

February 2023 Issue

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

# News



The Digital Magazine Of The Fort Wayne Chapter



# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page One

## INTERVIEWING IWLA MEMBER KEVIN SHEEHAN, VICE PRESIDENT OF HAWKE OPTICS.

### IN THIS ISSUE

Page 1  
K. Sheehan Interview

Page 6  
New Barrier Screens  
Installed on Rifle & Pistol  
Stations.

Page 6  
Inaugural Euchre Night A  
Success

Page 7  
Rifle Cartridges Found  
On Trap Field.

Page 9  
"For SALE" by member.

Page 10  
Presidents Letter

Page 11  
Member Takes Gold At  
Fort Benning

Page 13  
Apollo Recollections

Page 19  
Leader Contact Page

### Cover Photo and Lead Article

Cover photo and all  
photos appearing in  
lead article are the  
property of FW  
Chapter, Izaak Walton  
League

Official Publication of  
Fort Wayne Chapter  
Izaak Walton League  
of America

For Free Subscription,  
See Page 8

This issue, we are interviewing another one of our IWLA Fort Wayne Chapter Sports Shooting members, who is making waves in the firearm optics world. He is Kevin Sheehan, Vice President of Sales and Marketing of Hawke Optics USA. Kevin is an avid shooter, but one of the things that make him unique, besides his career choice, is his somewhat unique firearms choice.



**JB:** Good morning Kevin. With your busy schedule, we really appreciate your finding time to sit down with us and talk about both your business and your somewhat unique Sports Shooting choice of firearms. I hear

**that you are just back from the Shot Show.**

**KS:** *I am blessed to be busy as a part of a fast-growing shooting sports company and also to be a member of Izaak Walton. I'm happy to talk about my love for the industry and my love of shooting.*

**JB:** Kevin, before we get into your love of shooting, let's chat about your business. Can you give us a brief overview of Hawke Optics USA and what makes your company unique?

**KS:** *I have been with Hawke Optics for more than 6 years now. We are a privately owned company. Owned by Paul Walker and his two sons, Ashely, and Steven. The business is based in England and the company is focused on producing high quality optics at affordable prices. We make great glass, with premium features and are known for doing so at reasonable prices. Most shooting sports companies are based in the US and distribute internationally. We are unique. We are influenced by the UK market, which is a big airgun market. So, because of the popular use of heavy spring-powered airgun, the demand for highly durable, precision optics is very high.*

**JB:** What is your business background, and

**how did you end up at Hawke Optics?**

**KS:** *I have been in sporting goods sales my entire career. I guess it started when I was 12 years old and was a "looper". For those Caddy Shack fans, a looper is a caddie. I "looped," from 12 to 14 years old at Chicago Golf Club in Wheaton Illinois. Then, I worked at the Arrowhead Golf Club, a public golf course, throughout high school and college. I played golf on the high school team and for Loras College, located in Dubuque, Iowa. After college, I worked for Tommy Armour Golf for 9 years, then MacGregor Golf for another 5 years. I moved to Fort Wayne in 2006 to work for Tippmann Paintball.*

*While paintball was a significant change from the golf industry, the fundamentals of great product, brand loyalty, and great service, proved to be no difference. I happened to meet the owners of Hawke Optics and their need to expand their sales and marketing in the US market turned out to be a perfect fit for me.*

**JB:** I'm familiar with Wheaton. I spent the last five years of my business career based next door in Oak Brook Terrace and we've probably played some of the same courses.

**KS:** Know it well.

**JB:** How long has Hawke Optics had a presence in the United States?

**KS:** *Hawke was created in the UK in 2000. They began selling in the US in 2007. From 2007 through 2016, the company relied on US distributors and independent rep groups. They experienced great success, but they eventually realized that a fully dedicated company sales force was the best path for growth and success in the US. Since 2016, the company has invested significantly in the expansion of a nationwide sales force and significant mar-*

# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Two

marketing and advertising campaign to grow the Hawke brand in the US market.

