



# 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 I've mentioned in a prior newsletter, our Archives Committee has been diligently working to locate and preserve the Chapter's documentary history. The national organization is undertaking a similar effort. Both efforts are vital to the preservation of our story, our achievements. Our archivists' efforts have already produced reminders of our predecessors' noble goals and the impressive work they have done over the years. What has been revealed thus far confirms that this place is treasure, built through foresight and hard work, with great affection.

But it is fair to ask, as we look to our present and future – for whom will this history be preserved? Of course, we cannot know for certain. But there is always "the data" to help us guess. What does the data tell us? One thing it tells us is that participation in organizations like ours – and in religious congregations, and in volunteer groups, parent / teacher associations, professional societies – is dropping. See, e.g., University of Maryland School of Public Policy's Do Good Institute's study. [https://dogood.umd.edu/sites/default/files/2019-10/10.2019\\_Do%20Good\\_Research%20Brief\\_Young%20Adults\\_FINAL.pdf](https://dogood.umd.edu/sites/default/files/2019-10/10.2019_Do%20Good_Research%20Brief_Young%20Adults_FINAL.pdf). Why? The answers are, at least according to the data I've seen, not clear. It's an interesting trend, to be sure, to which attention should be paid.

There are more data, maybe connected, maybe not. For example, rates of anxiety and depression have increased in recent years, particularly among adolescents. Its cause is, according to some who study it, attributable to a lack of connectedness. See for example <https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2018/04/17/concerns-about-the-future-of-peoples-well-being/>. The accumulation of carbon in our atmosphere has affected some changes on the climate – the portents of which further increase adolescent anxiety, according to polls and my teenage daughter. An interesting study by the Outdoor Foundation, an outdoor industry group, concluded that participation in outdoor activities among people 6 to 12 years old has declined by about 3% since 2007, and has dropped steadily between 2013 to 2017. See <https://outdoorindustry.org/resource/2019-outdoor-participation-report/>.

*(continued on page 2)*

## NOTICE

### MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP DINNER CANCELED

The monthly membership dinner scheduled for Wednesday, March 18 has been **CANCELED** due to the Board's concern about the outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Let's do what we can to prevent the spread of the virus. An already-designated few will hold a brief meeting to maintain the consecutive meeting record.

We will plan to see you next month at the April Dinner Meeting.

**Reminder: B-CC IWLA is still open for the outdoor enjoyment of all members.**

## Board of Governors

Fiscal Year: September 1, 2019 – August 31, 2020

### OFFICERS

**Jeff Seaman, President**

301 775-4973 • jeff\_seaman@hotmail.com

**Ron Marchessault, 1st Vice President**

202 320-3834 • rmarchessault12@aol.com

**Lin Tate, 2nd Vice President**

703 517-3675 • lin@tate-tate.us

**Ron Marchessault, Interim Treasurer**

202 320-3834 • rmarchessault12@aol.com

**Tucker Mostrom, Membership Secretary**

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

**Janet Lamkin, Corresponding Secretary**

301 466-6557 • j.lamkin@comcast.net

**Joe Trotter, Recording Secretary**

210 352-0055 • jtrotterccp@gmail.com

### BOARD MEMBERS

**Walt Allensworth**

301 221-3594 • twangermd@gmail.com

**David Boynton**

301 318-3622 • dboynton@mcccourt.com

**Shannon Novak**

301 785-8461 • snovak516@gmail.com

**Jack Shaw**

301 340-1624 • jshaw110@verizon.net

**David Waterman**

816 812-4917 • seandavid@me.com

**Jack Mandel, Past President**

202 487-8440 • jmandel@design@gmail.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 or  
Newsletter.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com  
301 466-6557



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(continued from page 1)

Some findings are more encouraging. Just being outdoors among trees and green space reduces stress and improves cognitive functioning. See "Environment and Crime in the Inner City," F. Kuo and W. Sullivan, *Environment and Behavior*, May 2001. <http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.644.9399&rep=rep1&type=pdf>. See also our July 2019 Newsletter, page 4. Children with attention deficits learn and perform better after spending some time outdoors. See e.g. Taylor, Kuo, *Journal of Attention Disorders*, March 2009. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18725656>. Trees reduce atmospheric carbon and its effects on the climate. See, e.g., <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/2019/07/how-to-erase-100-years-carbon-emissions-plant-trees/>.

And finally, here are some data that, as a member of our Chapter, you don't need an expert to provide. We have 624 acres, outside, mostly wooded. Under the stewardship of our Wildlife, Forestry, Ponds and Streams, Farm, and Trails Committees, our wildlife, waters, woodlands and open spaces are exemplars of biodiversity. Talk about connectedness and its benefits.

You may see some connections among and between all this data, and maybe a response to the question I posed above. You may also observe some reasons to invite a young person to the farm. Or someone who needs to concentrate better, or someone who needs to relax a little bit. We're welcoming new members. We offer some good connections.

Which leads to this reminder: the Spring Cleanup is April 4. Come on out. And bring someone with you.

Jeff Seaman  
President, B-CC IWLA



**Sporting Clays Fun Shoot  
at the Shotgun Range**  
Sunday, March 22 - 9:00am

## Summary of February 2020 Dinner Meeting

Joe Trotter, Recording Secretary  
210 352-0055 jttrotterccp@gmail.com

- President Jeff Seaman called the meeting to order at 7:20pm.
- President's report: We have been contacted about issues that will impact the Ag. Reserve:
  - Increasing hunting, including rifle hunting, in the Reserve. We opposed the legislation, citing there are effective tools already in use.
  - Zoning re-alignment that would have added 1,800 acres of solar panels to the reserve. We asked the council to consider the alternative uses to the land.
- President introduced our guest speaker, Lori Mayhew, who won the Royce Hanson Award. The Royce Hanson award honors a person or group that improved the Agricultural Reserve or local agriculture. She spoke about teaching high school students and educational resources. The Great Big Plant Give Away is April 30th and May 1st.
- We re-introduced the 50/50 raffle.
- We are having a gun raffle! Each gun has a cash payout value if you don't want the actual gun.

