

Arlington-Fairfax Chapter, Inc.

Izaak Walton League of America

14708 Mount Olive Road

Post Office Box 366 . Centreville. VA 20122-0366



Volume 47, Number 4

NEWSLETTER

November, December, January 2009/2010



Christmas Party for Underprivileged Kids



The Arlington-Fairfax Chapter of the IWLA's annual "Christmas Party for Underprivileged Kids" is scheduled for December 12, 2009 from 12:00 P.M.- 3:00 P.M., and once again will take place in the Indoor Archery Range. The Fairfax County Department of Family Services will provide us with the names of about 50 underprivileged children, between the ages of newborn and 14 years. These kids, and their families, will be treated to a traditional Christmas Dinner, with a party atmosphere, and gifts for the kids delivered by Santa Claus.

This Party is one of many really great things, our chapter does for the community. If you would like to volunteer to help, we'll need members who can help with the following:

Party Set-up: Friday, 12/11/09 @10:00 A.M.; Set up tables, chairs, and decorations.

Pick- Up Truck owners needed to move things from Main Club House to Indoor Archery Range.

Food Servers: Saturday, 12/12/09 @11:00 A.M.; Serve the meal, and generally help keep things running smoothly during the Party.

Gift Wrapping: Wednesday, 12/09/09 @7:00 P.M.; Wrap gifts for 50 kids. Bring your own scissors, we'll have the paper and tape. At the Main Club House.

Transportation: Saturday 12/12/09 @11:00 A.M.; Members with large vehicles. Pick up invited families (who don't own vehicles) and transport them to the Party, and take them home, at the conclusion of the party.

Cookies and Pies: Saturday 12/12/09; Donations of Cookies and Pies, to be served at the party. These can be dropped off early.

Party Break-Down: Saturday 12/12/09 @3:00 P.M.; Take it all down, and put it away. The more the merrier. Pick-Up trucks are helpful.

Please contact co-chairmen, Carl Armstrong (Carl.Armstrong@arlingtonfairfax-iwla.org, **703-932-2347**) or Oscar Starz (**703- 321-8626**) if you can help out. If you don't have the time to help, or would prefer, you can make a tax deductible donation to the Chapter, to help cover the cost of this worthwhile cause.

Important contact information

Chapter Officers

President

Ernie Padgette.....540-439-6085

Vice President

Tom Ciarula.....703-250-0947

Secretary

Pamela Meara.....703-362-7293

Treasure

Bob Crisman.....703-620-2138

Membership Chairman

Jim Showalter.....571-338-5467

Chapter Directors

Target Archery

Leroy Anderson.....703-644-1560

Director At Large

Carl Armstrong.....703-830-5091

Skeet & Trap

Bob Brino.....703-368-4934

Conservation

Mike Cinnamon.....703-330-8510

Rifle & Pistol

Ed Franzosa.....703-255-3088

Director At Large

Clayton Miller.....703-898-7135

Director At Large

David Myers.....703-395-9613

Director At Large

Tom Pike.....703-802-0740

Director At Large

John Seaberg.....703-830-9365

Education & Training

Bucky Sills.....703-830-0458

Field Archery

Jim Smith.....703-481-5416

Youth Activities

Rich Stibrik.....703-455-4359

Director At Large

Wendell Thompson.....703-979-3062

Director At Large

Art Twichell.....703-960-6524

Committee Chairpersons

Adopt-A-Highway / Colin Riley.....703-200-3994

Advance Planning / your name here.....**your phone #**

Buildings and Grounds / Clayton Miller.....703-257-9516

Bull Run Muzzleloaders / Jim Magill.....703-590-2118

Caretaker / Rick Kohne.....571-334-5125

Chapter Field House / Durwin Carter.....703-968-9553

Conservation / Mike Cinnamon.....703-330-8510

Education & Training / Bucky Sills.....703-830-0458

Field Archery / Jim Smith.....703-481-5416

Historian / your name here.....**your phone #**

Junior Olympic Archery / Mary LeCompte703-361-4565

Lani Young.....703-742-8142

Legislation / your name here.....**your phone #**

Meeting Program / Tom Ciarula.....703-250-0947

Membership / Jim Showalter.....571-338-5467

Executive Secretaries / Amanda Armstrong...703-656-6994

Linda Armstrong.....703-909-2708

Newsletter / Pam Meara / Bucky Sills.....703-266-2235

Outdoor Ethics / Jim Mills.....703-437-9133

Pond Manager / Clayton Miller703-257-9516

Program Outreach // your name here.....**your phone #**

Public Relations / your name here.....**your phone #**

Rifle-Pistol Range / Ed Franzosa.....703-255-3088

Scholarship / Dave Dobbins.....703-753-0878

Skeet & Trap Range / Bob Brino.....703-368-4934

Target Archery / Leroy Anderson.....703-644-1560

Frank Kelly.....703-256-0935

Youth Activities / Rich Stibrik.....703-455-4359

Scouting Activities / Bill Suter.....703-222-4923

Field house phone numbers

Chapter Field house.....**703-631-4495**

Rifle & Pistol Field house....**703-631-4496**

Skeet & Trap Field house....**703-631-4497**

Field Archery Field house....**703-631-4498**

Chapter President's E mail

epadgette@sprnet.com

Chapter Fax Number

703-631-0968

Chapter's Web-site

www.arlingtonfairfax-iwla.org

Chapter Board of Directors Meeting

1st Tuesday of each month

7:30 pm @ Field House

All members welcome

Attend your chapter meetings

Regular Membership Meeting

3rd Tuesday of each month

7:30 pm @ Field house

Your Chapters leaders elected



The Arlington—Fairfax Chapter, Inc IWLA held it's annual election the 2nd & 3rd weekends in July. The official report from the appointed election committee states it was a smooth election, no hanging chads or anything to report. The results are:

Ernie Padgett was re elected President
Pam Meara was re elected Secretary
Jim Smith was re elected Director for Field Archery
Ed Franzosa was re elected Director of Rifle and Pistol
Jim Showalter was re elected Membership Chairman
Dave Myers was re elected Director at Large
Wendell Thomson re elected Director at Large
John Seaberg was re elected Director at Large
Carl Armstrong was re elected Director at large

THE TRIBE HAS SPOKEN

The Chapter has over 2200 members, only about 300 came out to vote, pretty sorry numbers, does that mean that 1900 members don't care about what's going on with their Chapter?

Are you one of them? I should hope not.

Welcome to the 21st Century - Online Registration comes to Education and Training SAVE A TREE, REGISTER ONLINE.

The preferred method to register for a course is now online.

Go to the chapter website, click Education and Training, click on the class you are interested in and click Register for Class.

Fill out all the information, then click on Register. Pam Meara, our registrar, will receive automatic Email notification for your registration.

You will still need to mail your course tuition to the Post Office Box.

Please put the Course name and date on the Memo line of your check.

Registrations are being handled via a new SECURE registration and reporting site developed by the NRA for Instructors nationwide. This eliminates the tons of paper flooding the NRA Education & Training Division and the hours and hours of manual data entry for course reporting from the previous system.



