



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

At the reading of this newsletter, many of you will have noticed that we have not started on the Shotgun Reclamation project. There is an update to this project under the Shotgun Range report.

The beginning of the month brought us the Spring Hunter Safety course and even though Mother Nature seems to throw us a curveball every year with a rainy weekend, it still ends up being a very successful weekend. We had a great class with some of the best instructors around and a 100% passing rate of all students. Kudos to the B-CC IWLA Hunter Safety Instructor Team.

There are many activities in the works starting this month with David Mecklenburg as our speaker at the monthly dinner meeting, the Conservation Education Dinner, fun shoot at R&P and rolling into June with the Silent Auction/Swap Meet.

We are working on plans to open back up the Shotgun Range for Sporting Clays only. This will include Sundays, Tuesday's Sporting Clays, and organizing some fun shoots. Further updates will be sent via Eblast.

We are also in the midst of planning another Firearm Raffle so be on the lookout for those details.

Let's get outside to enjoy the fresh air and warm weather while avoiding the ticks as best we can.

Carol Hulce-Efdimis
President

Membership Committee Report

Scott Harmon, Membership Secretary
scott.w.harmon@verizon.net 301 467-0645 (cell)

As of May 1st, membership stands at 732 total Members (611 Paid Memberships): 403 Individuals, 242 Family, 2 Students, 1 Youth, 72 Retired, and 12 Associates. Our membership numbers have been reduced after a reconciliation of our records, national's database records, and our PayPal and check payment spread sheets.

If you have not gotten a membership card, reach out to me so that we can resolve the issue.

An email was sent to members that we did not have recorded work hours for in 2023. No worries if you worked hours in 2023 and got this email. All we need from you is an email documenting your work hour with approximate dates worked, committee you worked for, and hours worked. Mandatory range duty days do not count for worked hours. Working for the ranges outside of your range duty days does.

Work hours are easy to record. Just click or copy and paste the link below to record your hours.

<https://bcciwla.org/log-your-hours/>

As a member, 6 volunteer work hours are required every year as provided by our chapter by-laws. You can opt out of working these hours by paying a \$50 work fee at renewal.

Cost of Monthly Dinner

Due to the increased cost of food, the price for a dinner at our monthly meetings will increase from \$10 to \$15. The new cost will go into effect at the May Dinner Meeting.

R&P Range Open

The Rifle & Pistol Range will be open on the evening of the monthly dinner meetings from 4:00pm to 6:00pm for members and guests.

June 1, June 8, and July 4, 2024

**No recreational fishing license
required on these days.**

**All other state fishing
regulations apply.**

**Go to dnr.maryland.gov
for more information.**



Board of Governors

Fiscal Year: September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024

OFFICERS

Carol Hulce-Efdimis, President

240 277-2494 • carol2017@aol.com

Andy Wight, 1st Vice President

240 205-3982 • andywight1@hotmail.com

Francis (Jerry) Murray, 2nd Vice President

202 438-4202 • jerrym5@comcast.net

Bob Kelly,* Treasurer

202 445-7097 • rnkelly1974@gmail.com

Scott Harmon, Membership Secretary

301 467-0645 • scott.w.harmon@verizon.net

Janet Lamkin, Corresponding Secretary

301 466-6557 • j.lamkin@comcast.net

BOARD MEMBERS

Deborah Behrend

Marc Bouchard

Dan Dutton

Joe Finnegan

Phil Taylor

Walt Allensworth, Past President

301 221-3594 • twangermd@gmail.com

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

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

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

Submissions to the *NEWSLETTER* should be sent to:

Janet Lamkin

j.lamkin@comcast.net

301 466-6557

UPDATE TO FACILITIES USE REGULATIONS DRIVING ON CHAPTER PROPERTY

Any vehicle including but not limited to cars, trucks, bikes, UTVs or horses are not allowed off the designated roadways and parking areas due to the risk of soil displacement and erosion on our trails and fields.

Permission to drive on the property can be granted by the Board of Governors or the Committee Chairs in the event of participating with Committee events.

Summary of the March 2024 Board of Governors Meeting and the April 2024 Membership Meeting

Janet Lamkin, Corresponding Secretary

Jerry Murray, 2nd Vice President

Wednesday, March 27, 2024 – Board of Governors Meeting

- President Carol Hulce-Efdimis called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.
- Board Member Deborah Behrend and Treasurer Bob Kelly discussed the Chapter's financial positions.
- Discussed Near-Term Capital Fund, Management Reserve, and Long-Term Capital Fund. We will need to send our first of three payments to Legacy in September 2024.
- For the time being, Committee Chairs need to ask BOG permission to spend funds.
- A gun raffle could help generate funds.
- 4 applications for membership were reviewed by the BOG.
- Phil Taylor presented a report on the prescribed burn.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

- Phil Taylor attended a soil seminar hosted by the MD Department of Agriculture, and learned about a state funded cover crop cost sharing program. Phil also mentioned there is a company that re-sells wildflower seed at a substantial discount and is exploring this company as a new seed source for the farm.

NEW BUSINESS (that requires a motion):

- Motion made to approve new member applications – **Motion approved.**
- Motion to approve the new language for driving personal vehicles, etc., on Chapter property, other than designated areas, for personal purposes. **Motion approved.**
- Motion to investigate and potentially pursue MD Department of Agriculture grant for farm materials to help with the cost of cover crops, provided action is consistent with current plans. **Motion approved.**

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER:

- Website remains out of date. Members need to add their volunteer hours to the website.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.