**JB: So, Hawke Optics is a company based in the United Kingdom (England). Have you noticed any significant differences in business as conducted in Europe as compared to the United States?**



*KS: Hawke Optics is the market leader in the UK. We have also captured significant market share in the US market over the past several years. There is no*

*difference between the UK market and the US market in terms of making great product and providing great service. Naturally, those qualities are universal. There are different types of hunting and competition shooting internationally, as compared to the United States, but the demand for high-quality optics providing clarity, brightness, and precision are identical.*

**JB: I must tell you, that Hawke was not a name that was in my shooting lexicon until meeting you. My previous purchases had all been from the more recognizable optics companies offered in the USA market. Having said that though, my stable of rifle scopes now include a HAWKE 6-24X56 FFP mounted on a new CZ 457 22 LR**

**and a HAWKE 3-9x50: 30/30 Duplex, mounted on a Savage**



**B22 Precision Target 22 LR. My HAWKE red dot is mounted on a Tarsus TX precision 22 LR pistol. Finally, I have a small HAWKE 10x42 Endurance ED handheld Monocular that is ideal for watching my granddaughters' competitions.**

**Having owned most of the well-known optics over the years, I have to tell you... of all the brands that I have owned, the Hawke is the absolute best ever, considering both price and features. You seem to be very good at offering both price breakpoint and features that fit almost every shooter's needs.**

*KS: Absolutely! You said it! Although Hawke is not as well-known as other popular brands, it's only because we are still growing. We make great optics with precision, clarity, and brightness. We just happen to be relatively new to the market and it takes time to create brand recognition and reach the critical mass for shooters to recognize our brand and experience our quality and performance. It's a journey, and*

*a very enjoyable one.*

**JB: Do you have any new product offerings that you might have in the works, that you can share with us? Or is that a well-guarded secret?**

*KS: Whoa! I'm glad you asked. For those that are new to the Hawke brand, I encourage you to visit our website and do some internet searches about our products. You'll find that our greatest products are not new. For hunters, competitive shooters, plinkers, nature lovers, tactical shooters, crossbow shooters, and airgun shooters, our best products have been available for many years. But our now new products for 2023 are very exciting!*

*They include, range finding binoculars, a dedicated turkey riflescope, a new crossbow scope, fiber optic illuminated riflescopes, value-priced binoculars, and 1-8 magnification tactical scopes. 2023 is a big year for new product introductions for Hawke!*

**JB: How big of a challenge has it been to start from ground zero as you work to gain name recognition and a business presence in the United States?**

*KS: That's a tricky question. On one hand, we are very proud that we have quadrupled our US sales and distribution over the past 5 or 6 years. That's greater growth than any competitor in the category. We are very proud of that. However, we are still relatively small compared to the giants in this category. Ultimately, what has contributed to our growth thus far, such as making great products and providing excellent customer service continues to contribute to our growth. Our plans for the future have not changed. We plan to continue to innovate, and provide optics that provide clarity, precision, and brightness. We will also continue to invest significantly in marketing and advertising to make consumers aware.*

**JB: Tell us a little about the selection of Fort Wayne as the USA based corporate headquarters for Hawke Optics, as opposed to a larger city?**

*KS: Luck. Originally, in 2007, Hawke began selling in the US through a distributor that happened to be based in Fort Wayne. It was simply a distributor in the shooting sports category and that made sense. It wasn't a geographic decision. Eventually, the*

*company parted with the distributor and began selling direct to dealer from the same location.*





# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Three

**JB: Hawk Optics is a serious player in the European shooting optics market, I assume. Tell us a little about that.**

*KS: Paul Walker, our founder, has been producing and distributing shooting sports products since the 1970's. About 25 years ago, the optic brand they had been distributing went out of business. Paul and his sons, Ashley and Stephen, were already thinking of creating a superior design for optics focused on durability and precision and this offered that opportunity. Both the European and British markets are excellent for optics that are durable and precise. Surprisingly, air-powered guns are very punishing on optics and demand a superior design. Turret clicks, precise tracking, and clarity (especially in low light conditions) are very important for European and British markets. They invested significantly in the design of the products for these needs and crushed it!*

**JB: What's your "personal" background? Are you a Fort Wayne native?**

*KS: I grew up in the suburbs of Chicago. I worked for Tommy Armour Golf Company for 9 years from Inside sales to National Sales Manager. I moved to Albany Georgia as the Vice President of Sales Operations for MacGregor Golf Company. I joined Tippmann Paintball and moved to Fort Wayne in 2006 where I worked for Denny Tippmann until I joined Hawke in 2016. I love Fort Wayne. While my brothers still live and work in the Chicago area, I am trying desperately to convince at least one of them to move to Fort Wayne, hoping it will have a domino effect and they will all move here for a great standard of living.*

