



APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER

The Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter of The Izaak Walton League of America

Serving the Community Since 1935

PO Box 542, Poolesville, MD 20837

www.bcciwla.org

President's Message

Spring has arrived, and with it comes an exciting and active time for our chapter! First and foremost, a big thank you to everyone who came out for our Spring Cleanup Day. Several projects were completed, annual maintenance done, and areas across the Chapter cleaned up after winter. Thank you to the Committee Chairs and Committees for all the advanced planning they did to make sure Cleanup Day was successful.

Continuing the theme of volunteering, we are currently seeking members to volunteer for positions on the Board of Governors (BOG). Serving on the BOG is an excellent opportunity to give back to our chapter, support our mission, and help shape our future. Please see the detailed article in this newsletter for more information. If the BOG isn't your preferred way to contribute, consider reaching out directly to our committee chairs to find other rewarding volunteer opportunities.

As everything begins to blossom, this is a wonderful time to come down to the Chapter and enjoy what it has to offer. R&P and Archery ranges are open, trout are still in the small pond, trails are open, and everything is beginning to bloom. Spring Family Camp Out, our Conservation Dinner, and the Spring Hunter Education Class are all coming up. This is also a great time to try something new – never fished, fired an arrow, shot a gun, camped, planted your own vegetable garden, walked a trail, or simply sat at the Chapter and watched the world go by? Come down to the Chapter, bring a friend, and try it out – you may discover a whole new interest. While at the Chapter, remember lead reclamation activities are currently underway at the Shotgun Range, so please stay clear of machinery and remain alert during this process. As usual, keep an eye on the newsletter, website, and eblasts for notifications of upcoming events!

Andy Wight
President

April Dinner Meeting Speaker

R&P Committee Chair Jerry Murray will give the membership an update on the range's projects for 2025. Come and enjoy a delicious dinner and listen to Jerry's presentation.



SAVE THE DATE

Conservation Education Dinner / Awards Night / Guest Speaker

Our 2025 Conservation Education Dinner and Awards night will be held on **Thursday, May 22nd** from 6:00pm – 9:00pm. The evening will start off with a spaghetti dinner, prepared by Mark Gochnour and team. After dinner, Chapter Awards will be handed out to Senior Poolesville High School Students from the Global Ecology program. Our guest speaker will follow the awards presentation. Stay tuned for more details.

The dinner is open to members and guests, so in order to make sure we have enough food, please click on the link below to sign up. Thank you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-56182749-2025>

For more information, contact
ConservationEducation.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

Conservation Education Dinner Help is Needed

Looking to earn easy volunteer hours, come and help prepare for the Conservation Dinner on Thursday, May 22. We need help with food prep, serving, and setting up the Chapter House. Click on the link below to signup.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-56184038-2025>

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.

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 • jerry5@comcast.net

Shannon Novak, 2nd Vice President

snovak516@gmail.com

Bob Kelly, Treasurer

202 445-7097 • rnkelly1974@gmail.com

Scott Harmon, Membership Secretary

301 467-0645 • MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

Janet Lamkin, Corresponding Secretary

301 466-6557 • j.lamkin@comcast.net

Sean-David Waterman, Recording Secretary

816 812-5763 • seandavid@me.com

BOARD MEMBERS

Stephen Austin

Marc Bouchard

Dan Dutton

Lloyd Iden

David Mecklenburg

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

IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA MISSION STATEMENT

To conserve, restore and promote the sustainable use and enjoyment of our natural resources, including soil, air, woods, waters and wildlife.

Chapter Elections and the Nominating Committee

Christine Peterson, Chair

301 938-9773 or christineakcp@comcast.net

Our Chapter is entirely volunteer run, and our officers and board of governors all serve one-year terms. Terms begin on September 1st 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 Chairperson is selected each year by the current president. This Chairperson selects 4 other members. 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 installed entirely 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.

The Nominating Committee arrives at a slate by checking with current officers and board members with regards to their intentions of running again for the board and by reaching out to active members that we believe might have an interest to serve. 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 slate will be posted in the **May newsletter**, as well as, on the Chapter House notice board. 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 the **Committee Chair, Christine Peterson at christineakcp@comcast.net or 301 938-9773** or Board of Governors to discuss possibilities. This is a marvelous way to learn more about how much this league and chapter have to offer its members.

