



FREDERICK CHAPTER NO. 1  
 THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

Chapter Web Site: <http://www.frederickiwla.org>  
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**NEWSLETTER**

March 2023

|  |  |                                     |                                   |  |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>President</b><br>Michael Morgan         | <b>Vice President</b><br>Tracy Hickman     | <b>Secretary</b><br>Ronald Colbert  | <b>Treasurer</b><br>Jim Stewart   | <b>Membership Secretary</b><br>Ron Colbert |
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| <b>Newsletter Editor</b><br>Robert Patrick |  |                                     |                                   |  |

**Important Dates**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 6 MAR – Conservation Committee Meeting 6:00 PM | 16 MAR - Sportsman’s Council 7:00 PM                   |
| 13 MAR – Board Meeting 6:30 PM                 | 18 MAR – IWLA State Division Meeting 9:00 AM           |
| 13 MAR – Regular Meeting 7:00 PM               | 25 & 26 MAR – Annual Grounds and Clubhouse Cleanup 9AM |

**Board Meeting Reminder**

The Chapter Board of Directors meets each month just prior to the regular Membership Meeting. Members are welcome and encouraged to observe these open meetings which address the business of the Chapter. However, for the Board to effectively and efficiently conduct the meetings, members may not interact with the Board during the meetings. Members may bring up any issues they may have during the Membership Meeting. Thank you for your understanding.

**ACTIVITIES AND FUND RAISING**

(Currently in need of Chair person/s)

The **Annual Grounds and Property Cleanup** event is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, 25th & 26th March!! We will improve the Chapter property as well as clean Clubhouse floors, furniture, windows, paint bathroom floors, and remove excess equipment from the clubhouse. We will have a detailed worklist that you can choose items from for accomplishment and will begin each day at 0900. Don’t plan on more than 3 hours each day and we can get a lot done and still have time for some socializing after each session.

**CONSERVATION**

Our monthly Conservation Committee meeting was held February 6, 2023 at the clubhouse. Next meeting is Monday, March 6, 2023 at 6pm. We will discuss our upcoming March and April conservation events including resumption of chemical water testing (3/25), the completion of the

Perimeter Trail (3/25), and the start of monitoring the Eastern Bluebird nesting boxes (first full week of March).



We had a successful Perimeter Trail Clearing Event Saturday morning, February 11, 2023 clearing and maintaining the Perimeter Trail from the shooting range, down toward the train tracks, and up the hill to the Diamond Dog Resort property. Those participating were: Marvin Gibson, Matt Lohaus, Mike Money Penny, Mike Morgan, Jake Bise, Josh Phipps, Dave Carlson, and Preston Wood.



We are close to completing the trail. There is not much work left to attach to the existing trail near the stream and bamboo grove. This forestry and silviculture work is being done in accordance with our property Conservation Easement while managing the forest by removing growth that is choking mature trees which also increases sunlight. When completed, we will have a path around the entire Frederick#1 Chapter property which will facilitate better access for members and emergency personnel if needed.

**We will finish the Perimeter Trail at 8am, Saturday March 25, 2023** connecting to the existing trail by the stream during the Chapter's Annual Grounds Clean Up. We should have this done by noon that day. We need members with chainsaws and tree branch loppers.







On Sunday morning, February 12<sup>th</sup>, scouts from [Cub Scout Pack 796](#) assisted us in making our Bluebird nesting boxes ready for the breeding season. Scouts helped take off the wire mesh and thumb tacks, that were keeping the mice out, allowing the birds access to the ten boxes around the property and the pond.



The Cub Scouts learned about Eastern Blue Birds and their important role in our ecology while being introduced to our IWLA conservation programs, got lots of fresh air, and hiked one mile in total. This event was part of our conservation education outreach to the community. Members participating in guiding the Scouts on the property and showing them the Bluebird boxes were John Gallo, Steve Meyer, and Preston Wood.



We are looking for Chapter member volunteers to check the Eastern Bluebird Nesting boxes starting this month. Commitment would be once a month from March to September visiting each of the 10 boxes checking for occupancy and brood size, if any, and reporting data collected. Inspection sheets to record data will be available. Please contact Preston Wood ([woodpreston@yahoo.com](mailto:woodpreston@yahoo.com)) to get on the rotation schedule. We will begin our nesting box monitoring this month, and will discuss our plans at the March Conservation meeting, Monday March 6<sup>th</sup> 6pm.



