

JUNE 2020 NEWSLETTER

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

Serving the Community Since 1935

PO Box 542, Poolesville, MD 20837

www.bcciwla.org

President's Message

"No group may exceed 10 individuals at any time . . . Individuals shall maintain 6 feet of physical distance, whenever and as often as possible . . . If they can be worn safely and consistently, youth athletes age 9 and older shall wear face coverings."

– Maryland Health Department Interim Guidance
for Limited Outdoor Youth Sports (May 29).

This just doesn't sound like much fun. Bad news for the kids and their biggest fans this summer. But maybe there's some good news. I write here to direct your attention to an opportunity for those youngsters and their fans, to suggest a way to fill some of the time that might otherwise have been fully consumed by soccer or baseball or swim team. I will go so far as to say there may be even better ways for some children, parents, grandparents, friends and other weekend sports fans to spend time and engage with one another and with what's around them. Maybe instead of an early morning running up and down the field, an early morning walk through the West Woods. Instead of an afternoon yelling poolside, maybe show your freestyler how to fish. Your right fielder's disappointment might be assuaged somewhat by the "thwack" of her arrow hitting the target bag. Don't have your own bow? No problem. We have a shack full of them and some range officers ready to show you how.

Come on out to the Farm. Whatever you and yours choose to do, you won't have to shout. You can just talk. Maybe even whisper.

Jeff Seaman
B-CC IWLA President

UPCOMING EVENTS

for B-CC IWLA and Community

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

Past Presidents' Dinner

Date to be determined

License-Free Fishing Days

Saturday, June 13

and

Saturday, July 4

at both the small (Latimer) and large (Walton) ponds

3-D Archery

Saturday, June 20

and

Father's Day, Sunday, June 21

9:00am – 1:00pm

New Member Orientation Tour

Sunday, June 21

10:00am – 12:00 noon

Father's Day Swap Meet & Silent Auction

Rescheduled to Sunday, July 26

9:00am

Father's Day Fun Shoot Shotgun Range

Rescheduled to Sunday, July 26

9:00am

Father's Day Family Picnic

Rescheduled to Sunday, July 26

1:00pm

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please submit all articles for the July 2020 newsletter
NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, JUNE 26.

NEW-MEMBER ORIENTATION TOUR

The tour will be held on Father's Day, Sunday, June 21,
from 10:00am to 12:00noon.

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

Sean 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



Summary of the April 2020 Board of Governors Meeting and the May 2020 Dinner Meeting

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

April 20, 2020 Board of Governors Meeting

- **President's Report:** Recruitment Committee is staffed and has met several times. There is also a committee chaired by Christine Petersen to celebrate the 85th birthday of the chapter.
- **Treasurer:** Land Fund funds will be sent to the Legacy Foundation.
- **Chestnut Orchard:** The MD TACF chapter approached us and they offered a Kubota riding mower.
- **Ponds and Streams Committee:** The fish were fed and the woody growth on the big pond dam was cut. County stipulated no woody growth on dams.
- **Legislative:** Rifle hunting task force being formed, they will likely contact us.

OLD BUSINESS

- Forest Mitigation Credits were transferred to operating account. Vigorous discussion ensued.

NEW BUSINESS

- Motion to allow the President to approach the Legacy Foundation about a zero-interest loan to finance 50% of the Walton Pond Spillway project. Motion passes.
- Motion to allow access to the farm pursuant to activities allowed by DNR but leaving all recreational facilities closed. Motion passes.
- Motion to accept the donation of a riding mower for the use in the chestnut orchard. Unanimously approved.

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER

- The nominating committee is hard at work!

APRIL BOARD MEETING EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board discussed and decided to proceed toward the acquisition of the three islands that have been offered to the Chapter at no cost, and to allow our president request that the BCC-IWLA Legacy Foundation to release the funds needed to finance the title search and associated costs with their acquisitions.

May 17, 2020 Membership Meeting

- **President's Report:** Thanked Carol Hulce-Efdimis, Thoran Menser, and all those involved in the ranges for planning their safe re-opening.
- **Featured Speaker – Jane DiCosimo:** Jane is a former NOAA fisheries management scientist for the National Marine Fisheries Service. She discussed how the Service ensures the productivity and sustainability of fisheries and fishing communities, and how it works with various interested parties to conserve protected resources. Jane gave a fascinating report on how fisheries are managed on the federal level.
- **Nominating Committee:** Presentation of Slate of Officers and Board for 2020 – 2021. No nominations from the floor.
- **Campground:** Jack Kang is making amazing bushcraft videos.
- **Website:** We are expanding the scope of the website to include online renewals and individualized profiles.

