



Winchester IWLA Newsletter

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



www.winchester-iwla.org

March 2021

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

Your Chapter always needs volunteers, without whom Izaak Walton would not exist. If you have the ability to give a little more, please consider serving on the Board of Directors or on a committee. See [here](#) for more information.

BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS

There are three proposed amendments to the by-laws. These were mentioned in the November newsletter. You can review them [here](#). Please attend the Membership Meeting to vote on their adoption.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

If you use Amazon or visit Facebook, you can help your Chapter from the comfort of your own home. Use Amazon Smile, choosing the Winchester Izaak Walton League as your charity of choice, and like our Facebook page. Read more about Amazon [here](#), and Facebook [here](#).

OPENING DAY

[Opening day](#) will be here before we know it. Plan now. Put March 20th on your calendar and get your gear ready.





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FROM THE EDITOR



Your intrepid editor braved the sub-freezing weather to sample Lake Neff. I used an aluminum bat to break through the nearly 2-inch ice covering the lake to dip out the water. The weather has not warmed a bit. I am displeased.

Jim Sherry, your Chapter secretary, suggested seeking a new name for your newsletter. Read more about this [here](#).

I am excited for the coming year and your Chapter and this newsletter. We are trying out new content ideas and coming up with a new name is a great way to kick off this effort. Last month I asked you to think about volunteering. This month I am asking you to consider serving. It is not as onerous an undertaking as you might think, and it need not be a permanent appointment. Read about it [here](#) and give it some prayerful consideration. No matter how little or how much you are able to give back, it is all greatly appreciated.

POINTS OF CONTACT

OFFICERS

- Dan Arico, President
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- Grant Javersak, Vice-President
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- Paul Sattler, Treasurer
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- James Sherry, Secretary
Jim_Sherry@winchester-iwla.org
- Peg Sattler, Membership Director
(631) 255-1917
membership@winchester-iwla.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- John Suter, Board Member
(540) 364-1782
john_suter@winchester-iwla.org
- Tino Peabody, Board Member
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- Dave Colf, Communications Director
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editor@winchester-iwla.org

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Range Master, Rifle and Pistol
range@winchester-iwla.org
- Rick Hill, Range Master, Shotgun
rhill1105@aol.com
- Range Master, Archery
- Brian Callahan, Lake & Conservation
brian_callahan@winchester-iwla.org
- Al Stitt, Education & Training
(540) 336-2468
training@winchester-iwla.org
- Facilities



BOARD REPORT

Your Board meets the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Chapter house. The BOD met on February 4th. The full minutes can be found on the Chapter's [website](#). The next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2021, with proper COVID-19 [precautions](#) in place.

Speaking of COVID restrictions, Membership meetings will resume once the Governor's distancing mandate is eased. On that note, there is one planned for April. The exact date will be announced. This will be an important meeting as there are three proposed amendments for the Chapter by-laws. Read the proposed changes [here](#) and plan on coming to that Membership meeting to make your voice heard.

headache bashing on the ice breaking a hole to draw a sample for testing. The pH reading is back to 7, but the hardness (GH) is much higher. I spoke to Zac, a fellow member on the Lake Committee, freshwater expert, and all-around great guy. He explained that the hardness level is still very good, but since the cold weather has slowed both the water flow through the lake and the rate of decay of plant

	Nitrate	Nitrite	pH	GH	Kh	Ammonia
Sep-20	5-10	-	7	30.0	40.0	-
Oct-20	0-5	-	7	30.0	40.0	-
Nov-20	0-5	-	7	30.0	40.0	-
Dec-20	5-10	-	7	30.0	40.0	-
Jan-21	0-5	-	6	30.0	40.0	-
Feb-21	5-10	-	7	100.0	40.0	-

material on the bottom, the hardness will be higher. I think I got that right. I was taking notes as he was explaining it and I may have tuned out or missed some crucial point. Regardless, all the metrics are in the healthy range.

Be sure to always follow the catch regulations to ensure our aquatic populations remain vibrant for years to come.

LAKE AND CONSERVATION REPORT

Lake and Conservation Subcommittees

Lake Neff will be closed to all activities beginning Tuesday, March 16th, in preparation for Opening Day on Saturday, March 20th.

