**, Hess, L., Sy, K., Smith, E., Trotter, L.



Help Wanted

CLEAN WATER CHALLENGE

The Clean Water Challenge is an IWLA program whose purpose is to enlist an army of volunteer citizen scientists to monitor the streams of America. There are 100,000 streams of interest, of which only a small percentage are now monitored, and a significant portion of those that are failing to pass tests for stream health.

The Chapter is in the process of establishing a CWC program for our own local region, and we need volunteers to help in stream testing. There are two types of test: biological and chemical. In biological testing a stream's health is assayed by taking a census of the aquatic insects and other macro invertebrates inhabiting the stream. In chemical testing one measures various physical and chemical parameters, such as pH, electrical conductivity, oxygen content, and levels of nitrates, nitrites and various pollutants. Training is required and will be provided, and the Chapter will bear all costs for training and materials. A notice of an upcoming training event is contained elsewhere in this NEWSLETTER.

Our testing will begin with Seneca Creek and various branches of Horse Pen Creek. This is a great opportunity to contribute to the cleaning up of our own local environment, and interested persons should contact Bill Gordon at 301 460-4462 or wgordon14@verizon.net.

Nestwatch Wrap-up

Diane Seward and John Novak, Co-coordinators, Nestwatch Project
trina65@verizon.net novakgang4@comcast.net

SUMMARY: 28 NESTING ATTEMPTS, 134 EGGS, 102 NESTLINGS, 92 FLEDGLINGS

Eastern Bluebirds, Tree Swallows, and a pair of Chickadees enjoyed a productive nesting season at the farm this year. Nine nesting pairs of Eastern Bluebirds built 18 nests over the season, beginning in early April and ending in early August, fledging 74 bluebirds from a total 79 nestlings. Six of the nine nesting pairs produced two clutches of nestlings each; one of the pairs had three nesting attempts. Two of the pairs raised six nestlings in each of their two nesting attempts. Most bluebird clutches are four or five eggs; six is unusual.

Tree Swallows did almost as well. Although the chapter had only four Tree Swallow nests, they produced 18 nestlings and fledged 13. One clutch failed for no apparent reason (five nestlings found dead in the nestbox, two discovered on one visit, the remaining three on the next); possible causes of the failure could be bacterial or fungal poisoning. Tree Swallows are vigilant parents and beautiful aviators. The only opportunity we have to observe them up close is during nesting season, which ran from May 1 to July 17. They nest only once a season, and we typically do not see them—unless spotted high over head—after their chicks have fledged.

Carolina Chickadees also nest only once each breeding season. Our female chickadee laid her first egg on May 4. After diligent parenting, including dive bombing any intruders approaching the nestbox, five nestlings fledged in early June.

This year nestboxes at the big pond successfully supported bluebirds, chickadees, and tree swallows. We made great progress in our drive to eliminate black rat snakes as predators at the pond (and in the field as well), successfully removing and relocating four or five snakes over the nesting season. Only one clutch of bluebird nestlings, and possibly one clutch of bluebird eggs, were destroyed (eaten) by black snakes.

But snakes were not the only predator: house sparrows, seen for the first time this year, destroyed a couple of tree swallows early on (discovered, necks broken, in nestboxes) and built four nests in April, evicting or killing any possibly competitors for the boxes. Not long after we removed the nests and eggs (21 in all), bluebirds and tree swallows began their nests in the newly available boxes. Early on we also found a few other lifeless, adult tree swallows in boxes in the field and at the big pond, cause of their deaths unknown.

Our 15 boxes, scattered in the field, near the ponds, and in the archery/garden have been brushed and scraped and are now ready for over night lodgers during the cold winter months. Look for the return of our cavity nesters early next spring.



Chickadee nestlings



Tree Swallow nestlings



Eastern Bluebirds hatching



Eastern Bluebird nestlings

National Hunting and Fishing Day

Did you know that Saturday, September 23 is **National Hunting and Fishing Day**? Check it out here: <http://www.nhfd.org/>. Held every year since 1972, National Hunting and Fishing Day celebrates outdoor sports, and how hunters and anglers contribute to conservation.

Members of the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter of IWLA are blessed with a **Conservation Farm** on which members may hunt and fish. And, like every one else we have other places to hunt and fish – **State and Federal Public lands**. Check out everything you need to know about hunting on federal public lands at this website: <https://www.doi.gov/blog/everything-you-need-know-about-hunting-public-lands> – from where and what you can hunt to safety tips and how hunters contribute to conservation.

Maryland also manages over sixty state owned properties where hunting is allowed. The **Maryland Wildlife Management Areas** are managed to conserve and enhance wildlife populations and habitats while providing for public enjoyment of resources through hunting and other wildlife-dependent recreation. For a complete list of MD WMAs, go to <http://dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Pages/publiclands/allbyregion.aspx>.

NOTICE

Training Workshop in SOS Biological Testing

This is a Save Our Streams training workshop to identify aquatic insects and other macroinvertebrates, and is a first step in becoming a certified stream monitor.

LOCATION:

Sportsman's Chapter
5018 Onion Road, Pylesville, MD 21132.

DATE:

October 7, 2017

TIME:

9:30am – 4:00pm

Registration includes materials, coffee and lunch. Attendance is free. Bring waders or hip boots if you have them, otherwise tennis shoes will do. Dress for the weather, rain or shine. For information on how to register, contact Bill Gordon at wgordon14@verizon.net or Samantha Roth at sroth@iwla.org.