



President's Message

I generally start my newsletter contribution with a rendition of all that is going on at the Rockville Chapter. This month I thought I would start with an appeal. We need YOU to come out and participate in the Chapter's activities. We are totally a volunteer organization and we need YOU! You can start by looking at the list of open leadership positions on the front page of the website. It is right there on the front page in big orange type. You will not have to do it alone as others will help you get started in one of these critical roles. We have ongoing maintenance issues with the grounds that can use your and your kids' weed pulling ability. We have a need for volunteers to assist with the 3D archery check-in. And consider signing up for the September 26 National Hunting and Fishing Day open house when there is a request for volunteers. This is just a sample of the opportunities available to support the chapter and earn you volunteer hours toward your 6-hour minimum.

Another way the Chapter needs YOU is your presence, either in-person or via Zoom at the next Chapter meeting on August 7. It is election night and we need a quorum of members to decide on the next list of candidates for elected Chapter leaders. All officers—from President down plus 4 new directors will be nominated, but your vote is needed to elect them. Please attend either in person or on Zoom. Watch the Google group for a meeting notice a day or two before August 7.

If you attend the Montgomery County fair August 14-22, stop by the Izaak Walton booth and say hello to whomever is working that shift. Rockville coordinates with other Izaak Walton Chapters in the County to staff the booth from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. with members to answer questions from the public about the Izaak Walton Chapters and programs in our area. (You get a lot of people wandering by with the question of who/what is Izaak Walton!)

Our August General Membership Meeting is Friday, August 7.

Get out and enjoy IWLA-R!

Tight Lines
Noel Gollehon

Reminder: The Montgomery County Fair will be held August 14-22. If interested in helping staff the IWLA booth, contact Bill Leaman

No Speaker for the August GMM

2026 IWLA National Convention in Bloomington, Minnesota

I just returned from the National Convention. The Minnesota Division were wonderful hosts, with an inspiring message of "Get It Done". Below are some highlights from the convention.

- The Green Crew grew out of the Minnesota Valley Chapter. It is a group of young people who are getting involved in conservation. It is good to see youth inspired to make a difference in conservation.
- The National Endowment has started a Steve Labs Endowment for Youth Fishing, providing funds for Chapters to provide opportunities for youth to fish. His wife, and former National President, Jodi Labs provided an initial donation of \$5,000 to the endowment.
- National President Scott Meyer is convening a Data Center committee. If you are an expert in data centers (not expert opinions on data centers), contact national.
- The Nitrate Watch program has become very popular. The demand for kits is often greater than the availability. They appreciate directed donations to purchase more kits.
- Our Chapter was well represented at the Awards luncheon. Our National Awards will be presented at the September GM meeting.
- Both resolutions passed, which followed our Chapter results from the poll.

Also, one of the attractions at the convention was the Kouba Gallery National Art Show Exhibition. Our own Chapter member Derrick Tabor was one of the artists whose work was on display. It was an amazing picture of Butterfly Eyes!



Chapter Elections – Changing of the Guard

Elections for the next term will be held at the August GMM.

Nominees for the next term by position*

<u>Position</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
President	OPEN
1st Vice President	Tom Vegella
2nd Vice President	Duval Crist
Treasurer	David Schwartzman
Membership Secretary	Susan Cassell
Recording Secretary	Terry Dowdy
Corresponding Secretary	Kent Shaw
Past President Director	Susan Cassell
Director	Michael Snider
Director	Andrew Shapero
Director	Stan Peter
Director	Cindy Stevens
Director	Nick Heras (2028)
Director	Tim O'Brien (2028)
Director	John Robertson (2028)
Director	David Whiteis (2028)
Director	Ricardo Rodrigues (2027)
Director	Katie Rodrigues (2027)
Director	Jim Seach (2027)
Director	Kevin Blanc (2027)

*Nominations can also be made from the floor of the Session.

Existing Officeholders

Position	Current 2025- 2026
President	Noel Gollehon
1st Vice President	Tom Vegella
2nd Vice President	Duval Crist
Treasurer	Michael Snider
Membership Secretary	Susan Cassell
Recording Secretary	Cindy Stevens
Corresponding Secretary	Kent Shaw
Past President Director	Susan Cassell
Director	Nick Heras (2028)
Director	Tim O'Brien (2028)
Director	John Robertson (2028)
Director	David Whiteis (2028)
Director	Ricardo Rodrigues (2027)
Director	Terry Dowdy (2027)
Director	Jim Seach (2027)
Director	Kevin Blanc (2027)
Director	Ken Kee (2026)
Director	Dan Reggia (2026)
Director	Ilene Altman (2026)
Director	Philip Mariscal (2026)

Chapter Elections (Continued)

Retiring Directors

Ilene Altman (2026)

Ken Kee (2026)

Phillip Mariscal (2026)

Dan Reggia (2026)

Directors moving to Officer Position

Terry Dowdy (2027)

Those elected will assume their new positions in September.

Junior Air Rifle and BB Gun Registration

Jr. Air Rifle and Jr. BB Gun registration for Chapter Members starts August 1st

The Jr. BB Gun and Jr. Air Rifle classes will begin at the end of September/beginning of Oct. Returning students have first priority. Registration for Chapter members starts on 8/01/26, registration for the public will start 09/01/26. Both classes are limited to 8 students.

The Jr. BB gun class meets most Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m. and continues until the end of March. The fee is \$45 for members and \$50 for non-members.

The Jr. Air Rifle class meets on Saturday mornings from 9 to 11 a.m. 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 to 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.

Antietam Creek Trip

Thirteen Ikes and guests kayaked down Antietam Creek on July 11. The trip covered almost 7 miles and took a little over three hours on a humid and somewhat warm day. The group enjoyed the challenge of a decent current and many rapids, though some paddlers got rather wet in the process!



Kent Shaw navigating rapids on Antietam Creek

The next watersports event will be on August 8.

September Picnic at the Lake

As September ushers in Hunting and Fishing Day, we want to take a moment to meet fellow members and celebrate the heart of our organization—**you**.

We are hosting an **Old-Fashioned Autumn Picnic**, and you are warmly invited! This is a wonderful, relaxed opportunity to unplug, enjoy the beauty of the season, and connect with fellow members and their families who share a passion for conserving and protecting our natural world.

Whether you're a long-time supporter or a brand-new member, we can't wait to swap stories, share some laughs, and enjoy the great outdoors together.

- **When:** Saturday, September 12
- **Time:** 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **Where:** At Our Lake
- **What to Bring:** A picnic blanket or lawn chair, your own side dish, and a dish or dessert to share!
- We will be firing up the grill and **supplying the hamburgers, hot dogs, and chips!**
- To round out our feast, we ask that you **bring your own side-dish, and drinks, plus a dish to share if you'd like.**

Picnic(continued)

We're keeping things classic, simple, and connected to nature. Join us for:

- A guided, light nature walk before we eat
- Classic lawn games (horseshoes, cornhole, and more)
- Thank you for everything you do to support our mission. We look forward to a beautiful September afternoon together under the trees!
- For more info you can contact Joyce

New Members Recently Inducted

Tom Garner	Gaithersburg
Phillip and Anna Penn	Germantown
Frank Trunk and Dee Hockensmith	Gaithersburg
Nick Vencill	Gaithersburg

A warm welcome to all!

Ike's Want Ads

To place a non-commercial ad, write to the Chapter's PO Box 2255, Germantown, MD, 20875, or contact Todd Anderson.