NEW BUSINESS

- Motion to induct new members. Approved by acclimation.

(continued on page 3)

SUMMARY

(continued from page 2)

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER

- Former Carroll County chapter is up for sale.
- We are having a gun raffle!
- We were approached about a grant for a roller-crimper, which is used for the clean removal of cover crops. We currently use herbicide, so this would be better. It is worth approximately \$6,000, and could be used in conjunction with a planter.
- Beginning Hunting Seminar is canceled for this year.
- Big Pond has two beavers in it.
- Montgomery Countryside Alliance is working on blocking development at Ten Mile Creek.

Budget Planning Meeting

Ron Marchessault, 1st VP and Acting Treasurer
202 320-3834 (c) RMarchessault12@aol.com

To ALL Chapter Committee Chairs:

Our Goal is to hold a membership vote on our new 2020 Operating Budget at the August Dinner Meeting to ensure that we have a working budget in place at the start of the new fiscal year on September 1. A Budget Planning Meeting will be held at 10:00am on Saturday, August 8 to finalize the new operating budget and have it printed in the August 2020 Newsletter for membership to review prior to the Dinner Meeting.

At this time, we are requesting that each Committee Chair start to plan their proposed FY 2020 operating budget to include both projected Income and Expense and to either present at the Budget Meeting on August 8, preferably, or, if unable to attend, to email their proposed budget to me prior to the August 8 budget meeting in order for your budget to be included in the budget planning process.

FY 2020 Budget Calendar:

June –

1. Committee Chairs begin planning and drafting new operating budget.

July –

1. Advanced Planning and Finance Committee will meet at 10:00am on Saturday, July 25 to review FY 2019 operating budget income and expenditures.
2. Committee Chairs can email FY 2020 draft budgets if unable to attend the Final Budget Meeting.

August –

1. Budget Meeting on August 8 with Committee Chairs to draft the new FY Operating Budget.
2. Print FY 2020 Budget in August Newsletter for membership to review.
3. Membership Vote at monthly Dinner Meeting.

Note: If you require a copy of your actual income/expenditures for the current fiscal year to assist you in budget planning, do not hesitate to contact me at the email or cell provided above.

B-CC QUIZ

Question: When is the Summer Solstice on this leap year, and what planets in our solar system can be seen this month from the B-CC IWLA Conservation Farm?

Answer can be found elsewhere in the newsletter.

License-Free Fishing Days

Maryland Department of Natural Resources offers license-free fishing days on **June 6, June 13, and July 4**. On these three days only, a **fishing license, trout stamp, and registration** are not needed.

Anglers are advised to follow social distancing and other precautions as outlined in the department's update regarding Maryland outdoor recreation.

John Novak, co-Chair of the Ponds & Streams Committee commented, "Both ponds are available for catch-and-release fishing. I suggest that worms be used for bluegills, while artificial lures like crankbaits, plastic worms, and jigs might work better for largemouth bass."

All anglers are encouraged to **release their catches quickly**. Anglers who fish down at the big pond – please **record your catch information** in the log book in the metal box on the kiosk at the end of their fishing trip.

Any **discarded fishing line should be picked up** and not left to entangle any birds and other wildlife.

Bring your whole family out to the B-CC IWLA Conservation Farm and drop a line into the water.



PHOTO BY JANET LAMKIN

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The monthly *dinner* scheduled for Wednesday, June 17 has been cancelled.

The 1,016th monthly Membership Meeting will be held via ZOOM on Wednesday, June 17, at 6:45. An invitation to attend the meeting will be sent to the membership by President Jeff Seaman. If you do not receive an invitation by end of day June 15, please contact Jeff at jeff_seaman@hotmail.com.

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, 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.



PLEASE DON'T REMOVE THE TAPE . . . OR THE LITTLE BASKETS

Ladies and Gentlemen, our farm is now a laboratory for university biologists! As you may have read in the May newsletter article (page 12), we are hosting a study by plant biologist Martha Weiss of Georgetown University and plant / insect biologist John Lill of George Washington University, who are using our wonderful Farm to study the effects of the 17-year cicada on local plant, insect, and bird populations. We are very fortunate to be able to assist in this effort, which is wholly consistent with the objectives established in our Bylaws (Article II: "The objectives of this organization, to which all members shall subscribe, are as follows . . . 8. More biological experiment stations to investigate conservation problems and to train workers for the conservation field.").

The study requires that markers and small insect traps be placed in various parts of the farm. Here is a photograph of the marking tape used in the study. The traps are small, netted "tents" the sort you might see covering a fruit plate at a picnic, about 12 inches square.

