



MARCH 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

**Sunday, 20 March 2022, at 3:49 GMT**, – the moment when the hours of daylight and nightfall are equal all over this speck of dust in space that we call Earth. If things proceed as they have been, our Conservation Farm will be changing from cold, brown winter into renewal with green leaves, butterflies, and baby birds and animals everywhere ... yahoo!

Let's take a quick walk through the past. The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter applied for its founding charter in 1935, at first meeting in members' homes, churches, and other available meeting places. Then, in 1949, the chapter members took advantage of a truly golden opportunity to purchase a 366-acre worn-out tobacco farm south of Poolesville, Maryland. The farm suffered badly depleted soil, limited access from local roads, and very little agricultural value – it was a worn-out tobacco farm.

You can see where I'm headed! Over the years, the Chapter added land to the Conservation Farm: the West Woods (in 1997), West Woods II (in 2006), the Northeast Woods in 2010, and another 50 acres in 2012. We now have 624 acres of very valuable, healthy farmland and woodlands, with restored and carefully managed soil, and with recreational activities available – all protected by legal conservation easements.

Our initial membership of 15 men has grown to over 1,000 members (with some of our members representing the third generation of their families' membership). We have become one of the largest and most active of IWLA's 300-plus chapters nationwide. And through wise management and member donations, we have built up a healthy financial reserve, managed by our Legacy Foundation. When additional lands become available for purchase, as they will, we want to be ready. Not bad for a volunteer organization! In fact, darned good.

This year, our national organization, IWLA, celebrates its 100th Anniversary: 100 years of supporting and promoting conservation, citizen science, outdoor activities and education. And as you can easily figure out, in 2035, just 13 years from now, B-CC will celebrate our 100th Anniversary!

So this month, as we start anew with the Spring Equinox, we have an opportunity for a spiritual and personal reset of our own B-CC goals. It is essential that we renew our resolve to work together to enjoy and share our knowledge, talents and blessings! Let's recommit to our intentions, establish new habits, learn something new, and set out together on our adventure. Who do we want to be, this spring?

My invitation -- and challenge – to you is this: find a quiet place today. Turn your gaze inward, and ponder the reasons you joined B-CC. Make a quiet promise to persevere, with strong back and good humor, in our community and our effort. As the fella said, "If we do not hang together, assuredly we will all hang separately!"

Savor the day! And may we savor our springtime together!

Lin Tate  
President



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

#### NEW-MEMBER ORIENTATION TOUR

Come join us on the  
New-Member Orientation Tour!  
The tour will take place this month on  
Saturday, March 27 from 10:00am to  
approximately 1:00pm. Wet-weather footgear  
is generally a good idea out at the  
conservation farm this time of year.

## 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**  
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**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 January 2022 Board of Governors Meeting and the February 2022 Membership Meeting

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

### Wednesday, January 26, 2022 – Board of Governors Meeting

- This online meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.
- Richard Latimer recapped the Chapter's liability and property policy coverages.
- Carol Hulce-Efdimis reminded us that the annual insurance audit based on membership is in process.
- President Lin Tate will convene an Environmental Committee chaired by Blaine Elkins that will include the range chairs and others.
- Treasurer Bill Brockman reviewed the Sandy Spring Bank account balances.
- 1st VP Walt Allensworth has proceeded to engage a member volunteer to repair the erosion damage on the road to the Big Pond. This may require 20 dump truck loads of millings.
- The Poolesville High School Global Ecology program will support two groups of students to pull invasives in March.
- The Maryland Division will meet in March. There will be discussion of an environmental scholarship focused on Western MD.

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. With the February session cancelled, Carol Efdimis made a motion for the scouts to use the Chapter House for wilderness first aid training Memorial Day weekend May 27-29. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Bill Brockman moved that the Treasurer be directed to move Forest Mitigation funds to the BCC-IWLA Legacy Foundation. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10pm.

### Wednesday, February 16, 2022 – 1,036th Membership Meeting

- This online meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.
- Membership Secretary Meg O'Rourke made a motion to swear in prospective members Giovannangelo and the Wockleys. The motion passed unanimously, and 1st VP Walt Allensworth swore in the new members.
- As required by the bylaws, on January 31, 2022, Treasurer Bill Brockman transferred funds to the Legacy Foundation from the Land Fund.
- Members are advised that there is now a Farm Page on the Chapter website.
- Members are reminded to be cautious around dead/dying trees on the property; these will be taken down professionally soon.
- Vegetable garden plots are available
- The Chestnut Orchard is wintering hybrids for the American Chestnut Foundation.
- As Chair, Blaine Elkins summarized the efforts to date of the newly constituted Environmental Committee that is charged with orchestrating permitting and other preparation for the Shotgun Range lead reclamation. As a scope-of-work is finalized, the Committee will consider proposals from several civil engineering companies. Easement holders are being contacted.
- As the kitchen has been closed due to Covid, the County will be contacted concerning food service license renewal extensions.

