



**President’s Message**

It’s the start of a new year and a time when we think about making resolutions (or not). Think about the activities you would like to get involved with at the Chapter. Try a new one or even start a new one. There are also positions that we need help with listed on the home page of our website iwlar.org. The Chapter can’t run without all our member’s volunteer hours. You’ve got a whole new year to get involved.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Susan Cassell

**Concealed Carry Policy on Chapter Property**

With the significant increase in interest and issuance of Maryland Handgun Wear and Carry Permits, the chapter Range Safety Committee is reiterating the Chapter’s policy regarding “concealed carry” on Chapter property.

Per the Chapter Range Rules, concealed carry is authorized by Maryland Handgun Wear and Carry Permit holders. Out of state issued carry permits are not accepted; Maryland does not recognize any other state issued permits, and per the Range Rules, all federal, state, and local laws must be obeyed. If carrying concealed, the concealed firearm may not be used on the range; it must *always remain concealed*. If the owner wishes to use the concealed firearm, the individual must arrive at the Chapter with the firearm unloaded and cased or covered within a closable container (in the same manner other firearms are transported to, and within, Chapter property).

Concealed carry at the lake is not permitted. The lake gate access area, and roadway until the road fork that circumferences the lake, is not Chapter property; it belongs to Seneca State Park. Per Maryland law, concealed carry is not permitted at any time, even by Maryland permit holders, in state parks. Per the Lake Rules, no uncased firearms, air guns, slingshots, paint ball guns or similar items are allowed at any time.

Note that law enforcement officers, with official credentials, may openly or conceal carry at any chapter property location.

~ *The Chapter Range Safety Committee* ~

**January Speaker Focus**

Bonnie Bell is a Volunteer Ranger at Seneca Creek State Park, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Friends of Seneca Creek and Patuxent River State Park.



In her role as a volunteer ranger, Bonnie leads scores of interpretive programs every year, including nature walks, history talks at Grusendorf Cabin, and volunteer work sessions. In collaboration with the park managers, she has written multiple successful grant proposals to Heritage Montgomery, REI, and other funders which have resulted in the purchase of an accessible kayak launch, new interpretive signage, trail bridges and other improvements. Bonnie is also an expert trail maintainer and has worked for many years as a trail volunteer with Montgomery Parks.

**CMP Scholarships**

The Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) is pleased to announce four new scholarships. These \$20,000 scholarships, awarded over four years at \$5,000 each year.

Traditionally, these scholarships have been used to pursue post-secondary or vocational programs, community colleges or university educations. However, in 2023, the CMP will broaden its scholarship program even more by involving trade and technical schools to keep up with national trends and to provide opportunities for athletes with a variety of interests.

Applicants will compete based on their rifle, pistol and/or shotgun competition history, academic excellence, community service, leadership, and potential.

The deadline to apply for a CMP Scholarship will be March 31, 2023. More info can be found at <https://thecmp.org/youth/cmp-scholarship-program/>.

## **Recommended Environmental Objectives for 2023.**

1. **EMS Manual.**
  - a. Share the EMS Manual 2022 version with Chapter activities leaders and the general membership.
2. **Range Use and Management:**
  - a. Continue current usage of pistol, rifle, shotgun and archery ranges.
  - b. Continue routine pH monitoring of designated areas on the rifle, pistol and shotgun ranges each spring and fall. **NEW for 2023:** The impact areas from the rabbit run and turkey shoots shall be added to the designated monitoring sites on the shotgun range.
  - c. Continue to apply lime as needed to maintain a pH range between 6.5 and 8.5 in the shot fall zones that are exposed to water.
  - d. Maintain healthy vegetation on the ranges in areas where lead may be present from current or historic use in order to prevent ingestion of lead by wildlife, soil erosion or lead migration.
  - e. Maintain physical barriers to reduce the potential of runoff causing erosion or migration of lead.
  - f. **NEW for 2023:** Evaluate the condition and use of styrofoam targets on the archery range.
3. **Soil & Erosion.**
  - a. Continue to monitor for erosion problems on the Chapter property, and develop and implement solutions.
4. **Energy & Wastes.**
  - a. Develop a “Wise Use of Resources” team that will educate Chapter members on best practices and coordinate Chapter efforts.
  - b. Reduce use of single use plastic bottles at Chapter activities.
  - c. Continue to mow grass on the tractor roads as needed to reduce exposure to ticks of members hiking the Chapter’s trails. Care should be taken **not to drive on wet soils** to prevent soil compaction, rutting and erosion.
  - d. Continue to evaluate the benefits of the reduced mowing around the lake edges.
    - a. Continue current recycling practices at the ranges.
5. **Wildlife.**
  - a. **NEW for 2023.** The handling of nuisance pests will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
  - b. Continue efforts to recruit a leader for maintaining and monitoring bird nesting boxes on the Chapter grounds.
6. **Forest Stewardship.**
  - a. **NEW for 2023:** Monitor for and control the invasive plant species lesser celandine (late winter), garlic mustard (spring), Johnsongrass (summer) and wavyleaf basketgrass (August).
  - b. **NEW for 2023:** Apply for an EQIP grant to manage the invasive plants on the Chapter property.