Please leave them in place.
Thank You.



PHOTO BY CHRIS EFDIMIS

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: Once all of the tickets are sold.
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 ARE STILL AVAILABLE!!!

***If you have any questions or would like to purchase tickets,
please contact Carol Hulce-Efdimis at carol2017@aol.com.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date(s)	Activity	Time
JUNE		
All dates are subject to change. Check the website for updates.		
Monday, June 1	Canceled – Scout Troop 496 – Chapter House	7:30pm
Tuesday, June 2	Canceled – Tuesday Sporting Clays Summer League – Shotgun Range	3:00pm – dusk
Saturday, June 6	Canceled – Introduction to Hunting Seminar	8:30am – 4:00pm
Saturday, June 6	3-D Archery – Archery Range	9:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday, June 7	3-D Archery – Archery Range	9:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, June 13	Summer Biathlon Practice	7:30am
Saturday, June 13	Canceled – Chapterhouse Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Monday, June 15	Canceled – Scout Troop 496 – Chapter House	7:30pm
Tuesday, June 16	Canceled – Tuesday Sporting Clays Summer League – Shotgun Range	3:00pm – dusk
Wednesday, June 17	Monthly Membership Meeting via Zoom	6:45pm
Saturday, June 20	3-D Archery – Archery Range	9:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday, June 21	3-D Archery – Archery Range	9:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday, June 21	Rescheduled to Sunday, July 26 – Father's Day Swap Meet & Silent Auction	9:00am
Sunday, June 21	Rescheduled to Sunday, July 26 – Father's Day Fun Shoot – Shotgun Range	9:00am
Sunday, June 21	Rescheduled to Sunday, July 26 – Father's Day Family Picnic	1:00pm
Sunday, June 21	New Member Orientation Tour	10:00am – 12:00noon
Tuesday, June 23	Canceled – Tuesday Sporting Clays Summer League – Shotgun Range	3:00pm – dusk
Wednesday, June 24	Board of Governors Meeting via Zoom	7:00pm
Friday, June 26	July Newsletter Articles due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, June 27	Summer Biathlon Practice	7:30pm
Tuesday, June 30	Canceled – Tuesday Sporting Clays Summer League – Shotgun Range	3:00pm – dusk
JULY		
All dates are subject to change. Check the website for updates.		
Sunday, July 5	3-D Archery at the Archery Range	9:00am – 1:00pm
Tuesday, July 7	Possibly Canceled – Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – dusk
Saturday, July 11	Summer Biathlon Practice	7:30am
Saturday, July 11	Canceled – Chapterhouse Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Saturday, July 11	Adopt-A-Road Cleanup – meet at the Chapterhouse parking lot	8:15am
Tuesday, July 14	Possibly Canceled – Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – dusk
Wednesday, July 15	Monthly Membership Meeting	6:30pm
Saturday, July 18	3-D Archery at the Archery Range	9:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday, July 19	3-D Archery at the Archery Range	9:00am – 1:00pm
Tuesday, July 21	Possibly Canceled – Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – dusk
Wednesday, July 22	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Friday, July 24	August Newsletter Articles due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, July 25	Summer Biathlon Practice	7:30am
Saturday, July 25	Advance Planning and Finance Committee Meeting	10:00am
Sunday, July 26	Father's Day Swap Meet & Silent Auction	9:00am
Sunday, July 26	Father's Day Fun Shoot – Shotgun Range	9:00am
Sunday, July 26	Father's Day Family Picnic	1:00pm
Tuesday, July 28	Possibly Canceled – Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – dusk
AUGUST		
All dates are subject to change. Check the website for updates.		
Saturday, August 1	3-D Archery at the Archery Range	9:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday, August 2	3-D Archery at the Archery Range	9:00am – 1:00pm
Tuesday, August 4	Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – dusk
Saturday, August 8	Summer Biathlon Practice	7:30am
Saturday, August 8	Canceled – Chapterhouse Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Saturday, August 8	Budget Meeting with Committee Chairs – FY Operating Budget	10:00am
Tuesday, August 11	Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – dusk
Tuesday, August 18	Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – dusk
Wednesday, August 19	Monthly Membership Dinner Meeting	6:30pm
Saturday, August 22	Summer Biathlon Practice	7:30am
Tuesday, August 25	Tuesday Sporting Clays	3:00pm – dusk
Wednesday, August 26	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Friday, August 28	September Newsletter Articles due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
<p>The Campground is closed during all black powder and firearms deer season. Check the online www.bcciwa.org electronic calendar for current and updated scheduled times of events.</p>		

Archery Range Report

Jack Mandel, Committee Chair
jmandeldesign@gmail.com

WE ARE OPEN!