(continued on page 3)

## SUMMARY

(continued from page 2)

- Archery youth program will take place the first three weeks of May and July.
- The Shotgun Range committee is gauging interest in support of a possible trap league; this could start in June.
- Maryland Hunter Education courses will take place April 30-May 1 and September 10-11.
- If a member has a publication for the Maryland Division's *Waltonian*, submit it through Jim Tate.
- Scott Harmon recounted two recent instances of violation of Hunting Rules. These violations included trespassing on neighbors' property.
- Mark Gochnour gave a very well received presentation on Blackpowder shooting, for him a lifelong passion.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40pm.

### March 2022 1,037th Monthly Dinner / Membership Meeting

Wednesday, March 16

Dinner served starting at 6:15pm  
Membership Meeting – 7:30pm

#### Menu

Appetizers will be available before dinner  
Corned Beef, Boiled Cabbage, Boiled Potatoes,  
Green Beans, Dessert

### March 2022 Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, March 23  
7:30pm

## Spring Interpretative Walk In The Woods

Presenters: Butch Mezick, Mark & Gregg Gochnour,  
and Blaine Elkins

Butch Mezick and his crew of B-CC IWLA hosts will lead an "Interpretative Walk In The Woods" on Sunday, April 10 starting at 1:00pm. The entire event should last approximately two hours.

Participants will meet in the main chapter parking lot. We recommend that participants use insect repellent and bring drinking water.

The walk begins with a steep uphill trail climb requiring average fitness and mobility.

The hike aims to educate, motivate, and inspire the participants to see and comprehend the natural world through presentations on: soil; invasive plant species; chestnut tree restoration; litter; tree identification; deer, turkeys, and other animals; water, photosynthesis, and much more ...

There will also be a fun field-test at the end of the walk.

Prospective participants should sign-up for the walk using the following SignUpGenius:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4DA5AC22A7FCCE9-bcc>

Maximum participants: 30

## UPCOMING EVENTS

B-CC IWLA and/or Community

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

### 1,037th Monthly Membership Meeting

Wednesday, March 16

Dinner starts at 6:15pm

Meeting at 7:30pm

### Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, March 23

7:30pm

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

Saturday, March 26

9:00am – 4:00pm

### Conservation Education Free Spaghetti Dinner with Speaker

Saturday, April 2

Guest Speaker – Bill Heavey

Dinner 6:00pm

Speaker 7:00pm

### Adopt-A-Road Cleanup

Saturday, April 9

8:15am

Meet at the Chapter Parking Lot

### Spring Chapter Cleanup

Saturday, April 9

8:30am

Lunch served around 1:00pm

### Spring Hunters Education Class

Saturday, April 30 & Sunday, May 1

8:00am – 4:00pm

## Adopt-A-Road

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

**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.



## Conservation Education Free Spaghetti Dinner with Speaker Saturday, April 2

Dinner – 6:00 pm; Speaker – 7:00pm

Speaker – Bill Heavey

Andy Wight, Conservation Education Committee Chair  
ConservationEd.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

**Don't forget to sign up for the 2022  
Conservation Education Dinner**

We are extremely pleased to have Bill Heavey as this year's speaker. 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.

The speaker coupled with the excellent spaghetti dinner prepared by Mark Gochmour and team promises to be a Conservation Dinner that you don't want to miss. Dinner is free of charge, but reservations are required. **Please sign up on the link below:**

**We want to make sure that there is  
enough spaghetti for all!!!!**

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

Looking for volunteer hours? Help is needed with the setup, preparation of the spaghetti dinner, serving, and cleanup. If you can help, contact Mark at [mgdonutman@gmail.com](mailto:mgdonutman@gmail.com).

## Chestnut Committee Report

Blaine Elkins, Chair  
[blaineelkins@verizon.net](mailto:blaineelkins@verizon.net)

The Chestnut Committee finished 2021 with planting some American Seedlings in the West Orchard to replace seeds planted in the spring that did not sprout. This was accomplished with the help of two groups from Poolesville High School Global Ecology program as well as member of the committee. By November every point in the west orchard had an American Chestnut seedling in place.

Looking to the spring, we will need to catch up on some maintenance of the mowers and a general clean up of both orchards. In the green house we will take down two of the squirrel proof enclosures and repair the third for one more year of use. The Maryland Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation will be planting hybrid seeds in pots late March/early April depending on the weather. If you are interested in helping with any of this, please contact Blaine Elkins at [blaineelkins@verizon.net](mailto:blaineelkins@verizon.net).

