



**President’s Message**

October brings fall and a new set of opportunities for IWLAR members. Indoor shooting is starting, the hiking is cooler, and trout will soon be stocked in the Lake. Get out and enjoy!

Construction on the project to reduce the sediment inflow to the lake has hit full bore. The lake will be closed to members for a week or two in October during the work week. The crews work Monday through Thursday, so even if you see a notice that the lake is closed you can still access it on the weekends. Check the website for updates.

By the time you read this, the 2024 Hunting and Fishing Day may be past us. If so, I hope you participated and had a great time. It is our largest event, and it has a lasting impression. We have many new members that mention attending a Hunting and Fishing Day as their first introduction to IWLAR. What I find interesting is that sometimes their attendance was years ago. We really know how to make an impression that lasts.

Tight Lines  
Noel Gollehon

**Forest Stewardship News**

The Chapter has contracted with our State Forester, Chris Barger, to prepare our new Forest Stewardship Plan. This will be the Chapter's 3rd plan, each of which is good for 15 years. Our guiding question for managing our forest is based on a 1990 quote of a former Chapter member, Edward J. Lopez to Mac (Malcom) King.

How can we balance use of our Chapter grounds with management of our forest so that in 75-100 years people visiting the Rockville Chapter will see a healthy and diverse forest with many forms of wildlife living here? The management areas will take into consideration our soil, woods, water and wildlife, as well as how we use the different areas of our property. Please contact Cindy Stevens if you want to be part of the Forest Stewardship team.

**Awards Ceremony Recap**

The Rockville Chapter Leadership knows how important it is to acknowledge the volunteer work performed by members. For that reason, a committee was established last year to try to ensure that members are recognized for their important contributions as volunteers.

This year’s Awards Night was held on September 6 and was a good night for all that attended. While some important awards were not presented due to absences, Chapter Awards, State Division Awards and National Awards were presented to many of our members in attendance.

It was an all-around gratifying and entertaining night with some fantastic desserts served afterwards. Maybe we will see you there next year.



*Chapter Social Director Joyce Buttery happily displays her Award Certificate*

**Summer Archery 2025**

Stay tuned in the coming months for more information about the 2025 Summer Archery program. If someone is interested in helping me coordinate the program, the Chapter may be able to help you get your level 1 archery certification. A big thanks to all the instructors that helped in 2024. I hope that you will consider helping in 2025, too. Last, an enormous thanks to Martha Patterson for her dedication to the program, and for being willing to help bring me up to speed.

~Kevin Blanc~

It’s Renewal Time! Renewals were mailed on September 16. Your mailed dues and reported volunteer hours (or \$75 in lieu of those hours) must be postmarked by 12/31/2024 in order to avoid the late fee. If you didn't receive your renewal envelope or have any questions, contact Judy Danish

### Air Pistol League starts Tuesday, October 1st

Air Pistol is a great way to keep up your shooting skills during the winter without having to freeze down at the pistol range. The air pistol league will begin Tuesday, October 1st. 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.

### Outdoor Pistol League concludes

The Outdoor Pistol League concluded the 2024 season with an awards dinner. A fun time was had by all, especially the Rimfire and Centerfire Champion teams. Rimfire Champions from team Trout were Chris Wright, John Majane III, Isaac Booth, Ken Choi, Taylor Wardrick, Andrew Cooke, Richard Southwell and Michael Wright.



The Centerfire Champions from team Darters were Jeff Nygaard, Jim Deigan, Steve Brady, Ken Choi, John Majane Jr., Jim Seach, Susan Cassell, Michael Snider and Jerry Holmes.



### Bee Report

We have 8 Beekeepers and 9 live colonies of honey bees. The two established hives that made it through last winter are very strong and ready to go into the winter. Six colonies were newly established this spring, however with some TLC from their keepers, may survive the coming winter. All hives will be left with sufficient honey so they can feed themselves, and will be provided pure sugar fondant as a supplemental food. Norma Kawecki reports that our hives are treated 2-3 times a year to protect them from mites.

