



OCTOBER 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

"Years ago, anthropologist Margaret Mead was asked by a student what she considered to be the first sign of civilization in a culture. The student expected Mead to talk about fishhooks or clay pots or grinding stones. But no. Mead said that the first sign of civilization in an ancient culture was a femur that had been broken – and then healed. Why? Because no animal survives a broken leg long enough for the bone to heal.

"A broken femur that has healed is proof that someone has taken time to stay with the one who fell, has bound up the wound, has carried the person to safety and has tended the person through recovery. 'Helping someone else through difficulty is where civilization starts,' Mead said.

"We are at our best when we serve others. Be civilized."

[story attributed to Ira Byock, M.D.]

I believe that B-CC IWLA is civilized! We have a good supply of stories to show that we serve others. We support Scouts, and Wounded Warriors, and teach shooting and hunting skills and ethics. We maintain (with energy and effort!) two large ponds, and encourage our members (and their dogs!) to make full use of them. We study wild birds, and we participate with other organizations in important wild bird surveys. We practice exemplary farming practices to make sure that we are not only providing wildlife with habitat and forage, but are also improving the quality of our soils. We are exploring the archeological resources of the farm, and working to preserve its history, including our own historic log cabin. We are participating in American Chestnut restoration. We have picnics and family campouts, dog training and Christmas parties. We plant trees, and we are gathering our own historical data to archive our chapter's story. And on yes, we hunt and fish!

But perhaps most importantly, we mentor, we teach, and we look for new opportunities. Almost always, when we ask new folks why they are joining the Chapter, they talk about wanting to give their children a place to learn about the out-of-doors. Parents want to get their kids away from computers. They want them to learn about nature – here at BCC is a perfect setting. Watch, this year, for that focus on youth and youth activities – and if you have youngsters or ideas, speak out. It's their future!

And do keep in mind your pledge as a member of Izaak Walton: "To strive for the purity of water, the clarity of the air, and the wise stewardship of the land and its resources; to know the beauty and understanding of nature, and the value of wildlife, woodlands and open space...." It's a future we can all enjoy.

Lin Tate
President

UPCOMING EVENTS

B-CC IWLA and/or Community

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

Night Navigation Skills at the Sky Observatory (Archery Range)

Friday, October 15
7:30pm – 9:00pm

Primitive Skills and Camp Craft Meet Up

Saturday, October 16
10:00am – 5:00pm

Annual Fall Family Campout

Saturday, October 16 – Sunday morning, October 17
2:30pm Saturday until 9:00am Sunday

1,032nd Membership Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, October 20
Dinner starts between 6:15pm and 6:30pm
Meeting starts at 7:30pm
In the Chapter House

GUEST SPEAKERS

**VP Walt Allensworth and his wife Barbara
will present a slide show
of their recent South African safari**

Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, October 27
7:30pm

AS A REMINDER...

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

Board of Governors

Fiscal Year: September 1, 2021 – August 31, 2022

OFFICERS

Lin Schmale-Tate, President
703 517-3675 • lin@tate-tate.us

Walt Allensworth, 1st Vice President
301 221-3594 • twangermd@gmail.com

Shannon Novak, 2nd Vice President
301 785-8461 • snovak516@gmail.com

Bill Brockman, Treasurer
301 652-3978 • bill.brockman@hotmail.com

Meg O'Rourke, Membership Secretary
301 275-5907 • iwlamembership@megorourke.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

Victor Kernus
703 447-9845 • vkernus406@gmail.com

Andy Wight
240 205-3982 • andywight1@hotmail.com

Pete Wirth
301 915-6763 • peter_wirth@verizon.net

Ron Marchessault, Past President
202 320-3834 • rmarchessault12@aol.com

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

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

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

Submissions to the *NEWSLETTER* should be sent to:

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



Summary of the August 2021 Board of Governors Meeting and the September 2021 Membership Meeting

