



## JANUARY 2022 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](http://www.bcciwla.org)

## President's Message

*"Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards."* –Soren Kierkegaard

As Jim and I said in our Tate family Christmas letter last month, "We have been given an opportunity with this brand new year, to work together for peace, joy, and good governance – for our world and for all who live in it – may it be so!" To do this, we must honor the **past**, celebrate the **present**, and embrace the **future**.

**The past**, is our history. It is the vehicle that carried us to this moment. We need to understand and respect the past. The past should not be an excuse – nor should it be a shackle. It happened.

Now is the time to celebrate IWLA's first 100 years! In addition to keeping the Centennial logo on the masthead, we will establish a **B-CC Centennial Committee to celebrate the past**. To be an active part of it, contact Walt Allensworth or Jim Tate.

**The present** is truly all our leadership can work with. The present is our time to live and at the same time create our evolving history. There is wisdom in preparing for the future – but we also must not miss what we are experiencing today.

Today, we at B-CC are truly wealthy with enthusiastic leaders among our thousand-plus members. Let's celebrate our wealth of land, member expertise and leadership – with each one of us personally involved.

**The future** – a new chapter of history. For some, the future is scary. For others, that unknown is cause for excitement rather than trepidation. There is, to be sure, a practicality in looking to the future. Think, for example, about retirement planning. Planning for the future takes place in the present, built upon what's been accomplished in the past.

During the remaining eight months of this B-CC fiscal year we have an opportunity to join together in programs and budget for our participation and leadership in the IWLA Centennial Year. Our inspirational and far-sighted members have an opportunity and responsibility to focus on the future. "Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards." If only there were three new keys on the computer keyboard: PAST, PRESENT, and FUTURE!

*May you create, share, and savor powerful moments in the coming year and beyond.*

Lin Tate  
President

## January 2022 1,035th Monthly Membership Meeting (No Dinner This Month)

Wednesday, January 19  
ZOOM ONLY  
7:30pm

### ZOOM DETAILS:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89119876726?pwd=QXdlldE5BVkp3c1JsR0ZNaeEGRmxKdz09>

**One-Tap Mobile** (Copy / Paste / Dial entire code into your Mobile Phone)

+13017158592,,89119876726#,,,,\*953816# -  
(DC-MD-VA)

or

**Dial (301) 715-8592 into the call manually**

**Meeting ID: 891 1987 6726**

**Password: 953816**

## January 2022 Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, January 26  
ZOOM ONLY  
7:30pm

## Reminder

As a gentle reminder,  
dogs and other pets  
are not allowed inside the  
Chapter House  
unless they are  
registered service pets.

## 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 (text)  
MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@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

**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 November 2021 Board of Governors Meeting and the December 2021 Membership Meeting

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

### Wednesday, November 17, 2021 – Board of Governors Meeting

- Following the monthly Membership Meeting, this meeting was called to order at 9:05pm.
- The minutes of the Board meeting of October 27, 2021 were read and accepted.
- Butch Mezick announced the annual Land Fund Telethon is to be held Sunday, December 12 at 6:00pm and sent around a sign-up sheet.
- Treasurer Bill Brockman reported that the balance sheet is now in alignment with SSB account balances. Dues receipts are lower than expected.

### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

- R&P Chair Gus Zinsser and committee have reviewed three bids for range restoration now that lead reclamation has been completed. Restoration will include grading, seeding and stabilization of the berms, providing drainage with trenches, drainpipes and hay bales, and constructing a settling pond. Frozen Level Farms, who have done prior work for the chapter, was selected. Funding will be covered by the Legacy Foundation grant.
- Shotgun Range – lead reclamation. This discussion began with a proposed task list and timeline provided by Ron Marchessault. The list of tasks that must be completed before EN Range can begin work as planned on August 2nd, 2022, follow:
  - o Schedule a Board Meeting with Mr. Hazard, MDE to discuss the findings; include Tony Gorski, if available.
  - o Meet with MOCO Rural Legacy – Easement Holder to discuss the project
  - o Contract Environmental Consultant to draft the Soil Erosion Plan
  - o Remove all barriers/old shooting positions from Shooting Range over Winter months
  - o Deliverable: Soil Erosion Plan
  - o Draft and Submit Application for Soil Disturbance Plan to MOCO Department of Permits
  - o Plan Approval by MOCO Department of Permits
  - o Identify / purchase new plantings for re-seeding of the Shotgun Range
  - o Purchase Silt Fencing, etc. delivered
  - o GOAL: Project start as scheduled on August 2, 2022.
  - o Lead Reclamation Project Completion (10-week projection)
  - o Schedule re-seeding of the Shotgun Range

