



President’s Message

WOW! I must admit my head is spinning as I try and get a handle on the duties of President of IWLA-R. It is a lot to take in. Especially, when the multitude of responsibilities were handled so effortlessly by my predecessor, Susan. (We all owe her a big Thank You!) Please be patient with me as I try to get my feet on the ground and try and figure out what to do next.

For those who do not know me, I come to IWLA-R by way of the lake. I am active in Trout Unlimited and for several years our local Trout Unlimited Chapter had Tom Vegella on its Board of Directors. Tom introduced me to the lake and IWLA-R. On the personal side, I grew up in eastern New Mexico hunting upland birds. A job brought me to Maryland where I have “kind of” retired as an economist with the Department of Agriculture, working on the water and agriculture interface. I am “kind of” retired because I started consulting in the same subject area and several firms and organizations have me on contract.

And now I have another job as President of IWLA-R, to go with the consulting, Trout Unlimited and more importantly fishing! (I am an avid fly fisher.) We are all volunteers, and the success of the Chapter depends on all of us. I will strive to do my part, but I will need help from you too. Please step up and contribute your time and talent to making the IWLA-Rockville Chapter its best.

Noel Gollehon

Thought for the month

We have many life experiences with various emotional reactions, but one thing I have found that time outdoors fishing, hiking, camping or just meditating didn’t make the problem go away but gave a fresh look for a solution.

So, get out and enjoy the Chapter’s offerings, feel better. Instead of going to the gym get exercise pulling weeds, working on the trail, anything to enjoy...

It’s Renewal Time!

Renewals were mailed on September 11. Your mailed dues and reported volunteer hours (or \$75 in lieu of those hours) must be postmarked by 12/31/2023 in order to avoid the late fee. If you didn't receive your renewal envelope or have any questions, contact Judy Danish.

NRCC Attendee to Speak

Eli Quattrocchi is a rising senior at Albert Einstein High School in Montgomery County, Maryland. Eli is tracking towards a career focused on environmental science and land management. With the build-up of climate change, pollution, and prior poor land use decisions in the past decades, “I feel it is my generation's responsibility to fix it.”



Eli has consistently been an Honor Role recipient and is a varsity member for both lacrosse and football at Albert Einstein High School.

Eli enjoys fishing, nature photography, and stream cleanups with the Friends of Sligo Creek. “Being in and taking hikes through nature is something very special to me. Nature photography is one of my favorite hobbies. The scenery and natural beauty you can capture is truly incredible and can be used to influence people to love, protect and wisely manage our natural resources.”

H&F Day 2023 canceled due to adverse weather 😞



A Meeting Like No Other

On September 8th the Rockville Chapter's Awards Committee held an Awards Dinner. It was attended by almost eighty people, mostly members. It gave the Chapter an opportunity to thank all of those volunteers who showed their commitment to Rockville by donating their time and efforts in making the Chapter one of the best in the nation in 2022.

The tables were decorated in Ike yellow and green with center pieces designed by Jeri Crist using the same color scheme and Leslie Gollehon provided the calligraphy for each of the Chapter awards presented. A high-quality buffet dinner line, prepared by Chef Eric, began at 7:30 PM. Then around 8 PM things got rolling with the installation of the new Chapter Officers and Directors, and the swearing in of new members. Then the fun began.

Outgoing President and Awards Committee member Susan Cassell was extremely entertaining in her awards presentations. It wasn't enough for her to just say something nice and shake your hand – she had purchased gag items to hand out to individuals and teams who received awards. Those items, her hugs, and her sincere and often hilarious delivery really made everyone's night. This was the first time in three years that Chapter Appreciation Awards were presented and Susan made the most of it.



Award recipient Bill Leaman and outgoing President Susan Cassell

Following the Appreciation awards, Maryland State Division and IWLA National Awards were announced for the Rockville Chapter as well as some National awards won by Rockville volunteers who did exceptional work in 2022. The Rockville Chapter's Tobin Award went to Ricardo and Katie Rodrigues for supporting the Chapter's efforts to hold membership meetings and board meetings on ZOOM through the COVID shutdown and continuing to the present. Members Phillip Mariscal and Joe Walther both received National Conservation Awards – Phillip for running Rockville's Save our Streams program and Joe for running the Wood Duck nesting box program that requires annual maintenance and refurbishment.

