

# ***Arlington-Fairfax Chapter, Inc.***

**Izaak Walton League of America**

**14708 Mount Olive Road**

**Post Office Box 366 . Centreville, VA 20122-0366**



## **NEWSLETTER**

**Volume 49, Number 3**

**August, September, October 2011**

### **Notice to the Membership: IWLA National Dues have increased.**

The Izaak Walton League Board of Directors voted at the National Convention in July, to increase Individual Membership dues by \$4.00 per year; with similar dues increases for Family, Student and other classes of membership. These increases will be reflected in your 2012 membership renewal rates. Sorry; but National and State Division dues increases must be included in our renewals.

Hello,

I am a fairly new member of the Club and just wanted to send you a quick note thanking you for all of your hard work making the Club what it is. I would also like to pass along a few positive experiences that I have had with other members.

I am a fairly new shooter (been shooting for less than a year) and am interested in everything from rifle to pistol to shotgun. I was really interested in trying skeet and trap for the first time a couple of months ago, so I loaded up my shotgun and headed over to the range. I showed up, introduced myself as a new member and the range officer immediately showed me around and made sure that I got on the next squad going out to shoot skeet. When the other members of my squad found out that I was new, they took the time to explain the various hold points and give me all sorts of helpful advice. The more time I spend at the range, the more I have found out that this is the norm. Members seem like they are always willing to help and to go the extra mile. What prompted me to write was a positive incident which occurred last Sunday. The last few months I have been focusing primarily on skeet and haven't shot much trap. I signed up for the Crushn' Clays event, so I decided to get in a few practice rounds. I ended up shooting on a squad with two other members who both went above and beyond. After each round, they passed along very helpful advice. One of the shooters decided to sit out the last round that I was planning on shooting and stood a little ways behind me watching the round. After I finished, he walked me through what he had observed. He then said "ok, I will stand behind you the next round and tell you what to do.." When I pointed out that I had shot the last box of shells I brought, he insisted on giving me a box. He then stood behind me and walked me through what I was doing right and wrong. I my mind stuff like that makes the Club great.

I also have had similar experiences as the rifle range as well.

Thanks! Joe Furtek

## Important contact information

### Chapter Officers

#### **President**

Ernie Padgett.....540-439-6085

#### **Vice President**

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

#### **Secretary**

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

#### **Treasure**

Bob Crisman.....540-338-7316

#### **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**

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

#### **Rifle & Pistol**

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

#### **Director At Large**

Oscar Starz.....703-321-8626

#### **Director At Large**

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

#### **Director At Large**

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

#### **Director At Large**

Ben Crandall.....703-993-4503

#### **Education & Training**

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

#### **Field Archery**

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

#### **Youth Activities**

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

#### **Director At Large**

Randy Hancock.....703-830-8539

#### **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* / Bucky Sills.....703-830-0458

*Bull Run Muzzleloaders* / Tony Sucher.....703-354-2726

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

*Chapter Field House* / Ed Ables.....703-938-0726

*Conservation* / John Seaberg.....703-830-9365

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

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

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

*Junior Olympic Archery* / Mary LeCompte .....703-361-4565

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

*Legislation* / Michael Wenk.....703-998-6796

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

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

*Admin. assistants* / Linda Armstrong.....703-909-2708

Scott Aldrich.....571-213-2541

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

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

*Pond Manager* / John Seaberg .....703-830-9365

*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

While driving on Chapter property,

# PLEASE



## Attend your chapter meetings

### Regular Membership Meeting

3rd Tuesday of each month

7:30 pm @ Field house

### Chapter Board of Directors Meeting

1st Tuesday of each month

7:30 pm @ Field House

All members welcome

## 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 Presidents E mail

epadgett@sprnet.com

### Chapter Fax Number

703-631-0968

### Chapters Web-site

www.arlingtonfairfax-iwla.org

## Wounded Warrior Support

Oscar Starz, Bob Lavery Linda Lavery, Tom Pike and I coached the Wounded Warrior shooting team out of Walter Reed Hospital. Practice started in Feb at the Arlington-Fairfax Chapter of the Izaak Walton League in Centerville and the Landon Academy in MD.

The Arlington Fairfax Chapter of the Izaak Walton League provided all the equipment for both shooters

The results were:

David took third in air rifle and seventh in air pistol

Robbie need a 10 on his last shot and got it to qualify for the finals. He moved up to seventh in air rifle during the finals.



## Bender-Shima Shooting Clinic

October 26- 30, 2011

Todd Bender and John Shima, of the Bender-Shima Shooting Clinics are pleased to offer their unique teaching skills to members and guests of the Arlington-Fairfax IWLA on

Oct 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30, 2011

Participation is limited to five shooters per day per instructor, and will cost \$425 for one full day of instruction. A deposit of \$200.00 is required when registering, with the balance due on the day of the clinic.

Participants will need to furnish their own shells and are responsible for the club fees for targets.

