



MARCH 2021 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

Hi Folks,

Here we are in March already!

Daylight Savings Time will begin promptly at 2:00am on March 14th, so hopefully you will forward your clocks ahead an hour. Consider this a REMINDER. As the weather continues to improve so does our Nation's Covid-19 vaccination distribution. We are now vaccinating over 2 million people per day and hopefully we will reach 'herd immunity', whereby resistance to the spread of the disease reaches a sufficiently high proportion of individuals who are immune to the disease, soon. Spring is an optimistic time of the year bringing new growth and a feeling of rejuvenation from the Winter doldrums, so let us be optimistic that we will pass through this pandemic soon.

Happy Saint Patrick's Day! Chip Dunn, our resident Chef and Sporting Clays enthusiast, would have been serving an excellent Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner at the Chapter's March Monthly Dinner Meeting. So, if you are serving said dish at home during the March Monthly Zoom Meeting – ENJOY! In celebrating the "Luck of the Irish," we are officially launching our Annual 2021 Gun Raffle at the Zoom Meeting. There are only 500 tickets to be sold for three guns or cash to win. See the article in the Newsletter announcing the raffle and how you can buy tickets. The purpose of the gun raffle is to support the Chapter by adding the proceeds to our CAPEX budget to purchase needed equipment.

Do not forget the IWLA National Scholarship Award if you have a child who is either a junior or senior undergraduate enrolled in a conservation or environment-related degree program. There are two scholarships of \$2,500.00 including a one-year Student Membership sponsored by the Izaak Walton League of America Endowment. If interested, see article in this month's newsletter and contact Mr. Earl Hower.

I thought the "Lower Seneca" presentation by Ms. Merikay Smith, a Master Gardner since 2007, Board Member of the Muddy Branch Alliance and the Seneca Creek Watershed Partners and our Guest Speaker at the February Zoom Meeting, was remarkably interesting. I found myself following along with her using our very own Conservation Farm Guide as she was describing the numerous plants found along Lower Seneca Creek, and on our property, as well. So, not only am I extending a tribute to Merikay, but to ALL the authors of our Conservation Farm Guide, an excellent resource for members wanting to learn about our property.

In closing, the days are getting longer so come out to the farm and enjoy the transition from Winter to Spring. You might even see Short-eared Owls migrating through the area. Do not forget to check the calendar for scheduled outdoor activities.

Stay Healthy!

Ron Marchessault
President

DUE DATE

for the April Newsletter Articles

Friday, March 26

Submit articles to:
j.lamkin@comcast.net or
Newsletter.BCCIWLA@gmail.com

As a Reminder

Due to Covid-19, the chapterhouse is currently closed and off limits to the general membership.

Board of Governors

Fiscal Year: September 1, 2020 – August 31, 2021

OFFICERS

Ron Marchessault, President

202 320-3834 • rmarchessault12@aol.com

Lin Schmale-Tate, 1st Vice President

703 517-3675 • lin@tate-tate.us

Walt Allensworth, 2nd Vice President

301 221-3594 • twangermd@gmail.com

Bill Brockman, Treasurer

301 652-3978 • bill.brockman@hotmail.com

Joe Trotter, Membership Secretary

210 352-0055 • jtrotterccp@gmail.com

Janet Lamkin, Corresponding Secretary

301 466-6557 • j.lamkin@comcast.net

John Stinson, Recording Secretary

301 325-7454 • ringfort3@gmail.com

BOARD MEMBERS

David Boynton*

301 318-3622 • dboynton@mcccourt.com

Brett Davis

240 506-5588 • bdbrettdavis@gmail.com

Shannon Novak

301 785-8461 • snovak516@gmail.com

Sean-David Waterman

816 812-4917 • seandavid@me.com

Pete Wirth

301 915-6763 • peter_wirth@verizon.net

Jeff Seaman, Past President

301 775-4973 • jeff_seaman@hotmail.com

* Indicates Officers and Board Members who were absent from the previous month's Board of Governors meeting.

The Izaak Walton League of America – a non-profit conservation organization – is recognized as a Section 501(c)(3) public charity under the Internal Revenue Code.

Address, phone and email changes should be sent to the Membership Secretary at the above address.

Submissions to the *NEWSLETTER* should be sent to:

Janet Lamkin
j.lamkin@comcast.net or
Newsletter.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com
301 466-6557



2021 – 2022 B-CC IWLA Board of Governors Nominations

Scott Harmon

301 467-0645 (cell) scott.w.harmon@verizon.net

Your B-CC IWLA's 2021 - 2022 Nominating Committee is presently seeking interested members in good standing to serve on the B-CC IWLA's Board of Governors. 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 2021 and conclude August 2022. Members of the Board are expected to attend two meetings a month, the chapter dinner/membership 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 2020 is welcome to submit his or her 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, John Lamb, Jack Mandel, Jeff Seaman, and Scott Harmon.

