



Winchester IWLA Newsletter

Woods, water, wildlife - our heritage, our responsibility.



www.winchester-iwla.org

September 2023

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

MEMBERSHIP MEETING SPEAKER

A Virginia Department of Wildlife Management Game Officer will be our guest speaker at the next Membership Meeting. Please see [Board Reports](#) for more.

HUNTER EDUCATION

Mark your calendars for October 24 and 25, 2023. See [Lake and Conservation Report](#) for details.

RANGE REMINDER

Please read this month's [From the Editor](#) for an important reminder about range safety and common sense.

COMMITTEE SIGNUPS!

There are a number of committees that need help. Please see details under [Board Reports](#).

FAMILY FUN DAY

Fun was had by all! Read more in [Lake and Conservation Report](#).

WINCHESTER, VA





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FROM THE EDITOR



Someone maliciously damaged the metal targets at the rifle/pistol range on the last weekend in July. We don't know who, but it is clear that the damage was not accidental. Well-placed, large caliber rounds significantly damaged the angle iron support structure, the big rectangular plate was peppered with 1/2" diameter craters, and the 10" gong was completely shot off its hangers. While it is true that there is nothing in the range rule book about metal targets, signage at the range states that only rimfire or pistol caliber cartridges are allowed for use on the metal targets.

One of the biggest benefits of your Chapter is unfettered access to the rifle/pistol range. As range-qualified member, you are free to shoot allowable firearms and calibers whenever you want while the range is open. If you need a refresher, refer to Page 5 of the Rifle Pistol Range Rules under the heading **FIREARMS/AMMUNITION**. There need not be an RSO present to open the range. With that freedom, like any other freedom, comes the responsibility to use common sense. Abusing this liberty may mean the necessary restriction of access to the range by requiring the presence of an RSO, at a minimum.

If you are going to shoot at the rifle/pistol range, use your common sense. Don't blast the targets and support structures because it you think it is funny or macho. Don't rapid fire your semiauto rifle because it makes you 'look cool.' It doesn't. Don't ruin it for everyone. Thank you.

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BOARD REPORTS

The Board and Membership Meetings were both canceled in August.

September Member Meeting Speaker

A Virginia Department of Wildlife Management Game Officer will be our speaker in September and the meal will be pulled pork. The Member Meeting will be held on Thursday September 21 at 7:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.

Reminders!

The Chapter needs volunteers. We have many openings on the following committees:

- Range Safety (NRA RSOs)
- Lake and Conservation
- Facilities
- Archery (including committee chair)

Please send an e-mail to brian.callahan@winchester-iwla.org to be added to a committee.

LAKE AND CONSERVATION REPORT

Lake Neff

First, WE NEED RAIN!!! The Chapter has been hosting many fishing nights for area youth groups. Four Cub Scout Packs, a local youth fishing club and the Young Marines had fishing events on Lake Neff this past month. The kids learned about fishing and had a great time meeting at Lake Neff including catching lots of bass and panfish. The Chapter is open for any local area youth group that would like to hold a fishing event and we have loaner equipment available.

This Just In!

At 8:30 a.m., Labor Day morning, member **Gary Tilley** pulled this nice, 6.35lb big mouth out of Lake Neff. **Gary**



released the bass unharmed for the next fisherman to enjoy. **Gary** reported that he used a purple Shakyhead. Well done, **Gary!** That's how you celebrate Labor Day!

Hunter Education

The Chapter will be hosting a Hunter's Education Class on Tuesday October 24 and Wednesday October 25 at the Chapter House. Registration and additional information (including costs) for the class can be accessed at the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resource webpage at <https://register-ed.com/events/view/202602>. **Lloyd Winters** will teach the class.

Family Fun Day

Family Fun Day was attended by over 70 members and their families. A great time was had by all and big thanks to **Harold Whitacre's** Special Events Committee with **Peg Sattler** and the Women's Auxiliary. **Sandy Beny** and **Fran Norris** ran the kids games, **Brenda Schilinsky** and **Sue Arico**



managed the food, **Jeff McCall** and **Kelley Callahan** ran the fishing event and **Paul Sattler** made his famous homemade Hawaiian punch. **Toby Norris** came dressed to impress as the Hawaiian Punch mascot Oaf. Very special thanks to Board Member **Howard Beny** for smoking the pulled pork for the event. Members that attended shared amazing salads and desserts. The event also featured kid designed hiking staffs, egg toss, donut eating contest and a scavenger hunt.





Several members led a training session with the kids on how to properly wrap a hiking stick.

The heat kept a lot of the activity down, but some risked heat stroke and wet their lines in Lake Neff. One of our new members is getting pointers on the proper fishing technique from his son, and the young girl on the right shows us that fishing isn't just for the boys.



RANGE REPORT

Dr Green Memorial Shotgun Range

Just a reminder that 12- and 20-gauge shells are available for purchase at the five stand. Your friendly RSOs are happy to help new shooters, young and old, male or female.