## 2020 B-CC IWLA Board of Governors Nominations

Your B-CC IWLA's 2020 Nominating Committee is presently seeking interested members in good standing to serve on the B-CC IWLA's Board of Governors. We have an immediate need to fill our treasurer position. Call Scott Harmon at 301 467-0645 if interested. The term of service for this slate of proposed officers and Board members will begin September 2020 and conclude August 2021. Members of the Board are expected to attend two meetings a month, the chapter dinner meetings held on the third Wednesday of each month, and Board of Governor's meetings held on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

Serving on the chapter Board is a very rewarding opportunity. The great success of our chapter is due to the dedication and talents of our Board of Governors. As a Board Member, you will learn how the chapter functions as a conservation organization and help make the decisions for our future. The experience of working with men and women from completely different backgrounds and professions as a Board member often provides an opportunity for personal growth. Everyone that has been a member of the B-CC IWLA for one year as of September 2019 is welcome to submit their name for consideration as a Board of Governors member. If you have any interest, please reach out to Scott Harmon or one of the other members of the nominating committee. The committee members are Butch Mezick, Larry Anderson, John Lamb, Jack Mandel, Frank Parker, and Scott Harmon.

Best Regards  
Scott Harmon  
301 467-0645 (cell)  
scott.w.harmon@verizon.net

## B-CC QUIZ

**Question:** The B-CC IWLA Conservation Farm is located on land that was called 'Crossbasket' by the first non-native owner, Robert Peter. What is a 'Crossbasket,' and why was the land so named?

*Answer can be found elsewhere in the newsletter.*

## Membership Report

Tucker Mostrom, Committee Chair  
301 252-8825 MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

### THE LATE FEE DEADLINE FOR YOUR 2020 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL HAS BEEN EXTENDED AGAIN !!!

We are still working to overcome the previously unforeseen data issue that directed a significant number of renewal invoices to incorrect addresses.

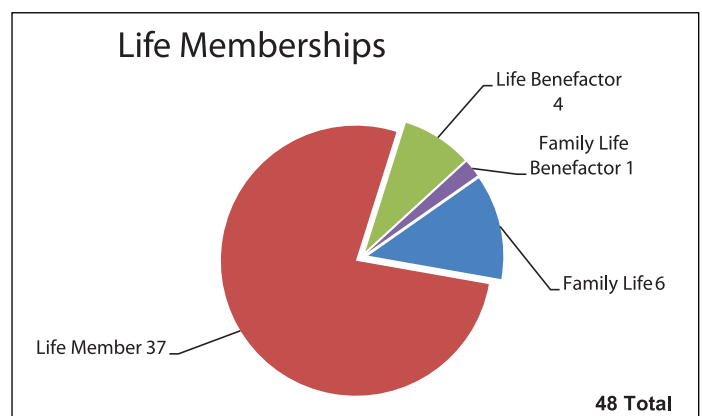
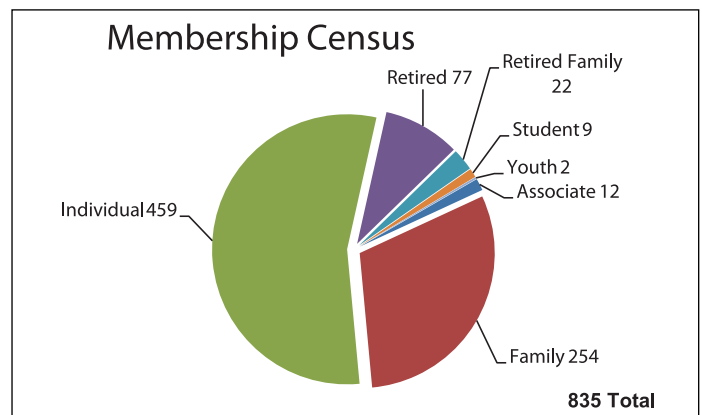
- Please text me directly at 301 252-8825 if you have not received an invoice.
- Membership renewals received though the middle of January have been sent out. Please be patient if you have paid since then.
- The process is still being work on to share updates between the chapter's data and IWLA National's database.



February New Member Orientation Tour

The next **New Member Orientation Tour** this month will take place on **Sunday, March 29th**.

The active membership breakdown as of this printing is:



## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please submit all articles for the April 2020 newsletter  
**NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MARCH 27.**

**COMING SOON**

## SPRING FAMILY CAMPOUT

We plan to hold the  
Spring Family Campout in April.

### Chestnut Grove Report

Blaine Elkins, Committee Chair  
BlaineElkins@verizon.net

#### CHESTNUT GENOME GROVE SPRING WORKDAY

The chapter spring cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday, April 4. The Chestnut committee will be cleaning up the Genome Chestnut grove near the campground. This will include planting up to 20 pure breed American Chestnut seeds and placing protective tubes and setting weed block aprons around them. Replacing weathered weed block aprons at existing seedlings/saplings. We will also place identifying markers at all 60 seedling locations and perform general clean up.

### Vegetable Gardens

Larry Anderson  
240 246-5302 andupton9@hotmail.com

Pat Tarquinio  
ptarq@hotmail.com

The days are growing longer and warmer temperatures; gardeners are eagerly anticipating and planning for the next growing season. At B-CC IWLA we have an active gardening community, full of members who enjoy the opportunity to play in the soil. Generally, our gardeners find the gardens a pleasant distraction from the hustle and bustle of daily life even with our onslaught of amazing weeds. Again this year, Pat and I will be the organizers of the garden plots.

As has been our custom, current gardeners have first choice of reserving garden plots, so now is the time to contact either Pat or I with your intentions for this year. Single plots (~25x25ft) will rent for \$20 each. For members wishing to become new gardeners please contact either Pat or I, and we will compile a list and start assigning plots as they become available. We hope to have the list and assignments ready to go in early April in time for early crop planting.

### NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION TOUR

This month's New Member Orientation Tour will be on  
Sunday, March 29 from 10:00am until 12:00 noon.

# B-CC IWLA GUN RAFFLE

DONATION IS **\$20.00** PER TICKET

**ONLY 500 TICKETS  
WILL BE SOLD!!!!**

- WHAT:** A Gun Raffle  
**WHY:** To Raise Funds To Benefit The Chapter  
**WHO:** Tickets can be sold to Members, Family, Friends, and Colleagues  
**WHEN:** April Dinner Meeting on April 15, 2020 or once all of the tickets are sold at the next Dinner Meeting  
**WHERE:** The Raffle will take place at the Chapterhouse, but you do not have to be present to win.