Calendar Submissions

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

Annual Rifle & Pistol Range Card

Jerry Murray, R&P Range Committee Chair

jerry5@comcast.net

This year we are offering an Annual Range Pass to the chapter members for the Rifle & Pistol Range. For \$40.00, you get a card that allows you to shoot at the R&P Range on the weekends when it is open as many times as you want without paying the daily fee. You no longer have to remember to bring a check or cash. Just show the pass along with your membership card to the range officer when you sign in and write 'annual' in the fee paid box of the sign-in sheet. We will have the cards for purchase at the dinner meetings, or contact me if you have questions or to make arrangements to purchase one.

ATTENTION New Members!

Chapter House cleanups will be on:
Saturday, April 12
Saturday, May 17
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

April 2025 1,074th Monthly Dinner / Membership Meeting

Wednesday, April 16

50 / 50 Raffle

Dinner served starting at 6:15pm

Menu

Appetizers

Ham, Mashed Taters, Brussel Sprouts,
Green Beans, Salad, Desserts

Membership Meeting starts at 7:30pm

Speaker – Jerry Murray, R&P Range

April 2025 Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, April 23

7:00pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

B-CC IWLA and Community

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

1,074th Membership / Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, April 16

Dinner – 6:15pm; Meeting – 7:30pm

New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour

Saturday, April 19

10:00am – 11:30pm

Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, April 23

7:00pm

Spring Hunter Education Course

Saturday and Sunday, May 3 and 4

7:00am – 6:00pm each day

Apollo Archery Session

Wednesday, May 7

6:00pm – dusk

Military Fun Shoot at the R&P Range

Saturday, May 17

9:00am – 1:00pm

Spring Family Campout

Saturday – Sunday, May 17 – 18

Starting at 3:00pm on Saturday

Ending by 9:00am on Sunday

Conservation Dinner and Awards

Thursday, May 22

6:00pm – 9:00pm

Chapter House

Stop the Bleed Course

Saturday, June 7

10:00am – 2:00pm

Chapter House

Introduction to Hunting Seminar

Saturday, June 14

8:30am – 4:00pm

Swap Meet and Silent Auction

Saturday, June 21

8:00am – 3:00pm

Heritage Day

Sunday, June 29

12:00 noon – 4:00pm

Junior Rifle Program

We are looking to restart our Junior Rifle Program and are looking for dedicated volunteers to help make it a success! This program is intended to provide young shooters with a safe and structured environment to learn firearm safety, marksmanship, and sportsmanship under the guidance of experienced mentors. If you are interested in either a) helping run the program or b) have family members interested in the program, please reach out to andywright1@hotmail.com.



PHOTO BY JERRY MURRAY

Members relaxing on our new front porch Adirondack chairs after a productive Chapter CleanUp morning.

Archery Range Committee Report

Chuck Thornton, Chair
Archery.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

Welcome to our Chapter's 2025 Archery season! We're starting the year off with a whole new Archery Committee:

- Chair: Chuck Thornton
- Vice Chair: Dan Dutton
- Maintenance Manager: Deborah Behrend
- Equipment Manager: Chris Gregorski
- Instruction Manager: Scott Binder
- 3D Manager: Dan Dutton

We have one leadership vacancy: Chief Range Officer. If you're interested, please contact us at Archery.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com.

We held our first committee meeting on March 12, 2025 to discuss the following 2025 priorities:

- Ensuring our infrastructure is sound and we have sufficient equipment
- Rebuilding the 3D courses and targets
- Re-engaging the chapter membership on the archery range
- Supporting Apollo and instructional programs
- Contributing to re-building Chapter membership

Our 2025 agenda will emphasize on re-energizing existing programs: Apollo Archery; 3D shoots; youth and adult instruction; and, range officer certification.


Speaking of Ranger Officers, we intend to develop a more robust benefits package to encourage chapter members to become active Archery Ranger Officers. Those benefits will at least include access to the archery shed for equipment, bow repairs, etc.; access to the 3D at any time; and more!

