



JULY 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

Summer is in full swing, and there's no better time to get outside and enjoy all that our Chapter has to offer. In fact, I'd like to challenge you to try something new this August; attend an event, help with a project, or explore a part of the property you haven't visited before.

When was the last time you walked the nature trail, picnicked by the big pond, spent time on the range, or sat at the Chapter House just watching the world go by? Whether you're fishing, hiking, or simply relaxing under a shade tree, this is the season to unplug and truly appreciate the Chapter. Need another reason? The sunflowers are in full bloom, over 20 acres of them. Come out and enjoy the view while they last!

As you're walking the trails, shooting at the ranges, or just enjoying the quiet around the Chapter House, please remember, everything you see and enjoy exists because of volunteers like you, whether it's mowing the grounds, weeding the gardens, cleaning the Chapter House, maintenance around our chapter, it's our people who give up their time and come out. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the Chapter. There's always room for more hands and fresh energy. If you have time to lend, please reach out to the Board of Governors or a committee chair to find out how you can help.

Enjoy the rest of the summer.

Andy Wight
President

Stay Alert: Protect Yourself from Phishing Scams

Scammers are increasingly targeting individuals and organizations, including non-profits like ours. Phishing emails often mimic trusted sources, requesting donations, gift card purchases, favors, personal information, or account access. Be cautious with emails asking you to click links or share sensitive details. Always verify the sender's identity – scammers frequently impersonate familiar names. Avoid clicking unexpected links, and report suspicious emails to your provider. Stay vigilant and safeguard your information to help protect yourself and our community from scam.

UPCOMING EVENTS

B-CC IWLA and Community

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

Membership / Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, July 16

Dinner – 6:15pm; Meeting – 7:30pm

Apollo Archery Session

Wednesday, August 6

6:00pm – dusk

Dove Shoot & Cookout

Monday, September 1

Shoot – starting at 12:00 noon

Cookout – starting at 5:30pm

Poolesville Day

Saturday, September 20

10:00am – 4:00pm

Introduction to Blackpowder/Muzzleloader Sight-In & Shooting Match

Saturday, September 27

9:00am – 4:30pm

"Bianchi" Pistol Match

October 11

Starting at 9:00am at the R&P Range

Welcome to the B-CC IWLA Family!

At the June 2025 Membership Meeting, the following were inducted as members to the Chapter:

Frankie Adams – Individual Membership

Interests: Rifle & Pistol; Camping; Recreation

Jermy Hayes – Individual Membership

Interests: Farming; Forestry; Rifle & Pistol

David Keller – Individual Membership

Interests: Forestry; Wildlife; Ponds & Streams

Gabor Luka – Family Membership

Interests: Rifle & Pistol; Conservation Education

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

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.

Summary of the May 2025 Board of Governors Meeting and the May 2025 Membership Dinner Meeting

Sean-David Waterman, Recording Secretary

Wednesday, May 28, 2025 – Board of Governors Meeting Minutes

- The meeting was called to order by President Andy Wight.
- Guest – Blaine Elkins
- Reviewed use of Chapter by outside groups.
- Discussed finalizing commercial use policies and pricing.
- Advanced Planning Committee will meet to review infrastructure priorities.
- Proposal introduced for a new B-CC IWLA Scholarship Program for members' children.
- Fundraising ideas discussed: Buy-a-Brick campaign, silent auction, square dance, and movie nights.
- Treasurer Bob Kelly gave an update on the Chapter's current financials.
- Donations were approved for the IWLA Endowment, Youth Convention, and Maryland Room.
- Membership Secretary Scott Harmon – total members 684. He is reconciling membership with the national database.
- Motion to induct new member applicants – approved and passed.
- Farm Chair Phil Taylor – additional funds were approved for seed and rental equipment. Sale of surplus row cleaner authorized.
- Log Cabin Chair David Mecklenburg will change the combination at the log cabin due to damage.
- Junior Rifle Program is being relaunched.
- IT Committee Chair Julie Wight – committee is working on newsletter and professional email server solution.
- Donations & Grants – Valarie Carregal: IWLA contributions approved.
- Membership Drive Chair Shannon Novak reported that committee is planning orientations, socials, and increased outreach.
- Accessibility Review – Bob Kelly: to be incorporated in facility planning.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

- Commercial event coordination: a single point-of-contact role discussed.
- NAVHDA and Tom Sigmund event requests reviewed and approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Motion made to authorize seed purchase and equipment rental for Chapter Farm – Passed.
- Motion made to sell unneeded farm equipment – Passed.