Wednesday, April 17, 2024 – 1,062nd Membership Dinner Meeting

- President Carol Hulce-Efdimis called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.
- There was no 50/50 raffle tonight.
- President Carol Hulce-Efdimis discussed that we have been losing money on the cost of the monthly dinner meetings. The price of the dinner has not increased since the 90's. In order to keep a balanced budget and stay in line with the increased food costs, starting in May the cost of the dinner will increase to \$15.00.
- Treasurer Bob Kelly was not present so the President provided an update on the Chapter's bank accounts.
- Membership Secretary Scott Harmon reported that the Chapter currently has 786 voting members. He also discussed that when the membership renewals for 2024 went out, the amount owed for renewal was not updated to include the fee for the members that did not perform work hours. We will be contacting those members whom we do not have a record of work hours performed to collect the fee.

(continued on page 3)

SUMMARY

(continued from page 2)

- 16 prospective members introduced themselves at the meeting and 7 were there for their 3rd meeting. A motion was made to accept the new members. **Motion passed.**
- Chapter house Chair John Lamb talked about the interior painting that was done on work day.
- Larry Hess talked about the upcoming Military Fun shoot scheduled on May 18.
- Conservation Education Committee Chair Andy Wight spoke about the Members Survey and would like everyone to fill it out. The more input the better the results. He also provided an update on the Family campout and the upcoming Conservation Education Dinner/Awards presentation. Volunteers are needed to help out with Heritage Day on June 30.
- State Division Director Bill Gordon talked about the upcoming National Convention in Cambridge, MD on July 14-16. Information is on the national website.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

May 2024 1,063rd Monthly Dinner / Membership Meeting

Wednesday, May 15

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

GUEST SPEAKER

David Mecklenburg, our resident Beekeeper, will talk about the bee hives he maintains at the Chapter.

May 2024 Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, May 22

7:00pm

New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour

Come join us on the B-CC IWLA Orientation Tour. The next tour will take place on **Saturday, May 18, 2024** from 10:00am to approximately 11:30am *if weather permits*.

This event is open to all members (new and old) and those who are interested in membership to the chapter or just curious about what we do.

The guided tour of our property will include an overview of our history and mission, our facilities, the partnerships with local schools and organizations, and a chance to meet and ask questions to current members.

Meet Christine Peterson at the Chapter House. Follow Izaak Walton Way through the gate to the Chapter House parking lot where we will be meeting to start the tour.

Signup for the tour using the [signup genius link below](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-48977796-newmember):

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-48977796-newmember>

Please make sure you include your email address and cell phone number so that if the tour needs to be canceled due to a change in the weather, Christine will be able to contact you.

Contact Christine – christineakcp@comcast.net or 301 938-9773 (cell) if you have questions.



HERITAGE DAY CELEBRATION AT THE CHAPTER

Sunday, June 30

12:00 noon – 4:00pm

The B-CC IWLA Chapter is pleased to open its doors once again for Heritage Days and will offer access to our site to promote our conservation message as well as share our local history. This year marks the 25th annual Heritage Days weekend – a countywide festival offering programs, activities, and tours appealing to visitors of all ages and interests. This year we will be opening our doors on Sunday, June 30th. We encourage you to come to the site, visit others and enjoy our displays, activities and discover things about the chapter you may not know. Family activities such as fishing, archeology, colonial living, archery, air pistols, bird watching, wildlife and insect displays, in addition to a picnic lunch and soft drinks. This is a great chance to visit the chapter with your family and/or bring guests to show what the IWLA is all about. Gates will be open from 12:00 noon to 4:00pm on Sunday, June 30th (Rain or Shine).

Have time to volunteer? We always need volunteers. Please sign up using the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-48781299-2024>

SAVE THE DATE

Black Powder Day / Muzzleloader Event

This event has been **rescheduled** for
Saturday, September 28.

Updated information about the event will be posted in the June newsletter including a [signup genius link](#).

Contact Mark Gochnour at
mgonutman@gmail.com if you have questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

B-CC IWLA and Community

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

Chapter House Cleanup

Sunday, May 12
10:00am – 12:00 noon

1,063rd Membership Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, May 15
Dinner – 6:15pm; Meeting 7:30pm

New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour

Saturday, May 18
10:00am – 11:30am

Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, May 22
7:00pm

Conservation Education and Awards Dinner (Spaghetti)

Saturday, May 25
Speaker – Dr. Luke Macaulay
Dinner – 6:00pm; Awards – 7:00pm; Speaker – 7:30pm

Introduction to Hunting Seminar

Saturday, June 1
9:00am – 4:00pm

Swap Meet and Silent Auction

Saturday, June 8
Setup at 8:00am
Event – 9:00am – 3:00pm

Vegetable Gardens

A few garden plots are still available. Contact Larry Anderson (240 246-5301 or andupton9@hotmail.com) or Pat Tarquinio (ptarq@hotmail.com) if you are interested in renting a plot this year. Single plots (~25 x 25 ft) rent for \$20 each.



