



President's Message

It may really be spring! The activity level at our Chapter is certainly picking up! The outdoor shooting leagues are starting, trout are in the lake, archery signups have started, the public signup period will open on 4-1, so the class will fill up fast, and the hiking trails are calling.

As activities pick up at our Chapter, now is the time to make plans to get involved. If you have always wanted to join a shooting league, now is the time. The shooting leagues are just starting, and we can help you get started.

IWLAR is a non-profit organization, and we must do certain things to keep our tax-exempt status. Among those thankless duties is to periodically revise and update the organization's Constitution and By-Laws. Thanks to the efforts of Cindy Stevens, who chaired the By-Laws review committee and the committee's members—Jim Seach & Derrick Tabor—we are nearing the completion of a review of our By-Laws. An explanation of the changes can be seen here: https://iwlar.org/wp-content/uploads/READ-FIRST-Explanations_2024-Bylaws-Review-for-03-07-25-GM.pdf

We will bring all these changes to the membership at the April meeting where the floor will be opened to additional revisions from the membership and a vote taken to accept or reject the proposed changes. As I stated earlier, this is a thankless task, we need to give Cindy, Jim and Derrick a big THANK YOU!

The tree planting as a part of the Lake construction project is moving forward. Planting will be done by a professional landscape firm as a part of the total contract. It will look a lot different by mid-April. We will plan a workday for late April to remove the wire fences that identified the work site.

The lake is the starting spot for the April 13 stream and Park cleanup being planned in conjunction with the Friends of Seneca Creek State Park. Check the website for details.

Our April General Membership Meeting will be on our normal first Friday, April 4. Get out and enjoy IWLAR!

Tight Lines
Noel Gollehon

April Speaker Focus

Tracy Rouleau will be speaking about the Stormwater Partners Network, a local coalition that advocates for clean water, protecting and improving our watersheds in ways that are equitable and ecologically sensitive, improving community resilience to stormwater impacts such as storm-driven flooding, and connecting communities to their backyard waterways.



Tracy and her family have lived in Gaithersburg for 18 years. She has been a member of the Stormwater Partners Network since 2017, and has served on the Executive Steering Committee since 2018. She also served on the Muddy Branch Alliance from 2014-2020 (President, 2017-2020), working to expand opportunities for students and residents to volunteer and engage in outdoor activities and care of the Muddy Branch Park. She has served on the Montgomery County Water Quality Advisory Group since 2016, as Chair since 2017. Professionally, she is the President and founder of TBD Economics, LLC, an environmental economics consulting firm, and recently took a position as the Director of Conservation Planning and Evaluation at the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF).

This year's **Montgomery County Fair** will be August 8 to 16. Next month's newsletter will feature more details on volunteering opportunities for the IWLA booth

Chapter letter to Governor Moore

Our Chapter sent a letter to Governor Wes Moore on February 27, 2025 requesting a change in the designated use class for a large section of the North Branch of the Potomac River from Bloomington, MD to Pinto, MD. The quality of trout fishing here has rebounded since the closure of an industrial facility that used to discharge warm water into the river. The letter supports efforts to establish a cold-water refuge for the continued survival of native brook trout which rely on cold water to survive and reproduce. Elevated water temperatures reduce oxygen levels and increase cortisol— a stress hormone—in trout, which in turn impairs growth, diminishes feeding, and weakens immune function.

The change would not interfere with another industry using the land of the now closed Piedmont Pulp and Paper Company in Luke, MD. However, it would require that any future water discharge be managed to not raise river temperatures to a level that would harm fish. The new designated use class would help prevent the return of harmful, warm, point-source industrial discharges and safeguard the health and sustainability of local trout populations.

~Phillip Mariscal~

Stream Cleanup!

We are hosting the Friends of Seneca State Park on April 13 for a stream cleanup. Meet at our lake, ready to begin at 10 am. We'll cross Great Seneca Creek on our bridge, then follow the mill race down to the park property. The main focus will be around the Clopper Mill Ruins to clean up trash from Clopper Road. Please RSVP if you plan to stay for a picnic lunch. Middle and high school students should bring their SSL forms. Chapter members earn volunteer hours, too.

Birds have started selecting their nesting sites. Contact Cindy Stevens if you are interested in monitoring our bluebird boxes or in making repairs. Both are great ways to get in your volunteer hours!

Learn Archery This Summer!

If you or your kids want to learn the fundamentals of archery or improve your archery skills, try IWLAR's Summer Archery program. You'll learn proper shooting form and fundamentals from our USA Archery trained instructors in a safe and family-friendly environment. All equipment is provided. IWLAR members can register their children ages 10-18 and member adults.

