



OCTOBER 2024 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

Recently, I had the pleasure of joining our volunteers at the B-CC IWLA booth at Poolesville Day, where they enthusiastically shared the diverse experiences and opportunities our chapter offers. It was fascinating to hear the different themes highlighted in the conversations – sometimes we led with conservation, other times with family-focused outdoor activities, or even our shooting ranges. While the focus varied, one thing remained constant: a strong sense of community emerged from each volunteer who spoke. It reminded me of the results of the survey: people join the Chapter for a variety of reasons, but a key reason they stay is the friendships and connections they've made here.

I would like to encourage you all to come out to the October dinner meeting, rekindle and enjoy the camaraderie with fellow members, vote on the budget, and savor a wonderful Oktoberfest-themed dinner.

Speaking of budgets, the Board and I are focused on member growth and cost management. I'm excited to announce that Shannon Novak will be forming a committee to spearhead our Membership Drive, and Lance Brannman has graciously offered to lead our new Donations and Grants committee. You can find more about these initiatives and how you can help in the newsletter.

Let's continue to work together to make this fall a season of progress, conservation, and community!

Andy Wight  
President

## Board Positions

The Board of Governors is pleased to propose two members to take positions on the Board.

### Sean-David Waterman: Recording Secretary

Sean-David had been a member since 2015 and a rifle and pistol range officer since 2017. He enjoys hunting, bushcraft, and herbology in addition to target shooting.

### Lloyd Iden: Board Member

Lloyd has been a member of the IWLA for over 16 years. He spends his time at the Chapter training his three dogs, gardening and using the shotgun range. He also loves to hunt, fly fish and ski.

We plan to ratify these nominations at the next Dinner Meeting.

## Committee Members Needed

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join the Chapter's newly-formed Membership Drive Committee. This committee will play a critical role in developing innovative strategies to grow our Chapter's membership and ensure the retention of our valued members.

If you are passionate about conservation, enjoy connecting with people, and want to help shape the future of our Chapter, we need your input!

This is a great opportunity to contribute your ideas, build community connections, and support the mission of our Chapter.

Interested members can contact Board Member, Shannon Novak ([snovak516@gmail.com](mailto:snovak516@gmail.com) / 301 785-8461) to join.

## R&P Range Open

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

## Quorum Needed at October Dinner / Membership Meeting

At the September Membership Meeting, we did not have a sufficient number of members for a quorum (45 members) to vote on the Budget. Please consider attending the October meeting so that there will be a quorum, and the membership can vote on several items.

## Board of Governors

Fiscal Year: September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2025

### OFFICERS

**Andy Wight, President**

240 205-3982 • andywight1@hotmail.com

**Francis (Jerry) Murray, 1st Vice President**

202 438-4202 • jerrym5@comcast.net

**Position Open, 2nd Vice President**

**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

**Position Open, Recording Secretary**

### BOARD MEMBERS

**Stephen Austin**

**Marc Bouchard**

**Dan Dutton**

**Shannon Novak**

**Position Open**

**Carol Hulce-Efdimis, Past President**

240 277-2494 • carol2017@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**

**301 466-6557**

## Calendar Submissions

Meetings and events that need to be added to the website calendar and newsletter calendar should be sent to 1st Vice President Jerry Murray, jerrym5@comcast.net, and Corresponding Secretary Janet Lamkin, j.lamkin@comcast.net.

## CAMPGROUND NOTICE

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

## Summary of the August 2024 Board of Governors Meeting and the September 2024 Membership Dinner Meeting

Jerry Murray, 1st Vice President

### Wednesday, August 28, 2024 – Board of Governors Meeting

- Meeting was called to order at 7:00 by President Carol Hulce-Efdimis.
- Phil Taylor introduced a group from Alarms.com who would like to use our ranges to evaluate their new outdoor shot detection sensor.
- Carol nominated Byron Ricketts to fill the open position on the Legacy board.
- Blaine Elkins provided an update on the lead reclamation process at the shotgun range. We are waiting for MT2 to respond to our questions regarding their proposal to use chemical encapsulation on the range. We are looking into getting updated pricing on the proposals for the other parts of the project.
- Treasurer Bob Kelly provided a report with our current account balances. Bob also discussed our current accounts system and recommended we convert the Land Fund and Management Reserve accounts to interest bearing accounts.
- The current 'CAPEX' accounts are to be renamed the 'Near Term and Long Term Capitol Fund Accounts'.
- Deborah Behrend provided an update on the chapter finances.
- Phil provided an update on the field plantings and reported that a bear got into the pear orchard and broke down one of the trees.
- Dave Mecklenburg gave an update on the log cabin.