**JB: Why did you choose to join Hawke Optics?**

*KS: I loved working for Denny at Tippmann Sports. But, I had a LinkedIn search for a VP level position in the sporting goods industry located in Fort Wayne, assuming that would never happen. But, Eventually, a job opportunity appeared for Hawke Optics. I didn't think it would lead to anything, but when I met the owners, Paul, Ashley, and Stephen, they were looking for someone with the specific skills and experiences that I had. It was a perfect match, all at a time when the paintball industry was declining.*

**JB: Before we get into your current Shooting Sports interest, tell us about your shooting background. Did you start as a youngster, or is this something that came along later in life?**

*KS: Other than shooting rifles at summer camp as a kid and shooting trap with friends when I lived in Iowa, I didn't have any shooting or hunting experience before joining Hawke. However, since joining Hawke, I have become an avid airgun competitive shooter, life-long turkey, and deer hunter, and I have had the pleasure of many shooting experiences, including shooting to 1,000 yards, pheasant hunting, bear*

*hunting, alligator hunting, coyote hunting, crossbow shooting, trap, skeet, hunter field target, Benchrest, and much more.*



**JB: Your shooting hobby is somewhat unique, as you have chosen air rather than gun powder as the propellant for your firearms of choice? How did this come about?**

*KS: Tricky question.... I didn't choose air rather than gun powder. I chose air in addition to gun powder. But it's true that I've become an airgun geek. The ballistics knowledge and skill required to shoot a rifle out to 1,000 yards is the equivalent of shooting a precision airgun at 100 yards. Our friend and fellow Izaak Walton member, Jon Herman, is a big reason for my love of high-powered airgun shooting. Jon finished in the top 10 (6<sup>th</sup>, I think) in one of the 2 top worldwide precision airgun competitions in 2022. He is extremely talented and very knowledgeable about ballistics and precision shooting. .... And a good friend and great marksman.*

**JB: Many of our readers, when first hearing about air rifle as a serious sport, will be envisioning their first Red Ryder BB gun. Is that what we are talking about?**

*KS: I hope Everyone enjoys having shot a Red Ryder BB gun as much as I did when I was a kid. But "airgun" rifles today, such as Air Arms, or Daystate, or FX Airguns, are high-end precision airguns capable of shooting sub-MOA groups at 100 yards.*



# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Four

*(significantly sub MOA, actually, especially by Jon Herman). They shoot up to 50 cal projectiles, with .30 cal and .25 cal being very popular, moving at 800fps to 1,000 fps or higher.*

**JB: How does muzzle velocity and distance accuracy of a serious air rifle compare with a standard velocity 22 caliber long rifle cartridge?**

*KS: Similar. But I'm tempted to suggest that you shouldn't compare the two. If you like precision .22 HV LR and compete in NRL competitions, I'm not going to try to convince you to convert to airgunning. Instead, I'm going to ask you to teach me to shoot .22 HV LR. Having stated that, .35 cal pellets at 910 fps perform similar to .22 HV LR rounds at 1,300 fps. So, in reality, they are very similar.*

**JB: Do you see any advantage or disadvantage, comparing a premium air rifle and a 22-caliber small bore rifle?**

*KS: A tricky question. My thoughts are:*

- *Personal protection: I prefer a .22 cal.*
- *Small game hunting: Flip a coin.*
- *Prefer no need for an air tank: Choose a .22 cal.*
- *Precision target shooting: Jon Herman will beat a .22 cal with his .22 cal airgun Every time! It requires an air tank, but the precision is amazing!*

**JB: What does it take in hardware to become a serious air rifle shooter, and as a follow up; how does the overall cost of ownership compare with the traditional small bore target enthusiast?**

*KS: A spring-powered airgun is very economic and easy, but has low velocity and questionable accuracy. If you like airgunning and choose a PCP (pre-charged pneumatic.), there's no difference at all. Both are precision shooting and require good ammo, consistent velocity, and a good shooter.*

**JB: What is the brand of air rifle that you are currently shooting?**

*KS: For 100 yard Benchrest, I use my FX Impact .30 cal. I also use an Air Arms .25 cal Sportster. For field target competitions (100 yards or less with low foot-pounds requirements), I use an Air Arms TDR. .17 cal.*