MARCH 2021 MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The 1,025th monthly Membership Meeting will be held via Zoom on **Wednesday, March 17, starting at 6:45pm.**

Meeting contact information is listed below and can also be found on the website calendar.

All prospective members should arrive into chapter Zoom meetings early to sign the digital attendance form in order for the meeting to count. The link will be sent in the Zoom chat and available on the front page of the website until the morning after the meeting.

Please text us at 301 252-8825 if you have any trouble connecting or entering the meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89119876726?pwd=QXdldE5BVkp3c1JsR0ZNaEpGRmxKdz09>

Dial: 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 891 1987 6726

Passcode: 953816



Montgomery Bird Club

a chapter of the Maryland Ornithological Society

Jim Tate
jim@tate.tate.us

At the Montgomery Bird Club's February meeting, held the same night as our B-CC membership meeting, a panel of experts presented on changes over the years in MoCo Avifauna – "Montgomery County Birders, Birds, and Birding Over the Years." That panel discussion is now on Vimeo – <https://vimeo.com/MoCoBC>.

Spring 2021 Maryland Division Meeting

The meeting will be held on Saturday, March 20 starting at 8:30am at the B-CC Chapter. This will be a hybrid meeting. Maryland Division officers and national directors will meet at the Chapterhouse. All other members are invited to attend virtually. Pre-registration will be required. More information will be available closer to the date of the meeting.

2021 National Convention

Bob Pavlick, National Director
roberpav1@verizon.net

The Nebraska Division and the national office of the Izaak Walton League of America have mutually agreed to cancel the in-person national convention scheduled for July 20-23, 2021.

The League will hold a virtual convention in July minimally to elect new national officers and members of the Executive Board and consider policy resolutions submitted by chapters and divisions. More information on the date, format, and any additional components of the virtual convention, such as speakers or workshops, will be coming soon.

"Lower Seneca" Presentation

At last month's membership meeting, Merikay Smith, Master Gardener and Board Member of the Seneca Creek Watershed Partners, gave a wonderful presentation on the "Lower Seneca." The presentation included information about the native and invasive plants along Seneca Creek, many are common to our Chapter. The link to her complete presentation is <https://youtu.be/WvK2y2J0Nto>. Enjoy!

Maryland Snake Lore

Jim Tate
jim@tate-tate.us



I recently watched the DNR monthly program "Woodland Wildlife Wednesday" on Zoom, featuring Kerry.Wixted@Maryland.gov on the subject of Maryland snakes. Kerry is very informed about all things 'snake.' I recommend her talk to you. The entire talk can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/g4VbDdiXWgQ>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

for B-CC IWLA and Community

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

1,025th Membership Meeting

Wednesday, March 17
6:45pm
Via Zoom

2021 Gun Raffle

Starting Wednesday, March 17 (Membership Meeting)
Tickets will be sold electronically and in person

March New-Member Orientation Tour

Sunday, March 21
10:00am – 1:00pm

Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, March 24
7:30pm
Via Zoom

Black Powder / Muzzleloader Event

Saturday, March 27
9:00am – 4:30pm
Registration Required

Help Plant a new crop of Christmas Trees

Saturday, April 3
E-blast will be sent to membership

Adopt-A-Road Clean up

Saturday, April 10
8:15am
Meet at the Chapter House parking lot

Archery, R&P, and Shotgun Ranges Cleanup

Saturday, April 10
Contact Range Chairs for details

Chapter Spring Cleanup

Saturday, April 17
8:00am to early afternoon
Lunch will be served

Introduction to Hunting Seminar

Saturday, June 5
8:30am – 4:00pm
Registration Required

MARCH 2021 BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

The Board of Governors meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 24 via Zoom at 7:30pm.**

Meeting contact information is listed below and can also be found on the website calendar.

All prospective members should arrive into chapter Zoom meetings early to sign the digital attendance form in order for the meeting to count. The link will be sent in the Zoom chat and available on the front page of the website until the morning after the meeting.

Please text us at 301 252-8825 if you have any trouble connecting or entering the meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82999982929?pwd=OXFuaFQzMkQvSC9pZlBhXktvMERPUT09>

Dial: 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 829 9998 2929

Passcode: 343901

Vegetable Gardens

Larry Anderson
240 246-5302 andupton9@hotmail.com

Pat Tarquinio
ptarq@hotmail.com

The days are growing longer and even without warmer temperatures yet, 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 me 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 me, 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.