This is a unique opportunity for all skill levels to learn from two of the finest instructors teaching clay target shooting.

This is a great gift for your Birthday, Christmas, Anniversary, etc. Tell your wife, husband, or significant other that you want to attend the Bender Shima Shooting Clinic

The clinic includes:

- Individually tailored gun fit
- Personalized one-on-one instruction
- Discussion & application of skeet fundamentals
- Foot Position, Hold Points, Body Mechanics
- Self analysis specializing in eye problems
- Station by station analysis
- Mental Preparation

**For more information and for reservations please call or e-mail: Doug Minnig at (703) 371-1018 or (703) 318-0214 or [minnigd@verizon.net](mailto:minnigd@verizon.net)**

## George Mason University

***George Mason University's*** trap and skeet team was well-represented at the 2011 Virginia State Trapshoot held in Winchester, Va., from June 30<sup>th</sup> through July 4<sup>th</sup>. Four current members—Michael Campbell, Mary Love, Sean Renfro, and Chris Weber—were in attendance as were several former members of the team. All shot well but two of them had exceptional tournaments. Campbell finished second in both the initial 16-yard event on Thursday (99x100 plus carryover) and in the featured 200-bird 16-yard championship event on Sunday (198x200). In the latter event, Campbell settled into the runner-up spot after breaking an additional 124x125 in a five-way shoot-off for the championship trophy. Love won the resident ladies' trophy in the featured 16-yard event with 196x200, a personal best for the second year shooter. Team practices are held at the Arlington-Fairfax Chapter of the Izaak Walton Club in Centreville, Va. The team gratefully acknowledges the support it receives from the club and its members. Without this support, it would be much more difficult for the university to field a team.

**Volunteer  
CPA/Accountant  
Needed**

To assist with the 2011 audit.  
Please contact Treasurer Bob Crisman or President Ernie  
Padgette

**Chapter Elections**

In accordance with our chapter by-laws, annual chapter elections were conducted on during the month of July with the polls being open on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of the month. Nominations were solicited from the chapter membership in the preceding months and the nominees were presented and finalized at the monthly member meeting in June. John Seaberg, Conservation Director, chaired the election committee.

The chapter officer positions up for election in 2011 were President, Secretary, and Membership. In addition, named Directors for Field Archery and Rifle-Pistol and four Director-at-Large positions were up for election.

The official ballots included provisions to vote for all of these positions with the associated nominees, as well as provisions for write-in candidates. Following the close of the polls, all of the valid ballots were counted and the votes for each candidate tabulated by members of the election committee. By majority vote, the following officers and directors were determined to be the winners for their respective positions and were recommended for these offices at the July monthly member meeting:

President: Ernie Padgette  
Secretary: Pam Meara  
Membership: Jim Showalter  
Field Archery: Dick Reimer  
Rifle-Pistol: Ed Franzosa  
Directors-at Large:  
Carl Armstrong  
Benn Crandall  
Randy Hancock  
Dave Myers

Congratulations to all of the winners and to all of the chapter members who came out to vote.

# Crush'n Clays



Over 100 shooters participated in the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Crush'n Clays on June 11<sup>th</sup> 2011 at the Arlington-Fairfax Chapter of the IWLA in Centreville, Virginia. Over the last 12 years Crush'n Clays has raised \$230,000 and after this event we expect of add \$15,000 - \$17,000 to that total. Crush'n Clays is not only, the longest running shooting charity that supports the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, but also, it is the longest consecutive running shooting charity event in the country.

A Sponsor/Volunteer Reception was held the evening prior at the Skeet and Trap Clubhouse. Bucky Sills and Dominick Casciano provided a sumptuous buffet of cocktail shrimp, cheese platters, smoked venison tenderloin, smoked beef tenderloin, BBQ ribs, sausage, potato salad and desserts. It's a small thanks to our sponsors and many volunteers.

Participants were provided with ammunition, event t-shirts and lunch. The trap shooting event consisted of 25 targets from the 16 yard line and 25 targets from the 22 yard-line. Both individuals and four person teams competed in the event. In the team competition the best three of four scores were recorded for record. All participants were eligible for individual awards using a "Lewis" class system.

The festivities began with Bob Brino, Skeet/Trap Director of the Arlington-Fairfax Chapter of the IWLA, providing a shotgun clinic for novice competitors. Bob donated the targets for the event. We all owe Bob a big thanks.

As always, the Annie Oakley drew a huge number of participants. Many participants entered the event multiple times resulting in over 114 entries during the day. The Annie Oakley event also had tremendous spectator appeal, pitting the skills of one shooter against another. Half of the entry fees of the event we awarded to the eventual winner of each squad and the other half went to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

The silent auction had number notable items that scored winning bid to include an Alexandria Beer Tasting & Tour (for 11 guests), A Capitol Weekend, and a See Washington DC Tour.

Rick Kohne, Bucky Sills, Wayne Owens and Gilbert Ramey of Arlington-Fairfax IWLA provided a popular barbeque lunch of pork, chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs and assorted side dishes.

