

3D ARCHERY
RETURNS TO
FW CHAPTER

Fort Wayne
News

Izaak Walton League of America



922

2022

A Century of Conservation Leadership

IN THIS ISSUE

Page 1: 3D Archery Returns

Page 3: Advertiser Page

Page 4: 2024 Officers & Directors Elected

Page 5: From the Presidents Desk.

Page 6: Tobin Award Presented to Tim Hessert

Page 7: Summit Auto Calibration Rents Range

Page 8: Moonshine Still on Chapter Property?

Page 9: Scouts Choose Chapter Again For Camporee.

Page 10: Member Inspired to Send Photos.

Page 11: Chapter Event Ads

Page 12: New Members

Page 13: I Tried It!

Page 14: Contact Us.

Page 15 Ad Submission Form

Page 16: New Member Application.

Cover Photo and Lead Article

By Patrick J. White.

Nature Photos Provided by Andrew Neidermeyer

Summit Calibration Logo Used By Permission.

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3D ARCHERY RETURNS TO CHAPTER

This month, we are interviewing Rick Thompson, our Chapters new Archery Manager. Rick has only been with our chapter for a few months, and already he has stepped into a leadership role as our Archery Manager and as a Director on our Chapter Board.

JLB: A question that I always ask is: How did you learn about the Fort Wayne Chapter?

RT: My wife and I were looking for a an Archery range and someone told us that the IWLA chapter used to have an active Archery program, so we drove out and were impressed with the potential that we saw.

JLB: Rick, what got you into the sport of archery?

RT: Actually, I've been involved since I was a youngster. Growing up, I hunted with family, using bows rather than rifles or shotgun.

JLB: Is your wife an Archer too?

RT: Yes she is.

JLB: Do you two compete against each other?

RT: Sometimes, but just for fun though, not in organized competition.

JLB: Is the Archery Shooting Sport still popular? Some have said that it might be a dying sport.

RT: I think that the Compound Bow and the Crossbow have a lot to do with the renewed popularity. The recent Covid pandemic also created interest, with families having

been cooped up, resulted in their looking for something that could be enjoyed in the outdoors.

JLB: What does a person need to get started in archery?

RT: It is more than just buying a bow at a garage sale. A properly fitted bow with appropriate draw length and pull weight accommodating their body strength and height is important.

JLB: Is this an expensive hobby?

RT: It can be, but with patience and care in selection, it needn't be. You will need to invest in archery gear, find a place to practice and importantly, seek some archery lessons. This may sound expensive, but archery doesn't have to be pricey.

If you're on a budget, basic traditional archery is a cost-effective and enjoyable way to get started. Compound bows are becoming evermore popular, and are slightly more expensive than



the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Two

traditional equipment. Fortunately, improvements in technology, compound bows are very accurate and coming down in price. An archery store can get you outfitted with a compound bow that is surprisingly inexpensive.

A beginner archer's budget should also include archery lessons. We have static targets on our IWLA range for our members and this is a good way to start. As to lessons, seek group lessons rather than



private ones

JLB: How has bow technology changed over the years?

RT: There are a variety of bow types, The 4 bow types in modern archery are recurve bow, compound bow, longbow and finally the crossbow.

JLB: Do you shoot more than one style bow, or have you settled on just one?

RT: I use compound, crossbow, and I'm currently venturing back into traditional bow shooting.

JLB: Tell us a little about 3D archery at the Fort Wayne Chapter.



RT: Our 3D shoots are open to the public as well as members and 3D Archery is a fun way to get family and friends together. We have 21 different animal targets that are life sized and placed throughout IWLA property. There is a nominal fee of \$10 per person and children 12 and under are free.

JLB: What do you think about the quality of the Izaak Walton archery range and 3D equipment?

RT: We offer an outstanding 3D range and practice target range including the new crossbow practice target area. While we are a membership organization, we offer 3D archery that is open to the public.