We are practicing safe social distancing, and, to that end we are asking that we have no more than one shooter per shooting stand at any given time and no more than three shooters on the Target Range. The 3-D Course will reduce squads to only two shooters unless all family members are participating. The port-o-john is available for use with sterilization products on site.

TARGET RANGE

The Target Range is open from sunrise to sunset to all members. All guests are required to fill out a "Hold Harmless" agreement on the Target Range.

All archers, guests and members alike, are required to sign in on sheets at range and deposit into lockbox. Suggested donations of \$1 for members and \$2 for guests.

Big thanks to Tad Bodmer for bringing his own equipment out to the range and grinding half a dozen stumps that we've been dodging around for years!

Deborah has the lawns looking beautiful.

3-D SHOOTS

We have 14 Range Officers certified for this year, and our June 3-D schedule is:

Saturday, June 6 and Sunday, June 7
Saturday, June 20 and Sunday, June 21

Hours of operation this year will be from 9:00am - 1:00pm.

All shooters can fill out a scorecard for weekend and season high score awards.

The 3-D targets have been serviced and set, all bridges are safe and functional, and the trails have been cleared of all of the many fallen trees.



Life-sized animal targets are set up throughout the woods.

INTRODUCTION TO ARCHERY CLINICS

The Archery Committee is not able to schedule Beginning Archery Classes this year due to the shutdown, but we would like to offer two independent two-hour beginning archery seminars in August and September, dates to be determined when the county reopens.

There will be a nominal fee and no age restrictions, and we hope to have the events open to non-members.

Certified instructors will guide participants through safe use of recurves and compound bows. Equipment will be provided by us, but feel free to bring your own.

There will be more data to come via email blast and future newsletters, but it would help us out to get an idea of interest. Please contact me, Jack Mandel, jmandeldesign@gmail.com

and/or Deborah, drbehrend@aol.com to let us know if you may be able to join us.

To be a committee member, get involved in Archery Instruction, and/or you would like to borrow some equipment to get started in archery, please contact me, Jack Mandel at jmandeldesign@gmail.com and/or Marc Bouchard at combat750@gmail.com.

FATHER'S DAY FUN SHOOT

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2020



**75 TARGETS
\$15.00**

**25 Skeet Targets
25 Trap Targets
25 Sporting Clays Targets**

**Optional Lewis
\$5.00**

EVERYONE WELCOME

For more information, contact Warner Parks

wparcs29@gmail.com

240 620-6942 (cell)

**Please note that the date for the
FATHER'S DAY FUN SHOOT
has been tentatively changed to
SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2020**

E-blast will be sent when date is confirmed!

BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

The June Board of Governors meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 24, at 7:00pm**. As last month, the meeting will be held via Zoom. An invitation to the meeting will be sent to the membership by President Jeff Seaman. If you do not receive an invitation by end of day June 22, and would like to attend the BOG meeting, please contact Jeff at jeff_seaman@hotmail.com.

Membership Report

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

Due to ongoing precautions over COVID-19, the chapter has had to adjust to online meetings. This has especially impacted the process by which we meet, greet, and induct new members. The New-Member Tour has taken on even greater importance than before as the first opportunity to meet some of our newest members in person. Now that we are starting to emerge from stay-at-home orders, please make an extra effort to escort some friends out to the chapter. They will undoubtedly enjoy themselves outside. They might just enjoy themselves so much that they decide to join the chapter!

With regards to any lingering membership or 2020 renewal questions:

