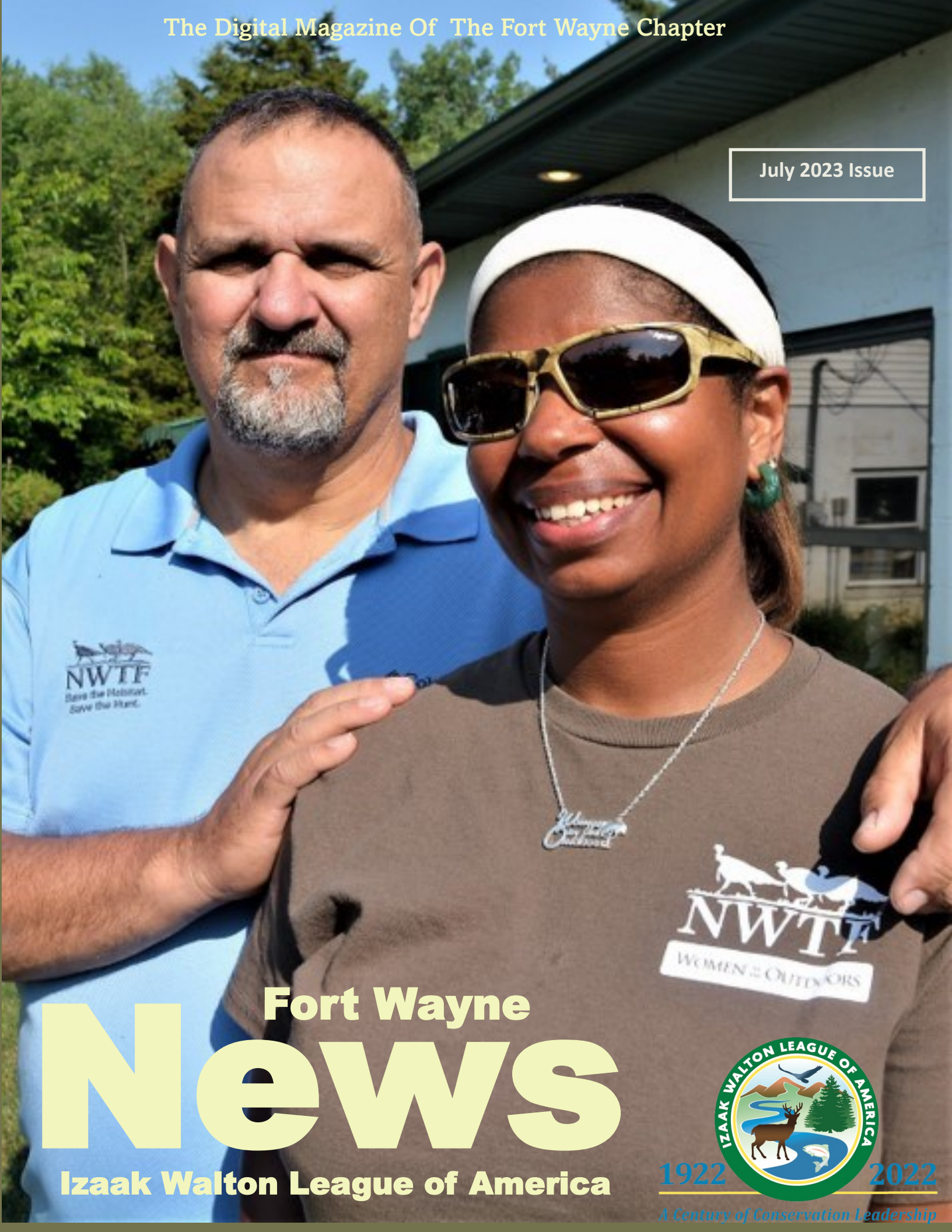


July 2023 Issue



NWTF
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NWTF
WOMEN & OUTDOORS

Fort Wayne News

Izaak Walton League of America



1922 2022

A Century of Conservation Leadership

the Fort Wayne Chapter

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Cover Photo

By Patrick J. White.

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INTERVIEWING CHARITA

“Lady Of The Outdoors”

This month we are interviewing Charita Niedermeyer, a member of the FW Chapter of IWLA. I have known Charita for a number of years and she is a most interesting person in the Conservation & Shooting Sports world, as you are about to learn. We tracked her down at the 2023 Women In The Outdoors event being held at our Chapter. We found her figuratively climbing on her horse and riding off in six different directions at once, as Chairman of this event.

JLB: Good afternoon, Charita. It's always a pleasure to chat with you and we appreciate your taking a few moments away from this unique venture referred to as WITO. That's an acronym isn't it?

