



Winchester IWLA Newsletter

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

www.winchester-iwla.org

February 2024

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

This month's Membership Meeting will be special. We have two very interesting people coming to talk. You'll need to head over the [Board Reports](#) for details.

FRIENDS OF THE NRA BANQUET

An organization worthy of our support. If you can, consider attending. See more in [Other News](#).

OPENING DAY

Save the date and mark your calendars. Opening Day is March 16th. See the flyer at the end of this [newsletter](#).

BE CAREFUL DRIVING

Eric Raybuck was rear-ended as he tried to enter the Chapter last month. He's fine, and he didn't do anything wrong. He did everything right. Read more in [Other News](#).

HELP NEEDED!

We are always looking for more volunteers. But we do have two very important committees – Lake and Conservation and Archery – that currently do not have a chair. If you have a passion for either, please consider donating of your valuable time to help out. The Chapter cannot function apart from her volunteers. Read more under [Board Reports](#).





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FROM THE EDITOR



My friend and an all-around great Ike, **Eric Raybuck**, was in a serious car accident right at the entrance to our Chapter. He did everything right: He began slowing down and turned on his turn signal. There is no deceleration lane, so until you hit the entrance apron you're still on Route 50.

Another car crested the hill and didn't see him slowing for the turn. Probably wasn't looking at all, given the lack of skid marks prior to the accident. Maybe he was texting or maybe he was reaching for something that fell – who knows? What I do know is **Eric** was wearing his seatbelt, and all his airbags deployed. He remembered starting to turn, then being surrounded by white balloons and parked up on the slope. Take a look at the pictures – there is no scuffing on the apron or dirt where his car ended up. He was airborne, and landed there.

Please be careful and vigilant as you come in to the Chapter. Life is a precious gift from God. I'm grateful **Eric** came through with only body aches, and that the other driver wasn't injured either.

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BOARD REPORTS

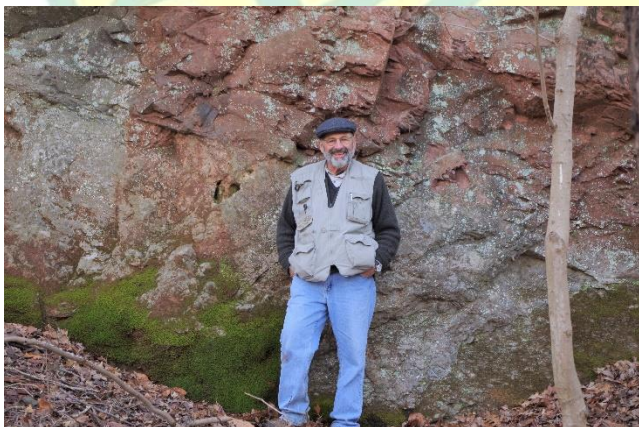
Membership Meeting

There are two speakers scheduled for this month's meeting: Mr. **Alton Butler**, store manager from our local Sportsman's Warehouse; and Mr. **Paul Kreingold**, author of *Potomac Marble: History of the Search for the Ideal Stone*.

Alton Butler's slogan is "We provide outstanding gear and exceptional service to inspire outdoor memories, providing world class hunting, fishing, camping and hiking gear to fit your family's needs." Head over to 190 Delco Plaza, Winchester, VA, and check out Sportsman's Warehouse. They have a huge selection of all manner of outdoor gear. Sportsman's Warehouse is a great addition to our community.



Paul Kreingold is a thirty-seven-year resident of Leesburg, Virginia, where he and his wife have raised two children. He is currently the president of the Banshee Reeks Chapter of the Virginia Master Naturalists, and the conservation director of the Izaak Walton League, Loudoun County Chapter. His interest in geology and history dates back to his college days, but after a long career in computer system design, he has devoted his time in the last five years as a researcher and educator.



Besides public lectures throughout Loudoun, Montgomery, and Frederick Counties, **Kreingold** regularly leads "expeditions" to the rediscovered Latrobe Potomac Marble quarry along the beautiful Potomac River.

Membership Cards

A lot of members are emailing to see if we have received their member dues and when they will be getting their cards. Just like years past, please log into your account and see if your dues have posted yet before emailing us. It takes a lot of time to go through all the emails I'm receiving to verify payments when you can easily check for yourselves.

Membership cards are forthcoming. When we get them and get them processed, we will send you an email to let you know it's been mailed. If you are having trouble logging in your account, you should reset your password and log in.



You can log in by clicking on the silhouette in the top right-hand corner, (circled in red- see above image). This is also where, if you do not know your password, you can click on "forgot password" and it will email you a new password link.

Gate Access

If you are having trouble with your gate card, please don't let that go for a long period. We can fix it if we know about it. Please email me your name, card number or a picture of the card number and when you tried the card last and what happened when you tried it.