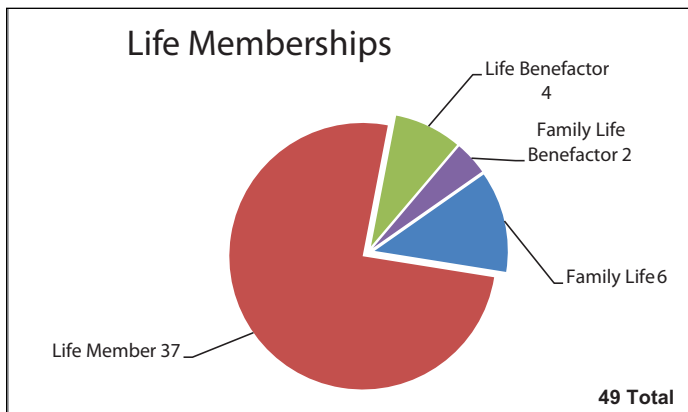
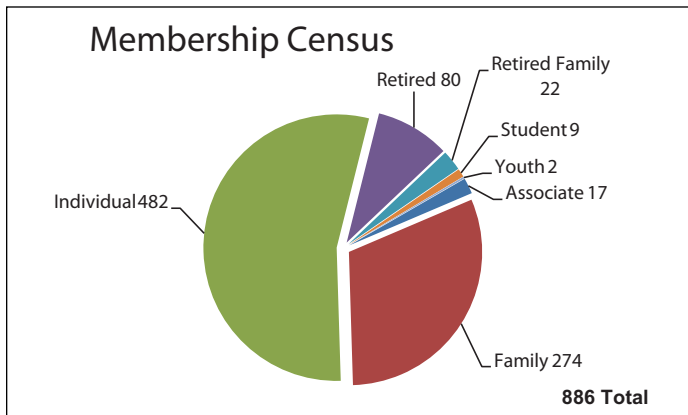
- Please text me directly at **301 252-8825** if you have not received an invoice or if you have any questions. Call me if you need a faster response.



Members ARE getting out to the chapter NOW and ARE socially-distancing.

The **June 2020 New-Member Orientation Tour** is scheduled for **Sunday, June 21**. A beautiful walk around the Conservation Farm would make for quite a memorable family outing on Father's Day after everyone's being cooped up for so long!

The active membership breakdown as of this printing is:



Shotgun Range Report

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

The range is scheduled to reopen for normal Sunday hours – 9:00am to 5:00pm – starting Sunday, June 7. Tuesday will be determined at a later date. New temporary rules and cleaning protocols will be sent out.

All range officers – please check your duty days and let me know if you are able to do your duty day. I will be sending out a list of days that need to be covered. Any range officer that has not signed up, please contact me to get signed up. Any range officer that missed their duty day during the closure and would like to make it up, please contact me.

RANGE OFFICERS

- Please double check and make sure all release cords and extension cord 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

JUNE

Sunday, June 7	Brett Davis, David Boynton, Jared Mott
Sunday, June 14	Mel Watkins, Harold Hoffman
Sunday, June 21	Christian Lowe, Pat Dady
Sunday, June 28	Jonothan Tarowski, Andrew Bellamah, Heip Nguyen

JULY

Sunday, July 5	Mike Noble, Kurt Behrend
Sunday, July 12	David Boynton, Ben Kohler, Robert Quattlebaum, Jon Tarkowski
Sunday, July 19	John Thereault, Joe Contrera, Ed Stewart
Sunday, July 26	Pat Dady, Need a Range Officer

HOURS OF OPERATION

Sundays	9:00pm to 5:00pm	Trap, Skeet & Sporting Clays
Tuesdays	TBD	Sporting Clays ONLY

Classes at the Campground (Fox Campsite)

email jackhkang@gmail.com to sign up for classes

Bushcraft and Camp Crafts Classes
Classes may be offered if events are allowed at the Chapter soon. Please check the **campgrounds** section of our website for updates.

Bow Drill Fire

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

Instructor: Jack Kang

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, 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

2020 FIREARMS HUNTING SEASON

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

2021 FIREARMS HUNTING SEASON

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



**Father's Day
Family Picnic
Sunday, July 26**

**Lunch will be served
at 1:00pm**

**Come and enjoy the events
of the day and a Picnic Lunch
offered by the Chapter**

Individuals – \$5 and Families – \$10

**Please note that the date for the
FATHER'S DAY FAMILY PICNIC
has been tentatively changed to
SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2020**

E-blast will be sent when date is confirmed!

Chapter House Grounds...

Help is needed with picking up the dead falls around the chapter house and picnic area and placing them in the fire pit at the picnic area. Call either Tom or Janet Lamkin (301 466-6557 or 301-706-3934) if you are able to help. Time spent can go towards your yearly volunteer hours.



PHOTO BY BRETT DAVIS

Bluegill

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

The bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*), the most numerous resident of the big pond (Walton), is a member of the sunfish family Centrarchidae. But the bluegill is not the only sunfish in the pond. There are two other species – the redear sunfish and the largemouth bass. Interestingly, the largemouth bass preys on its bluegill family members and that is why bluegills are often stocked in ponds and lakes – to support the largemouth bass fishery. Usually about 10 bluegills are stocked to one largemouth bass. However, bluegills themselves provide a recreational fishery. To support both the largemouth bass and bluegill fishery in the big pond, in 2018 the Pond and Streams Committee stocked about 1,000 bluegills in the big pond to supplement the existing population and to provide additional forage for the largemouth bass population.