John Stinson, Recording Secretary
301 325-7454 ringfort3@gmail.com

Wednesday, August 25, 2021 – Board of Governors Meeting

- The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm. The minutes of the B.O.G. meeting of July 28, 2021 were read and unanimously accepted.
- President Ron Marchessault –
 - Reviewed the August financials for the Legacy Foundation.
 - Thanked Corresponding Secretary Janet Lamkin for her timely submission of the Chapter's Annual Report to National.
 - Administered the oath and swore in Shannon Novak to the 2021-2022 Board.
- Treasurer Bill Brockman reported that the final repayment was made to the Legacy Foundation for the spillway repair.
- Lead Reclamation –
 - Environmental counsel Tony Gorski reviewed with the Board the legal framework (EPA Guidance 2003,2005) and rationale behind the Chapter's first efforts in lead management. No permit or notification is required for the R&P range, as this is a relatively minor undertaking and shooting activity is included in the relevant conservation easement. Larger-scale projects (>5000 Sq. feet), such as the Shotgun Range, will require permitting. A Soil Displacement Permit was sought by BCC from the MD Department of Permits and received in advance of the lead reclamation proceeding on the R&P Range.
 - Mr. Gorski reviewed mitigation options including soil pH management and the pros and cons of phosphate binding agents. There is no advantage of switching to steel shot, as this must be eventually removed also. If there ever is a switch to steel, lead must be removed first, as the recycling processes differ. He pointed out that lead will be recycled rather than disposed of, and therefore require much less regulatory scrutiny. Reclaimed lead is categorized as scrap metal and may be stored pending favorable market conditions.
 - The MoCo Easement requires a 65' setback/riparian buffer from streams and Mr. Gorski will clarify if this means total buffer or 65' on each side. An environmental consultant would design the SGR project and must plan to prevent runoff from a big rain event. EN Range implements the consultant's plans.
 - Mr. Gorski noted the challenge of keeping rotating boards and committee chairs up-to-date on Environmental Stewardship Plans. Meeting attendees asked many excellent probing questions of Mr. Gorski during this presentation.
- Farm Committee Chair Phil Taylor will present a proposal for acquisition of a Davis Weather Station at an upcoming Advanced Planning & Finance Committee meeting.
- Ponds & Streams – 2 tall pines threatening the pavilion at the Big Pond will need to be taken down.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The Board discussed raising the financial penalty for non-performance of work hours, unchanged since 2006. For many reasons this issue was tabled for discussion at a later date.

(continued on page 3)

SUMMARY

(continued from page 2)

NEW BUSINESS:

- A motion was raised to allow the Cub Scout pack to have a storage locker in the barn. This motion passed unanimously.
- The Membership Chair moved to accept three applicants. This motion failed to pass, as biographical information was unavailable. The Board subsequently passed this motion online unanimously with one abstention.

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER:

- Scott Harmon noted that recent meetings have been at times contentious, sending an unwarranted message to new members and applicants. Scott stressed the need for comity and suggested that differences be worked out between individuals in a private setting.
- Butch Mezick noted the illness of a long-standing member and suggested reaching out.
- Ron Marchessault reviewed the busy year we've had and thanked the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05pm.

Wednesday, September 15, 2021 – 1,031st Membership Meeting

- Featured Speaker Rick Wilson, the founder of Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry (FHFH), was introduced by Jim Tate and presented the inspiring origin story and development of this organization. Founded on Christian values, since 1997 in Maryland FHFH has distributed over 2 million pounds of meat, almost 10 million meals and has processed some 48,000 deer, elk, and livestock donations. For more information, go to FHFH.org. In Montgomery County, approximately 2 tons are processed yearly, somewhat down from prior years. Local donations are distributed by Miriam's Kitchen (D.C.), Martha's Table (D.C.), Manna Food Center (MoCo), and The Western Upper MoCo Cooperative (WUMCO).
- As of this meeting, the Chapter has 1,027 members. This year membership renewals may be soon accomplished online, and mail-in renewal will continue to be available. Twenty-one prospective members introduced themselves. 1st VP Walt Allensworth swore in five inductees.
- Wildlife Chairman Larry Anderson has recommended that all hunters should review Chapter hunting rules.
- R & P Range – Lead reclamation is complete.
- There will be a family campout on October 16 and 17.
- The next Hunter Safety instruction class will be on April 30/ May 1, 2022.
- Archives Committee Chair Jim Tate thanked B.O.G. officers for timely provision of 2021 documents.
- The Mags for Vets program is now accepting recent materials (no older than 3 months) for collection on November 7.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.

DUE DATE

for the November Newsletter Articles

Friday, October 29

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

OCTOBER 2021 MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP DINNER MEETING

The 1,032nd monthly Membership Meeting
will be held on

Wednesday, October 20
in the Chapter House.

Dinner will be served starting between
6:15pm and 6:30pm.

The meeting will begin at 7:30pm.

Appetizers: available before dinner
Dinner this month will include: Pitt Roasted
Beef, Baked Potato, Vegetable, Salad,
Lemonade, and Dessert

GUEST SPEAKERS

VP Walt Allensworth and his wife Barbara will
present a slideshow of their recent South
African safari...don't miss it!

ONLINE ZOOM MEETING LINK:

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

Dial: 301 715-8592

Meeting ID: 891 1987 6726

Passcode: 953816

OCTOBER 2021 BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

The Board of Governors meeting will be held on
Wednesday, October 27 at 7:30pm
in the Chapter House.

Primitive Skills and Camp Craft Meet Up Saturday, October 16, 2021 10:00am to 5:00pm

Meet Up will be led by Jack Kang. Attendants will have an opportunity to learn skills such as bow drill fire, hand drill fire, quick and dirty shelter, flint knapping, and water procurement. Email jackhkang@gmail.com to sign up for the meet up so we know how much food to prepare.

NOTICE

Meetings and events that need to be added to the website calendar and newsletter calendar should be sent to 1st Vice President Walt Allensworth, twangermd@gmail.com, and Corresponding Secretary Janet Lamkin, j.lamkin@comcast.net.