Yet another lively discussion of this first-ever project for the Chapter followed. There was no lack of consensus regarding the overall need to proceed with reclamation but there were again many questions regarding the company's proposed methods and their long-term effects. It was again noted that the Damascus Wildlife Achievement Chapter had this done several years ago with no undesirable residual effects. The discussion briefly touched on methods to consider in the future including but not limited to shot fall curtain(s), canopies over streambeds, and use of steel shot. It was again emphasized that EN Range is a nationally recognized specialist with prior Maryland experience, that the range will be managed by EPA stan-

(continued on page 3)

## SUMMARY

(continued from page 2)

dards and best practices, and that the contract was approved and signed in July. Ron reminded the Board that the membership already approved a dues increase for long-term CAPEX funding of future lead reclamation and other large projects.

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Bill Brockman made a motion to contribute \$500.00 to the UMCVFD (Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department). This motion was approved unanimously.
2. Walt Allensworth made a motion to accept the task list for Shotgun Range lead reclamation provided by Ron, without the proposed time constraints. The motion was approved unanimously.
3. Shannon Novak made a motion to move the Shotgun Range's purchase of a wobble trap from the unfunded list to the funded list. The motion was approved unanimously.
4. Shannon Novak made a motion to approve the Shotgun Range to seek out the MEC 408XP Sporter Wobble with the provision that if the 408XP is no longer available, the range will pursue the MEC 300E in the spring. The motion was approved unanimously.
5. Walt Allensworth proposed acceptance of the Frozen Level Farms contract for R&P Range upgrade. The motion was approved unanimously.
6. Ron Marchessault made a motion for President Tate to approach the Legacy Foundation at their December meeting to finalize funding for the R&P Range. The motion was passed unanimously.
7. Meg O'Rourke made a motion to approve two new candidates for membership. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10pm.

### Wednesday, December 15, 2021 – 1,034th Membership Meeting

- Due to renewed County COVID 19 restrictions, this meeting was conducted online.
- The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.
- Twelve prospective Members introduced themselves. The membership total is 1,017. It was pointed out that Life Members do not pay annual national dues even if joining other chapters.
- Chapter House including kitchen and bathrooms is open to Members; fireplace use is discouraged.
- Farm Chair Phil Taylor toured the fields with the MoCo Ag Extension chief, who was impressed.
- Wildlife Committee reports that a bear has torn up our beehives and birdfeeders.
- There have been rare instances of card reader malfunction of the Chapter House door not permitting its opening.
- Trails are open; all downed trees have been dealt with.
- R&P range is now closed for winter. Look for a Newsletter article for new R.O. certification.

### TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER:

- Elaine Shuler outlined the potential benefits of a membership directory. However, this would require password protection and a robust firewall to frustrate scammers. It was noted that the B-CC Board, with publicly available contact information on the Newsletter, has been subjected to repeated fraud attempts.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

## Conservation Education Dinner

Andy Wight, Conservation Education Committee Chair  
andywight1@hotmail.com

Due to the recent increase in Covid cases and to allow for better scheduling, we have decided to postpone our Conservation Education Dinner from January 29th to early April. Please keep tuned for further updates. Although the meeting is postponed, we are extremely excited to announce that this year's speaker will be Bill Heavey. Bill Heavey is a columnist for *Field & Stream* and author of books such as, *If You Didn't Bring Jerky, What Did I Just Eat?; It's Only Slow Food Until You Try to Eat It: Misadventures of a Suburban Hunter-Gatherer; You're Not Lost If You Can Still See the Truck: The Further Adventures of America's Everyman Outdoorsman; and Should the Tent be burning like that?: A Professional Amateur's Guide to the Outdoors*. An accomplished storyteller, he will share his insight, thoughts, and experiences of life and his interactions with the great outdoors.