### NEW BUSINESS REQUIRING A MOTION:

- Motion was made to convert the Management Reserve and the Land Fund accounts from checking accounts to interest bearing accounts. **Motion passed.**
- Motion was made to accept the 4 applicants as chapter members. **Motion passed.**
- Motion was made to accept Carol's nomination of Byron Ricketts to fill the vacancy in the Legacy Board. **Motion passed.**
- Motion was made to set a minimum amount of \$1,000.00 for applications to access capitol funds. **Motion passed.**

### TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER:

- Andy Wight thanked Carol Hulce-Efdimis and everyone on the existing board for their good work this year.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:47pm.

### Wednesday, September 18, 2024 – 1,067th Dinner Membership Meeting

- President Andy Wight called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.
- 50:50 raffles netted \$116. The winner donated back \$48 of his winnings.
- Motion was made to approve Byron Ricketts' appointment to the Legacy Board. Motion was approved. Byron Ricketts was sworn into Legacy Board by Legacy Board chairman Ted Whitehouse.
- National Honor Roll awards were presented to Dr. Martha Weiss and Dr. John Till for their research on Brood X Cicada's at the chapter.

(continued on page 3)

## SUMMARY

(continued from page 2)

- Valerie Chen received an award for her research into slime molds at the chapter.
- Dr. Weiss, Dr. Till and Ms. Chen presented a slide presentation of their research that focused on the various slime molds and insects that they found on the chapter property.
- President Andy Wight and Treasurer Bob Kelly provided a proposed 2025 budget presentation. The presentation provided a breakdown of our projected revenue and expenses. The budget was not voted on because there was no longer enough members remaining at the meeting for a quorum.
- Bob Kelly provided a summary of the current account balances.
- There were seven (7) prospective members attending their third meeting but because we did not have a quorum we were not able to induct them into the chapter.
- Membership Secretary Scott Harmon talked about membership renewal notices that are coming out and the updated work fee.
- Chestnut Committee Chair Blaine Elkins provided an update on the orchards. Several of our trees produced burrs (chestnuts) and he will be helping to collect these for use by the chestnut society. He could use some help on work day with the orchards.
- Archery Committee reported that the 3D course is closed for the season but the target butts are open.
- Rifle & Pistol Range Committee Chair Jerry Murray talked about several upcoming events including a sight-in day to get ready for hunting season.
- Adventure Committee has some upcoming events so check the newsletter for more information and the dates.

### TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER:

- Jerry Murray talked about the 50:50 raffle and how we have met our goal for raising funds to purchase new Adirondack chairs for the Chapter House. A big Thank You to all who participated. We will be ordering the chairs ,and they should be here soon.

Motion was made to adjourn at 9:15pm. **Motion passed.**

## October 2024 1,068th Monthly Dinner / Membership Meeting

Wednesday, October 16

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

50:50 Raffle

## October 2024 Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, October 23

7:00pm

## Membership Committee Report

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

As of September 18 Board of Governors meeting, membership stands at 766 total Members: 421 Individuals, 258 Family, 2 Students, 1 Youth, 72 Retired, and 12 Associates.

All renewal notices have been mailed. You should have received it in the mail the first week of October. If you did not, please reach out to me so I can get you an invoice. 301 467-0645 Cell

There are three ways to renew.

### 1. By mail

The mail method is easy but takes extra time for delivery and pickup. You increase your exposure to identity theft by writing a check and mailing it. This is now the most common way to have your banking information stolen.

### 2. In person at a dinner meeting

The second way is to see me at a dinner meeting and hand me a check or cash. This is a more preferred way to renew and will require a copy of your renewal notice.

### 3. Online

The third way, and most preferred way, is to renew online. To renew online, use the following link:

<https://bcciwla.org/memberrenew/>

Please choose the method that works best for you but also helps the chapter the most.

If you did not volunteer 6 work hours at the chapter this past year, a \$75 in lieu of Volunteer Fee has been added to you renewal notice.

## 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.

## Family Friendly Chapter Dinner

Our next Family Friendly Chapter Dinner will be held October 16th. As usual, we will have kid's activities while adults enjoy the regular chapter meeting. Hot dogs, chips, cookies/ice cream, and juice boxes will be provided. Vegetarian options are available. Keep the date clear and use this opportunity to bring your kids to the chapter for a 'spooky' evening.





# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## Chapter House Cleanups

Saturday, October 12, Saturday, November 16  
Starting at 9:00am  
Probationary (new) members need to help out in one chapter house cleanup as part of their sixteen volunteer hours

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-51060445-monthly>

## Monthly Dinner/Membership Meeting

Wednesday, October 16  
Contact Carol Hulce-Efdimis, [carol2017@aol.com](mailto:carol2017@aol.com), if you can help with food preparation, setup, and/or cleanup.