CN: Hi Jay! Yes, WITO (pronounced “wee-toe”) is the acronym we use in the NWTf world (National Wild Turkey Federation) for our Women in the Outdoors outreach program. A lot quicker and easier to say!

JLB: Gotcha! Charita, I had belonged to our local chapter for several years and I just assumed that this joint venture between the Allen County chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Izaak Walton League was a common event held by the two organizations nationwide, but as it turns out, this relationship is somewhat unique. Am I right?

CN: WITO events across the country, as with any of the NWTf's outreach programs, are held at various locations. They could be held at someone's house or farmland, conservation clubs, business locations, DNR, state, or federal land areas.

JLB: I looked up Andrew's membership records and he has been an IWLA member since Sept 2006. Have you been a member of the Fort Wayne chapter all of that time as well, or did you guys take out a family membership somewhere

along the way?

CN: When Andrew signed up, he signed up for a family membership. We both shoot and hunt, so it made the most sense and I could go out to the chapter on my own, when he was tied up.

JLB: How long has our chapter been doing this joint effort and how did it come about?

CN: 2006 was our first event. Between possibly using the Girl Scout camp next door and IWLA, we had hoped one of them would take the bait, and Izaak came through for us! There used to be an event put on by the IN DNR in this area pre-2006 called BOW (Becoming an Outdoor Woman) that was held at both the Girl Scouts camp next door and Izaak Walton. Well, the DNR stopped doing that event in this area and there was still a need for a similar type event. I was approached by the regional WITO coordinator at the time, due to me being very active in my local NWTf chapter, to see if I'd be interested in taking on the (major) task of starting up an event for this area. Fast forward pushing 20 years, here we still are!

JLB: And you and Andrew are members of both chapters, is that right?

CN: Yes, we joined the IWLA and NWTf as members way back in the early 2000s.

JLB: My impression is that WITO attendees can choose from a cafeteria

the Fort Wayne Chapter

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menu of different events. Is that correct and if so, how many are offered in this event going on around us?

CN: WITO event attendees pre-register and pay a registration fee, and that includes a 1 year NWTF membership and magazine, 4 classes of their choice, and a light breakfast and lunch. We typically have 24 classes offered each year, broken down into time blocks of 6 classes (4 sessions). Each class is 2hrs. long.

JLB: Tell us about some of the most popular events being offered this year.

CN: Our shooting (firearms and archery) classes are always big hits every year at our events, which is why we always include those in our choices of classes, and sometimes even offering advanced classes. After that, our next most popular classes include camping, hiking or survival of the fittest type classes—outdoor cooking, camping, wilderness survival/first aid type classes, backpacking, self defense, and any type of gardening, wild edibles and similar.

JLB: Are these events the same every year?

CN: Definitely not. As mentioned, we always make sure we offer shooting classes (archery, gun), but the other 80% are usually either new classes, or classes we only bring back every couple or few years. Since we have been doing this event for so long, and tend to have some repeat attendees, it is very important that we try our best to keep classes as fresh as possible to keep some of our alumnus coming back!

JLB: So they are more than just sports shooting of shot-guns, bow & arrow, and small-bore rifle?

CN: Yes, but we make sure that the majority of our classes offered are outdoors based.

JLB: How do you locate and sign on the subject matter experts for these classes?

CN: It can be a tricky beast! Not an easy task finding “qualified/decent” and available instructors! It takes a few months for our committee to come up with classes and instructors for that year’s event. Most of them are word of mouth or have taught at our event in prior years.

JLB: I notice that your rifle instructors are wearing Indiana Department of Natural Resources uniforms. Are they the same one’s year after year, and if so, what draws them back as instructor/coaches?

CN: No, not always. Just depends on which IN Conservation Officers are available to teach at our event that day. They typically will teach our Firearms Safety

class, any rifle and pistol classes—basic and advanced, and lately our Self Defense class as well. They also will sometimes assist with the archery classes.

JLB: The FW Chapter normally has a requirement that we use our own certified Range Officers for classes like this one offered, but this WITO program has been around longer than our Chapter’s certified RSO program, and we share your confidence in your coaches, so we make an exception, which is very rare.

CN: The NWTF really promotes having a “working” relationship with our state agencies (DNR) and partners when it comes to outreach programs. So, this is why we have continually relied on them for some of our classes each year. I also think it’s very important for the “general public” to have a good rapport for officers, especially in this day and age! And for our muzzleloading class, we always use an instructor who is with 4H Shooting Sports but also with the Indiana Hunter Ed. Association.

JLB: Charita, you, Andrew, and I attended an IDNR R³ Summit a couple of years ago, and we learned that the number of hunters is getting alarmingly smaller year after year and this is a major concern, as it is funds from the Pittman-Robertson act using excise tax from gun and gun accessories to cover the majority of the cost of husbandry of Wildlife. Can you summarize what we learned in this Summit?