Calendar Submissions

Meetings and events that need to be added to the website calendar and newsletter calendar should be sent to 1st Vice President Andy Wight, andywight1@hotmail.com, and Corresponding Secretary Janet Lamkin, j.lamkin@comcast.net.

Chapter Entrances

Members must not block chapter entrances (main gate and cattle gates) along Izaak Walton Way and West Willard Road. Emergency vehicles and farm equipment must have access at all times.

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 June 1st. 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 treestand location, safety and first aid, hunting apps, being skunked, what can you learn when you miss, advantages 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 Education course 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 at the B-CC IWLA Chapter House in Poolesville, MD. Check in begins at 8:30am and we will start at 9:00am and will 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 and exposed body parts are treated with bug spray to resist ticks and other critters.

All non-B-CC IWLA members must bring their printed and signed off Hold Harmless Agreements which are available from [B-CC IWLA Hold Harmless Document-190712.docx](#).

Individuals should contact the instructors at hunting.seminar.bcciwla@gmail.com. Any questions about the seminar should be sent to this same email address.

Please use the SignUp Genius link below to register for the event:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-intro3>

Class size is limited to 25, so registering early is recommended. Registration deadline is May 20th.

Chapter House Update

John Lamb, Committee Chair
jpatricklamb@aol.com

Many thanks to Shawn Jeffers, Paul Spangler, Dennis Everett, and Daniel Pasquale for painting the great room / dining hall of the Chapter House and refurbishing the sound baffles.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Monthly Events

Mondays *BSA Scout Meetings in the Chapter House* *7:30pm – 9:00pm*

MAY

Wednesday, May 1	Apollo Archery – Archery Range	6:00pm – Dark
Thursday, May 2	Past Presidents Dinner	6:00pm – 10:00pm
Saturday, May 4	Spring Hunter Education Class	8:00am – 4:00pm
Saturday, May 4	R&P Range Closed in the afternoon for Hunter Education Class	Starting at 12:30pm
Sunday, May 5	Montgomery Bird Club's Spring Walk	7:00am – 12:00 noon
Sunday, May 5	Spring Hunter Education Class	8:00am – 4:00pm
Tuesday, May 7	Pack 694 Crossover	6:00pm – 9:00pm
Thursday, May 9	Pack 694 Den Meet (Kyle) – in Chapter House	7:00pm – 8:00pm
Saturday, May 11	Stop the Bleed Training in Chapter House	11:00am – 12:00 noon
Sunday, May 12	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, May 15	1,063rd Membership Dinner Meeting Speaker – David Mecklenburg will talk about the bee hives	Dinner starts 6:15pm Meeting starts 7:30pm
Thursday, May 16	Cub Scout 694 Meeting	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Saturday, May 18	2nd Annual Military Fun Shoot – R&P Range	9:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, May 18	New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour	10:00am – 11:30am
Wednesday, May 22	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Friday, May 24	Articles for June Newsletter due – send articles to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, May 25	Conservation Education Dinner and Awards Speaker – Dr. Luke Macaulay	Dinner – 6:00pm Awards – 7:00pm Speaker – 7:30pm

JUNE

Saturday, June 1	Introduction to Hunting Seminar	8:30am – 4:00pm
Saturday, June 1	NAVHDA Spring Test – Chapter House, front fields, and ponds	8:00am – 5:00pm
Saturday, June 1	License Free Fishing Day in Maryland (dnr.maryland.gov)	6:00am – 9:00pm
Sunday, June 2	NAVHDA Spring Test – Chapter House	8:00am – 5:00pm
Wednesday, June 5	Apollo Archery – Archery Range	6:00pm – Dark
Thursday, June 6	Cub Scout Pack 694 Crossover	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Saturday, June 8	License Free Fishing Day in Maryland (dnr.maryland.gov)	6:00am – 9:00pm
Saturday, June 8	Swap Meet and Silent Auction Sporting Clays at the Shotgun Range – Lunch at the Chapter House	Setup at 8:00am Event 9:00am – 3:00pm
Saturday, June 15	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, June 19	1,064th Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner starts 6:15pm Meeting starts 7:30pm
Saturday, June 22	New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour	10:00am – 11:30am
Monday, June 24	BSA Seneca District – Week Long Summer Day Camp	8:00am – 4:00pm
Tuesday, June 25	BSA Seneca District – Week Long Summer Day Camp	8:00am – 4:00pm
Wednesday, June 26	BSA Seneca District – Week Long Summer Day Camp	8:00am – 4:00pm
Wednesday, June 26	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Thursday, June 27	BSA Seneca District – Week Long Summer Day Camp	8:00am – 4:00pm
Friday, June 28	BSA Seneca District – Week Long Summer Day Camp	8:00am – 4:00pm
Friday, June 28	Articles for July Newsletter due – send articles to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Sunday, June 30	25th Annual Heritage Day – activities and exhibits at the Chapter	12:00 noon – 4:00pm

JULY

Wednesday, July 3	Apollo Archery – Archery Range	6:00pm – Dark
Thursday, July 4	License Free Fishing Day in Maryland (dnr.maryland.gov)	6:00am – 9:00pm
Saturday, July 13	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, July 17	1,065th Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner starts 6:15pm Meeting starts 7:30pm
Saturday, July 20	New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour	10:00am – 11:30am
Wednesday, July 24	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Friday, July 26	Articles for August Newsletter due – send articles to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day

The Campground is closed during all black powder and firearms deer season.