## Vegetable Gardens

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

Pat Tarquinio  
[ptarq@hotmail.com](mailto:ptarq@hotmail.com)

The days are growing longer and warmer temperatures becoming more common which means gardeners are getting restless, 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.

## FeederWatch/NestWatch News

Diane Seward  
Citizen-Science Projects Coordinator  
[trina65@verizon.net](mailto:trina65@verizon.net)

We have had a respectable counting season this winter despite the depredations of one or more bears in December and January. Let's review the species observed at our feeders, beginning in mid-November: The highest number of individual species counted at our feeders this season was 16; the highest number of individual birds reported per species on a single weekend was 171. The highest count for a single feeder species was 120 Red-winged Blackbirds in January, way above our Northeast Region's average of 4, followed by 56 Brown-headed Cowbirds in November, 15 Mourning Doves and 15 House Finches in December. Other species typically observed at our feeders included Northern Cardinals, Downey and Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Tufted Titmice, and Carolina Chickadees. Purple Finches were counted only on two weekends.

FeederWatch wraps up at the end of March. Many thanks to our energetic team: Bob Plumb, Jim Stables, Pat McNeilly, Tim Ames, Suzanne Novak, Brett Davis, Bill and Ayala White, Chuck Thornton, Suzanne Papiewski, Theresa Zmola and Pete Cappelino. Thanks to Suzanne Papiewski for donating a colorful new feederbird poster and to Larry Anderson, Wildlife Chair, who keeps our sunflower seed and suet well stocked.

In mid-March we will raise the Purple Martin houses and gourds, and we should begin to see Purple Martin scouts in the skies. A few early Eastern Bluebirds will begin nest building and egg laying. Please let me know if you are interested in joining the NestWatch monitoring team. We really could use more help; nest checking with data gathering is fun and an easy skill to develop. Plus, our team enjoys the immense benefit of spending time outdoors!



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

### Monthly Events

<i>Sundays</i>	<i>Shotgun Range – Trap, Skeet, and Five-Stand</i>	<i>9:00am – 4:00pm</i>
<i>Mondays</i>	<i>BSA Scout Meetings in the Chapter House and Shotgun Pavilion</i>	<i>7:30pm – 9:00pm</i>
<i>Tuesdays</i>	<i>Tuesday Sporting Clays at the Shotgun Range Starting April 5</i>	<i>3:00pm – 6:00pm</i>
<i>3rd Thursday of the Month</i>	<i>Cub Scout Meeting in the Chapter House</i>	<i>6:30pm</i>
<i>Saturdays and Sundays</i>	<i>Feeder Watch – in the Chapter House – signup with Diane Seward</i>	<i>8:00am – 5:00pm</i>

### MARCH

Saturday, March 5	Wild Game Dinner	6:00pm – 10:00pm
Sunday, March 6	R&P Returning Range Officer sign up	8:30am – 10:30am
Monday, March 7	Cub Scouts 694 Den Meeting	5:00pm – 6:00pm
Thursday, March 10	Cub Scouts 694 Den Meeting	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Saturday, March 12	R&P Returning Range Officer Signup	8:30am – 10:30 noon
Saturday, March 12	R&P Range open to general membership	12:00 noon – 4:00pm
Sunday, March 13	Chapterhouse Cleanup	9:00am
Sunday, March 13	BSA Scouts / Court of Honor	5:00pm – 9:00pm
Wednesday, March 16	1,037th Monthly Membership Meeting	7:30pm
Thursday, March 17	Scouts BSA Arrow of Light Crossover	6:00pm – 9:00pm
Saturday, March 19	Summer Biathlon Practice at the Shotgun Range	7:30am
Saturday, March 19	R&P Range open to general membership	12:00 noon – 4:00pm
Wednesday, March 23	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Thursday, March 24	Cub Scouts 694 Den Meeting	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Friday, March 25	Articles for April Newsletter 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 – 4:00pm
Sunday, March 27	R&P Range Spring Cleanup Day	starting at 8:00am
Sunday, March 27	New-Member Orientation Tour	10:00am – 1:00pm

