

### President's Message

It feels like winter out there! That is logical since it is winter. We are all looking forward to longer and warmer days in the coming months. Activities at your IWLAR Chapter have slowed in this weather but have not stopped. The ranges are open during posted hours, the Air Pistol League shoots indoors out of the weather. The ice on the lake prevents fishing (and is too thin to ice fish) but the trails are open (watch for that icy spot!) One of our partner organizations, Seneca Valley TU (<https://www.senecavalleytu.org>) is teaching fly tying classes at the Chapter House on selected Monday evenings (see the website for the dates and details). These classes are open to all IWLAR members and all skill levels—from beginner to experienced. If you are a fisherman without the funds to travel to a warmer climate, come out and learn a new fishing skill.

We also have youth activities ongoing in the winter. Junior BB gun and air rifle shoot weekly.

Due to some bad weather in January, our wood duck nesting box cleaning and repair season will be extended through mid-February. IWLAR members meet every Sunday from 10-1 to repair, clean and prepare wood duck boxes for the 2025 nesting season. At the January 5 workday, the volunteers reported a very positive nesting success rate. It is too soon to tell if this trend will continue but 2024 could be the best nesting season we have monitored. We all hope the trend continues. We will get a report on the success of our wood duck box program at a future spring meeting.

Our February General Membership Meeting will be on our normal first Friday, February 7. Please join us in person or via Zoom.

Noel Gollehon

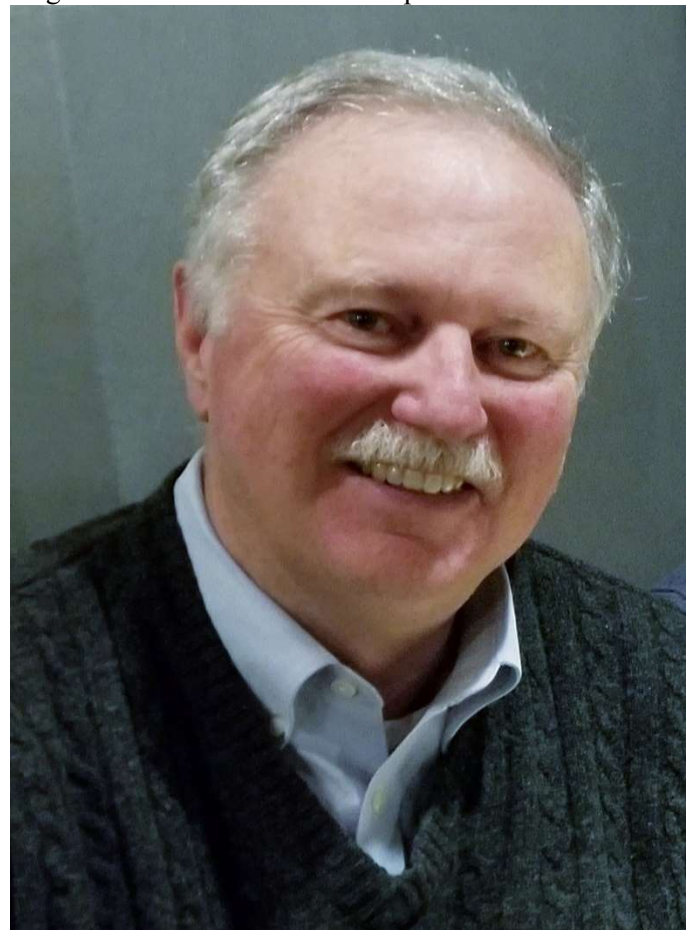
### Concealed Carry Reminder

As a reminder, concealed carry is permitted on chapter property by a holder of a Handgun Permit valid in Maryland. If concealing a firearm, it **MUST REMAIN CONCEALED AT ALL TIMES!** Unconcealing a firearm to use it at the pistol range is strictly forbidden. To practice at the range with a concealed firearm - off chapter property - it must be unloaded and placed in a closed or latched container. Additionally, Maryland law prohibits concealed carry in State Parks. Be aware of State Park / Chapter property boundaries.

~ Duval Crist ~

### February GMM Speaker Focus

Don Stanton was commissioned through Cornell University Navy ROTC, served off Vietnam aboard a destroyer and aircraft carrier and then flew as a P-3C anti-submarine warfare Patrol Plane Commander deployed to the Atlantic & Mediterranean. He flew the Boeing 747, 757 & 767 airliners, was a Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, and chair of the Colorado Transportation Commission. Don has an MA in National Security Studies from Georgetown University. He also taught international relations and political science.



Don looks forward to everyone's questions on a range of topics: Navy ROTC Cornell 1968-72 during Anti-War protests, Destroyer & USS Coral Sea ops-fall of Saigon & SS Mayaguez, Flight training on radial engine aircraft and flying the 1st digital P-3Cs, flying the world's oldest B-737s and the "Classic" B-747 Transitioning to "glass" instruments in the B-767 as well as 18 years on DC staffs.

## Watersports 2025

Every year the IWLAR Watersports team leads kayaking trips in the area waterways (Monocacy River, Antietam River, Potomac River, etc.) June - October. This is a great opportunity for those looking to learn something new, practice skills, and enjoy some of the beautiful nature in our area while meeting fellow Ikes.

We would like to inform/remind everyone of this wonderful program at our Chapter and encourage new and not so new members to come enjoy an outing.