Adult Redear Sunfish

Bluegill fry and fingerlings feed on planktonic organisms and aquatic insects while adults feed primarily on aquatic insects but may consume fish fry. The small mouth size limits the size of prey organisms. To ensure a healthy population, we have been supplementing this food source by periodically scattering fish food pellets into the water while walking along the shoreline. Bluegills may grow to 10-12 inches; however, in the big pond few exceed 5 inches. The Maryland state record for bluegill is 3.4 pounds.



Bluegill Fry

In late April this year, we collected bluegill fry (see photos) along the big pond shoreline. These fry may have been from an early spawning as there were some nice warm temperatures in late winter early/spring; however, water temperatures were in the low 60's F so another possibility is that these fry were from a previous fall spawning. On May 17, 2020, bluegill were observed actively spawning on one of the 10' X 10' gravel beds established in 2018. The water temperature that day was 70 degrees F. It is estimated there were

at least 20 spawning beds; however, water clarity and overcast skies made it difficult to get an accurate count. Bluegill have been known to spawn in colonies numbering 100 nests and may spawn multiple times from May to October. The male bluegill builds and guards the spawning nest while the female, after spawning, moves on and spawns with other males at other nests.



Single Bluegill Fry

The bluegill is one of the primary species caught by beginning and children anglers. This scrappy little fish is easy to catch using a small piece of worm and a bobber. At past kids' fishing events held during Heritage Days and the family campouts, at least 50 to 70 bluegills were caught by kids during each event at the big pond. It was not uncommon to hear "got one" from a successful angler. Even some parents who

had never fished caught bluegills. Ponds & Streams members were kept busy supplying bait and helping to release bluegills back into the pond. So if your kids or grandkids are itching to get out of the house, why not take them down to the big pond for some fast bluegill action.

PHOTOS BY SUZANNE NOVAK

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 Usage Procedures are still in place. They can be found on the website or in your email from May.

PLEASE REMEMBER

- Put paper in the trash. If the cans are full, please empty them.
- Keep watch on 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

JUNE

Saturday, June 6	Waterman, S., Kipfer, J., Lan, K.
Sunday, June 7	King, B., Panashchenko, O., Kipfer, J., Waterman, S.
Saturday, June 13	Suleman, S., Lan, K., Hedrick, H.
Sunday, June 14	Hess, L., Kawamoto, D., Adams, J., Watt, D.
Saturday, June 20	Mostrom, T.
Sunday, June 21	Abid, G., Hedrick, H.
Saturday, June 27	Mostrom, T.
Sunday, June 28	TBD

JULY

Saturday, July 4	Roger, B.
Sunday, July 5	TBD
Saturday, July 11	Schweikert, B., Gori, R., McDaniel, M., Donovan, P.
Sunday, July 12	Pasquale, D., McDaniel, M., Schweikert, B., West, K.
Saturday, July 18	Gori, R.,
Sunday, July 19	Schilling, J., King, K.
Saturday, July 25	Ives, S., Riccio, R., Urgo, C.
Sunday, July 26	Midberry, K., West, K.



"Artemis" the snake – opening day at the R&P Range.

PHOTO BY SLIM SULEMAN

Chestnut Committee Report

Blaine Elkins, Committee Chair
blaineelkins@verizon.net

Despite the pandemic, a lot of progress has been made on the farm. First there was the preparation for and the planting of hundreds of hybrid nuts in tree pots in the greenhouse area. We had hoped this would be a chance for many chapter members to work with a bunch of volunteers from The American Chestnut Foundation on a big day. Covid 19 came and the work was done by a handful of people over a number of days while being very careful to keep their distance and wear barrier gloves. Over days the work was done and an important step for the breeding program of a blight resistant American Chestnut did not lose a year.



In the genome orchard by the campgrounds a small group did spring clean up and planted some more purebred American Chestnuts to preserve the genome. More maintenance needs to be done.

We need volunteers to mow the orchard and water the hybrids by the green house as we come into summer. Please contact Blaine Elkins at blaineelkins@verizon.net if you are interested in joining this work.

Also, we need buckets.

We need clean drywall buckets or five-gallon paint buckets. The hot dry spell late last summer badly stressed the seedlings from last spring's planting. The buckets can be made into trickle waterers for the smaller seedlings later this summer. Please contact Blaine Elkins if you have some to spare.

PHOTOS BY ARTHUR BELENDIUK

Please note that the date for the



FATHER'S DAY SWAP MEET & SILENT AUCTION

has been tentatively changed to
SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2020
An e-blast will be sent when date is confirmed

We all have too much stuff!!