SPRING CHAPTER CLEANUPS

CHRISTMAS TREES

Saturday, April 3

*Help clean up Christmas Tree field and plant new trees.
More information to come by e-blast.*

RANGE CLEANUPS – Archery, R&P, Shotgun

Saturday, April 10

Information to come from Range Committee Chairs

CHAPTER CLEANUP

Saturday, April 17

8:30am

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

Volunteers should arrive at the chapter house by 8:30am.

There are always plenty of things needing to be done: planting, raking, tree trimming, and trail clearing to cleaning, washing, and sweeping of the outside of the Chapter House to meet anyone's interest and physical ability!

Bring your work gloves, shovels, rakes, loppers, and leaf blowers. If you bring a chain saw or weed wacker, please be sure you have the necessary safety equipment.

Social distancing guidelines will be observed by all. In order to assure that the B-CC IWLA maintains compliance with MD State COVID-19 guidelines, a **Signup Genius** will be used to help us plan for food and social distancing.

BE SURE to sign-in at the table on the front porch of the chapter house. Families please enter the name of each family-member participating. You will be paired up with other chapter members who will provide details of the tasks for the day (committee chairs or crew chiefs). Some of the work may take place on different parts of the farm and may require driving to the location.

Carol Hulce-Efdimis and her crew will be serving a wrapped-up lunch to all who attend after the bulk of the cleanup work has been completed, around 1:00pm.

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.

Any committee chairs or crew chiefs who are planning work projects for Cleanup Day, please contact 1st V.P., Lin Tate at the email below to help her coordinate equipment, volunteers, and other resources!

We look forward to seeing YOU on Saturday, April 17!

Lin Schmale-Tate
B-CC IWLA 1st Vice President
lin@tate-tate.us

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date(s)	Activity	Time
MARCH		
All dates are tentative and subject to change. Check the website for updates.		
Saturday, March 6	R&P Range Officer (Current ROs) Signup – use Sign up Genius	TBD
Sunday, March 7	R&P Range Officer (Current ROs) Signup – use Sign up Genius	TBD
Sunday, March 7	Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five Stand	9:00am – 5:00pm
Sunday, March 14	Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five Stand	9:00am – 5:00pm
Sunday, March 14	R&P Range Open	10:00am – 4:00pm
Wednesday, March 17	1,025th Monthly Membership Meeting – via Zoom	6:45pm
Wednesday, March 17	Gun Raffle Tickets for Sale	6:45pm
Saturday, March 20	Summer Biathlon at the R&P Range	7:30am
Saturday, March 20	Maryland Division Meeting – Hybrid Meeting	Starting at 8:30am
Sunday, March 20	R&P Range Open	10:00am – 4:00pm
Sunday, March 21	Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five Stand	9:00am – 5:00pm
Sunday, March 21	Shotgun Range Officer (Current ROs) Signup – 3 signup times per day – signup Genius on website	9:00am – 1:30pm
Sunday, March 21	R&P Range Open	10:00am – 4:00pm
Sunday, March 21	New-Member Orientation Tour – meet at Chapterhouse	10:00am – 1:00pm
Wednesday, March 24	Board of Governors Meeting – via Zoom	7:30pm
Friday, March 26	April Newsletter Articles due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, March 27	Black Powder Day at the R&P Range	9:00am – 4:30pm
Sunday, March 28	Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five Stand	9:00am – 5:00pm
Sunday, March 28	R&P Range Open	10:00am – 4:00pm
APRIL		
All dates are tentative and subject to change. Check the website for updates.		
Saturday, April 3	Summer Biathlon at the R&P Range	7:30am
Saturday, April 3	Plant Christmas Trees – Contact Larry Anderson	starting at 9:00am
Sunday, April 4	Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five Stand	9:00am – 5:00pm
Saturday, April 10	Adopt-A-Road Clean-up – meet at the Chapterhouse parking lot	8:15am
Saturday, April 10	Cleanup Day for Archery, R&P, and Shotgun Ranges – Contact Range Chairs	starting at 8:00am
Sunday, April 11	Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five Stand	9:00am – 5:00pm
Saturday, April 17	Summer Biathlon at the R&P Range	7:30am
Saturday, April 17	Chapter Cleanup Day	starting at 8:30am
Saturday, April 17	Archery Range – 3-D Shoot	9:00am
Saturday, April 17	New-Member Orientation Tour – meet at Chapterhouse	10:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday, April 18	Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five Stand	9:00am – 5:00pm
Wednesday, April 21	1,026th Monthly Membership Meeting – via Zoom	6:45pm
Friday, April 23	May Newsletter Articles due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Sunday, April 25	Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five Stand	9:00am – 5:00pm
Wednesday, April 28	Board of Governors Meeting – via Zoom	7:30pm
MAY		
All dates are tentative and subject to change. Check the website for updates.		
Saturday, May 1	Summer Biathlon at the R&P Range	7:30am
Sunday, May 2	Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five Stand	9:00am – 5:00pm
Sunday, May 9	Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five Stand	9:00am – 5:00pm
Saturday, May 15	Summer Biathlon at the R&P Range	7:30am
Sunday, May 16	Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five Stand	9:00am – 5:00pm
Wednesday, 19	1,027th Monthly Membership Meeting – via Zoom	6:45pm
Sunday, May 23	Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five Stand	9:00am – 5:00pm
Wednesday, May 26	Board of Governors Meeting – via Zoom	7:30pm
Friday, May 28	June Newsletter Articles due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Sunday, May 30	Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five Stand	9:00am – 5:00pm
THE CAMPGROUND IS CLOSED DURING ALL BLACK POWDER AND FIREARMS DEER SEASON. Check the online www.bcciwl.org electronic calendar for current and updated scheduled times of events.		