*You can zip over rapids just like Fred*



We also need to request much needed assistance to make this year's program not only a success, but possible. We need Ikes who can tow the trailer with kayaks for outings. The trailer holds up to 12 ~45 lb kayaks for an anticipated maximum weight of about 600 lbs. You will need to have a trailer hitch.

Excursions will occur on the 2nd Saturday of every month June through October 2025, from 8:30 am - ~4:30 pm (this includes meeting to load kayaks at Chapter house, travel to destination, kayaking, and return trip).

If you are interested in participating, and can help tow the trailer of kayaks, please contact April Marrone at with the date(s) that you are able to participate:

- June 14, 2025
- July 12, 2025
- August 9, 2025
- September 13, 2025
- October 11, 2025

In general, early season trips are “easier” than later season trips; however, no trip encounters more than minimal Class II - III rapids dependent on water conditions. Those interested should look at the IWLAR website for more information on the Watersports program that will be updated for this season soon. Please let April know if you can help no later than February 5, 2025.

If you are interested in participating in the Water sports activities, but unable to pull the trailer, great! Please take a look at the website and reserve a spot by emailing IWLARwatersports@gmail.com. Availability of Chapter kayaks is limited.

## January 2025 BOD Highlights

The Board of Directors of IWLAR met on January 17, 2025 at 7:30 pm. This is a summary of the business items and major announcements at the meeting.

- There were several requests to use the Chapter House, Lake and pistol range for activities representatives of Seneca Valley TU, Girl Scout Troop 32604, and Seneca Creek Park DNR. All were approved. These items are now on the calendar.
- We have received an insurance proposal and instructed the agent to issue the policy. This policy covers our liability, structure and marine needs. The cost will be \$22,121, a decline of \$1,686 from our 2024 policy. The decline is due to a revaluation of the replacement cost of the structures on our property. We hired a certified appraiser to provide us with current replacement value estimates, which were lower than the previous insurance company estimates.
- Wood duck box maintenance and repair is ongoing every Sunday. Watch the google group for notices.
- The next road cleanup is on February 9.
- We need additional members to serve as Eagle Scout Project Coordinators.
- Special thanks to Chris Holler for the snow removal effort around the Chapter House.
- The construction on the lake project is complete but the planting of trees and shrubs is still being planned (waiting on the County) and now the ground is frozen. We will get them planted sometime this spring.
- We approved an energy audit of the caretaker's house to determine if there is potential for energy (and cost) savings.
- The Chapter has contracted for a new security system to replace the outdated current system. The new system will give us coverage of the rifle house and audio capability at select locations.
- The By-Laws review is progressing and will be going to the membership sometime in the spring.

## Fence Maintenance Volunteers Needed

Winter winds and ice usually damage sections of the perimeter fence that encircles the pistol and rifle ranges. A few volunteers are needed for a work party on Saturday, February 22 at 11:00 AM, to walk and inspect the perimeter fence, clear any downed tree limbs on fence sections, and perform some light pruning to keep the walk path along the fence navigable. Bring work gloves, pruning shears, small saws, and hearing protection for areas close to the firing lines. We'll have a battery chainsaw. A good opportunity to get 2-3 volunteer hours completed early in the year! Please reply directly to Duval Crist if you're interested and available.

### **Cases on the Ranges**

As a reminder, the Range Rules require all firearms carried on Chapter property must be unloaded and carried in a closed or latched container (see Range Rules page 4). A firearm case completely encloses the firearm and latches, snaps, or zippers completely shut. A holster or other articles (such as shirts, rags, blankets, etc.) wrapped around firearms are not considered cases. If firearms are carried without proper cases, they must be in an enclosed container that completely shuts, such as a range bag. When removing an uncased firearm from an enclosed container (only at the shooting position, pointing down range), the firearm must immediately be made SAFE. When transporting firearms in hard cases that don't correspond to the general firearm shape, a good practice is to apply a strip of masking tape to the outside and draw an arrow with the word "muzzle" on the strip. This will go a long way in preventing firearms from not pointing downrange when the case is opened.

### **New Members Recently Inducted**

Willie Diaz	Burtonsville
AJ Fechter	Bethesda
Justin Hobbs	North Potomac
John Ferguson	Potomac
Sam Poland	Mt. Airy

A warm welcome to all!

### **Stop the Bleed**

The First IWLAR Stop the Bleed Class is now open for enrollment. The class is being held Sunday 2/23/2025 at 12:00 PM at the IWLAR Chapter House Upper Level. The price for the class is \$20 per person, which must be paid before you take the class.

To take the class you will have to sign up on the "Stop The Bleed Coalition Training Management" site at <https://training.stopthebleedcoalition.org/dashboard>. You will first have to set up a profile which will then give you access both to the registration. The sign-up link is on the left side of the site.

After you have created a profile choose "Find a class." Make sure the ending date is Feb 24, 2025. Use the Zip code 20874. Click on the information about the Chapter Class. Before you click on Enroll you will need to enter the Access code: IWLARSTB197564. Then click on ENROLL. Classes are limited to 10 students right now, but there is a wait-list available.

You will be contacted about payment instructions by David Schwartzman

Looking forward to seeing you there.

David Schwartzman  
IWLAR Stop the Bleed Training Coordinator/Instructor