Sessions are Sundays June 1-July 13, 2025, 12:30PM-2:00PM. (No session on July 6.) Member registration opened March 1. Member rate is \$55. Non-member registration (children 10-18 only) opens April 1. Non-member rate is \$75.

For more information and registration, go to: <https://www.iwlar.org/archery/>.

If you have questions, please contact Kevin Blanc at archery@iwlar.org.

IWLA Rockville Outdoor Shooting Leagues

April starts the beginning of the outdoor shooting activities at the IWLA Rockville Chapter and are open to the public.

The Pistol League starts Tuesday, April 8th, and runs weekly through the end of Sept. Come as often or as little as you like. It is a 30-shot match at 25yds (10 slow fire, 10 timed fire, 10 rapid fire). The fee is \$30 for Rimfire or Centerfire and \$40 for both, for the whole season. Chapter .22 pistols are available for use, just bring .22 LR standard velocity ammo. Ear and eye protection is required. It is a handicap league, so improvement is rewarded.

The Muzzleloader League starts on Wednesday, April 2nd, and runs monthly on the first Wednesday of each month through October. The match is 10 rounds in 40 minutes. The fee is \$2 per relay.

The Rifle League starts on Wednesday, April 9th, and runs monthly on the second Wednesday of each month through October. It is a 30 shot match, distance is 25 or 50 yds. Only rifles which shoot a pistol cartridge are allowed (.22, 9mm, M1 Carbine, etc./no bottleneck cartridges). The fee is \$2 per relay. A Chapter .22 bolt action rifle is available for use, just bring .22 LR standard velocity ammo.

If you are interested or have any questions, contact Susan Cassell.

Another Jr Ike is on Target

On March 8th, 2025, Jr. Ike Jemma Gruber competed in the Maryland State Finals 3 Position Air Rifle in the Sporter Class. The competition consisted of 60 competitors (mostly Jr. Navy ROTC and Damascus IWLA), where only the top 8 are recognized with medals. Jemma did an outstanding job coming in 6th place and securing a medal for IWLAR.



In April, Civilian Marksmanship Program will have the results back from the rest of the states and the competitors going to Nationals at Camp Perry, OH will be announced. So we will look forward to more news next month!! Thank you Susan Cassell for all your hard work and time over the past 4 years to make Jemma one of the best in Maryland!

STB Update

The First IWLAR Stop the Bleed Class was held for 10 students on Sunday, Feb 23 at the Upper Chapter House. Two more classes are now open for enrollment on Saturday 4/26/2025 & Sunday 5/18/2025 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 May 19, 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.

Annual Kayak Class

Our annual introductory kayak class is scheduled, rain or shine, for June 7 from 9 AM to 3 PM at our Chapter House and lake. All kayak equipment will be provided. This class consists of a classroom portion followed by kayaking on our lake. It is for those who have never kayaked and those with limited experience. The session will cover safety, parts of a kayak, entry and exit, and more. Participation is for those age 8 through adult. For more information see the Water Sports tab under Recreation at our website - iwlar.org.

Kayak Class (continued)

To register, send an email to iwlarwatersports@gmail.com with the number of adults and number of children and their ages. Chapter members are needed that day to assist with transporting equipment to and from the lake and to assist participants while on the water. Volunteers please send an email to the same address with your name and the hours you are available to help.

Fabric Sale at the Chapter

Gigantic Fabric Sale
Hosted by Nimble Fingers Quilters

Sun. April 6, 2025 12-4PM
Izaak Walton League
18301 Waring Station Rd.
Germantown, MD 20874

- *Fabric \$8/lb. 1lb equals \$2/yd. OR Approx. 15 Fat ¼'s
- *1,000+ Fat ¼'s
- *Miles of Yardage & Many 2+ Yard Cuts
- *Notions & Patterns Galore
- *Huge Scrap Bin
- *Quilt Kits
- *Gorgeous Pre-Cuts
- *Many Designer Fabrics
- *Batiks
- *UFOs Just Waiting For You To Finish or Try Something New
- *Several Overflowing Raffle Baskets \$1/ticket or 6 for \$5

*Most Credit Cards Accepted
*Handicap Accessible *Bring a friend!

Nimble Fingers Quilt Guild is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Proceeds go toward speakers, instructors, and charitable work. For more information about the fabric sale or becoming part of a great guild, please visit our website at www.nimblefingers.org

New Members Recently Inducted

Emilio DeJesus Germantown
Kerr Huang Gaithersburg
George Ruff Gaithersburg
Kevin Tindoll Gaithersburg
A warm welcome to all!