TALKS FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHAPTER:

- Encouragement for more active member participation in events.
- Emphasis on benefits provided through dues and engagement.

Motion to adjourn approved. Meeting concluded at approximately 9:45 p.m.

Wednesday, May 21, 2025 – 1,075th Membership Dinner Meeting Minutes

- Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by President Andy Wight.
- Roses and champagne were presented to all women in attendance in celebration of Mother's Day.

(continued on page 3)

SUMMARY

(continued from page 2)

- 50/50 raffle was held to support AV equipment upgrades.
- Prospective members introduced themselves.
- Attendance at three meetings was confirmed as a requirement for membership.
- President Wight presented the proposed Board of Governors slate. Motion to accept the slate passed without contest.
- The proposed ByLaws change to reduce the required number of members to hold a vote was reviewed. Motion to adopt the change was passed.
- Guest speakers were Linda Green and Pat McNealy – Citizen Science Projects. They talked about the Chapter's NestWatch and FeederWatch programs. Volunteers were encouraged to participate and contact presenters for opportunities.
- Three new members were inducted.
- Treasurer Bob Kelly reported on the balances of the accounts.
- Accessibility Committee (ADA) has been formed – contact Bob Kelly if you would like to join the committee.
- IT Committee is looking for feedback on communication tools and website improvements.
- Members were encouraged to engage in citizen science and habitat improvement projects.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

July 2025 1,077th Monthly Dinner / Membership Meeting

Wednesday, July 16

50 / 50 Raffle

Dinner served starting at 6:15pm

Membership Meeting starts at 7:30pm

July 2025 Board of Governors Meeting

Wednesday, July 23

7:00pm

BSA Potomac District Cub Scout Day Camp

The Potomac District will be using the property to hold their annual Day Camp on Saturday, August 23. There will be scouts and families on the property at the R&P range, chapter house, fields by the shotgun range, and the small pond. *(R&P range will be closed to members at this time.)*

Found Ring

Recently a ring was found on the Chapter House parking lot. Contact Janet Lamkin at 301-466-6557 or j.lamkin@comcast.net if it belongs to you.

Montgomery County Ag Fair Booth

Steve Poss

bandsposs@gmail.com



We are looking for volunteers to help work the booth at this year's Montgomery County Agricultural Fair. The fair starts on August 8, 2025 and runs through August 16, 2025. We are looking for volunteers to work the 6 hour shifts.

The early shift runs 10:00am to 4:00pm and the late shift 4:00pm to 10:00pm. Volunteers get free admission and a parking pass. It's a great way to earn your volunteer hours, as well as an opportunity to promote our organization and educate the community about our mission.

I'm also looking for any promotional material about the chapter and our activities that can be displayed or handed out at the booth.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Poss (301 332-5259) bandsposs@gmail.com, or Bill Leaman with the Rockville Chapter to schedule a time slot (240 888-7600).

Archery Range Update

Chuck Thornton, Archery Committee Chair

Archery.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com

The Archery Range continues to ramp up activities for the summer season. The new 3D course is getting positive reviews.

The field range is in great shape. The lawn has been nicely maintained and we're starting to replace the well used target bags. It's been fun to welcome members and guests to the range.

In June we welcomed a group of wounded warriors to the range with the Apollo Archery program. Another group will join us later this summer.

Stay tuned for announcements of upcoming instructional programs and other special events.

We would love to see more members out on the range! Bring the kids and the dogs and enjoy a day with your bows.

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.

AS A REMINDER...

Registering to Hunt on Chapter Property

If you intend on hunting on the Chapter property, you must register on the Chapter website 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

New link for registering will be in the August Newsletter.

Grant and Donations Committee Chair

Valerie Carregal, Chair
carregalv@gmail.com 202 421-4964

We are currently working with Michael Dobson, Adventure Committee Chair and Brian King, Trails Committee Chair in pursuit of a **Maryland Department of Natural Resources Outdoor Equity Mini-Grant** in support of a new Orienteering navigational sport offering on the property in the amount of \$7,455.