CN: Well, first let me tell you a little about how wildlife activities are funded. The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration program, known as the Pittman-Robertson Act has funded wildlife activities since 1937 with funds providing activities for the conservation, restoration, and management of wildlife in the United States, providing billions with a capital “B,” an incredible amount of money that goes directly to wildlife conservation programs.

JLB: Wow! And if I remember correctly, we were told at the Summit that we must do more than just provide firearm education and range training. Something about needing to provide actual hunting experiences, right?

CN: Yes, firearm safety, education, and range time is still a must for getting into the hunting realm, but we also must do more to offer up learning programs for hunting and getting new people out there. This also must include follow-ups AFTER the fact, such as game cleaning/field dressing courses and field-to-table cooking classes.

the Fort Wayne Chapter

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JLB: Can you share how you have been responding to this challenge on a personal basis?

CN: Our NWTF chapter has partnered with the DNR and hosted "Learn to" events such as Learn to Hunt events. But we have also done the follow-up events such as field to table cooking classes, to show new hunters how to cook various wild game. And we depend heavily on Izaak Walton's wonderful outdoor facilities.

JLB: Charita, how long have you been a Sports Shooting enthusiast and how did you get started?

CN: I am primarily a shotgun shooter/hunter/bird hunter and archery deer hunter. I also use a muzzleloader for deer hunting for the two gun seasons. Bird (including turkey) hunting is my passion and what I do most. My husband Andrew introduced me into the crazy realm of hunting and fishing a few years into our dating! I've now been hunting and fishing for pushing 25 years!

JLB: I know that you have got to go back to your WITO event, and I have just two more questions. I know that you have received some state and national recognition for your work. Tell us very quickly what those awards were.

CN: They have ranged from our WITO committee earning IN state NWTF best event awards, to national NWTF best event with over 70 attendees awards. I have won state WITO Coordinator awards,

Volunteer of the Year awards, and a national award, the "Annie Oakley Award" which is basically the top WITO Coordinator in the country. I also won the IWLA Shooting Sports Award in 2019. In addition, I have also won a Big Brothers and Big Sisters "Diana Humphrey Award" for our region which is basically an award for a Big Sister who also does amazing things in their community, for their community. Just recently, I recently received the AFP (Association of Fundraising Professionals) Northeast IN Chapter "Outstanding Volunteer Award" which is again, for volunteer work in the community.

JLB: Finally, what is your firearm of choice by brand and gauge used in the field.

CN: Currently, my guns of choice are the Weatherby's. I currently use a 12 and 20 gauge, which are both Weatherby's.

JLB: Charita, it has been a pleasure, as always, chatting with you. Thank you for what you do to advance Sports Shooting and in protection and perpetuation of our nation's wildlife.

CN: Thank you, Jay, and thanks for dropping by today's women's event. Oops! Looks like I'm needed over there. Gotta go.

JLB: By all means. Go girl!

GETTING OLDER

HEARD AT LAST CHAPTER BOARD MEETING

'I just bought new hearing aids. They cost me four thousand dollars, but they're state of the art. My hearing is perfect!', said Carl.

'Really,' answered Patrick, 'What kind is it?'

Seven thirty.', answered Carl

SUMMER TRAP SHOOTS

Sunday Mornings
9:00am-1:30pm

Wednesday Evenings

the Fort Wayne Chapter

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CIVILIAN MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAM

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 7, 2023

By Sheri Trusty, CMP Feature Writer

Award-winning marksman Bremen Butler got a first glimpse into her successful future in the basement of her Fort Wayne, Indiana, home. It was there she learned a girl has a place on the range.

"How did I become interested in the sport? It's one of my favorite stories to tell," Bremen said. "My brother had a crush on a girl who was on a rifle team, so my dad, who is the best wingman, set up a pistol range in the basement."

Watching a girl expertly handle a pistol inspired Bremen to join a local marksmanship team. Today, 18-year-old Bremen has a myriad of medals hanging at home. She won the 2021 Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) Smallbore Junior National Three-Position Championship and the 2023 Army Marksmanship Unit (AMU) Air Gun Nationals. In 2021, she won a bronze medal in Smallbore and Air Rifle U18 at the Junior Olympics.

Bremen Butler poses with her medals she's earned from marksmanship events.

"It's hard to estimate how many medals she's won," said her father, Chris Butler. "Last count was about 120. She's won gold, silver and bronze medals, a dozen or so state championships, and a handful of national championships."