J.R. Wingfield bested all competitors in the main event with a high score of 47. Congratulation to J.R. for being the 2011 Crush'n Clays Champion.

Continued on next page



Lets give a big hand to  
Steve Canale and all who  
helped make this great day  
happen



The remaining individual class winners were:

Class A – Tim Tynan

Class B – Mark Crowley

Class C – Bob Petry

Class D – Kelly Sullivan

In the team competition the results were,

1st Place – Piedmont Sportsmans Club - Score 134

Lu Charette

Mark Charette

Kim Myers

J. R. Wingfield

2<sup>nd</sup> Place -Atlantic Healthcare - Score 122

Ernie Lyles

Dale Robertson

Dominick Casciano II

Dominick Casciano III

3rd place - Palles Team - Score 120

Mark Scott

Mel Stahl

Tim Tynan

Ashly Palles

Thanks go to our sponsors the Virginia Shooting Sports Association, the Arlington-Fairfax Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America, the National Rifle Association, Bucky Sills, Dominick Casciano, Everfresh, Vienna Septic Services and all the volunteers whose tireless efforts made the event a great success..



## Why was the Rifle-Pistol Range shut down recently?

At least once every year we must shut down the Rifle-Pistol Range to repair the back berm. Every time a bullet impacts the rear berm some of the soil is pulverized into a very fine dust. If there is a wind blowing that dust is swept out from the back berm. Most of the dust is scattered inside and outside of the range by the wind. Thus part of the rear berm is slowly being converted to fine dust and blown away.

Also the bullet impacts breakup the dirt in the berm so that when it rains the loosened dirt flows down the face of the rear berm onto the range floor. We put up straw bales to divert and stop the flow of the mud, but as the rains come and go the mud collects on the range floor in layers up to a foot thick. Thus over time the face of the rear berm slides down and no longer does its job of stopping bullets.

We do several things to repair the rear berm. One, we hire a bulldozer to push the dirt (dried mud) off the range floor back up onto the face of the berm. Not only does the bulldozer push the dirt but it also compacts that face of the berm so that it is denser than loose soil. Two, we also truck in brickyard clay to replace most of the soil that is blown away by the wind. This material is rock-free clay that helps bind together the soil that is still left on the berm face. The new mixture of soil and clay is less likely to erode during a rain storm.

Each year we put out new straw bales to control the erosion and mud flows. We also have a water pit at the left edge of the range behind the 100-yard line. This pit allows us to collect the water that runs off the face of the rear berm. The dirt in the water settles out into the pit. Then we can dig out the pit with a back hoe and spread the dirt back onto the face of the rear berm where it is packed down with the bulldozer. The water in the pit is pumped out periodically and spread out over the range floor where it can help the grass to grow. Digging out the water pit is the second part of this year's range project.

The third part is to dig a French drain or dry well along the right-hand edge of the range floor. After every rain we get too much water running off the right berm and collecting along the right-hand edge of the floor. This water makes that part of the floor into a 100 yard long mud puddle. When we mow the grass on the range floor the tractor gets stuck. The stagnant water can breed mosquitoes and other insects. It seems to be impossible to drain away this water with any system of surface ditches. So an underground ditch with drain pipe and rock fragments covered with a thin layer of soil and grass will draw the water away from the surface and allow it to slowly soak into the clay sub-soil.

The other drainage problem is the fourth part of this year's range project. There is a shallow depression in the soil between the two baffles extending all the way across the range floor. It is deep enough to collect water after each rain, but not deep enough to let the water in this big puddle to drain away. So we are going to make another drainage ditch across the range floor between the baffles. When it rains the water will go into this 50 yard long covered ditch. A drainage pipe will collect the water and let it flow into the drain pipe under the left berm at the 25-yard line. This ditch will be like the other with a perforated drain hose and small rock fragments all covered with soil and grass.

Rather than doing each of these projects separately we decided to combine everything into one large project. This is a more efficient use of time and labor. While the bulldozer is doing the absolutely necessary repairs to the back berm, we can also work on the two drainage ditches. Doing all the work at one time means that the time the range is closed is less days overall.

Dr. Ed, CRO



Dozer on top of bream at R and P Range



R and P volunteers working on storm sewer

## Watershed Conservation Activities

By Colin Riley

At the May 7th Adopt A Stream Cleanup of Bull Run, 14 volunteers collected 12 bags of trash from the banks of the stream.

On June 4th, 23 people participated in Clean the Bay Day at Mason Neck States Park. Greg Singleton and Rich Vigue transported most of the volunteers in their motorboats to the Park's shoreline along Occoquan Bay. Chapter members Faye Vigue and Carl Hampton helped to load the trash into the boats. 35 bags of trash and 14 tires were collected that day with a total weight of over 1200 pounds.