Please keep an eye out for further updates in our newsletter and web page. The speaker coupled with the excellent spaghetti dinner prepared by Mark Gochnour and team promises to be a Conservation Dinner that you don't want to miss.

## Christmas Bird Count - Preliminary Data

Diane Seward  
Citizen Science Projects Coordinator

On Sunday, December 19, members of the Montgomery Bird Club met at the conservation farm at dawn to count birds under the auspices of the National Audubon Society. The Christmas Bird Count (CBC) is an annual national event, divided into sectors. The Montgomery Bird Club covers sector 7 of the Seneca CBC, and the Conservation Farm occupies a portion of the sector. Two teams were formed, escorted by Larry Anderson and Scott Harmon. Jim Nelson of the Bird Club organized the sector 7 count. Separately, Bob Plumb took note of birds frequenting our feeder station behind the chapter house. His results were submitted to Jim Nelson for inclusion in the CBC report as well as to Cornell's FeederWatch project in which we participate.

The teams surveying the conservation farm counted 31 species and 395 total birds. This total was on a par with the 2018 CBC when 365 birds were tallied, but less than the 500 individual birds observed last year and far below the 1,055 birds counted in 2018. Among the species observed were two Northern Harriers. No other team in the sector saw a Northern Harrier, so this was a significant addition to the overall count, according to Nelson. Among the species counted were American Robins (41), White-throated Sparrows (44), Northern Cardinals (19), Cedar Waxwings (8) and several woodpeckers: red-bellied (9), downy (5) and hairy (2), plus a couple Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers. This report will be supplemented in the February newsletter.

## 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.

## Books by Chapter Ikes – Update!!

Lin Tate

Our October newsletter alerted us to two recently published books written by B-CC leaders Butch Mezick (“Vietnam: A Marine’s Chronicle of Change”) and Jim Hubbard (“From Michigan to Mekong”). Within the past month, Butch’s book has been newly published in hardback as well as the original paperback. (Jim’s has been and is available in both.) When I spoke with them recently, both authors expressed pleasure with the reception their writing has received. Indeed, both books are very well worth reading. Both are “coming of age” books, detailing personal experiences during one of the most divisive and difficult periods in recent U.S. history. Both share important stories.

Butch sent a note recently, saying, “why I wrote this book.” Here it is:

### Why I Wrote the Book

Byron (“Butch”) Mezick

After numerous queries, I realized why I wrote about Vietnam and why so truthful and raw. Because every day for more than fifty years, I have lived with these experiences and many more. First, I could not share my feelings because, in post-Vietnam, I had to support my family with hard work and the pursuit of education. Second, America did not want to hear anything about the men killed, or wounded, physically or mentally. The problem for me was that almost everyone I interacted with, from managers to co-workers, had no idea of how privileged they were. So, I had to fight another war within my country. Yes, I continued to be primarily silent as many of my fellow, often under-exposed, Americans spoke of how they could never harm anyone and how much disdain they had for war.

I have reached a point in life where the motivation to share is overwhelming. I have fulfilled my obligation to family and friends with hard work and a moral compass. Before it's too late, I intend to share some of the raw, unfiltered experiences of many of my generation. The reality of U.S. citizenship with extraordinary opportunities comes with a debt that every generation must pay.

It's time to share unfiltered history because the burden to protect and defend our nation and its value system is not over; it's just beginning.

I feel certain that Jim Hubbard would agree that it is time to share our histories. I also believe that we at B-CC have a great opportunity that we need to pursue. We have a number of veterans among our membership and our friends.

The Archery Committee has worked with the military to create a strong and well-received program for Wounded Warriors at our Archery Range. What else can B-CC do? We all know that it's important for us to understand our history, and to acknowledge the debt we owe to those who have risked everything so that we could enjoy our days in the sunshine.

I hope that we can reinforce our efforts to recognize the contributions of our military and those others who put their duty to country before the comforts of life in the democracy that we enjoy. I very much appreciate the dialogue from all of those who have built and continue to build our Chapter. If you have an article that needs to be written or a story that needs telling, LET'S DO IT!

And before I forget, here's the information on buying those books. Autographs are probably possible!