Subscribe to the Archery Committee message list by sending an email to bcc-iwla-archery+subscribe@googlegroups.com or going to <https://groups.google.com/g/apollo-archery-bcc-iwla>.

We will hold Archery Committee meetings on Zoom at 6:30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

Most importantly, grab your bow and come out to the range!

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 improve the A/V system: update sound/projector system, with ability to host and record zoom meetings

Membership Committee Report

Scott Harmon, Membership Secretary & Committee Chair
301 467-0645 (cell) MembershipSecretary.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

As of the 2025 March Board of Governors meeting, membership stands at 664 total Members: 335 Individuals, 210 Family, 66 Retired Individuals, 38 Retired Families, 11 Associates, 3 Student, and 1 Youth.

If you have not renewed, we would like to hear from you. Send me a quick email as to the reason that you are not renewing. We look forward to hearing from you.

Below is a link to renew online.

<https://bcciwla.org/memberrenew>

Please find the below renewal rates:

Individual

\$205.00 Renewal Rate

\$ 75.00 Work Fee if you did not volunteer 6 hours at the chapter last year.

\$ 37.50 Late Fee

\$317.50 Total

Family

\$307.50 Renewal Rate

\$ 75.00 Work Fee if you did not volunteer 6 hours at the chapter last year.

\$ 37.50 Late Fee

\$420.00 Total

Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

Hunter Safety / Education Course

John Lamb, Committee Chairman
jpatricklamb@aol.com

On May 3rd and 4th, the chapter will host one of its bi-annual Hunter Safety/Education courses. This class is free of charge and open to anyone wishing to get certified through the State of Maryland. All new potential hunters must enroll in and satisfy a certification program. Our class is a 2 – day course from 8:00am to 4:00pm on each day. I do encourage those hunters, whom were are exempt from completing this program due to grandfather clauses, to enroll as well. Typically, the class age range runs from 6 – 75 years of age. The certification is recognized throughout the U.S and all over the world.

All participants must enroll online with the State of Maryland. Pull up www.register-ed.com, click on Maryland, click on Hunter Education Classroom Course, find the date with Poolesville IWLA location. The site will ask a few questions pertaining to the student from there on. Once enrolled, mark the date on your calendar and then wait for further announcements. You can cancel your enrollment at any time if needed but please try to do so at least a week ahead of time so that another student may occupy that spot.

Students should bring a lunch and an enthusiastic learning attitude. The state will provide all other materials required. Members wishing to work off volunteer hours are welcome to assist. If you have any questions, please contact me at jpatricklamb@aol.com.

From the Farm Committee

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Monthly Events

*Mondays
Mondays*

*Troop 2027 Meetings (Board Room)
Troop 496 Meetings (Chapter House)*

*7:30pm – 9:00pm
7:30pm – 9:00pm*

APRIL

Wednesday, April 2	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm to dusk
Saturday, April 5	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, April 5	Spring Chapter Cleanup Day & Picnic	8:30am – 3:00pm
Thursday, April 10	Cub Scout Pack 694 Meeting – Chapter House	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Saturday, April 12	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Saturday, April 15	R&P Range Opening Day – Open after Chapter Cleanup	1:00pm – 5:00pm
Wednesday, April 16	1,074th Membership Dinner Meeting Speaker – Jerry Murray	Dinner 6:15pm Meeting 7:30pm
Saturday, April 19	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, April 19	New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour	10:00am – 11:30am
Wednesday, April 23	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Friday, April 25	Articles for May Newsletter due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, April 26	Private Event in Chapter House – Celebration of Life (Tom Lamkin)	1:00pm – 4:00pm

MAY

Saturday, May 3	Summer Biathlon Program Practice (note earlier time)	*7:00am
Saturday, May 3	Spring Hunter Education Course	7:00am – 6:00pm
Sunday, May 4	Spring Hunter Education Course	7:00am – 6:00pm
Sunday, May 4	Montgomery Bird Club's Spring Walk	7:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, May 7	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm to dusk
Saturday, May 10	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Thursday, May 15	Cub Scout Pack 694 Meeting – Chapter House	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Saturday, May 17	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, May 17	Military Fun Shoot at the R&P Range	9:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, May 17	New and Prospective Members Orientation	10:00am – 1:00pm
Saturday, May 17	Spring Family Campout	Begins at 3:00pm
Sunday, May 18	Spring Family Campout – Breakfast and Cleanup	Completed by 9:00am
Wednesday, 21	1,075th Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner 6:15pm Meeting 7:30pm
Thursday, May 22	Conservation Dinner, Awards, and Speaker	6:00pm – 9:00pm
Friday, May 23	Articles for June Newsletter due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Wednesday, May 28	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Saturday, May 31	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, May 31	Private Event – Chapter House	11:00am – 10:30pm