On July 3rd, we had our second Adopt A Highway Cleanup of the year. 10 volunteers cleaned up Mount Olive and Compton Roads along with part of South Bound 28 in only an hour. Back again were Chapter members Jim Pont, Chuck Overpeck as well as Bill Rouck and his family. Seven bags of trash were collected with a total weight of 111 pounds.

## Upcoming Events

### August 6, 2011 - Adopt A Stream Cleanup of Bull Run

Saturday from 9:00 am to 11:30 am

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

### September 10, 2011 - Shoreline Cleanup of Mason Neck State Park

Saturday from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm

The Chapter will be conducting a shoreline cleanup of trash at Mason Neck State Park. Participants will meet in the Park's Visitor Center Parking lot at 7301 High Point 22079.Rd, Lorton, VA

### October 2, 2011 Adopt A Stream Cleanup of Cub Run

Sunday from 9:00 am to 11:30 am

Participants will meet in the Chapter Field House parking lot.

If you would like more information on these or any unscheduled volunteer opportunities, please give me a call at 703-200-3994 or send an email to [fairfaxwatershed@yahoo.com](mailto:fairfaxwatershed@yahoo.com)

Website <http://waterquality.awardspace.com>

## Stewardship Projects

Over the past few months a number of Chapter Members have volunteered a great many hours of their free time to stewardship projects on our Chapter's property. You may have noticed that wildlife-feeding fields have been planted in the gas pipeline right of way. This has been done primarily to reduce the browse pressure

forage to bees and butterflies as well.

Volunteers have also removed many invasive plants as well as planting some native wildflowers and grasses.

The major project this Spring has been the removal of dead standing and fallen trees from the campground and trails. Over the years this dead wood had been accumulating to such a degree that it was becoming a significant safety and fire hazard. More still has to be done but we have made a significant dent. On Sunday July 5th, we finished clearing the fallen trees from the fireroad, which will allow fire department to access the hydrants along the power line right of way in the event of a brushfire threatening our property.

I would like to thank the following members for their help and support in this effort; Bucky Sills, Tom Callahan, Rocky Cancelmi, Ted D'Alessio, Mark Evans, David Honey, Matthew Honey, Dale Jenkins, Jay Kahn, Jeff Michal, Paul Miller, Joe Oravec, Chuck Overpeck, Randy Reynolds, Dennis Wampler, Dave Yozviak.

For more information or future project dates and times please go to <http://waterquality.awardspace.com/chapterinfo/onsiteprojects.htm> or give me a call at 703-200-3994



Thanks for the  
help guys

From L-R David Honey, Matthew Honey, Paul Miller, Dave Yozviak

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## News from the Virginia State Trap Shoot

The 2011 Virginia State Trapshoot held at Winchester Gun Club in Stephenson, VA on June 30 through July 4, 2011, was well represented by our fellow Ike's. This year we had quite a few members of the chapter capture one or more class prizes. Gary Olin, Dave Hakola, Ron Gazda, George "Jeff" Hafkeymer. John Spicer shot his first 100 straight to win the runner up category in the singles event. Our board member Ben Crandall did exceptionally well by winning 2 class doubles trophies, as well as Scott Petito taking the B class in the doubles championship. Marion Sirk took the lady prize in the Federal Handicap. Ron Kivett won the Sr. Vet in the Handicap Championship. I want to congratulate all of the members who participated.

**IWLA-Monthly Rimfire Bullseye Match: May – October 2011**

The Rimfire Bullseye Match has been underway since May 1<sup>st</sup> and will continue through October. The range has 17 shooting positions and thirty four shooters can be accommodated in two relays. We have a number of open lane positions for all new or experienced shooters.

The Bullseye matches have been underway for three months and participation has been great. Many of the participants are showing improvement and are reaching their goal of 850. We have a few open positions, so contact Jack by email to shoot in the next match.

This year we are honored to have both the President and Vice-President of the IWLA Chapter participate in the Bullseye matches. If you would like to know what their scores are, attend the match for the answer.

Bucky Sills has been working on a device to hold all of the scoring materials needed to record the results of the match. Although the photo shown below is a prototype, improvements will continue until it reaches perfection. Attend the matches to follow the progress of the scoring aid.



The match is held on the first Sunday of each month. Beginners and experts are invited to compete in the Bullseye Pistol Match in either the first relay at 8:00 am or the second at 10:00 am. Please arrive 15 minutes before the relay to prepare your target frame. The match is held at the IWLA rifle/pistol range. All ages and talent levels are invited to compete. Because we shoot in a relaxed atmosphere, the matches are both 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 correct basics of pistol shooting and competition, you are also welcome. The shooting match consists of a total of 90 shots at slow, timed and rapid fire. The May through October match requires the participants to use rimfire pistols or revolvers. If you need advice on the type of pistol or revolver needed, contact Jack at the email listed below. Targets are provided for all matches. Bring your pistol/revolver, ammunition and lots of enthusiasm. See you on the first Sunday of each month.