Butch Mezick's book, “Vietnam: A Marine’s Chronicle of Change,” is available on Amazon.com by selecting “Books” from the menu and entering the title, or “Mezick” in the search window.

Direct link: [https://www.amazon.com/s?k=mezick&i=stripbooks&crd=3SL0ARFUK15QB&sprefix=mezick%2Cstripbooks%2C85&ref=nb\\_sb\\_noss\\_1](https://www.amazon.com/s?k=mezick&i=stripbooks&crd=3SL0ARFUK15QB&sprefix=mezick%2Cstripbooks%2C85&ref=nb_sb_noss_1). Select “hardback copy” for the new version.

Jim Hubbard's book, “From Michigan to Mekong” is also available on Amazon.com by selecting “Books” and entering the title, or “Hubbard” in the search window.

Direct link: [https://www.amazon.com/s?k=James+B+Hubbard&crd=Y2DSCGQJPJCS&sprefix=james+b+hubbard%2Caps%2C92&ref=nb\\_sb\\_noss\\_2](https://www.amazon.com/s?k=James+B+Hubbard&crd=Y2DSCGQJPJCS&sprefix=james+b+hubbard%2Caps%2C92&ref=nb_sb_noss_2).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

B-CC IWLA and/or Community

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

### 1,035th Monthly Membership Meeting

(no dinner this month)

Wednesday, January 19

7:30pm

Zoom ONLY

### Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, January 26

7:30pm

Zoom ONLY

### Adopt-A-Road Cleanup

Saturday, February 12

8:15am

Meet at the Chapter Parking Lot

### 1,036th Monthly Membership Meeting

Wednesday, February 16

7:30pm

Guest Speaker – Mark Gochnour

### Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, February 23

7:30pm

### Wild Game Dinner

Saturday, March 5

6:00pm – 10:00pm

### Black Powder Day at the R&P Range

Saturday, March 26

9:00am – 4:30pm

### Conservation Education Free Spaghetti Dinner with Speaker

Date to be announced in the February Newsletter

Guest Speaker – Bill Heavey



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All dates are tentative and subject to change.

### Monthly Events

Sundays

Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five-Stand

9:00am – 4:00pm

Mondays

BSA Scout Meetings in the Chapter House  
and Shotgun Pavilion

7:30pm – 9:00pm

Saturdays and Sundays

FeederWatch – in the Chapter House –

8:00am – 5:00pm

### JANUARY 2022

Sunday, January 2	Girl Scout Court of Honor for Ashley B. – Private Event	All Day
Thursday, January 13	Cub Scouts 694 Den Meeting – in the Chapter House	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Saturday, January 15	Montgomery County Landowners Soil Health Meeting – in the Chapter House	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Sunday, January 16	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, January 19	1,035th Monthly Membership Meeting – Zoom ONLY	Meeting begins 7:00pm
Thursday, January 20	Cub Scouts 694 Den Meeting – in the Chapter House	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Saturday, January 22	Snow Date – Montgomery County Landowners Soil Health Meeting	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Sunday, January 23	Shotgun Range Officer Signup – in the Chapter House	9:00am
Wednesday, January 26	Board of Governors Meeting – Zoom ONLY	7:30pm
Thursday, January 27	Cub Scouts 694 Den Meeting – in the Chapter House	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Friday, January 28	February Newsletter Articles due – send to <a href="mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net">j.lamkin@comcast.net</a>	By End of Day

### FEBRUARY

Sunday, February 6	Shotgun Range Officer Signup – in the Chapter House	9:00am
Sunday, February 6	Annual NAHVDA Banquet – in the Chapter House	11:00am – 8:00pm
Thursday, February 10	Cub Scouts 694 Den Meeting – in the Chapter House	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Friday, February 11	Scout Wilderness First Aid Training Class – in the Chapter House	6:00pm – 10:00 pm
Saturday, February 12	Scout Wilderness First Aid Training Class – in the Chapter House	7:00am – 9:00pm
Saturday, February 12	Adopt-A-Road – meet at the Chapter House parking lot	8:15am
Sunday, February 13	Scout Wilderness First Aid Training Class – in the Chapter House	7:00am – 9:00pm
Tuesday, February 15	Chapter House Cleanup – <b>NOTE NEW DATE</b>	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Wednesday, February 16	1,036th Monthly Dinner Membership Meeting Guest Speaker – Mark Gochmour – Blackpowder Shooting/Hunting	Dinner begins 6:15pm to 6:30pm Meeting begins 7:30pm
Saturday, February 19	Cub Scout Pack – Pinewood Derby – in the Chapter House	10:00am – 6:00pm
Sunday, February 20	Backup Date – Annual NAHVDA Banquet	11:00am – 8:00pm
Tuesday, February 22	Cub Scouts 694 Den Meeting – in the Chapter House	5:00pm – 6:00pm
Thursday, February 24	Cub Scouts 694 Den Meeting – in the Chapter House	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Wednesday, February 23	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Friday, February 25	March Newsletter Articles due – send to <a href="mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net">j.lamkin@comcast.net</a>	By End of Day