JLB: Do you plan to offer Archery classes at Izaak Walton?

RT: Perhaps, if there is enough people interested. If interested, send me an email at r1thompson76@yahoo.com and we'll see what level of interest in lessons may be out there.

JLB: As we close this interview, do you have any thoughts that you'd like to share and that we might not have covered in our interview?

RT: I want to mention that the Fort Wayne Chapter offers 3D Shoots the 3rd Saturday every Month from March to September.

JLB: Rick, on behalf of the Fort Wayne Chapter, let me express how much we appreciate your stepping forward to lead our Archery program.

RT: I'm excited to be a part of Archery at the Izaak Walton Chapter. Interest is growing, as more hear about our 3D range and our goal is to get our Archery members involved again and to gain new members in the process.

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the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Four

2024 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS ELECTED

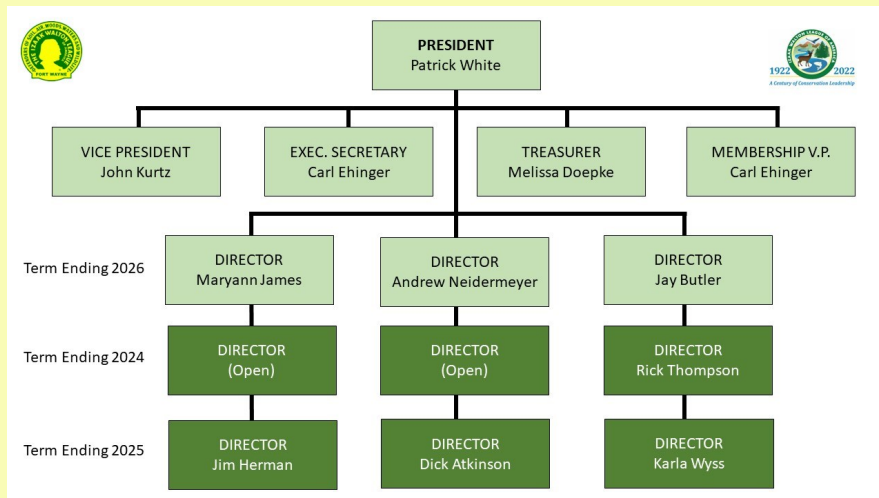


The Fort Wayne Chapter held its Spring Membership Meeting and Board Election on May 13th, with twenty-two members in attendance. Elected were Officers: Patrick J. White-President, John Kurtz-Vice President, Carl Ehinger-Secretary/Membership VP, Melissa Doepke-Treasurer, and Directors Jay Butler, Andrew Neidermeyer, and Maryann James.

Jay Butler, long time serving Board Officer & Director, stepped down

from his Executive Secretary position, and will remain on the Board as a Director, serving as Board Parliamentarian and will be replaced by Carl Ehinger, moving from Treasurer to Chapter Secretary.

Carl has served as Secretary in other volunteer organizations and will



bring fresh thinking to this position. Melissa Doepke will assume duties of Treasurer.

Melissa also brings experience with her, as she is experienced in Accounting and in the use of Outlook software, returning the Chapter to digitized data collection/reporting needed to generate various financial reports to assist the Board and our Range Managers in their work.

Jay has served the Chapter over past years as Vice President, Treasurer, and Executive Secretary, as well as having held Officer and Board positions at the State Division and National IWLA levels.

Directors James and Neidermeyer are experienced Directors, having served in this position for a number of years, retaining knowledge and balance to the Board, as we continue in transition to new Board make up.

The Board still has two open Director positions and is looking for members experienced in business, who are looking to serve the chapter as leaders and in the management of the Chapter.

Newly elected or returning Officers and Directors are shown in light green on the org. chart.

the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Five

FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

PATRICK J. WHITE, Major USAF Retired

Recently our chapter held one of its most important meetings as we met to determine who manages our facility for the next year. At the Spring meeting, all members were allowed to nominate individuals, or to personally step up for the most critical offices in the Chapter: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The individuals nominated and elected are designated as the legal representatives in the eyes of both state and federal government.