JUNE

Wednesday, June 4	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm to dusk
Saturday, June 7	No Maryland DNR Fishing License Required	6:00am – 10:00pm
Saturday, June 7	Stop the Bleed Class – Chapter House	10:00am – 2:00pm
Thursday, June 12	Cub Scout Pack 694 – Chapter House	6:00pm – 9:00pm
Thursday, June 12	Legacy Board Meeting – Board Room	7:00pm – 9:30pm
Saturday, June 14	No Maryland DNR Fishing License Required	6:00am – 10:00pm
Saturday, June 14	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, June 14	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Saturday, June 14	Introduction to Hunting Seminar	9:00am – 4:00pm
Wednesday, June 18	1,076th Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner 6:15pm Meeting 7:30pm
Saturday, June 21	Swap Meet & Silent Auction	9:00am – 3:00pm
Saturday, June 21	New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour	10:00am – 1:00pm
Wednesday, June 25	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm – 10:00pm
Friday, June 27	Articles for June Newsletter due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, June 28	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Sunday, June 29	Heritage Day at the Chapter	12:00 noon – 4:00pm

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

Boy Scouts Shooting Event

Michael Farmer
Assistant Scoutmaster with Troop 131

On March 15, Troop 131 from Alexandria, VA conducted a BSA shooting event at the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chapter of the Izaak Walton League in Poolesville, MD. 18 Scouts conducted an academic "learn to shoot" curriculum and then a live fire at the B-CC Rifle and Pistol Range. The scouts were taught and supervised by an NRA-certified rifle instructor sanctioned by the National Capitol Area Council. Volunteer Range Officers from B-CC served as safety observers for the



event. The scouts used B-CC's .22 rifles for the event. In all, the 18 scouts fired nearly 1,000 rounds of .22 LR while conducting a series of target drills to improve their rifle skills.

Following the event, the troop enjoyed the use of one of B-CC's campgrounds, where they practiced camping and camp cooking skills. The event garnered rave reviews from the participants, with a request to make it an annual event.

Shotgun Range Reclamation Update (as of April 4)

Blaine Elkins
blaineelkins@verizon.net

Jerry Murray
jerrym5@comcast.net

Here is a brief update on the reclamation work at the Shotgun Range.

EN Range has mobilized, the sifter is here, and they are getting deliveries of the other equipment and supplies they need. They have been running one piece of equipment and several chainsaws to open up some areas by clearing out the larger trees first. Two more pieces of clearing equipment have also arrived as of Friday, April 4. They anticipate having enough area cleared and material stockpiled by the end of next week to begin sifting the soil and harvesting the lead the following week.

We had our first weekly progress meeting with their operations manager by zoom today. Once the plant is running, we will arrange with EN Range to have an information session for our members and invite the other MD chapters to hear about the operation and ask questions.

Please share this information with our fellow members.

B-CC IWLA Summer Biathlon Program 2025 Practice Schedule

MISSION: To provide a venue for novice through world class summer biathletes to learn and/or refine the skills inherent to the sport.

To provide a vehicle to introduce athletes of other sports to the shooting sports and consequently an understanding of firearms and the Second Amendment (B-CC IWLA members please recruit, in particular, middle school, high school, and collegiate athletes – freedom/liberty is never more than one generation away from extinction).