## Cleanup and Trim the Parking Lots

Chapter House, R&P Range, Shotgun Range, Archery Range, Outside the Garden Areas (near Archery Range)  
Report your hours to Janet Lamkin ([j.lamkin@comcast.net](mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net)) and log your hours on the chapter website, <https://bcciwla.org/log-your-hours/>

## Pick up Debris on the Chapter House Grounds

Dispose of debris in a wooded area.  
Report your hours to Janet Lamkin ([j.lamkin@comcast.net](mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net)) and log your hours on the chapter website, <https://bcciwla.org/log-your-hours/>

## ATTENTION New Members!

*Chapter House cleanups for the next two months will be on:*

**Saturday, October 12**

**Saturday, November 16**

**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.***

Signup for the cleanups using the signup genius link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-51060445-monthly>

Questions? Contact John Lamb – [jpatricklamb@aol.com](mailto:jpatricklamb@aol.com)

## IT Committee Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help and manage our IT committee. Whether it's keeping an eye on our Web or Facebook pages, working with Committee Chairs, sending out blasts, working on content, or helping upgrade and manage our website, we need your help. Please reach out to [andywight1@hotmail.com](mailto:andywight1@hotmail.com) if interested.



The 32nd annual Pooleesville Day was celebrated on September 21st under clear skies; and with an election year, more politicians in the parade. In contrast to last year's event, which was cut short due to the remnants of Tropical Storm Ophelia, this year's celebration was brighter, bigger, and filled with energy. Known for drawing in over



12,000 attendees, Pooleesville Day once again brought the community together with a lively parade, 5K run, kids' rides, vendor crafts, music, dance performances, and local exhibits.

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Izaak Walton League of America (B-CC IWLA) booth was a highlight, thanks to the efforts of our dedicated volunteers: Alexandra Wight, Paul Serino, Gini Staver, Tom Moore, and Valerie and Joe Carregal, with support from drop-ins George Coakley and Larry Hess. A special thank you goes to Olivia Wight, Co-Chair of Conservation Education Committee, and Riley Sutton and Maren Petersen, students from the Pooleesville High School Global Ecology Program, who assisted in taking down the booth. Their teamwork was invaluable.



This year, the IWLA booth sparked 45 membership inquiries and requests for more information, an exciting indication of the community's interest in our mission. We are grateful to all the volunteers who helped make this year's event a success and for proudly representing the Chapter while promoting the IWLA's conservation message.

A huge thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to this wonderful day!



PHOTOS BY ANDY WIGHT

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

## Monthly Events

*Saturdays & Sundays*  
*Sundays*  
*Mondays*  
*Mondays*

*R&P Range Open*  
*Shotgun Range – Sporting Clays*  
*Troop 2027 Meetings (Board Room)*  
*Troop 496 Meetings (Chapter House)*

*9:00am – 5:00pm*  
*9:00am – 4:00pm*  
*7:30pm – 9:00pm*  
*7:30pm – 9:00pm*

## OCTOBER

Wednesday, October 2	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm – Dark
Saturday, October 5	Fall Cleanup Day (lunch will be provided)	8:30am – 1:00pm
Saturday, October 12	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, October 16	R&P Range Open before the Membership Dinner Meeting	4:00pm – 6:00pm
Wednesday, October 16	1,068th Membership Dinner Meeting Family Friendly Dinner – bring the children!	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Thursday, October 17	Cub Scout Pack 694 Meeting in Chapter House	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Thursday, October 17	Rifle & Pistol Range Closed – Deer Muzzleloader Season	Closed All Day
Friday, October 18	Rifle & Pistol Range Closed – Deer Muzzleloader Season	Closed All Day
Saturday, October 19	New & Prospective Members Orientation Tour	10:00am – 11:30pm
Saturday, October 19	Rifle & Pistol Range Closed – Deer Muzzleloader Season	Closed
Wednesday, October 23	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Friday, October 25	Articles for November Newsletter due – send articles to <a href="mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net">j.lamkin@comcast.net</a>	By End of Day
Saturday, October 26	Wilderness Survival Shelters Workshop	9:45am – 12:00noon
Saturday, October 26	Family Campout	Gates Open at 2:15pm
Sunday, October 27	Family Campout	Ends at 10:00am

## NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 16	New & Prospective Members Orientation Tour	10:00am – 11:30pm
Saturday, November 16	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00noon
Wednesday, November 20	1,069th Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Wednesday, November 20	Board of Governors Meeting	Following Dinner Meeting
Thursday, November 21	Cub Scout Pack 694 in Chapter House	6:00pm – 8:00p
Friday, November 29	Articles for November Newsletter due – send articles to <a href="mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net">j.lamkin@comcast.net</a>	By End of Day

## DECEMBER

Saturday, December 7	Decorating the Chapter House for the Holidays	10:00am – 5:00pm
Saturday, December 14	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00noon
Saturday, December 14	Chapter House Christmas Party	6:00pm – 10:00pm
Wednesday, December 18	1,070th Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Wednesday, December 18	Board of Governors Meeting	Following Dinner Meeting
Thursday, December 19	Cub Scout Pack 694 in Chapter House	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Saturday, December 21	New & Prospective Members Orientation Tour	10:00am – 11:30am
Friday, December 27	Articles for December Newsletter due – send to <a href="mailto:j.lamkin@comcast.net">j.lamkin@comcast.net</a>	By End of Day

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

### From the MDDNR website:

Report Your Bird Bands Online: [WWW.REPORTBAND.GOV](http://WWW.REPORTBAND.GOV)

Each year state and federal biologists mark tens of thousands of migratory birds with numbered leg bands. Hunters who report bands recovered from harvested birds receive specific information on when and where the bird was banded while providing important information for migratory bird management. The 1-800 telephone number for reporting bird bands has been discontinued. Hunters who recover a banded migratory bird should now use [pwrc.usgs.gov/BBL/bblretrv/](http://pwrc.usgs.gov/BBL/bblretrv/). Anyone reporting a band will need the following information: the band number, hunters name and address, and the date and location (nearest town) of the harvest.