Shotgun Range Lead Reclamation Update

Blaine Elkins
Environmental Stewardship Committee
blaineelkins@verizon.net

After pricing out the current plan for lead reclamation to discuss with the Legacy Board, an alternative option came up that we are assessing. That option is to use binding agents which prevent the lead from leaching into groundwater or streams instead of removal.

The USEPA's guidance on managing lead at outdoor shooting ranges identifies a variety of Best Management Practices (BMPs) but acknowledges that not all BMPs are practical for every range operation. The key requirement is to implement BMPs and actively manage lead to control environmental and health risks. The Chapter's Environmental Stewardship Plan identifies several BMPs that are intended to manage lead.

Maintaining soil pH at a neutral range (6-8) is one of the most important BMPs because in neutral soils, lead is essentially insoluble in water. Instead, if there is any breakdown, the lead will physically bind to the soil particles, which prevents migration. There are also compounds that will bind with lead molecules and prevent migration. These binding or encapsulating agents are an appropriate lead management tool which is included in the Chapter's ESP. We had already planned to use these agents as part of the Chapter's lead management actions, as there are areas where we cannot physically remove the lead shot (e.g., cannot cut vegetation or disturb soils in stream and wetland buffers; cannot operate equipment on steep and uneven terrain).

We are currently looking into products from several companies that use various compounds to perform this process. Many use basic materials such as phosphorus and magnesium, which react with the lead and form a compound that will not dissolve in water. This prevents the lead from migrating into surface or groundwater. The change in plans from the planned removal work will allow the Chapter to limit the disturbed area and allow the larger trees to remain in place and limit any reduction in the tree crown area.

Legacy has asked that we look into this option to see if it is a viable alternative to the removal process. We have put the current lead removal plan on hold while we pursue this possibility. While this is underway do not disturb the wooden engineering stakes with white, pink or orange flagging tape on them.



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

If you would like an event to be posted on Facebook, contact Andy Wight at ConservationEd.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

Apollo Archery Program



The Apollo Archery program provides archery instruction and experiences for current and former members of the United States Armed Services and their families. Check out program details here: <https://bcciwla.org/apollo-archery/>

As in prior years, we will host Apollo Archery sessions on the first Wednesday of each month through October. We will start at 6:00pm and finish at dark.

2024 dates: April 3; May 1; June 5; July 3; August 7; September 4; October 2

- ◆ There is no fee for participation.
- ◆ Beginners and experts are welcome.
- ◆ All equipment provided for adult and child participants: bows, arrows, release aids, etc.
- ◆ We invite experienced archers to bring their own equipment.
- ◆ The course and facilities are wheelchair accessible.
- ◆ Check out Apollo Archery on the chapter **website** [CLICK HERE](#) and on **facebook** [PAGE HERE](#)
- ◆ For additional details contact Chuck Thornton (apolloarchery.bcciwla@gmail.com)!

Please share this opportunity with veterans and current Service members near the Montgomery County, Maryland area.



Trout Fishing at the Small Pond

The limit for trout caught and kept at the small pond has been increased from three to five per person per visit. Come on out to the chapter and enjoy a few hours fishing at the small pond.

Questions? Contact John Novak, novakgang4@comcast.net or Pete Wirth, peter_wirth@verizon.net.



**It's not on Father's Day this year... but the
SWAP MEET AND SILENT AUCTION
will be on SATURDAY, JUNE 8**

Set up - 8:00am
Event - 9:00am to 3:00pm



**We all have too much stuff!
And you've had a couple of years
to see just how much...**

If you have anything **outdoors** related and would like a **table** for the **swap meet** or to **donate** an item for the **silent auction**, contact -

**Lawrence Kotchek 240 793- 5316
lawrence@print1.com**

Tables are limited and will be reserved in the order requested.

Open to both members and prospective members.
Tables cost **\$10.00** with money going to the Land Fund.
Silent auction benefits the Land Fund.

Archery Committee Report

Jack Mandel, jmandel@design@gmail.com
Marc Bouchard, combat750@gmail.com
To receive regular updates, email Jack or Marc to get on our mailing list:

TARGET RANGE

The target range is open 365 days a year, from sunrise to sunset. Guests must sign "hold-harmless" agreement form and deposit in field box by shooting stations. No ROs need be present, but if you wish to get instruction, please contact us, and we'll get you started!

3-D COURSE SCHEDULE

The 3-D course is available for use only on scheduled days for members and guests; open to all RO's at all daylight hours.

Saturday & Sunday, May 4 & 5 (9:00am - 1:00pm each day)
Thursday*, May 9 (7:00pm - 9:00pm)
Saturday & Sunday, May 18 & 19 (9:00am - 1:00pm each day)

Saturday & Sunday, June 1 & 2 (9:00am - 1:00pm each day)
Sunday, June 16 (9:00am - 1:00pm)
Saturday & Sunday, June 29 & 30 (9:00 am - 1:00 pm each day)

Sunday, July 7 (9:00am - 1:00pm)
Sunday, July 14 (9:00am - 1:00pm)
Saturday & Sunday, July 27 & 28 (9:00am - 1:00pm each day)

Saturday, August 10 (9:00am - 1:00pm)

**The Thursday shoot will include special events, fun competitions, and prizes!*
See the website for more information.

APOLLO ARCHERY

Chuck Thornton and John Gorney have launched the Apollo Archery program this season with a great start. The Apollo Archery scheduled dates are:

**2024 dates: April 3; May 1; June 5; July 3; August 7;
September 4; October 2**

They are also listed on the Archery page of the website, and Chapter calendar.