*Stateline Gun Exchange, LLC located in Emmitsburg, MD  
will provide the following three guns for the raffle:*

**BERETTA A300 12GA. BLUE/WAL. J30TJ10 or \$750.00**

**SAVAGE 220 CAMMO/BLUE 20GA. or \$650.00 (INCLUDED WITH THIS GUN  
is a DNZ Mount (one-piece mount) and Leupold Scope 3x9x40 Rifleman)**

**TIKKA T3X 6.5 CREEDMORE BLUE/WAL. 24" JRTXA382 or \$600.00**

**Tickets will be available at dinner meetings**

*\*If you have any questions, please contact Ron Marchessault at 202 320-3834 or via email: RMarchessault12@aol.com*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date(s)	Activity	Time
<b>MARCH</b>		
Monday, March 16	Scout Troop 496 – Chapter House	7:30pm
Wednesday, March 18	Kid Friendly Monthly Dinner Meeting	6:30pm
Saturday, March 21	Soil Health Seminar – Chapter House	8:30 am – 12:00noon
Saturday, March 21	Chestnut Seed Planting – Greenhouse	9:00am
Saturday, March 21	Ponds & Streams Meeting in Board Meeting	9:00am
Sunday, March 22	Sporting Clays Fun Shoot – Shotgun Range	9:00am
Monday, March 23	Scout Troop 496 – Chapter House	7:30pm
Wednesday, March 25	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Thursday, March 26	Pack 694 AOL Crossover – Chapter House	6:00pm - 9:00pm
Friday, March 27	April Newsletter Articles due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Sunday, March 29	New Member Tour & Orientation	10:00am – 12:00 noon
Monday, March 30	Scout Troop 496 – Chapter House	7:30pm
<b>APRIL</b>		
Saturday, April 4	R&P Range Reopens to General Membership	
Saturday, April 4	Spring Chapter Cleanup Day	8:00am
Monday, April 6	Scout Troop 496 – Chapter House	7:30pm
Tuesday, April 7	Tuesday Sporting Clays Summer League	3:00pm – dusk
Saturday, April 11	Adopt-A-Road Cleanup – Meet at Chapter House Parking Lot	8:15am
Saturday, April 11	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Monday, April 13	Scout Troop 496 – Chapter House	7:30pm
Tuesday, April 14	Tuesday Sporting Clays Summer League	3:00pm – dusk
Wednesday, April 15	Monthly Dinner Meeting	6:30pm
Monday, April 20	Scout Troop 496 – Chapter House	7:30pm
Tuesday, April 21	Tuesday Sporting Clays Summer League	3:00pm – dusk
Wednesday, April 22	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Friday, April 24	May Newsletter Articles due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Sunday, April 26	New Member Tour & Orientation	10:00am – 12:00 noon
Monday, April 28	Scout Troop 496 – Chapter House	7:30pm
Tuesday, April 29	Tuesday Sporting Clays Summer League	3:00pm – dusk
<b>MAY</b>		
Saturday, May 2	Hunter Safety Education Class – Chapter House	9:00am – 4:00pm
Sunday, May 3	Shotgun Range – Range Officer Sign Up at Shotgun Range	9:00am
Sunday, May 3	Hunter Safety Education Class – Chapter House	9:00am – 4:00pm
Sunday, May 3	Montgomery Birders Bird Walk	7:00am – 12:00 noon
Monday, May 4	Scout Troop 496 – Chapter House	7:30pm
Tuesday, May 5	Tuesday Sporting Clays Summer League – Shotgun Range	3:00pm – dusk
Saturday, May 9	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Monday, May 11	Scout Troop 496 – Chapter House	7:30pm
Tuesday, May 12	Tuesday Sporting Clays Summer League – Shotgun Range	3:00pm – dusk
Monday, May 18	Scout Troop 496 – Chapter House	7:30pm
Tuesday, May 19	Tuesday Sporting Clays Summer League – Shotgun Range	3:00pm – dusk
Wednesday, May 20	Monthly Dinner Meeting	6:30pm
Monday, May 25	Scout Troop 496 – Chapter House	7:30pm
Tuesday, May 26	Tuesday Sporting Clays Summer League – Shotgun Range	3:00pm – dusk
Wednesday, May 27	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Friday, May 29	June Newsletter Articles due – send to j.lamki@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, May 30	R & P Range New Officer Training Class – Chapter House	9:00am
Saturday, May 30	Spring Wild Edibles Class at Fox Campsite	10:00am – 2:00pm
<p><b>The Campground is closed during all black powder and firearms deer season.</b>  <b>Check the online <a href="http://www.bcciwa.org">www.bcciwa.org</a> electronic calendar for current and updated scheduled times of events.</b></p>		

### Welcome to the B-CC IWLA Family

The following member was inducted at the February dinner meeting:

**Charlie Lund**

**Interests:** Chapterhouse; Family Picnic; Ponds & Streams Management

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

The March Board of Governors meeting is currently scheduled for **Wednesday, March 25**. Due to the outbreak of the COVID – 19, please check with President Jeff Seaman, 301-775-4973, prior to March 25 to see if the meeting has been canceled.

## 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 CLOSURES

The range will be closed the months of February and March to the general membership except when opened by a Range Officer. It will reopen back up to the general membership on Saturday, April 4.

### RANGE OFFICER TRAINING CLASS

The class for incoming new Range Officers will be held on Saturday, May 30 at 9:00am. RSVP to the R&P email address and a reminder email will be sent out 2 weeks before the class.

## Shotgun Range Report

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

**Effective March 1, 2020 the range will go back to normal hours on Sunday's – 9:00am to 5:00pm.**

The final range officer sign up will be Sunday, May 3 at 9:00am at the range – please mark your calendar.

There will be a Sporting Clays Fun Shoot on Sunday, March 22, weather permitting. Please remember that there will be no trap or skeet shooting until the last squad has shot.

Tuesday Night Sporting Clays Summer League starts Tuesday, April 7. Tuesdays are Sporting Clays only.

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

Pick up your empty shotgun shells and trash when finished shooting. Keep the range clean and restocked for the next range officer and shooters.

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

### RANGE OFFICER SCHEDULE

#### MARCH

Sunday, March 1	Brian Moncak, Need R.O.
Sunday, March 8	Dave Myers, Gary Melvin
Sunday, March 15	Ted Whitehouse, Greg Ossi, Kevin King
Sunday, March 22	Carlos Lastra, Robert Quattlebaum, Peter Shawlq
Sunday, March 29	Bill Klein, Raymond Vincent

#### APRIL

Sunday, April 5	Need R.O.
Sunday, April 12	Joe Trotter, Lawrence Kotchek, Joe Reid
Sunday, April 19	Tim Jorgensen, John Novak, Shannon Novak, Pete Pedersen
Sunday, April 26	Lawrence Kotchek, John Kipfer, Joe Reid

### HOURS OF OPERATION

#### WINTER HOURS

Sundays	9:00am to 5:00pm	Trap, Skeet & Sporting Clays
Tuesdays	3:00pm to 6:00pm	Sporting Clays Only
Beginning Tuesday, April 7		

## Curious About Beekeeping in Montgomery County?

Tracy Waterman  
tracyjwbw@me.com

*Montgomery County*  
**BEEKEEPERS**  
*Association*

Want to learn more about getting started in beekeeping? Join the Montgomery County Beekeepers Association during the next monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 11,

2020 from 7:00pm – 9:00pm at the Agricultural History Farm Park, 18400 Muncaster Road, Derwood, MD 20855. The meetings are a great opportunity to learn from local beekeepers or find a mentor who can provide hands-on experience. Hope to see you there.