### Grants and Donations Committee Report

Lance Brannman, Chair  
[lbrannma88@gmail.com](mailto:lbrannma88@gmail.com)

Join our new Grants and Donations Committee! Our goal is to create and find valuable programs linked to grants and donations that help defray chapter expenses. We will research and educate members on potential grants, create and build relationships with donors, and develop strategies to increase financial support for chapter initiatives. Whether you have experience in fundraising or simply want to make a difference, your contribution will help strengthen our chapter's future. Let's work together to support the mission we all care about!

## Rifle & Pistol Range Committee Report

Jerry Murray, Chair  
202 438-4202 jerrym5@comcast.net

**R&P Range will be closed on October 17, 18, and 19 (all day) for Deer Muzzleloader Season.**

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

We will be having a sight-in day at the range on **November 16** and could use some additional range officers to help out. This is an opportunity to get a duty day in if you missed a day or had to cancel. Even helping for a half day would be appreciated. If you can help please send me an email.

We will be offering a range officer training class in November for members who have completed their probationary year and would like to become R&P range officers. The process consists of an on-line training video and an on-line test on the information in the video and our Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's). The second part is a hands-on training session at the range to review the range rules, procedures and duties. If you are interested in signing up please send me an email.

As this season winds down, we are looking toward next year and are putting together a list of potential range improvements. We (the range committee) would like your input into what we could do to improve your experience at the range and increase usage by members and guests. This request is not limited to the range officers, and we would like to hear from any member that has an idea. Please email me with your ideas so that we can look into them. Once we have a list we will share it with everyone that responded.

### PLEASE REMEMBER

- New Fee's: Chapter Members are \$8 and Guests \$10.
- Use of Empty Chamber Indicators (ECI) is required.
- Put paper in the trash. If the cans are full, please empty them.
- Keep watch on the guests you bring. It is your place to brief them on the SOP's.
- Be safe and enjoy the range respectfully.
- All must **PICK UP THEIR BRASS!**

### RANGE OFFICER SCHEDULE:

#### OCTOBER

Saturday, October 5	<b>Johnson, G.;</b> Fainbraun, S.; Deegan, J.
Sunday, October 6	<b>King, B.;</b> Chung, J.; Kawamoto, D.
Saturday, October 12	<b>Pederson, P.;</b> Richards, M.; Widenhofer, S.; Woodman, G.
Sunday, October 13	<b>Richards, M.;</b> Lowe, C.; Fainbraun, S.; Deegan, J.
Saturday, October 19	<b>Calderwood, J.;</b> Bowie, J.; Bissett, R.; Kipfer, J.
Sunday, October 20	<b>Jones, R.;</b> Bryan, K.; Capalupo, P.; Calderwood, J.
Saturday, October 26	<b>Epstein, G.;</b> Keller, A.; Chung, J.
Sunday, October 27	<b>Keller, A.;</b> Kawamoto, D.; Flinchum, J.; Sanfuentes, J.

#### NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 2	<b>Dowlut, R.;</b> Pedersen, P.
Sunday, November 3	<b>Ossi, G.;</b> Flinchum, D.; Mense, M.; Drummond, R.
Saturday, November 9	<b>Drummond, R.;</b> Widenhofer, S.; Yau, T.
Sunday, November 10	<b>Mense, M.;</b> Roth, A.
Saturday, November 16	<b>Sypes, E.;</b> Epstein, G.

Sunday, November 17	<b>Bryan, K.;</b> Johnson, G.
Saturday, November 23	<b>Schweikert, B.;</b> Kim, D.
Sunday, November 24	<b>Schweikert, B.;</b> Kim, D.; Bixler, D.; Manan, F.
Friday, November 29	<b>Bixler, D.</b>

## NEXT ADVENTURE COMMITTEE WORKSHOP: SURVIVAL SHELTER WORKSHOP



**When:** Saturday, October 26, 9:45am – 12:00 noon

**Where:** B-CC IWLA Chapter Land

**What:** The chapter's own Joe Snider will teach participants how to build sturdy, weather-resistant shelters using only basic materials. This is an essential wilderness skill, useful in emergencies and for simple outdoor enjoyment. Joe will also cover knife-handling tips in a short safety brief. The cost for this workshop is \$5 for B-CC chapter members, \$10 for members of other IWLA chapters, and \$15 for unaffiliated guests. Must be 13 years of age or older to participate.