SCOUT ACTIVITIES

Deborah Behrend and Dave Drazen are continuing the tradition of helping scouting groups earn merit badges and learning the archery discipline.

Camping is available at the range as well. Contact us for scheduling.

BEGINNING ARCHERY SEMINARS

This season we will be conducting at least one beginner archery seminar in mid-May on a Thursday evening; exact date TBD.

Open to all members and guests. Advance sign-up necessary. Light refreshments will be served.

COMPETITION SHOOT

A Thursday evening in June, we will hold a competition with prizes and food from the grill; date TBD.

**50/50
Raffle**
Help Support
the Chapter!



**Raffle tickets will be available
at the monthly dinner meeting**

\$1 per ticket or 6 tickets for \$5

**50% goes to the ticket holder -
50% goes to the Chapter to help
purchase new Adirondack chairs
for the Chapter House porches**

Our goal is to purchase 15 chairs

Rifle & Pistol Range Committee Report

Jerry Murray, Chair
202 438-4202 jerry5@comcast.net

NEW OPERATING HOURS

The Rifle & Pistol Range is now open to the general membership and their guests for the 2024 season. The range is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00am – 4:00pm thru November 23. The range will also be open from 4:00 – 6:00pm before the monthly dinner meeting.

The R&P Range is allowing only 2 guests per member. If you want to have a larger number, please send me an e-mail with your request. The request will be reviewed by the Range Committee.

NEW FEES

Chapter Members are \$8 and Guests are \$10.

If you are bringing a guest, please print out the Hold Harmless Agreement that is listed on the website and have them fill it out when you come to the range. The agreement is needed every time a guest comes to the range. If you have any questions, please contact me.

ECI (Empty Chamber Indicators) are required to be placed in all firearms at the range when they are not in use. There are ECI's located at each shooting positions. You may also bring your own and there are some extras in the range house.

Before coming to the range please review the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) that are posted on the website. The SOP's provide information on how the range is operated and our safety procedures.

RANGE CLOSURES

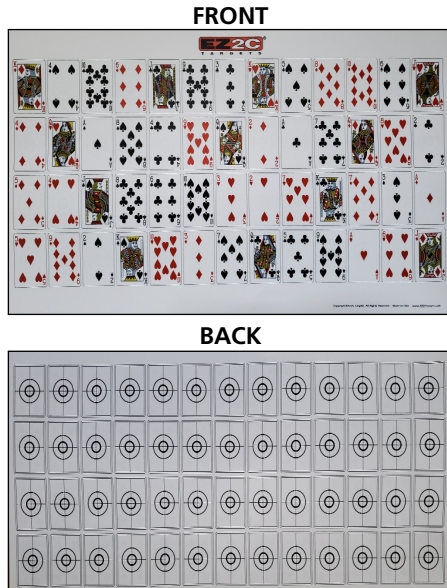
The range may be closed on some days for special events or due to other activities at the chapter. Closures will be posted on the website and at the range. Given sufficient notice we will try and list closures in the newsletter and in e-blasts.

The R&P range will be closed to regular shooting on **Saturday, May 18 from 9:00am – 1:00pm** for the **2nd Annual Military Fun Shoot**.



SECOND ANNUAL MILITARY FUN SHOOT

Please join us for the 2nd annual Military Fun Shoot on Saturday, May 18, 2024 (US Armed Forces Day), from 9:00am – 1:00pm to honor our Military, past and present. Prizes will be awarded and Lunch will be served. This was a very well attended event on the R&P range last year! Bring your 20th Century or later US Military rifle (bolt action or Semi-auto), carbine or handgun, (AR-15, M1A, .22 caliber training rifles and any pistol firing .22LR, 9mm .45ACP or .38 Special will also be allowed). Some examples of



IMAGES OF (FUN SHOOT) TARGETS BY LARRY HESS

US Military rifles will be available to borrow. If you ever wanted to shoot a vintage military rifle, here's your chance! Don't have any of those options? Bring your favorite .22 caliber rifle or borrow one at the event. Iron sights, scopes, and red-dot sights will all be allowed, but in separate categories. Bi-pods, rests and slings will also be allowed. Please bring your own ammo. We will be using non-standard targets at 100yds, 50yds and 50ft, as appropriate for the firearm, designed to allow everyone an equal chance to win a prize (see the photos). We will be shooting at the back side of the target with the faces of the cards not showing. If we have enough willing participants, we will have an optional skill competition to determine the best shot in each category. This will use the front side of the target. Ten shots will be fired at the target and 5 scored to get the best 5-card poker hand. Only one hit per card will count. Battleship targets will also be available as an option, for the skill competition. Cost will be \$20 for the event including lunch (range fees waived). Use the link below to sign up if you are interested in participating.

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

The R&P range will be closed to regular shooting during the event.

Contact Event coordinator, Larry Hess or Jerry Murray if you have any questions: larry.a.hess@gmail.com or jerry5@comcast.net.