Bremen learned marksmanship from her dad, and her skills were further honed by many people who invested in her. She trains

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with two-time Olympian marksman Jayme Shipley of iShoot Consulting, and she competes with the Belmont High School Shooting Club under the coaching of Andrew Werling.

“My coach is definitely the salt of the earth. I’ve been able to take on the role of athlete coach on the team thanks to him,” Bremen said. “He’s coaching me on how to coach, which is my dream job.”

Bremen was awarded a \$5,000 CMP Scholarship this year, and she will join the Georgia Southern University rifle team next fall.

“It was very exciting to receive the scholarship,” she said. “Georgia Southern University is a young team with a new coach and a fresh start. I’m really excited about getting down there and helping build a new legacy.”

Marksmanship not only impacted Bremen’s future, but it also changed the way she views herself today.

“Growing up, I put my value in my grades and then in my scores and ability. Now, I can have a bad day, and it doesn’t define me,” Bremen said. “Just because I didn’t do well today, that doesn’t change who I am.”



Bremen receives a fist bump after the Final in the April Monthly Match. She earned the silver medal at the event. Chris said he’s watched his daughter remain true to herself as she’s grown as a marksman. A defining moment in Bremen’s character came on one of her worst days, when her performance during a competition wasn’t up to her own expectations. Bremen has a reputation for always leaving the range with a smile, and that day, like

many others, she chose to grin at her failure.

“She walked off the line with a smile on her face and frustration in her eyes and said, ‘Dad, you know what makes a bad day good? It makes a good day all that much better.’ Now, that’s perspective,” Chris said.

For Bremen, that perspective stems from her refusal to define her worth by one day’s performance.

“Sometimes, “stinking” is all that will come out of a competition, and it makes when you don’t “stink”, feel good,” she said.

As an encouraging father at the range, Chris had a big impact on Bremen’s response to successful and not-so-successful competitions. She said she hears his voice guiding and gently reprimanding her, even when he’s not there.

“I’ll hear his voice in my head when I’m shooting,” she said. “I’ll argue with him when he’s not anywhere near me.”

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Bremen with her dad Chris, who holds her rings on his pinky while she is shooting.

Chris and Bremen have grown close as they've traveled thousands of miles together to competitions.

Prior to each event, Bremen slips the rings off her fingers, stacks them

one by one on Chris' pinky finger, and they pray together on the range.

"It's one of my favorite things," Bremen said.

On May 19, Bremen stood at the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center in Port Clinton, Ohio, prepping for the Camp Perry Open where she would compete in 3PAR (prone, standing and kneeling) air rifle and smallbore with an Anschutz 9015 ONE air rifle with a 3P conversion kit and an Anschutz 54.30 smallbore rifle. She said she was looking forward to competing with the range's electronic targets and facing the ever-windy conditions at Camp Perry, which add another element of difficulty to the matches.

While there, she talked about the paradox of marksmanship competition.

Bremen poses for a photo with her precision air rifle.

"This sport is all about consistency, about doing the same thing every time. Every range is the same, so I tell new competitors not to stress about a new range because everything is the same," Bremen said.

"At the same time, you're going to be different every time you shoot."

Then, Bremen shares with them her big-picture perspective on competition. "I tell them it's ok to not be the same every time. You can adjust," she said. "There's always another match."



Bremen is 3rd generation member of the FW Chapter IWLA.

By Sheri Trusty, CMP Feature Writer
Civilian Marksmanship Program

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We'd like to highlight one of our unsung hero's. If you noticed in this issue, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of Ads appearing in the right hand column. We owe a debt of gratitude to those who made this happen.

First we'd like to recognize chapter member Darrell Fish for being our super-salesman in selling these Ads.

Secondly, without the help of the professionals at FastSigns creating the billboard versions of these signs, it would not be possible.

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Fort Wayne Chapter Hosts The Local Chapter of National Wild Turkey Federation.

WOMEN IN THE OUTDOORS

The Fort Wayne Chapter of Izaak Walton (IWLA), has been partnering with the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf) to provide unique outdoor experiences for the Greater Fort Wayne area for many years. On June 10th, the partnering was the annual Women In The Outdoors event. Women of all ages, and all walks of life met at the IWLA Chapter for the annual National Wild Turkey Federation's Women's Only Event.

Long time Chair of this event, Charita Niedermeyer, a member and leader of both the Izaak Walton and Wild Turkey local chapters, brought over 75 women of all ages together for a day of events for Women only. The women were each allowed to select from a cafeteria menu of events, making the day special for each lady attending.



One of the popular offerings was a Self Defense Class taught by Indiana Conservation Officers.