Speaking of Opening Day, it starts at 8 a.m. The event is open to all members and their guests. Please remember the \$10 guest fee. There will be breakfast!

Water Quality

Last month I boasted about breaking through a measly quarter inch of ice. This month, your intrepid editor broke through almost 2" of ice to get to the water to draw a sample.

Fortunately, I still had an aluminum bat my boys used in Little League (yes, I need to clean out my trunk I guess). I am sure I gave the fish quite the



Jar of Lake Neff with 2" thick chunk of ice

RANGE REPORT

Dr Green Memorial Shotgun Rage

By: Rick Hill, Shotgun Range Manager

We kind of had to give up on the "snow" thing this past month and admit that winter is here, but we have heard the spring birds calling which means warm weather will soon be here and the range will be reopened sooner than later. Currently we have the on-duty RSO make the call on "Range Open or Closed". We have been posting this on our new [Facebook](#) Site to make it convenient for all our shooting members (read about the page [here](#)). You can access Facebook through our website if you are not on Facebook. By mid-March we will have access to our website and will post closures and changes there as well





The shotgun range is gearing up for our 2021 shooting season and to get things going we will be working at the range the workday of March 13th. If you have the time to help out, please sign up on our website. Just a reminder, all activities are closed on our annual workday so bring your work clothes and join us in making our range better.

Here is list of work needed to be done on March 13th.

1. Move our supply shed closer to the shooting platform, this will be converted into an office and eventually a roofed front porch.
2. Getting the shotgun patterning range back in shape. This will require some brushing of the berms, and installation of new metal patterning boards. Mr. Joe Blatz is providing the stands this spring so getting the grounds ready is imperative.
3. Preparing a new spot for the 20 ft. sea container which will be used to store clay targets, guns, ammo, and other equipment needed to run our range.
4. Clean up our pavilion and getting it ready for use this shooting season.

We are still looking for volunteer shotgun RSO's. If you are interested in helping please send us an email so we can get you started. Remember, the shotgun and Patterning range can ONLY be used when a Shotgun RSO is present so the more RSO's available the more days and times we can be open.

With the addition of our 5-station shooting platform and 12 traps we have registered our club with NSCA-NSSA as a shotgun shooting location for wobble trap and 5-stand

shooting. With that in mind we are in the process of starting a shotgun shooting league this spring. We will be sending out more information on this in our April newsletter and would like to hear from you if you are interested in joining up. Contact Rick Hill, Shotgun Range Master, listed on Page 2 under Point of Contact.

On another note, March 20th is our opening day for this year fishing season. Should you get tired of catching all the fish in the lake the shotgun range will be open. Regular shooting is between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM if you are interested in shooting a shotgun and have never been to the range, we invite you to stop by after 1:00 PM and we will introduce you to shotgun shooting. No gun is necessary we have guns for youth, ladies, and gentlemen. We will also provide the ammunition and instruction on breaking clay



targets. The only thing we ask for is a donation to the range to help cover the cost of clays thrown.

We look forward to meeting each of you at the Dr. Green Shotgun Field.

Remember: Feel the gun, see the break, smell the powder.

OTHER NEWS

Chapter Service

Your Chapter is lead by a dedicated group of men and women who care about making the Chapter a place you and your family can enjoy and take pride in. They could use your help.



You do not need a specialized set of skills, just a few hours a month and a heart to serve. You do not even need to have your own ideas. Once you get involved, you will suddenly realize that you do indeed have ideas. And you can make a difference.

To serve on a committee or if you would like to serve on the Board of Directors, contact one of the people listed in the Points of Contact section on Page 2.

Thank you for your consideration.

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. They have never been too busy to attend to my scruffy self when I wander in clutching a bottle of water and the glazed look one gets from dipping out of an ice-covered pond.



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

My sons and I have spent many afternoons gawking at the fish, the ferrets, and the reptiles they carry for sale. 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.