Some attendees felt that this was the best meeting they had ever attended. It is hard to argue otherwise.

~Jay Copsey~

Fly Fishing 101: Learn to Fly Fish

IWLA-R is partnering with Seneca Valley Trout Unlimited (SVTU) to sponsor a day-long Fly Fishing 101: Learn to Fly Fish course on October 21 at the IWLA-R lake. The course starts with the basics, but experienced fly fishers always learn something new. The course will cover a range of subjects including fly casting, fishing access, rigging and knots and stream fishing techniques. Registration is required. Watch the IWLA-R website in early October for a link to the registration form. The course is free, lunch is provided, and we have loaner equipment. What a deal!

Fish Kill on Beaver Creek

While a bit outside the Chapter boundaries, there was a serious fish kill in early August on Beaver Creek, a wild trout stream in Washington County outside Hagerstown. The cause has not been determined, but in the stream near I-70 the mortality rate was 100%. The impact declined as the material moved downstream with less than 50% mortality after a mile. While Beaver Creek is in Washington County, it is a significant blow to a popular wild trout fishery used by many at IWLA-R. For more information see <https://senecavalleytu.org/beaver-creek/>.

Air Pistol League starts Tuesday, October 3rd

The air pistol league will begin Tuesday, October 3rd. We will continue with the @Home and @Chapter options. Shoot at home and email/text me the targets each week or shoot at the Chapter. The upstairs of the clubhouse will be available for shooting each Tuesday from 3:30 - 7:00 pm. You can arrive any time between 3:30 - 6:30 pm. It takes about 30 - 40 min. to shoot and another 10 min. for scoring. It is a 30-shot slow fire match, with 10 optional sighters. All scoring and socializing will be on the lower level.

Please enter at the lower level. The league runs for 23 weeks. Come as often or little as you want. You must attend at least 8 matches to be eligible for an award. The cost for the season is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. New shooters are welcome to come to any match to try it out. We have Chapter air pistols for use and .177 wadcutter pellets. This is a handicap league based on how well you shoot against your average, so come on out and try it! Please bring eye protection. Any questions call Susan Cassell.

Jr. Youth Shooting Sports

The Jr. Youth Shooting sports will get into full swing in October. The Jr. Air Rifle class is full, but there are still openings for the Jr. BB Gun class. Jr. BB Gun meets Tuesday evenings from 7 – 9 pm on the upper level of the Chapter house. It is for ages 8 – 15. If you are interested contact Susan Cassell .

Outdoor Pistol League concludes

The Outdoor Pistol League concluded the 2023 season with an awards dinner at the Lake. A fun time was had by all, especially the Rimfire and Centerfire Champion teams.

Rimfire Champions Bolts are Theresa Han, Ken Choi, Taylor Wardrick, Frank Markus, Ethan Snider, Marion Wardrick (not pictured – Rich Clement and Jim McGonigle).



Centerfire Champions Challengers are Jerry Holmes, John Majane III, John Majane Jr., Ethan Snider (not pictured – Susan Cassell, Arnie Nygaard, and David Lockman)



The Torch is Passed



New officers sworn in at the September GMM

New Members Recently Inducted

Steve Alexander	Bethesda
Nico Gomez & Pula Hurtado	Gaithersburg
Tom & Katrina Hebert	Washington, DC
Preston Hogeboom & Masha Garkavi	Clarksburg
Billy Paton	Bethesda
Rocky Rakshit	Germantown
Chris Wright	Silver Spring

A warm welcome to all!

Ike's Want Ads

For Sale: 9 boxes of Remington 357 ammo, 50 rounds each. I will sell the boxes for \$35 each. The boxes sell for \$58 at a store. For info, contact Robert Blanken at bbcppcr@gmail.com or call 240-418-8320.

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