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 5**. 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, advan-



tages 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 in or outside the B-CC IWLA Chapter House, depending on Covid-19 protocols at the time of the seminar. Masks and social distancing are required. 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/>.

Interested individuals must contact Mark Gochnour to register at hunting.seminar.bcciwla@gmail.com. Questions about the seminar should also be sent to Mark at the same email address. As the event gets closer, a Sign-up Genius link will be sent out to those who have contacted Mark. This link will be made available to others if there is still room later in May. Class size is limited to 23, so registering early is recommended. Registration deadline is May 31.

B-CC QUIZ

Question: With Turkey season just around the corner, here are five questions for the B-CC IWLA Turkey enthusiasts.

1. Where did our turkey species evolve?
 North America
 Turkey
 Mexico and Central America
2. What do you call a male turkey?
 Drake
 Gobbler
 Fantail
 Hard to hunt
3. Turkeys have excellent eyesight but poor hearing
 True
 False
4. What are those red parts around a male turkey's face called?
 Snood
 Wattle
 Caruncle
 All of the above
5. Are there any turkeys on the B-CC Conservation Farm?
 The most recent published record of turkey on the Conservation Farm can be found in the Christmas Bird Count list from 2019.
 Probably, but they are actually seen or heard infrequently.
 Yes, but members who hunt them prefer to keep that a secret.
 I don't know which of the above are true and which are rumor.

Answer can be found elsewhere in the newsletter.

2021 Adopt-A-Road Clean-up Schedule

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

Saturday, April 10
Saturday, July 10
Saturday, September 11

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



Membership Operations Report

Joe Trotter, Membership Secretary
210 352-0055 MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

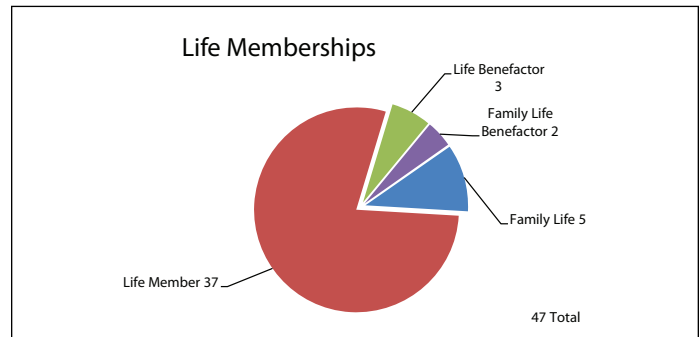
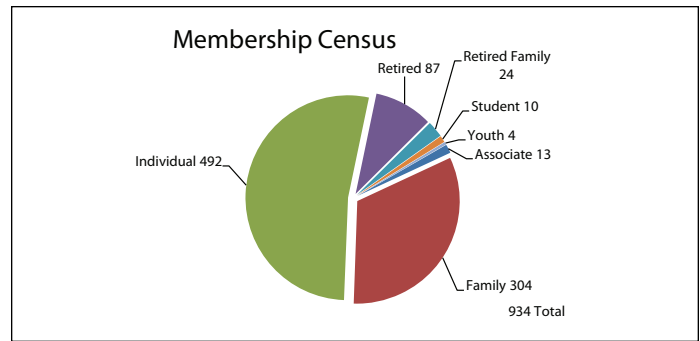
The 2021 membership renewal drive has been hugely successful, thanks in great part to the members' getting so many of their renewal payments in before Thanksgiving. B-CC has almost 100 renewals and new memberships tied up in the mail, but we will get your 2021 membership cards and decals out to you as soon as we receive them from IWLA National.

