



ROCKVILLE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 2255
Germantown, MD 20875

March 2021

T. Anderson, Editor



President's Message

It is the time of year to think about all the contributions of our members to the Chapter in the past years and recognize those contributions. If there has been a member who has inspired you or helped you out or taken responsibility for getting a job done, let us know. Please send the member's name with some quick bullet points of what that individual has done to David Schwartzman. Let's show our appreciation!

Susan Cassell

Special Election for Treasurer

A special election for the Chapter position of Treasurer will be held at GM Meeting on March 5th. In the February newsletter, it was announced that we were looking for a new Treasurer. Fortunately, Rich Wilkinson came forward to volunteer for that position. He has been working with Tom Selle to get familiar with the responsibilities. At the March 5th GM meeting, we will hold a special election for Treasurer. Rich Wilkinson will be nominated from the floor. A quorum is not needed to fill a vacancy, just the majority vote of the qualified members present.

Ad Hoc Donations Committee

We are looking for a few members to form a Donations Committee to manage donations that the Chapter receives and gives. If you are interested, please contact Susan Cassell.

Earth Day Celebration Work Party

This year the Chapter will be celebrating Earth Day on Saturday, April 24th with several work parties about the Chapter. Greg Underhill is already organizing a "grounds cleanup". I would like to ask Committee Chairs to contact Susan Cassell with tasks that need to be done so that we can organize all the activities.

Waring Station Road Cleanup

Earn 2 volunteer hours working on the Waring Station Road cleanup, whether it takes 2 hours or not. Meet in the Chapter House parking lot from 1-3 pm on March 7th. Many hands make light work. Come join us!

March GMM Speaker Focus

March is the month that wood ducks arrive back in Maryland, match up with mates, begin nesting and propagate their next generations. So, this month our focus is on one of the Chapter's oldest and most successful volunteer programs, wood duck conservation.

Featured speaker, Ryck Lydecker, who has headed the program for the last 15 years or so, will explain a bit about this beautiful waterfowl, describe the Chapter's long-time program of providing nesting habitat for them, as well as for hooded mergansers, which also use these boxes, and how Chapter volunteers prepare the nest boxes in advance of the spring arrival.



Unlike most ducks, "woodies" and "hoodies," are cavity nesters, meaning they build nests and hatch their young in natural holes in trees, perhaps where a big limb has broken off or a hole left by wood peckers, usually in hardwood swamps. The problem for today's wood ducks is the lack of big trees providing enough suitable cavities to set up housekeeping. And that's where the Chapter's artificial nest box program has fit in for many years, providing wooden boxes of a design that dates back to the 1930s and installing them in suitable habitat.

Today the Chapter has installed and maintains (maintenance and monitoring are critical!) 65 boxes at four locations in McKee-Beshers Wildlife Management Area, west of Poolesville, along the Potomac River.

The presentation will include a video documentary. "We were very lucky that our program caught the attention of Tony Ipina, a U Maryland communications major who offered to document our program," says Ryck. "And he did it by accompanying our volunteers on all five work days during January and early February. Tony was right there with us, wading through cold swamp water with all his recording gear, interviewing Ike volunteers on-location and even pitching in with the work, with cold fingers and toes like the rest of us, when needed."

Chapter SSL Opportunities

Our Chapter offers many wonderful ways students can earn SSL (student service learning) hours, even during Covid distancing! SSL forms are available on the MCPS website and in the Chapter House near the kitchen. (Any adult member overseeing the activity can sign off on the service form. (Parents CAN NOT sign their child's SSL form.) Questions contact Jeri Crist (Don't forget to attend the SSL hours Information Zoom Meeting on March 3rd at 7:30)

- Scheduled work parties (See Newsletter & Googlegroups)
- Wood Ducks boxes** (Ryck Lydecker)
- Chestnut Orchard**
- Weed pulling
- Trash Pick-up (any where)
- Weed Wacking/Trimming
- Trail Maintenance
- Pollinator garden(s)
- Chapter cleaning (windows)
- Attending and assisting with JR. Youth activities
- Stream/water trash clean-up - Super fun on hot days!
- Fill bird feeders** (contact Tom Vegella)
- Clearing snow off chapter walkways (bring shovel)
- Make/hang bird feeders & houses ** (contact Tom Vegella)
- Clean out chapter bird boxes (needs to be done soon)
- Wood Splitting/Stacking (bring tools or ask)
- Clean Chapter Refrigerator
- Plant flower beds & flower pots (spring)
- Wipe and clean picnic tables
- Fix loose chairs in chapter house (bring Tools)
- Polish brass foot rest at bar
- See something that needs done at the Chapter? Can your child do it?

** Contact Jeri Crist Tom Vegella.

Info session on SSL Hour Opportunities

Please join the SSL Opportunities and Information Q&A Zoom Meeting, March 3 at 7:30pm. The host, Jeri Crist is a MCPS employee and has been trained by MCPS to be the SSL Coordinator for our Chapter. During the meeting you will learn how students can earn SSL hours at IWLAR, where to find other SSL approved opportunities, how to fill out SSL forms and submit forms to the school, and more. Who should attend? Chapter Committee Leaders, Parents and students. Questions, contact Jeri Crist, SSL Coordinator at IWLAR.