We will resume chemical water testing **Saturday, March 25, 2023 at 10am** at Ballenger Creek. Invertebrate monitoring will occur twice a year, initially, and increase with greater participation support. Please contact Stephen Meyer at [stephen.meyer7@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.meyer7@gmail.com) or call 240-604-7280 to volunteer for the [Save Our Streams](#) program and participate in our current testing schedule.

IWLA Frederick Chapter #1 Save our Streams program provides testing and long-term water chemistry data on select streams in Frederick County Maryland. The Izaak Walton League's Save Our Streams program is the only nationwide program training volunteers to protect waterways from pollution and bring information about water quality to their communities.





Our Chapter is participating in National IWLA's Salt Watch program to determine the impact of road salt changing the salinity of our streams. **We're asking each member of our Chapter** to go to the National IWLA website (<https://www.iwla.org/water/stream-monitoring/salt-watch>) and order your free Salt Watch kit, then test salt levels in your local waterways after it snows and add your findings to a national database.

Plan to help the IWLA in this vital work supporting the League's strategic goal "To conserve, restore, and promote the sustainable use and enjoyment of our natural resources, including soil, air, woods, waters, and wildlife."

If you have ideas for conservation projects, please contact Preston Wood [woodpreston@yahoo.com](mailto:woodpreston@yahoo.com). If you would like to participate in Chapter Conservation Committee activities, please attend our monthly Conservation meeting at the Chapter. Next meeting is this Monday, March 6th at 6pm.

### **BOOK MANAGEMENT**

Please contact Ben Kelkye for any Bridges of Frederick County book sales.

### **Facilities (Club House) Cleanup and Maintenance**

Join Robert on Thursday evenings at 1630 through March for a 2-hour general cleanup detail during the hunting season and throughout the winter months. This will accommodate removing leaves and mud tracked into the Club House and still allow classes to proceed during the day. For more information call 717-752-9369 or email: [Legendrider70@gmail.com](mailto:Legendrider70@gmail.com). Any work hours will be applied to the annual requirement!

Excess furniture has been identified and will be posted for sale by donation. The intent is to lessen flammable material in the Club House as well as free up space for other activities (i.e. social gatherings in the Lounge, Birthday parties, Event/Competition celebrations). ...



If anyone has a need for any of these items ( 2 China Cabinets, 1 Storage Dresser, 2 Gun Cabinets, 1 Steel Storage cabinet), please contact Robert at 717-752-9369. He can help arrange its loading and departure. Spread the word, funds gleaned from these items will be donated to the YHEC program; please be generous and let family and neighbors be aware of this opportunity. A suggested donation is \$75 each or \$300 for all five. The steel cabinet is a bonus to whoever takes the greatest number of pieces!!

## Courses

Concealed Carry Permit procedures course has resumed each week on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Contact the Range Master for details and sign-up.

To date, several dozen applicants have successfully completed the course.

The full schedule of courses to be conducted at the Chapter house for the year **2023** has been posted online at the **Chapter website at [FrederickIWL Training Schedule 2023](#)**. This training is conducted to support the Youth Program, and not all courses are endorsed or promoted by the Chapter. However, certain courses are required for members to use the range and hunt on Chapter property. The schedules are posted for the convenience of members in determining the expected status of the range at a particular time, and for selecting courses they may be interested in. Contact Ben Kelkye if you have any questions about the schedule or courses.

It won't be long before the YHEC training and competitions begin again. Be supportive in any way you can so that our Youth continue to grow in the knowledge of conservation of our natural resources and the safe shooting sports.

## 2022 YHEC Competition



## 2022 YHEC Champions

The Senior & Junior Teams took First Place in Maryland for the first time in Chapter history!!! Big shout-out to Coaches and the Team!! They set a high bar for the entire region to reach. Keep up the good work. This was the FIFTH consecutive year for the Senior team!!

### **Editor Special Notes**

**The By-Laws need updating... A draft of proposed changes/updates is being assembled and will be "massaged" by the Board and presented for Membership approval by the April meeting. Of particular interest is the change in work hours assessment.**

**A reminder about firewood; the firewood stacked at the encampment area is for use at the encampment area, NOT for removal and personal use. Please honor the hard work already done to provide for these functions. Collecting "deadfall" from the property is / has been an acceptable practice.**

Any time you have information or articles you think appropriate for the newsletter, or comments on the newsletter, send them to [newsletter@frederickiwa.org](mailto:newsletter@frederickiwa.org).

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