**Questions:** email [adventure.bcciwla@gmail.com](mailto:adventure.bcciwla@gmail.com)

Sign up below, and don't wait – workshop space is limited!

Every participating individual must sign up separately (e.g., parent and child 13 or older must each reserve a slot).

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-51529507-survival>



## Eagle Scout Receives Recognition

Andy Wight

I recently had the opportunity to witness Jason Woodman, B-CC IWLA member and an Eagle Scout from Troop 1094 in Darnestown, receive recognition for his conservation efforts in the Town of Poolesville. His notable achievements include creating a half-acre pollinator habitat in Poolesville, Maryland, which earned him the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Conservation medal and the Glen A and Melinda W Adams Eagle Scout Project of the Year Award for the National Capital Area Council (NCAC). This project involved planting 391 native pollinator plants to support wildlife, including endangered monarch butterflies, and attracted significant community support and engagement.



Additionally, Jason pursued and earned the prestigious Boy Scouts of America Distinguished Conservation Service Award (DCSA) by working on various conservation initiatives. His second project, involved a multi-pronged approach. First, Jason and his team built and installed 9 monofilament fishing line recycle bins to protect local wildlife from discarded fishing line at local Poolesville ponds. Next, he created fish habitats by sinking 30 Christmas trees into the local John Poole Middle School pond, providing crucial cover for young fish and benefiting the overall ecosystem. Finally, he built 4 cavity nesting boxes that were placed at a hidden pond to attract wood ducks or other cavity nesting birds. In order to earn the DCSA, Jason not only had to complete and lead others in these projects, but he also had to prove his projects made an environmental impact. This endeavor took Jason 2 years to complete. Jason is only the 3rd scout in NCAC and the 1st in Maryland to earn this award. Fewer than 50 scouts have earned this award nationwide.

Congratulations to Jason for his commitment to the environmental stewardship and leadership within the scouting and Poolesville community. Jason is a Junior at Poolesville High School and plans to study Wildlife and Fisheries when he attends college.

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

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

#### Curtis Bush

**Interests:** Archery; Hunter Education; Rifle & Pistol

#### Corey Davenport

**Interests:** Grant Writing; Rifle & Pistol; Youth Programs

#### Katy and Chris Hansen

**Interests:** Grant Writing; Hunter Education; Rifle & Pistol

#### Rob Rumer

**Interests:** Building Maintenance; Ponds & Streams; Wildlife

#### Mark Weitekamp

**Interests:** Ponds & Streams; Skeet & Trap; Wildlife

## AS A REMINDER...

If you intend on hunting on the Chapter property, you must register on the Chapter website <https://bcciwla.org/b-cc-iwla-chapter-hunting-rules/> to acknowledge understanding our rules and property boundaries. This is a yearly requirement.

### Questions?

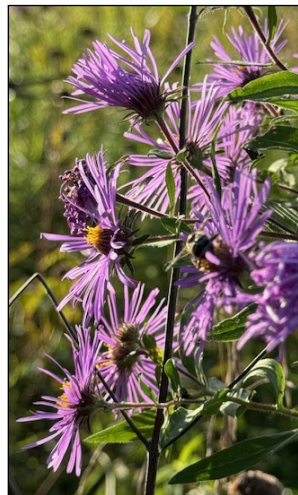
Contact Hunting Ethics and Oversight Committee Chair Larry Anderson at [andupton9@hotmail.com](mailto:andupton9@hotmail.com)

## Looking for the Little Joys of Fall

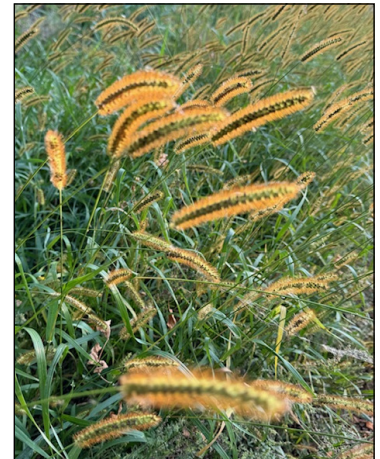
David Mecklenburg  
[dmecklenburg1@gmail.com](mailto:dmecklenburg1@gmail.com)

The Chapter Fall cleanup is over. I would like to thank everyone who came out to help. You are a member of this chapter, and your work makes the chapter shine.

This is my favorite time of the year to be out at the chapter. Summer is gone and the morning and evening air has a snap to it. The smells remind me of spending time with my family and friends around a campfire and sharing stories. It reminds me of hunting trips with my father and hunting buddies. The beautiful leaves and fall flowers are different than those of the spring. The pollinators are busy putting away as much food as they can for the winter.



New England Aster



Foxtail

The picture is *Polistes exclamans* or the Guinea Paper Wasp. It is a native wasp to the eastern half North America, Mexico, the Bahamas, Jamaica, and parts of Canada. Its range is expanding most likely from climate change. The queen is the only one that survives through the winter and starts a new colony in the spring. I feel the coloration of this wasp is beautiful.