Poolesville Day 2021

Andy Wight, Conservation Education Chair
andywight1@hotmail.com

On Saturday, September 18, Poolesville celebrated its annual Poolesville day. This one-day event, cancelled in 2020 due to Covid-19, is a tradition that celebrates the local community, and continues to draw people from outside the town. Vendors, food stops, kids' activities, and bands coupled with sunny weather contributed to a hugely successful day. For the 3rd year running, we hosted an IWLA booth, highlighting our Chapter, our IWLA mission, and providing information for perspective members and guests.

Big thanks to Rachel Jacob, Olivia Wight, George Coakley, Paul Tchorni, and Laura and Doug Cox, who volunteered at the booth, and to those members who just stopped by to say hello.



REMEMBER...

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

Annual Fall Family Campout



Join us on October 16th – 17th for the Annual Fall Family Campout. This is open to members and their guests and is a great chance to get the kids and you away from smart phones and TV and enjoy some of the benefits the chapter offers. We will be pitching tents next to the Chapter House parking lot:

SATURDAY

- 2:30pm - 6:00pm Gate open to pitch tents
- 3:00pm - 4:30pm Fishing at big pond / Pumpkin Patch (to be confirmed)
- 5:00pm - 6:00pm Burgers/Dogs at chapter house
- 6:00pm - 7:00pm Campfire building
- 7:00pm - 7:45pm Spooky activities
- 7:45pm - 8:30pm S'mores and hot chocolate

SUNDAY

- 7:00am – 8:00am Breakfast will be served for campers
- Breakdown and cleanup should be completed by 10:00am

There is **NO** fee for the family campout.

Please **RSVP** using the **Signup Genius** link below by **Wednesday, October 13**, with the number of participants (and if vegetarian meals are required) so we can ensure there is enough food to go around.

Signup Genius link:

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

Andy Wight

Conservation Education Chair
ConservationEd.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

Monthly Dinner Preparation

Our Kitchen Chairman, Chip Dunn, is looking for one or more individuals to share the job of planning and preparing the monthly dinner, which is served at the Membership Meetings on the third Wednesday of each month.

If you think you might be interested, please contact Chip – cdunn20842@aol.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Monthly Events

<i>Sundays</i>	Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five-Stand	9:00am – 5:00pm
<i>Monday</i>	Scout Meeting at the Shotgun Range Pavilion	7:30pm – 9:00pm
<i>3rd Thursday of the Month</i>	Cub Scout Meeting in the Chapter House	6:30pm

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 2	Cleanup Day for the Chapter – lunch served around 1:00pm	Starts at 8:30am
Saturday, October 9	Biathlon Practice at the R&P Range	7:30am
Saturday, October 9	Private Event – Chapter House and porches	12:00 noon – 9:00pm
Friday, October 15	Night Navigation Skills at the Sky Observatory (Archery Range)	7:30pm – 9:00pm
Saturday, October 16	Primitive Skills and Camp Craft Meet Up	10:00am – 5:00pm
Saturday, October 16	Introduction to Shooting Sports (Shotgun Range) – sign up required	Two Classes
Saturday, October 16	Annual Fall Family Campout	2:30pm Saturday – 9:00am Sunday
Sunday, October 17	Annual Fall Family Campout – breakfast and clean up	7:00am – 9:00am
Sunday, October 17	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, October 20	Apollo Archery Program	6:00pm – 7:30pm
Wednesday, October 20	1,032nd Monthly Dinner Membership Meeting – in the Chapter House Guest Speakers – Walt and Barbara Allensworth – South African Safari	Dinner begins 6:15pm to 6:30pm Meeting begins 7:30pm
Thursday, October 21	R&P Range closed for Opening Day of Deer Muzzleloader Season	Closed all Day
Saturday, October 23	Shotgun Range Officer Course	12:00 noon
Wednesday, October 27	Board of Governors Meeting – in the Chapter House	7:30pm
Friday, October 29	November Newsletter Articles due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day

NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 6	Summer Biathlon at the R&P Range	7:30am
Saturday, November 13	Summer Biathlon at the R&P Range	7:30am
Saturday, November 13	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, November 17	Apollo Archery Program	6:00pm – 7:30pm
Wednesday, November 17	1,033rd Monthly Dinner Membership Meeting – in the Chapter House	Dinner begins 6:15pm to 6:30pm Meeting begins 7:30pm
Wednesday, November 17	Board of Governors Meeting – immediately following the Dinner Meeting	After Dinner Meeting
Friday, November 26	December Newsletter Articles due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day

DECEMBER

Saturday, December 11	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, December 15	Apollo Archery Program	6:00pm – 7:30pm
Wednesday, December 15	1,034th Monthly Dinner Membership Meeting – in the Chapter House	Dinner begins 6:15pm to 6:30pm Meeting begins 7:30pm
Wednesday, December 15	Board of Governors Meeting – immediately following the Dinner Meeting	After Dinner Meeting
Monday, December 27	January Newsletter Articles due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day

THE CAMPGROUND IS CLOSED DURING ALL BLACK POWDER AND FIREARMS DEER SEASON.
Check the online www.bcciwl.org calendar for current and updated scheduled times of events.