Our Chapter owns approximately 270 acres of land dominated by the Cedar Creek Corridor, much of which has been bequeathed to our Chapter by others to maintain a legacy for others in the future. We are responsible for maintaining the landscape in a pristine fashion, as nature intended, so that it will be available for many years to come. We also have unique opportunities available for both members and guests like our rifle and pistol ranges, our trap and skeet facilities, our fishing pond and our miles of nature trails that meander through ancient glacier formed woodland. But, management and maintenance of all of this is accomplished by the same ten percent of our membership year-over-year. We have no salaried staff.

One would think that several individuals would be interested in guiding the fortunes of a chapter that has been in existence since 1924. Sadly, that has not been the case in recent years, and I wonder why? Our chapter is one of the largest in the state of Indiana with a multitude of amenities available to our members to enjoy throughout the year. In addition, our membership is comprised of individuals who represent a wide variety of industries and experience that is second to none. But there is a decided lack of sharing this knowledge in the management of our chapter.

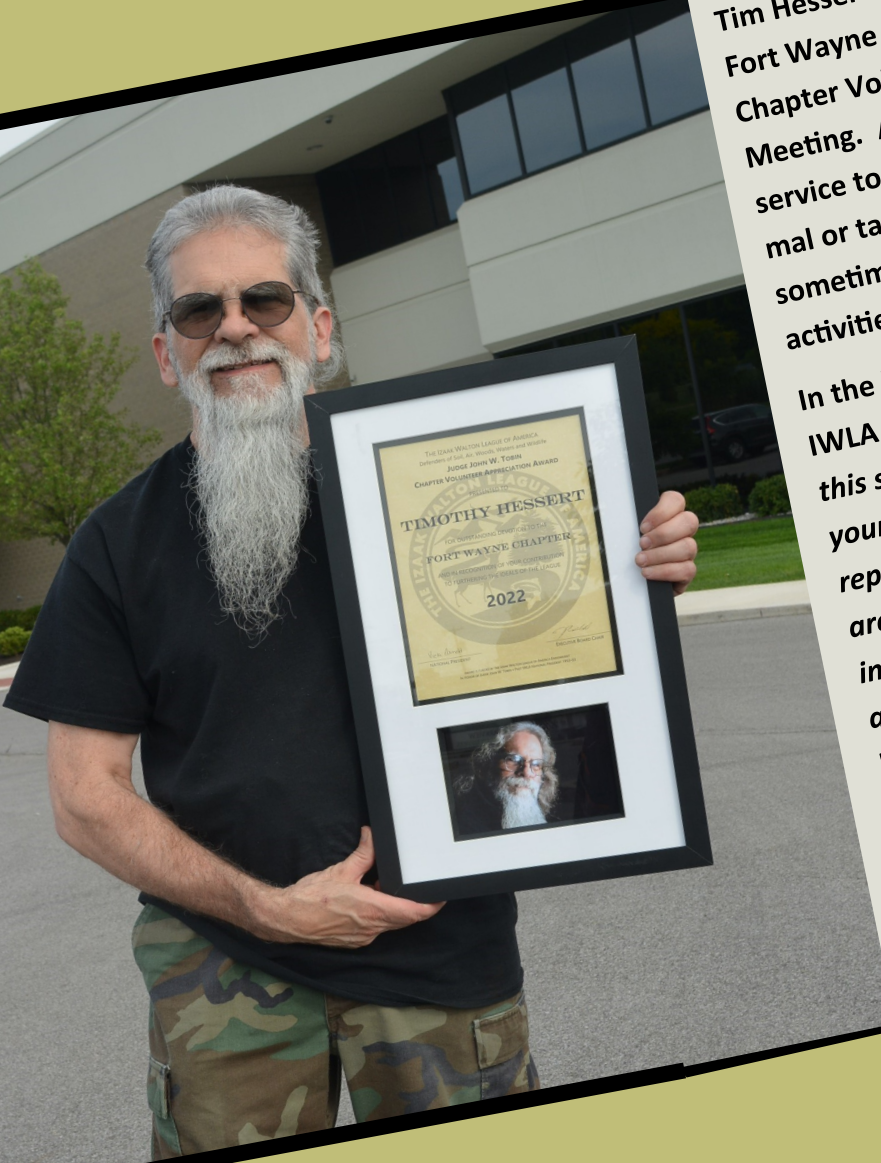
One would think that many individuals would want to be a part of the team that monitors and controls all aspects of the facility known as the Izaak Walton League of America Fort Wayne Chapter, but you would be incorrect. The question is: "Why don't our members run for office when election season arises?" I can postulate many theories regarding only a few individuals are willing to assume this responsibility over multiple terms, but I would be making assumptions which may be incorrect.