This is a great opportunity to learn the basics and improve your skills. If you are not on the email list and are interested in the event or have additional question contact Jack Macheby by email: [red-dotbull@yahoo.com](mailto:red-dotbull@yahoo.com). Please join us for an enjoyable Sunday morning event! If you are searching for information about Bullseye shooting, visit this great website [www.bullseyepistol.com](http://www.bullseyepistol.com).

## 2011 Cub Run Shoots

### BUCKBUSTER 3-D SHOOT: SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11

## 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. Our state of the art indoor range 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 9:30 am 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 a monthly newsletter and 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](mailto: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

## 2011 Annual Picnic was the best in years

This years Picnic proved to be the biggest turn out in many years. Don't know why, maybe the country band that was playing all day, I know many of you enjoyed them, ponies ride , moon bounce and giant slide was available for the kids. I saw a lot of fishing and a lot of people enjoying sno-cones and cold beer as well. Eating was a big event also, this makes the first year we ran out of food (I do believe everyone made their way through the line at least once) but we were turning people away at the end, nothing was left. Thanks to all the head chefs Wayne Owens, Gilbert Ramey, Rick Kohen and Bucky Sills also Frank Boyko Cindi,& Mike Parker, Bob Walla, Dick Riemer.

What did they cook for the day:

160 lbs pork bbq  
60 lbs Beef bbq  
306 pieces of chicken  
96 Hamburgers  
200 Hot Dogs

Also consumed

42 lbs Cole slaw  
34 lbs Potatoes salad  
4 gallons Baked beans  
12 dozen ears of corn  
10 water melons

Also bags of cookies, chips 700 sodas and water  
All of this was eaten by 276 members and their guests



## Colonel Birt Kidwell Winter Skeet and Trap League 2011

### Season Ends with a Bang!

The 2011 season of the Winter Skeet and Trap League concluded on Sunday 3 April with the final standings once again being determined during the very last matches for both team and individual competition. The season started early this year on the New Year's weekend with the first couple of Sundays pushing darkness at the end of the day. Unlike the 2010 season, only one weekend was canceled due to bad weather and the resultant power outages. We were able to get all 13 weeks of shooting in, so it was a complete six skeet and six trap match season.

In the Individual Competition, our High Overall Average winner was Bob Nolan, who broke a remarkable 560 of 600 targets equating to a combined average of 23.333. Jim Hickerson took the honors for high Skeet average with an impressive 24.250 hitting 291 of 300 targets. Right behind him for Skeet runner-up was Doug Minnig, who broke 287 targets. In Trap, the high average winner was Mike Layton, ending the season with an average of 23.083 hitting 277 of 300 targets. The runner-up for high trap was Ron Gazda, coming in with a 22.833 average. In the Most Improved Category, Rich Trujillo beat out several other contenders to capture the award with a combined average improvement from last season of 3.467 targets. Congratulations to all of our individual awardees for their consistent performance and excellent marksmanship.

The team competition this year included two categories: one based on team points won in head to head matches each week against another team and the second based on cumulative team scores over the entire season. The top five teams in each category earned an award for all the team members, with no team permitted to receive an award in both. The competition was fierce with the winners being decided by tenths in the scores and a point spread of only 6.5.

In the Cumulative Team Score Category, Captain Brian Hickerson led his squad to a season score of 2,381.715 to lock down the 1<sup>st</sup> place award. Joining Brian were Team 26 members Alan Hickerson, Ben Hickerson, Chris Hickerson, Jim Hickerson and Marcelo LaBarca. Team 3 landed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> place slot with a score of 2,369.605 led by Captain Storm Rhode and members Jim Chambers, Tom Chambers, James Hendrickson, Jim Nix and Steve Sarigianis. Third place was won by Team 1 with a score of 2,368.777 and members John Gander, Dave Hargrave, Jim Johnston, Captain Bill Leonard, Henry Lucas and Jeff Powell. Team 13 captured 4<sup>th</sup> Place coming in with a score of 2,358.045 and members Tim Causa, Guery Ferruffino, Nicolas Gravina, James Hsu, Greg Kfoury and Captain Bob Shepanek. The 5<sup>th</sup> place finisher was Team 25 with a 2,354.866 and members Ken Curcio, Bill Donnelly, Rob Ellis, Bob Hohman, Greg Wilcox and Captain Randolph Williams.

In the Team Points Category, Team Number 17, Captained by Doug Minnig, topped the list in 1<sup>st</sup> place with 28.5 points. Joining Doug were Ron Gazda, Tom Horio, Robert Melikian, Steve Schlesinger, and Bruce Storey. Bruce Brown's Team 7 took the 2<sup>nd</sup> place honors with 25.0 points consisting of Ralph Bruner, Sherrill Hebert, Paul Johnson, Mel Keener, and Cliff Sturdivant. Team 5's 22.5 points captured 3<sup>rd</sup> place with members Captain Steve Canale, Doug Downer, Carl Josefson, Ashly Palles, Mel Stahl and Tim Tynan. Forth place went to Team 2 with 22.0 points and members Dave Carlson, John Green, John Hunter, Captain Mike Logwood, John Seaberg, and John Skuchko. Taking Fifth Place award was Team 16 also with 22.0 points and members Todd Busic, Matt Deivert, John Ford, Captain Chip Kelly, Josh Kelly, and Steve Sencindiver.