Honey sales help support the expenses the Chapter incurs for the apiary. This year, in addition to being available at Chapter meetings, the Chapter honey will be available for sale at National Hunting and Fishing Day. The Montgomery County Beekeepers Association will be sharing the table, and there may be an observation hive with live bees so people can see working bees up close and find the queen.

### Natural Resources Career Camp

Applications for NRCC 2025 are being accepted now! Experience an unforgettable journey into the world of natural resources with the Natural Resources Careers Camp! This week-long adventure, nestled in the scenic mountains of Garrett County, Maryland, is designed for high school students seeking to explore exciting career paths and college opportunities in the realm of natural resources. The Chapter sponsors one campership each year.

<https://www.marylandforestryfoundation.org/programs/students-educators/nrcc/>

### MoCo Fair Wrap Up

Thanks to all who helped and supported the IWLA Tent at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair. We were awarded two ribbons (one is displayed below). The next Fair is the 8th thru the 16th of August 2025. The Chapter awarded 7 x \$50 youth 4-H awards at the Montgomery County Fair this year. Mike Parker reported that this year's winners are:

Citizenship to Sophia Shen, Ren Huffman, Hannah Williams, Brent Korzeniewski, Nature Collection to Minutia Madala, Nature Poster to Hannah Williams, and Hunter safety to John McKeon.



*One of the ribbons the Chapter was awarded for this year's Fair. Kudos to Bill Leaman and the volunteers who served at the event.*

### **Volunteers needed**

We have an abundance of youth asking for Eagle projects! Each scout needs to be guided by a Chapter Representative as they develop their project plan, present it to the Board of Directors for approval, then implement it. The goal of an Eagle project is to develop the leadership skills of the scout; the product of the project is a bonus. It does help if the Chapter Rep has some knowledge related to the scout's project. Please contact Cindy Stevens and Kevin Kasprzak if you will consider being a Chapter Representative for any of the following 3 youth, or any future youth. Guidance and detailed directions are available. Many thanks to Keith Angerman, Tom Vegella and Scott Day.

1. We have a 16 year old, with strong family connections to the Chapter, who is interested in doing a construction project of some sort.
2. We have a scout from Troop 3 (they put in the Woodland Trail and its elements over several projects). He would like to do a "kiosk and bird boxes" but is probably open to other ideas. We had the idea a while back to put in an info kiosk near the archery range for maps, conservation news/fact sheets, youth stuff, etc. In addition to a Chapter Representative, we would also need someone committed to maintaining the postings in the kiosk.

For more info contact Cindy or Kevin.

### **2025 Calendar Requests are OPEN**

Updating the calendar is an ongoing task, but if you have activities that you want to get on the Chapter calendar for 2025, please send them to Susan Cassell or use the Calendar Request button on the website for just a few or single dates.

### **The Chapter Bylaws review is underway.**

The Bylaws Committee of Cindy Stevens, Jim Seach and Derrick Tabor are in the process of reviewing the Chapter's Bylaws. The current version is from 2019 and can be found on the Chapter website. The committee has identified a few items that simple changes will clarify or provide consistency. The plan is to present the committee's recommended amendments to the Board of Directors in October prior to sharing them with the General Membership at the November General Membership meeting. All proposed amendments will be posted in the Chapter House for a minimum of 30 days. Voting on amendments will take place at the meeting following the presentation of the recommended amendments to the General Membership.

### **September BOD Summary**

The Board of Directors of IWLAR met on September 20, 2024 and approved:

1. Approved a request to petition the membership to increase the Grounds Maintenance budget by \$2,000 to pay for mower repairs. (Because the amount is over \$1,000 it must be approved by the general membership.)
2. Made a policy decision to continue offering self-defense firearms training classes as an element of range activities. Individual courses must be approved by the Board of Directors. The list of approved courses will be announced after instructors are determined.

### **New Members Recently Inducted**

Nate Kenney Silver Spring  
Hugo Santosparada Olney  
A warm welcome to all!