**JB: I have an advantage over many of our readers, as I have a granddaughter who is an International both air rifle and small bore (22 caliber) shooting. This has led to my**

**understanding of this sport's International scope, but of all of our member shooters, at the Fort Wayne Chapter, the number of air rifle shooters is maybe 1% at best. Just how popular is this sport to the Everyday target shooter?**

*KS: Bremen Butler's achievements have been amazing! Our chapter has much to be proud of with her and you as a member. Bremen's type of "Olympic style" airgun shooting is much different from the type of PCP (pre-charged pneumatic) and spring-powered airgun shooting with which I am familiar. Generally speaking, airgun shooting in any of form is not as popular as small bore powder.*

**JB: Are there serious air rifle shooting Events for the everyday shooter, and where would you characterize your placement in this sport as a competitor?**

*KS: There are not very many air rifle shooting Events for the Everyday shooter. They are very uncommon and difficult to find. Personally, I have competed in some airgun Events, but they have all been designed for the entry-level shooter, and they were a lot of fun.*

**JB: How did you become aware of Izaak Walton – Fort Wayne, and what led to your joining our chapter?**

*KS: Originally, a neighbor of mine told me about Izaak Walton. I am a member of a range further north that has 1,000 yards targets. As I evolved into an airgun nerd and was introduced to Izaak Walton, I quickly became a member and supporter of Izaak Walton. Of my time spent at Izaak Walton, I would say, 5% is spent at the shooting range, and 95% is spent hiking the trails, fishing, and hiking the trails, and observing nature.*

**JB: Our Chapter leadership has been watching you and the other air rifle sports enthusiasts using our range, few though they may be. How does our range amenities compare with others that you have shot at competitively in the air rifle venue? Is this a market that our range configuration might support?**

*KS: For shooting 50yards or 100yards, our local Izaak Walton range is amazing!*

**JB: Any last thoughts or comments, before we wrap this up?**

*KS: There's lots of airgun questions and I understand that because there is only a scattering of airgun shooting at our local chapter range. Hawke Optics sells about 5% to 10% to the airgun market.*

**JB: Kevin, I have enjoyed our conversation and your comments could be a big boost in offering a potential new venue to our chapter Sports Shooting community. Thanks again for joining us. See you on the Range.**

*KS: Thank you, I look forward to it!*





# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Six

## ADDITIONAL BARRIER SCREENS INSTALLED

New shooting barrier screens were designed and installed by Chapter member Tim Hessert who built and installed them on the pistol side of the range from the 7 to 20-yard target lanes.

These barriers keep ejected casings within each lane to prevent other shooters from being impacted by spent rounds.

Volunteerism by our members improves the shooting experience for all shooters.

Shooter seen testing the new barrier screens is Detective Courtney White, daughter of Chapter President Patrick J. White.



## INAUGURAL EUCHRE NIGHT A SUCCESS

The first, of what is planned to be a regular monthly event, a euchre tournament was held on Wednesday, January 18th. Players started signing in at 6:30 p.m. and the games began promptly at 7:00. Eleven players showed up, a little less than was hoped for, but enough to have a fun, spirited evening. The games progressed smoothly and the event was over at approximately nine o'clock. Competition was friendly, but intense, as each player demonstrat-

ed their skills of the game. Snacks were brought in by several players and they were shared with the group. It was a great opportunity to meet and enjoy the company of other Chapter members, their spouses, children, and friends. First Place winner was **John Kurtz** with an overall score of 50 points. All present considered the evening to be a success and are looking forward to attending the next event, scheduled for February 15th. **See you there !**

# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Seven

## EMPTY RIFLE & PISTOL BRASS FOUND ON TRAP RANGE!

A large quantity of spent .556 AR Rifle and 45 caliber spent cartridge casings were found on our trap range near the mechanical trap thrower! This suggests an irresponsible and absolutely intolerable act on the part of a member or possibly a non-member. This is in an area where there is no berm to capture rifle & pistol bullets in an area meant for Shotguns for Trap & Skeet only.

A large 2 x 3 foot warning sign will be posted listing safety restrictions and will be placed in the entrance lane so that each car entering the Chapter Hall and Trap & Skeet will have to pass it. Not following these warnings is grounds for immediate expulsion and loss of membership. But what about non members?