Regardless of my concerns of individuals being unwilling to donate their time and talent to run a 501c3 non-profit, I can say that those who were elected are individuals truly dedicated to making our chapter one of the best in America. But you know... these few leaders, who count their board terms in multiples of consecutive terms, get weary of carrying the load alone year over year, in a chapter of hundreds of members whose focus seems to be comfortable in "taking", rather than "giving back."



President—Fort Wayne Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America

JUDGE JOHN W. TOBIN CHAPTER VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION AWARD PRESENTED TO TIM HESSERT.



Tim Hessert was honored in a very special way by being Fort Wayne Chapter's recipient of the Judge Tobin Chapter Volunteer Award at the May 13th Membership Meeting. All too often, those who give untold hours of service to their chapters are never recognized in any formal or tangible way. Frequently, they just continue on, sometimes year after year, helping the chapter in it's activities.

In the letter received with the award, Patricia A . Nunn, IWLA Endowment President had this to say: "I trust that this special award citation, presented in appreciation of your devoted services to the Fort Wayne Chapter, will represent, in at least some small way, how valuable you are to the League in general and the Fort Wayne Chapter in particular. Please know and understand that this award is conferred upon you by the members of the Fort Wayne Chapter, and not a National Awards Committee, as it is your fellow chapter members who know and appreciate all that you have done, and continue to do."

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIVING SPIRIT!

the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Seven



SUMMIT AUTO CALIBRATION RENTS TRAP RANGE



Our Sport Shooting Facilities are available for rent to community businesses. When rented, we always have experienced members of our volunteer Sports Shooting staff present to assure safe shooting practices are followed. Summit Auto Calibration, a local business involved in recalibration of car digitized automotive accessories, i.e. backup camera, turn lane warning, etc. recently rented our Trap Range and we thought you might enjoy seeing some photos from that event.



This event was supervised by our Vice President/ Range Manager, John Kurtz and Chapter Youth Coach Allie Kurtz.



FOR INFORMATION ON GROUP RENTAL OF ONE OF OUR RANGES FOR A SUPERVISED AND SAFE OUTDOOR SHOOTING EXPERIENCE EMAIL PATRICK J. WHITE AT EMAIL fortwaynehotmail.com FOR PRICING AND AVAILABILITY.

OLD MOONSHINE STILL ON CHAPTER PROPERTY?

Kevin Sheehan, one of our photo contributing members was recently traipsing off the beaten path of our woodland trails and came upon what might be evidence of an old moonshine still, on what is now our Chapter Forest Preserve property, possibly from the 1920-1930 time period?
Could it be?



the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Nine

SCOUTS CHOOSE FW CHAPTER AGAIN FOR CAMPOREE.



While the April weather wasn't totally as pristine as one would hope, various Boy Scout troops of the Fort Wayne Area Council, descended on the campus of the Izaak Walton League-Fort Wayne Chapter for their annual Scout Camporee.