The awards for all the winners will be presented at the Chapter Picnic in July, so plan to come out, congratulate all the shooters, and eat some great food prepared by our own Bucky Sills, Rick Kohne and their merry band of BBQ chefs.

Thanks to all of the league members for their dedication and perseverance throughout the season and special thanks to Pete Bills and Ford Moseley for keeping the ranges operating smoothly and facilities in good order, and to Hank Waters for his web site work. Bob Brino, Director of Trap and Skeet, also deserves a thank you for all the league members for his gracious hospitality, wiliness to let us use the range all winter, but especially for keeping the hamburgers flowing every Sunday! Although we are just concluding the 2011 season, the summer will surely go by quickly and it will once again be time to get ready for the 2012 season – first shoot is already on the schedule for 8 January. Keep your head down and eye on the target!



## Sunday Hunting

*Submitted by Dick Reimer*

Just in case you thought the issue was dead...VDGIF has come out with a formal position supporting Sunday hunting. We shall see where this leads. From the VDGIG website:

### **Virginia Board of Game and Inland Fisheries Endorses Sunday Hunting**

Richmond, VA — At their June 7, 2011 meeting, the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries passed a resolution supporting Sunday hunting in Virginia. For years the Board has maintained a neutral stance on this issue. The right of Virginian's to hunt and harvest game is protected by Article XI, Section 4 of the Constitution of Virginia subject only to authority and restrictions prescribed by the General Assembly. The ban on Sunday hunting is set in the Code of Virginia by the Virginia General Assembly and repealing it would take legislative action. If the ban on Sunday hunting is repealed, the responsibility for determining hunting dates and times will rest entirely with the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries. "We welcome this opportunity to work directly with the stakeholders on setting hunting dates and times to include Sundays," said James Hazel, Chairman of the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries.

During the public comment period on the proposed hunting and fishing license increase that ran from December 16, 2010 through April 14, 2011, a significant number of the 1,200 comments received expressed support for

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Sunday hunting. Surveys of hunters over the years have yielded a similar theme. Additionally, suburban landowners and rural farmers agree that greater opportunity to harvest nuisance wildlife is desirable. With such strong support, the Board felt compelled to take action and developed a formal resolution.

The resolution outlined more than a dozen positive outcomes should Sunday hunting be allowed in Virginia. The Board recognizes that many hunters who work Monday through Friday feel that having only one day a week to hunt is restrictive and limits hunting participation. Furthermore, with the additional weekend day more youth could participate in deer and spring gobbler hunting, two of Virginia's most popular hunting seasons.

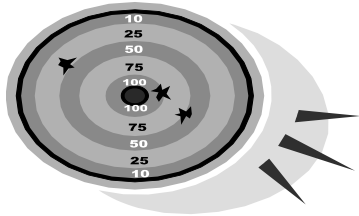
Virginia would become more attractive to hunters from out-of-state and for resident hunters who choose to travel several hours to their favorite hunting destinations. Having a full weekend to hunt would encourage greater participation and generate additional revenue for more rural communities in the form of lodging, food, gasoline, equipment.

Wildlife biologists with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries state that there is no biological reason to continue a ban on Sunday hunting. States that have lifted the ban on Sunday hunting have seen no impact on wildlife populations. Forty-seven states have some form of Sunday hunting. Some limit hours, locations, or species. Of the remaining hold-out states - Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia - all were part of the original 13 colonies which shows how far back these "blue laws" go. For many hunters, allowing them to pursue their passion on Sunday is no different from allowing people to fish.

It remains to be seen what the Virginia General Assembly will do if Sunday hunting is raised during the 2012 session — as it has been every year for more than 15 years — but in a bold move, the Board of the Virginia Game and Inland Fisheries established itself as having a leadership role in the Sunday hunting issues.



# News from the Tractor Shed (Air Rifle Range)



The NOVA Sharpshooters have had another great year. Last year kids from our program won 5 national team championships including the 3 Position Precision Air Rifle NRA Sectional.

This year they have won 3 National Championships.

In the NRA International Air Rifle Sectional, which is 40 shots in the standing position, Camille Lathbury, Morgan Lluy, and Ryan Anderson took first place overall in the team competition. In addition to that Ginny Holman, Amanda King and Daniel Cliff took first place in the Junior Category and third place over all. And to top it off Camille took the overall individual championship. That is out of 615 competitors and 138 teams nation wide.

In the NRA Metric 3 Position Smallbore Sectional Ryan, Ginny, Morgan and Cammille shot a 2,247 out of a possible 2,400 and beat the second place team from Palmyra Pennsylvania by one point. You can believe your coaches when they tell you that every shot counts.