We await the decision of the IWLA Endowment mid- July to be announced at the National Meeting in Wisconsin in regard to two proposals petitioned for funding in April. A grant of \$15,672 for the **Youth Shooting Program** and a grant of \$12,160 for the **Youth Fishing Program and Pond Stewardship**. These grants were coordinated with the efforts of Andy Wight, Jerry Murray, Steve Eschholz, and John Novak.

The **Keep Maryland Beautiful Grants** would be our September application. We qualify for all 3 categories.

Track 1: Community Stewardship (up to \$5,000)

Track 2: Capacity Building for Land Trusts – Hollmann Grant (up to \$10,000)

Track 3: Tree Planting on Agricultural Lands (up to \$50,000)

Applications open in September and close in November for the 2026 awards.

<https://cbtrust.org/grants/keep-maryland-beautiful/>

There is also available the **Veterans Engagement Mini Grant** which has a rolling submission.

<https://cbtrust.org/grants/veterans-engagement/>

<https://cbtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/Veterans-Mini-Grants-FY26-RFP.pdf>

Any Committee who needs assistance with procuring funding through grant opportunities, please reach out.

Hunter Safety / Education Course

John Lamb
jpatricklamb@aol.com

On September 6 & 7, 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 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. This 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, and find the date with Poolesville 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 can bring a lunch and an enthusiastic learning attitude to class. 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.

Apollo Archery Is Ready For Spring!

John Gorney, Committee Chair
apolloarchery.bcciwl@gmail.com



The next session of Apollo Archery is on Wednesday, August 6th. Please come out and visit us for an evening of target practice on Wednesday, August 6th.

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

As we've expanded the program to first responders and their families, please spread the word to anyone interested who qualifies (chapter member or not).

And remember, if you'd like to volunteer, regardless of your skill level with a bow, please reach out.

2025 dates:

August 6th; September 3rd; October 1st

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

Looking for something to do with that backup bow, now that you've upgraded? We're always in search of modern equipment donations. We store the Apollo equipment in a dedicated shed with access limited to use by our participants. Please contact us if you'd like to make a contribution.

For additional details, contact John Gorney at apolloarchery.bcciwl@gmail.com!

Rifle & Pistol Range Committee Report

Larry Hess, Chair
larry.a.hess@gmail.com

- We now have some steel targets available for use. There will be one target set up at the 100yd line at one of the rifle positions and one target at the 50yd line at one of the pistol positions. The range Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) will include information regarding their use and the caliber restrictions. The range officer's will verify that you are using acceptable ammunition.
- We will have another range officer training class in October. Additional information and the links will be in the September newsletter and e-blast.
- Please remember to put away target frames when you are done shooting and police your brass.



Junior Rifle Program

Andy Wight
240 205-3982 andywight1@hotmail.com

Introductory session of our Junior Rifle Program is being held this summer on Wednesday, August 13th. Session will run at the R&P Range from 5:30 – 6:30pm for air rifles (ages 8 and up) and 6:30 – 7:30pm for .22 rifles (ages 12 and up). These opening events will focus on safety, basic marksmanship, and equipment handling.

A full, structured program will launch in September, offering regular practices, skills development, and opportunities to participate in local competitions. Opening sessions are free for members, with a suggested \$5 donation for guests to help offset program costs.

Please sign up below for the Air Rifle Program:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-56870894-junior>

Please sign up below for the .22 Rifle Program:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-56871646-2025>

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*

JULY

Wednesday, July 2	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Friday, July 4	No MD DNR Fishing License Required	6:00am – 10:00pm
Wednesday, July 9	Junior Air Rifle Introductory Sessions	5:30pm – 6:30pm
Wednesday, July 9	Junior .22 Rifle Introductory Session	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Saturday, July 12	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, July 12	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, July 16	Monthly Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner 6:15pm Meeting 7:30pm
Saturday, July 19	NO New and Prospective Members Orientation this month	---
Tuesday, July 22	Membership Committee Meeting	7:00pm
Wednesday, July 23	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm – 10:00pm
Thursday, July 24	3-D Archery Course Open	6:00pm – Dark
Friday, July 25	Articles for August Newsletter due – send to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, July 26	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, July 26	3-D Archery Course Open	9:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday, July 27	3-D Archery Course Open	9:00am – 1:00pm