As of the end of February 2021, the membership team has processed over 730 out of the original 780-membership renewal invoices sent out last September. This represents a much better than average membership retention rate from 2020 to 2021.

For ongoing membership or 2021 renewal questions, please email Joe Trotter, the Membership Secretary, at MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com.

The March **New-Member Orientation Tour** is scheduled for **Sunday, March 21st** at 10:00am. A signup Genius for the tour has been published in the chapter's website calendar. A second tour can be scheduled if need so dictates. Due to snow and rain, the February 2021 tour was postponed.

As of the end of February 2021, the membership breakdown was:



B-CC IWLA GUN RAFFLE

DONATION IS \$20.00 PER TICKET

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

- WHAT:** A Gun Raffle
WHY: 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: Drawing will be held at a Monthly Membership Meeting, 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:*

RETAY 12 GA MASAI MARA SHOTGUN, MAX 5 CAMO or \$700.00

WEATHERBY VANGUARD 270 W/LEOPOLD SCOPE AND DNZ SCOPE MOUNT or \$650.00

TRADITIONS OUTFITTER G2 SS 45/70 RIFLE or \$400.00

**TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE STARTING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17
AT THE MEMBERSHIP ZOOM MEETING!**

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



Shotgun Range Report

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

There will be two **sign-up meetings for current Range Officers** – Sunday, March 7 and Sunday, March 21. Meetings will be held in the chapter house. Due to the COVID restrictions, we need to limit the number of people in the chapter house. Sign up times are for 9:00am, 11:00am and 1:00pm. Please use the signup Genius that Carol Hulce-Efdimis provided in her email. This is NOT a R.O. training class.

Effective immediately the **Range Hours** will return to normal hours of operation - 9:00am until 5:00pm.

Range Officers:

- Please do not unplug any of the skeet machines and do not turn off any circuit breakers.
- Double-check and make sure all release cords and extension cords are returned to the range house.

Shooters:

- Please pick up your empty shotgun shells and trash when finished shooting.

Range Officers and Shooters:

- 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 7	Lawrence Kotchek
Sunday, March 14	Fred Ryan, Brett Davis
Sunday, March 21	Jon Tarkowski, Lawrence Kotchek
Sunday, March 28	Jim Stables, Jose' Saiz

APRIL

Sunday, April 4	Need Range Officers
Sunday, April 11	Ken Gentzel, Dave Bixler
Sunday, April 18	Richard Latimer, Andrew Silverburg
Sunday, April 25	Gary Melvin, Brian Moncak

HOURS OF OPERATION

Sundays 9:00am to 5:00pm Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays

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

The Rifle Pistol Range will be opening up in March on the following dates:

Sunday, March 14
Saturday, March 20
Sunday, March 21
Sunday, March 28

The hours will be winter hours of 10:00am to 4:00pm.

Covid Range Usage Procedures are still in place and can be found on the website. The range is open to ONE guest outside of your immediate family household.

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

APRIL

Saturday, April 3	Waterman, S. , Twomey, P., Bouchard, M., Mostrom, T.
Sunday, April 4	Panashchenko, O. , Twomey, P., Waterman, S., Williams, B.
Saturday, April 10	Williams, B. , Sullivan, A., Saiz, J., Ryba, J.
Sunday, April 11	Sullivan, A. , Saiz, J., Watt, D., Panashchenko, O.
Saturday, April 17	Hoover, J. , Ryba, J., Schweikert, B., Boynton, D.
Sunday, April 18	Griffin, J. , Riccio, R., Kawamoto, D., Chung, W.
Saturday, April 24	Bouchard, M. , Lan, K., Mostrom, T., Peterson, C.
Sunday, April 25	Watt, D. , Riccio, R., Hoover, J., Harmon, S.

The Rifle Pistol Range will be closed till 1:00pm on the following days:

April 10th for Range Cleanup
April 17th for Chapter Cleanup

B-CC Quiz Answer:

1. North America. See more information.
2. Gobbler. Turkeys are not hard to hunt, but they can be frustrating.
3. False. Turkeys have excellent eyesight and hearing.
4. All of the above. Note that 'caruncle' is a bird anatomy term. 'Carbuncle' refers to boils caused by a bacterial infection.
5. Judge for yourself.