CONTRACTOR NEEDED!!!

The Chapter House Committee needs a contractor to help design the renovation of the chapter house restrooms!

Please contact Tucker at Chapterhouse.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com if you want to join the effort!!!



Blue Jay

PHOTO BY BRETT DAVIS

Membership Operations Report

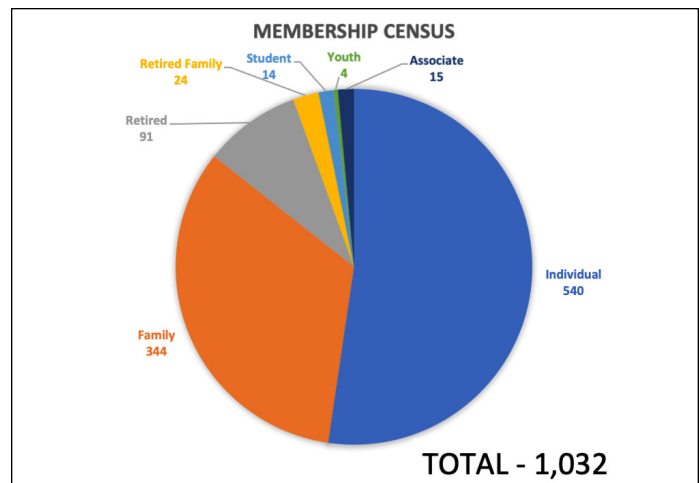
Meg O'Rourke, Membership Secretary
301 275-5907 iwlamembership@megorourke.com

Joe Trotter and the rest of the IT Committee have been working diligently to get online payments up and running. At the time this is being written, final testing is under way.

Thank you to our wonderful members and our new Board of Governors for a warm welcome and all the support during this transition to online renewals. Many people put in much hard work to make this happen, particularly Joe Trotter and Christian Lowe. They deserve all the credit and the thanks!

Looking forward to a wonderful year of being together again!

There were no changes in Lifetime memberships this month.



Books by Chapter Ikes

Two of our Ikes have recently published books. Congratulations to Jim Hubbard and Butch Mezick! A link for each book is listed at the bottom of the book's description.

VIETNAM: A MARINE'S CHRONICLE OF CHANGE

BYRON A. MEZICK

**A Marine's Challenges From Boot Camp to "In Country"
Leadership of a Combined Action Platoon**

"Vietnam: A Marine's Chronicle of Change" reveals in detail the reality of facing death, fear, courage, violence, sex, anger, and compassion. In these stories, you will experience the mindset of a Marine squeezing a rifle's trigger just before killing an unexpected human being in an ambush.

The path of transformation from private to sergeant will openly disclose how combat leadership confronts those in charge with personal fear and anxiety.

The chronicles of change describe what it was like to be an enlisted man receiving missions conceived by politicians and led by officers. The lessons of combat survival tell in what manner a college of reality was inadvertently created. You will come to know how internal emotions must become secondary to leaders freeing themselves to educate, motivate, and inspire those in their command.

This book is documentation of what it means to earn the title of U.S. Marine.

https://www.amazon.com/Vietnam-Chronicle-Challenges-Leadership-Combined/dp/B09GZHFH83/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=byron+mezick&qid=1632764407&sr=8-1

From Michigan to Mekong

Letters on Life, Learning, Love and War
1961 - 1968

James B. Hubbard, Jr.
with Deborah Nylec and John M. Faust

With phone and internet technology, it's easy to look back at the recent years of our lives in great detail. The more distant past is harder. There may be fragments—a photo, a news clipping, a family story—but rarely is there enough to recapture what it really felt like in that other time.

Unless, like a young Jim Hubbard, you mailed a letter home every week or two, from the time you left your Michigan home for college in 1961 until you returned from the Vietnam War in late 1968, and your parents and wife saved them all, and your daughter chanced upon them in a bag half a century later.

The result is a treasure, an honest and often humorous time capsule of study and play at three Michigan colleges; of family, love, and marriage; and of the political and cultural touchstones that shaped the '60s—especially the Vietnam War during a year that changed everything for Captain Hubbard and his country. For military and social history buffs, for veterans and their families, and for readers of a certain age, Jim's letters open a window to a bygone era.

https://www.amazon.com/Michigan-Mekong-Letters-Learning-1961-68/dp/1737302403/ref=sr_1_3?dchild=1&keywords=james+hubbard+jr.&qid=1632783203&sr=8-3

Welcome to the B-CC IWLA Family

The following members were inducted in September 2021.

