



# Winchester IWLA Newsletter

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



[www.winchester-iwla.org](http://www.winchester-iwla.org)

February 2022

## FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

### A CENTURY OF IZAAK WALTON

The Izaak Walton League turns 100 this year. Visit their website to learn more - <https://www.iwla.org/100years>.

### OPENING DAY

Mark March 19<sup>th</sup> on your calendars for Opening Day. See more in [Lake and Conservation](#).

### SHOTGUN NEWS

Lots happening at your Dr Green Memorial Shotgun Range. Read more under [Range Report](#).

### HELP WANTED

All kinds of things are planned at your Chapter, but none can happen without you. Please reach out to anyone listed as a point of contact if you can help in any way – time, materials, labor. Thank you!



### ARCHERY COMMITTEE



If you are interested in archery and want to help set up and serve on the Archery Committee for your Chapter, please contact board member Gary Tilley. He can be reached at [mindbender119@hotmail.com](mailto:mindbender119@hotmail.com) or by phone - 314-409-5982.

WINCHESTER, VA





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## FROM THE EDITOR



Happy February, everyone! January seems to have been a very quiet month, what with weather cancelations and all. Hopefully the rodent will see his shadow... or is it not seeing his shadow? I can never keep that straight. Whatever the groundhog see, I'm hoping for an early and warm spring. Being born and raised in the southwest, and spending nearly every summer in the Mojave Desert, snow was a novelty for me when I moved here in 2003. The novelty has worn off. I'm good. I don't need any more snow.

Your Izaak Walton League is 100 years old this year. There is a website dedicated to this event - <https://www.iwla.org/100years>. You can read about Iconic Ikes, men and women who carried forward the idea to work together to defend America's natural resources, preserving them for future generations.

### POINTS OF CONTACT

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# BOARD REPORTS

Both the Board of Directors and Membership meetings were cancelled in January due to weather.

## LAKE AND CONSERVATION REPORT

The Lake and Conservation committee met on January 12<sup>th</sup> to plan 2022. The committee put together a budget to support several events including Opening Day (March 19<sup>th</sup>) and The Mike Mercer Memorial Kids Fishing Derby (May 7<sup>th</sup>). The committee also reviewed required maintenance costs and new projects.

The highest priority is the installation of the aeration system purchased in 2021. The pre-work required for aeration which included running power to the lake and installing a concrete pad is completed. Aeration will be a major improvement to the lake improving water quality.

The committee also proposed the 2022 stocking schedule. Trout stockings are scheduled to support major events and also provide recreational opportunities for the late fall and early spring. The committee also reviewed stockings to support food sources and yellow perch populations. Reviews of fishing reports for 2021 continued to reflect a very healthy ecosystem producing positive results for the chapter fishing community.

### *Opening Day*

Opening Day is scheduled for March 19<sup>th</sup>. Gates open at 8 a.m. and there will be cast iron breakfast sandwiches, coffee and hot chocolate provided. Donations are welcomed, of course!

## RANGE REPORT

It's been a while, but this looks like a true Virginia winter, plenty of cold, ice and snow. I just hope we don't get the big one in March!

Thanks to all our shooters making our first year a great success. We especially thank the Shotgun RSO's for their time effort and support, each one of you made a difference and helped with our success. We would also like to thank our donors for their support both monetarily and physically.

Now for the good news. We want to share with each of you our success.

1. The range was open 117 days
2. We had 742 shooters
3. Shot at 37,950 clays
4. Total Sales of \$10,745 dollars
5. We returned \$3,445.00 to our club

We have been able to obtain both 12- and 20-gauge ammunition for those of you having a hard time finding some and will be offering our full line for \$8.00 dollars per box. There are some rules.

1. We will only sell what you plan to shoot while at the range. Our ammo distributor was very honest about the supply for 2022 and it sounds like it will be almost as bad as 2021. Large orders might not be shipped until 2023 and prices will be set at time of delivery.

2. The good news is we will provide ammo as needed; we may have to raise our price but for right now we are holding to our 2021 prices.

Once the weather breaks, we plan on having our same hours, but if there are shooters the RSO will stay until all are done.

We would like to open more days and times but seriously need to enlist more Shotgun RSO's to do that. If you are interested in helping contact Rick Hill, Shotgun Range Master, or talk to one of the other RSO's while shooting and we will get you trained and qualified. You can email Rick at [rhill1105@aol.com](mailto:rhill1105@aol.com).

We would also like to open the shotgun range for outside events. This season we would like to invite groups of no more than 10 shooters. Your group could shoot any day or time except when the range is open for members. The Chapter would provide shells, clays, and rental shotguns if needed. Chapter Shotgun RSO's will also be on hand for safety, the



number to be determined based on your group's size. If interested give us a call or email [rhill1105@aol.com](mailto:rhill1105@aol.com) for more information.

Thanks for your interest and support, we are planning other events for 2022 and will share with you in upcoming newsletters.

*Rick Hill*  
*Shotgun Range Master*

## Dr Green Memorial Shotgun Range Hours

There has been a little confusion regarding the hours for the shotgun range, and thanks to daylight savings, now there's more. Note the new hours for Sunday below.

Day	Time
Wednesday	1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Sunday	<b>1 p.m.</b> – 3 p.m.

We still need volunteers to work as RSOs at the five stand. It cannot open without a trained RSO. Please contact Rick Hill ([rhill1105@aol.com](mailto:rhill1105@aol.com)) if you are interested. If you are a current RSO, you will need training on operating the wobble trap.

## OTHER NEWS

### 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.



**A.P.C.**  
WINCHESTER

**“Your Pet Professionals”**

190 Costello Drive	Mon—Fri	10am to 8pm
Winchester, VA 22602	Saturday	10am to 7pm
Phone: 540-667-8198	Sunday	11am to 5pm
<a href="mailto:wapcinfo@comcast.net">wapcinfo@comcast.net</a>	<a href="http://www.petcenteronline.com">www.petcenteronline.com</a>	

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.

#### *Mule Fanatics Foundation*

The Mule 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 2 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.

The Winchester IWLA chapter has again been selected to receive a grant of \$2000 for support of Winchester IWLA Chapter youth programs. This grant helps support activities such the Mike Mercer Memorial Kids fishing derby, SASP youth shooting team, Boy Scout Camporees, Trail Life summer camp and all the infrastructure needed to hold these youth events. This amazing gift will not only impact the ability of our Chapter to hold these events but will also help so many youths in our community interested in the outdoors.



The Winchester chapter partners with several organizations in the area with similar missions. Please help support the Muley Fanatic Foundation by attending their annual banquet on March 19, 2022 and thank them for their previous donations to our chapter youth programs. Dave and Ron do a wonderful job of putting on a fun banquet as well as showing examples of the amazing work their group does. Tickets can be found at <https://mffbrc2022.givesmart.com>.

### 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.

smile.amazon.com, a portion of eligible purchases will be donated back. 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.



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



**Opening Day**



**Trout Fishing  
& Breakfast**

***Save the Date: Saturday March 19, 2022***