### MARCH

Saturday, March 5	Wild Game Dinner	6:00pm – 10:00pm
Monday, March 7	Cub Scouts 694 Den Meeting – in the Chapter House	5:00pm – 6:00pm
Thursday, March 10	Cub Scouts 694 Den Meeting – in the Chapter House	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Sunday, March 12	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, March 16	1,036th Monthly Dinner Membership Meeting – in the Chapter House	Dinner begins 6:15pm to 6:30pm Meeting begins 7:30pm
Wednesday, March 23	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Thursday, March 24	Cub Scouts 694 Den Meeting – in the Chapter House	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Friday, March 25	April Newsletter Articles due – send to <a href="mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net">j.lamkin@comcast.net</a>	By End of Day
Saturday, March 26	Black Powder Day at the R&P Range	9:00am – 4:30pm

Check the website calendar, [www.bcciwa.org](http://www.bcciwa.org), for current and updated scheduled times of events.



## 2021 – 2022 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:

**February 12, 2022 (Saturday)**  
**April 9, 2022 (Saturday)**  
**July 9, 2022 (Saturday)**  
**September 10, 2022 (Saturday)**  
**December 10, 2022 (Saturday)**



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

## Wilderness First Aid Training Class

The Scouts (Troop sponsored by the Chapter) will hold a Wilderness First Aid Training class at the chapter on:

Friday, February 11 – 6:00pm to 10:00pm  
Saturday, February 12 – 7:00am to 9:00pm  
Sunday, February 13 – 7:00am to 9:00pm

The class will be held in the Chapter House (following the Scout's Covid guidelines) and the chapter grounds.

## DINNER SPEAKER

### How Much Do You Know About Blackpowder Shooting?

A special treat for our February 16 Dinner Meeting! BCC member Mark Gochnour will be our Speaker -- Come and listen to Mark tell about his passion for blackpowder shooting/hunting that has spanned most of his life. He will talk about how he got interested in muzzleloading, which led to this Chapter having Blackpowder Day for 10 of the last 11 years. This event has introduced blackpowder shooting to many and has enabled others to discover how to get the most out of their muzzleloaders. (March 26th is the date for the 2022 Blackpowder Day.)



## 2021 B-CC IWLA Telethon

Byron "Butch" Mezick, Land Fund Committee Chair

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter of the Izaak Walton League held its annual Land Fund Telethon on Sunday evening, December 9. The telethon team called over 750 members in three hours, speaking directly with individual members or leaving a detailed message. Our volunteers requested donations for the chapter's land fund, explaining how we protect our outdoor activities by purchasing additional acreage to buffer our conservation farm from development. The callers shared with our members that all donations to our land fund are tax-deductible, and the fund is 100% efficient without overhead expenses. The team, comprised primarily of our chapter's board of governors, past presidents, and dedicated members, created an atmosphere of positive energy and camaraderie. Many of our chapter members receiving calls thanked the callers for their time and dedication.