H. David Allick

Interests: Conservation Education; Hunter Safety / Hunter Education; Rifle & Pistol & Muzzleloading

Mike Bowman

Interests: Public Affairs; Rifle & Pistol & Muzzleloading; Trap & Skeet

Tom Elwood

Interests: Family Picnic / Family Activities; Farming; Nature Trail; Ponds & Streams; Rifle & Pistol & Muzzleloading; Scout / Member Campground

Rachel Jacobs

Interests: Chapter Activities & Festivities; Farming; Wildlife Management

Bill Sproul

Interests: Kitchen; Ponds & Streams; Shotgun Range



PHOTO BY BRETT DAVIS

Crayfish Mound at the Big Pond

I was asked why I have contributed to the B-CC IWLA Land Fund for over 20 years?

Tom Sigman

I contribute to ensure my grandchildren will have a place to shoot and hunt. I contribute to the B-CC IWLA Land Fund to protect our conservation farm from the total detrimental effects of development on our boundaries. When I look at my grandchildren and think about how much more development will take place during their life time, I am concerned about their future opportunities to experience a natural environment of woodlands, ponds and streams, and open fields. I contribute to help protect my chosen life style and system of values. I contribute for my family, your family and most particularly for the families of the B-CC IWLA that will benefit from my contributions as my family has benefited from the contributions of those that went before me. I have witnessed the tremendous power of our chapter's Land Fund to accomplish what others only dream of, the purchase of surrounding property.

2021 Land Fund

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

Your contribution is tax deductible.

Please mail contribution form and check (written out to B-CC IWLA) to B-CC IWLA, PO Box 542, Poolesville, MD 20837

Summer Biathlon Program

Steve Eschholz
240 472-6512 (text) fitnesscrafters@earthlink.net

Thanks to all for spreading the word about the program. Please continue. Contact Steve Eschholz when you desire to be included on the summer biathlon email list.

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.** For those who are not members of B-CC IWLA, the hold harmless document can be found on the B-CC IWLA website (bcciwla.org). This needs to be filled out each day you come to shoot or you cannot shoot. Minors need the signature of a parent or legal guardian.

Running distance at B-CC IWLA is set at 5 kilometers (3.1 miles) split into 5 loops. A short course for those working up to the other distances has been laid out as well. The regulation shooting distance is 50 meters. Targets are also set between 25 and 50 meters for development of the shooting art. There are four shooting stops on the 5km 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. An equal number of shots are fired from each shooting position.

SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 6 7:30am
Saturday, November 13 7:30am

FIREARMS HUNTING SEASON

Saturday, March 19, 2022 8:00am
Saturday, April 2, 2022 7:30pm

Mags for Vets

Douglas Smith
301 452-5650

This is the 9th year we will be able to provide various types of media to our veterans at the Walter Reed National Medical Center (formerly called the Bethesda Naval Hospital).

Items to Donate:

- **Current Magazines:** NOT more than three (3) months old including but not limited to hunting, fishing, and shooting sports: Life, People, Atlantic, Gourmet, Forbes, sports of all types, etc.
- **CDs:** any and all types of music, including 'books on tape'
- **DVDs:** action, documentary, comedy, sports, musicals, drama, etc.
- **Portable/personal CD/DVD players:** in good working order and all accessories like chargers, rechargeable battery packs that take and hold a charge
- **Books:** hardback and paperback

Requirements for donation and delivery:

- All magazines must be clean and current, not over three (3) months old. NO reading material that is dusty or musty, i.e. reading material stored in closets/basements
- All items must be tied securely with heavy twine/cord in bundles NO MORE than 20 lb. each – clean and dust free, boxes/paper bags OK

Drop off your donations **on or a few days before Sunday, November 7, 2021 (10:00am at the latest)** and put them on the table in the Board of Governors meeting room (*room left of front door with the fireplace*).

Sky Observatory

Ashley Bass' Gold Award Girl Scout project at the Archery Range is almost completed. The compass rose patio is located perfectly to get a really wide view of the night sky. She is working on the education portion of her Gold Award, and on Friday, October 15, will teach **night navigation skills** at the observatory. Please join her from 7:30pm to 9:00pm with s'mores after the class.



PHOTO BY JANET LAMKIN

Shotgun Range Report

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

We are working on having a **Fun Shoot** sometime in November. An e-mail blast will be sent out once there is a scheduled date.

Introduction to Shotgun Sports class will be held on Saturday, October 16, to help shotgun shooters become more comfortable and successful shooting clay targets. There will be two sessions (12 attendees in each session): 10:00am to 12:00 noon and 1:00pm to 3:00pm. Prospective attendees **MUST** use the following **Sign Up Genius** to register for a class: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-intro2>.

There will be a **Shotgun Range Officer Course** on Saturday, October 23 at 12:00 noon at the Shotgun Range. Class is for anyone that is interested in becoming a Shotgun Range Officer.