### APRIL

Saturday, April 2	Summer Biathlon Practice at the R&P Range	7:00am
Saturday, April 2	R&P Range opens for the season	9:00am – 5:00pm
Saturday, April 2	Conservation Education Free Spaghetti Dinner with speaker (Bill Heavey)	Dinner – 6:00pm; Speaker 7:00pm
Wednesday, April 6	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm – dark
Saturday, April 9	Adopt-A-Road – meet at the Chapter House parking lot	8:15am
Saturday, April 9	Spring Chapter Cleanup	8:00am
Sunday, April 10	Spring Interpretative Walk in The Woods	1:00pm – 3:00pm
Thursday, April 14	Cub Scouts 694 Den Meeting	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Saturday, April 16	Summer Biathlon Practice at the R&P Range	7:30pm
Saturday, April 16	Chapterhouse Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, April 20	1,038th Monthly Membership / Dinner Meeting	Dinner begins 6:15pm to 6:30pm Meeting begins 7:30pm
Saturday, April 23	New-Member Orientation Tour	10:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, April 23	Spring Family Campout	gates open at 2:30pm for setup
Sunday, April 24	Spring Family Campout	breakfast and cleanup until 10:00am
Wednesday, April 27	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Thursday, April 28	Cub Scouts 694 Den Meeting – in the Chapter House	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Friday, April 29	Articles for May Newsletter due – send to <a href="mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net">j.lamkin@comcast.net</a>	By End of Day
Saturday, April 30	Summer Biathlon Practice at the R&P Range	7:00pm
Saturday, April 30	Spring Hunters Education Class	8:00am – 4:00pm

### MAY

Sunday, May 1	Montgomery Bird Club's Annual Spring Walk	7:00am – 12:00 noon
Sunday, May 1	Spring Hunters Education Class	8:00am – 4:00pm
Wednesday, May 4	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm – dark
Saturday, May 14	Summer Biathlon Practice at the R&P Range	7:30am
Saturday, May 14	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, May 18	1,039th Monthly Membership / Dinner Meeting	Dinner begins 6:15pm to 6:30pm Meeting begins 7:30pm
Wednesday, May 25	Board of Governors Meeting	7:30pm
Friday, May 27	Articles for June Newsletter Due – send to <a href="mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net">j.lamkin@comcast.net</a>	By End of Day
Friday, May 27	Scout Wilderness First Aid Training Class – in the Chapter House (setup)	6:00pm – 10:00pm
Saturday, May 28	Scout Wilderness First Aid Training Class – in the Chapter House	7:00am – 9:00pm
Saturday, May 28	Summer Biathlon Practice at the R&P Range	7:30am
Saturday, May 28	New-Member Orientation Tour	10:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday, May 29	Scout Wilderness First Aid Training Class – in the Chapter House	7:00am – 9:00pm

# Annual Spring Family Campout



The B-CC IWLA Conservation Education Committee will host the Annual Spring Family Campout on Saturday, April 23rd (weather permitting). This event is open for members and their guests. Events will start Saturday afternoon and continue into Sunday morning (dinner and breakfast provided). The Chapterhouse will remain open throughout the event.

## SATURDAY

- Tent setup around the chapterhouse begins at 3:00pm
- Fishing for the kids at the big pond/little pond 4:00pm-6:00pm
- Evening cookout will be provided from 6:00pm-7:00pm
- S'mores around the campfire at the chapterhouse firepit

## SUNDAY

- Breakfast will be served Sunday morning to campers starting at 7:30am
- Breakdown and cleanup will be completed by 10:00am

This is a great time to spend time with your immediate family and to meet some of the family of B-CC IWLA members, spouses, and kids. Watch for a SignUpGenius and update in the April Newsletter.

Andy Wight  
Conservation Education Chair  
[ConservationEd.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com](mailto:ConservationEd.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com)

## Invasive Species Removal

*Poolesville High School Global Ecology students* are coming to the chapter to do some removal of invasive species from the beginning of the Nature Trail by the chapter house parking lot. They will be arriving about 8:30 in the morning on Wednesday, March 30 and Thursday, March 31. Each day a different group of about 40 seniors will arrive to help clear up this part of the chapter. If you want to be involved, please contact Blaine Elkins at [blaineelkins@verizon.net](mailto:blaineelkins@verizon.net).

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

The following members were inducted in February 2022:

**Bryan and Sarah Wockley**

**Interests:** Rifle / Pistol Shooting & Muzzleloading; Skeet, Trap, Sporting Clays, 5-Stand Shooting; Youth Activities & Scouting

## Farmers & Hunters Feeding the Hungry (FHFH)

Lin Tate, President

As many of you know, the national organization FHFH ([www.fhfh.org](http://www.fhfh.org)) (first established in Maryland in 1997) helps provide nutritious meat to feed the hungry. Deer, elk, and livestock donated by hunters and farmers to participating butchers and meat lockers are used by food banks and local ministries across the nation to provide much-needed protein to the meals fed by soup kitchens, pantries, and shelters. Donations to FHFH from individuals, churches, clubs (including B-CC IWLA), and others enable FHFH to pay the entire meat-processing bill for each donated animal so that hunters can donate their harvest free of charge.

FHFH currently has more than 125 local coordinators in 29 states, and **provides an average of over 1.2 million meals per year to hungry children and families.** Since the organization's founding, hunters have provided over 16.9 million meals, and over the past few years of increased food insecurity, that number continues to increase – B-CC IWLA has actively partnered with FHFH for more than a decade. If you have excess deer, elk, or even livestock, you can donate, or make a tax-deductible contribution, to support this effort.