Precision Rifle & Bullseye Pistol

While our competition series in August has been impacted by poor weather and summer vacations, we're continuing to put lots of lead down range and enjoy a lot of fun and camaraderie on Monday evenings...won't you join us? For the season through the end of August, our average Precision Rifle score is 369 out of 400 and our average Bullseye Pistol score is 464 out of 600.

Top 3 Shooters	
Precision Rifle (400 Perfect Score)	Bullseye Pistol (600 Perfect Score)
Jason Adcock (392)	Phil Geiger (567)
Roberk Kilby (376)	John Lewandoski (533)
Chad Morris (356)	Dennis Adams (495)

It's never too late to come out and join us...we don't do "season total scores" or anything like that – this group meets weekly and has a lot of fun shooting against each other each week, and that's really all there is to it. We improve our shooting technique, we observe and practice safe firearm handling and firing range protocol, and we have fun!

Please reference the May 2023 newsletter for a full run-down of the courses of fire for each discipline and contact **Jason** at jason.adcock@outlook.com if you'd like more information or if you'd like to be added to the email distribution list. See you on the firing line at 6pm on the first four Mondays of each month!

Jason Adcock

Armed Women of America



Mission

Armed Women of America exists to enable women to be their own self-protectors, creating freedom, peace of mind, and confidence in themselves.

Vision

For women to have the mindset, skills, and training to defend themselves and those in their care.

In our happenings, we recently held a class on firearm malfunctions. We learned how to identify malfunctions, their causes, and how to fix them. During our dry fire practice, we learned how to stage malfunction in our guns so we could then practice fixing them – all done with snap caps!

We had a wonderful time on the range on August 22nd. Members worked on their NRA Marksmanship Qualifications Program in Basic Pistol, each working at their own pace. The first qualification is Pro-Marksman; this is conducted at bench rest to learn and practice fundamentals and aid in becoming an accurate shot. From there, our members progress to the Marksman qualification. Each qualification is challenging, but attainable. We learn to shoot two-handed



strong side, two-handed weak side, as well as one-handed both strong and weak side.

We meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month for classroom work at the WIWL Chapter House, and the 4th Tuesday of the month at the WIWL Pistol Range. We are grateful to have WIWL as our host! For more information, please contact Vicki or Christina at AWA.ShenandoahValleyVA@gmail.com.

OTHER NEWS

Raffles

Your Chapter continues to raffle off fun, outdoor equipment, such as rifles, shotguns, handguns, and compound bows, among other items. The next raffle starts soon. Go to the Chapter website under [Chapter House > Raffle](#) (<https://www.winchester-iwla.org/Raffles>) to buy a raffle ticket... or many tickets. Your chances of winning get better the more you buy. Each ticket is only \$20 and all proceeds benefit your Chapter.

Visit the website to see the current raffle. Drawings are held at the following month's Membership Meeting. Winners need not be present.

Friends of the Winchester Izaak Walton Chapter

Several businesses help support your Chapter through services and gifts. This list will continue to grow, and I encourage you to support them in kind as you can.

Winchester Aquarium and Pet Center

The fine folk at the Winchester Pet and Aquarium Center are responsible for testing the water sampled from Lake Neff.

They provide this service freely, willingly, and cheerfully.

If you have a pet, or are interested in

one, please consider doing your business with them. They give to your Chapter; we should give back at least a little. They are located at 190 Costello Drive, just down from Costco.



A.P.C.
WINCHESTER
"Your Pet Professionals"

190 Costello Drive Winchester, VA 22602 Phone: 540-667-8198 wapcinfo@comcast.net	Mon—Fri 10am to 8pm Saturday 10am to 7pm Sunday 11am to 5pm www.petcenteronline.com
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Muley Fanatics Foundation

The Muley Fanatic Foundation supports Mule Deer habitat projects for this declining iconic animal as well as provides youth hunts for kids with life threatening illnesses across the country.



The Blue Ridge Chapter was founded by two Winchester IWLA members and is the only chapter on the East Coast. This foundation also supports keeping youth involved in the outdoors by donating a percentage of their annual banquet dinner to local youth programs.

Jake's Bait & Tackle



If you, like me, enjoy the convenience of having bait ready to go at the Chapter House rather than jumping back in your car because you forgot worms again, be sure to thank

Jake's Bait and Tackle. Jake's continues to supply the bait concession in the Chapter house with fresh red, wax, and earth worms. Be sure to support a business that supports your Chapter by getting your worms at the chapter house rather than the gas station. Also, drop in and say 'Hi' next time you're in their neighborhood and treat yourself to some new gear! You can find them at 234 Ezra Lane in Winchester.

Staples



I, your humble editor, have used Staples ever since taking over as editor.

Your Chapter doesn't mail out many newsletters, but the few that we do are all printed by Staples, located at 2045 S. Pleasant Valley Center in Winchester. Their staff are always helpful and courteous and strive to ensure the customer is happy with the product.