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

RANGE OFFICER SCHEDULE

OCTOBER

Sunday, October 3	David Bixler, Ken Gentzel
Sunday, October 10	Steve Kirstin, Keith Funger
Sunday, October 17	Joe Reid, John Novak, Shannon Novak
Sunday, October 24	Kurt Behrend, Brian Gleicher
Sunday, October 31	Joe Reid

NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 7	Mike Burns, Mike Leahy
Sunday, November 14	Bill Keller, Rick Tomlin, John Frick
Sunday, November 21	Mike Noble, Need a Range Officer
Sunday, November 28	Bill Klein

HOURS OF OPERATION

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

Rifle & Pistol Range Report

Gus Zinsser, Committee Chair
240 750-0979 GusZinsser4@gmail.com

Chris Efdimis, Chief Range Officer
240 372-2258

The Range will be **CLOSED** on Saturday, October 23 for Muzzleloader Season.

New opening dates: due to being closed for the lead remediation, the range will now be open the first two weekends in December.

The Range is open to **no more than 3 guests** 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

OCTOBER

Saturday, Oct. 2	Keller, A. , King, B., Tarkowski, J., Naum, S.
Sunday, Oct. 3	Zic, T. , Wadsworth, H., Ives, S.
Saturday, Oct. 9	Calderwood, J. , Yau, T., Bowie, J., Ossi, G.
Sunday, Oct. 10	Sanfuentes, J. , Calderwood, J., Mense, M., Bryan, K.
Saturday, Oct. 16	Dickerson, C. , McKenney, D., Flinchum, D., White, M.
Sunday, Oct. 17	McKenney, D. , Dickerson, C., Flinchum, D., Neily, J., Yu, Z.
Saturday, Oct. 23	RANGE CLOSED Bryan, T., Zic, T.
Sunday, Oct. 24	Lowe, C. , Wellman, L., Nguyen, H., Max, H.
Saturday, Oct. 30	Yau, T. , White M., Epstein, G., Bowie, J., Max, H.
Sunday, Oct. 31	Keller, A. , Wellman, L., Crowe, C., Nanof, T.

NOVEMBER

Saturday, Nov. 6	Drummond, R. , Kan, J., Kang, Y., Kang, M, Stemp, K.
Sunday, Nov. 7	Princiotto, M. , Bryan, K., Hodgson, E., Chung, K., Ossi, G.
Saturday, Nov. 13	Kang, J. , Kang, Y., Drummond, R., Kang, M., Tarkowski, J.
Sunday, Nov. 14	Adams, J. , Hodgson, E., Myers, J., Sypes, E., Nguyen, H.
Saturday, Nov. 20	Keller, A. , Lastra, C., Bryan, T., Crowley, D.
Sunday, Nov. 21	Lowe, C. , Lastra, C., Leahy, M., Thornton, C.
Friday, Nov. 26	Bixler, D. , Leahy, M., Thornton, C., Betmarik, J.

Thank you!

Many thanks go to Mike Noble for keeping the Chapter grounds looking good all summer long!

Hunter Education Class

John Lamb, Committee Chair
jpatricklamb@aol.com

The B-CC IWLA held a fall Hunter Education Class on September 11th and 12th. It was our first class since the start of the pandemic. The students were very enthusiastic about the class, and they were an absolute joy to instruct. We graduated 35 new hunters and many of them show interest in chapter membership.

Many thanks go to all the instructors whom sacrificed their time and put forth the energy for this program to succeed. They are: Randy Royen, Butch Mezick, Richard Latimer, David Boynton, Frank Och, Tad Bodmer, Doug Smith, Shannon Novak, Mark Laurenzi, Frank Markus, Greg Mueller, David Bixler, Ken Forti, Mark Gochnour, Scott Harmon, Walt Allensworth, and Phillip Johns. Great job team!

A special thanks also goes out to Carol Efdimis, Tucker Mostrum, Gus Zinsser, Warner Parks, and all the range officers whom also stepped up to assist the class.

For those interested in taking the class in the future, we host a class twice a year, the first weekend in May (so long as it doesn't interfere with Mother's Day) and the weekend following Labor Day. Those classes will be posted on www.register-ed.com in January.

Wildflowers – Black-eyed Susans

Wildflowers.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

Members of the Wildflower Committee recently met at the Chapter to plant Black-eyed Susans. This is the third batch of these native wildflowers that were planted this year.

Growing the seeds at home provides the highest rate of success. It allows the seedlings to be guarded against draught and competition from non-native plants. Once the plants reach a decent size they have a better chance of becoming established. Once established, native wildflowers are able to "take it from there". They spread by producing large numbers of seeds, and also by sending out underground rhizomes.

The Black-eyed Susan is the Maryland State Flower. It's easily recognized by its bright yellow flower that blooms from mid summer into early fall.

First, the flowers are a source of nectar. But also deer and rabbit like to eat this plant. Then, during fall and winter, the seeds become a source of food for birds.

Typically, Black-eyed Susan plants begin producing flowers in their second year of growth.