The FHFH founder, Rick Wilson, spoke to a standing-room-only B-CC dinner meeting last September, and our members continue to support the organization with meat or financial donations. If you have excess game, or excess dollars, you can easily participate in the effort. It's a worthwhile partnership!



PHOTO BY JANET LAMKIN

## Conservation Education Competition

Deer and other ungulates shed their antlers once a year. The shedding process usually takes between two to three weeks, but the antlers can fall off in as little as 24-28 hours. Deer shed their antlers between early December and March and this allows us to have our first **Conservation Education Competition.**

We are looking for the biggest antlers our members can find on the property. Between now and March 31st, we encourage our members to visit the Chapter to find the largest antlers on the property. Please send a picture of the antler, your name, the date and where you found it. This is a great opportunity to visit the farm with your family and explore.

Please send your entries to  
**Andy Wight**  
[ConservationEd.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com](mailto:ConservationEd.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com) by April 1st

## Black Powder / Muzzleloader Event

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

Please RSVP as soon as possible using the following SignUpGenius to help Mark Gochnour supply necessary materials and to right-size lunch plans !!!

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

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!

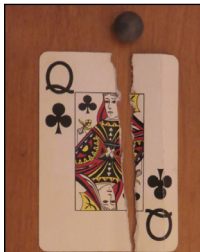


Participants will meet at the Rifle & Pistol Range at 9:00am. Inlines, percussion or flintlock shooters are all welcome. There will be instruction time for new shooters or those with new muzzleloaders while “veterans” and more experienced shooters will sight-in their guns.

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.)

Pre-register at the [SignUpGenius](#) link above and contact Mark Gochnour at [Muzzleloading.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com](mailto:Muzzleloading.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com) for further details, questions. 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:

- Regular non-Range-Officer fees for use of R&P Range
- Guest fees for escorted guests on the range
- Family members of Individual-member Range Officers

## Apollo Archery Call for Bows and Archery Gear to Support Our Veterans

Chuck Thornton



Do you have a bow hanging in your garage that you no longer use? Do you have a pile of release aids or other archery gear that you won't need this season? Why not donate those bows and gear to the Apollo Archery program!

Apollo Archery provides archery instruction and experiences for current and former members of the United States Armed Services and their families. We have acquired several bows, but can always use more. Donated equipment must be serviceable and in decent condition. If needed, Apollo Archery will take your donated bow to be professionally tuned or re-strung and will cover those expenses. Of course, donations of new equipment would be appreciated.

We prefer donations of compound bows, but will accept other styles. Only adult-sized bows and equipment, please. Along with the bow, we will happily accept arrow rests, sights, and stabilizers. Other equipment you might donate includes arrows, release aids, quivers, forearm guards, and training aids.

To arrange your donation contact Chuck Thornton at [apolloarchery.bcciwla@gmail.com](mailto:apolloarchery.bcciwla@gmail.com)

Reminder: we will host Apollo Archery sessions on the first Wednesday of each month from April through October. We will start at 6:00pm and finish when it gets dark.

**2022 Dates**

**April 6; May 4; June 1; July 6;  
August 3; September 7; October 5**

If you know of veterans and current Service members in the region, please let them know about our Apollo Archery program. There is no fee for participation.

**DUE DATE**  
for the April Newsletter Articles

**Friday, March 25**

Submit articles to:

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

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

## 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 in effect running from 9:00am to 4:00pm until April 2.

On April 2, they will change to 9:00am – 5:00pm.

Special opening days for the general membership – Saturday, March 12 and Saturday, March 19 from 12:00pm – 4:00pm. The Range will open for the rest of the year on Saturday, April 2.

On Sunday, March 27, the R&P Range will be holding their Spring Cleanup day starting at 8:00am.

### 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 2	Saiz, J., Waterman, S., Kang, J., Kang, M.
Sunday, April 3	Waterman, S., Saiz, J., Williams, B., Richards, M.
Saturday, April 9	Zic, T., Kang, J., Kang, Y., Hunt, J.
Sunday, April 10	Hunt, J., Williams, B., Richards, M., Lan, K.
Saturday, April 16	Hoover, J., Schwikert, B., Summers, D., Meima, S.
Sunday, April 17	Summers, D., Thornton, C., Finn, K., Thorburn, M.
Saturday, April 23	Panashchenko, O., Max, H., Crowley, D., Thorburn, M.
Sunday, April 24	Schweikert, B., King, B., Bissett, R., Max, H.
Saturday, April 30	Latimer, R., Burns, M., Mostrom, T., Ma, A., Maisel, J., Peterson, C., Gentzel, K., Boynton, D.
Sunday, May 1	Princiotto, M., Panashchenko, O., Ma, A., Hoover, J.