AUGUST

Friday, August 1	MD Hunting License Year Begins	5:00am
Sunday, August 3	Private Event – Celebration of Life for Tom Sigman	12:00 noon – 3:00pm
Wednesday, August 6	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Saturday, August 9	Summer Biathlon – 2nd Annual Summer Competition	7:30am
Wednesday, August 13	Junior Air Rifle Introductory Session	5:30pm – 6:30pm
Wednesday, August 13	Junior .22 Rifle Introductory Session	6:30pm – 7:30pm
Saturday, August 16	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, August 20	Monthly Membership Dinner Meeting	6:15pm – 9:30pm
Thursday, August 21	3-D Archery Course Open	6:00pm – 9:00pm
Saturday, August 23	BSA Potomac District Cub Scout Day Camp	All Day
Saturday, August 23	NO New and Prospective Members Orientation this month	---
Saturday, August 23	Summer Biathlon Program Practice	7:30am
Saturday, August 23	3-D Archery Course Open	9:00am – 1:00pm
Sunday, August 24	3-D Archery Course Open	9:00am – 1:00pm
Wednesday, August 27	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm – 10:00pm
Friday, August 29	Articles for September Newsletter due – send to j.amkin@comcast.net	By End of Day

SEPTEMBER

Monday, September 1	Opening Day Dove Shoot	12:00 noon – 5:00pm
Monday, September 1	Opening Day Cook Out	Starting at 5:30pm
Wednesday, September 3	Apollo Archery at the Archery Range	6:00pm – Dark
Saturday, September 6	Fall Hunter Safety / Education Course in the Chapter House	8:00am – 4:00pm
Sunday, September 7	Fall Hunter Safety / Education Course in the Chapter House	8:00am – 4:00pm
Sunday, September 7	R&P Range Closed at 12:30pm for Hunter Safety Course	Closes at 12:30 noon
Saturday, September 13	Chapter House Cleanup	9:00am – 12:00 noon
Wednesday, September 17	Monthly Membership Dinner Meeting	Dinner – 6:15pm Meeting – 7:30pm
Saturday, September 20	New and Prospective Members Orientation	10:00am – 11:30pm
Saturday, September 20	Poolesville Day (Chapter will be sponsoring a booth)	10:00am – 4:00pm
Wednesday, September 24	Board of Governors Meeting	7:00pm
Friday, September 26	Articles for October Newsletter due – send articles to j.lamkin@comcast.net	By End of Day
Saturday, September 27	National Hunting & Fishing Day	All Day

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

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, 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

COMING IN SEPTEMBER! Dove Hunt and Cookout Monday, September 1

Volunteers will be needed at the cookout.

Introduction to Hunting Seminar

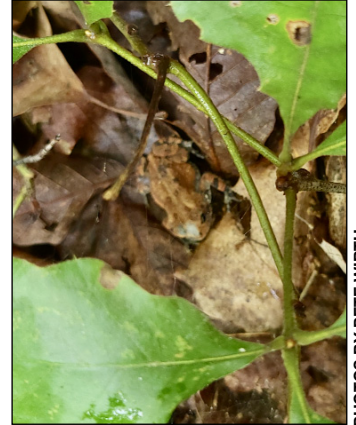
We had two fathers bring their kids, one girl and one boy, to the seminar. With the pending chapter cleanup for Saturday morning, we decided to do our Walk in the Woods first and return to the Chapter House and sit outside or use it, once the crew was done. Due to a cancellation, the cleanup date was changed so we met in the Chapter House earlier than expected. Shawn Jeffers joined us for part of the training as a guest.

After introductions, two very interested children, Patrick Herald, Jeff Rosier, Scott Harmon, and Mark Gochmour showed them deer trails, a rub, bedding areas possibilities, recommended tree stand locations and why, a rub, and discussed other signs of deer activity. There was very little sign of squirrel activity in the Nature Trail area and to the right of the Rifle and Pistol Shooting Range. Usually nut hulls are found on fallen logs but few were seen. This is something

Mark has been observing for the last few years. Squirrel hunting for many generations, introduced kids to hunting so this knowledge is shared to participants. A small toad was spotted during the walk. Despite various forms of deterrent spray on clothes, ticks were also encountered.

The training ended early due to other family commitments by the attendees but each received their own copy of the booklet with all kinds of observations, suggestions, facts which can be read, studied, and practiced. The Introduction to Hunting Seminar has changed somewhat since the original presentation in May 2014, including its name and so has the booklet as new experiences, stories, skill concepts, techniques, phone apps and youtube.com videos to watch have been shared, discussed, and taught. Scott and Mark received top marks from the both fathers, the daughter and son.