The entire Izaak Walton campus was shut down for the April 28-30 event and it was a cool and rainy weekend for the scouts and their Scoutmasters. But they used their motto "Be prepared" to the fullest extent throughout the entire event.

When the Jamboree was concluded at 3pm on Sunday afternoon, an inspection of the grounds of the chapter was conducted, and it was determined that the grounds were left in immaculate and pristine condition.



the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Ten

MEMBER INSPIRED TO SEND PHOTOS TO “NEWS”



PHOTOS BY MEMBER ANDREW NEIDERMEYER



Long time member and Chapter Board Member, Andrew Neidermeyer was inspired by Kevin Sheehan's photos in the May issue and sent in these Spring photos that were the result of a trail walk through the woodlands of the Fort Wayne Chapter.

If you haven't tried a Spring walk though our woods, you are missing something!

the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Eleven

IN DIVISION CONVENTION BEING HOSTED BY FORT WAYNE CHAPTER JUNE 3-4

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ATA TRAP SHOOTS

MAY 28TH

JUNE 25TH

the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Twelve

THE FORT WAYNE CHAPTER WELCOMES OUR NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED IN JUNE

- ◇ Chad Coressel
- ◇ Paul Larson
- ◇ Michael Zennie
- ◇ Gene & Lisa Miller
- ◇ Jacob Shirkey
- ◇ Carl Garringer

- ◇ Matt & Kelsey Edholm
- ◇ Loren & Lynette Meyers

WELCOME

NEW IWLA LOGO FLAG ADDED



KNOW THE RULES!

For the safety of our Members & Guests, the Range Rules of the Rifle & Pistol Range allow our members to host a maximum of two guests per visit and as host, they are the responsibility of their sponsor while they are on the Range!

Further, the sponsoring host is to be with their guest shooters when they are on the firing line and not on a different shooting station.

This makes you responsible for your guests actions while on our range.

I TRIED IT

A NEW COMPETITION TO CONSIDER

By Patrick J. White

If you're like most individuals, you probably enjoy some level of competition. Whether in a Board Game or in the neighbor's back yard, we all enjoyed competing as youngsters. While not always intense competition, it gave bragging rights to those participating. Maybe it was who was the best in a pick-up game, the best student, and many times the best behaved in public.

As we grew up, competition began to take on many different facets. Competition for affection of another person, competition for a job or promotion and friendly competition in the world of sports. With that being said, we've attempted to introduce some competition on our Rifle Range for those in our Chapter who enjoy marksmanship with a .22LR rifle. Alas, our first efforts to date have been a failure.

We attempted to introduce "Rimfire Silhouette" competition last spring and it never got off the ground. The primary complaint was the inability to practice the course of fire. Our course design made practicing extremely difficult and time consuming. It was a grand idea, that failed to catch on, but we're not giving up.

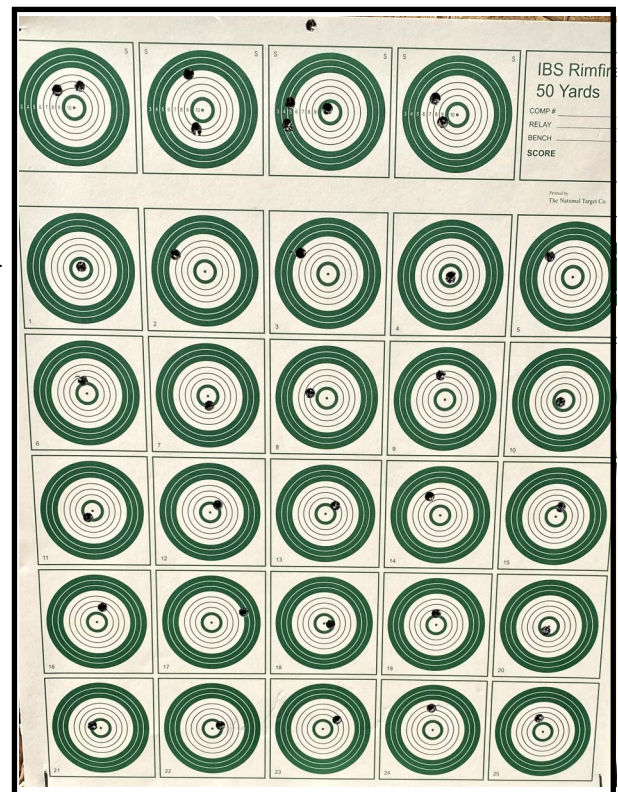
We're now introducing a new challenge for the average .22LR enthusiast from the American Rimfire Association. The competition is simple in that it requires .22 caliber rifle, one box of 50-rounds of ammunition, and two paper targets placed at 50-yards downrange.