SSL information meeting Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85828126022?pwd=ekhZOTdxZlI4xaklyNUpxaHVXTHk0dz09>

Meeting ID: 858 2812 6022 Passcode: SSL2021

3D Archery Work Party and call for volunteers

With sub-freezing temperatures and ice on the ground, summer activities such as archery seem like they're months away. While that may be the case, we still need to do some work to get prepared for the season.

I'm looking for a few volunteers to help with a work party on March 20th, and to help run the course during the summer.

The work party on the 20th will involve clearing the shooting lanes where the targets will be placed. There are roughly 30 lanes that need to have brush and tree branches cleared out so that archers can access the targets to retrieve their arrows.

For the team that is able to help with running the course (twice a month June – September), we will be manning the sign-in table and helping the archers navigate the course. The current plan is to host 3D Archery every other Sunday morning from 8:00am-noon. We would like at least (3) people for each of those Sundays.

For those that participate in 3D archery, it's a fun time and a good chance to practice your hunting skills.

Without some volunteer help, the 3D season will be in jeopardy. If you're able to help with the work party on the 20th, or running the course during the season please contact Byron Holston.

Pistol Range Repairs

Pistol range repairs were recently completed due to accumulated damage to the overhead baffle structure from fired rounds. The overhead baffle structure is designed to prevent errant rounds from leaving the range. Also, rounds impacting the ground short of the berm pose a ricochet hazard, to include a tumbling round leaving our range area.

Shooters are reminded that General Range Rule 9 - part of our core safety rules - states "Any shooter who cannot consistently hit the intended impact area must stop shooting." Duty Range Officers monitor firing while in progress and will ask shooters to make necessary adjustments (shooting technique, sight adjustments, etc.) to enable rounds to properly impact the designated down range berm. If rounds continue to impact the pistol range structure or ground short of the impact area, Duty Range Officers will instruct the persons to stop shooting to ensure safety of the ranges, surrounding areas, and prevent further range damage.

~Duval Crist~

In case anyone missed the news...

Starting in March, Maryland will require background checks for all sales and transfers of rifles and shotguns, after lawmakers voted on February 11 to override Gov. Larry Hogan's veto of the measure.

Previously, all sales of handguns, and sales of long guns by licensed firearms dealers, were subject to background checks. Private sales and transfers of long guns were exempt from the checks.

Volunteer Needed for Chapter Range Cards

A volunteer is being sought to generate our unique Chapter range cards for new Archery Approved, Range Approved, and Range Officer qualified members each month and for preparing and mailing range card year and combination stickers (for range officer qualified members) to persons who complete the membership renewal and attestation process each year (December through January timeframe).

The cards are generated with a Chapter owned card printer and other chapter supplies. The great aspect of this work is the tasks are completed at home when convenient for the volunteer. If you would like to learn more about this critical position or are interested in volunteering, please contact Duval Crist for more information. The person currently performing this function will show you how the tasks are done; provide the chapter equipment and supplies; and work with you for an orderly transition.

The unique Rockville Chapter range cards are an integral component of our range operations. The Range Safety Committee thanks you for your consideration for this important volunteer position.

New Members Recently Inducted

Anton Dawson	Germantown
Cory Felix	Rockville
Jason & Sarah Fullmer	Gaithersburg
Jim Garrant	Germantown
Rod Pharness	N. Bethesda
John & Lisa Sciortino	Kensington
Kevin Tavana	Rockville
Dan Williams	Silver Spring

A warm welcome to all!

Chapter Newsletter Distribution

The Chapter has recently changed the Newsletter distribution options. Going forward, electronic distribution of the IWLA-Rockville Chapter Newsletter will be the default. Chapter members may still receive a hard copy but will be required to “opt in” to do so. To receive a hard copy only, contact Judy Danish.

Ike's Want Ads

For Sale: Daisy 777 Single-Stroke Pneumatic Air Pistol in very good condition. It was the top of the line Daisy target pistol and made between 1990 & 1997, with a Walther Lothar barrel. Complete with original box and Daisy key-type screwdriver; \$350. Peter Grahn, call or text 304-620-6607 or email at petergrahn@aol.com. Will send pics on request.

Also, a Feinwerkbau (FWB) Model 65 spring air pistol. This one was made in 1986 and bought by a Chapter member who's son used it in the air pistol league. It was retired for a time until I bought it a while back. It works fine; can send pics of the gun on request. Even shot it at 10 meters for a 49/50 (blind pig syndrome). Some light freckling on the cocking lever, otherwise excellent. Has adjustable match grips. Original IB included. I decided to spend my latest pending stimulus check on a pre compressed pneumatic (PCP) air pistol as, at 83, cranking the FWB this is somewhat fatiguing for me. BTW – This gun regularly won the Olympics in the late 60's through the 70's. Price \$400.

To Place a non-commercial ad, write to the Chapter's PO Box, or contact Todd Anderson. Ads must be submitted by third Friday of the month.