## Spring 2020 Hybrid Chestnut Seed Planting

Blaine Elkins  
blaineelkins@verizon.net

On Saturday, March 21, the chapter will partner with the Maryland chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation to plant seeds from select mother trees as part of the TACF program for breeding blight resistant American Chestnuts for reintroduction to their original range in the eastern hardwood forest. TACF has pursued a program of crossing American Chestnuts with blight resistant Asian chestnuts. The resulting hybrid seeds were planted and raised to the point of fruiting. These crosses were backcrossed over 2 to 4 generations with pure American Chestnuts. Each generation was assessed for blight resistance and the most resistant progeny were retained.

The nuts we will be planting in the spring are the result of three generations of breeding, on average. The nuts have been collected from 13 different mother trees. Some nuts from each of the same mother trees will also be planted in February at a greenhouse in Baltimore, where they will be inoculated with blight and assessed for resistance, a process called a progeny test. We will plant the balance of the nuts from each mother tree in the spring, outdoors and nurture them through the normal growing season.

Once the assessment of the greenhouse seedlings is complete, TACF will know which mother trees have yielded the most blight resistant progeny. Seedlings from these mother trees that have grown in the B-CC IWLA planting will be selected for inoculation to test their individual levels of resistance in spring 2021. The most resistant of these will be planted in TACF's seed orchards in the fall of 2021 as part of the breeding program.

The BCC/TACF project has the potential to improve the quality of trees in the TACF breeding program, while reducing the time and labor that goes into producing them. It will also enlarge our footprint in conservation efforts in Maryland.

This work is scheduled for Saturday, March 21 at the greenhouse near the archery range starting at 9:00am. Jobs available will be: 1) packing pots with potting mixture, 2) labeling pots, 3) planting chestnut seeds in pots, 4) watering completed plantings, 5) placing chicken wire on the top of the squirrel proof enclosures. Light garden gloves might help if you don't want to get your hands dirty.

## Chapterhouse Report

R. Tucker Mostrom, Committee Chair  
Chapterhouse.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

### CHAPTERHOUSE INTERIOR PAINTING

The chapter has elicited bids on painting the chapterhouse interior, which is overdue. We need to:

1. Strip the walls of plaques and pictures
2. Spackle in the nail/screw holes and sand down the mud
3. Paint the walls (2x)
4. Reorganize and re-hang plaques and artwork that meets the relevant history of the chapter and its 2020 mission

In order to manage the costs of painting, the chapter hopes to do as much of this work in-house as is possible. We are looking for volunteers to take charge of interior spaces and rooms with regular ceilings, so that we only have to bid out the work on the cathedral ceiling area of the great room.

Please contact the B-CC IWLA Chapterhouse Committee if you have the skills, ability, and the desire to:

1. Help pack up the existing wall hangings
2. Prep regular-height walls and ceilings
3. Paint these lower areas
4. Plan the arrangement of wall hangings to redesign the look of the chapterhouse for the 21st century
5. Help re-hang pictures and plaques according to this design

## Classes at the Campground (Fox Campsite)

All classes are free for members  
*email jackhkang@gmail.com*  
*to sign up for classes*

### Spring Wild Edibles

Saturday, May 30  
10:00am – 2:00pm

*Instructor: Tim MacWelch*

MacWelch has been a survival instructor for two decades. He's also the author of multiple New York Times Bestsellers including

### *Survival Strategies*

<http://www.advancedsurvivaltraining.com/instructors/>  
<https://www.outdoorlife.com/authors/tim-macwelch/>

### Lost Hiker Survival

Saturday, September 26  
10:00am - 2:00pm

*Instructor: Tim MacWelch*

### Bow Drill Fire

Saturday, October 10  
10:00am – 3:00pm

*Instructor: Jack Kang*

## FeederWatch Wrap-up

Diane Seward  
Citizen Science Projects Coordinator

Hearty thanks are due our FeederWatcher team for another productive counting season: Tim Ames, Peter Cappellino, Brett Davis, Anita Goldshine, Suzanne Novak, Bob Plumb, Lin Schmale, Jim Stables, Jim Tate, and Bill White. Many thanks to Larry Anderson for keeping the shed stocked with sunflower seed, nyjer seed, and suet. We very much appreciated Barry Daniel's excellent portfolio of photographs of the species that frequent our feeders or are perched in nearby trees and shrubs.

Our team joined 20,000 other birders who counted species at feeders across the United States and in Canada from mid-November through the end of March. FeederWatch, a project organized by the Lab of Ornithology at Cornell University, helps scientists track broad-scale movements of winter bird populations and long-term trends in bird distribution and abundance. The protocol involves counting for a couple of hours on two consecutive days each weekend. The data gathered each week are reported online to the Lab.

This winter our high count occurred on the weekend of February 8-9 when Tim Ames and Jim Stables reported 17 species and 85 individual birds. We reported a total of 652 birds at our feeders over 13 weekends from November through February, slightly higher than last year's total of 608 but well below the 2018 total of 1,070 birds counted over the same weekends.

The highest numbers of individuals of a species reported were: 57 House Finches, 18 Dark-eyed Juncos, 18 Mourning Doves, 15 Red-winged Blackbirds, 11 Brown-headed Cowbirds, and 10 American Goldfinches and 10 White-throated Sparrows.

Species fewer in number but which were consistent visitors to our feeders included Tufted Titmice, White-breasted Nuthatches, and Carolina Chickadees. As in 2019, Purple Finches graced our feeders in November and December, but not after the end of the year. We recorded sharply lower numbers this year and last for cowbirds, juncos, and goldfinches, among other species.

This year we also participated in the Great Backyard Bird Count in mid-February. In addition to our feeder count, we observed and counted a few Eastern Bluebirds, four Hooded Mergansers, and a Red-shouldered Hawk on the conservation farm.