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

May

Saturday, May 4	Boynton, D.; Morisette, C.; Gochnour, M.; Pickett, M.; Hoover, J.
Sunday, May 5	Finn, K.; Hess, D.; Watt, D.; West, K.
Saturday, May 11	Pasquale, D.; Maisel, J.; Summers, D.; Lucas, V.
Sunday, May 12	Thornton, C.; Finn, K.; Sauri, M.; Lucas, V.
Saturday, May 18	Griffin, J.; Ossi, G.; Koehn, D.; Stemp, K.
Sunday, May 19	Wight, A.; Griffin, J.; Spence, P.
Saturday, May 25	Hensley, J.; Edwards, R.; Efdimis, C.; Myers, J.
Sunday, May 26	Sullivan, A.; Roth, A.; Efdimis, C.; Twomey, P.

June

Saturday, June 1	Summers, D.; Sullivan, A.; Hensley, J.; Stemp, K.
Sunday, June 2	Panashchenko, O.; Wight, A.; Spence, P.; King, B.
Saturday, June 8	Shi, TC.; Duncan, S.; Schmidt, K.; Richards, W.
Sunday, June 9	Crowley, D.; Keenan, J.; Thornton, C.; Carroll, P.
Saturday, June 15	Hammes, P.; Duncan, S.; Richards, W.; Wellman, L.
Sunday, June 16	Rodgers, J.; Panashchenko, O.; Myers, J.; Dady, P.
Saturday, June 22	Carroll, P.; Shi, TC.,
Sunday, June 23	Adams, J.; Roth, A.



Conservation Education Dinner and Awards

Saturday, May 25

Dinner – 6:00pm; Awards – 7:00pm; Speaker – 7:30pm

Please block your calendars and register for this year's Conservation Education Dinner. This annual dinner is open to members, their guests, and interested members of the public. The event traditionally features a speaker who addresses a conservation-oriented area, work, or issue. Our guest speaker this year will be Dr. Luke Macaulay from the College of Agricultural and Natural Resources at the University of Maryland. Dr. Macaulay conducts applied research and extension (outreach and education) in wildlife management and conservation, with a focus on practical approaches to enhance wildlife habitat and mitigate wildlife problems in agricultural, forested and grassland/shrubland systems.



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Continuing on from last year, this year we will also be presenting our B-CC IWLA Conservation Education Awards to selected projects from the Global Ecology Program at Poolesville High School. These awards are given to projects that our review team felt were aligned with the conservation values of our chapter. The Global Ecology Program at PHS is a field-based program that provides students with the knowledge and understanding of the scientific, cultural, social, political, economic, and technological conditions that affect the quality of life on our planet. All seniors in the program are required to complete a hands-on environment-related project prior to graduation.



The Global Ecology Program

Adding an excellent spaghetti dinner to a compelling speaker and a chance to recognize our Award recipients promises that this Conservation Dinner will be another that you don't want to miss.

Dinner will be served 6:00pm – 7:00pm, with the awards starting at 7:00pm, followed by our guest speaker. 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/10C0D4DCAA28A7F8C25-48765867-2024>

If you are able to help with the setup, preparation of the dinner, and cleanup for this event, or have any questions, please contact Andy Wight – ConservationEducation.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you all on Saturday night, May 25 at 6:00pm!

Avian News

Diane Seward
Citizen-Science Projects Coordinator
trina65@verizon.net

Our FeederWatch project closed at the end of March, coinciding with the beginning of bluebird nesting attempts. By mid-April, the chapter had several Eastern Bluebird nests, eggs and even a few young. See the photos contributed by Linda Green. By month's end, Tree Swallows had begun nest building, while Purple Martins descended on their quarters near the chapter house and began to choose their nesting accommodations for the season. They are a very chatty group; come watch and listen.

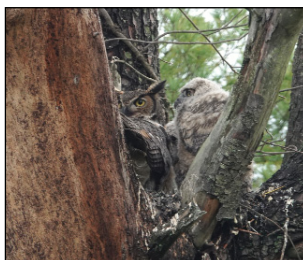
The chapter was host to a nest of Great Horned Owls. Two owlets were produced and raised. They fledged in April. See the accompanying photos. Thank you Linda Green for submitting them!

The Montgomery Bird Club held its annual spring walk at the conservation farm on Sunday, May 5. We should have a report of their observations in the June newsletter.

Eastern Bluebirds



Great Horned Owls



PHOTOS BY LINDA GREEN

Chapter Elections and the Nominating Committee

Our Chapter is entirely volunteer run, and our officers and board of governors all serve one-year terms. Terms begin on September first of each year and conclude at the end of August. We seem to maintain a great deal of continuity in the administration and experience on the board, as the officers typically move through the ranks towards the presidency, thereby serving multiple years. Our most recent past president remains on the board as a voting member for the year immediately following his or her presidency.

A Nominating Committee is selected each year by the current president. This committee is responsible for assembling a slate of board members and officers for the June election. The nominating Committee also makes selections for the Legacy Foundation board.

The Legacy Foundation is a supporting 501(c)3 non-profit charged with the stewardship of the majority of our liquid assets. Their board has three-years terms that are staggered by design, and they are entirely installed by our chapter. Some members are proposed by our president for the election slate, some by our nominating committee and voted on by the membership.