Cub Run Archers

ARCHERY UPDATE



Cub Run Archers would like to extend a warm welcome and an invitation to all members of the IWLA to take advantage of the many facilities, training opportunities, archery equipment, events and great camaraderie that our club has to offer. Though our state of the art indoor range is "officially" closed until the fall, it is available for your use anytime a qualified Range Officer is on site. It is common knowledge that a good many regulars in the club are at the range house every morning from approximately 10am until noon. This is a great time to come down and introduce yourself and find out what Cub Run Archers is all about. If you are new to archery and need advice on anything from bow setup, arrow tuning to shooting technique, not only will you find literally, several hundred years of collective experience, but the equipment to perform those tasks. We especially would like to encourage youth participation and have a great many youth bows that young shooters may practice with to develop their skills. The cost to join Cub Run Archers is only \$15 per year. Though you don't need to be a member of Cub Run Archers to use the facilities, we have several dinners and picnics throughout the year and attendance at even one of these would easily be worth the annual membership. If you are interested, please contact Robert D'Imperio, Secretary, Cub Run Archers, 13490 Edge Rock Ct. Chantilly, VA 20151. You may email Bob at robbyrayd@yahoo.com as well.

The outdoor facilities are available to any member in good standing of the IWLA. We have a practice range with target butts at 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40 50, and 60 yards. These are lighted as well if you would like to shoot in the evenings. There is also a Crossbow station with a movable target. Remember, crossbows are allowed ONLY at the special crossbow station and not at any of the other targets or ranges. A 28 point field archery course is also available for use to all IWLA members. Daytime use only as there is no lighting on the field course.

We would like to remind everyone that we have several VBA sanctioned events scheduled for 2010. The events and the scheduled dates can be found in this newsletter. Registration for these events is 9am to 1pm. The cost is \$8 for the first round and \$2 for each additional round. Cubs (young archers) shoot free. Food service is available.

With deer season under way we would like to remind all IWLA members of the outstanding deer butchering facility located in front of the archery field house. This is for all IWLA members to use, but please remember to leave the area as clean as you found it. The water hose is located next to the porch of the archery club house. Just lift the handle and water will be available. Also, there are lights for butchering a deer after dark. The light switch is located above the sign-in-pad by the shed (to the left of the butchering station). Please bring your own plastic bags for carcass removal.

Board of Directors meeting is the 1st Tuesday of every month, starting at 7:30pm at the Field house.

General Membership meeting is the 3rd Tuesday of every month starting at 7:30 pm at the field house.

Have you been to any of these lately?

If the answer is NO how do you know what is going on !!!

Cub Run Archers Election Results

From Dave Dobbins

At the August meeting of CRA, pursuant to the bylaws, election of officers for 2009 – 2010 was held. Results are as follows:

President: Marvin Hicks
Vice President: Dave Dobbins
Secretary: Bob D'Imperio
Treasurer: Gilbert Ramey
Range Captain: Bob Walla
3-D Director: James Spurgeon
Indoor Director: Dick Reimer
Social Director: Terri Perry
P.R./Membership Director: Jan Steenblik

Archery Range Officer Orientation

From Dick Reimer

Following the October Cub Run Archers Membership Meeting (Oct 4th), a range officers orientation will take place in the indoor archery range for the up coming indoor season. All range officers must attend a yearly orientation to maintain range officer status. I would like to welcome back all the range officers from last year. This was an excellent group of gals and guys that served our club last season. If you were a range officer last year and are unable to serve as a range officer this season you are asked to return your building key to Dick Reimer. All keys will be needed for this years range officers. Reminder, for each evening of range officer duty you complete, you will earn 1 work hour toward your 8 hours needed for your \$40.00 discount to your Izaak Walton League membership.

2010 Cub Run Shoot Proposal

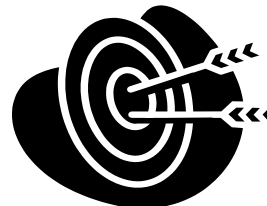
From Dave Dobbins

WINTER CLASSIC: *March 14*

PIN SHOOT: *May 2*

SAFARI SHOOT: *June 20*

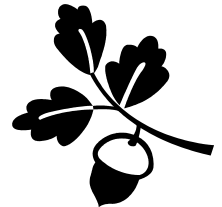
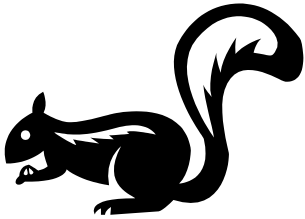
BUCKBUSTER 3-D SHOOT: *September 12*



Acorns in 2008 and the Upcoming Year

From Mark Stewart

Last year you may have noticed a decrease in the number of acorns falling from the oaks in your favorite hunting area. You were not alone if you were left wondering what was happening. News agencies such as the Washington Post and CNN were reporting a decrease in acorn production all up down the east coast. For us in Virginia the shortage was hardly uniform; while some areas had no acorns whatsoever, other areas seemed to have normal production levels.



For example, this was taken from an article at CNN.com:

"In the Shenandoah Valley, pin oaks and northern red oaks have produced few or no acorns this year; as a result the Forestry Department has put out a statewide appeal for donations from any tree owners willing to bag up their acorns and deliver them to their city or county's forestry office."

The shortage could have been related to the normal cyclical nature of some oaks. Apparently 2007 was a particularly good year for acorns. As a result it is not surprising to some biologists that we had a much leaner year in 2008. "It fits with the physiology of seed reproduction. The trees are exhausted, energy wise, from last year" one Virginia Extension agent (Washington Post).

But many were still perplexed by the almost complete absence of nuts in some pockets of the state. One explanation could be the weather. As the CNN.com reported:

"Virginia Extension agent Adam Downing said recovery from last year's big crop, combined with a much wetter-than-usual spring, probably accounts for the acorn absence. Meteorologists say the Washington-Baltimore area saw about twice as much precipitation last May as normal."

Further, as reported by the Washington Post:

"Being a nut-bearing tree, an oak's life cycle is directly tied to seasons, and its productivity is dependent on weather. For example, [white oak](#) tree flowers are pollinated in the spring; acorns grow and mature throughout the summer; and acorns fall to the ground in autumn. According to the [U.S. Forest Service](#), anthers (the flower parts that produce pollen) on white oak flowers open and close with changes in humidity. Also, a very rainy spring can damage flowers, delay pollen production or reduce pollen dispersal. The most productive white oak acorn seasons are those with a stretch of 10 warm days followed by a few weeks of cool days; whereas, the least productive are those in which cool temperatures precede warm."

The weather could be one factor in the lack of acorn crop this year. As you may recall, spring of 2008 was wet, with a [May rainfall total](#) of 10.66 inches -- the second wettest on record. The rainy spring was preceded by several months of drought.

Even though a single mature white oak can produce 10,000 acorns annually, it will also go through years of little to no acorn production depending on external conditions. One year without acorns shouldn't cause us too much worry. However, it is definitely something to monitor; if the lack of acorn crop becomes a trend, this behavior could be an indication of other environmental and climatic factors at play."

I contacted Jim McGlone with the Virginia Department of Forestry and asked him what his thoughts were regarding acorn production in the upcoming year. He confirmed the probability that last year's shortage was likely the result of multiple natural causes all coming together at once. While VDF's current mast studies are not complete, the expectation is that this year will be a normal year for most of the oak species in the area.

So, if you sat in your favorite stand of white oaks last year and saw nothing but a bunch of hungry squirrels running around (and no deer) perhaps you should go ahead and give it another try this year. It seems that 2009 should be a normal year.