As a member, we are asking you to assist us in policing our chapter. Members... this is your Chapter and we need help in policing the grounds. We understand that you may be uncomfortable in confronting someone whom you suspect is breaking chapter rules. But if you see something going on that is unusual or that you feel may be a violation of Chapter Rules, as a member you are empowered to confront the offender and ask to see their member identification. If they cannot furnish such verification, as a member you are empowered to:

Ask for identification.

- If a member, tell them of your concern and ask them to cease the action.
- If they cannot furnish proof of membership, ask them to leave.
- Jot down their vehicle license number if at all possible.
- Report the incidence to a Board Member, whose contact information appears on page 19 of this issue.

We are not suggesting that you physically confront the person in a threatening way, but we do ask you to take on the role of responsible membership.

Many will remember that before we had Range Safety Officers on our Rifle & Pistol Range, we had Beer & Whisky bottles being shot at; holes shot in the range lane roof, and escaping bullets were reported by neighbors who claimed that they came from our range. As a result our Rifle & Pistol Ranges were shut down for about six months, thousands of dollars were spent and we began our RSO safety program.

The Board has discussed several options that will be considered if these Events continue in the Trap & Skeet area.

- An expensive CCTV system may be needed.
- We may have to implement a locked gate & member key for access to chapter grounds beyond the entry gate to the Rifle & Pistol Range.

### HELP US HELP YOU!

Signed

Your Board of Directors

## WARNING

**Absolutely no Rifles, Pistols or Revolvers to be fired beyond this point.**

**Shotgun pellet size fired must be Number 7.5 shot size or smaller!**

**Broad Point arrows are allowed only on assigned target.**

**Violators will be expelled and/or prosecuted.**



By order of IWLA FW Chapter  
Board of Directors

# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Eight



Join us for euchre at the Fort Wayne Chapterhouse on the third Wednesday of the month. The format will be individual tournament play so come alone or bring your friends, and neighbors, as guests. Chapter membership is not required. Cost is \$5.00 per person. Sign-in begins at 6:30, play begins at 7:00 and lasts approximately two hours. Bring your own favorite snack and beverage to enjoy. Prizes awarded to 1st, 2nd, and last places. It's a great way to spend a winter Evening!

The Next Event Will Be Feb. 15th

## REMINDER!

Just a reminder. Our Members holding a Range Pass to our Rifle & Pistol Range are required to READ and SIGN our 2023 Range Rules . Anticipate being asked to do that on your first time visit to the range with your new 2023 membership card.

2023 Range Card is mandatory, effective March 1st, 2023.

Karla Wyss—Range Manager

## Advertisers Corner

For Advertising Information, See Page Eight

Carrie White  
Realtor  
(260) 310-5037  
Century 21 Bradley Realty

A.A.A. PIANO WORKS, LLC  
Piano Tuning, Cleaning, Repairing and Evals  
Brian Doepke (dep-kee)  
R.P.T. \* (SEE BACK)  
260-417-1298  
www.aapianoworks.com Email: aapianoworks@comcast.net  
Member of Piano Technician Guild -- Over 25 Years of Music Education

HAWKE  
VISION ACCOMPLISHED  
PROUDLY HEADQUARTERED  
IN FORT WAYNE, IN  
AVAILABLE AT: Sportman's Cove  
www.hawkeoptics.com  
Born in the UK

SPORTING Triple A GOODS  
11750 E. State Road 205  
Laotto, IN 46763  
888-824-5587  
@tripleasportinggoods  
info@tripleasportinggoods.com  
Zac Pfafman  
owner  
ARMS • AMMO • ARCHERY



# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Nine

## FOR SALE BY MEMBER

### Sporting Items FOR SALE



Range Manager Karla Wyss has introduced a unique addition to the Rifle & Pistol Range for IWLA members. A listing of sporting items for sale by our members. It's in a binder titled **SPORTING ITEMS FOR SALE**. And it's available right now.

This unique binder allows members to post a 8"x10" page featuring an item(s) they wish to sell.

Simply create a full-page color or black & white page and print it out from your home computer. Then bring it to the RSO shack when the range is open. The on-duty RSO will post it in a plastic sleeve in the directory. It will then be available on the sign-in desk for members to review anytime they visit the R&P range.