And again, you must lay your card flat against the bottom on the RFID icon ((«»)) icon for it to work. If you have a problem at the gate, if the proximity card isn't opening the gate, it is always better to press the call button so that we may diagnose the issue immediately.



Help Needed!

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

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

We also have a pressing need for two volunteers – one to chair the Lake and Conservation Committee, and one to chair the Archery Committee. If you have passions in either area, please consider giving of your time

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

LAKE AND CONSERVATION REPORT

Chairman Needed

We are still looking for someone to step up and take the reins of the Lake and Conservation committee. If you are interested, or want more information, please contact your editor: editor@winchester-iwla.org.

Lake Neff

Please stay off Lake Neff during the winter, especially if there is ice on the lake. The lake has multiple springs which weaken the ice and it is not safe, no matter how thick you think it is. Also, use caution when using the chapter during the winter. The roads and trails can become ice covered and slippery.

Chapter Workdays

The Chapter will begin having chapter workdays on the first Saturday of each month beginning in February. This is a great opportunity to donate some hours. Look for an announcement as we get closer to the date.

RANGE REPORT

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.

Old Man Winter has not been good to us. We've had to cancel our January monthly classroom meeting as well as our range meeting. Here's hoping February will be better. Our topic for our February classroom meeting is Be Your Own General – An Exercise to Understand Defense of Your Home.

We meet on the 2nd Tuesday for classroom work at the WIWL Chapter House and the 4th Tuesday for live fire at the WIWL Range. We cover a wide variety of topics such as fundamentals of shooting, malfunctions, field stripping to grow our shooters' confidence, as well as guest speakers that expand our training knowledge.. For more information please contact **Vicki** or **Christina** at

AWA.ShenandoahValleyVA@gmail.com.

Requals

If you have not re-qualified for our ranges, you will be receiving an email to do so. The email will have a section for you to fill out: your first and last name and your email address. Please fill out this information and click on "take the test". The test is designed to be an RQ refresher. If you get a question wrong, it will tell you to go back and re-address that question. Once you get it correct, the test will move on to the next question. Once you have completed all twenty questions, your completion score will pop up and your record will be submitted, you are finished! Results are sent automatically to Membership. Please do not send your score, a screenshot showing completion, or anything else related to the RQ test to Membership.



Finally, just to be clear, if you do not get a re-qualifying email, either you have already completed it, or you were not Range Qualified to begin with.

OTHER NEWS

Take Care Entering Chapter!

Early January, **Eric Raybuck** was rear-ended by a vehicle on Route 50 at the entrance gate. The car never braked, likely didn't see Eric slowing to turn in to the Chapter. **Eric's** car was catapulted in the air, landing on the slope to the left of the gate. Thankfully, neither he nor the other driver were seriously injured. (Wear your seatbelts people!).



Please stay alert as you are slowing down for the gate. There isn't room to get off the highway until you reach the apron. Do not assume other drivers will notice your brake lights or signals.



People are increasingly driving distractedly. Cell phones, kids, lunch – whatever the distraction they may not notice the car ahead of them slowing down for a turn. Stay alert, and do not assume the approaching cars will see you.

Friends of the NRA Banquet

Friends of NRA events boil down to one goal – fundraising for the future of shooting sports. Since its inception in 1992, Friends of NRA has held over 17,600 events and reached over 3.2 million attendees, and in 2021 we surpassed the billion dollar milestone for funds raised for The NRA Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

By holding fundraising banquets we make meaningful contributions to youth education, law enforcement training, hunter education, conservation, firearms and marksmanship training, and safety. This year our banquet will be held on March 2nd. We will have live and silent auctions, raffles, and games to raise money for the shooting sports. Each year the NRA Foundation allocates half of all net proceeds to fund projects within the state in which the money was raised and uses the other half to fund similar projects with a national scope. Recognizing that American young people represent the future of shooting sports, State Fund Committee grants are frequently given to youth programs, allocating more than 50% of grant monies to this important area. Many of our local youth groups, such as Scouts, 4-H, school programs, Izaak Walton Leagues, and Sportsman organizations have received grants from the NRA Foundation funds. Last year we were able to give back to our community \$25,389.00 in grants for youths.

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) (<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.



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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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.