On the nominating committee, we arrive at a slate by discussing plans of current officers and board members and reaching out to active members we believe might have interest and ability. The slate is put together as a baseline for the election process, but any member can also petition to be included on the election ballot at the May dinner meeting.

The election is held at the June dinner meeting; the incoming board is sworn in at the August meeting.

As always, if you are interested in serving on the B-CC Board of Governors, feel free to contact any of our committee members or Board of Governors to discuss possibilities.

– **The Nominating Committee:** Christine Peterson – chairperson, Jason Griffin, Meg O'Rourke

Proposed Slate for Board of Governors 2024 – 2025

Officers

President	Andy Wight
First Vice President	Jerry Murray
Second Vice President	Position Open
Treasurer	Bob Kelly (tentative)
Corresponding Secretary	Janet Lamkin
Recording Secretary	Position Open
Membership Secretary	Scott Harmon
Past President	Carol Hulce-Efdimis

Board Members

Shannon Novak
Marc Bouchard
Position Open
Position Open
Position Open

Legacy Board

Lawrence Kotchek

Wildflower Committee Report

BCC_Wildflowers@Yahoo.com

Prickly Pear Cactus – surprisingly it's a native plant!

In our West Woods we have a Shale Barren, a special environment that we work to conserve. You can find it close to River Road.

A Shale Barren occurs when a band of shale protrudes from a south facing hillside. This combination creates an environment that looks like a western desert. It has little soil and is quite dry because rainwater sheds quickly. During summer the sun bakes the shale so the surface temperature often exceeds 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

This environment is not for every plant or animal. However, unusual habitats often support unusual species which is the case here. Shale Barrens support Prickly Pear cactus. Surprisingly, this cactus is native to Maryland and every other State except for Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.

Our Wildflower Committee recently planted Prickly Pear cactus near the main entrance gate. We believe the environment there is similar enough to a Shale Barren for these hardy cactus to thrive.

One benefit will be that it produces flowers the bees love. Also, these cactus serve as a reminder of our Shale Barrens in the West Woods. We plan to post an educational sign nearby.

Special thanks goes to Chapter Member Janet Lamkin for donating these plants from her home garden!

For more information, or if you'd like to join the Wildflower Committee, you may email BCC_Wildflowers@Yahoo.com.



Shale Barrens with Prickly Pear cactus growing in our West Woods – visible from River Road.

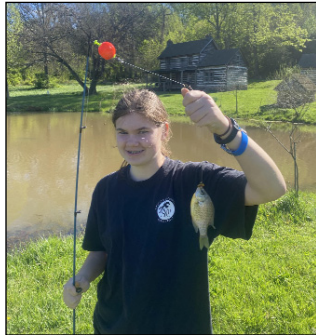


Newly planted Prickly Pear cactus near the entrance gate.

Kids' Fishing – Spring Campout

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

It was a windy afternoon on April 13, 2024; however, this did not deter kids and parents from fishing down at the small pond for bluegills and trout. Luck was in the air as several bluegills were caught along with four trout. The largest trout caught was a 12-inch brown trout. Worms were the bait preferred by bluegills and trout; however, one trout was caught on a lure. All anglers had a great time fishing, and Ponds & Streams members were kept busy baiting hooks, releasing catches, and untangling lines. Thanks to Pete Wirth, Bruce Freund, and Brett Davis for assisting with this event. Brett took the photos of the kids fishing which accompany this article.



PHOTOS BY BRETT DAVIS

Bow Drill Friction Fire Event A Blazing Success

Michael Dobson, Adventure Committee Chair

On Saturday, April 20th, the Adventure Committee hosted a Bow Drill Friction Fire event, during which the chapter's own Jack Kang and Joe Snider taught attendees how to make fire without matches or lighters. Participants started with Ferro rods before making and using their own bow drills out of foraged



PHOTO BY MIKE DOBSON

sticks and other supplies. Results with the bows varied, but everyone had a great time in gorgeous weather, ate well on the steak-and-veggies feast Jack provided, and went home with new Ferro rods, Mora knives, and bow drills to practice with. Enormous thanks to Jack and Joe for sharing their wealth of knowledge, not to mention the gear and grub!

The Adventure Committee is always looking for new workshop ideas. If you have skills you'd like to share with fellow chapter members, email Mike Dobson at michaelvdobson@protonmail.com.

WE NEED YOUR THOUGHTS

A big thank you to everyone who has taken the time to fill out the Chapter survey. We've received over 200 responses, but would like to hear from more of you. Please take this opportunity to share your thoughts on how you use(d) the Chapter and what you would like to see going forward.

We last polled our members 14 years ago and a lot has changed since then. The results of the survey will be tabulated and shared with the membership. We will use the results of this survey to identify areas for investment and improvement, so that we can continue to be the Chapter that our members want it to be.

This is your opportunity to let us know what you like, dislike, and on what you would like us to focus. The survey is anonymous.

Use the link below to send us your thoughts.

<https://forms.gle/PVKEUBZxbEgwZv2D7>

Welcome to the B-CC IWLA Family!