## Shotgun Range Report

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

The **Tuesday Sporting Clays League** will begin Tuesday, April 5 starting at 3:00pm until 6:00pm.

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.

Starting in June the Range **will be open on certain Saturdays**. Dates will be posted in the newsletter.

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

#### MARCH

Sunday, March 6 James Stables, Brett Davis

Sunday, March 13

Christopher Kaine, Olaf "Pete" Pedersen

Sunday, March 20

Ken Gentzel, David Bixler

Sunday, March 27

Bill Farley

### APRIL

Sunday, April 3

Stephen Ives, Richard Ricco

Sunday, April 10

Mike Noble, Lawrence Kotchek

Sunday, April 17

Richard Latimer, Jim O'Connell

Sunday, April 24

Andrew Silverberg, Slim Suleman

### HOURS OF OPERATION

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

Tuesdays 3:00pm to 6:00pm Tuesdays Sporting Clays

(starting April 5, 2022)

## We Have a Weather Station!

The farm committee is happy to announce that we installed a brand new Davis Instruments weather station at the farm. The Vantage Pro2 GroWeather is a state of the art weather station connected to the internet via the EnviroMonitor cellular gateway. An industrial-grade weather station engineered to handle the harshest environments and deliver data with scientific precision, the Vantage Pro2 provides weather data including temperature, wind speed/direction, air pressure and precipitation rates and totals.



We have linked our weather station to the Weather Underground Network of similar weather stations and you can link to it here: <https://bcciwla.org/weather-conditions-at-the-farm/>. We are currently looking at options to directly integrate the WeatherStation data into the BCC website. Stay tuned!



## 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 4**. 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 the B-CC IWLA Chapter House and outdoors. 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/>. Participants will be sent a questionnaire to fill out and bring to the event.

An email blast with a Signup Genius link will be created to register for the event in late April/early May. Emails with questions should be directed to Mark Gochnour at [hunting.seminar.bcciwla@gmail.com](mailto:hunting.seminar.bcciwla@gmail.com).

## Wilderness First Aid Course Troop 496 and Troop 239

During the weekend of February 11-13, 2022, the Virginia based Center for Wilderness Safety held a CPR and Wilderness First Aid course at Bethesda – Chevy Chase (BCC) Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA). This course was sponsored by the Poolsville Boy Scout Troop 496 and used the B-CC IWLA

Chapter house. Scouts and Adults from Troop 496 and Troop 239 (Darnestown Girls BSA Troop) participated in preparation for their weeklong High Adventure trips this summer to Sea Base. The following are comments from some of the participants describing what they learned in the course:

*One thing I liked about the course was that all of the content is applicable to my life, and could be used on my future boy scout trips. I especially enjoyed the simulation of an event that led to injuries that we completed at the end of the course. One thing that I did not know was how to do proper CPR before this course, and when to do it. I hope to never need to use my new skills, but I would be confident in my abilities if I would need to.*

*The course was really fun. The instructor was amazing and made long sessions of powerpoint fun. The course covered a wide range of topics but if I were to choose one thing I enjoyed learning about the most was how to treat altitude sickness. This was very helpful to learn about because I know with the Boy Scouts trips we may take there could be cases of altitude sickness.*

*The weekend I spent with the Center of Wilderness Survival was the best weekend I've had since covid started. I learned how to treat a wide variety of illness and injuries, and am much more confident in my skills for when I'm out in the wilderness.*

*The CPR and first aid training was incredible. It was well structured and covered a huge amount of material. It also presented everything in a fun way that was easy to understand. It is hard to name just one thing that I learned because I learned so many new things. But if I had to choose, I would say learning about how to build makeshift splints for any occasion was interesting and useful.*

The scouts and adults that attended this course would like to thank the IWLA for the opportunity to use their facilities.

## Summer Biathlon Program

Steve Eschholz  
240 472-6512 (text) [fitnesscrafters@earthlink.net](mailto:fitnesscrafters@earthlink.net)

Questions or a desire to be on the B-CC IWLA Summer Biathlon Program mailing list, contact Steve Eschholz – [fitnesscrafters@earthlink.net](mailto:fitnesscrafters@earthlink.net) or text 240 472-6512. The 2022 schedule is below:

Saturday, March 19	7:30am
Saturday, April 2	7:30am
Saturday, April 16	7:30am
Saturday, April 30	7:00am
Saturday, May 14	7:30am
Saturday, May 28	7:30am
Saturday, June 11	7:30am
Saturday, June 25	7:30am
Saturday, July 9	7:30am
Saturday, July 23	7:30am
Saturday, August 6	7:30am
Saturday, August 20	7:30am
Saturday, September 10	7:00am
Saturday September 24	7:30am
Saturday, October 8	7:30am
Saturday, November 5	7:30am
Saturday, November 12	7:30am

## 2021 Big Pond Creel Census Report

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

The seventh voluntary creel census was conducted in 2021 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 March 11, 2021, and the last catch was reported on November 25, 2021. 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 and species composition 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 near the shelter. The following summarizes the data voluntarily provided by anglers for 2015-2020 and 2021.

	2015-2020	2021
Total hours fished	124-255	265
Average no. of hours fished per angler	1.7-2.2	2.0
No. of angler trips	68-156	131
Average no. angler trips per month	9-14	14.6
Total no. of bluegills caught	31-274	100
Percent bluegills<5"	43-74	42
Percent bluegills>5"	26-57	58
Total no. of largemouth bass caught	177-404	522
Percent largemouth bass<10"	27-64	43
Percent largemouth bass>10"	36-73	57
Largest largemouth bass caught	5-8 lbs.	7 lbs.
Catch rate for bluegills	0.6/hr-1.4/hr.	0.38
Catch rate for largemouth bass	1.1/hr-2.4/hr.	1.97
Catch rate for bluegills & largemouth bass	2.0/hr.-3.8/hr.	2.3

The amount of fishing pressure or effort in the big pond was less in 2021 compared to 2020. In 2021, there were 131 angler trips with 265 total hours fished. In 2020, there were 156 angler trips with 320 hours fished. For the previous six years the average number of angler trips was 102 and average number of hours fished was 205. The average number of angler trips per month for 2021 was comparable to 14 in 2020 but higher than the average of 11 for the years 2015-2019. One angler made 71 trips to the big pond which accounted for 55 percent of all angler trips reported for 2021. The highest number of angler trips per month in 2021 (26) occurred in July while the highest per month in 2020 (28) occurred in May. The highest number of angler trips per month (40) reported to date occurred in April 2017.

The number of largemouth bass reported caught in 2021 (522) was about 43 percent greater than that reported in 2020 (365) and was the highest catch reported since the voluntary creel census was started in 2015. One angler reported catching 25 largemouth bass over 10 inches during the evening of June 5th. Fifty-three percent of the largemouth bass reported in the logbook were caught by one angler. This angler reported catching two 7-pound largemouth bass. The reported catch of bluegills in 2021 (100) was much less than reported in 2020 when 191 bluegills were caught; the catch rate was also less in 2021 (0.38/hr.) compared to 0.6/hr. in 2020.

As shown in the above table, the total hours fished (265) and angler trips (131) were down in 2021 compared to 2020 when the total hours fished was 320 and angler trips was 156. A possible reason for an apparent decreased fishing interest at the big pond in 2021 is that there were some extremely hot days in the summer of 2021 and the blue-green algae bloom which resulted in a short-term water contact advisory. This likely deterred some anglers from going down to the big

pond during prime fishing time. There was no lack of largemouth bass as the number reported was the highest since the voluntary creel census was implemented in 2015. However, it is not known whether or how many of the largemouth bass were caught multiple times since there was no marking to track catches. Bluegill catches were down in 2021 and this may have been due in part to predation by largemouth bass or that most anglers were targeting largemouth bass. Further, largemouth bass will readily take bait (worms) used for catching bluegills which could have contributed to the number reported. The electrofishing study conducted in May 2021 did find an abundance of largemouth bass in the big pond. The study recommended that largemouth bass 8" - 12" be removed to reduce competition for forage thereby allowing the largemouth bass greater than 12" to grow bigger and the smaller largemouth bass to fill the gap left by removal of the 8" - 12". A subsequent electrofishing event in October in combination with anglers did remove about 100 largemouth bass 8" - 12" long. Further, 125 pounds of golden shiners were stocked in the big pond for forage to supplement the bluegills preyed upon by largemouth bass. There were two successful bluegill spawnings as confirmed by the capture of nearly 300 fry/fingerlings in late summer.

The 2021 catch data indicates an abundance of largemouth bass as documented in the May electrofishing study. In short there is an imbalance in the fish community structure consisting of largemouth bass and bluegills. The number of bluegills caught in 2021 was about half that reported in 2020 which would suggest heavy predation on the big pond's primary forage species. Forty-two percent of the reported bluegill catch was under 5" which is within the ideal size range available for largemouth bass predation. Right now, it is uncertain if removal of 8" - 12" largemouth bass during the October electrofishing study has had any effect on restoring the predator prey balance in the big pond. Another voluntary creel census will be conducted in 2022 and anglers will be requested to remove 8" - 12" largemouth bass. A further electrofishing project to remove 8" - 12" is being considered.

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



Shoots begin at 3:00pm  
All shooters must sign-in at the range house  
before they join a squad.