*Two brown-plumaged House Finches, male Cardinal*



*Female Yellow-bellied Sapsucker*

PHOTOS BY BRETT DAVIS

## Big Pond Voluntary Creel Census Report 2019

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

The fifth voluntary creel census was conducted from March 14, 2019 to November 20, 2019, at the big pond (Walton). The purpose of this census was to continue gathering information on angler interest, fishing effort and catch success, and to get an idea of the abundance of the fish resource in the big pond. The big pond provides "catch and release" fishing opportunities for B-CC IWLA members and accompanied guests. Anglers were requested to enter their fishing information and catch results in the logbook in the metal box on the kiosk. The following summarizes the data voluntarily provided by anglers for 2015-2018 and 2019:

	2015-2018	2019
Total hours fished	24-255	227
Average no. of hours fished per angler	1.7-2.2	2
No. of angler trips	68-130	113
Angler trips per month	9-13	13
Total no. of bluegills caught	131-274	163
Percent bluegills <5"	43-74	55
Percent bluegills >5"	26-57	45
Total no. of largemouth bass caught	177-303	404
Percent largemouth bass <10"	27-40	64
Percent largemouth bass >10"	58-73	36
Largest largemouth bass caught	7-8 lbs.	7 lbs.
Catch rate for bluegills	0.9/hr-1.4/hr.	0.7/hr.
Catch rate for largemouth bass	1.1/hr.-2.4/hr.	1.7/hr.
Catch rate for bluegills & largemouth bass	2.0/hr-3.8/hr.	2.5/hr.

The amount of fishing pressure or effort in the big pond was greater in 2019 compared to 2018. In 2019, there were 113 angler trips with 227 total hours fished. In 2018 there were 74 trips with 155 hours fished. In fact the number of angler trips in 2019 and hours fished were greater than the average number of trips (86) and the average number of hours fished (170) for the previous four years. The number of angler trips per month was also higher in 2019 than in 2018 with 13 reported for 2019 and 9 reported for 2018. Monthly angler trips were also greater than the average of 11 for the 2015-2107 period. One angler made 60 trips to the big pond, which accounted for 53 percent of all angler trips reported for 2019. The highest number of angler trips per month in 2019 (17) occurred in September while the highest per month in 2018 (12) occurred in August; the highest for the previous four years (40) occurred in April 2017.

The number of largemouth bass reported caught in 2019 (404) was greater than that reported for each of the preceding four years. The catch rate for largemouth bass in 2019 was higher than that reported in 2018 but about the same as the average reported for the previous four years. Fifty-eight percent of the largemouth bass, reported in the logbook, were caught by one angler. Three largemouth bass caught in 2019 had a tag. These fish were tagged during the 2018 electrofishing survey. The reported catch of bluegills in 2019 (162) was slightly less than that reported in 2018 when 177 bluegills were caught; the catch rate was also less than in 2018 (1.1/hr.). Some of the larger bluegills reported caught in the big pond might have actually been redear sunfish, which tend to be the larger of the two species.

The most significant finding of the 2019 voluntary creel census was the larger number of largemouth bass (404) reported caught compared to the previous four creel censuses. Nearly four largemouth bass were caught per angler trip in 2019. It is possible that the stocking of 8" to 10" largemouth bass in the big pond, as recommended by the 2018 electrofishing study, contributed to this larger catch in 2019, although only 70 to 80 bass were stocked which is not necessarily an amount that would significantly increase the population. Also, the stocking of golden shiners and small bluegills to supplement the forage base (also recommendations of the electrofishing study) likely enhanced the survival and growth of largemouth bass. It is possible that some largemouth bass were caught multiple times, but we have no way of knowing this for certain since there was no marking to track catches; however, it is likely that there were some repeat catches. Without the benefit of a rigorous population study, which would be expensive and time consuming, only a rough estimate of the largemouth bass population from the big pond can be obtained from the catch data. Nevertheless, the 2019 catch data for largemouth bass suggest that the population in the big pond is doing well and providing a quality fishery for anglers. While the number of bluegills reported caught in 2019 was less than reported in 2018, this may be due to anglers focusing their effort on fishing for largemouth bass. Further, the success of the kids' fishing events during Heritage Days and the spring and fall family campouts when 50-70 bluegills were caught during each event would indicate that the population of bluegills in the big pond is doing well and very accommodating for young anglers.

Overall the 2019 voluntary creel census raised no red flags regarding the status and health of the big pond fish resource. Another census will be conducted during 2020. In 2021 we will repeat the 2018 electrofishing study, which will evaluate the big pond fish resource including the effectiveness of the 2018 stocking. The big pond shelter completed during the summer of 2018 should provide a comfortable place for families and others to enjoy the aesthetics of the big pond surroundings while fishing or having a picnic.

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

### Donations are needed...

The Maryland Division needs our Chapter's help with the 2020 IWLA Convention in Cambridge, Maryland on July 20-22.

Donations are needed for the Silent Auction (3 per chapter) plus items for the Regular Auction and the Youth Convention. All items should be new. Auction items ideas: hunting, shooting, fishing, possible fishing trip, conservation related items (beekeeping, bird watching, etc.).

Corporate and Individual Sponsors are also welcome. Names will be included in a program booklet and also on a banner.

Contact Bob Pavlick for more information – roberpav1@verizon.net or 301-526-4303 (cell).





## B-CC IWLA SUMMER BIATHLON PROGRAM 2020 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 no range fee. **Non-member rate is \$5.00 per session.**

**EVENT:** Running distances at B-CC IWLA are set at 5 kilometers (3.1 miles) split into 5 loops or 3 – one-mile loops. Currently, a single course at each length has been laid out. A short course for those working up to the other distances has been laid out as well. The regulation shooting distance is 50 meters, however, targets are also set at 25 meters for development of the shooting art. There are four shooting stops on the 5km course and two stops on the 3-mile course. Shooting stops alternate between prone (lying down) and off-hand (standing) positions. Five rounds are fired at each stop for a total of 20 shots on the 5km course and 10 shots on the 3-mile course. An equal number of shots are fired from each shooting position.

**SCORING:** Scoring is based on a time to complete basis. A penalty of either one (1) minute or a 50-100 meter penalty lap will be assessed for each shot missed.

**EQUIPMENT:** .22 caliber biathlon rifles are the standard; however, any magazine fed, .22 caliber rifle with either bolt or lever action is permitted. **Only standard velocity .22 caliber target ammunition is allowed.**

If you have questions or wish to be on the B-CC IWLA mailing list, contact Steve Eschholz, B-CC IWLA Biathlon Committee Chair – c: 240 472-6512 (text is best)/fitnesscrafters@earthlink.net. Other points of contact are: Thoran Menser (thoran.menser2@verizon.net and Chris Efdimis (bcciwla.rp@gmail.com).

### SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 21, 2020	8:00am
Saturday, April 4, 2020	7:00am
Saturday, April 18, 2020	7:30am
Saturday, May 2, 2020	7:00am
Saturday, May 16, 2020	7:30am
Saturday, May 30, 2020	7:30am
Saturday, June 13, 2020	7:30am
Saturday, June 27, 2020	7:30am
Saturday, July 11, 2020	7:30am
Saturday, July 25, 2020	7:30am
Saturday, Aug. 8, 2020	7:30am
Saturday, Aug. 22, 2020	7:30am
Saturday, Sept. 12, 2020	7:00am
Saturday, Sept. 26, 2020	7:30am
Saturday, Oct. 10, 2020	7:30am

### Firearms Hunting Season

Saturday, Nov. 7, 2020	7:30am
Saturday, Nov. 14, 2020	7:30am

### Firearms Hunting Season

Saturday, March 20, 2021	8:00am
Saturday, April 3, 2021	7:30am
Saturday, April 17, 2021	7:30am

## Introduction to Venture Crew 496

Deborah Behrend, B-CC IWLA Member and Venture Crew Advisor

Who are these youths in that strange uniform? Not Cub scouts (they are in blue) or Boy Scouts (they are in green). But grey shirts and green pants? When you are at one of the three ranges (Archery, Rifle/Pistol, and Shotgun), you will be seeing members of Venture Crew 496 and their adult leaders.



Your first questions will be “Venture what”? You may have heard of Cub Scout Packs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Explorers and Sea Scouts, but not Venture Crews. Although there are still a few Explorer Posts left (which was founded in 1971 when it became coed and continued through age 21), most Explorer Posts on February 9, 1998 either morphed into Venture Crews or into Sea Scouts. Venture Crews are coed for youth aged 14 (or finished 8th grade) through age 21.

Still confused? Just to give you a background – under BSA (Boy Scouts of America) structure, each unit (Pack, Troop, “Scouts” (new girls unit), Explorers, Sea Scouts and Venture Crews) are sponsored by a “non BSA” organization. The B-CC IWLA in fact, under this structure, currently sponsors 3 units – Pack 694, Troop 496 and Crew 496 and potentially a “Scout” (or Girl unit) later this year or next year. In the past, the Girls who wanted the high adventure focus of Boy Scouting joined a Venture Crew. However, as Crews are now competing against “Scout” troops, we have had to find a new “niche” that fits our focus. Venture Crew 496 has decided to focus on 2 major areas – The Shooting Sports (Archery, Rifle/Pistol, and Shotgun) and Survival/Life Skills.

How we are practicing “shooting sports” is obvious. With proper guidance, (I (Crew 496 Advisor or lead adult) am a US Archery certified archery instructor, led the B-CC IWLA archery clinic in the spring of 2019 and am a RO for both the Archery and RIP range. My husband, Kurt Behrend, (asst. Crew Advisor) is an NRA certified rifle and shotgun instructor and has participated in the B-CC IWLA sponsored BSA Merit Badge day when last held, is an Eagle Scout, and has been an adult leader of Pack 694 and Troop 496 for the past 16 years), our youth members (and their parents) will be exposed to Archery, Rifles, Pistols (only Venture Scouts can do this!) and Shotguns. Our active youth were so excited about this that they have talked to their friends/siblings. We have 3 new members starting in March!! This helps us to introduce youth to the sport that many of us enjoy. A “win/win” situation for both the Crew and the IWLA. Our Crew is relatively small; so you will only see a dozen Venturers when you share the ranges with us.

But what are Survival/Life Skills? When most of us grew up, umpteen years ago, we were sent outside to “play” for the day coming back when a parent rang the dinner bell. So, climbing trees, fishing, hiking, creeking and rock climbing were things that were normal for us to do. Family and friends hunted or farmed and we had access to their skills that were passed down to us. Youth today do things differently than we did. We are helping the youth by leading discussions and trips to learn these skills. In the past, we have taken the Crew rappelling in the GW National Forest in Virginia, canoeing for 2 weeks in Canada at the Northern Tier High Adventure Base, sailing in the Bahamas at Sea Base-Bahamas, and earning NMLRA (National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association) certification with the help of Mark Gochnour (B-CC IWLA Member). In

(continued on page 10)

## VENTURE CREW

(continued from page 9)

the spring (March/April), we will be participating in an orienteering competition and going on a fishing weekend. Our activities are chosen by the youth. In the future, they want to go caving, rock climbing, and kayaking.

If you are interested in learning more about the Crew (for a child or grandchild) or have a skill that you think would be willing to share with us, please send me an email at [mdcrew496@gmail.com](mailto:mdcrew496@gmail.com). We'd love to have help with teaching the Shooting Sports, fishing, survival skills or other skills that our "modern" youth need to know. And don't forget to say "hello" when you see us on the range.

Crew 496 meeting dates/locations:

- 1st Sunday of the Month at one of the three B-CC IWLA ranges (March – December), 3:00pm – 5:00pm
- 2nd Tuesday of the Month (meeting to learn skills that get us ready for our "activity") – Trinity United Methodist Church, Germantown, MD, 7:30pm – 8:30pm
- 3rd weekend of the month – wherever the adventure takes us. Friday evening through Sunday morning.

## For the Birds: Managing the PUMAs on the Conservation Farm

Jim Tate

202 841-2056 [jim@tate-tate.us](mailto:jim@tate-tate.us)

The journals of the early naturalists in eastern North America revealed an unexpected nesting situation for a large colonial swallow that they encountered: "The Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) nested almost exclusively in houses provided by man."

The early journals reveal that Native American villages commonly were the site of a colony of PUMAs, as they are designated by ornithologists. The swallows nested in dried empty gourds strung from poles and dead trees for their sole use. There were no Starlings or House Sparrows in North America at that time.



These PUMA colonies provided an early warning system for the people with their loud calls and agitated flight when they were disturbed. Trespassers and enemies approaching the open village grounds from the woods were announced by the birds much like a watchdog protects your home.

Speculation that the PUMAs preyed on biting flies and mosquitoes may also have merit. These aerial predators probably don't take prey as small as mosquitoes. But they do take dragonflies and other known mosquito predators. We still have a

lot to learn about PUMA food preferences and aerial insect abundance in our age of insecticides.