If you have anything related to outdoor activities AND would like a table for the Father's Day Swap Meet OR would like to donate an item for the Silent Auction

Please contact Lawrence Kotchek:
240 793-5316 or lawrence@print1.com

Open to members and prospective members. Tables are \$10 each. 100% of Table Fees and Silent Auction proceeds benefit the Land Fund.



**Sunday, July 26
9:00am-3:00pm**

B-CC Quiz Answer: The Summer Solstice in the Northern Hemisphere occurs at 5:43pm on June 20. The sun will be up for nearly 15 hours that day — 5 1/2 hours more than at the Northern Hemisphere's Winter Solstice. The earliest sunrise of the year comes a week earlier, at 5:39am on June 13, and the latest sunset comes June 27 at 8:37pm. Jupiter can be seen with the unaided eye. There are other planets visible during June depending on the date and the cloud cover. I suppose we could always see Earth if we looked down toward our feet.

Quiz by Jim Tate

PHOTO BY BRETT DAVIS



On a clear night the skies at the Conservation Farm are relatively free from polluting, earthbound lights and are ablaze with the millennially ancient incandescence of the stars.

For more information:

<https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/night/usa/baltimore>

<https://skyandtelescope.org/observing/sky-at-a-glance/this-weeks-sky-at-a-glance-june-22-30/>

<http://www.whatsupthespaceplace.com/>

NestWatch News

Diane Seward, Citizen Science Projects Coordinator

As of late May, the cavity-nesting species that we track, Eastern Bluebirds, Tree Swallows, and Purple Martins, were all very productive. Eleven of our 20 nestboxes were claimed by Eastern Bluebirds, with 42 nestlings and 31 fledglings so far. The first bluebird egg was laid on March 30. The incubation period for bluebird eggs is 13 to 14 days; nestlings develop for 17 or 18 days before taking flight. Eastern Bluebirds often produce two broods of nestlings during a spring and summer season.

Tree Swallows typically begin nesting a little later than the bluebirds and have only one nest per season. Each clutch typically has five or six eggs. After an incubation period of 15 days, nestlings spend about 20 days in the nestbox before taking flight.



Bluebird nestling peeking out of its box

Tree Swallows, like Eastern Bluebirds, do not return to the nestbox at night. Our Tree Swallows began laying eggs in early May. As of late May, the swallows had produced 61 eggs of which 26 had hatched.



Mama bluebird with 6-day-old nestling

The big story this season is our chatty, amazing aviators, the Purple Martins, the last species we track that nests on the farm. The chapter house side porch affords prime viewing of their activity at our two martin houses and new gourds. Although the first martin scouts arrived in late March, the colony of 60 or so adults did not settle in until early this month or begin laying eggs until May 22. But by May 25, the martins had laid 43 eggs in 10 nesting spaces. By

May 30, the martins boasted 29 nests and 71 eggs! All 14 slots in the northernmost house were spoken for; 6 of the compartments in the south house were taken; and 9 of the 12 available gourds were claimed. The average incubation period of Purple Martin eggs is 16 days; after the eggs hatch, the nestlings will develop in their nests for about 28 days. Unlike the swallows and bluebirds, the young martins will return to roost in their houses for a week or so after they fledge.



Bluebird Chicks – 10 days old – four chicks, one unhatched egg.



Tree Swallow hatchlings

Please let me know if you would be willing to help out with monitoring the Purple Martin nests. We will have a lot of work in store come late June, because the grasses in each of the 29 nests should be replaced to reduce the incidence of parasites when the chicks are nine or ten days old.

If you can help, please email me at trina65@verizon.net. We will provide on-the-job training, and it doesn't take long to become passionate about the welfare of the growing nestlings.

Many thanks to Theresa Zmola, her son Nathan Zmola, and Peter Cappellino for their hard work and faithful reporting of their observations on the trail. Thanks also to Larry Anderson who is always willing to lend a hand when asked. Without regular nestbox monitoring, the chapter would be only dimly aware of the significant species reproduction we are nurturing.



Purple Martin Nesting

PHOTOS BY DIANE SEWARD AND PETE CAPPELLINO

Send us your favorite photos from the Farm . . .





A caterpillar. Bluebirds on their nestboxes. The cabin from across Latimer Pond in the morning mist. A fawn in the meadow. A crawfish in the creek. The catch of the day. A cactus in the West Woods (yes!). It's up to you, the photographer. Send us your photos and our editors will post their favorites on the website for all to see.

Send your photos to newsletter editor, Janet Lamkin, at j.lamkin@comcast.net.

