

Arlington-Fairfax Chapter, Inc., Izaak Walton League of America
General Membership Meeting – Tuesday, January 16, 2024
Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Vice President Chris Rose.

- a) A quorum of regular members was present.
- b) The Pledge of Allegiance and IWLA Pledge were conducted.
- c) Chapter Officers and Board of Directors present were introduced:
 - i) Vice President – Chris Rose
 - ii) Secretary – Todd Skipper
 - iii) Membership Director – Benn Crandall
 - iv) Designated Director – Keith Kuck
 - v) Designated Director – Jonathan Bukva
 - vi) Director-at-Large – Fred Ansick
 - vii) Director-at-Large – John Hsu
 - viii) Director-at-Large – Don Early
- d) Directors Not Present
 - i) President – Pamela Meara
 - ii) Treasurer – Bob Crisman
 - iii) Designated Director – Dick Riemer
 - iv) Designated Director – Joe Turner
 - v) Director-at-Large – Bob Hamilton
 - vi) Designated Director – Bob Brino
 - vii) Designated Director – Bruce Crandlemire
 - viii) Designated Director – Jeff Del Vecchio
 - ix) Designated Director – John Seaberg
 - x) Director-at-Large – Evan Phelps
 - xi) Director-at-Large – Oscar Starz

2. MEMBER TIME

- Mr. Rose explained this was an opportunity for chapter members to bring up any questions or information they wished to present to the board.
- Mr. Gagnon, a member and former board Secretary, announced that on January 27, 2024, John Linn, a former chapter member (now deceased), was being inducted into the George Mason University Recreation Hall of Fame. Mr. Linn was a nationally-recognized Trap shooter and was, among his various Mason coaching duties, the university's Trap and Skeet Club coach. During the period Mr. Linn coached trap and skeet, the club won an unprecedented seven consecutive national championships. Following Mr. Linn's passing in 1992, the club went on to win an additional four national championships, using the strong program Mr. Linn had established.
- Mr. Crandall recounted several stories about Mr. Linn which demonstrated Mr. Linn's exceptional character, teaching and mentoring skills, and sense of humor.

3. PRESIDENT'S TIME

- Nothing reported.

4. MINUTES/CORRESPONDENCE

- Minutes from the December 2023 General Membership Meeting were available for all to review. Seeing no corrections or changes, the December meeting Minutes were approved as written.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

- Nothing was reported.

6. **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

- Mr. Crandall reported that there were 1,884 memberships at this time.
- Mr. Crandall announced that the February and March New Member Orientations (NMO) were already filled (52 prospective members each) and that while he had just posted a NMO for April, that month was already half-full.
- A member asked if there was a membership limit, and Mr. Rose responded that there currently was not a limit, but that there had been one previously.
- A member asked if there were any plans to add to the existing ranges. Mr. Rose responded that the only plan was for an indoor pistol range, but it was not in the near future. Mr. Rose also explained that due to property and safety limitations, the shotgun range could not be expanded and that the dedicated trap field cannot include skeet due to nearby housing.
- Mr. Crandall presented the new candidates for membership, 9 of whom were present and 24 who were not present.
- Mr. Crandall moved that all candidates for membership be voted into the Chapter, those candidates in attendance and those who were not. The motion was properly seconded by Mr. Early and unanimously adopted.

7. **SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

• **Air Range**

- Mr. Kuck said the range is open to the public on Mondays at 5:30 PM and Friday at 6:00 PM; lanes may be reserved using SignUpGenius; two lanes are reserved for new shooters on each open evening; the range is very busy now due to high school teams' rifle season, but after the season ends in February, it will slow down; Air Range info is on the website.
- Mr. Kuck noted that the Naval Academy-Alaska NCAA match previously scheduled at the Air Range had been canceled.

• **Conservation**

- Mr. Bukva reported that an Eagle Scout project to remove invasive plant species from near the chapter pond was so successful that the Scout was receiving a prestigious Scout conservation award that went above and beyond the Eagle project; the Scout's Troop would be honoring the Eagle Scout in the near future.