For those ladies who may have been fortunate enough to bag an "Ole Tom" recently, or for those who just "hoped to", there was a class on how to preserve and display turkey tail feathers. They learned that the turkey fan is made up of 18 tail feathers 12 to 15 inches long, toms display the fans to attract females during the breeding season. While juvenile males (known as jakes), have middle tail feathers longer than the rest of the tail feathers, adult males have tail feathers uniform in length.



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There were archery classes for both the novice and the more advanced shooters, as the archery ranges were prepared for the day's activities.

There was a session titled Introduction To Fur Trapping



And that even included demonstrations of the myriad of different traps that have been used in the past and present, to capture the critters.



Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) officers conducted a popular class introducing the ladies to the various firearms in use today in the Sports Shooting world.



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After the firearms orientation class, many of the ladies took the opportunity to visit the well outfitted FW IWLA Chapter range for hands on shooting introduction.

Under the watchful eye of the Range Officer, those particularly adventurous, even took the opportunity to shoot a large bore rifle equipped with a suppressor, commonly called a "silencer", something that their boyfriend or husband probably hadn't done. Talk about "braggin rights".



And if that was a bit much, there were plenty of opportunities for small bore shooting.



Followed by a walk downrange during a "Range Is Cold" period to see up close and personal..... How they had done.

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The weather was great, the food was scrumptious, the classes held great promise and no one came away disappointed. There were 30+ instructors present to assure the safety of the participants, as well as happily sharing the expertise that they had learned with those looking for the opportunity to learn.

As the day came to an end, the smiles were many, as two different conservation chapters had come together yet another year to provide an outdoor experience that would have been difficult, if not impossible to provide without this longstanding partnership.

Kudo's to the Fort Wayne & Allen County Chapters of the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Izaak Walton League of America for making this happen! Conservation Through Partnership!

HOSTING A STATE CONVENTION “Behind the Curtain!”

Hosting a two day event can be a daunting task for those who have volunteered their time, especially if you have never done it. Rather than focusing on the Convention itself, we'd like to highlight those who made it happen. We received many congratulatory comments from those attending, and without our volunteers we never could have accomplished it.



From Left to Right, Maryann James—Hospitality Chair & Board member, Carl Ehinger—Treasurer, and Vice President John Kurtz checking Convention agenda for work assignments, with Board member—Dick Atkinson looking on.



Member Luke James and Incoming Treasurer Lissa Doepke prepare veggies for lunch.

Lily Smith and Luke James preparing Chicken Sliders for lunch.



the Fort Wayne Chapter

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Treasurer Carl Ehinger grilling some sausages for our guests breakfast.



Membership Vice President Carl Ehinger and Board member & Hospitality Chair—Maryann James work on Hor d' oeuvres for the Hospitality Hour.

Range RSO Scheduling Officer—Deb Warnick, registers guests Patti and Stan Jarosz—Miller Chapter.



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Chapter Member & National Champion small bore shooter Bremen Butler and Dad Chris, Chat with incoming Treasurer Aunt Melissa Doepke.

Master Chefs John Kurtz and Carl Ehinger prepare to cook breakfast for our hungry guests.



Hospitality Chair Maryann James doing some kitchen chores.

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Indiana Division Executive Board Chairman Larry Biegel on the left, chats with Chapter hayride driver Ron Hessert as they prepare to leave on tour of chapter grounds.



Kitchen crew prepares salad for guests

RSO Brian Doepke shows prowess in using only two hands as he lifts two full gallons of extraordinary orange juice for guests breakfast.



the Fort Wayne Chapter

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Member—Luke James prepares extra Breakfast pastries for sale to guests & workers.

Board Member Karla Wyss and RSO-husband Mar serving as bar tenders for Guest Hospitality.



Chapter Executive Secretary Jay Butler checks roster of attending Convention Board Members and Delegates.



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CITY OF FORT WAYNE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

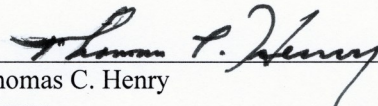
- WHEREAS,** the Izaak Walton League of America was formed in Chicago, IL, in 1992 as a conservation organization to promote clean water and sound use of our country in which Americans reside; and
- WHEREAS,** the Fort Wayne Chapter was founded in 1924 and continues to flourish even today as a non-profit dedicated to conservation of our land, water and resources; and
- WHEREAS,** the State Division of the Izaak Walton League of America which represents twenty (20) Chapters throughout Indiana holds their annual convention in a location voted on by chapter representing all chapters statewide. The Chapters in Indiana have voted to hold their 2023 State Convention at the Fort Wayne Chapter at 17100 Griffin Road, Huntertown, Indiana; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Fort Wayne welcomes delegates from throughout the Hoosier State to our city which in 2023 has been recognized by U.S. News and World Report at the best place to live in Indiana. The Summit City came in at number five (5) in the least expensive places to live and number fifteen (15) in the best places to retire; and
- WHEREAS,** it is the hope that the City of Fort Wayne will be considered an ideal city in which to hold other events related to the efforts of the Izaak Walton League of America to promote conversation in America.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THOMAS C. HENRY, Mayor of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana, do hereby proclaim June 4, 2023, as

IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA STATE CONVENTION DAY

in Fort Wayne, encouraging all citizens to duly note this occasion.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Office of Mayor, City of Fort Wayne, Indiana to be affixed this 4th day of June, 2023.