ELIGIBILITY: Summer Biathlon is open to all B-CC IWLA members 12 years and older, as well as sponsored guests. **B-CC IWLA members rate is \$2.00 per session. Non-member rate is \$5.00 per session.**

EVENT: Running distances at B-CC IWLA are set at 5 kilometers (3.1 miles) split into 5 loops or 3 – one mile loops. Currently, a single course at each length has been laid out. A short course for those working up to the other distances has been laid out as well. The regulation shooting distance is 50 meters, however, targets are also set at 25 meters for development of the shooting art. There are four shooting stops on the 5km course and two stops on the 3 mile course. Shooting stops alternate between prone (lying down) and off-hand (standing) positions. Five rounds are fired at each stop for a total of 20 shots on the 5km course and 10 shots on the 3 mile course. An equal number of shots are fired from each shooting position.

SCORING: Scoring is based on a time to complete basis. A penalty of either one (1) minute or a 50-100 meter penalty lap will be assessed for each shot missed.

EQUIPMENT: .22 caliber biathlon rifles are the standard; however, any magazine fed, .22 caliber rifle with either bolt or lever action is permitted. **Only standard velocity .22 caliber target ammunition is allowed.**

If you have questions or wish to be on the B-CC IWLA mailing list, contact **Steve Eschholz c:240-472-6512** (text is best)/fitnesscrafters@proton.me, Chairman B-CC IWLA Biathlon Committee.

2025 Practices

Saturday, April 19	7:30am
Saturday, May 3	7:00am*
Saturday, May 17	7:30am
Saturday, May 31	7:30am
Saturday, June 14	7:30am
Saturday, June 28	7:30am
Saturday, July 12	7:30am
Saturday, July 26	7:30am
2nd Annual Summer Competition*	
Saturday, August 9	7:30am
Saturday, August 23	7:30am
Saturday, September 6	7:30am
Saturday, September 20	7:30am
Saturday, October 4	7:00am*

2025 Muzzleloader Hunting Season

Saturday, November 1	7:30am
Saturday, November 8	7:30am

2026 Firearms Hunting Season

Saturday, March 21	7:30am
Saturday, April 4	7:30am
Saturday, April 18	7:30am

New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour

Come join us on the B-CC IWLA Orientation Tour. The next tours will take place on **Saturdays, April 19, May 17, and June 21** 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.

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/10C0D4DCAA28A7F8C25-54255111-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.

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.

Rifle & Pistol Range Committee Report

Jerry Murray, Chair
jerry5@comcast.net

The Range opened up to the chapter membership and guests on April 5. The range is open on Saturday and Sunday from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Please review the Standard Operating Procedures for the range or the range safety section of the chapter's rules and regulations before coming to the range so you have an understanding of the rules and safety procedures that we follow. Both documents are on the website, posted at the range, and the rules and regulations are also posted in the chapter house.

We will be having several events and classes at the range in the next few months, so keep an eye on the newsletter and the e-blasts for more information.

I am stepping down as the R&P Range Committee Chair and Larry Hess will be taking over. Larry has been on the range committee for many years, and his name is on several of the shooting plaques and trophies in the chapter house. He has a wealth of knowledge about firearms and the shooting sports and runs our yearly military shoot at the range.



UNTIL HELP ARRIVES – STOP THE BLEED CLASS

Saturday, June 7

10:00am – 2:00pm in the Chapter House

Class is for members only and is free

Class space is limited to 30 slots

All equipment is provided

Participants do not need to bring any equipment, unless they would like to

Only thing to bring is a teachable attitude

Email Jack Kang – jackhkang@gmail.com – to sign up

Minutes Count! A person can bleed to death in as little as 5 minutes. Become an active bystander. Learn the skills needed to save a life from the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department.

The *Until Help Arrives – Stop the Bleed* training includes:

- Learn about active violence attacks
- Learn how to apply a tourniquet
- Learn other life-saving techniques
- Learn mental strategies to help during a crisis



*Excitement. Challenge. Community service.
Self-satisfaction. Camaraderie.
Experience it all.*

Join the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department as a volunteer firefighter or EMS provider.
It's an experience you will never forget.

HUNTING ON CHAPTER PROPERTY

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



The Annual Spring Family Campout is scheduled for Saturday, May 17 (weather permitting). This event is open for members and their guests. As usual, the events will start Saturday afternoon and continue into Sunday morning (dinner and breakfast provided). The Chapter House will remain open throughout the event. This is a great opportunity for first-time campers.