Every successful telethon stands on the foundation of a database comprising all the names and phone numbers of those to be called. Many thanks to Meg O'Rourke and Carol Efdimis, who provided our telethon team with a highly accurate list of over seven hundred and fifty names and phone numbers. The great room of our chapter house provided the required social distancing while still allowing the telethon's success to be enhanced by permitting our callers to experience the energy of the other callers. In addition to answering calls about membership and gate key replacements, Tucker Mostrom picked up pizza and had both fireplaces going when the telethon team arrived. Many thanks to Janet Lamkin, who will provide tax receipts to everyone who contributed, as well as a letter from the current president to thank those members who made above-average donations. The following individuals participated in the 2021 telethon, many of whom have donated their time and talent to the chapter's telethon year after year. Would you please thank our telethon team when you see them around the farm? Many thanks to Lin Tate, Jim Tate, Michael J. Ryan, Walt Allensworth, Jerry Murray, Brett Davis, John Lamb, Rachel and Andrew Poirier. A special thank you to our members who continually support one another in our efforts to protect the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Conservation Farm. **Our chapter is truly an outstanding example of what can be accomplished when a thousand plus members come together for a common cause in conservation.**

## DRIVING ON CHAPTER PROPERTY

Privately owned vehicles are to remain on the main Chapter roads at all times. They are NOT allowed to drive through the fields or park in open areas. This includes no vehicle traffic to the back pond or in the fields unless the vehicle is in use in conjunction with a project being overseen by a Chairman or Committee.

## DUE DATE

for the February  
Newsletter Articles

**Friday, January 28**

Submit articles to:

[j.lamkin@comcast.net](mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net)

[Newsletter.BCCIWLA@gmail.com](mailto:Newsletter.BCCIWLA@gmail.com)



## B-CC IWLA Wild Game Dinner

**Saturday, March 5  
6:00pm – 10:00pm**

***"Share the Tradition"***

**Appetizers, Potluck Dinner & Door Prizes!**

The Wild Game Dinner is finally back after a 2 year hiatus! Come join your fellow B-CC IWLA hunters (non-hunters are welcome too!) for a night filled with food, fun, and stories of your hunting adventures!

Please send your hunting photos to 2nd VP, Shannon Novak at [snovak516@gmail.com](mailto:snovak516@gmail.com) and get ready to "Share the Tradition."

This will be a potluck dinner – bring your favorite wild game (or other) dish to share! We will also need salads, vegetables, sides, and desserts.

Contact Shannon Novak (301 785-8461 / [snovak516@gmail.com](mailto:snovak516@gmail.com)) with any questions.

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

## Monthly Dinner Preparation

Kitchen Committee Chair 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](mailto:cdunn20842@aol.com).

## Black Powder / Muzzleloader Event

Muzzleloading enthusiasts will gather for the annual Black Powder Clinic and Shooting Match, Saturday, March 26, 2022 from 9:00am – 4:30pm.

Did you receive a blackpowder firearm as a present and don't know what to do with it? Are you ready to test your skills against others in the afternoon shooting match and compete for prizes? Don't miss out on this marvelous opportunity for knowledgeable instruction, loads of fun, and the unique smell of blackpowder smoke!

Participants will meet at the Rifle & Pistol Range at 9:00am. Inlines, percussion or flintlock shooters are all welcome. There will be instruction time for new shooters or those with new muzzleloaders while "veterans" and more experienced shooters will sight-in their guns.



Bring the muzzleloader that you want to shoot or let Mark Gochnour know in your email that you would like to try one out so he can arrange for a loaner. Learn directly from individuals having experience and knowledge. (Mark is a certified NRA/NMLRA Blackpowder

Instructor.) If you have never fired a black powder gun or you have one you have never used before or are having issues with one you have forgotten about in the gun safe, come during the morning but stay for the shoot! Last year, one shooter used a loaner gun to compete in the shooting match and turned out to be excellent marksman!

Lunch will be served in the Chapter House around 12:00 noon with the shooting competition beginning at 1:00pm.

Match Participants will be provided opportunities to shoot at some unusual novelty targets again this year, including last year's favorite – The Flopping Plate. Targets will be shot at a variety of ranges from up close and out to 100 yards with prizes awarded to individual shooters. An overall Grand Prize could be a frozen turkey or ham.



Due to safety issues, only muzzleloader shooting participants will be allowed to use the Range since the availability of shooting lanes may be limited. (After the afternoon shooting match, Range Officers and their guests may shoot.)

Contact Mark Gochnour at [mgdonutman@gmail.com](mailto:mgdonutman@gmail.com) for further details, questions, or to pre-register for the event. It is important to contact him; especially, if you are bringing a new gun because you may need extra equipment or gear that you were unaware of and its lack could sabotage your experience.