The Wildflower Committee has been working for a number of years to establish native wildflowers around the farm. Initially the focus was to establish Milkweed. Now we are focused on establishing Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) and Purple Coneflowers (*Rudbeckia fulgida*).

If you would like to join us in this effort please send email to: Wildflowers.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com.



David Mecklenburg planting home-raised Black-eyed Susans

Wood Turtles Persevering over the Millennia

John Stinson, M.D.

Many Ikes and other animal advocates have risked life and limb rescuing turtles from untimely demises on busy roads. Since about age 10, I have been nearly clipped more times than I care to remember doing so. My most vivid close-shave rescue memory is that of a vagabond Box Turtle who wedged herself under the brake pedal of the '67 Pontiac I was driving on the Garden State Parkway.

Thankfully, my most recent wayward turtle deliverance involved no other vehicles with distracted drivers in a big hurry. Heading East on Mt. Nebo/River Road, I was thrilled to come across a male Wood Turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*) halfway across the road, coming out of the BCC West Woods area heading towards the Potomac near Summit Hall Turf Farm. This was the first nice day after the Hurricane Ida remnants passed through here. My guess is that the heavy rain woke him up from the stupor of watching *Gilligan's Island* and *Gomer Pyle* reruns during the reptile summer heat estivation period.

Wood Turtles are found in most of New England and the Maritime Provinces, with fragmented populations west to Michigan and Minnesota and south to 3 or 4 Northern Virginia counties. Over 30% of Wood Turtles are Canadian, with politics and attitudes decidedly to the left of most of their southern counterparts. While the fossil record shows the ice-age range of these animals extending as far south as Georgia, our specimen likely represents the most southerly extent of current Wood Turtle range. Some species distribution maps show only Western Maryland and don't even include our area.

The Wood Turtle, aka Red Legged Tortoise, was named for the sculptured pyramidal plates of its upper shell (carapace). They reach a carapace length of just over 9 inches. They are sexually dimorphic, the males being larger, with longer tails and front claws, larger heads and a concave plastron (lower shell). For females, curly eyelashes are a giveaway. Males are aggressive, with larger and older individuals biting, shoving or ramming subordinates out of budding romantic intrigues. They are semi-aquatic, though eastern populations spend more time on *terra firma*.

Biologists consider Wood Turtles to be intelligent, with a capacity for significant instinctual and learned behavioral responses. As seen in many species, they have a strong homing instinct. As with Box Turtles (*Terrapene carolina*), removing one from its natural habitat is often fatal, as it may starve or risk many other perils searching for its home turf. While omnivorous, Wood Turtles are Boone & Crockett-level earthworm hunters. They will stomp their front feet on the ground, imitating raindrops or approaching moles, bringing unsuspecting annelids to the surface.

These turtles have an elaborate reptilian courtship ritual. If flowers and chocolates don't do the trick, the male will nudge



the female's head and shell. If love is in the cards, they will bob their heads left and right, Beyonce-style. Shangri-La is usually under water and parental care is over once the nest is built and the eggs are laid. There are no failure-to-launch offspring living in Mom's basement. In large part the location and quality of nesting sites determine the survival and fitness of offspring, so females put much effort into nest site selection and construction. They may dig several false nests before closing the deal. A female may use the same nesting site for many years. Analyses of egg clutches have revealed cases of multiple paternity, sometimes leading to costly, protracted court battles.

Wood Turtle numbers are in decline. As with many other species, their populations are of high concern to conservationists due to habitat destruction and fragmentation, complicating the turtles' search for mates and suitable nesting sites. They take a long time to reach sexual maturity; body art and facial hair are rarely seen in individuals younger than 18 years. Once mature, they have a low fecundity rate, sometimes laying as few as three eggs in a season. In addition to the depredations of agricultural accidents, road kills and the illegal pet trade, Wood Turtles and their nests face a long Murderers' Row of aggressors. These include foxes, cats, owls, otters, Snapping Turtles, ravens and raccoons. Insurance carriers will not underwrite coverage for nests, hatchlings and juveniles. Construction of under-road channels has helped prevent accidental road deaths.

I've hunted, cared for, bred, nurtured and even had to euthanize a few turtles for many decades, and this is only the 5th Wood Turtle I've seen in the wild. They have persisted over the ages through fire, flood, drought, glaciation and Winchester Homes. They are very special, rare and endangered and I was absolutely thrilled to see one coming down off the Farm. Maybe I need to get out more. Nonetheless, we at B-CC IWLA can take great pride and satisfaction in our stewardship of critical habitat supporting such a wonderful animal as the Wood Turtle.

PHOTOS BY JOHN STINSON, M.D.



Wildlife Report

Larry Anderson, Committee Chair
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Early deer muzzleloader season starts on Thursday, October 21st and runs through October 30th. Antlered deer may be harvested only October 21 – 23rd, antlerless deer may be harvested throughout the 10-day season. There is no muzzleloader hunting on Sundays during this season. Deer archery season is open throughout the muzzleloading season and archery hunters may hunt on Sundays but only until 10:30am.