Muley Fanatics Foundation

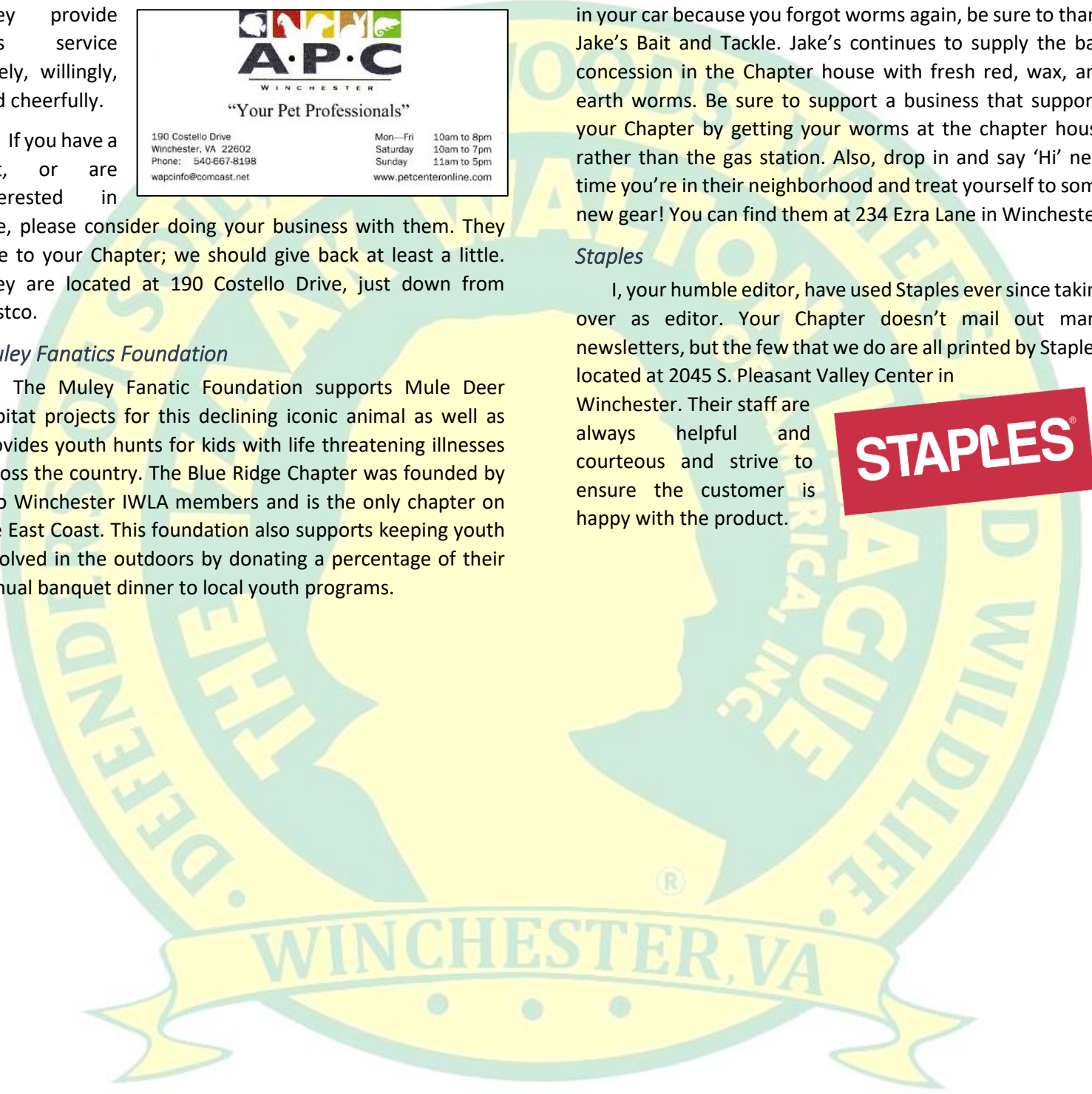
The Muley Fanatic Foundation supports Mule Deer habitat projects for this declining iconic animal as well as provides youth hunts for kids with life threatening illnesses across the country. The Blue Ridge Chapter was founded by two Winchester IWLA members and is the only chapter on the East Coast. This 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.





NORTHERN VALLEY FRIENDS OF NRA BANQUET

Saturday March 2, 2024

Doors Open at 5:00pm

Shenandoah Valley Golf Club
134 Golf Club Circle Front Royal, VA

Silent & Live Auctions Raffles One-of-a Kind & Limited Editions

2024 FRIENDS OF THE NRA GUN OF THE YEAR SET

Henry Big Boy Revolver 357/38 and Henry Big Boy Side Gate
357/38 Rifle with NRA LOGO



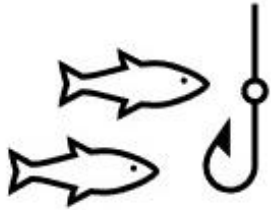
For Tickets & Table Package Information Contact

David Mason at 540-481-0049 or email d314m@yahoo.com

Or order online at www.friendsofnra.org



Opening Day



& Trout Fishing & Cast-Iron Breakfast

Saturday March 16, 2024

8:00 AM - 11:30 AM