Guinea Paper Wasp

PHOTOS BY DAVID MECKLENBURG

## New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour

Come join us on the B-CC IWLA Orientation Tour. The next tour will take place on **Saturday, October 19** 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.

Signup for the tour using the signup genius link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACC28A7F8C25-48977796-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 Peterson will be able to contact you.

Meet Christine 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.

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

## Troop 773G to Virginia's Goshen Scout Reservation

B-CC IWLA sponsors 4 Scout Troops and 2 Cub Scout Packs. These are Troop 496 (Boys) and Troop 2027 (Girls) in Poolesville as well as Troop 773 (separate boy and girl troops) in Potomac.



Troop 773G went to Virginia's Goshen Scout Reservation this summer in June. We stayed at Camp Olmstead and spent most of our days attending daily merit badge classes, like swimming, oceanography, and wilderness survival. At night, we enjoyed a campfire at our site and slept in canvas tents, which was a lot of fun despite the rain. There were many amazing memories made at Goshen – from enjoying an energetic welcome campfire on the first night, learning to raise the flag, diving in the warm lake, to laughing at funny skits on the last night of camp. On the last day of camp we had a pirate's breakfast where we got to eat a peaceful breakfast in rowboats on the lake. Overall, Goshen was a valuable experience for the troop and we went home with completed merit badges!

## 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.



Bring your Family & Friends to the Fall Family Campout this October !!!

The Conservation Education Committee welcomes chapter members, their families, and their escorted guests to the Annual Fall Family Campout on **Saturday / Sunday, October 26th / 27th!**

This is a great time to spend time with your immediate family and to meet some of the chapter family of B-CC IWLA members, spouses, and kids. Events will start Saturday afternoon and continue overnight for those camping into Sunday morning.

### SATURDAY

- The chapter's front gate will be locked open from 2:15pm until 6:00pm
- Family tent setup around the chapter house begins at 2:30pm
- Fishing at the small pond and visit a pumpkin patch 3:00pm – 5:00pm
- Burgers & 'dogs cooked up for campers 6:00pm – 7:00pm
- "Mystery Activities" 7:30pm – 8:00pm
- S'mores & hot chocolate by firelight 8:00pm – 8:45pm

### SUNDAY

- Breakfast served to campers 7:30am – 8:30am
- Breakdown & cleanup should be completed by 10:00am

Schedule some more family time at the farm on your own for the day!

**There is NO fee for the family campout, but non-members are encouraged to make a donation towards costs.**

Sign-up using the SignUp Genius below with your name and number of people in your party attending in parenthesis to let us know for food planning. Please indicate any dietary restrictions. This will help us ensure we have enough food to go around and contact you if weather forces a postponement.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACC28A7F8C25-51074865-2024>

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



## Shotgun Range Committee Report

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

The Shotgun Range is open on Sundays between 9:00am and 4:00pm for Sporting Clays only at this time.

Range Officers may open the range during the week and on Saturdays.

### RANGE OFFICER SCHEDULE

#### OCTOBER

Sunday, October 6	<b>NEED ROs</b>
Sunday, October 13	<b>NEED ROs</b>
Sunday, October 20	<b>NEED ROs</b>
Sunday, October 27	Jodts, E.; Spear, S.

## 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**

## How to Become a Member!

- 1**

Start by going to our BECOME A MEMBER page.


Here you can download the application and get some basic questions answered.


- 2**

Once your application is completed, email it to:


[Applications.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com](mailto:Applications.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com)
- 3**

Attend 2 dinner meetings AND make sure to sign in so we know you are here!


- 4**

Once you have attended 2 dinner meetings, your application will be presented at the next board meeting.
- 5**

Go to the NEW MEMBER FEES page and decide which type of membership suits you and your family!


- 6**

Attend your 3rd meeting and get sworn in!

You must attend in person to be sworn in.

New member tours happen monthly! Check the newsletter for the date. You may attend a tour before you are sworn in!

Questions?

[MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com](mailto:MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com)

## 2024 Land Fund

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

*Your contribution is tax deductible.*

Please mail contribution form and check (made payable to B-CC IWLA) to B-CC IWLA, PO Box 542, Poolesville, MD 20837 or donate via paypal on the Chapter's website, [www.bcciwla.org](http://www.bcciwla.org).

## Blackpowder Day 2024 Update

Postponed from March for several reasons when it is usually held, Blackpowder Day occurred on National Hunting and Fishing Day – September 28th. There was a small number of shooters which enabled Keith Midberry, Larry Hess, and Mark Gochnour to work directly with four shooters and assist them in their use of their guns. In the morning time, Keith worked with a new shooter, Aram Roston, and introduced him to flintlocks. Larry worked with Nita Adkins with a percussion rifle she has shot in prior years. Mark helped with two shooters – Steve and Dick who had brought their own flintlocks but they had not shot them recently. Targets were shot close in to verify that guns and their loads and the shooters were all lined up and round balls were hitting accurately on the targets in nice groups.