Cost is only \$20 for the entire event, which includes lunch and the shooting match. Any applicable R&P range fees are extra.



## ATTENTION New Members!

**The next Chapter house cleanup is on  
Tuesday, January 18 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm**

## Rifle & Pistol Range Report

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

Chris Efdimis, Chief Range Officer  
240 372-2258

Winter hours are now in effect running from 9:00am to 4:00pm.

The range is now closed to the general membership till March 2022. Current R&P Range Officers can use the range. 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!

Current R&P Range Officer sign up will occur in March. An email will be sent to the ROs with the instructions and dates.

### RANGE OFFICER COURSE

At this time, we are gauging interest in a new Range Officer course. To be eligible to take this course you must:

- be current members of the B-CC IWLA Chapter in good standing who have completed their probationary membership year
- be 21 years of age
- eligible to legally possess a firearm
- be current in all B-CC IWLA Chapter dues

If you are interested in becoming a R&P Range Officer, please contact Carol at [carol2017@aol.com](mailto:carol2017@aol.com). A list is being created and you will be contacted with significant notice of a date.

If you have not completed your probationary year, please contact Carol anyway. We will be able to create a list for future classes.

## Archery Range Report

Jack Mandel, Committee Chair  
[jmandel@design@gmail.com](mailto:jmandel@design@gmail.com)

### TARGET RANGE

The Range is open during sunlight hours every day, all year long.

Guests must sign a Hold Harmless Form and deposit it in the range box along with optional contribution.

Broadhead use on designated gel medium targets only, please.

### YOUTH ARCHERY

We will likely have spring and summer sessions this year. Please ping us if you'd like to help organize.

### 3-D ARCHERY

The course is closed until next spring when we will have the entire network of 30-year old trails open for business, better than ever.

## Shotgun Range Report

Warner Parks, Committee Chair  
240 620-6942 [wparks29@gmail.com](mailto:wparks29@gmail.com)

There will be a **Shotgun Range Officer Sign up** for the upcoming year on Sunday, January 23 and Sunday, February 6 at 9:00am in the Chapter House (these are not Range Officer Training Classes).

Due to the ammunition shortage, we will no longer be able to have shells available at the range. Once they become more available, I will try to obtain some for the use at the range only.

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

#### JANUARY

Sunday, January 2	Joel Graham, Dave Myers
Sunday, January 9	Joel Graham, Jose Saiz
Sunday, January 16	Andrew Norris, Fred Ryan
Sunday, January 23	Pat Tarquinio, Joe Reid
Sunday, January 30	Harry Simpson, Richard Latimer

#### FEBRUARY

Sunday, February 6	Olaf "Pete" Pedersen, Mike Noble
Sunday, February 13	Mark Olcott, Robert Quattlebaum
Sunday, February 20	Andrew Norris, Pat Weixel
Sunday, February 27	James Stables, Brett Davis

### HOURS OF OPERATION

Sundays 9:00am to 4:00pm Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays

## Welcome to the B-CC IWLA Family!!

The following members were inducted in December 2021:

### Kevin Bayly

*Interests:* Conservation Education; Forestry; Trap & Skeet

### Michael Clark

*Interests:* Farm; Wildlife Counts; Wildlife Management

### Jim Frangenberg

*Interests:* Archery; Campground; Ponds & Streams

### Margot Stiles

*Interests:* Archery; Conservation Education; Farming

### Alex Yuan

*Interests:* Archery; Conservation Education; Farming; Forestry; Hunter Safety / Hunter Education; Legislation; Nature Trails; Rifle & Pistol & Muzzleloading; Scout / Member Campground; Youth Activities and Scouting



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



## Log Cabin Report

David Mecklenburg, Committee Co-chair  
dmecklenburg1@gmail.com

Doug Martin, Committee Co-chair  
dwm.wash.dc@gmail.com

The log cabin committee has met several times over the last year. The nearest we can tell by the records we have obtained is that the cabin was built in 1825. As you would guess with a house of this age, 196 years, maintenance has been completed, including modifications, and improvements, and more maintenance needs to be done. The committee has a list of projects we wish to complete and are proceeding with those tasks.

Tasks that have been completed this last year are many – including a general cleanout of the cabin, spring box, and shed (smoke house). A concern has been the deterioration of the bulkhead leading into the old root cellar. The committee is in the process of rebuilding the bulkhead. As a first step Jack Mandel and his crew came out in mid-November and did a wonderful job stabilizing and rebuilding the foundation of the bulkhead. Soon we plan on building a new set of doors for the bulkhead. The doors will be better for the building structurally, aesthetically, and will improve safety.



As with all our homes, we have many other tasks on our to-do list and look forward to working with anyone in the chapter who has an interest in the cabin. Please feel free to get in touch with myself or Doug Martin if you are interested in helping preserve a piece of history.

## FeederWatch Report

Diane Seward  
Citizen Science Projects Coordinator  
trina65@verizon.net

On December 31, our FeederWatch program was suspended, for the second time that month, owing to the destruction of several of our hopper and suet feeders by a roaming brown bear. Sometime during the week of December 5, the bear tore the feeders from their chains and left them rather in order on the ground among sunflower seeds and shells. The feeders were stowed in the shed for the next two weeks to give the bear time to move on in search of food. The two hopper feed-



ers that survived the first attack were rehung just in time for the Christmas Bird Count on December 19, and Bob Plumb submitted his feeder totals to the CBC organizer for our sector, Jim Nelson. The following weekend all seemed well, and the feeder bird count took place as scheduled. But on



December 31 our team member Pat McNeilly discovered the larger of the two hopper feeders swinging in the air on its side. A piece of wood, part of the feeder's roof, was missing and found on the ground with the sunflower seed. The smaller feeder hung normally, but both it and the dangling feeder were empty. The two feeders were removed to the shed, and FeederWatch has again been suspended.

PHOTOS BY PAT MCNEILLY



# Birds at the feeder station in early December



*Carolina Chickadee*



*Downy Woodpecker*



*Blue Jay*



*Red-winged Blackbirds*



*Blue Jays*



*House Finch*



*Tufted Titmouse*

## Global Ecology Program at Poolesville High School "Interpretive Walk in the Woods"

In November, the chapter received a letter from Erin Binns, Head of House of the Global Ecology Program at Poolesville High School, thanking Butch Mezick, Bethany Ranftl (Butch's daughter and alumnus of the first global ecology class), Michael Dawson, and Blaine Elkins for taking the 9th grade Global Ecology Students on the "Interpretive Walk in the Woods." A thank you card from the students was also sent. Some of the participants' comments are listed below!

Thank you so much for this amazing learning opportunities. I was amazed by the giant hole and I learned so much about deer.

What a great morning filled with fun and knowledge of some cool deer, tree, and turkey facts!

Thanks for teaching us about our environment. We will keep the dream alive!

Thank you for giving me advice on my future in relation to animal conservation and sciences!

Thank you for teaching us about several things, like turkey sex.

Thanks for showing us the hidden importance of soil and the various impacts of turkey and deer in the environment. I appreciate it!

Thank you for enlightening me about the opportunities your organization has to offer!

Thank you for taking the time to teach us about the ecosystem! The hike was very fun!

Thank you so much for inspiring me to care more for the environment.

## Thank You!

"The students had a wonderful experience discussing the land use of the Agriculture Reserve, learning about soil, turkey calls, and tree identification. All of the topics discussed on this hike are such wonderful representations of things they will learn about in more detail during their next four years. It's such a perfect interpretive hike and introduction to their Global ecology career. As always, the turkey mating calls were a favorite topic of conservation for a long time after the hike. They were also very excited to hear from a representative from the first Global class and were inspired to know that they will take the lessons earned in Global with them no matter what career path they choose to follow in the future.

I also want to thank Blaine for working with several of our students to replant part of the Chestnut Orchard. The students were very excited to participate in the planning and learn about the chestnut blight. Blaine, thank you for the patience you had with these students as they learned the proper planting technique."

We greatly value your partnership and truly appreciate the time and effort that went into planning this hike. Thank you for everything your chapter does to support our students."

Erin Binns

Thanks for taking the time to show us how to be observers in the woods – it was wonderful to meet a member of the first global class!!

Thanks so, so much for your dedication to protecting the natural world! We need more people like you guys!