B-CC Quiz by Jim Tate

For more information:

sora.unm.edu/sites/default/files/journals/wilson/v082n02/p0214-p0218.pdf

A New Turkey From the Pliocene of Nebraska

Larry D. Martin and James Tate, Jr.

<https://www.prohuntinghacks.com/turkey-hunting-tips/>

Is Turkey Hunting Really That Hard?

<https://www.nwtf.org/hunt/article/five-senses-wild-turkey>

NEW-MEMBER ORIENTATION TOUR

The tour will be held on **Sunday, March 21** from **10:00am** until approximately **1:00pm**.
A **signup Genius** for the tour has been published on the **Chapter's website calendar**.

Archery Range Report

Jack Mandel, Committee Chair
jmandeldesign@gmail.com

Yes, it's almost Spring.

The coming season plans include: tree-stand practice platform installation, bowhunting / butchering seminar, fletching / stringing seminar, Level 2 Archery Instructor Training, Youth Archery Course (4 sessions), Military Veteran Archery Program, and many infrastructure improvements.

Youth Archery evening training will likely be held Tuesday evenings beginning mid-May.

Deborah Behrends has formed a group of Archery Range Officers interested in helping scouts with merit badges and Eagle/Gold Star projects. If you'd like to be part of this effort, reach out to us.

Dave Drazen has set up a Level 2 Archery Instructor course scheduled for three weekday evenings online and one day on the range last weekend in



March. Cost per person is \$125.00. Those who complete the test will be a great resource and asset to the Archery Program, and this is a great personal challenge to increase your skills and knowledge. Interested? Give us a shout, and we will get you signed up.

John Gorney is exploring avenues to enable wounded warriors to get a top-notch archery experience at our facility. Let us know if you'd like to work with him on this effort.

The 3-D course will open for the first official 3-D Shoot on Saturday, April 17 at 9:00am.

The Target Range has two rectangular broadhead targets. Unless hunting, this is the ONLY place broadheads are allowed. Broadheads damage all other 3-D and bag targets. Please be considerate.

To donate materials for the Girl Scout Gold Award project (mostly stone, sand and cement), please contact us. The materials are currently being staged at the end of the Dogwood stand of trees near the Pavillion.

If you'd like to be on our mailing list, write us at the below email addresses.

Contacts:

Jack Mandel jmandeldesign@gmail.com
and Marc Bouchard combat750@gmail.com



3-D Archery course will be set up for the season on April 10 starting at 8:00am.

Please join us. Many hands make light work. It is a perfect opportunity to meet the ROs and see the woods if you are new to B-CC. BBQ to follow the set-up.



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 Janet Lamkin, j.lamkin@comcast, and Brett Davis, bdbrettdavis@gmail.com.

PHOTOS BY ARTHUR BELENDIUK AND BRETT DAVIS

Communications for
LEAGUE LEADERS



Dear Members:

Established to promote conservation leadership among future natural resource managers and professionals, the [IWLA National Conservation Scholarship](#) annually supports rising junior and senior college undergraduates from recognized conservation or environment-related degree programs.

Two scholarships, made possible by the [Izaak Walton League of America Endowment](#), are currently available for the 2021-2022 school year. Applications are now being accepted, with a submission deadline of May 15 (postmarked).

Each scholarship category includes a **\$2,500 scholarship** and a one-year IWLA Student membership. Applicants can be either:

- A previous recipient of an IWLA chapter/division scholarship, or
- A son, daughter, grandson or granddaughter of a current IWLA member, or a current IWLA Student or Individual member (at the time of application submission)

Winners will be officially announced at this year's IWLA National Convention. They will also be featured in the July edition of the Conservation Currents e-newsletter and in a future issue of *Outdoor America* magazine.

We encourage you to reach out to those previous eligible chapter scholarship recipients as well as to members with children or grandchildren currently enrolled in conservation or environment-related undergraduate degree programs.

[Get all the information about our scholarships and how to apply.](#)

Earl Hower
Director of Chapter Relations
ehower@iwla.org

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Welcome to the B-CC IWLA Family

The following members were inducted in February 2021.

Kevin K. Batteh

Interests: Recreational Activities; Trap, Skeet, & Sporting Clays

Andrew Michael Baxter

Interests: Archery; Rifle & Pistol; Trap, Skeet, & Sporting Clays

James Chen

Interests: Archery; Family Picnic; Scout Camp Area; Youth Activities/Scouting

Chris Delaney, Sr.

