



President's Message

Greetings from Green Bay! I am drafting this message while at IWLA National Convention in Green Bay, Wisconsin. I will keep this short.

First, a convention update, we heard several interesting and educational presentations on valuing conservation, natural resources (forests, grasslands and wetlands) to combat climate change, and how student scholarships can change the lives and careers of young people. The resolution for IWLA to promote national standards for data centers requiring more local input was passed. (Thanks to all the Rockville members who participated in the poll used to guide how our votes were cast.) And finally, the Chapter was the recipient IWLA's Robert C. O'Hair Memorial Award for Outstanding Youth Programs. This is quite the honor and I was happy to accept it on behalf of the Rockville Chapter.



Second, a reminder that the summer is a great time to get in your volunteer hours. As announced, the fee for not completing the needed volunteer hours is increasing in 2026. Whatever your level of activity we can find a productive way to use your talent, and you can earn your six hours of volunteer time. Some upcoming opportunities like working the booth at the Montgomery County Fair or assisting with our Open House can get you the hours needed. There are always invasives to work on and road clean ups every other month. In addition, we need members to assist Boy Scouts with Eagle projects. We have several scouts requesting an opportunity to complete their eagle projects at our facility, and we are struggling to find members to guide their efforts. This is not a heavy physical lift, but it is an important opportunity for the scouts to demonstrate their initiative and complete a project.

President's Message (continued)

Third, in addition to the Robert C. O'Hair Memorial Award for Outstanding Youth Programs, which is a Chapter award, we had several individuals receive National Awards. These awards will be presented at the September General Membership Meeting. These Awards did not happen by magic. It took a dedicated group headed by Lisa Sutter to prepare the award nominations and a dedicated group of volunteers doing outstanding work for them to have something to write about. Thanks to those that did the work and those that did the work writing it up!

Finally, our August General Membership Meeting on Friday, August 1st, we will have several of our scholarship recipients at the meeting to talk about their future plans. Come and cheer them on!

Tight Lines
Noel Gollehon

Nominations for 2025-26

The Nominating committee is putting forth the following slate of candidates for the elections to be held at the August GM meeting. Nominations for all positions can also be made from the floor. The installation of all the newly elected board members will take place at the September GM meeting.

President: Noel Gollehon
First Vice-President: Tom Vegella
Second Vice-President: Duval Crist
Recording Secretary: Cindy Stevens
Corresponding Secretary: Kent Shaw
Treasurer: Michael Snider
Membership Secretary: Susan Cassell
Director: Nick Heras
Director: John Robertson
Director: David Whiteis
Director: Tim O'Brien

Many thanks Noel Gollehon (who is a member of all committees), Susan Cassell, Terry Dowdy, and Jim Seach.

Volunteers needed to staff the League's booth at the Montgomery County Fair, August 8-16. Contact Bill Leaman for questions or to volunteer.

Firearms Training Returns!

All Fellow Izaak Walton League of America Rockville Chapter (IWLAR) Members,

We are pleased to announce that after being directed and receiving approval by our Board of Directors (BOD), IWLAR will begin again offering firearms training classes. We are giving IWLAR members the first opportunity to register for these initial four classes, but after three weeks, will open them up to the general public. Here are the details for your information and action, if interested:

What: NRA Basic Pistol Shooting (Plus Maryland Handgun Qualification License or HQL, if needed).

When: **September 20, 2025** (6 seats); November 8, 2025 (8 seats); both from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Where: IWLAR Lower Chapter House and Pistol Range.

Price: \$240 (includes student materials, firearm use, ammunition, lunch). IWLAR members will receive a \$50.00 discount.

Contact: Stan Peter, NRA Training Counselor, to register or for further information.

What: Maryland Wear and Carry Permit (Renewal Only).

When: **October 18, 2025** (8 seats); December 13, 2025 (8 seats); both from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Where: IWLAR Lower Chapter House and Pistol Range.

Price: \$240 (including student materials, lunch; students must provide their own firearms and ammunition). IWLAR members will receive a \$50.00 discount.

