

President's Message

I hope you have had the opportunity to come out to some of the IWLA-R sponsored events this fall. We are moving into November and the days are getting shorter and cooler, so if you have not been out to shoot, fish, hike or just enjoy the leaves, now is the time.

In the past month we have had several events. We held a Fly Fishing 101: Learn About Fly Fishing course with our fly-fishing partner, Seneca Valley Trout Unlimited. We had a game night that was an outstanding social event and a chance to meet your fellow IKES. Did you join in the fun? You get out what you put in, so if you want more from the Rockville Chapter you must give more.

I would also like to take this time to recognize the volunteers who have been working on projects at the Chapter both on the grounds and the Chapter house. Work was done on the suspension bridge; a big mess was cleaned up from a water leak in the lower Chapter house, and on the administrative side thanks to the Finance Committee for their work on the budget. We rely on our members to step up when they can and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been assisting in keeping the Chapter running.

Noel Gollehon

Short Shots

-Congratulations to Chapter members listed on page 41 in 2023 Issue 3 of the League's magazine *Outdoor America!* Our Chapter is mentioned more than once in the awards section. Thanks to Pat Sands for passing this information along.

-Cub Scout Pack 464 is eager for its members to perform tasks for the Chapter. For those who have ideas, the contact for Pack 464 is Daniel DeLacy.

-Thanks to Chapter members who rushed to the Chapter House to clean up flooding downstairs due to a leak in the utility room on October 9.

Trout Stocking in November

Stocking of trout is scheduled November 3, between 8 and 8:30 am. A mixture of 300 rainbows and brook trout will be inserted into the lake. No fishing in the lake will be permitted for one day after stocking. Only members can fish for the first week after stocking. After November 8 guests are allowed.

H&F Day Post-Mortem

As was noted in the October newsletter, the Chapter's annual Hunting and Fishing Day event that had been scheduled for September 23 was cancelled due to adverse weather. It was a difficult decision as H&F Day is one of the Chapter's most important events of the year.

The Chapter owes a debt of gratitude to Catie Wright, who joined less than a year ago and quickly stepped up to take on the really time consuming task of arranging volunteers for the event. Catie also singled out others who helped along the way.

"There were about 50 members that signed up to volunteer, plus many others who let me know they would be there to help. I would like to thank the Board for their swift decision making as well as everyone who gave input on whether to cancel or not. Joyce Buttrey, George Stimak, and John Shea took time to meet with me at the Chapter House pre-event. Carla Morris spent many hours showing me the ropes. Bill Leaman handed out flyers at the Fair (our main outreach and advertising for the event). April Marrone and Scott Kovarovics were prepared to step up and lead since I was going to be out of town for the actual event. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to lead teams and all the members that coordinated exhibits."

Hopefully, we will have better luck with the weather next year!

Youth Conservation Hike and Campfire

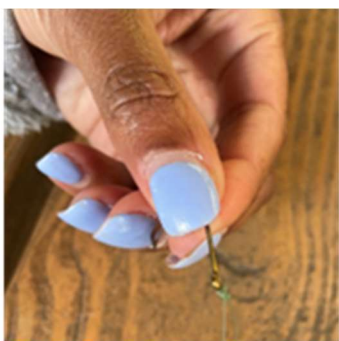
Mark your calendar - Sunday, November 5 from 1-4pm the Chapter's Jr. Youth Conservation group will be hosting our annual Autumn Hike and Campfire. Meet and hold a hissing cockroach or come face to face with a brown widow spider! We will be turning over logs and rocks and learn about what is hiding underneath. We will be looking for animal tracks and birds and nests in the trees. Sound interesting? Watch the Google Group for the sign up or contact Jeri Crist to get registered.

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.

Fly Fishing 101: Learn to Fly Fish

IWLA-R partnered with Seneca Valley Trout Unlimited to host a “Fly Fishing 101: Learn about fly fish” class, on Saturday, October 21, 2023. In the class 21 students were exposed to all segments of fly fishing with an Introduction and Overview of fly fishing in the morning. That was followed by a BBQ sandwich lunch with all the sides and pumpkin pie for dessert. Then the students broke into two groups to acquire hands on experience with three critical elements of fly fishing; 1) how to cast a fly rod, 2) how to rig a fly rod, and 3) how to tie the correct knot depending on the need. Finally, students moved over to Great Seneca Creek for a demonstration of stream fishing, casting and line management in moving water with three different types of fly fishing techniques. Nymph fishing where the goal is to “dead drift” a fly under water. Dry fly fishing where the floating fly imitates an insect on the water. And, streamer fishing where the fly imitates a small bait fish. It was a great day at the lake. The students all learned a great deal. Lunch was excellent. And a good time was had by all!



Practicing a clinch knot used to attach the hook to the tippet.



IWLA member Ricardo gets some help with equipment from fellow IWLAR member and casting instructor David Cleaves



Students are getting one-on-one instruction in the art of casting a fly rod.



Instructor Doug Hutzell demonstrated stream fishing techniques.

Congrats Phillip

Phillip Mariscal has been named to the MD DNR’s Black Bass Advisory Committee and to a 3 year term on the County’s Water Quality Advisory Group. Phillip will be representing our Rockville Chapter as he acts as a liaison between the Chapter, MD Division, and League and the state and the county.

IWLA Turkey Shoot

The Chapter’s 2023 Turkey Shoot is Sunday November 19 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at the shot gun range!

Cook hot dogs, roast marshmallows, sip hot chocolate or just enjoy the fire and friends while competing for prizes.

- \$1 per shot for a chance to win a \$10 cash prize. (5 prizes total, 1 for each of the 5 best targets)
- \$5 per shot for a chance to win a \$50 grand prize.
- \$5 per shot for a chance to win a premium Turkey.

Ammunition will be provided for all participants, 12- and 20-gauge shotguns will be available or bring your own 12- or 20-gauge shotgun. The grand prize winner will be announced at 3:30 PM. The lucky winner must be present to claim the \$50.00. Members and their guests are all welcome!

Leopold Benches

Girl Scout Troop 3577, under the leadership of Penny Dingels, has built 2 Leopold benches for us on the Chapter grounds. Look for these to show up at the archery range.



There will be a family build event on Sunday, November 19, starting at 1pm to build more Leopold benches. You can see completed examples at the firepit near the lake pavilion. The benches will be put to use near the archery range and along the trails. RSVP to Cindy Stevens. Many thanks to JJ Johnson, Jim McGonigle and Tom Meyer who volunteered to prep the lumber for the build day.

Forest Stewardship Plan

Learn about our forest on Monday Dec 4 and help set the goals for our next Forest Stewardship Plan, starting at 7:30 pm. The deadline to submit our next plan is in October 2024. RSVP to Cindy Stevens and/or Mike Miller.

Heads Up

The Greenway Trail now allows bicyclists. Be extra cautious when approaching where the Greenway Trail crosses the lake access road near the gate to the lake.

The soil in our area tends to erode easily, but the cyclist groups are good trail engineers. Let Cindy Stevens know if you'll like to earn volunteer hours by taking a series of photos of the trail for later comparisons so we can monitor any changes in the condition of the Greenway Trail, especially between Clopper Rd and the train tracks.

New Members Recently Inducted

Chris Ferrenz	Boys
Paul Holley	Leesburg, VA
Chris Pinachos	Germantown
Jenn Siegmann	Gaithersburg
Eric Sygnatur & Blandine Liguidi	Hyattsville

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. Ads must be submitted by the third Friday of the month.