PHOTOS BY ARTHUR BELENDIUK AND BRETT DAVIS

Monarch Butterfly Habitat

Don Perino

Just as you enter the gate you will see our Chapter's monarch butterfly habitat. It's designed to help conserve the monarch butterfly by providing milkweed and nectar plants. There is much less milkweed these days because of herbicide-resistant corn and soybeans. Monarchs can't survive without milkweed. It's the only thing they eat during their caterpillar phase (see photo #1).



Photo #1 – Monarch on Milkweed

Monarchwatch is an organization dedicated to helping conserve the monarch butterfly. Our habitat is registered with them and it was designated Monarch Waystation number 8355. Please visit monarchwatch.org or more information or to learn how to create your own Monarch Waystation.

Monarch Butterflies are amazing. They spend the winter in Mexico hibernating. Each year there are four generations. Starting in the spring, monarch butterflies travel north from Mexico until they find milkweed to lay eggs on. When those eggs hatch they become that year's generation #1. Those caterpillars eat the milkweed which contains a toxin that makes the monarchs poisonous to predators. After a couple of weeks the caterpillars become butterflies and fly north. Eventually the butterflies decide it's time to lay eggs and they start to look for milkweed. The cycle repeats itself for three generations. The monarchs that belong to generation #1, #2 and #3 each live for a couple of months. During their lives those 3 generations migrate north. The 4th generation is different. Its members will live about six months. Generation #4 is born in the fall and migrates to Mexico before winter. This is astonishing! The monarchs born in Maine need to fly 3,000 miles. But they can do it. During migration they fly about 20 to 50 miles per day, sometimes more.

Butterflies also dependent on nectar so the habitat has other plants that bloom at different times. The bushes you see growing among the milkweed are wild blackberries, which bloom in May (see photo #2). A blackberry branch will only produce fruit in its second year of growth. If you want berries you can't mow this plant.



Photo #2 – Wild Blackberries

Chapter members are welcome to pick blackberries, which usually ripen in mid-July. The monarch habitat also contains dogbane (poisonous, but used by Native Americans to weave baskets), yarrow (a "healing herb" once used to treat cuts) and pokeweed. Pokeweed is a source of food for birds during the winter. In the fall the plant produces clusters of dark berries that are poisonous to humans and animals. However pokeweed berries are fine for birds to eat. When the ground has snow cover birds can still find the pokeweed berries, which remain attached to these tall plants.

PHOTOS BY DON PERINO

Turning to the natural world during the Covid-19 lockdown...

The Izaak Walton membership pledge includes several key Conservation phrases, including: "To know the beauty of nature, the value of wildlife and the preservation of this heritage." Many emails, blogs, cyber-meeting, and cyber town halls have become available in recent weeks promoting many of our pledged values.

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology, and the American Bird Conservancy recently presented one such program called **Enjoying and Helping Birds at Home** (<https://www.farmanddairy.com/columns/birds-a-beacon-of-hope-help-them-thrive/613144.html>). Here is that program's message condensed into a few talking points:

- "Birding is like having Netflix with a constant supply of new episodes. Only with birding, the quality never falls off."
- "As the world continues to hunker down, birds can be a beacon of hope."
- "Birding is a stress reducer."
- "Birds are something that can contribute to your life in a meaningful way, and that you can contribute to meaningfully."
- "You can be a Conservationist from home:
 - An estimated 1 billion birds die in window collisions each year in the U.S. Put screens or stickers on glass windows and doors.
 - Support the **Bird-Safe Buildings Act (H.R.919)** in the U.S. House.
 - Oppose easing restrictions and penalties in the **Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918** (16 U.S.C. §§ 703-712).
 - **Free-roaming cats** kill an estimated 2.4 billion birds each year. Keep cats indoors, or if outdoors on a leash, or contained in a 'catio'."
- **Get the kids interested.** Use cell phone cameras, apps for Identification, and social media. "People post photos of the fish they caught or the buck they bagged, why not birds?"
- **Citizen scientists**, including those at B-CC IWLA, contribute to three important citizen science programs:
 - **eBird** is an app that allows you to enter bird sightings, which immediately go to "the world's largest biodiversity database." It also shows a list of birds in your area, your location.
 - **FeederWatch** just ended for the winter season in April, while **NestWatch** is getting underway for the summer.
 - **K-12 education** programs help with home schooling.

And finally, "Birds remain a beacon of hope — or a source of serenity, especially if you've been to too many Zoom meetings."

Summary provided by Jim Tate jim@tate-tate.us



Check out our Facebook page!
Izaak Walton League of America
Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter