



# Winchester IWLA Newsletter

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



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

July 2021

# JULY HIGHLIGHTS

## NO FIREWORKS IN THE PARK

This should go without saying, but **DO NOT** bring or use personal fireworks to or in the Chapter.

## JUNE ELECTIONS

Member and Chapter Secretary Jim Sherry provided a detailed report on the elections held last month. Read about it in [Election Report](#).

## NEW AND IMPROVED CAMPSITE!

Last month you read about the new campsite at Opequon Creek. Well, it's been improved. Check it out under the clever title "[Opequon Campsite](#)."

## YOUR PRESIDENT IS ON THE NATIONAL BOARD

Dan Arico, your Chapter president, was elected to serve on the IWLA National Board of Directors. He will represent two chapters – Winchester and Staunton-Augusta. Congratulations, Dan!

## MULEY FANATICS

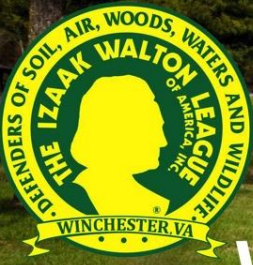
Save the date! The Blue Ridge Chapter of the Muley Fanatics Foundation is scheduled for July 17<sup>th</sup>. Read more about that in [Other News](#).

## SHOTGUN NEWS

Lots going on at your Dr Green Memorial Shotgun Range. Ammunition is available, as are classes and, if there is interest, times set for just the ladies to get out and break some clay. Read all about it in [Range Report](#).







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## FROM THE EDITOR



Welcome to July! A time to commemorate the signing of our Declaration of Independence. In a letter written July 3, 1776, to his wife Abigail, John Adams wrote:

*The date will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more.*

We Americans were entrusted with a tremendous gift – the gift of liberty, a novel idea in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The Founders were well-read and understood the critical differences between democracies and republics, creating in our Constitution a fine balance between government and citizen. Over the intervening years that balance has shifted, but for now, we do retain some liberty. So get out and enjoy them! I can think of no better place to do just that than your Winchester Chapter of the Izaak Walton League. **Just no fireworks at the Chapter.**

### POINTS OF CONTACT

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# BOARD REPORTS

Your Board met on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. A second meeting was held on June 17<sup>th</sup> for the elections.

The National Convention will be held via remote conferencing July 20 – 22, 2021. Winchester Chapter will have ten voting delegates. Board members and others interested in attending and/or acting as delegates should contact Dan Arico.

The Membership Meeting was held June 17<sup>th</sup>. The next meeting will be June 17<sup>th</sup>, during which members in good standing may vote for the candidates running for election to your Board. The candidates are Dan Arico, Peg Sattler, Jim Sherry, Gary W. Tilley, and Harold Whitacre. The election will begin at 6:30 p.m. and voting will end at 7:30 p.m. Please bring your current IWLA membership card with you to vote.

## Election Report

The annual election for the Chapter Board of Directors was held at the June 17th Membership Meeting. Two current Board members stood for re-election along with two members who were appointed to the Board during the 2020 - 2021 term, as well as one new volunteer for Board membership.

Former Chapter Treasurer Chris Barltrop chaired the election committee and officiated at the election, and confirmed that the five members elected to the 2021 - 2022 term are:

- Dan Arico
- Peg Sattler
- Jim Sherry
- Garry Tilley
- Harold Whitacre

When the Chapter bylaws were rewritten in July of 2015 the procedure for selecting Board members for officer positions was changed from direct election to selection by the Board members. That and many other provisions were approved unanimously by 96 Chapter members in August of 2015 and the process has worked well ever since.

Accordingly, the Board met immediately after the Membership Meeting and selected Dan Arico for another term as President; Grant Javersak as Vice President; Paul Sattler as Treasurer; Jim Sherry as Secretary. Peg Sattler will serve this term as Membership Director, and President Arico confirmed the appointment of Board member John Suter as chairman of the Range Committee.

We wish the '21 - '22 Board well as they continue to manage the Chapter's affairs, add to and improve Chapter activities, and work to recruit new members.

Any Chapter member in good standing may stand for election to the Board. Alternatively, a member can be appointed to the Board during the current term and stand for election at the next June Membership Meeting. Check out the Chapter bylaws on the WIWL website at <https://winchester-iwla.org/documents> or ask any Board member for details. Serving on the Board is a rewarding experience and adds value to the Chapter's operations.

# LAKE AND CONSERVATION REPORT

## Lake & Fishing Report

The lake continues to be in good shape. The committee is planning on installing power to the lake and aeration this summer. The aeration equipment has been purchased. We will be planning a workday to dig the trench and install the cable, if anyone has expertise running a trencher or laying cable, we could use the assistance.

The weeds continue to be held in check after the spring treatment and the lake is producing panfish and many bass. Catch reports from members report many small panfish, 10"+ catfish and juvenile bass. The new fish attractors, yellow buoys in the lake, provide structure for the young fish. Red worms and artificial worms are working well.

## Water Quality

Our friends at Winchester Aquarium and Pet Center, "Your Pet Professionals" located at 190 Costello, across from



Costco, tested our water sample taken from Lake Neff. You can see them for all your pet needs.

Our lake is, as ever, very healthy and conducive to growing, vibrant, and effervescent fish populations. Ph is a litte up but is offset by the alkalinity

	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	-
Mar-21	5-10	-	7	60.0	40.0	-
Apr-21	0-5	-	7	65.0	30.0	-
May-21	0-5	-	6.5	100.0	60.0	-
Jun-21	0	-	7.8	7.5	80.0	-

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

### Opequon Campsite

The alert reader will recall that last month this campsite was featured as a new addition. Well, look at the improvements done by your Lake and Conservation Committee! It is all ready for reservations. The campsite is in the campground area and well away from the main campground and close to the Opequon creek. Lake and Conservation team members have spent many hours developing the site which is ready for use. The final action is to cover the remainder of the area to block weeds but landscaping fabric is completely sold out in the area!!! Please let us know if anyone would like to donate a roll or two.



The new campsite is exciting news because demand for our campground from members and their families is at an all time high! The new campsite is private and well away from

the main campground and outpost. The committee is planning at least one more campsite on the chapter property.

### Campground Use

#### Leave No Trace

Leave No Trace consists of seven common-sense principles. These are good to follow any time you are using the grounds at Izaak Walton, or anywhere else for that matter.

- 1. Plan ahead and prepare.** In other words, research where and when you are going and know the regulations and any special concerns for the area. Look at the forecast and prepare/pack accordingly. Learn how to use a compass and topo map and use them.
- 2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces.** Hike established trails. You are less likely to get lost, and the rest of the terrain remains untouched for future visitors. Keep your campsite at least 200 feet from the water.
- 3. Dispose of waste properly.** This should be obvious. If you brought it with you, take it with you.
- 4. Leave what you find.** Take pictures, not souvenirs. It is tempting to find and carry out an interesting rock or (gasp) walking stick, but do not. That walking stick may contain a host of insects you do not want coming home with you.
- 5. Minimize campfire impacts (be careful with fire).** Consider a lightweight stove for cooking and a lantern for light. If you do build a fire, use an established fire ring. And whatever else you do, make sure that your fire is cold to the touch before you leave.
- 6. Respect wildlife.** Do not approach animals. Use the zoom lens on your camera to take pictures. And do not feed them, no matter how much they beg or how pitiful they look.
- 7. Be considerate of other visitors.** This not only includes visitors who are there at the same time, but even more importantly future visitors. When you enjoy nature, think for just a moment of the countless people who had passed that way before and left it pristine for you. If some had left trash





behind, pick it up after them. Parents of children of any age will be used to this.

### *The Outdoor Code*

Boy Scouts learn the Outdoor Code as cubs. Essentially, the Outdoor Code is a shortened list of the principles in Leave No Trace.

#### The Outdoor Code

As an American, I will do my best to

- Be clean in my outdoor manners
- Be careful with fire
- Be considerate in the outdoors, and
- Be conservation minded.

Your editor pounced on you last month about this. I had received reports that all manner of refuse was found in campsites and in fire pits. Unless you are in a foundry or crematorium, what you burn leaves quite a bit of residue. And even if you do burn to ash your trash, that ash is likely to contain harmful chemicals and other materials bad for the environment. Do not burn your trash in the fire pits! Pack it out and put it in a garbage can. We are not able to get trash service in the campground and we do not provide garbage cans in that area. Remove your trash and if needed, use the garbage cans above the chapter house.

### Ike's Defender 5K

Now that everyone has attained their beach bodies, it is time to keep that momentum and start training for Ike's Defender 5k coming in September. The virtual 5k is a fundraiser for the chapter, includes a cool shirt and will run September 1 - 30th. This non-competitive 5k is a great excuse to get outside, get active and enjoy the outdoors while supporting the chapter!!! More details to follow!

## RANGE REPORT

The range rules have been changed concerning violations to the range guest policy. If a member is found in violation of the policy, he or she will forfeit range privileges for 60 days, and the case will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee for further action. The updated Range Rules should be read by all range users; they can be found at <https://winchester->

[iwla.org/Rifle-Pistol](http://iwla.org/Rifle-Pistol). Plans call for new signage at the Rifle-Pistol range outlining the Range Guest Policy changes, along with NRA firearms safety rules. John Suter reported that Shotgun range guests can now be registered at the Shotgun range. He also announced the establishment of a new shotgun league. Details may be found on the Chapter website.

### Dr Green Memorial Shotgun Rage

Good news for our Shotgun Shooting members, we currently have 12-gauge shotgun ammunition available for use at our range only. We were able to obtain 10 cases, 4 cases of 1 oz. at \$8.00 per 25 round box and 6 cases of 1 1/8 oz. for \$12.00 per 25 round boxes we also have 20-gauge 7/8 oz for \$8.00 per box and 28-gauge 3/4 oz for \$12.00 per box.

We continue to make improvements at our range and want to thank our members that were able to donate for the purchase of a 20ft. sea container for storage of our targets, and other equipment needed to run the range. We were also able to move our shed closer to the 5-stand shooting platform with the hopes of adding a covered porch to it later this year. This will allow our shooters a dry place to wait for their turn to shoot. We are now up to 9 traps on the field including our new Rabbit trap again purchased through the generosity of our shooting members.

Never shot a clay target before? We are offering "learn to shoot" lessons on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon. Do not have a shotgun? No problem, we will provide the shotgun and shells along with a NSCA or NRA shotgun shooting instructor all for \$15.00 dollars per person. We are working on our website for easy sign up and allowing YOU to set your appointment time.

We would also like to set up a morning shoot time for our lady shooters, please let us know if you are interested. We will be happy to set a day and time Just for your shooting enjoyment.

Thank you again for all your time and support, we have a great place to shoot and look forward to meeting YOU on the Dr. Green Shotgun Range.

Rick "Feel the Gun, See the Break, Smell the Powder" Hill  
Shotgun Range Manager



## Shotgun Tip of the Month

From the book "Mastering Sporting Clays" by Don Currie: A shooter must be singularly focused on the target, with no conscious perception of the barrel-target relationship. Once the target is launched, the gun barrel(s) should remain oriented on the target line while the shooter moves the gun and body with the target and simultaneously mounts the gun to the cheek and shoulder. On these points the Churchill method is as much essential truth today as it was in 1925.

## OTHER NEWS

### Muley Fanatics Fundraiser

Two members of the Winchester Chapter of the IWLA have formed a chapter of the Muley Fanatic Foundation (MFF) to raise research funds and increase awareness of a declining mule deer population in the west, and to involve local Virginia youth in the outdoors.

The members are Dave Kavanah and Ron Kendra. They have created the Virginia Blue Ridge Chapter of the Muley Fanatic Foundation [muleyfanatic.org](http://muleyfanatic.org) which is hosting their annual fundraising banquet at the Shenandoah Valley Golf Club on Saturday July 17th. The Banquet website and ticket options / donations can be accessed through the website: <https://mffbrc2021.givesmart.com/>

The purpose for our chapter's efforts are twofold. First, to raise awareness and funds to help support and address the declining population of this iconic American animal. Both Colorado and Wyoming have declared a 40% decline in Mule Deer populations over the past 20 years.

Secondly, to assist in raising funds that will specifically target our youth outdoor sporting activities and conservation awareness / education right here in our community in conjunction with our Winchester IWLA Chapter.

Please feel free to reach out to Dave Kavanah or Ron Kendra for additional information or desire to participate in this foundation.

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Ron Kendra  
Co-Chair, MFF Blue Ridge  
Chapter  
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(540) 327-8691

Consider supporting this fine organization

### 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.

### 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. 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.