Name Your Newsletter

Admittedly, the Winchester IWLA Newsletter is a boring name for a newsletter, even though it accurately represents what it is and who it is for. But it is time for a change. Already some suggestions have come in:

Contributor	Suggested Name
Jim Sherry	WINCHESTER CONSERVATIONIST
William Norton	WINCHESTER NATURE Leisure and Range Newsletter
William Norton	WINCHESTER CONSERVATION Leisure and Range News
Jim Emmart	IKE’S WINCHESTER TALES

If you are clever and have an idea for a catchy title, please send them in to me: editor@winchesteriwla.org. If, like me, you are not known for being clever, but still have an idea, send it in as well. I will not be sorting the clever from the mundane.

IWLA National Convention

You may have received this in your email, but in case you missed it, or do not use email, this year’s convention will be held virtually rather than in-person due to the ongoing concerns over COVID. The League will hold a virtual convention in July minimally to elect new national officers and members of the Executive Board and consider policy resolutions submitted by chapters and divisions. The specific date, format, and any additional components of a virtual convention, such as speakers or workshops, will be determined over the next few weeks. Please look for updates via email, "Outdoor America" magazine and the League’s website. And, of course, your intrepid editor will keep you apprised through your newsletter. Not sure how timely it will be, but nonetheless.

This convention, as all conventions have been, are open to all members. I will provide details as I learn of them.

Chapter Facebook Page

I know this same message has been in previous newsletters, but it bears repeating. There are two Facebook pages for your Chapter. The original was set up, but the password for that page has been lost and so that page can no longer be maintained.

A second Facebook page was created recently and can be found [here](#). It is updated regularly and is your best source to know the latest goings-on with your Chapter.





Sometimes the Chapter will be closed or events cancelled due to weather or other reasons. Be sure to check the Facebook page to check for closures or cancellations.

Amazon Smile

This is another nugget worth repeating. Would you like an easy way to give back to your Chapter? By selecting Winchester IWLA as your charitable organization at smile.amazon.com, a portion of eligible purchases will be donated back.

The exact amount is 0.5% of eligible purchases and monies donated based on your purchases are not tax deductible for you. You can read more about this program [here](#).

To select your Chapter, follow these simple steps:

1. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com>.
2. Choose "Winchester Izaak Walton" as your charity. It can be found [here](#).
3. Be sure that when you shop you are at **smile.amazon.com**. Having the 'smile' at the beginning of the URL makes the difference.



Proposed Amendments

There will likely be a Membership Meeting in April. The following three proposed amendments to the chapter by-laws will be voted on at that meeting. Please plan on attending and make your voice heard.

The proposed amendments are listed alongside the current language, with the change expressly described in the final column.

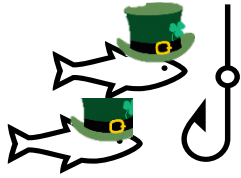
Amendment One – Article II, Section 8. Discipline and Termination of Membership		
Current Language	Proposed Change	What changed
The Chapter shall be the judge of its own membership, subject to the restrictions of the National and Virginia Division constitutions and bylaws. Members may be suspended or expelled only upon proper showing of cause. All charges must be supported by affidavit by the accusers. No member in good standing shall lose his membership until given a fair trial in such manner and form as the state division bylaws and the governing board of the Virginia Division shall prescribe.	The Chapter shall be the judge of its own membership, subject to the restrictions of the National and Virginia Division constitutions and bylaws. Members may be suspended or expelled only upon proper showing of cause. No member in good standing shall lose his membership until given a fair trial in such manner and form as the state division bylaws and the governing board of the Virginia Division shall prescribe.	Delete the requirement that charges must be supported by affidavit.

Amendment Two – Article II, Section 8. Discipline and Termination of Membership		
Current Language	Proposed Change	What changed
d) Disruptive and/or abusive behavior;	d) Disruptive and/or abusive behavior, including lack of proper decorum and repeatedly disrupting meetings after due warning;	Add the clause “including lack of proper decorum and repeatedly disrupting meetings after due warning;”

Amendment Three – Article III, Section 5. Election and Term		
Current Language	Proposed Change	What changed
Directors are limited to three (3) consecutive terms without a break in service. Any director who has reached his or her term limit may not serve in any Officer capacity on the Board of Directors for a period of one (1) year.	[Delete current language without replacement]	Eliminate the term limit.



Opening Day



Trout Fishing & Breakfast

Save the Date

Saturday March 20, 2021

