



ROCKVILLE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 2255
Germantown, MD 20875

June 2017

T. Anderson, Editor



President's Message

Welcome to June, traditionally the month of the graduations, matriculations, and grade promotions that mark milestones in the academic world of our kids and grandkids (and maybe some Chapter members, too; if so, congratulations!).

And at the Rockville Chapter June is the month that we recognize some very accomplished young men and women with a financial leg-up in their academic careers through the annual Thomas W. Fisher Conservation Scholarships program.

Join us at the June 2 membership meeting when we will present five Montgomery County students with \$2,000 scholarships for the next academic year. I think you will be impressed with these five students, all of whom are committed to studying conservation or environmental sciences at the undergraduate level. Four are graduating high school seniors and one is entering sophomore year at college. And as a special feature of our "academic month," June's guest speaker is a past scholarship recipient who has gone on to a career in conservation.

Trevor Michaels is a wildlife biologist with the Dept of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. Please join us as Trevor explains his current wildlife work as well as the other interesting places his career in conservation has taken him thus far. I think you'll find that Trevor epitomizes the aims of the Chapter scholarship program. And as a Chapter member you can take great pride in this important contribution to Montgomery County youth and to the future of conservation.

Ryck Lydecker

Your Chapter needs you

Volunteers are needed to take on some important tasks.

- 1) We need someone to help with answering messages from the Chapter phones.
- 2) A replacement is needed for Lee Hays as Coordinator of the Annual Auction. After 10 years to raising thousands of dollars and helping everyone enjoy the event, Lee is stepping down. Lee will be happy to work with whoever assumes the task and Martha Patterson said she would help recruit donations for the event.

Volunteers interested in either task should contact Lee.

June Speaker Spotlight – A past scholarship winner

Our speaker for the June General Membership Meeting is Trevor Michaels. He received a B.S. in Wildlife Science with minors in Biology and Forestry from Virginia Tech (2009). While in college, Trevor interned with USDA MD/DE Wildlife Services and found he loved the variety, challenges, people in the agency and work they performed. During both high school and college, Trevor was an active member of the IWLA Rockville Chapter receiving both chapter scholarships and the IWLA National Scholarship. IWLA was instrumental in supporting and shaping Trevor's wildlife career. After graduating, he began his career at the Chesapeake Bay Nutria Eradication Project (CBNEP) in Cambridge, MD, focusing on the project's mission of eradicating invasive nutria from Delmarva.



In 2014, Trevor moved to Raleigh, NC, to take a position with the NC Wildlife Services program as an airport wildlife biologist, working throughout the state to mitigate wildlife hazards on small Part 139 airports. In 2016, an opportunity to become Assistant District Supervisor arose and he moved back to Cambridge to help manage the CBNEP. His interests and specialties include invasive species management, wildlife damage management, wetland restoration, and wildlife population dynamics. Trevor is an avid hunter, trapper, and fisherman.

Rockville Chapter - Mags for Vets Program

Remember to save your reading material for our next donation to our vets at Walter Reed Medical Center.

Drop off your donations on or a few days before Sunday July 9, 2017 (12 noon at the latest) and put them just inside and to the left of the door of the Chapter House. For info, contact Doug Smith.

New Range Officer Scheduler

Tom Willats is stepping down as Range Officer Scheduler. We all owe Tom a big debt of gratitude for performing this important task for the last 10 years. David Schwartzman will be taking over Range Officer Scheduling (in addition to his other tasks) starting in June when he and Tom will jointly work on RO scheduling for August and then assume full responsibility for the months thereafter.

There will be a new email address and phone number. Duty Ranger Officers should check in with the other Duty Range Officer that they are doing their shift with at least 2 weeks BEFORE their scheduled shift.

All Duty Range Officer letters will include a separate sheet of paper that lists a 2 month RO schedule with RO names, dates, times and phone numbers. They should check that list for the name and phone number of the range officer they are scheduled to work with.

IWLA Rockville Needs Volunteers for the MC Fair

The 2017 Montgomery County Agricultural Fair runs August 11 through 29. Our Chapter needs volunteers for staffing our IWLA booth.

You don't have to be an expert to work your shift – you will have at least one other Ike with you and there are also well-prepared reference materials in the booth that provide enough information to answer most if not all of the questions asked by visitors. The shifts run from 10 am to 4 pm and 4 pm to 10 pm. This is a great way to get in your required six hours for 2017. We provide information from National, State, and local Chapters and have a good time doing it.

There are other possible work hour opportunities because help may be needed for booth setup and take down, too. Contact Bill Leaman to volunteer.

Support the League Through AmazonSmile

Amazon.com is the online store that has it all, and most of us use it from time to time. Next time you shop online, use the League's new AmazonSmile page and Amazon will make a donation to the Izaak Walton League -- at no cost to you.