The seminar is usually held the first weekend in June so reach out to us at hunting.seminar.bcciwla@gmail.com if you have questions or interest in attending.



PHOTOS BY PETE WIRTH



PHOTO BY EMILY OSBORNE



B-CC IWLA to Participate in Poole'sville Day 2025 Festival

Volunteers Needed

Come and join us at Poole'sville Day, an annual tradition celebrating more than 25 years of community, fun, and entertainment! This family-oriented festival attracts over 12,000 visitors to the historic downtown commons in Poole'sville. The Town Parade starts around 10:00am and then you can stay for the day enjoying music, children's activities, arts and craft vendors, and other exhibitors, electric car show, and food stations.

We need volunteers to help host our booth, an easy way to get volunteer hours (sit at the booth for 2 hours and enjoy the rest of the day). Use the link below to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACA28A7F8C25-57476665-2025>



Astronomy at the Chapter

Ever look up at the night sky and wish you could see more? Whether you're a professional astronomer, an amateur enthusiast, a beginner, or just curious, we're looking to connect with others who share an interest in astronomy. Our goal is to explore ways to promote the hobby at the B-CC IWLA.

If you're interested, please reach out to Andy at andywight1@hotmail.com.



Sky Observatory (created by Ashley Bass)

Lead Reclamation Update:

Site is 80% cleared of trees and about 50% of the area has had a first pass (top 2-3") of lead removal. The EN Range crew is back after 2 weeks off site due to weather conditions. Unless more extended severe weather is forecast the crew is here until completion of the lead shot removal.

EN Range estimates four to six more weeks of work (depending on the weather) to complete their portion of the project. We then have to seed/straw the area and achieve sufficient growth to get a sign-off on the permit from the governing authorities before we can re-open.

We have put out a request for volunteers to be part of a shotgun committee. These members will help develop and implement the plan to get the range ready to re-open, train new range officers, create new programs and advertising to get people back to the range and put together a maintenance program for the range. If you are interested in helping, please contact Shannon Novak – snovak516@gmail.com.

**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**



PHOTO BY CAROL HULCE-EFDIMIS

Opening Day Dove Hunt & Cookout

Opening day of dove season is Monday, September 1st (Labor Day), which will be here before we know it. As usual, we will be holding our annual members dove hunt with a cookout to follow. With 20 acres of sunflowers planted this season, we are hoping for a lot of doves, so please clear this day on your calendar. Come join us outside the Chapter House shortly after the shooting hours end for food and drink.

Leveraging from previous events, we have a few reminders for those both new and seasoned to ensure everyone's experience is safe and enjoyable:

- Check in at the table on Izaak Walton Way when you head into the property (9:00am – 3:00pm).
- Please be sure to register to hunt through our website by the night before September 1.
- Bring your hunting license and current membership card with you. (If you don't have a card, please email the membership secretary to get a confirmation email of current membership.)
- Ensure your car has a current year B-CC IWLA sticker on it.
- Shotguns cannot hold more than 3 shells at a time, per state regulations.
- Keep your barrel pointed in a safe direction at all times.
- Doves only may be hunted between 12:00 noon and 5:00pm.
- Know what a dove looks like to ensure the correct species is harvested.
- Opening day is typically very warm, so please dress for the weather and bring lots of water to stay hydrated.

As mentioned above, there will be a cookout outside the Chapter House starting around 5:30pm, where we will have burgers, hotdogs, cold drinks & snacks. A suggested \$10 donation per person to cover our costs is greatly appreciated. We hope to see you on September 1st.

Membership Committee Report

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

As of the 2025 June board meeting, membership stands at 694 total Members: 356 Individuals, 218 Family, 67 Retired Individuals, 38 Retired Families, 11 Associates, 3 Student, and 1 Youth.

The membership committee held a meeting on Tuesday, June 24th and discussed website changes, membership renewal process, and membership attraction and retention. There were 4 members in attendance. If you would like to participate or have a few good ideas, reach out to me. The next committee meeting will be held on July 22nd at the chapter house at 7:00pm. We will be forming subcommittees and discussing the upcoming renewal season which starts September 1st.