Education and Training News

Only 1 more Classes left for 2009

November 14, 2009 NRA Shotgun Shell Reloading \$50.00 members / \$75.00 non members

Education and Training, schedules 2010 Instructor training Classes

NRA Range Safety Officer	JAN 9, 2010	\$70.00
Pistol Instructor / Home firearm Safety	FEB 3 thru 7, 2010	\$200.00
Personal Protection Inside the Home	FEB 27 & 28, 2010	\$200.00
NRA Rifle Instructor	MAR 10 thru 14, 2010	\$200.00
NRA Shotgun Coaches Course	APR10 & 11, 2010	\$200.00
NRA Shotgun Instructor	APR 21 thru 25, 2010	\$200.00
Personal Protection Outside the Home	MAY 21 Thru 23, 2010	\$250.00

Course Registration Form

Name _____ Phone _____
 E-MAIL _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 I am registering for the following course (s) _____
 To be held on (dates) _____

I **will** / **will not** need to borrow a firearm (Please circle one)

Total Amount enclosed for course fee(s) _____

Total Amount enclosed to borrow firearms (\$20.00) each _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

I am interested in the following future courses: Date: _____ Course Name: _____

2009 Course Fees Will vary from course to course, see course brochure or chapter website: (<http://www.arlingtonfairfax-iwla.org/education.html>)

Mail Registration to:
 Education and Training / Arl-Fx IWLA, Inc.
 P.O. Box 366
 Centreville, VA 20122-0366

Please make checks payable to: IWLA Ed & Trng



Bullseye Pistol League at Arlington—Fairfax Chapter

IWLA-Monthly Centerfire Bullseye Matches –November 2009 – March 2010

The Centerfire Bullseye Matches will begin the first Sunday in November and will finish in March 2010. Seventeen shooters can be accommodated at the match. We have a few open positions for any new shooters.

The match is held on the first Sunday of each month. Beginners and experts are invited to compete in the Bullseye Pistol Match at 9:00 am at the IWLA rifle/pistol range. All ages and talent levels are invited to compete in the matches. They are fun and educational. If you are a beginner and are interested, please join us. If you are the parent of a young adult and would like them to learn the basics of pistol shooting, you are also welcome. The shooting competition consists of a total of 90 shots at slow, timed and rapid. During the months of November through March, the participants use center fire pistols or revolvers. All new shooter are invited and we will help educate and encourage you to participate in the competition. Targets are provided for all matches. You bring your pistol, ammunition and lots of enthusiasm. See you on the first Sunday of each month.

If you do not have a centerfire pistol, you are permitted to shoot with your 22 rimfire pistol.

If you are interested or have additional question contact Jack Machey at reddotbull@yahoo.com. Please join us for an enjoyable Sunday morning event!

Queen Ann Archers - Indoor Season Begins!

The Indoor Season started on 19 September. QAA will be meeting at Bull Run Shooting Center on Saturdays from 9:00 AM until 11:00 PM. Practice will also occur on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 PM until 9:00 PM at the Cub Run Archers range. The season will be filled not only with energy filled practice but also fun filled tournaments. Coaches Mary LeCompte and Lani Young are looking forward to the Halloween tournament, the Turkey shoot and in December the Holiday party/tournament. Participation in out of state tournaments such as the FITA East and Mid-Atlantic JOAD are always attended by members of QAA

This summer was also exciting for QAA with Ben Nguyen-Zhu as one of the archers representing the United States in Venezuela. The tournament had 14 countries participating and Ben came in 6th Place in his category. Ben has also competed in the JOAD National in Pennsylvania and the National Outdoor Championship in Ohio. One of newest member of QAA is James Crowley. He competed his first tournament in July at the Coventry Commonwealth Games and won Silver and Gold medals. His teammate, Kyle White won Gold at the same event in July. James also won Gold at the Virginia State Outdoor held at Bull Run Park in September. Coach Mary and Coach Lani are expecting the medals to continue to be presented to Queen Ann Archers because they have a great energy and team pride! Let the Season begin!

President's Column

By Arlington—Fairfax Chapter President
Ernie Padgette



The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

In typical (typical for me, at least; and I'm the one writing this, so there!) fashion, let's start at the end and work back toward the beginning. The Ugly part first. Think dues increase. Ugly enough? Why is it that no matter how predictable something ugly might be, it's still just as ugly? The fact is, our last dues increase was around seven years ago; and that was nothing more than passing along a dues increase on the part of IWLA National. We didn't make any money on that increase; we just collected the increase and passed it along to National. I'm not sure how long it has been since there was an actual increase in the Arlington-Fairfax Chapter dues; but it has been long enough that no one at the recent Board of Directors and Membership Meetings can remember with certainty. Probably, around 1995 or thereabouts. So, we're way overdue.

Things cost money. Our insurance premiums have more than doubled since our last dues increase; our electric and gas costs have increased tremendously; the membership (that's you) expects some one to answer the phone when they call; and every one and his brother wants something fixed, painted, cut, trimmed, enlarged or made better. We have major and necessary projects on hold at the Skeet and Trap Range; and in fact, all over the property. Every year, the costs go up. Eventually, no matter how hard you squeeze the budget (and believe me, your BOD has some real tightwads on it), something has to give. You either stop doing some things for the membership (Bring that one up at a Membership Meeting and people start muttering about how they keep 100 foot of new rope in the toolbox of their F-150), or you increase dues (That one starts an active discussion about tar and feathers). So; what do we do? That will be up to you, the members. The process for increasing dues is made deliberately long and difficult, as it should be; and requires an affirmative vote of the membership. The Officers and BOD will bring our recommendations to you; and you will decide. Right now, I'm still guessing, but we're probably looking for somewhere around a \$30.00/year increase in dues. That amount is slightly in excess of our current actual needs; but will allow us to start rebuilding our reserves, which have been hit hard over the past few years.

Our current dues are a small fraction of membership at any local shooting range; and we offer a tremendous facility and opportunity for family activities. We work to protect the environment; prepare the next generation to take our place in the world; and offer the best social setting you can find for a host of various groups. But in the end, we aren't looking at a dues increase because ARL-FX offers the best value you can find; or because we have the best facilities you can find in the area; or even because a dues increase is simply long overdue. We need a dues increase because there are things we have to do; and even with volunteer help, a lot of those things cost money.

The bad part is all personal; supposedly only affecting me. With a little vigilance on your part, it can stay that way. A couple of weeks ago, I was sitting and enjoying

the sight of the sun coming up; coffee and cigarettes in hand. Actually, I was struggling a little bit. Some days are harder than others; and this particular day was a tough one. For several weeks, I had felt as though my energy level was just about tapped out. Just getting up in the morning was tough. Well, I tend to run pretty hard; so that's to be expected once in a while. No big deal; just kick yourself in the backside and get on with things. But lately, I was having to kick myself a lot; just to keep moving. Not only that, but I was starting to wake up very stiff and sore. So, on this particular morning, I was wondering if maybe I was starting to experience that "getting old" stuff people always insist on telling me about. No energy; stiff and sore; and lately I had been experiencing some kind of weird "fever and chills" symptoms. Even when sitting dead still, I would suddenly start sweating and feeling uncomfortably warm. And now my neck was stiff!

So, there I sat, feeling sorry for myself; tired and worn down; just can't get up to speed; stiff and sore all over; sore neck; fever and chills. And not only that; I had a red circular rash on my right arm, about an inch in diameter, kind of a bulls eye shape, that my lovely bride was all excited about. Like I had time to worry about something minor like that! Wait a sec... this sounds familiar... Uh Oh...! Yep; the Doctor man confirmed I have Lyme Disease. Classic symptoms and all that bull. And I'm stupid. Well, that was actually my lovely bride talking; but the doctor man nodded his head a lot. So, massive doses of antibiotics for a few weeks and I'll start feeling better. The main thing is we caught it early enough that it can be cured relatively easily. This is the third or fourth case of Lyme Disease I've heard of in our area in the past few months. Forewarned is forearmed. Keep an eye out and go visit your doctor if you have any unexplained symptoms.