Contact: Yien Tsai, NRA Training Counselor, to register and for further information.

Also, if anyone is interested in assisting us with these classes outside of the official instructing, let us know. (We will address the process of adding new qualified instructors at a later time in the near future as details are coordinated with and approved by our BOD). You will receive hour(s) credit towards your annual work requirement. Specifically, we will need individuals to help with:

1) Setup/cleanup, food, equipment-supplies movement and other administrative tasks.

2) Sanctioned Event Range Officers (SROs) for range safety supervision (must be qualified DROs).

If interested, contact the respective Training Counselor (Yien or Stan) for the class or classes that you would like to volunteer for to help.

This will cover the initial startup of classes for the 2025 calendar year. We will be offering these and other additional classes next year 2026 and will publish a full schedule in the coming months upon their approval by our BODs, so keep your eyes looking for future messages and announcements regarding this topic.

Very Respectfully,
Yien Tsai, Stan Peter

Fellow IWLAR Members and NRA Training Counselors

Stop the Bleed

A new "Stop the Bleed class is now open for enrollment. This class is being held Saturday August 23 2025 @ 12:00 PM at the IWLAR Chapter House Upper Level. The price for the class is \$20 per person which has to 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>.

1) You will first have to set up a profile which will then give you access both to the registration. 2) The sign-up link is on the left side of the site. 3) After you have created a profile choose Find a class. 4) Make sure the ending date is August 23, 2025. 5) Use the Zipcode 20874. 6) Click on the information about the Chapter Class. 7) Before you click on Enroll you will need to enter the Access code: IWLARSTB197564. 8) Then click on ENROLL. 9) 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

New Fence

The new fence at the orchard is up, and the vines are close to being under control! Great teamwork between our orchard, grounds and beekeeping groups.



Ron Kuipers scavenged the gate from another TACF orchard. Chris Holler (not shown) used his expertise with the tractor and got the posts in. Ron Kuipers, Norma Kawecki and Fred Snead met up and got the job finished. Norma is topnotch with a hammer.

Jr. Air Rifle and Jr. BB Gun registration

The Jr. Air Rifle and Jr. BB Gun classes will begin at the end of September, but registration for Chapter members will begin on Aug. 18th. Returning students have first priority. Registration for Chapter members if from 8/18/25 – 9/8/25. After that, registration will be open to the public. Both classes are limited to 8 students.

The Jr. BB gun class meets most Tuesday evenings from 7 – 9 pm and continues until May. The fee is \$45 for members and \$50 for non-members.

The Jr. Air Rifle class meets on Saturday mornings from 9 – 11 am and continues until May. The fee for members is \$50 and for non-members is \$55.

For both classes, the Chapter provides all the equipment. Students need only bring eye protection (ear protection optional).

I am also looking for help with running practices and coaching. It's a great way to earn volunteer hours. To help or register contact Susan Cassell.

Scholarship winners

The following individuals have been awarded the 2025 Thomas W. Fisher Conservation Scholarship. The checks will be presented during the August GMM to those who are able to attend in person.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Current or future college</u>
Nathaniel Chen	UMCP
Brendan Lewis	Susquehanna University
Andrew Wells	UMCP
Stella Ward	Towson
Kurt Wilson	University of Toronto
Liliana Katz-Hollander	Smith College

Watersports detour

Our July 12 kayaking excursion on the Monocacy River featured a stop at Links Bridge Vineyards winery midway through the trip.



L to R: Fred Sneed, Jen Siegmann, John Majane, Lisa Sutter, Kent Shaw, Shankar Dhanaraj, April Marone, Jeri Crist and Peter Sutter. Todd Anderson snapped the photo.

The group is happy to report that the food and wine were great, and no one was charged with KUI (Kayaking Under the Influence)!

New Members Recently Inducted

Andrew & Teresita Clay	Silver Spring
Jon Dubrick	Gaithersburg
Joe Heisey	Gaithersburg
Howard Tseng	Potomac
A warm welcome to all!	