



ROCKVILLE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 2255
Germantown, MD 20875

July 2017

T. Anderson, Editor



President's Message

The Volunteer in You

Here it is June and that means the membership renewal cycle starts anew in just a few months. As you know, Chapter bylaws require each member to contribute six hours of volunteer time or pay a \$75 fee in lieu of work.

Many members contribute far in excess of the minimum time but a surprising number just write the check instead. (Curious? It's 50%-plus; told you it was surprising.) The Chapter does not want or need this extra money. What we want is members' help, involvement, skills and camaraderie. Volunteer workdays or committee assignments keep the Chapter rolling.

For many of us today, free time is a luxury and volunteering just isn't an option. We understand that but I have heard that some members would love to help out but don't get the word about opportunities or learn of them after the fact. If that's you, please tell me about it

We use this newsletter and the Yahoo group to announce volunteer opportunities but maybe we're missing another, better way to get you engaged with your fellow Chapter members. Let me know if you have any suggestions.

Ryck Lydecker

Important Reminders!!!!

I WLA and the Montgomery County Fair

Volunteers are needed from 11 to 19 August from 10 AM to 4 PM or from 4 PM to 10 PM to staff the IWLA booth. Tickets are provided and no experience is necessary. Contact Bill Leaman for more details or to volunteer.

Rockville Chapter - Mags for Vets Program

Remember to drop off your donations on or a few days before Sunday July 9, 2017 (12 noon at the latest) at the Chapter House. For questions, contact Douglas Smith.

New Range Officer Scheduler

David Schwartzman will be taking over Range Officer Scheduling.

There is a new email address and new phone number for Range Officer Scheduling.

July Speaker Spotlight

Seneca Creek State Park Ranger Erik Ledbetter is the featured speaker at the July General Membership Meeting. Erik will talk about the Clopper Family, Woodlands Estate, and, as he puts it, "our shared custodianship of historic Clopper Mill." In fact, the old mill race that diverted water from the creek to power the mill runs through Chapter property and under what became Clopper Rd.

Erik Ledbetter is a Park Ranger with the Maryland Park Service. He began his park career at Seneca Creek State Park in 2013 as a seasonal ranger and naturalist. Erik was promoted to full-time/career Park Ranger in 2015, with an initial duty station at Gunpowder Falls State Park in Baltimore County.



In 2016 Erik had the good fortune to transfer back to Seneca Creek, where he considers the staff and volunteers to be his "extended family." Prior to joining the Maryland Park Service, Erik had a 15-year-long career in museums, specializing in transportation and industrial heritage. He also worked for several years on museum policy issues as Director of International Programs at the American Association of Museums. Erik holds a BA in the History of Technology from Johns Hopkins and a MA in US History from Yale University. He makes his home with his wife and teenage son in Rockville, Maryland. Join us Friday night, July 7, for a fascinating local (very local) history lesson.

2017 Scholarship Winners Awarded

During the June General Membership Meeting, five recipients of the Thomas W. Fisher Conservation and Environmental Studies Scholarship were recognized.



To the right of Lee Hays are: Emerson Allen Sirk, Nina Codrington-White, Robert Haslett, Kurt Wilson, and Uma Krishnan

Each individual received a check for \$2,000.

Awardee names, schools and majors are as follows:

- Emerson Allen Sirk, Cornell University, Environmental Sciences (repeat recipient)
- Nina Codrington-White, Ohio Wesleyan University, Pre-Zoology
- Robert Haslett, University of South Carolina, Environmental Sciences
- Kurt Wilson, University of Maryland CP, Environmental Sciences (Kurt is a brother of a prior recipient)
- Uma Krishnan, University of Pennsylvania, Biological Basis of Behavior along with Economics (double major)

Congratulations to all!

Fish and Fowl Galore at the Lake

One of our Chapter's main attractions is the Lake. Folks who are considering taking advantage of the fishing at the lake might benefit from hearing recently joined member Dana Williams recount a terrific weekend at the Lake.

"I caught about 5 bass and 10-12 bluegill over the course of two days at the lake, Friday and Saturday....and one turtle! The turtles seem to be very hungry when the sun starts to go down, they like the worms.

"For bait, I used night crawlers and caught all of the blue gill and a few of the bass with those. I also used a Rapala Shad Rap Lure that was "firtiger" print -- bright green and bright yellow.

Fish and Fowl (Continued)

"On Friday, I caught the first bass near the camping area that is tucked back in the corner on the pavilion side, where a few cars could park. I was on the shoreline there and not even 10 minutes of casting I caught the first one and I was using the lure for this. On Saturday morning, my first cast with the lure at the same spot, I caught a bass right away.

"Also on Saturday, I was using the night crawlers and was standing near the yellow wooden railing along the road, I guess there is some kind of pipe or something coming from the other side of the lake, and I happened to look down and saw a BIG bass just sitting there and as soon as I put the worm in, it bit it and I was able to catch him. I have also been very successful in the corner areas of the lake where there are a lot of trees down in the water, even though it's semi-shallow.



"I'm definitely not an expert in fishing but I do absolutely love spending time at the lake and mostly prefer using a worm and a bobber and just sitting back and seeing what I catch."

In addition, knowledgeable bird watchers have reported seeing the following species of birds in the area around the lake recently: Green heron, Canada goose, Red belled woodpecker, Towhee, Cardinal, Tufted titmouse, Northern parula, Carolina chickadee, Cowbird, Carolina wren, Scarlet tanager, Mallard and others.

Do You Yoga?

Interested in getting some extra exercise, limbering up those joints, stretching seldom used muscles and learning breathing techniques you haven't tried before? If so, the Chapter will offer a free yoga class early in July.

Taught by certified yoga instructor Suzy Lydecker (yes, she's our president's daughter), this single weekday morning class (day/date TBD) will be a pilot to gauge interest among Chapter members and perhaps design a series of classes – again free – for the rest of the summer. Let us know if you're interested. Send an email to Ryck Lydecker.

Fun, relaxing and exciting day on the water

On June 19th, 14 Ike paddlers spent a beautiful afternoon kayaking down the Monocacy river. For a few, it was their first time kayaking and for others it was just another fun adventure on the water. The next kayaking trip will be on Sunday July 23. 8:30 am. We will put in at Sandy Hook and paddle down the Potomac River to Brunswick spending about 4 hours in the water with an island picnic.



If you are interested in going or want to find out more about the IWLA paddling group contact Ellison Withers.

Meeting Night Meals

A big "Thank You" to Kevin Roland and Becky Trupp for providing a wonderful chicken and sausage gumbo at the June 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.

The Rockville Email Group

The Rockville Chapter operates a members-only email list for announcements and discussions among members. The Newsletter comes out once a month, so the email group is the only way to stay informed about important things that occur in between Newsletters. To sign up, send an email identifying yourself to iwlar-owner@yahoo.com. This is the most effective way to receive short notice activity announcements and cancelations. Don't get left out of the loop – sign-up for the email group now!

New Members Recently Inducted

Mike Banaszewski	N. Potomac
Rob Christie	Germantown
Lee Barnhill & Peko Tsuji	Silver Spring
Keith Roselle	Derwood

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

Travel trailer for sale! It's a 2014 Rockwood Windjammer Diamond series 36" long!! Excellent condition!! Contact me for photos and I will be happy to supply them to those who are interested. Sale Price is \$19,000 and includes are about \$2,500 worth of extras! Cover, stabilizer tow bars, etc!!
William Messersmith

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.