From personal observations and casual reports, this year's mast crop, both hard and soft, appears to be modest to good this year on our farm. While there are many species of oaks on our farm, it appears the Sawtooth Oaks as usual are producing the most abundant acorns this year. It seems to be a good year for the White Oaks, and not so much for the Red Oaks. Our Hickory and Black Walnut trees have lots of nuts on them. As for the soft mast species, our Persimmon, Cherry and Pear trees have fruit this year. At this writing, the statewide mast report has not been published, but again casual observations suggest a normal mast crop across the state. Typically, MD DNR correlates a higher deer harvest when mast crops are low due to the increased movement of deer in search of food. Thanks to the efforts of our farm committee, our fields are in very good shape, with a variety of grass crops, legumes, root crops and standing corn. This abundance should support a wide variety of wildlife throughout the winter.

As a reminder, the chapter has decided to adopt the guidelines and rules from MD DNR about hunting on public land by not allowing baiting on our farm. This change is being made to allow all seasons, migratory and non-migratory, to be open simultaneously without conflict in state and federal baiting prohibitions.

CWD as of now has not been reported in counties east of Washington County. Again this year, there haven't been any current reports about testing for CWD, presumably due to issues with covid. The most recent reports and updates can be found at: <http://www.eregulations.com/maryland/hunting/chronic-wasting-disease/>.

We ask that all hunters be safe and courteous, read and follow our rules, and respect all property lines. B-CC IWLA chapter website has our updated rules and a variety of methods to distinguish our property lines. The Chapter's Trail Guide on the website is a good way to familiarize yourself with the trails and the boundaries of our Conservation Farm. All members intending to hunt on our farm must acknowledge that they have read our rules and understand where our property lines are by registering on our website. This is a yearly requirement.

We do not have permission to hunt or go on any of our neighbor's properties. In the event that you need to track and recover a deer that makes it off our farm, members need to get permission before entering our neighbor's property. The property located to the north and west of our farm (near the big pond) on several different boundaries is owned by **Joe Morin** (301 674-5397), the property located north of the NE Woods is owned by **Vikki Van Winkle** (301 379-3560), and the property across Willard Road from the NE woods is owned/managed by **Bob Cissel** (301 775-8978). Members may enter their property only after calling them and receiving permission. You must not enter their properties with a weapon of any kind.

Our farm is considered private property (MD-DNR land code 430 for harvest check in), so your current valid membership card is used as the written permission to hunt as required by MD DNR and must be carried along with your valid hunting license. Also, a current B-CC IWLA chapter vehicle decal

must be visible in all vehicles on the farm. We ask that deer and turkeys taken on our farm be recorded either in our game logbook, located outside the chapter house's main door, or by sending an email to andupton9@hotmail.com. When reporting your deer or turkeys, we ask for the following information; your name, doe or buck (antler count), date, weapon used, and the total number of ticks found on the ears of your deer. Other details may also be included such as estimated weight or unusual features.

Statewide only **two bucks** may be taken throughout the hunting year, *only one of which can have less than three points on an antler. Only one buck may be taken in a weapon year. A bonus buck may be taken in region B (our region) after purchasing a bonus buck stamp and can be used for any weapon season, still maintaining the antler point restrictions. The requirement to harvest two does prior to using the bonus buck stamp has been removed.*

Fluorescent pink is an approved legal color like fluorescent orange that hunters must wear to promote hunter safety. This change will require all of hunters to watch for two colors in the field that will alert us to the presence of other hunters.

Bears are protected in Montgomery County, and we adhere to the policies set up by MD DNR. We ask that all of our members be aware of the possibility of encountering a bear does exist while on our farm.

Happy Hunting and Good Luck. Be safe

Catch a Poacher 24-Hour Hotline
1-800-635-6124

Citizens who supply Maryland Natural Resources Police with information leading to the arrest and conviction of a poaching violator are eligible to receive cash rewards. Give names, addresses, vehicle descriptions, and as much information as possible. The anonymity of the caller is guaranteed.

To report nuisance, injured, or sick wildlife
(Monday - Friday, 8:00am – 4:30pm)
Call Toll-free in Maryland: 1-877-463-6497



Yellow-rumped Warbler

PHOTO BY BRETT DAVIS

CHAPTER BEAUTIFUL!!

Lin Schmale-Tate, President

More than 40 hardworking members and committee chairs showed up at the Chapter on October 2, bringing youngsters, a few dogs, work gloves, shovels, rakes, leaf blowers, chainsaws, and a great amount of enthusiasm to take on the Fall Chapter Cleanup. Given a beautiful fall day, crews worked (meaning, WORKED!) on the trails, the ponds, the Christmas tree field, the log cabin, and the chestnut orchard, finishing up with hot dogs and burgers at the shotgun picnic area. Great thanks are due to all participants from everyone who enjoys our farm!



PHOTOS BY LIN SCHMALE-TATE