Thomas C. Henry
Mayor



FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

PATRICK J. WHITE, Major USAF Retired

Last year our chapter was notified that we were selected to host the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Indiana State Division. On one hand it was an honor to be selected, and on the other hand it was an exercise much like a dance routine but without the partners being given the opportunity to practice their anticipated performance. However, both partners were given a set of directions containing all the steps required to complete the dance routine. It was called an “Agenda”, but it was open to interpretation.

The agenda outlined all the twists, turns, moves and tempo needed to make the performance appear seamless in its presentation. In a sense, the document was the outline of the dance, but the actual performance was left to the individual partners.

In our case, we needed to select our costume, design the dance floor, and choose the proper music. This was our part of the dance routine, and we had little experience in this type of performance. So, a choreography team was assembled to perform the “Agenda Tango” like a seasoned professional. Each member of the team was selected to create a portion of the intended dance which was slated for the first weekend in June. And the “Lead Choreographer” was placed in charge of interpreting the dance routine.

Practice was not an option and most had never performed this dance routine previously, but a choreography was developed by a team intent on making the one-time performance memorable. What made this routine unique was that each part of the “Tango” was performed without the benefit of practice in advance. It was a dance with a stranger.

When “Showtime” arrived, both partners took to the dance floor and the music started. One partner led, and the other followed but the resulting dance appeared as if they had practiced multiple times prior to taking center stage.

While there were no judges on hand to grade the performance of the two distinct partners, the lead dancer smiled at the conclusion of the dance because he realized the performance contained aspects few had ever witnessed, and the audience while small, viewed a seamless presentation.

The dance ended with a flourish and both partners smiled and waved to the small but appreciative audience.

A near flawless performance was done by two partners without the benefit of practice. But the choreography team for each created a beautiful dance when all was said and done.



President—Fort Wayne Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America

the Fort Wayne Chapter

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SWEENEY TAKES NOTE

“Every Chapter Can Do This!”

Jim Sweeny, 2nd from the left in photo, and long-time leader within Izaak Walton had this to say about his discovery at the Fort Wayne Chapter: ***One of the reasons I like visiting other chapters so much is because there is always a lot to learn about how they do things. Some of you might have been there when Jay told us about this fund raiser they do every year. I asked them about all of the Ads that line the top of their Hall. It is the room they use for big meals, and for our Division Banquet last week, and for their shooters as well as often rented to individuals for private events.***

Most are just enlargements of business cards and the Chapter charges \$150 a year to local businesses to advertise for them. There are 30 signs at \$150 each = \$4,500 in income each subscription year.

Any chapter with a clubhouse can do something similar, especially if you have good salesmen in the Chapter. You just have to show advertisers that their Ads will be seen by a lot of people.

I'm sure that Jay and the gang would be willing to answer questions for you.

Many thanks to Fort Wayne for hosting the 2023 IN-Division Convention on the 3rd and 4th of June. They did a job and everyone had an enjoyable time.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This unique advertising method was the idea of one of our members, Dar-



rell Fish, who came up with the idea. Little did he know, when he first out forth the idea to our Board, that this would morph into one of the main fund raisers for the Chapter.

In addition to the wall mount, the chapter monthly NEWS magazine carries a business size copy monthly.. As Jim has observed all that is needed is someone to ask for the business. The Ads sell themselves, once introduced.

The chapter Board just approved rotating these small bill board signs between the Chapter House and our Shooting Range that enjoys 250 to 300 attendee's per month.

This is a no brainer, and the Ads are surprisingly easy to sell, as our local businesses see the low cost potential for getting their business name before the public.

Some of the Ads and the subscription form can be seen on the pages of this issue of the NEWS, .

Fort Wayne Chapter
Izaak Walton League of America

News

GIVE YOUR BUSINESS CARD MORE REACH.

- 12X24" Reproduction on our monthly NEWS Magazine reaching over 700 House.
- 2.9 x 1.8" Reproduction in our monthly NEWS Magazine reaching over 700 members and friends nationwide in monthly 12 issues.