SATURDAY

- Tent setup around the chapter house begins at 3:00pm
- Fishing and Crafts 4:00pm – 6:00pm
- Evening cookout will be provided from 6:00pm – 7:00pm
- S'mores around the campfire at the chapter house firepit

SUNDAY

- Breakfast will be served Sunday morning to campers starting at 7:00am
- Breakdown and cleanup will be completed by 9:00am

This is a great time to spend time with your immediate family and to meet other B-CC IWLA members, families, and guests. The event is free to members, but we ask for donations from guests to help offset our costs.

Please register before the May 14 so we can plan for food and provide updates due to weather.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-55546043-2025>



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

March Kid-Friendly Dinner

Olivia Wight
Co-chair, Conservation Education Committee
ConservationEducation.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

The March Chapter Dinner was one of our kid-friendly dinners. After enjoying hot dogs, chips, cookies, and juice boxes, and following visitor introductions, the children joined Olivia and Alexandra Wight in the boardroom. Following a brief introduction, everyone eagerly followed clues left behind by mischievous leprechauns, searching throughout the chapter for their pot of gold. Successfully decoding the clues, we followed the leprechaun's trail before returning to the chapter house to receive the treasure – a box of chocolate coins, which were hastily devoured. Special thanks to Alexandra and Emma Cowan for their help in making the evening memorable.



Log Cabin Committee Report

David Mecklenburg, Chair
dmecklenburg1@gmail.com

April at the Log Cabin

I would like to thank everyone who helped with Spring CleanUp, especially those who helped at the cabin. We have more projects to be done at the cabin. Let me know if you would like to work a few hours on the cabin. There is a lot to do.



The back side of the Willard Log Cabin

PHOTO BY DAVID MECKLENBURG

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 14th. Women, men, and teens are all welcome.

This nationally recognized and award winning training will include instruction and discussions about conservation and ethical behavior, the five W's and How of hunting, what is hunting success, preparing to go hunting, techniques and skills for being in the woods, trailing game, animal habitats and habits, choosing a tree stand location, safety and first aid, 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. There should be an opportunity to work with an experienced tree stand user and determine if climbing one is for you.

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, 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 June 2nd.



Prickly Pear Cactus by the entrance gate of the Chapter.

PHOTO BY OUR WILDFLOWER CHAIR

Military Fun Shoot

Please join us for the 3rd annual **Military Fun Shoot** on **Saturday, May 17, 2025, from 9:00am – 1:00pm** to honor our Military past and present. **Prizes** will be awarded and **lunch will be served**. Bring your 20th Century or later US Military rifle, carbine or handgun, (AR-15, M1A, .22 caliber training rifles and any pistol firing 9mm .45ACP or .38 Special will also be allowed. 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, designed to allow everyone an equal chance to win a prize. If we have enough willing participants, we will have an optional skill competition to determine the best shot in each category.

Cost will be \$20 for the event with range fees waived. Intrigued? More information to follow in next month's newsletter. The R&P Range will be closed to regular shooting during the event.

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

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-56217516-3rdannual>

Contact Event coordinator, Jerry Murray or Larry Hess if you have any questions: jerrym5@comcast.net or larry.a.hess@gmail.com.

Small Pond Trout Fishing 2025

1. Trout fishing began on Saturday, March 8, 2025.
2. Trout fishing is for chapter members and immediate family only.
3. Anglers 16 and older must have a Maryland fishing license and \$5.00 trout stamp. Those aged 65 and older qualify for a senior consolidated fishing license; no trout stamp required.
4. Fish from shore only; do not use the boat.
5. Anglers may keep 3 trout per day - no size limit.
6. Anglers may use only one fishing rod at a time.
7. Anglers should park in the chapter house parking lot.
8. Pick up and take all trash out of the small pond area when leaving.
9. Report the number and species caught to:



John Novak, novakgang4@comcast.net, 301-385-0943 or

Peter Wirth, Peter_Wirth@verizon.net, 301-915-6763.

