



The Fredericksburg Rappahannock Chapter

- of the -

IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

Fred-Rapp Chapter Newsletter

December 2014

A note from the president:

Thanks to everyone for stepping up to make 2014 a very successful year!

We had many projects that came together and helped our chapter grow and improve: Road Side Clean Up, Earth Day Tree Plantings, Fort A.P. Hill's Earth Day Celebration, Earth Day at Old Mill Park, Chapter Earth Day, Chapter Honey Helper's Bee Hives with 2015 Honey, the Wild and Scenic Film Festival, Flag Retirement Ceremonies, our speaker program, Motts Run Fishing Rodeo, Hartwood Days, Stafford Fair Fishing Education, our historic Fredericksburg Dog Mart (a fun-filled family event), Scouts' camping, Rites of Spring Wine Festival, Chapter Family Picnic, Fredericksburg Wine Festival parking, and more. These events demonstrated our conservation and educational efforts as part of our community education and outreach, which helps us to meet our league strategic plan and our chapter's goals for a successful active chapter.

Improvements in our day-to-day use of the facilities included: an upgraded chapter parking area; electronic gate entry with guest registration; improved range use with cameras and safety flags, along with dedicated range officers; new membership identification; a new member review process; better fundraising efforts; the chapter's Wild Game Dinner; improved and additional family and member activities; enhanced chapter safety measures; improved dam and grounds erosion prevention; upgraded member communication, which included notifications on our website calendar and postings at the chapterhouse made using our facilities safer and easier for our members and the public, and has improved overall attendance.

For 2015, don't forget to review the Membership Calendar on our chapter's website www.iwlafred-rapp.org.

Our chapter's Wild Game Dinner will be back to its normal date, March 5, starting at 6 pm. Of course, no business will be discussed at this dinner meeting.

Member Martin Smith will bring us good tunes and a good time again this year. There's not much he can't play and sing !

Our new "Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Program" for Wounded Warriors will be in play this year. This will be a great opportunity to volunteer and help those who have made sacrifices in the service of our country.

2014 has truly been an active year.

On behalf of the chapter, I look forward to our chapter's members working together in the coming year through volunteer work that will continue the chapter's growth and betterment. Challenging each other is a good thing.

Thank you ALL for of your efforts and for being Fredericksburg-Rappahannock IWLA chapter members!

Greg Raines

President, Fred-Rapp Chapter IWLA

"Conserving Today's Tomorrows"

Winter Usage of the Dam

As the weather outside gets frightful to some and delightful for others, please remember that, as tempting as it may be, we are not to go sledding on the inclined face of the dam at Walton pond. There is an erosion prevention program underway so for the sake of its beauty and longevity let's remember to admire it from a distance.

On dry days members and their families can access to the fishing pier on foot by walking on the flat surface at the top of the dam. If the top of the dam seems muddy due to rain or snow, please avoid it. And, as always, unauthorized motorized vehicles of any kind are strictly forbidden anywhere on the dam.

The pond aerators have been turned off for the season.

And finally, if ice starts to appear on the pond, members are warned that there is no skating or walking allowed, as the ice will likely never be safe enough to support the weight of a human. If no swimming is

allowed in the lake, it only follows that no one should be trespassing on the surface of the water either. It just is not safe, and the facility is not equipped to mount a cold water rescue.

Membership

- October New Members

There were three new single memberships and two family memberships for a total of seven new members. The new members are Raymond Burns, Jill Farrell, Christopher Sclafani, Caleb Osborne and Kathy Bello, Scott and Robin Umphlet.

- November New Members

There were 2 new single memberships and 2 family memberships for a total of 6 new members. The new members are David and Candus Grawl, Christopher and Brandi Merryman, David Stadulis, and David Khadduri.

Total membership is now 707 memberships and 963 members.

Please remember to renew your membership, if you haven't done so already.

Annual membership dues are payable no later than December 31 of each year. If the membership dues are not paid by December 31, a late payment fee of \$20.00 will be added during a one month "grace period" that will end on January 31.

If the dues are not paid by February 1 of each year, the member will be dropped from active membership.

To reapply for membership you will be required to pay both the current initiation fee (\$300.00 for 2015) and the current membership dues (\$75.00 for individual and \$100.00 for Family memberships in 2015).

Beginning in 2015, prospective members must meet with a Membership Committee comprised of three Chapter members before being considered at the following month's General Membership meeting for approval. So, for example, prospective members aiming to join at the General Membership meeting scheduled for February 5, 2015 should be planning to attend a meeting with the Membership Committee on Saturday, January 10, 2015 at 9 AM at the Chapter Club House. Each prospective member should complete a provisional application and bring it for review at the meeting with the committee. The meeting is an opportunity for the individual and the Membership Committee members to discuss policies and expectations with each other.

The prospective member's Sponsor should offer help to a prospective member in understanding the objectives and policies of the chapter and to obtain the information the prospective member should be familiar with for meeting with the Membership Committee but must be present when the prospective member appears at the monthly membership meeting to join the Chapter.

Be sure to look for more details on the website by accessing the "[Membership](#)" page.

Conservation

Mike Sullivan thanks everyone who brought in acorns for the Department of Forestry. The acorns will be used to grow saplings, which in turn the Chapter will plant as part of our conservation efforts.

Range

Please remember safety first on the ranges. No alcohol is permitted. Remember AA is always an option, and that doesn't stand for Alcohol and Ammo. All kidding aside, if you encounter this situation, please quietly remove yourself from the area and report it to a range safety officer.

The hours of operation for the firearms ranges are 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. ET, Monday thru Saturday. Sunday hours during are 12:00 p.m. (noon) until 4:00 p.m. ET.