Dan Neuland, Hunter Education Regional Coordinator for our region, recorded Mark showing how to prepare a muzzleloader for shooting. Mark went through the steps to verify the rifle was unloaded, then checked to see if the flint was lined up to spark effectively, and then he demonstrated how to load, prime, and shoot the flintlock. The procedures would be the same steps for a percussion or inline firearm with the exception of firing off a cap or two before loading. Mark used Larry's percussion rifle to show how to cap a percussion muzzleloader. The group of observers were the Blackpowder Day participants and the assigned Range Officers. Both received an orientation time for shooting themselves and the ROs were made more aware of what someone on the range



Mark shooting at a playing card

at a paper buffalo target at 90 yards off cross sticks while sitting on a stool. (Not the normal targets but as a special event, they are approved.). These unique targets provide a different and additional dimension and challenge to shooting which makes it more fun as well as gratifying and satisfying when the targets are hit.

Last year before moving out of the area, Greg Mueller donated an assortment of muzzleloading supplies which were used as some of the prizes. The top prize winner was Keith Midberry who chose a box of 100 round balls. Nita Adkins came in second and chose a powder flask. Mark came in third and choose some 3Fg blackpowder. Larry chose the annual Giant gift card to purchase a ham or turkey. Steve chose a box of lead balls for his .50 caliber rifle.

Thanks to RO Ray Edwards for coming out in the morning to observe and to Dave Daley who was the Blackpowder Event Range Officer and has come to almost every Blackpowder Day for years. We appreciate the regular Range officers checking everyone in and making sure all were safe over the course of the day – John Kipfer, Mark Ziner, Paul Donovan, and Dave Draley. These Range Officers had a much different Saturday than they are used to. Special thanks go out to Chris Efdimis who obtained a variety of subs from Jersey Mike's and brought jugs of drinks so we could have a lunch feast in the Chapter House. Thanks to Steven Choquette, Richard Schaeffer, Aram Roston, and Nita Adkins for coming out to shoot on Saturday.

If this sounds like something you want to explore, watch for the next opportunity to participate. The Blackpowder Day 2025 is planned for March 29.



The Blackpowder Day 2024 Shooting Match Participants

shooting a muzzleloader would be engaged in doing. Dan wanted to use the recording at the Maryland Muzzleloader Certification class for Hunter Education Instructors which is scheduled at the Frederick County IWLA on October 5th.

The morning training time enabled each "student" shooter to get acquainted and involved in loading, shooting, and troubleshooting any issues. Steve's percussion rifle had to have the hammer hit each percussion cap two times all day long. When he went home he found a longer nipple and upon replacement, the rifle is working just fine. Some shooters would get frustrated when there are problems but since the three helpers were there, who have experienced these same things, they were not as overwhelming. Despite Mark's best efforts, Dick Schaeffer's rifle ended up with a round ball stuck in the barrel that could not be removed.

The afternoon was spent shooting offhand at hanging and wind swinging balloons at 50 yards, plastic golf balls at 20 yards, and a large and a small bottle cap at 25 yards, splitting playing cards at about 12 feet from a kneeling position, and



Nita Adkins' shot golf ball

### As a Reminder – R&P Range Closure

The Rifle & Pistol Range will be closed on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, October 17, 18, and 19 for the opening of Muzzleloader Season. Range will reopen on Sunday, October 20.



## Wildlife Committee Report

Larry Anderson, Chair  
andupton9@hotmail.com 240 246-5302

Early deer muzzleloader season starts on Thursday, October 17th and runs through Saturday, October 19th. In region B (our region) muzzleloader season continues Monday, October 21st and continues until Saturday, October 26th. Antlered deer may be harvested only October 17th through October 19th; antlerless deer may be harvested throughout the 10-day season. There is no muzzleloader deer hunting on Sundays during this season. Deer archery season is open throughout the muzzleloading season and archery hunters may hunt on Sundays until 10:30am. We ask that all members, whether hunting or not, wear something with high visibility colors while on the farm during deer firearms seasons.

New this year, the Chronic Wasting Disease management area has been expanded to include all of Montgomery County. Please consult the MD DNR Hunting regulations on the impact of this change and for a list of CWD approved deer processors.

As a reminder, our chapter follows the guidelines and rules of MD DNR hunting on public land by not allowing baiting on our farm. This restriction will also apply to salt blocks and licks. Likewise, tree stands, ground blinds or any other hunting equipment may not be left overnight in the woods. These prohibitions are designed to give all our hunters/members equal access to spots in the woods.

We ask that all hunters be safe, courteous to fellow members, read and follow our rules and respect the all property lines. B-CC IWLA chapter website has our updated rules and a variety of methods to distinguish our property lines. The Chapter's Trail Guide on the website is a good way to familiarize yourself with the trails and the boundaries of our Conservation Farm.