The PUMA still nests nearly exclusively in manmade structures. About twenty-five years ago, when Lin and I first started hanging around at B-CC IWLA, we discovered the rotting remains of a wooden PUMA apartment house lying in the weeds near the tool shed. And, as we walked around the Conservation Farm we found several nest boxes for cavity-nesting birds. These signs of a past PUMA colony and a past nest box program were probably the result of the Och family father and son team who initiated a Scout project on the Conservation Farm.

With the help of willing B-CC volunteers, Lin and I set up two multi-compartment PUMA houses, and began NestWatch and FeederWatch programs on the IWLA Conservation Farm. These three programs have provided us with many hours of enjoyable time in the field on what was then a much smaller IWLA Farm. We also found that managing the nest boxes, PUMA Colony, and bird feeders was a lot of work if we wanted to do it right. But, what was 'right'?

Fifty years ago, Dr. J. Jackson and I conducted a public response survey of PUMA colony landlords all across Eastern North America seeking information about Purple Martin nest site characteristics, as well as House Sparrow, and Starling populations. Subsequent studies have shown some of our conclusions to be supported; others are still questionable and need more research. Here is a sample of what we found. You can see the original scientific paper with data and conclusions – <http://bcciwla.org/2020/03/for-the-birds-managing-the-pumas-on-the-conservation-farm/>.

- The height of houses above the ground has no effect on the rate of occupancy by any of the species surveyed.
- Houses farther than 30 m from the nearest building had fewer martins than houses closer to buildings. PUMAs like us!
- Fewer martins and more sparrows occupy compartments as height of nearby vegetation increases.
- Martins prefer white houses while Starlings favor darker colored ones.
- Suburban colonies have fewer martins than urban or rural colonies.
- Rural martin colonies tend to have fewer House Sparrows than suburban or urban colonies.
- The presence of a pond, lake or stream within sight of the houses results in greater occupancy by martins,
- Competition between martins and House Sparrows results in fewer martins occupying a colony. Starlings are nest predators, but because House Sparrows take over several compartments, they are worse for martins.

Today, the PUMA program is actively managed and the responsibilities shared by a team of wonderful volunteers:

- **Larry Anderson**, Chairman of the Wildlife Committee watches over the PUMA Colony with great care, paying attention to the details that are so important to success. This year, Larry purchased and installed a Gourd Tree next to the two PUMA apartments on the Grassland Reserve just east of the Chapter House.
- **Diane Seward** works diligently on PUMAs along with **Theresa Zmola**, and **Pete Cappellino**. (Also, see Diane's report on the FeederWatch Program in this newsletter.)
- **Tom Lamkin** makes sure our access to the PUMA colony is mowed during the nesting season, and **Phil Taylor** mows the Grassland Reserve annually, which is essential to PUMA management.

A great big thank you to all of our wonderful PUMA volunteers. Their motto rings throughout the B-CC Conservation Farm and the Montgomery County Ag Reserve:

**WE MANAGE THE PUMAS AT THE  
B-CC IWLA CONSERVATION FARM!**

## IN MEMORIAM

### RONALD "RON" ALLEN SPRINGIRTH

Long-time member Ron Springirth passed away on February 18, 2020. Our condolences go to his family. At the family's request, memorial contributions may be made to B-CC IWLA.

## Wild Game Dinner: Tradition Shared!

Lin Tate, 1st Vice President

Stories, laughter, incredibly delicious wild game dishes, and over \$300 raised for the Land Fund: the 2020 Wild Game Dinner, "Share the Tradition," showcased the ability of B-CC members and guests to have a rollicking good time ...and the Tradition continues! Leap Year Evening, February 29, may have been cold outside, but inside the Chapter House the fires burned merrily and about 60 attendees ate, drank, hugged, and laughed together as they shared each other's harvest dishes, tall and not-so-tall tales, collected door prizes, and shopped the silent auction. To the background of some pretty awesome, and a few very humorous, members' photographs assembled by Scott Harmon and running throughout the evening, here are just a few story snippets heard:

"And the South Dakota farmer told me, 'Sure, you can hunt on my land ... but did you really drive 1,900 miles just to shoot a *bird*?? Really? I gotta tell you, I'm really *concerned* about you!'"

"And when I looked at my credit card receipt, I realized I had paid not just for my six-pack of beer, but also for all of my buddy's ammunition -- \$96, the most expensive six-pack I ever bought!"

"So I skipped school and my dad and I spent a happy afternoon at the river, drowning worms, but no fish would bite. And then this city guy came along, still wearing his suit and tie from work, carrying a really funny, long, thin fishing pole, and he threw a line across the water and immediately landed a huge Smallmouth Bass, and that's how I learned about *fly-fishing*!"

"With the shot perfectly lined up, I held my breath ... steadied my aim ... pulled the trigger and ... 'CLICK!'"

"I got this beautiful new Weimaraner dog, and I just knew she was going to be a great, great retriever ... so the kids and I took her out in a field in Maryland, and she ran around like crazy and smelled the flowers, the butterflies, the grass, the trees, the bushes, our shoes, and showed *no interest at all in birds*. So I stopped at the duckpond place and told the guy I wanted a duck for my dog to practice with, and he picked up a duck and SNAP, broke its neck! And my kids were horrified and yelled 'MOM!! HE KILLED THE DUCK! HE KILLED THE DUCK!' And the guy looked at us like, 'Where you people from, anyway?'"

"So I thanked the lady, and wrapped up the dead deer she had hit and put it in the back of my car and drove home. I ran into the house and said, 'Hey Dad!! I've got a surprise for you, you'll never guess what it is!' And finally he came out to the car and I said, 'It's a deer for you to butcher!!' ... and that was the day I learned how to butcher a deer!"

B-CC President Jeff Seaman hosted the event, opening with a prayer to the huntress Artemis, and continued crowd control until the last prize had been drawn and the last story told. Special thanks to all for the wonderful food, and to all of the volunteers who worked to put the event together ... Thanks especially to B-CC member Dr. David Haidak, who donated the hunting gear and decoys that made up the silent auction, door prizes, and table décor. Sharing the Tradition to continue next year!