The [Pistol, Rifle, and Shotgun Range Rules](#) have been updated to reflect these new hours.

Whenever you are at the park you might see the Boy Scouts there also. Usually the Scouts are confined to the left of our driveway unless special permission has been obtained for use of one or more ranges.

Highlights

Thank you to everyone who participated in the annual Dog Mart, to everyone who came out and enjoyed a great day of family fun, but especially to the volunteers that made it happen. This year's event was very successful and raised \$3,553.80. Thank Darrell Schultz when you see him for coordinating the volunteers. Please submit any ideas and comments about next year's Dog Mart to him, too – things you particularly enjoyed, as well as things that could be done differently. Remember, your active participation is always welcome!

Our Chapter was presented with a second place Chapter Efficiency Award in the Virginia Division for our outreach, membership, conservation efforts, and efficiency in the conduct of business.

There was a Flag Retirement Ceremony on Saturday, November 8.

The last Adopt-A-Highway of the year was held on Saturday, November 8.

The Annual Wreath Making Party was December 7.

The [Chapter bylaws](#) and the supporting [Operational Policies](#) were updated, passing with a 38 to 6 vote. These documents can be viewed and downloaded from the Member Login section of the Fred-Rapp Chapter IWLA website.

Chapter Membership Meeting dates for 2015:

- January 8, 2015
- February 5, Conservation Speaker (TBD)
- March 5 There will not be a regular membership meeting during this month. The Annual Wild Game Dinner is at 6 PM Members and families only... RSVP

- April 2
- May 6
- June 4
- July 2
- August 6 Election of Officers and Directors
- September 3 Installation of elected Officers and Directors
- October 1
- November 5
- December 3

As a general rule Chapter Work Days are held on the Saturday following the Regular Chapter Membership Meeting. Work days START no earlier than 7:30 AM and might run until 3 PM.

Note: For safety reasons, the park is CLOSED to ALL activities during the Work Day period. This closure includes especially the Firearms Ranges. There will be a sign posted at the front gate area indicating that the park is closed.

Work Days for 2015:

- January 10
- February 7
- March 7
- April 11 plus Adopt-A-Highway at 9 am
- Special conservation work event April 18 (est.) - Earth month tree planting at Lake Anna State Park (date based on tree availability)
- May 9
- June 6
- July 11 (rescheduled from July 4 to allow uninterrupted Independence Day weekend time for family)
- August 5
- September 5
- October 3
- November 7
- December 5

IWLA Fredericksburg/Rappahannock Chapter 2015 Events at-a-glance

- February 8, 2015 Bowmen 3D and Cabin Fever Shoot 9 AM to 5 PM
- March 5, 2015 The Annual Wild Game Dinner will be held at 6 PM. Any necessary Chapter announcements will be made but there will be no regular membership meeting in March 2015.
 - Members attending are expected to bring some type of covered dish to share with others, please let us know if you plan to attend and what you are planning to bring. Send an email to hwpritchett@yahoo.com

- March 25-29, 2015 Rites of Spring Wine Festival activities (Grounds closed on March 28 and 29)
- April 4, 2015 SCA Pensick Group Event Activity at Chapter House (Grounds closed on April 4)
- April 11, 2015 at 9 AM Adopt-A-Highway Event on Orange Plank Road (meet at Chapter Grounds to ride as group to the work location.)
- April 16, 2015 Earth Day at Fort AP Hill Conservation Outreach & Education Local Elementary School Children Outreach Tent Setup to help Educate School Children
- April 17, at 6 pm to April 19, 10 am Boy Scout Troop 179 camping
- April 18, 2015 Earth Day Old Mill Park, Fredericksburg – Displays and Barrel Train
- April 18, 2015 Manahoac Bowmen Archery Event Fee Registration 9 am to 12 Noon. Open to public 9 am to 5 pm
- April 18, 2015 Earth Day Tree Planting Event at Lake Anna State Park (pending tree availability)
- May 2, 2015 Troop 536 Girl Scouts Skill Day - 12 Noon to 8 pm Chapter House and Darrell Ferrell Pavilion
- June 6, 2015 at 9 am (pending) Adopt-A-Highway Event on Orange Plank Road (meet at Chapter Grounds to ride as group to the work location.)
- June 14, 2015 Flag Day
- June 21, 2015 Bowmen 3D Shoot 9 am to 5 pm. Entry fee for adults is \$12
- July 12, 2015 Bowmen 3D Shoot 9 am to 3 pm
- August 8, 2015 at 9 am (pending) 3rd Quarter Adopt-A-Highway Event on Orange Plank Road (meet at Chapter Grounds to ride as group to the work location.)
- August 9, 2015 Bowmen 3D Shoot 9 am to 3 pm
- September 12, 2015 Bowmen Tune Up Shoot 9 am to 3 pm
- September 26, 2015 The 317th Fredericksburg Dog Mart scheduled. Grounds are closed for all other activities. For more information about the Dog Mart, please visit the [Fredericksburg Dog Mart web site.](#)
- November 7, 2015 at 9 am (pending) 4th Quarter Adopt-A-Highway Event on Orange Plank Road (meet at Chapter Grounds to ride as group to the work location.)

By using this link you may obtain a list of [The Fred/Rapp Chapter Officers and Board Members](#)

Special Notes

Please remember, if you would like to use the pavilions or have other park requests, contact Greg Raines.

Ken Cuccinelli's law firm, Virginia Self Defense Law PLC, is offering to represent gun owners in criminal, civil, and administrative hearings. An IWLA member can obtain a retainer for \$200 per couple. Contact Greg Raines for more information.