All members intending to hunt on our farm must acknowledge that they have read our rules and understand where our property lines are by registering on our website. This is a yearly requirement. Besides registering on our website, all hunters must have with them:

- current hunting license with all applicable stamps
- photo ID
- current B-CC chapter membership card
- current vehicle decal displayed on their vehicle

We do not have permission to hunt or go on any of our neighbor's properties. In the event that you wound an animal and it expires on the property owned by Joe Morin located to the north and west of our farm on several different boundaries, or the property owned by Vikki Van Winkle located north of the NE Woods you may enter their property **only** after calling them and asking permission. You must not enter their properties with a weapon of any kind. **Joe Morin** (301 674-5397) **Vikki Van Winkle** 301 379-3560.

Our farm is considered private property (MD-DNR land code 430 for harvest check in), and your current valid membership card is used as the written permission to hunt as required by MD DNR and must be carried along with your valid hunting license. Also, a current B-CC IWLA chapter vehicle decal must be visible in all vehicles on the farm. We ask that deer and turkeys taken on our farm be recorded either in our game logbook, located outside the chapter house's main door; or by sending an email to andupton9@hotmail.com. When reporting your deer or turkeys, we ask for the following information; your name, doe or buck (antler count), date and weapon used, and the total number of ticks found on the

ears of your deer. Other details may also be included such as estimated weight or unusual features.

Statewide only 2 bucks may be taken throughout the hunting year, only one of which can have less than 3 points on an antler. Only one buck may be taken in a weapon year. A bonus buck may be taken in region B (our region) after purchasing a bonus buck stamp and can be used for any weapon season, still maintaining the antler point restrictions. Fluorescent pink is an approved legal color like fluorescent orange that hunters must wear to promote hunter safety. This change will require all of hunters to watch for 2 colors in the field that will alert us to the presence of other hunters.

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

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

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

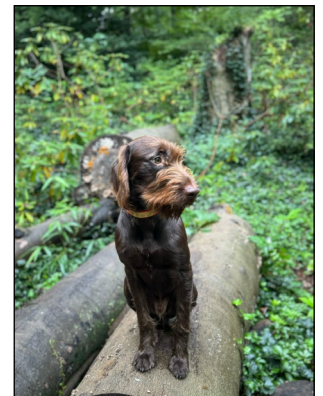
To report nuisance, injured or sick wildlife?  
(Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 4:30pm)  
Call Toll-free in Maryland: 1-877-463-6497

## B-CC IWLA and Potomac NAVHDA— A Great Partnership

Kevin Batteh

On September 22nd, our chapter hosted the Potomac chapter of the North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association (NAVHDA) Natural Ability Test. NAVHDA is a group of like-minded people with one thing in common: they all enjoy the thrill of hunting over a well-trained versatile dog. NAVHDA members volunteer their time to help each other train their versatile hunting dogs and host tests. The Natural Ability Test is typically the first test a dog will take, where dog handlers can test their pup's ability to perform some basic hunting tasks and assess their dog. Last month's test included a field search to test the dog's ability to find and point birds, a pheasant tracking test, and a swimming test to determine the dog's willingness to swim.

B-CC IWLA Chapter has enjoyed a longstanding, successful relationship with Potomac NAVHDA. Why has the relationship been successful? When you drive along Izaak Walton Way into the chapter, the "dog people" you see (myself included) along the road are typically NAVHDA members too – working their dogs on the training field. Most NAVHDA members learn about our chapter and beautiful grounds and immediately see the benefit of joining B-CC. This kind of activity drives interest and membership in our chapter.



Zeus, a Pudel pointer

PHOTO BY KEVIN BATTEH



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### Plant Community Recovery Work Day

IWLA supports a research study on our Farm to assess the factors that influence plant community recovery after disturbance in grassland ecosystems. The experiment is near the Boy Scout camp and is located in the field across and down from the chestnut tree enclosure. Details of the study can be accessed at <https://blogs.gwu.edu/betsy-vonholle/research/>.



On **Sunday, October 27th**, we will hold a work day (9:00am to 4:30pm) to help with the third year of experimental treatments for the project. Bob Cissel will use his tractor to disturb the soil in these plots. We need help weed whacking the area around the plots, removing brush, and leveling the plots afterwards (please bring your weedwhackers, brush cutters, hoes, and rakes!). Lunch will be provided. If you are interested in participating, please sign up using this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4FA4A72FA4FF2-51675055-iwla>

If you prefer email, feel free to contact Betsy directly with your interest in participating and the time that you are available on that day: [bvonholle401@gmail.com](mailto:bvonholle401@gmail.com). Please bring gloves, a hat, and long pants (to avoid insects). The rain date is November 16th. If you're available to help on either day, please let Betsy know.



**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](mailto:ConservationEd.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com)*

#### **From the Farm Committee**

As a friendly reminder – if you are in the fields hunting, always pick up your empty shells.