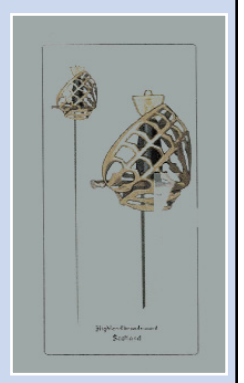
## 2020 Adopt-A-Road Cleanup Schedule

The B-CC IWLA Adopt-A-Road team will meet at the Chapter House at 8:15am for cleanup on the following dates:

Saturday, April 11, 2020      Saturday, July 11, 2020  
Saturday, September 12, 2020

Trash bags, gloves, and orange traffic vests will be made available for participants. Please direct any questions to John Robinson, 301 641-1188.

**B-CC Quiz Answer: Robert Peter (1726 – 1806), the first mayor of Georgetown (DC), named his land grant Crossbasket after his birthplace in Scotland (United Kingdom). Robert was the son of Thomas Peter of Crossbasket and Jean Dunlop of Garnkirk. Robert had eleven siblings, including his oldest brother Thomas, who inherited Crossbasket, the family farm, which is now a five star hotel near Glasgow. Oh yes, a 'crossbasket' is that basket-like handguard on a Scottish Broadsword.**



# SPRING IS HERE!!

## Spring Cleanup is on Saturday, April 4 Breakfast at 8:00am

Come out and help make our Chapter ready for the new **Spring and Summer Seasons**. There are always plenty of things needing to be done on our 624 acre farm including: planting, raking, tree trimming, and trail clearing to cleaning, washing, and sweeping of the Chapter House and grounds to meet anyone's interest and physical ability.

This is a wonderful opportunity for members to shake off the winter doldrums to join old friends and meet new friends while volunteering in service to our Chapter.

Morning activities will be followed by a delicious lunch. Certain projects will require more time and some less time to accomplish. Come out whether you can commit for the entire day or part of the day. Your contribution is greatly needed and most appreciated. This is how things get done.

Need more information?  
Contact 1st VP Ron Marchessault  
202-320-3834  
or [rmarchessault12@aol.com](mailto:rmarchessault12@aol.com).

**We look forward to seeing YOU!**

## Wildlife Report

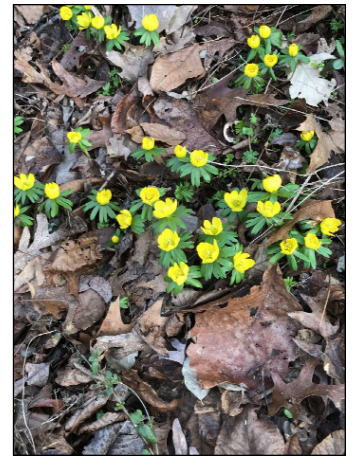
Larry Anderson, Committee Chair  
240 246-5302 [andupton9@hotmail.com](mailto:andupton9@hotmail.com)

The 2019-2020 hunting seasons are drawing to a close. We had a pretty good year on our farm. 18 deer were reported taken on our farm, down from the 27 deer reported last year and 20 reported in 2017-18. New this year, we have a turkey reported taken in the January winter season, the only one taken in Montgomery County. Thank you all that reported their harvests, and from the reports, some large mature deer were again harvested. Across the state, MD DNR reports that 79,457 deer were harvested this season, which is 3% higher than last year. In Montgomery County, the reported total deer harvest was 1.8% higher than last year with a total of 3,885 deer reported.

MD DNR has released their proposed changes to the 2020-2022 hunting seasons: <https://news.maryland.gov/dnr/2020/01/28/public-comment-sought-for-hunting-and-trapping-seasons/>. While not much is changing in regard to seasons or bag limits, two items are changing; proposing that bonus buck stamps be valid in region A, and allowing straight-walled cartridge guns to be legal weapons during regular firearm seasons across the state. At this writing, the comment

period was still open, and no indication on status is available.

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



*Wildflowers along the intrafarm connector going to the big pond.*

## Introduction to Hunting Seminar

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America will sponsor its annual "Introduction to Hunting Seminar" on Saturday, June 6. If you have never been hunting before, know someone who would be interested, or had a disappointing experience yourself, you are encouraged to attend. 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, 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.

This seminar does not replace the required Hunter Safety Education courses but is to supplement that course and to expand one's hunting knowledge. The instructors have had nearly 100 years of hunting experience and what they will share is intended to help participants have a more enjoyable time while hunting.

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

All non-B-CC IWLA members must bring their printed and signed off Hold Harmless Agreements, which are available from <http://www.bcciwla.org/>.

You must register at [hunting.seminar.bcciwla@gmail.com](mailto:hunting.seminar.bcciwla@gmail.com). Any questions about the seminar should be sent to this same email address. Class size is limited to 25, so registering early is recommended. Registration deadline is May 31.

**2020 IWLA National Convention**  
**July 20 to 22, 2020**  
**Early Bird - July 19, 2020**



### Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Hotel

100 Heron Blvd. at Route 50, Cambridge, Maryland 21613

Phone: 800-323-7249

email: [conciergechesa@hyatt.com](mailto:conciergechesa@hyatt.com)

[www.hyattregency.com](http://www.hyattregency.com)

The Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Golf, Resort, Spa and Marina is the ideal setting to work or play by the bay! Reconnect with family, friends, colleagues, and nature. Explore the 342 acres situated on the Choptank River with a 150-slip full service marina. At the resort you have an: 18-hole golf course, three swimming pools – two indoor and one outdoor, tennis courts, sand volleyball, mini golf, disc golf, Sago Spa and Salon, and five on-site restaurants.

Other attractions include: charter boat fishing in the Chesapeake, sea kayaking, sporting clays, bird watching.

**\$165/night (group rate)**

**This rate is over 50% off the normal rate.**

**Plus Free Parking, RV Parking, and No Resort Fee**

The IWLA group room rate applies three days before and three days after the convention, but rooms availability is only guaranteed for the three days of the convention and not for the three day extended periods before and after the convention. The Cambridge Hyatt Regency is a very popular luxury resort that normally sells out well before the beginning of the summer season, and if you are planning to stay at the hotel during one of the extended periods, you should make your reservation now, while rooms are available. Note: Most people arrive a day before the convention to attend the Early Bird social event held the night before the convention.

#### Nearby Attractions and Activities

- Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge
- Harriet Tubman Museum
- Phillips Warf Environmental Center
- Pickering Creek Audubon Center
- Tilghman Island
- St. Michaels

Extend your vacation at our Atlantic beach resort of Ocean City, MD or explore Chincoteague Island and its famous wild ponies. Whatever you choose please join us to play, relax, and discover Maryland's Chesapeake.



For reservations:

**800-323-7249**

<https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/CHESA/G-IWLA>