Interests: Farm; Forestry; Ponds & Streams

Matthew David Demino

Interests: Archery; Conservation Education; Trap, Skeet, & Sporting Clays

Joe Engbert, Jr.

Interests: Rifle & Pistol; Star Gazing; Trap, Skeet, & Sporting Clays

David A. Fuscus

Interests: Family Picnic; Grant Writing; Charity Fundraising; Chapter Public Affairs; Trap, Skeet, & Sporting Clays

Dawson Russell Hobbs

Interests: Legislation; Ponds & Streams; Trap, Skeet, & Sporting Clays

Brad Jefferies

Interests: Hunter Education; Rifle & Pistol; Trap, Skeet, & Sporting Clays

Andy Joseph

Interests: Nature Trail; Ponds & Streams; Trap, Skeet, & Sporting Clays

Sander H. Kim

Interests: Nature Trail; Scout Camp Area; Star Gazing; Youth Activities/Scouting

Jim La

Interests: Hunter Education; Rifle & Pistol; Star Gazing

Mike Looney

Interests: Family Picnic; Hunter Education; Nature Trail; Recreational Activities; Rifle & Pistol; Trap, Skeet, & Sporting Clays; Wildlife Management

Andrew J. Matthes

Interests: Farm; Forestry; Wildlife Management

Josh McBee

Interests: Archery; Legislation; Wildlife Management

Chris O'Brien

Interests: Ponds & Streams; Star Gazing

Dave Oristian

Interests: Family Picnic; Rifle & Pistol; Scout Camp Area; Youth Activities/Scouting

Hector Picart

Interests: Archery; Photography; Rifle & Pistol

Jeff Roberts

Interests: Archery; Rifle & Pistol; Trap, Skeet, & Sporting Clays

Alex Vinokurov

Interests: Archery; Rifle & Pistol; Wildlife Management

Big Pond Voluntary Creel Census Report 2020

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

The sixth voluntary creel census was conducted in 2020 at the big pond (Walton) which provides "catch and release" fishing for B-CC IWLA members and accompanied guests. The first reported catch was on February 19, 2020, and the last catch was on December 11, 2020. As in the past, 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. 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 2015-2019 and 2020:

	2015-2019	2020
Total hours fished	124-255	320
Average no. of hours fished per angler	1.7-2.2	2.1
No. of angler trips	68-130	156
Angler trips per month	9-13	14
Total no. of bluegills caught	31-274	191
Percent bluegills <5"	43-74	55
Percent bluegill >5"	26-57	45
Total no. of largemouth bass caught	177-404	365
Percent largemouth bass <10"	27-64	49
Percent largemouth bass >10"	36-73	51
Largest largemouth bass caught	7-8 lbs.	5 lbs.
Catch rate for bluegills	0.7/hr.-1.4/hr.	0.6/hr.
Catch rate for largemouth bass	1.1/hr.-2.4/hr.	1.1/hr.
Catch rate for bluegills & largemouth bass	2.0/hr.-3.8/hr.	1.7/hr.

The amount of fishing pressure or effort in the big pond was greater in 2020 compared to 2019. In 2020, there were 156 angler trips with 320 total hours fished. In 2019 there were 113 trips with 227 hours fished. In fact the number of angler trips in 2020 and hours fished were greater than the average number of trips (92) and the average number of hours fished (182) for the previous five years. The number of angler trips per month was slightly higher in 2020 than in 2019 with 14 trips reported for 2020 and 13 reported for 2019. Monthly angler trips were also greater than the average of 11 for the 2015-2019 period. One angler made 70 trips to the big pond which accounted for 45 percent of all angler trips reported for 2020. The highest number of angler trips per month in 2020 (28) occurred in May while the highest per month in 2019 (17) occurred in September; the highest for the previous four years (40) occurred in April 2017.

The number of largemouth bass reported caught in 2020 (365) was about 10 percent less than that reported in 2019 (404) but was greater than that reported for each of the preceding four years. The catch rate for largemouth bass in 2020 was less than that reported in 2019 and less than the average reported for the previous four years. Sixty-two percent of the largemouth bass reported in the logbook were caught by one angler. The reported catch of bluegills in 2020 (191) was higher than that reported in 2019 when 163 bluegills were caught; the catch rate was slightly less in 2020 (0.6/hr.) compared to 0.7/hr. in 2019.