Wildlife Committee Report

Larry Anderson, Chair
240 246-5302 anduption9@hotmail.com

The 2024-2025 deer season has drawn to a close. We had a fair year on our farm. Once again, 17 deer were reported taken on our farm, on the lower end of the scale (16-25) that get reported each year. Thank you all that reported their deer and from the reports, and again, some nice mature deer were harvested. Across the state, MD DNR reports that 84,201 deer were harvested during deer season (all weapons), which is 16% higher than last year and 10% higher than the 5 year average. The increased harvest is credited to "favorable" snow and cooler temperatures. In Montgomery County, the reported deer harvest was 3% higher than last year. Again, from casual reports, we did seem to have a below average number of deer sightings on the farm.

Turkey season is coming up in April. Junior Turkey hunting runs April 12th to April 13th. Spring turkey season starts April 18th and runs through May 23rd. Hunting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to noon, except the final 2 weeks (May 10th to May 23rd), where the hours are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. As with our other hunting seasons, members wishing to hunt turkeys at the chapter must:

- Carry a current hunting license
- Have a current parking sticker displayed on their vehicle
- Have registered on our website

Registration on our website is a yearly requirement (hunting year as defined by MD DNR, August 1st to July 31st)

Statewide, the 2024 turkey survey was slightly higher than the 2023 survey, and well above the pre-2021 surveys. Likewise, the poul to hen ratio in 2024 was 2.6, higher than the 2023 ratio of 2.2. Ratios above 2.0 are the general threshold of adequate reproductive success.



Apollo Archery Committee Report

Archery.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

Join us on the first Wednesdays of the month.

This year we're proud to announce program expansion to first responders and their families. If you know of anyone who qualifies and would be interested in joining us, please spread the word.

Location: https://maps.app.goo.gl/tsqSfHNWPhWfpJHk7?g_st=com.google.maps.preview.copy

Schedule: Apollo Archery sessions start at 6:00pm and finish at dusk on the first Wednesday of each month from April through October.

2025 dates: April 2nd; May 7th; June 4th; July 2nd; August 6th; September 3rd; October 1st

As always, there is no fee for participation, and we have equipment for use for folks of all ages and abilities.

Check out full program details here:
<https://bcciwla.org/apollo-archery/>

And be sure to email us if you have any questions at:
apolloarchery.bcciwla@gmail.com

See you on the range!



Heritage Days

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 26th annual Heritage Days weekend – a countywide festival offering programs, activities, and tours appealing to visitors of all ages and interests.

We will be opening our doors on Sunday, June 29th. We encourage you to come to the Chapter, 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 29th (Rain or Shine).

Questions – contact Andy Wight –
ConservationEducation.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com



June 7, June 14, and July 4, 2025

No recreational fishing license required on these days.

All other state fishing regulations apply.

Go to dnr.maryland.gov for more information.

Tree Down on 3D Archery Course

Marc Bouchard

I found a 50-60' dead, broken tree (see photos) straddling the 3D Archery course and reached out to Brian King for help in getting it down.

About a week later we met and got a chain on it, tied it off to the UTV, pulled it off of its base, and it fell cleanly. Brian cut it up, and we opened the trail again. Many thanks to Brian.



Vegetable Gardens

Larry Anderson

240 246-5301 andupton9@hotmail.com

The days are growing longer and warmer temperatures becoming more common which means gardeners are getting restless, anticipating and planning for the next growing season. At B-CC IWLA we have an active gardening community, full of members who enjoy the opportunity to play in the soil. Generally, our gardeners find the gardens a pleasant distraction from the hustle and bustle of daily life even with our onslaught of amazing weeds. Again this year, I will be the organizer of the garden plots.



Current gardeners have first choice of reserving garden plots, so now is the time to contact me with your intentions for this year. Single plots (~25x25ft) will rent for \$20 each. For members wishing to become new gardeners please contact me, and I will start assigning plots as they become available. I hope to have the list and assignments ready to go in time for early crop planting.

DUE DATE

for May Newsletter Articles is
Saturday, April 25
(note early date)

Submit articles to: j.lamkin@comcast.net
If the article contains photos, please submit them as separate jpg files and include a caption and photo credits.

It's not on Father's Day this year... but the **SWAP MEET AND SILENT AUCTION** will be on **SATURDAY, JUNE 21**

Set up - 8:00am

Event - 9:00am to 3:00pm



We all have too much stuff!
And you've had a year
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.