If you have not renewed your membership by now, you have had your access card to the chapter turned off.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

New and Prospective Members Orientation Tour

Come join us on the B-CC IWLA Orientation Tour. The next tour will take place on Saturday, September 20 from 10:00am to approximately 11:30am **if weather permits**. **Tours will not be held in July nor August.**

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/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-54255111-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.

ATTENTION New Members!

Chapter House cleanups will be on:

Saturday, July 12

Saturday, August 16

Saturday, September 13

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



NestWatch Committee Report

Linda Green and Pat McNeilly
Citizen Science Project Co-coordinators

The NestWatch Team at the B-CC chapter has been very active this month, monitoring the Bluebird and Tree Swallow nest boxes around the ponds and fields, as well as performing nest changes for the growing Purple Martin chicks. The team has been closely tracking the age of the chicks and providing fresh pine needle material near the midpoint of their approximately 28 day brood period. This process improves the success of the chicks' survival, by decreasing parasite growth in the nest cavities. Currently, the Tree Swallows on our property are also busy caring for their nestlings, and many of the Eastern Bluebirds are already working on their second broods.

Thanks so much to guest Annie Mealey, as well as to Gini Staver, the newest member of our team, for your extra help this season! If anyone is interested in getting involved with this program, please email Linda at lindakpgreen@gmail.com. We would love to have additional help for this very rewarding project!



Nesting Material Changes



Purple Martin Nest Monitoring

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Chapter House Cleanup

Saturday, July 12; Saturday, August 16

Starting at 9:00am

Probationary (new) members need to help out in one chapter house cleanup as part of their sixteen volunteer hours.

Monthly Dinner/Membership Meeting

Wednesday, July 16

Contact Carol Hulce-Efdimis, carol2017@aol.com, if you can help with food preparation, setup, and/or cleanup.

Montgomery County Agricultural Fair

Friday, August 8 through Saturday, August 16

Volunteers for IWLA booth needed

Contact Steve Poss 301 332-5259 or Bill Leaman 240 888-7600

Dove Shoot and Cookout

Monday, September 1 (Labor Day)

Need help at the cookout after the shoot

Poolesville Day

Saturday, September 20

10:00 – 4:00pm

Volunteers are needed at our booth

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-50244039-2024)

10C0D4DACAA28A7F8C25-50244039-2024



Adult Tree Swallow on Nest



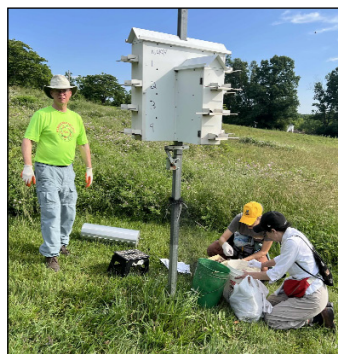
Eastern Bluebird Eggs



Purple Martin Hatch Day



Purple Martin Nestlings



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.

IN MEMORIAM

HERMAN THOMAS SIGMAN

December 12, 1937 – November 17, 2024

A native Washingtonian, Tom is survived by his wife Karen (married for 57 years), their children Ken Sigman (Elaine) and Katharine Sigman (Michael Bethancourt), and two grandchildren.

A lifelong outdoorsman; he fished, camped, and hunted. He was a longtime, active member of B-CC IWLA, volunteering weekly, serving as a range officer, teaching hunter safety courses, helping with the monthly dinner meals and special events.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Sunday, August 3

12:00 noon – 3:00pm

in the Chapter House

Members and Guests Welcome

RSVP to echopks@gmail.com

Induction of 2025 – 2026 Board

The 2025 – 2026 Officers and Board Members will be inducted at the August 2025 dinner / membership meeting. Come to the meeting to welcome them and to thank the outgoing Officers and Board Members for their service.

Log Cabin Committee Report

David Mecklenburg, Committee Chair
dmecklenburg1@gmail.com

Around 2006 the Chapter embarked on an effort to restore the Willard Log Cabin. In the Fall 2011 edition of Outdoor American about the project it says, "The end goal for the cabin, as explained by Josh Shaw, is to create a place for relaxation, inspiration, and education."

In this issue I have included a picture of the cabin taken about 2006 and one that I took a few days ago. I find the difference between the two fascinating. The porch did not exist. The rotten logs have been replaced, the trees around the cabin have matured, and many small projects have been completed and maintenance done. Currently we have more to do to complete the restoration.

The cabin is relaxing, inspirational, and educational, come on down and enjoy it.