The premise is simple: You shop. Amazon gives. The AmazonSmile web site is the same Amazon you already know. It has the same products, same prices, and same service. The big difference is that Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to the Izaak Walton League. Prices are not marked up to cover this donation. Amazon is sharing a portion of its profits with groups such as the League.

It really works and it really is simple. Just log on to smile.amazon.com and take it from there. Any and all donations will be much appreciated.

A Word from Our Chapter Historian

From its inception in 1933, the Rockville Chapter has a rich and wonderful history. From members (and friends) building our first Chapter House, affectionately known as "The Shack" at Violettes Lock (#23) on the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal in 1935-36, to receiving 35.5 acres from Emma Strider in February 1949 and an additional 15.25 acres in 1953 and the new chapter house and caretaker's house, through opening our shooting and archery ranges, the lake and bridge, and our ongoing involvement in hunting, conservation and youth activities.

In December I was honored to become our Chapter Historian. I have spent the past months reading our history file which ends in 2001 and looking through past Newsletters (that were graciously provided by Miles Greenbaum and Jay Copsey). I also found out that our chapter records from 1959-1965 were lost.

This has made me realize that our best resource for history and stories are YOU, our members. Some of you have been members for decades. Some of you are new members. But I imagine that many of you have stories, photos and memories that are part of our rich history. I am therefore asking you to get in touch with me and to share them. Lee Hays created the email address that is being forwarded to me.

If you have digital photos, you can email them to me. If they are printed photos I will arrange to meet you and can scan them into digital format. You can also email me the stories/memories. Later this year I am hoping to start an audio/video history program where we can have some of our stories recorded (or that you might have videos of chapter activities that can be converted to digital format.)

I look forward to what promises to be an ongoing project of documenting our Chapter's long and wonderful history.

~David S Schwartzman, Rockville Chapter Historian~

Youth Conservation Measures Lake Health

On May 6, the Jr. Youth Conservation group teamed up with Steve Moulton from Geodetic Survey and Dale Thatcher from Seneca Valley Trout Unlimited to do lake and lake bottom sampling. Eighteen kids between the ages of 6 and 15 learned how to dredge the lake bottom with a special bucket claw and how to use a net to get samples from the lakes edges. They learned that it's important to get a variety of different samples in order to get a good overview of the lakes condition.

Mr. Moulton kept the kids engaged and presented them with a lot of stimulating information prior to sampling. Once samples were collected they rinsed the sediment away which left a good bottom sample for them to look through and test.

Youth Conservation (continued)

Using tweezers, the kids carefully searched, picked up, categorized and identified all the underwater lake life they found in the bottom samples. Some of the things they found included; 59 Midge (a small, thin worm), flatworms, asiatic clams, snails, crayfish, damselflies, dragonflies, beetles and no-see-ums (yes, they exist).



Due to the recent rains and high water level we were unable to test the stream. After analyzing the results, Mr. Moulton announced that our lake is in pretty good shape. The kids were very engaged and presented with a lot of stimulating information. Exciting bonus visitors included; a tortoise, lots of blue birds, a Baltimore Oriole, 2 northern water snakes in the spillway and we saw a hawk swoop down and get a bird next to the pavilion. Special thanks to Tom Vegella for helping with the program and arranging for Steve Moulton from Geodetic Survey and Dale Thatcher from Seneca Valley Trout Unlimited to come to IWLA and present their program to the Jr. Youth Conservation group and to Jay Copsey for always lending a helping hand at our events.
~Jeri Crist~

Meeting Night Meals

A big "Thank You" to Harsh Marwaha for providing a wonderful Butter Chicken with rice and green beans at the May meeting.

Volunteers are needed to cook throughout the year. Pick a month and get your six volunteer hours in one night. For more information contact Jeri Crist.

New Members Recently Inducted

Harris & Kristine Al-Haris	Germantown
Kevin & Lisa Blanc	Gaithersburg
Michael Nerstheimer	Montg. Village

A warm welcome to all and we hope to get to know you better throughout the year. The best advice we can give you: Get involved and enjoy all we have to offer!

Ike's Want Ads

For sale: Springfield XDS 9mm. Barely used. Comes with hard case, manuals, cleaning brush, fiber optic sight rods, backstrap and mag extensions, one 7 and one 8 round magazine. Also including two holsters made for the XDS. One Kydex IWB and one leather and molded plastic, two clip IWB. \$435 for all.

Chris Boyles

For Sale!

1. Ruger Flattops; 50thAnniv.(357&44); S/N Matched Pair/Display Case \$1,150
2. S&W, Model 53, 6", .22 Jet; NEW (unfired) in box \$1,650
3. S&W, Model 38 Hammerless; 3.25" Nickel; LNIB; July 1907 \$975.
4. Sig-Sauer; P239; SS .357 Sig + .40 barrel; 4 mags; tritium; NIB \$975.

For information and photos contact: Terry Popkin