Good? That's easy. It involved a young person; in this case my grandson Harley. Harley is a great kid, and is the son of David Antal; so that actually makes him "Harley, David's son". How's that for a cool name? Makes me wonder why mom named me "Earnest", instead of something cool like that; but mom did a lot of things I don't understand. Last weekend was the VSSA Annual Meeting. Thanks in large part to our own Mr. Dave Meyers, we had a large turnout. We had shotgun, pistol and Rifle events set up for the members. Since I had to work the Highpower event, I decided to take Harley along with me. I figured that he, being a healthy and normal young man of twelve, would get a kick out of a long day shooting various rifles; and it wouldn't hurt my shooting budget if he was shooting some one else's ammo for a change.

Well, Harley started by burning off a hundred or so carefully aimed single shot rounds through an AR-15. Then he shot a bunch of rounds of .22 rimfire stuff. We finally beat him off the shooting bench with a big stick, so some other people could get a chance to shoot. For the rest of the day, he was right there; waiting for a bench to open up. As soon as a spot was available, he was back on the line; having a great time all the way. He popped off a few rounds through an M1A, but he doesn't yet have the body weight to handle the recoil well; so it was back to the rimfire and .223. We finally put him on the line dry firing an AR; and darned if he didn't sit there and

just call shots for the better part of an hour! By that time, it was getting late. We were all tired, getting hungry and it was about time to clean up and head for dinner (expertly prepared by several of our own ARL-FX chefs extraordinaire, by the way). Harley was predictably hungrier than any of us; but he looked up from the butt of the AR, grinned, and asked “Can I just fire a few more rounds”? Mike Jamison, who was running things, agreed he would give Harley three more rounds to shoot. All three shots in the black would earn him three more rounds to shoot; two in the black would earn two more, etc. By the time Harley finally ran out of ammo, I was wondering if we would ever get to eat.

This hunting season, Harley and I will be in the woods. He has a lot to learn; and I’m enjoying teaching him. If you’ve never worked with kids, never seen the look on their face when they discover just how well they can do at something competitive, never seen their smile of accomplishment, you’ve missed one of life’s real pleasures. We all agree the children are the future. Well, it’s up to us to teach them the right path to follow. The best way to predict the future is to work at creating it. Get involved.



News from the Tractor Shed

NOVA Sharpshooters 2009-2010 Match Schedule

All matches are sponsored by the NOVA Sharpshooters and are either NRA registered or approved matches.

To receive awards shooters need to be NRA members or members of an NRA junior rifle club.

All matches are open to juniors and adults.

3P air can be shot with sporter or precision air rifles.

Club, High School and other teams are welcome.

Match Schedule:

25 Oct 09, 3P Air, 3x20, 60 shots. Relays are 8:00 am, 10:30 am, 1:00 pm 3:30 pm

22 Nov 09, International Air, 60 Shots. Relays are 8:00 am, 11:00 am, 2:00 pm 5:00 pm

20 Dec 09, International Air, 60 Shots. Relays are 8:00 am, 11:00 am, 2:00 pm 5:00 pm

20 Feb 10, International Air Open Sectionals, 60 Shots. Relays are 8:00 am, 11:00 am, 2:00 pm 5:00 pm

20 Mar 10, 3P Air, 3x20, 60 Shots. Relays are 8:00 am, 10:30 am, 1:00 pm 3:30 pm

24 Apr 10, 3P Air, 3x20, 60 Shots. Relays are 8:00 am, 10:30 am, 1:00 pm 3:30 pm

All matches are held at the AF IWLA air rifle range in Centreville, VA.

Contact Tom Pike (703) 362-5716, twpike@verizon.net for match registration.

Directions: From I-66 take Route 28 South to Compton Road, right on Compton Road to Mount Olive Road, right on Mount Olive Road to the IWLA entrance on the left (about 300 yards). Proceed down the main entry road past the clubhouse on the left. The Air Rifle Range is in a building with a garage door on the left side of the road.



Come Out and Join the FUN



John Seaberg ready to go

2010 Birt Kidwell Winter Skeet and Trap League

The Colonel Birt Kidwell Winter Skeet and Trap League will be forming up soon for the 2010 season. Anyone interested in participating in shotgun sports is encouraged to join. The competitive format provides a demanding challenge for shooters of all ability levels from the aspiring beginner through our AAA folks. Shooting the league is also a great way to get to know many of your fellow IKE's. The 2009 league fielded 168 shooters and we expect another large turnout for the 2010 season, so sign up early to ensure a spot on the roster.

The season will begin on Sunday, January 3rd, 2010 and continue every Sunday for 13 weeks dependent on the number of teams. League competition consists of six person squads shooting two round matches against another team each week for both team and individual prizes. Six matches each of trap and skeet are shot during the season (twelve Sundays total). Awards are presented at a family oriented picnic to the top teams and to the individuals with high averages in Skeet, Trap, and Overall, plus a most improved award.

Individuals and/or teams interested in participating in the league can sign up either by email (preferred) or by telephone. Based on our range facilities, there is a limit of 28 teams and sign up is on a first come, first served basis. More information about the Winter Skeet and Trap League can be obtained by contacting John Seaberg, the League Chairman. Email Address: jseaberg@cox.net Telephone: (703) 830-9365.

Fall Skeet and Trap Shooting Clinics

Chapter members are invited to attend clinics on introductory skeet and trap shooting to be held at the IWLA Arlington-Fairfax Chapter shotgun ranges beginning at 1:00PM on Sunday, 6 December 2009. Bob Brino will conduct the trap clinic and John Seaberg will conduct the skeet clinic. The clinics will last approximately two hours are intended for people new to the shotgun sports. Range safety, introduction to the games of trap and skeet, and fundamentals of proper shooting techniques will be covered. Participation will provide a foundation on which to build your shotgun shooting skills. There is no cost for clinic; however the regular cost for targets must be paid. Participants should bring a shotgun in safe operating condition and at least 50 shotgun shells no larger than 7 ½ shot size. Interested members can sign up by contacting John Seaberg at jseaberg@cox.net.

Membership News



As everyone knows, we will soon be doing the renewals for the 2010 Membership Season. Some people have even been sending in their money already, which does not do any good since your renewal has to include both your money and your membership release form. Without both pieces, you are not renewed, and we get to spend more effort getting your payment mailed back to you.

This year we again are going through the effort to print your renewal information on a form and mail it to you. I expect this is the last year we will do this, as it is an expense and effort, marrying up more than two thousand unique forms with their correct mailing labels. Next year, you will get a blank renewal form in your newsletter to arrive in October. This year as in most past years, we have filled out your renewal information for you. Next year, you will fill it out yourself. This gives you a year to know what is coming, and be ready for it. I was ready to do it this year, and the Administrative Assistants (Amanda and Linda) insisted we should give the membership more warning and training. It would save us more than a dozen man days level of effort, all told, if people correctly fill out their blank forms.

Speaking of blank forms, over the rather poignant objections of several other Board Members, we will be posting the blank renewal form on the web page for people to download, print, fill out and return to us with their signature. We also do not do digital signatures; so we need the hard copy.

A problem we had last year was payments received without reference to who was to get credit. Some lucky few individuals get corporate sponsorship and a few other “disconnected payment mechanisms”. Those lucky individuals are responsible to associate the two documents. If you have your secretary send us a check from your law firm’s account for your membership, have them also send your signed release form. If your company sends us a payment from another country (we have at least one of those I know of), let us know which of you are associated with the payment. We get into some curious guessing games for who matches what payments. With significantly more people trying to join than we have open spots, do you want to risk these kinds of delays?