PHOTO BY THE WILDFLOWER CHAIRMAN

Euryides Marcellus, also known as the Zebra Swallowtail, is a butterfly native to North America. It has a distinctive black-and-white striped pattern.

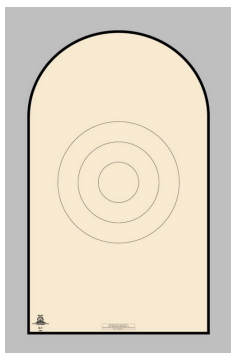
DUE DATE

for August Newsletter Articles is
Saturday, July 25.

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.

Calling all Pistol Enthusiasts...

The R&P range will hold a "Bianchi" Pistol match on October 11, 2025. The full course of fire (posted in the Chapter House and Range House) includes four types of pistols (rim-fire revolver, rim-fire semi-auto, center-fire revolver, center-fire semi-auto) with 40 rounds for each type with the targets placed at the 50' line. The NRA Bianchi Cup D-1 target will be used (scoring values are not printed in the target) with the smallest circle being "X" counting as 10, the next larger circle counting as 10, the largest circle counts as 8, and anything inside the outer perimeter counts as 5. You need not shoot all four segments to participate. Each segment of the course of fire includes trigger manipulation by strong and weak hand, one and two hand hold and slow and timed rate of fire, testing the participant's skill, endurance and versatility. Anyone achieving a score of 1500 out of a possible 1600 will get their name on the chapter plaque. Prizes will be awarded.



The match will start at 9:00am with a break for lunch and continue into the afternoon depending on the number of participants. Targets are available in the Range House for practice.

IT Committee Report

Julie Wight, Chair
jwight00@gmail.com

The IT Committee is looking for someone to be the social media person for the chapter. This person should like taking pictures and posting to Facebook.

Contact me if you are interested.

OPEN TO PUBLIC!!

Archery.BCC.IWLA@gmail.com



3-D ARCHERY

WARM UP ON TARGET BAG RANGE!
SHOOT OVER 30 LIFE-SIZE ANIMALS
ON OUR TRAIL COURSE IN WOODS

2025 SEASON

Thursday, 07/24/2025 – 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Saturday, 07/26/2025 – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Sunday, 07/27/2025 – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Thursday, 08/21/2025 – 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Saturday, 08/23/2025 – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Sunday, 08/24/2025 – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm



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.

Sunflowers are Blooming!

The sunflowers are planted in the B3 field. We have a beautiful 18-acre field of sunflowers this year. Bring the family and take pictures.

Please be cautious of the electric fence around the file.





Heritage Day at the Chapter CONSERVATION EDUCATION COMMITTEE

On Saturday, June 29th, with beautiful weather, the B-CC IWLA participated in Montgomery Heritage Day weekend, opening our gates to the public for hands-on outdoor activities and exploration of our Chapter. This has become one of our main opportunities to share our mission with the wider community and a big thank you is due to all the volunteers who came out and hosted, taught, and demonstrated.

Inside the Chapter House, guests enjoyed a range of educational exhibits, including stations on butterflies, farm life, Save Our Streams, turkey, bear, deer, and native mammals, along with an interactive activity table and a fly-tying demonstration. This year, we were excited to introduce a new Bat Station, complete with skeletal specimens and engaging displays about bat habitats and life cycles.

Our outside activities included log cabin tour, fishing, archery, air rifle shooting, mock archeological and an actual dig at the edge of the log cabin, bird watching, and demonstration of colonial living.

We were fortunate once again to have our chartered Scout Troops 773G and 773B on hand, serving up burgers, hot dogs, chips, and cold drinks to keep everyone fed and hydrated, as well as helping out at the log cabin and rifle and pistol range. Thank you for your cheerful service and encouragement to guests to make donations.

A big thank you to all the volunteers who came out to help including Ponds and Streams, Archery, Archeology, R&P, Log Cabin and Farm committees, as well as the volunteers who cleaned up the Chapter inside and out, manned our welcome booth and ensured that the grass had been mowed. This weekend would not have been possible without all the individual volunteers' dedicated help and enthusiasm. Thank you for making this a great day.

If you'd like to get involved in next year's Heritage Day, or any of our upcoming events, now's the time to raise your hand. Volunteer opportunities abound, and your help makes all the difference.

Thank you again to everyone who made the day a success!