At the April 2024 Membership Meeting, the following were inducted as members to the Chapter:

Ted Goldstock

Interests: Archeology; Skeet & Trap; Wildlife

Daniel Hettich

Interests: Family Picnic; Rifle & Pistol; Scouting

Mike Phillips

Interests: Hiking; Fishing; Shooting Ranges

Ben Rose

Interests: Clay Shooting; Fishing; Wildlife & Trail Management

Scott Speer

Interests: Archery; Star Gazing; Youth Programs

Marc Washington

Interests: Conservation Education; Ponds & Streams; Shotgun Range

Log Cabin Committee Report

David Mecklenburg, Chair
dmecklenburg1@gmail.com

As I write this article I am in Denmark visiting. What a wonderful country where the people are very friendly and it's easy to communicate as most know English. It makes me a little embarrassed as I do not know any language other than English. The history of the country is interesting as well.

We have been touring a number of buildings some built in the 1300's or even older. One of the hotels we stayed in has been continuously operating since 1581. I really appreciate the chapters' log cabin when I see these buildings.

I had a chance to talk with a carpenter whose specialty is half timbered homes. He gave me some tips for working on the smokehouse. We need to replace a number of logs which we hope to obtain as part of our lead reclamation project. Have you ever thought what is the best way to make a round log into a square timber? Now I know.

The wood needs to be green for ease of splitting. You need to start at the bottom and work to the top for the first side then for the next sides start at the top and work to the bottom. Simple right? Probably not but it will be fun to try. Please stay posted as I will need help.

Thank you for everyone who came out to the chapter for spring cleanup. The cabin is in great shape so please visit.



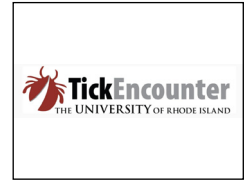
Half timber building



Log cabin after the cleanup

PHOTO BY DAVID MECKLENBURG

ticks in general including some great images of ticks throughout their lifecycle, maps showing which ticks are active in what areas, and steps to help avoid ticks. They also can identify through their tick identification capability at **Tick Spotters**. For this, you simply upload a photo of your tick, and, within 24 hours, you get a report back identifying the type of tick and the likely riskiness of that tick.



For example, I uploaded this image of the tick that I found attached to my arm and by the next day, I received a report back from Tick Encounter. The report stated that the tick was a Lone Star tick and included information about possible diseases this type of tick can carry.

Interestingly, my iPhone also identified the tick as a Lone Star Tick – after taking a picture of the tick, look at it in your photos. Below the image you see the options displayed below. Click on the bug looking icon and it provides more details on the photo, including the identification. I'm not sure how accurate this method is in general, but it agreed with the tick report from Tick Encounters.



Since, according to the report, the tick hadn't been attached long, I determined my risk of getting ill was low. However, had I been concerned, the report provided **links to 3 different labs** where ticks can be sent to be tested for diseases with prices ranging from \$40-\$200 depending on the types of diseases tested for (sites recommend tests based on type of tick).

ATTENTION New Members!

**The next Chapter House cleanup will be on:
Sunday, May 12
Starting at 9:00am**

Join us and earn volunteer hours

As a reminder – probationary (new) members need to help out in one chapter house cleanup as part of their sixteen volunteer hours.

Questions? Contact John Lamb –
jpatricklamb@aol.com

Hmmm....you've encountered an **adult male Lone Star tick (*Amblyomma americanum*)**. This one looks like it was **attached and feeding for less than a day**. It may have been attached longer, as male ticks feed more intermittently than females (so we suppose it could have bitten and then moved in search of a female tick). You might be interested in checking our hyperlink to see how much ticks can [change their appearance](#) the longer they're attached and feeding.

You may be interested to learn that Lone Star ticks **do not transmit Lyme disease bacteria**, but they are aggressive biters and can transmit some other nasty germs. Studies suggest that about 10% of Lone Star ticks may carry *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*, the germ causing human monocytic ehrlichiosis, and *Borrelia lonestari*, a non-Lyme disease borrelia. About that same % carry *Ehrlichia canis* and *Ehrlichia ewingii* which can make a dog or cat sick, too. In some people, bites from Lone Star ticks have been associated with the development of a condition called STARI (southern tick-associated rash illness--cause unknown), and also the development of a curious allergy to red meat. If you've been bitten previously by a Lone Star tick and develop hives or other symptoms of anaphylaxis a few hours after eating red meat, you may want to see your PHP as soon as possible.

Both nymphs and adult lone star ticks can start to transmit Ehrlichia germs in as little as 6 hours, although it may take longer in most circumstances to transmit an infectious dose. The chance for disease from an infected tick increased the longer it is attached and feeding. If your tick is infected and was feeding, it may have transmitted Ehrlichia or other germs, too, and the chance for some disease likely would be low even if the tick is infected. Please note that male lone star ticks do bite and can feed for a day or longer in order to mature their sperm. Then they stop biting and start searching for a female tick to mate with. In nature, they would typically stay on the same wildlife host they latched on to, figuring that a female tick would likely find the same host. If you're concerned about the chance of infection, you may want to have this [tick tested](#) for peace of mind and as a way of determining your next steps. Blood testing will not likely reveal much until antibodies to an infection have time to develop -- about three weeks post tick bite.

Tick Encounter

Julie Wight

It's that time of year again when everyone wants to be outside enjoying the warm weather. That also means it's the time of year again when you need to be even more vigilant about ticks, though with the mild winters we've been having lately, it seems as if you always need to check for ticks!

After being bitten by a tick the other week, I discovered a great resource, the **University of Rhode Island Tick Encounter website**. This site contains a lot of useful information about