• **Education and Training**

- Nothing reported.

• **Field Archery**

- Mr. Ansick (for Mr. Riemer) said that Field Archery had an indoor range, an outdoor range with 24 target between 5-60 yards, and 28 3-D targets in the woods; all ranges are open to the membership. Currently, the 3-D targets are only present on the last half of the course due to winter weather and to protect them from a bear that visits the range. The targets will be returned in the spring.
- Mr. Ansick said that an Archery 101 class is available for new shooters and a 201 class is available for those who possess basic archery skills; equipment is supplied.

- Mr. Ansick announced that a USA Archery Tournament will be held the first week of February at the indoor range and invited all members to attend.
- **Rifle-Pistol**
 - Nothing reported.
- **Skeet & Trap**
 - Mr. Crandall reported that those shooting in the previous weekend's Winter League 'did not have high scores', demonstrating both the fun and challenges experienced by league shooters.
- **Target Archery**
 - Mr. Ansick (for Mr. Del Vecchio) explained that target archery was for Olympic-style archers using only recurve or long bows; targets can be placed at ranges up to 70 yards; the Junior Olympic Archery Development (JOAD) classes are open to children 8-18.
 - Mr. Rose said that there is a waiting list for JOAD participants and anyone interested in joining should contact Mr. Del Vecchio to be placed on the waiting list.
- **Youth Chapter**
 - Nothing reported.
- **Bylaws**
 - Mr. Rose said the board of directors will hold another meeting to review changes and updates to the chapter's bylaws and policies later this month. The changes will be voted for approval by the full board, published in the newsletter, and then the membership will vote on whether to approve the proposed changes.
- **Building & Grounds**
 - Mr. Rose explained that while the chapter has a snow plowing contract for the chapter's road and parking lots, the plowing is only performed when a minimum of 4" of snow is reported at Dulles Airport and last night's snowfall didn't measure 4".
 - Mr. Rose reported that work had been conducted on the front gates and work was being conducted onsite to meet Fire Marshal requirements, including door changes.
 - Mr. Rose said that the chapter's Kubota was out of commission and its hydraulics needed repairs.
- **Disadvantaged Children Christmas Party**
 - Mr. Armstrong reported that in lieu of a party, the chapter had again made a donation in December to Georgetown South, a local organization that serves the county's most underprivileged children. The donation included 84 winter coats and assistance with other Christmas gifts on the children's wish lists.
 - Mr. Rose asked members to consider helping Mr. Armstrong with this important program later this year, around September.
- **Communications**
 - Mr. Rose said to always check the calendar to see what is open and what is closed; the E-Blast is sent at the beginning of the month and members should contact the

membership office is they do not receive it because that is also the email address to which the electronic version of the newsletter will be sent.

- **Elections**

- Mr. Rose said that the chapter holds its elections during the first two weekends in July. Anyone interested in running for a board position should notify the chairman of the election committee.
- Mr. Early explained that voting is conducted in-person at the chapter using paper ballots; voters must come to the chapter to vote.
- Mr. Crandall reminded everyone that a badge or picture ID was required to be shown before voting.

- **Scholarships**

- Mr. Rose said that each year the chapter offers a four-year scholarship (\$5,000/year) to a local student entering college and majoring in an Environmental Sciences program. Scholarship information is posted on the website.

- **Security/Gate**

- Mr. Early, the Security Chair, reminded everyone that the code for the front gate is on the back of the membership card and the chapter will transition members to a fob entry system later this year. Members receive further instructions at a later date.

- **Shenandoah Property**

- Mr. Ansick said that the chapter owns 50 acres in the Shenandoah Valley that is available for members to use; about 300 yards wide and 900 yards deep; open to camping, hunting and hiking. Info is posted is posted on the chapter website.

8. ***OLD BUSINESS***

- Nothing reported

9. ***NEW BUSINESS***

- Nothing reported.

10. ***ANNOUNCEMENTS***

- None reported.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM

Submitted by: Todd Skipper
Secretary