## **New Members Recently Inducted**

Bobby Ashmore Germantown  
Joe Buccine & Jane Arango N. Potomac  
David Fishkin N. Potomac  
Stacey & William Shifman Rockville  
Justin Shaw & Kate Conover Rockville  
Smitty Smith Gaithersburg  
Eric & Virginia Tehrani N. Potomac  
Matt & Jill LaCross Montgomery Village  
A warm welcome to all!

### **It’s Renewal Time!**

You should have received your annual membership information in the mail by now. You have until 12/31/2022 to complete your six hours of Chapter volunteer time. Your volunteer hours and dues must be postmarked by 12/31/2022 to avoid the late fee. So watch the Newsletter and the iwlar Google group emails now for volunteer opportunities.  
If you haven’t received your renewal information or have other questions, contact Judy.

### **Work Party Appreciation**

Many thanks to Susan Epes, Chris Hawthorn, Jason Wang, Joe Buccine, Dietrich Ruehlmann for helping at the pistol range.

They removed the tarp from the spectators' area tent, spread lime on the backstop area, raked a lot of leaves, and did some general cleanup.

Many thanks also to Mike Coxen for blowing off the leaves from the roof on his own time, and to Keith Angerman.

During the winter months we will have at least two more work parties. One to clear all the thorny brush on the side of the range house, and another for repairing the baffles at position 9 and replacing several boards of the gravel boxes closest to the backstop.

As usual, the work parties will be announced on the Chapter google group email.

### **Ike’s Want Ads**

1 Canik TP9SF 9mm pistol plus 1 threaded barrel  
\$390

Contact Chris - canislupus885@gmail.com

1 M&P 15 22 rifle

\$350

Contact Chris - canislupus885@gmail.com

**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.



### **NRA Basic Pistol Course is a Big Hit!**

On December 10, 2022, the Rockville Chapter celebrated an early Holiday Season and New Year with a very full NRA Basics of Pistol Shooting Course with MD Handgun Qualification License (HQL) Supplement. This class was attended by: Deb Bearor, Kwang Choi, Deborah Diamond, David Fishkin, David Schwartzman, Edward Gamache, Mark Lombard, Deborah Olson, Angela Rini, Alexander Wilson, Geoffrey Wilson, Huyi Zhang, Thomas Sullivan, Dietrich Ruehlmann, Even Walseng, and members of the Chapter's Firearms Training Team: April Marrone, Hengzhi Wei, Yien Tsai, Joe Ober, Nick Carone, Brian Gruber, Jim Williams, Pete Lee, Jacob Song, Travis Vaught, Shankar Dhanaraj, Adam Sutherland, and Rich Clement.

The students learned safe gun handling and gun owner responsibilities, pistol and ammunition knowledge, fundamentals of pistol shooting, pistol selection and

### **Pistol Course (continued)**

maintenance, and opportunities for skill development through classroom instruction and live-fire exercises using .38 Special revolvers and 9mm semi-automatic pistols on the Chapter's Pistol Range and earned NRA course completion certificates. A lesson on MD firearms law was provided.

Successful completion of the NRA Basics of Pistol Shooting Course with MD HQL Supplement (Day 1 class) is prerequisite to MD Wear and Carry Permit Training (Day 2 class) for satisfying the required 16 training hours and shooting qualification to apply for a MD Wear and Carry Permit. The Chapter's 2023 NRA Training Courses are available from <https://www.iwlar.org>.

For additional information on NRA Training Courses and MD Wear and Carry Permit Training, contact Rich Clement.