So how do we do renewals, reinstatements, and new memberships as well as conversions? Renewals are straight forward. If you were a member in 2009, get your payment with your signed renewal form to our Admins post marked no later than 28 February 2010 or preferably in hand before 1 March 2010. The in-hand part is important, since we do a prospective member orientation class (PMOC) on 6 May 2010. You have the option to change your status (changing to or from individual to family membership) when you renew. Your second family member will need to attend a PMOC to be trained before they are given a range badge.

Starting on 1 March, we have a feel for how many openings we will have. From 1 March to 5 March, the people who were members in 2008 and not in 2009 can renew. Realistically this means the Admins will process the renewals they already received for that category on those days. This is also when we process the other category of reinstatements; our returning government personnel. As many of you know, we have members each year who rotate out of the area for government duty “elsewhere”, sometimes “real elsewhere”. This can include people gone for several years, but finally

returning (hopefully still in one piece) to again enjoy our facilities. The ones I know of range from California to Kabul, Turkey to Kirkuk in Iraq, to places I have no hope to spell and certainly never want to visit. They also renew normally.

Having finished renewals and reinstatements, we now have the new member openings available for the PMOC events. As many of you have already heard, we are using a reservation based system starting this year. We are limiting class sizes to one hundred people to maintain the quality of instruction. Reservations will be accepted starting in January 2010. Why not sooner? People die, move, have job losses, get new partners who don't accept their hobbies (they are the ones who join us next year when they change partners) and a host of other reasons that impact their desire or ability to join. This should lessen the "no-shows" taking up slots desperately desired by other people.

People can reserve a slot in either the 6 March or 1 April 2010 PMOC events. Everyone attending the 6 March PMOC will get in. I cannot be as confident for everyone for the 1 April class. While current members can renew late if there are openings if they include their late fee, anyone waiting to renew until after 1 March is taking a significant chance of missing out for the 2010 membership season. People still have the option to work out payment plans if they need them, but are reminded that they won't get their 2010 membership card and badge tab until they have fully paid their membership. Late fees do not apply if you start making payment before the cutoff date.

Many members will get work credit slips to reduce their renewal cost by \$40. If so, wait to get it before sending in your renewal. The volunteer slips will arrive in plenty of time for you to renew your membership. The Directors who can issue them are very diligent. If you send in your renewal early, it is hard for us to back out the payments. Indeed, it costs more than the renewal for us to back it out. So please wait for your credit slip before sending in your renewal.

This is likely to be the last year at this set of rates. Our revenue has gone down while our expenses have continued to increase. Being very efficient at both renewing (we have a much better than national average renewal rate) and filling quickly actually cuts our gross revenues. It means we get fewer new member fees and fewer late renewal fees. Our Treasurer (Bob Crisman) has been working the numbers in gruesome detail. Expect to see some information from Bob on what to expect.

We all look forward to a pleasant end to 2009. Please enjoy our facilities and ensure your friends who are interested in joining us know the process and are ready when the opportunity arises here in 2010. Good luck.

Jim Showalter
Membership Chairman



Always Important "NEWS FROM THE FRONT OFFICE"

Attention Members

1. We are getting ready to send out your membership renewals for 2010. If you do not receive your membership renewal by the second week of November please call the field house 703-631-4495 and leave a message stating your full name and phone number to reach you.
2. When you send us your renewal form please be sure to sign the back of the release statement. (This is necessary so that we can send you your new membership card)
3. Renewals are due by February 1, 2010. Any payment received after said date please add a \$25 late fee or your spot will not be guaranteed it will be first come first serve basis after that date.
4. If you want any volunteer time, we need help stuffing envelopes around November / December. Please call 703-631-4495 if you are interested in helping.

Thank you for your cooperation
Amanda and Linda Armstrong



NOVA Sharpshooters

The NOVA Sharpshooters have kicked off started their fall season. Our shooters will be traveling to Queen Ann, MD for a 3 position smallbore and an international air match 18 Oct 09. Our first match at the air rifle range will be a NRA 3 position air rifle record match on 25 Oct 09. The match is open to both sporter and precision shooters.

The Junior Shooting program has a basic shooting program for beginning shooters. We also sponsor the NOVA Sharpshooters rifle team. The team competes at the local, regional and national level in 3 position precision air rifle, and in International air rifle. The program also supports high school rifle teams by providing a range for air rifle and sponsoring the Mavericks. The Mavericks is a high school team that consists of shooters whose high school does not have a rifle team. If you are interested in the basic program or learning to shoot competitions on one of our teams come out to a practice and talk to Tom Pike or Rich Stibrik

We will be supporting the Potomac High School Rifle League (PHSRL) again this year. Three of the nine rifle teams in the Potomac High School Rifle League (PHSRL) are composed of NOVA Sharpshooters; they are the Mavericks, Woodson HS and Lake Braddock HS. Robinson HS also has a number of Sharpshooters on their team. We also have coaches supporting all four teams. The league will be conducting matches at the air rifle range with our four home teams hosting matches starting in Nov 2009 and continuing through Feb 2010.

The NOVA Sharpshooters will be hosting six matches this season at the air rifle range. The match schedule is:

25 Oct 09, 3P Air, 3x20, 60 shots
22 Nov 09, International Air, 60 Shots
20 Dec 09, International Air, 60 Shots
20 Feb 10, International Air Open Sectionals, 60 Shots
20 Mar 10, 3P Air, 3x20, 60 Shots
24 Apr 10, 3P Air, 3x20, 60 Shots

To sign up for a match contact Tom Pike at twpike@verizon.net or (703) 802-0740. The NOVA Sharpshooters were planning to send a team to a match in Palmyra, PA in Jan 10 and team to Germantown, MD for the NRA 3 position Air Junior Sectionals in April.

Our weekly schedule is Monday 5:30 – 8:00 pm Open practice, Tuesday 6:00 – 9:00 pm Precision practice, Thursday 7:00 – 9:00 pm Coaches night, Friday 5:00 – 7:00 pm early Open practice and 7:00-9:00 Open practice. Anyone interested in joining the NOVA Sharpshooters should stop by one of the practices and talk to a coach or contact Rich Stibrik (703) 455-4359, brik73@hotmail.com or Tom Pike at (703) 802-0740, twpike@verizon.net.

Know Your Chapter

Do you know where these are located and anything about them.



The answers are located in this newsletter

More EMS work at the Skeet and Trap Range

The wooded side of all the Skeet and Trap Fields have been graded to a slope to help aid in the workers getting in and out of the work areas, also makes it easier to clean up broken targets us clean up broken targets. Our lead management plan has been called state of the art by the EPA.



Keep an eye out for more info, better yet find out what you can do to help

BEES are back at Arlington-Fairfax

You might have noticed that the bee hives that used to be on the left hand side of the road as you drive in are missing. As per requested, John moved them off site for a few weeks. They now have returned further down the pipe line out of the way. They say that these bees don't sting you, but they have a sharp point on their butt, what's that for???

John was the guest speaker at our September membership meeting, he also brought bottles of honey, collected from our hive's. Good stuff.



John Fraser of Highland Honey and Apiaries at the September membership meeting with a demonstration hive.

Know Your Chapter

This is the Keyhole Fire ring at Camp site # 1. It was constructed as a Eagle Scout Project several years ago. The purpose of the key hole shape was the main fire was built in the round part and hot coals were raked down in to the rectangle part for cooking. Over the years and through abuse it is in need of repair. Maybe you could make a family project out of this, and help restore your chapter property. Ask what you can do to help out.



Some Chapter History



A Look Back

By Colin Riley

The focus of the Chapter's newsletter last spring on our group's many contributions to the Community inspired me to do a little research on our organization's history by searching some of the historical newspaper databases for articles about the Izaak Walton League and specifically about our Chapter.