As shown in the above table, the total hours fished and angler trips were up in 2020 compared to 2019 and were also higher than that of the previous four years. This increased fishing at the big pond may be due in part to desire to get outside and go fishing during the ongoing covid-19 crisis. While fishing interest/effort increased during 2020, the number of largemouth bass per angler trip reported caught in

2020 decreased with two compared to four in 2019. The decline in largemouth bass catch numbers in 2020 in the big pond may have been due in part to a decline in the largemouth bass population compared to 2019 or simply that some anglers were not successful in catching largemouth bass. Further, it is not known whether or how many of the largemouth bass were caught multiple times since there was no marking to track catches. Also, the big pond was closed to fishing and water contact for two weeks in June due to the blue green algae bloom which likely affected the reported largemouth bass catch. However, the 2020 catch data for largemouth bass suggest that the population in the big pond is still doing well and providing a reasonably good fishery. Further, the catch data indicates we are on the right track to meeting our management goal for the big pond of developing and maintaining a quality largemouth bass fishery. While the 2020 catch rate for bluegills was less than that in 2019, the higher numbers caught suggest that the bluegill population is doing well as evidenced by the two successful spawning events observed during 2020.

While the 2020 catch data for largemouth bass and bluegills indicated some differences from 2019, the catch data compared to the previous voluntary creel census suggest that the big pond is providing a sustaining fishery for anglers. Another voluntary creel census will be conducted in 2021. Other projects planned for the big pond during 2021 include placing spawning gravel, installing Christmas tree attractors, and a repeat of the 2018 electrofishing study in May/June.

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

Invasive Species Reduction Crew (ISRC)

Arthur Belendiuk
abelendiuk@fccworld.com

On Saturday, February 6, a group of members got together to assist in a multiyear project to control invasive species on the farm. Last summer volunteers went through the archery woods spraying the invasive species, multiflora rose. On Saturday, the volunteers cut back the dead shoots and made paths to so there would be access this spring for volunteers to go deeper into the woods and spray multiflora rose. It was hard work and the volunteers were rewarded with hot dogs and beer. It was a great opportunity to do serious conservation work and to get to know your fellow Ikes.

Thanks to the following:

Carol Anderson	David Mecklenburg
Arthur Belendiuk	Andy Norris and son Mason Norris
Marc Bouchard	Jeffrey Rosier
David Ellis	James Sanborn
John Gorney	Jeff Seaman
Cynthia Griffiths	Nat Seaman
Charlie Griffiths	Tim Standley
Jeffrey Kopp	Pat Weixel
Jack Mandel	Andy Wight (and his young assistants)



Bee Yard

Robert (BeeBob) Mackleer, Jr.
rmackleerjr@gmail.com

On February 15, I made an early spring visit to the B-CC IWLA gardens and bee yard.

Actions taken at the bee yard:

1. Inventory of live colonies = 2
2. Cleaned bottom boards
3. Added to each colony one super of honey
4. Removed Queen Excluders
5. Moved empty supers up
6. Sealed holes with duck tape
7. Wrote visit notes on side of boxes
8. Saw the first Snowdrops of 2021!



*Bees robbing the honey supers that were left overnight in the yard!
Bad beekeeping on my part! Never leave honey unsecured!*



Bob the beekeeper with a smoker ready to get into the bees.



Live bees.



Bees flying around the entrance to their colonies. Bees are present on the far right and far left boxes lower entrances. Kind of hard to see but they are there.



*First flowers, Snowdrops, blooming in the bee yard at B-CC IWLA!
Welcome back!*

FeederWatch Report

Diane Seward
Citizen Science Projects Coordinator
trina65@verizon.net

Once again, we participated in the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) in mid-February. Organized by Cornell, Audubon, and Bird's Canada, the GBBC drew 260,000 participants worldwide. Our counters, Chuck Thornton and Suzanne Papiewski, observed 18 species and 79 individual birds on one of our two counting days, among them 21 White-throated Sparrows, 20 Northern Cardinals, three Red-winged Blackbirds, and three Common Grackles. A Northern Mockingbird also was observed as well as a couple of hawks, flying overhead, species undetermined.

Our intrepid FeederWatch team powered through ice and snow each weekend in February, undeterred by the adverse conditions. One counter donned ice spikes to cross the icy parking lot one Saturday morning.

FeederWatch continues through March and into the first weekend in April. If you would like to join a weekend count, please let me know. It's fun and helps scientists at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology analyze species trends, upward or downward.

Photos of our feeder birds accompanying this month's report were taken in late February by FeederWatcher Jim Stables. Thanks Jim!



Blue Jays



Northern Cardinals



European Starling



**Red-winged Blackbird
and European Starlings**



Red-bellied Woodpecker



White-breasted Nuthatch



Downy Woodpecker