\$150 PER YEAR

NAME OF BUSINESS: _____ EMAIL: _____
BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____
BUSINESS PHONE: _____
CONTACT NAME: _____

Enclose Form, Check and a Business Card to:
Attention: Patrick J. White
17100 Griffin Rd.
Huntertown, IN 46748
PHONE: 260-466-1479 EMAIL: ftwayne@hotmail.com

For more information call or email:

**12x24" on Wall Of Clubhouse
(Facility Open For Members and Public)**

**2.9x1.8" Standard Business Card Sizer
(12 Issues of Chapter NEWS Magazine)**

great

the Fort Wayne Chapter

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I TRIED IT

Silk Purse From A Sow's Ear

By Patrick J. White

Like many, I've always dreamed of owning a very expensive rifle designed for precision target shooting, but my budget was found in the "Bargain Basement." I was destined to own an inexpensive standard "off the rack" firearm found in gun stores and sporting good retailers. You know, something cheap.

I reviewed the websites of various manufacturers and concluded that I needed to find an acceptable .22LR rifle that I could purchase for under \$300. After that I intended to dress it up with some cosmetic changes and a decent 6x24 scope.

To find a rifle I wanted I took a trip to ZX GUNS (www.zxgun.com) on Coliseum Boulevard. There I met sales professional Phil who ordered the Savage MK II FV that I decided was my best option to become a respectable marksman. A couple of weeks later, it arrived, and I stopped in and picked up my new "inexpensive" .22LR rifle. The price for the Savage MKII was \$237 plus Indiana tax.



So now I own a new rifle that had the praises of many on YouTube videos. But to be honest, I hated the plastic/mylar stock which looked like something I'd find on a Daisy BB-Gun. My plan was to find a replacement stock, and after seeing numerous videos on YouTube, I knew Boyd's was the company that had what I wanted. After a visit to their website, I realized Boyd's offered a vast selection of stocks for nearly every gun made by the majority of manufacturers in the world.



I then called Boyd's (www.boydsgunstocks.com) via their toll-free number and ordered an "At-One" stock made from pure walnut. Yes, it was \$235 plus shipping which was \$13. The new stock cost nearly the same amount as my rifle which some would call "crazy", but it made the Savage MKII look like a much more expensive firearm. As I waited for UPS to arrive, I pondered adding a decent scope to my new creation. My choice was a HAWKE OPTICS multi-power Endurance model 6x24x50.

When the stock arrived, I checked it out for quality and fit, and it only needed some mild sandpapering inside the stock to reduce some rough edges to allow the barrel and action to fit into this beautiful piece of walnut. Once assembled with my HAWKE OPTICS scope (www.hawkeoptics.com), my inexpensive Savage MKII was now a handsome prince worthy of showing to fellow shooters at our R&P range. Each person who saw and handled my new firearm admitted to its stunning beauty.



And if you're wondering if my new "package" was accurate, I can tell you my most recent score shooting an IBS target at 50-yard was a score of 249/250. I was one point under shooting a perfect score. So yes, I have a "Frankengun" created from a Savage MKII barrel and receiver, a Boyd's At-One solid walnut stock and a HAWKE OPTICS scope. It's truly "A Silk Purse from a Sow's Ear."

the Fort Wayne Chapter

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SOUND OFF!



Tell us your thoughts about our **"FW Chapter NEWS"** or any other Chapter related topic.

Email: jaybutler1940@gmail.com

Jay Butler

Managing Editor

It was a very nice state convention. Thank you fort Wayne chapter for hosting us and feeding us well. Since I was instructed to establish a committee for the National Convention.

Jim Buiters
President—IN Div.

3D ARCHERY SHOOT

21 - TARGET COURSE

COME JOIN US FOR FUN, PRACTICE, AND FRIENDLY CAMARADERIE

* ADMISSION \$10 - CHILDREN 12 & UNDER FREE

EVERY MONTH * 3RD SATURDAY * 10AM - 4PM

MARCH 18TH - APRIL 15TH - MAY 20TH - JUNE 17TH - JULY 15TH - AUGUST 19TH - SEPTEMBER 16TH

***NO CROSSBOWS *NO BROADHEADS**



IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE - FORT WAYNE CHAPTER

17100 GRIFFIN RD.

HUNTERTOWN, IN 46748



Tim Hessert, was announced as the winner of the 2023 prestigious Fort Wayne Chapter Tobin Award of his volunteerism. His latest effort was the painting of our new League Logo hung beside the old, at our Rifle & Pistol Range. The new logo has the wildlife carved into the face of the logo.

the Fort Wayne Chapter

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

- ◇ David Barlag
- ◇ John Lessaris
- ◇ Sherman Liechty
- ◇ Jim Hisey
- ◇ Justin McConnell
- ◇ Bob McClintok