If you have ever had the occasion to be in the Chapter Field House either for a meeting or an NRA Class, you may have noticed among the various photographs, plaques and documents hanging on the back wall, the Chapter's original Charter from 1936 when we were known as the Falls Church Chapter of the IWLA. Back then our group was much smaller than it is today and we had no facilities of our own. In spite of that virtually every Chapter Membership Meeting was announced on the front page of the Fairfax Herald and frequently in the Herndon Observer, also there were frequently articles and mentions in the Washington Post.

During the early years of the Chapter's history, membership meetings were generally held in the Masonic Hall in Falls Church and dealt in large part with water pollution, wildlife conservation issues and the enforcement of game laws.

A typical announcement would be like this one, which appeared on the first page of the August 19, 1937 edition of the Herndon Observer;

"There will be a regular monthly meeting of the Falls Church Chapter of the Izaak Walton League on Thursday, August 26, at 8:00 p.m. in the Masonic Hall, Bank Building, East Falls Church. The special subject for discussion will be Fish and Game Law Enforcement in Northern Virginia. This will be a continuation of the discussion of this important problem, recently before the Executive Committee..."

Even into the early 1950's it was common for area municipal sewage authorities to dump raw sewage into whatever local waterway and this was of major concern to the membership of the Chapter.

An article on an upcoming Chapter meeting on page one of the September 22, 1938 edition of the Herndon Observer says in part that;

"There will also be reports on the progress of clearing up the pollution of the Potomac and discussion of game management in Virginia."

In 1941 our organization changed its' name from the "Falls Church" Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America to the "Arlington Fairfax" Chapter. The earliest mention of this new name that I could find was in a column called "Bill Ackerman Outdoors", which appeared in the Washington Post on January 9, 1941. The article talks about

the Chapter Memberships's opposition to commercial netting of Black Bass in the Potomac and their charge that there is "direct evidence of bad faith and duplicity on the on the part of the Game and Fisheries Commision" in allowing this to happen.

During the Second World War, the Chapter, like many organizations sought to do its part. Samuel Vanderslice a chapter member and a former Marine Corp Drill Instructor organized Company No. 7 of the Virginia Reserve Militia, which was one of several Militia groups created in Virginia at this time. Recruited from within the membership of the Arlington Fairfax Chapter, these "Minute Men" had to purchase a uniform and provide their own arms and equipment, much like the Revolutionary War Soldiers. An article in the September 24, 1942 edition of the Herndon Observer reports that the Minute Men are a group sponsored by Governor Colgate Darden "The purpose of the group is to supplement the State Guard in the event of any air raid or sabotage."

It goes on to say that "The training of the group will be in such guerillar warfare as is necessary...". There is no indication that Company No. 7 ever saw any action and it was disbanded in 1945.

In addition to sponsoring a Militia group during the War, the Chapter also sponsored a scrap drive of sorts. An article in the Fairfax Herald of December 4, 1942 announced that the Arlington Fairfax Chapter was seeking to collect waterfowl feathers and down from local hunters to used for the war effort.

As it is with any growing organization, the Chapter membership wanted to have a place to call their own. An article in the Washington Post on July 19, 1945 announces that;

"A five man committee to investigate possibilities of aquiring a site for an Izaak Walton League Club-House in Arlington or Fairfax County has been appointed by George P. Grove, president of the local Chapter"

What was surprising to me was this article that appeared a few months later in the Washington Post which announced that;

" Members of the Arlington Fairfax Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America will clear club grounds and prepare duck blinds on the newly acquired club site at an all-day meeting to be held Sunday, George P. Grove, president, said yesterday. Members have been requested to bring their own saws, hatchets, axes and lunches to the Ames farm at Gunston Cove. Road signs several miles below Fort Belvoir will indicate location of the chapters headquarters."

This was a bit of a revelation since I had never heard of the Chapter owning any property other than our present headquarters in Fairfax County and the Shenandoah Property. What happened to the Gunston Cove property is a bit of a mystery but it appears that by 1950 the Chapter was looking for a new location.

"Bill Ackerman Outdoors..." Bill Ackerman The Washington Post 9 Jan. 1941 p.22

"Samuel P. Vanderslice, 83, Ex-Principal in Arlington" The Washington Post 23 Mar. 1980 p. D8

"Will Organize Fairfax Militia Bi-County Sport Group to Sponsor Movement" Herndon Observer 24 Sep. 1942 p.1

"Izaak Walton Committee Seeks Site for Clubhouse" The Washington Post 19 Jul. 1945 p.9

"Izaak Waltons To Meet Sunday, Build Duck Blinds" The Washington Post 18 Oct. 1945

Watershed Conservation Activities

By Colin Riley

Our Latest Project

On September 30th, we received the go ahead from the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority to proceed with our proposal to establish a stand of a native grass called River Oats (*Chasmanthium latifolium*) on an eroded section of stream bank on Bull Run just downstream of the Route 28 Bridge.

River Oats is present in large quantity on our land along Cub Run where its tough root system does a very good job of retaining the soil. We will be using plants and seeds obtained from our property for this project to help stabilize the soil along Bull Run on Sunday October 25th from 9:30 am to 11:00 am. Volunteers will be needed for the initial planting stage as well as monitoring and or watering the stand of grass for the next few weeks until it becomes established.

Mild and dry weather as well as a good volunteer turnout have resulted in a number of successful Watershed Cleanup Events in the past few months. So far this year the Arlington Fairfax Chapter has been responsible for the removal of over eight tons of trash from the Potomac Watershed.



August 1st Bull Run - From L-R Chuck Overpeck, Ned Foster, Vinnie Caporale, Maureen Wood, Chet Bowie, Lindy Bowie, Jim Lauver, Josh Massey, Paul Miller.

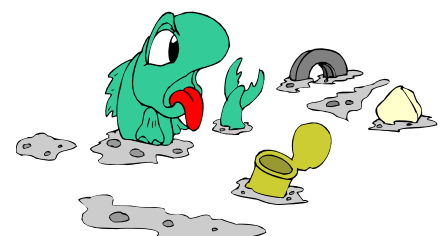
13 Volunteers showed up for the August 1st Adopt-A-Stream cleanup of Bull Run. In three hours, more than 500 pounds trash was removed including 6 tires and 13 bags of the usual flood borne refuse.

On August 15th, 12 volunteers from Centreville Boyscout Troop 1137 cleaned the Chapter's Adopt-A-Highway sections on Mount Olive and

Continued on Page 21



Are you doing all you can to help.
Recycle at the ranges, Your house,
and come out and give the watershed
clean up crew a hand.

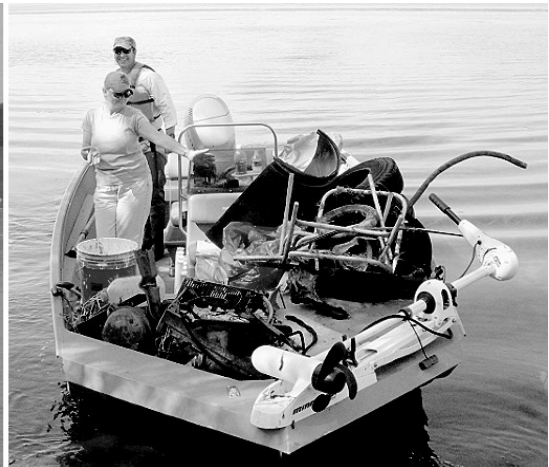


Find there schedule of clean up's on page 22

Compton Roads as well as part of South Bound Route 28 and the Bike trail alongside it.