In the Precision Air Rifle Position Sectional Ryan, Camille, Morgan and Evalyn Holman beat 73 teams and for the second year in a row brought home the overall national championship.

In the end of June many of the team members traveled to Camp Perry to compete in the NRA and USA Shooting championships. Coach Don Ballard should have a separate report on their trip.

Ryan Anderson traveled to the Czech Republic as part of the US Junior Team to compete in an international junior championship. Ryan was shooting in the 50 meter prone competition, and even though he had some problems with their automatic target system he over came them and fired a personal best score.

As I am writing this Ryan is at the USA Shooting National Championships at Ft. Benning, GA. where he has just won 1<sup>st</sup> place for juniors in the prone 50 meter competition. He still has 3 position and air rifle to go.

We have had some great success these last couple of years so it is with some sadness that we bid farewell to our high school seniors who will be headed off to college this fall. Ryan Anderson, Morgan Lluy, Virginia Holman, Evalyn Holman, and Amanda King will all head off to college shooting on rifle scholarships. We have some big shoes to fill, but we have more great shooters coming up behind them.

If you have a youngster interested in shooting contact Rich Stibrik [Rich.Stibrik@arlingtonfairfax-iwla.org](mailto:Rich.Stibrik@arlingtonfairfax-iwla.org) or Tom Pike [Tom.Pike@arlingtonfairfax-iwla.org](mailto:Tom.Pike@arlingtonfairfax-iwla.org)  
Or stop by one of our practices and talk to a coach. <http://www.arlingtonfairfax-iwla.org/juniors.html>

## NoVA Sharpshooters Compete in NRA 3P Nationals at Camp Perry, OH

By: Don Ballard, NoVA Sharpshooters Coach

With the generous support of our Izaak Walton League, eight members of the NoVA Sharpshooters Junior Rifle Team were able to travel to Camp Perry, OH to compete in the 2011 National Junior Air Gun Championship & Training Summit from June 23 – 25, 2011.

Our group was composed of shooters from 3 local high schools with 5 from Lake Braddock, 2 from WT Woodson and 1 from Yorktown. All were what I'd consider developmental shooters who had been shooting 2 years or less with most having under a year of experience on the trigger. We held 4 team practices here at the IWLA in the 3 weeks prior to traveling to Camp Perry which were attended by most of the team. Making sure each shooter had the gear needed to compete and coaching them to make sure all the basics were covered was the goal. I took on Lead Coach duty was generously assisted by the always helpful Coach Oscar Starz.

We broke down the shooters into two teams of 4 members each based on practice scores and had 2 shooters step up and request to be team captains of the Gold and Silver teams. The first day at Camp Perry was a steep learning curve for the majority of the group since most had never shot on anything other than paper targets. The Megalink electronic targets were a novelty that seemed to bring out the best in every one of the NoVA Sharpshooters team members with virtually everyone firing a personal best in at least one position on the practice day!

The two Competition days brought out even better scores from every member of the 2 teams! Gold Team captain Rachel had the highlight of the first day by shooting a perfect 200 in the prone section. Every other team member shot a personal best match score on at least one of the competition days! The performance of our group far exceeded the goals and expectations of the coaches.

It was not all seriousness and competition on the trip. Due to the generosity of the Fairfax Lions Club, I was able to host a couple of dinners and fun outings for the team in the evening. Some good meals, cutting up with new friends and some mini-golf made the trip a lot more fun for all. Even the parents and coaches were able to have a little fun.

I was honored to be allowed to organize and coach these great kids on this Camp Perry trip. Let's hope that with the support of the IWLA, parents and other coaches we will be able to develop these shooters and more into a viable and productive travel rifle team. We certainly have the building blocks available with the 8 shooters who went to Camp Perry.







Memories from Camp Perry



9	120	3: 10.4	59
		4: 10.0	
		5: 10.7*	
	<b>Joey Speranzo</b> NOVA Sharpshooters-Gold <b>49</b>		<b>Rachel White</b> NOVA Sharpshooters-Gold <b>50</b>
Prone		Prone	
11: 10.7*	112	11: 10.4*	200
12: 8.8		12: 10.7*	200
104		13: 10.8*	
		14: 10.3*	
		15: 10.4*	
		16: 10.2*	
		17: 10.7*	
		18: 10.5*	
		19: 10.8*	
		20: 10.4*	
104			

# Presidents Column

Tools are interesting things. It's hard to explain to someone who doesn't have a thing for tools, but for some reason, some tools just seem to work better than others. Two tools may, at first, seem to be almost identical. But, one just seems to fit you better than the other; the balance seems better; it slips, or doesn't slip, in your hand just the right amount. In short, it fits you. Now, sometimes it is difficult to explain to some one else exactly why the new tool works better than the already purchased and paid for tool; or why the old favorite, but perhaps chipped, bent, dirty, dented and ugly tool isn't going to be replaced any time soon. It has something to do with feel, fit, balance, functionality and a lot of other things. All I know is that some tools just fit *me* better than anything else; and when I pick up a tool that works for me, I want it.