- ◇ Michael Sievers
- ◇ Jermy Lopez
- ◇ John & Jenny Melcher
- ◇ Amdor & Katelynn Rodenbeck

WELCOME

Chapter Calendar

17-Jun	3-D Archery Shoot
24-Jun	R&P Competition
5-Jul	Trap & Skeet - Open to Public
12-Jul	Trap & Skeet - Open to Public
15-Jul	3-D Archery Shoot
19-Jul	Trap & Skeet - Open to Public
22-Jul	Jake's Day at Chapter
26-Jul	Trap & Skeet - Open to Public
2-Aug	Trap & Skeet - Open to Public
9-Aug	Trap & Skeet - Open to Public
9-Aug	Chapter Board Meeting
16-Aug	Trap & Skeet - Open to Public
19-Aug	3-D Archery Shoot
23-Aug	Trap & Skeet - Open to Public
30-Aug	Trap & Skeet - Open to Public
3-Sep	IN Division Board Meeting

To Receive Our Chapters Fort Wayne
NEWS, send email request to:
crehinger@gmail.com



WOODLAND TRAILS—West of Chapter House.
For the safety of our members and guests, all trails West of the Chapter House will be closed during the 3D Archery Shoots.

SHOTGUN PATTERN BOARD
For the safety of our members and guests, the Board will be off limits during 3D Archery Shoots.

RIFLE & PISTOL RANGE
Members may only bring 2 guests per visit and they are responsible for their behavior while on the premises.

3D ARCHERY
Broad Heads & Hunting points may not be used on 3D targets and are allowed only on designated targets.

the Fort Wayne Chapter

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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

Rifle & Pistol Range Manager

Karla Wyss

Email: marw4@frontier.com

Trap & Skeet Range Manager

John Kurtz

Email: jdkurtz66@gmail.com

Archery Manager

Rick Thompson

Email: rlthompson76@yahoo.com

Chief Range Safety Officer

James Ramsey

Email: jrsr7@aol.com

RSO Scheduling Officer

Deb Warnick

Dhow59yahoo.com

Site Manager

Zack Walter

Email: zwalter6@gmail.com

Chapter Information

Jay Butler

jaybutler1940@gmail.com

Executive Board

Patrick J. White—President

Email: ftwayne@hotmail.com

John Kurtz—Vice President

Email: jdkurtz66@gmail.com

Carl Ehinger—Secretary & Membership V.P.

Email: crehinger@gmail.com

Melissa Doepke—Treasurer

Email: mdoepke1@comcast.net

Our Ranges

RIFLE & PISTOL

DST: 10:30AM—7:00PM

Open: Mon-Tue-Fri-Sat-Sun

TRAP & SKEET

Sundays 9:00AM—1:00PM All Year

CO-EDITORS: “the FW CHAPTER NEWS”

Jay Butler— Managing Editor

Email: jaybutler1940@gmail.com

Patrick White—Photo Journalist Editor

ftwayne@hotmail.com

the Fort Wayne Chapter

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

News



1922 2022

A Century of Conservation Leadership

GIVE YOUR BUSINESS CARD MORE REACH.

- ◆ 12X24" Reproduction on our FRIENDS OF FW CHAPTER WALL in our Chapter House.
- ◆ 2.9 x 1.8" Reproduction in our monthly NEWS Magazine reaching over 700 members and friends nationwide in monthly 12 issues.

\$150 PER YEAR

NAME OF BUSINESS: _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

BUSINESS PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

Enclose Form, Check and a Business Card to:

Attention: Patrick J. White
17100 Griffin Rd.
Huntertown, IN 46748

For more information call or email: PHONE: 260-466-1479 EMAIL: ftwayne@hotmail.com

11750 E. State Road 205
Laotto, IN 46763
888-824-5587

@tripleasportinggoods
info@tripleasportinggoods.com

Zac Pfafman
owner

**12x24" on Wall Of Clubhouse
(Facility Open For Members and Public)**

Glenbrook | Glenbrook Hyundai Genesis

Ken Holden
Sales Consultant

4801 Coldwater Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Office: 260-484-9531
Fax: 260-969-1084
Mobile: 260-409-8220
kholden@glenbrookhyundai.com
www.HappyCarStore.com

**2.9x1.8" Standard Business Card Sizer
(12 Issues of Chapter NEWS Magazine)**

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2023 Membership Renewal Form

Please fill in the following information and determine the appropriate remittal amount from the table below. Place this completed form and your payment into an envelope and mail to: Fort Wayne Chapter, IWLA, c/o Carl Ehinger, 2709 Bearberry Ct., Fort Wayne, IN 46818

Name: _____ Member No. _____

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