Significant progress was made in cleaning the Chapter's newly adopted section of Cub Run on September 12th. 8 volunteers removed almost 600 pounds of floodborne trash from a half mile of shoreline of the stream. Participants included Chapter members Vinnie Caporale, Jim Lauver, Josh Massey, Chuck Overpeck, and Bob Muzzio as well as David and Michael Schneeman from Boyscout Troop 1137. The weather was cloudy and somewhat cool for this time of year creating perfect conditions for the physically demanding effort.

Last but not least was the Virginia Waterways Cleanup at Mason State Park on October 3rd where 17 volunteers helped to remove more the 1200 pounds of trash from the shoreline of the park. The event was part of the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup held each year in the Fall.



Oct. 3rd Mason Neck Left photo, Greg Singleton transports a load of trash to the Canoe Launch. Right photo Faya Vigue shows trash collected from Occoquan Bay.

My focus for this event was the removal of some of the larger items along a neglected section of the Park's shoreline on the Occoquan Bay. This included several tires including one weighing in excess of 200 pounds, some iron pipes as well as a washing machine.

We were fortunate in having two motorboats available to transport the trash to the Canoe Launch where it could be loaded into the Park's dump truck. Rich Vigue and His wife Faye launched from Pohick while Greg Singleton came down from Occoquan.

A few Scouts from Troop 1137 also showed up and their Scout Master Dave Gruber borrowed two of the Parks canoes to transport the group to Sandy Point.

Another thing worth mentioning is that while our Chapter has done a lot of work on our adopted section of Bull Run, we can't always take credit for all the good work that is done there. A good example

of this is Tom Marotta's Eagle Scout Project on September 19th. Scott recruited 37 volunteers for the effort, which resulted in the removal of an additional 2 tons of trash from the watershed. Thanks go out to Chapter members, Ned Foster who suggested the project and to Vinnie Caporale who helped out.

Upcoming Events

October 25, 2009 – Sunday from 9:30 am - 11:00 am

Vegetative buffer planting on Bull Run

Route 28 Access Point Parking Lot next to 7122 Centreville Rd, Centreville, VA 20121. Tools, gloves and planting material will be provided

November 1, 2009 - Sunday from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon.

Adopt A Stream Clean up of Bull Run

Participants will meet in the Route 28 Access Point parking lot next to 7122 Centreville Road 20121.

December 6, 2009 Sunday from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon.

Adopt A Highway cleanup

Participants will meet in the Chapter Field house parking lot.

January 2, 2010 - Saturday from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon.

Adopt A Stream Clean up of Cub Run

Participants will meet in the Chapter Field House Parking lot

All volunteers are welcome at these events but minors, must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Bags, gloves, and tools will be supplied. There will be some drinking water available but you may wish to bring some of your own.

For more information or directions please call 703-200-3994 or send an email to fairfaxwatershed@yahoo.com

Also check out our website at - <http://waterquality.awardspace.com>

Air Rifle Range, scopes out new shooters



Alexis gives a thumbs up



Lake Braddock High School held their High School Rifle team try outs on Sat 10/17/09, They had over 25 shooters show up to join the team.

One of our top shooters, Alexis Podaro gives some on line help as well as keeping the line safe.

NOVA SHARPSHOOTER'S SCORE AGAIN



Virginia Holman, Morgan Lluy, Madeline Pike and Ryan Anderson with their plaques for taking **1st place** in the Intermediate Class. They are accompanied by Coaches Tom Pike and Rich Stibrik

Congratulations to the Team and their staff of fine coaches,
Keep up the great work!

Chapter President Ernie Padgette presents Nova Sharpshooters member Ryan Anderson, Junior category of the NRA Junior Sectionals National Championship.



*Now the adults are going to try and beat the kids.
I put my money on the kids!*

Thursday Night Air Rifle league

The NRA sanctioned adult air rifle league shoots on Thursday nights starting at 7 pm, on average we stage 2 air pistol shooters and 3 riflemen with atypical 40 shot scores between 300 – 374 a blend of fun and competition.

It is not all fun and games though as we are just as zealous to compete with the best in the sport. – Two of our league regulars attended the annual fall selection tournament at Fort Benning, GA last month.

We represented in the Men's 10-meter air rifle event and Men's 50 meter prone placing 23rd and 51st respectively.

So next time you find yourself wondering how to spend your Thursday night, come on down to the Air rifle range, 40 shots, your equipment or ours.

Target Master Dave Hunt retires: New Target Trio take over



When you shoot at the Rifle-Pistol Range you use a target frame provided by the chapter. For many months one man, Dave Hunt, volunteered to repair damaged target frames and make new ones. He did a tremendous job at a task that is essential to the proper operation of our range. Dave no longer can devote the time that this job requires. We all would like to thank him for his work and dedication!

Now the work of maintaining the target frames has been passed onto a trio of Range Officers: Milo Orem, Randy Hancock, and Chuck Green. Together they will carry on the tradition of fine craftsmanship that we see in our target frames. Remember to position your paper targets within the four corner markers on the cardboard backer. Target frames die from mortal wounds to their structural members. In other words, people miss their targets and hit the wood frames. It costs us (all chapter members) about \$8 to build a new target frame. We can and do reuse parts and pieces that survive being blasted. We are building about ten new frames every week. I saw a bumper sticker that said "Gun Control is keeping both hands on the firearm." I would say that gun control is hitting the target paper not the wood frame! **Do your part and save a frame!**

Improvements at the Rifle-Pistol Range

By Dr. Ed Franzosa, CRO

There have been numerous improvements made at the Rifle-Pistol Range in the past few months. Some of these are:

Brass Deflector Screens

Milo Orem has designed, built, and donated the new brass deflector screens that are available for use at the range. He improved on the previous designs, bought the materials, made the screens, added hangers so that the screens can be used at most firing positions, and made storage hangers for each side of the firing line. The new screens are excellent for those of us who collect, horde, and reload their brass. Thank you Milo.

Firing Position Numbers

Milo Orem and Randy Hancock made new firing position numbers for the 100 yard target line. These number markers **ARE NOT TARGETS!** Do not shoot at them. If you want to shoot at a target at 100 yards you must put a paper target on a target frame and place it at the 100 yard line. If we catch members shooting at the position number boards we will bring them before the Board of Directors for punishment.

Dave Hunt placed position number markers on the back of the second baffle. This helps you to place your target frame in the correct firing lane for the position you are using at the firing line.

It is necessary that you align your target within the firing lane you are using. Placing your target diagonally across the firing lanes means that your bullets may hit the targets of other shooters. This lack of courtesy will not be tolerated on the Rifle-Pistol Range.

90 Yard Line Walkway

We would like to thank Bucky Sills for making a 90 yard line walkway and training line. The Education Committee runs NRA courses at the chapter and some of these call for firing practice and proficiency. We require the students to place their targets at the 100 yard line so that they are close to the berm for safety reasons as they learn how to hold and shoot their firearms. They use the 90 yard walkway as their firing line. To facilitate this activity Bucky constructed the new walkway and training line. The Education Committee paid for the work and the manufactured sand used in the walkway. Thank you Bucky.

Finding my IWLA Roots.

By Tom Pike, Director At Large

I grew up being taught a love of the outdoors by my father. He turns 78 this year and is still an active outdoorsman enjoying hunting deer, ducks, and grouse in Minnesota. My father also has a great love for the "Canoe Country" of northern Minnesota. He spent his college summers as a fishing guide in what is now the Boundary Waters Canoe Area (BWCA). He even took my mom to the BWCA for their Honey Moon (In January!) As a child growing up our family and later scout troop took many canoe trips into the BWCA.