Finding a new tool that works for me is always a pleasure. When the new tool is a firearm, it's a real pleasure. When that happens, I usually buy it; or at least put it on the "buy at first opportunity" list. For some reason, that list never gets any shorter; but that's a whole 'nother story. This is the story of how I came into possession of a new rifle; a form of tool for which I have a certain interest, and one that is a lot more interesting than any jig saw I've run across lately.

Understand that I've been looking for a new hunting rifle, a .308 Winchester bolt action, for a couple of years now. My lovely bride, who is normally fairly indulgent with my wants and desires in this regard, asked what was, for her, a logical question: "*Why do you need another .308 bolt action hunting rifle? Don't you already have three?*" I gently explained that while I did, in fact, have three .308 Winchester bolt action rifles, I really did need another one. One of the rifles I already had was a custom built rifle, built on a Mauser 96 action. Another was a Remington 700, and the last was a short barreled custom Mauser 98 rifle with a heavy target barrel. "*So why can't you hunt with one of those?*" Well, of course I had an answer: "Because the Mauser '96 and the Remington are far too nice to take out in bad weather, when it might be raining. And the Mauser '98 is intended for hunting in the mountains, where I need a short rifle. I need a rifle with a synthetic stock that won't be hurt by the rain, but with a standard length barrel". "*Doesn't the Mauser '96 have a synthetic stock?*" "Yes; but it's a McMillan stock; far too nice to take out in the rain".

Over the next couple of years we continued the discussion and she finally saw things my way (after several substantial outlays at her favorite jewelry store) and relented: "*Go ahead and do whatever the <blank> you want to do*"!! Taking that as permission, the search ensued. I checked out the offerings from all the big names; Savage, Marlin, Remington, etc. My requirements were simple: All the necessary features, synthetic stock, nice trigger, accurate and... inexpensive. I found several decent offerings, and even purchased a youth stocked Marlin .308 for my grandson; but nothing really tripped my trigger, so to speak. This spring, I decided I was going to buy *something*, and have it ready for next hunting season.

I was at the Virginia Gun Collectors show this spring, still looking. I'd pretty much decided I was going to buy a Marlin, Mossberg or Savage; and was going to buy it at this show if I could find something at a decent price. While looking around, I noticed a

Weatherby .308 rifle and stopped to give it the fondle test. I was looking at the Weatherby, when Jill pointed out a rifle lying nearby; a Thompson Center Venture. Thompson Center has been my favorite manufacturer of moderately priced black powder rifles for some years. I'd heard they were getting into the center fire rifle business; and had been hoping to get a chance to check out their new offering. I picked it up, and it *fit*. Even better, it *worked*.

The weight wasn't too heavy, and the stock had non slip traction pads at the grip and forearm. The magazine was easily removable and went back into place easier than anything I have ever found on a mass produced rifle, bar none. I worked the bolt and it was smooth and easy; with a 60 degree lift that allowed lots of room for a low scope mount. The trigger was the best I have ever found on a production rifle; moderately light, crisp and with almost no creep. And, the trigger was externally adjustable by simply removing the bolt and turning a set screw. I checked the price and found it was more, but very little more, than other rifles I had been considering. In short, the Venture seemed to offer everything I was looking for... but how would it shoot? The salesman grinned when I asked the question; "They guarantee Minute of Angle three shot groups at 100 yards", he said. So far, my range sessions tend to back up the claim.

Some of you might already know this, but I own more than a couple of rifles. I don't own enough, but I do own several. And, for the first time in some years, I've found a brand new rifle that interests me. And life is a lot more fun when it's interesting. If you're in the market for a new rifle, I suggest you at least consider the Thompson Center Venture. I think you'll be happy you did.

The Venture is available in a range of calibers, including .300 Winchester Magnum. I can hear my lovely bride now; "*You already have a .300 Win. Mag.*". "Yes, dear, but I don't have...." Thanks; Ernie P.

## Arlington Fairfax Chapter, Education and Training News

### ***Up coming class schedule***

July 30, 2011	NRA Basic Shotgun Shooting Course
August 6, 2011	NRA Range Safety Officer Course
August 20, 2011	NRA Basics of Metallic Cartridge Reloading Course
Sept. 6, & 9-11	NRA Basics of Personal Protection Outside the Home Course
Sept. 24, 2011	NRA Basic Shotgun Shooting Course
Oct. 22 & 23, 2011	NRA Basic Rifle Shooting Course
Nov. 19, 2011	NRA Basics of Shotgun Shell Reloading Course

To register or find out more information on any of the above classes, visit the chapter's website

**“[arlingtonfairfax-iwla.org](http://arlingtonfairfax-iwla.org)”**



Installing storm water system at R and P Range

More pictures from work being done at the chapter

Randy Handcock on top of the world











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