Questions? Contact Warner Parks  
wparcs29@gmail.com  
240 620-6942

# CHAPTER SPRING CLEANUP

**Saturday, April 9 – 8:30am**

Chapter members and their families are invited to take part in our **SPRING CLEANUP** to help prepare the farm for spring and summer activities. This is a great opportunity for new members to become acquainted with the Chapter, meet other members, 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 washing and sweeping the outside of the Chapter House to meet anyone's interest and physical ability level. Please bring your work gloves, shovels, rakes, loppers, and leaf blowers. If you bring a chain saw or weed-whacker, please be sure you also bring the necessary safety equipment.

Social distancing guidelines as prescribed by the state will be observed by all. In order to assure that the B-CC IWLA maintains compliance with MD State COVID-19 Guidelines, a sign-up genius will be used to help plan for food and social distancing.

**PLEASE 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 organized by other chapter members (Committee Chairs or Crew Chiefs) who will provide details of the tasks for the day. Some of the work may take place on different parts of the farm and may require driving to the location.

*Lunch will be provided to all who attend after the bulk of the cleanup work is completed, around 1:00pm.*

Certain projects may require more time, and some less time to accomplish. This is normal. Please come out whether you can commit to just a couple of hours or the entire day. Your contribution is greatly needed and appreciated.

*Any committee chairs or crew chiefs that are planning projects for Cleanup Day, please contact 1st V.P. Walt Allensworth at the email below to help him coordinate equipment, volunteers, and other resources.*

**We look forward to seeing YOU on Saturday, April 9th!**

Walt Allensworth  
B-CC IWLA 1st Vice President  
wsallensworth@icloud.com

## Spring Turkey Season

Lin Schmale-Tate, President

**There's a gang of Wild Turkeys stalking America –**

In Washington, DC, a hen turkey appeared outside my home office window on its way toward Georgetown. It was watched carefully by a police informant Fish Crow in case the turkey was planning mischief.

In New Hampshire, a motorcyclist crashed after being assaulted by an enraged turkey.

In New Jersey, a terrified postman rang 911 after a dozen members of a turkey gang prevented him from leaving his truck to deliver the mail.

That's the bad news.

**The good news is that turkeys are a conservation success story!**

By the early 1900s, America's wild turkey population had been reduced to about 30,000 birds—a smaller number than exists today for several species with an uncertain future. Today seven million turkeys live in North America, occupying almost all suitable habitat and expanding beyond their original range, courtesy of sportsmen and women, and Conservationists like you.

**How did conservationists achieve this dramatic turnaround?**

Largely through Conservation legislation initiated by citizens of our Democracy and supported by both political parties...

- The wild turkey began to make its comeback during the Great Depression when the Pittman-Robertson Act of 1937 put a tax on sporting arms and ammunition. The revenues were used to bring back wildlife, and
- In 1940 the federal Wildlife Restoration program began to return the wild turkey back to its old habitat.

One hundred and fifty-eight years ago, in the midst of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln proclaimed that with one voice the American People should "...set apart and observe the last Thursday of November, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise."

During this spring's Turkey season, the **Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America** thanks you for your support of native wildlife and the habitats that support them. All America celebrates our Democracy and gives thanks for the abundance of the harvest

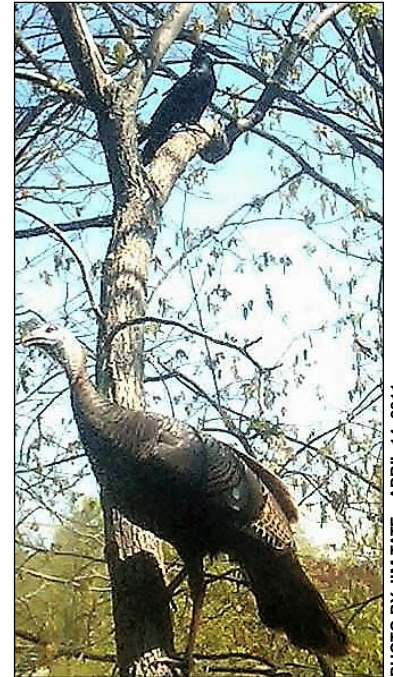


PHOTO BY JIM TATE - APRIL 14, 2011

# *Honoring Our Heritage, Embracing Our Future*



2022 will be a momentous year for the Izaak Walton League of America as we celebrate our 100th anniversary.

Help support the IWLA Centennial by purchasing items that are available through the following link: <https://members.iwla.org/apps/#Store>

Embroidered Baseball Caps, Denim Shirts, Fishing Shirts, T-Shirts (adult and youth sizes), Vintage Grocery Bag, Veggie Reusable Bag, Reusable Straws and more are all available.