My father was taught his love of the outdoors by my grandfather, Galen Pike. I never met my grandfather; he died 9 years before I was born. I do remember being told many stories about my grandfather. He worked for the US Forest Service and was instrumental in having the area that is now called the BWCA designated as a Wilderness Area with no roads, developments or motor vehicles allowed. My grandfather was involved in enforcement of the wilderness area laws and passed away in 1955 while on a canoe trip to investigate reports of illegal use of float planes in the BWCA. After his death his body was cremated and his ashes were scattered over the BWCA.

I now have 4 children of my own and I do my best in our busy suburban lifestyle to teach them about our heritage, the outdoors, and our enjoying them. Last summer I lead a trip of 16 boys and fathers from Scout Troop 1137 (which is sponsored by our chapter) to the BSA Northern Tier High Adventure base in Ely Minnesota for a 7 day canoe trip into the BWCA. This trip was very special to me because my father came along with my oldest son and I on the trip. 3 generations of Pikes enjoying the wilderness my grandfather had helped to preserve.

My dad told me that the US Forest Service had erected a memorial marker for grandpa at the public boat landing on the shores of Moose Lake just outside Ely, MN. We were both surprised to find out that the public boat landing was just outside the front gate of the Northern Tier camp. On our first night at Northern Tier my father and I walked down to the boat landing to find grandpa's marker. It had been a long time since my father had been to the marker and things had grown up a lot over the years. But after about 30 minutes of searching we found the memorial marker.

Then came an even bigger surprise; as I read the brass plaque attached to the large rock. The marker had not been placed by the US Forest Service as my father had thought. The memorial had been created by the Ely Minnesota Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America. My grandfather had been an Ike!

Well I wanted to find out more, but busy schedules get in the way. One morning recently I decided to look up the Ely, MN IWLA chapter and see if they had any information about my grandfather. A quick web search brought up the Minnesota Division of the IWLA, but nothing on the Ely chapter. So I sent an e-mail to the address listed on the Minnesota Division web site with a slight glimmer of hope that someone would know something about my grandfather.

Continued on page 26



Bring your ideas to the Chapter's Board of Directors Meeting the 1st Tuesday of the month or the General Membership Meeting the 3rd Tuesday of the Month.

Be a Working Part of YOUR Chapter not just a Member!

Continued from page 25

Well I got to tell you; Ikes are amazing people. Within a few hours I had my first response from Noreen Tyler. She referred me to the Minnesota Historical society archives with some references to my grandfather. She also forwarded my e-mail to several other Ikes in Minnesota.

Shortly after Noreen's e-mail I received an e-mail from Kevin Proescholdt, who is the IWLA director for Wilderness and Public Lands Programs in Minnesota. Kevin did not know my grandfather, but he knew of him and his impact on the BWCA. Kevin gave me some references to some books about the BWCA that included my grandfather. Kevin also sent me a copy of the original 1948 plan for the Superior Roadless Areas, as the BWCA was originally called. The plan is signed by my grandfather and included hand written notes in the margins. Kevin then forwarded my e-mail to several other people that knew or knew of my grandfather.

One of the people that Kevin forwarded my e-mail to was a gentleman by the name of Wes Libbey. Wes recently turned 100 years old and was an Ely chapter member working with my grandfather to preserve the BWCA. Noreen Tyler provided me with contact information for Wes including his phone number. I called Wes and had a nice chat with him about my grandfather, his fight to save the wilderness and his activities in the Ely IWLA Chapter. The Ikes of the area really did a lot of work to preserve a beautiful part of our country for future generations. Wes still has several boxes of documents from the beginnings of the BWCA being set up, and the activities of the Ely IWLA chapter.

The word of my discussion with Wes and desire to learn more about my grandfather got around to other family members and motivated them to dig through old boxes of photos and newspaper clippings. I now have several more photos of my grandfather and newspaper clippings about him, and his death. There was even a copy of a letter my grandfather had written to his superiors turning down a transfer and promotion to a desk job. He claimed that health problems and stress would be too much for him to work at a desk and that it would be much better for his health if he were to stay working in the field. I like the way he thought.

I now have more family members thinking about our family history; and how important it is to save our land and its resources for future generations.

I hope that everyone that reads this takes a few minutes to think about their IWLA pledge and what you can do to honor it. The Arlington Fairfax Chapter and IWLA National provide many opportunities for you to get involved. IWLA Pledge:

To strive for purity of water, the clarity of air, and the wise stewardship of the land and its resources; to know the beauty and understanding of nature, and the value of wildlife, woodlands and open space; to the preservation of this heritage and to man's sharing in it, I pledge myself as a member of the Izaak Walton League of America

Know Your Chapter

This is the bridge going over the stream that feeds our pond. The stream runs from the pipe line, behind Skeet and Trap fields, and behind the back berm of Rifle and Pistol.



As you can see it is in bad need of repair, One of our Boy Scouts have been issued this task as an Eagle Scout project. Look for the new one coming soon!

Upcoming Events
you don't want to miss



November

- 1 8:00 AM Bullseye match (centerfire)
1:00 PM CRA meeting
- 2 7:00 PM Beginner Juniors Air Rifle
- 3 7:30 PM Board meeting
- 4 7:00 PM VA Hunter Safety Course
- 5 7:00 PM Adult Air Rifle
- 6 7:00 PM VA Hunter Safety Course
- 7 8:00 AM VA Hunter Safety Course
Wounded warrior at Skeet and Trap
- 9 7:00 PM Beginner Juniors Air Rifle
- 11 Veterans Day
- 13 7:00 PM Adult Air Rifle
- 14 Shotgun Reloading
- 15 Bullrun Muzzleloaders
- 16 7:00 PM Beginner Juniors Air Rifle
- 17 7:30 PM Membership Meeting
- 18 Suburban Whitetail
- 20 7:00 PM Adult Air Rifle
- 23 7:00 PM Beginner Juniors Air Rifle
- 26 Thanksgiving
- 27 7:00 PM Adult Air Rifle
- 30 7:00 PM Beginner Juniors Air Rifle

January 2010

- 1 New years day
- 3 8:00 AM Bullseye match (centerfire)
1:00 PM CRA Meeting
- 4 7:00 PM Beginner Juniors Air Rifle
- 5 7:30 PM Board meeting
- 7 7:00 PM Adult Air Rifle
- 9 8:00 AM NRA Range Safety Officer Class
- 11 7:00 PM Beginner Juniors Air Rifle
- 14 7:00 PM Adult Air Rifle
- 17 Bullrun Muzzleloaders
- 18 7:00 PM Beginner Juniors Air Rifle
- 19 7:30 PM Membership Meeting
- 21 7:00 PM Adult Air Rifle
- 25 7:00 PM Beginner Juniors Air Rifle
- 28 7:00 PM Adult Air Rifle
- 29 NRA TC Workshop
- 30 NRA TC Workshop
- 31 NRA TC Workshop



December

- 1 7:30 PM Board meeting
- 3 7:00 PM Adult Air Rifle
- 6 8:00 AM Bullseye match (centerfire)
1:00 PM CRA meeting
- 7 Pearl Harbor day
- 10 7:00 PM Adult Air Rifle
- 12 IWLA Christmas party
- 14 7:00 PM Beginner Juniors Air Rifle
- 15 7:30 PM Membership Meeting
- 17 7:00 PM Adult Air Rifle
- 20 Bullrun Muzzleloaders
- 21 7:00 PM Beginner Juniors Air Rifle
- 24 7:00 PM Adult Air Rifle
- 25 Christmas (All ranges closed)
- 28 7:00 PM Beginner Juniors Air Rifle
- 30 Suburban Whitetail



Arlington-Fairfax Chapter, Inc.

Izaak Walton League of America

14708 Mount Olive Road

Post Office Box 366

Centreville, VA 20122-0366

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