The rules are simple:

1. A .22 caliber rifle with a MSRP of less the \$1250.00 in purchase price and may be Semi-automatic, Pump or Bolt action.
2. Shooting is done from a benchrest. Front rest (bipod) and rear bag allowed. No connecting lead-sled style is allowed. Ours style is considered by ARA as "Factory Class" competition.
3. Targets are IBS paper targets each containing 25 bullseye circles. One shot is fired into each circle and its position on target determines a score of 1 to 10 points. The maximum score for each target circle is 10 points. Total points available on each IBS complete target is 250 points.
4. The time limit to shoot the total 25 circles is 20-minutes.
5. Each match will consist of shooting two individual IBS target sheets. The total of both score sheets will determine the winner. In the event of a tie, the shooter with the most "Dead Center", known as 10X scores, will be the winner.

Attached is a photo of an IBS target tested recently. To make practicing simple and inexpensive, a packet of IBS targets are inside the RSO shack. The cost is 2 for \$1.00.

The hope is this will become an enjoyable competition that will appeal to all who enjoy shooting a .22 caliber rifle. **Only time and interest will tell if this competition will catch on.**



Try it.... You may like it!

the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Fourteen

DID YOU KNOW...

“We Are Not Just A Sports Shooting Chapter!”

Your Chapter Board of Directors starts each board meeting with this pledge: *“To strive for the purity of water, the clarity of air, and the wise stewardship of the land and its resources; to know the beauty and understanding of nature and the value of wildlife, woodlands, and open space; to the preservation of this heritage and to man's sharing in it. I pledge myself as a member of the Izaak Walton League of America.”*

KEY CONTACTS

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Email: jaybutler1940@gmail.com

Patrick White—Photo Journalist Editor

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Page Fifteen

**Fort Wayne Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America**

News



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Page Sixteen



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Email address: _____

Type of Membership: _____ Total Dues: _____

If you wish to purchase range privileges—add \$40.00 R/P: _____

Total enclosed: _____

Please list any changes from your previous membership (type, address, names, etc.) _____

Current dues distribution

Type	National	Ind/Division	FW Chapter	Total Dues	% to Chapter	Range Fee
Family	\$75.00	\$12.00	\$53.00	\$140.00	38%	\$40.00*
Senior Family	\$75.00	\$6.00	\$53.00	\$134.00	39.5%	\$40.00*
Individual	\$50.00	\$8.00	\$42.00	\$100.00	42%	\$40.00*
Senior	\$50.00	\$6.00	\$34.00	\$90.00	38%	\$40.00*
Student	\$25.00	\$6.00	\$29.00	\$60.00	48%	\$40.00*

* to use the rifle/pistol ranges you must purchase range privileges. **If you choose to purchase range privileges, please remit the "Total Dues" amount plus the \$40.00 range fee.** Range fees are wholly retained by the Chapter and are necessary to help offset the operating and maintenance expenses that are specifically associated with the ranges.

Thank you for your continued support of our Fort Wayne Chapter