It's your opportunity to sell any sporting items you wish to market directly to our members at no charge. And this also includes ammunition as well.

So, take advantage of this new service available for all members of the Izaak Walton League-Fort Wayne. It free, easy and may help you to sell an item to anyone in our Chapter.

**NOTE: Range Manager has final approval regarding any item submitted for insertion.**

## Advertisers Corner

For Advertising Information, See Page Eight



Deschain Arms, LLC

steven@DeschainArms.com

www.DeschainArms.com

facebook.com/deschainarms

Steven  
Townes

Gunsmith | Instructor  
260.410.5586

Your Business Can Appear in 12  
Consecutive Months Of This  
News Magazine And As A  
12 x 24 Inch Sign Board In Our  
Chapter House.

Don't Miss This Opportunity To  
Reach Hundreds of Potential  
Greater Fort Wayne Customers  
For A Very Reasonable Mar-  
keting Investment.

See the Order Form Appearing  
Later In This Issue.

# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Ten

## FROM MY DESK

PATRICK J. WHITE, President—FW Chapter IWLA

Hello everyone,

Rather than write about the trials and tribulations of being a Chapter President, I would like to discuss an observation I've noticed at the Izaak Walton Rifle & Pistol Range recently.

When I was a young child, we played "Cowboys and Indians" more times than I can remember. The cowboys had revolvers and so did the Indians. It was the weapon of choice when I grew up in the 1950's. We used "Cap Guns" that contained rolls of red-colored paper that went "BANG" when we pulled the trigger. The aroma of a fired round still brings back fond memories of a different time in my life.

I bring this memory up because back in "The Old Days" the revolver used by both good and bad guys. I remember watching movies with Roy Rogers, Gene Autry, the Cisco Kid and the Lone Ranger and everyone had a "Wheel Gun". Yes, the Colt 1911 and German Luger appeared, but the revolver was king for many decades.

But as usual, time marches on and the reliable revolver was replaced by a fancy looking semi-automatic instrument that made folks look cool and modern. And to be totally honest, my first handgun was a semi-automatic because I too wanted to look cool. We Baby-Boomers wanted to look different from "The Greatest Generation" and adopting a semi-automatic was part of the process.

But I've noticed that the revolver is beginning to return to our pistol range as of late. If you haven't noticed, I suggest you look around. The revolver is returning to favor in the hands of "Baby Boomers." Out of modesty. I won't name names.

At first, I thought it was nostalgia, but I was wrong. It's more about having total confidence in a "Wheel Gun" as opposed to "Flat Gun". A semi-automatic is the weapon of choice for most Everyone, but a growing number are now carrying a revolver in their pocket or purse. The reason is perception of safety when comparing one to the other. Plus, modern revolvers are now both sleek and chic. Displaying one in a fracas defines one as poised and confident, just like John Wayne. And "Dirty Harry" carried a revolver. A very big revolver.

So yes, the venerable revolver is once again coming back into fashion as I've noticed several of our members practicing with a wheel gun as opposed to a heavy, mega-round behemoth. Most are small and highly concealable. Of course, there are those who love the big bore models in small frame packages, and I've noticed an increase in shell-casings in .38 and .357 as I peruse the pistol range as RSO.

All I can say to those who are returning to the "Good Old Days", you may be onto a new trend that makes you a "Vanguard" amongst your peers. The ancient revolver is making a come-back to modern society. As the saying goes. "Everything old is new again"



President—Fort Wayne Chapter  
Izaak Walton League of America



## FW MEMBER TAKES GOLD AT FORT BENNING

### PRESTIGIOUS COMPETITION HOSTED BY US ARMY

FW Chapter member Bremen (Beatle) Butler has been shooting at the Fort Benning Invitational, hosted by the U.S. Army for the second consecutive year. This competition is considered second only to the Jr. Olympics and is made up of the top high school shooters in USA, competing in individual small bore, air rifle, and team Events. She was one among approximately a hundred of the best high school small bore and air rifle competitors in the United States.



In Outdoor 50-meter Small Bore Competition, she had some difficulty with the setting sun reflection in her rear peep sight and placed 5<sup>th</sup> overall.

In the team event her team won Silver.

She also competed in the 30-meter Air Rifle Competition. This was a two-round event for an aggregate score and in round one, she was in 13<sup>th</sup> place. I chatted with her, and she felt good about going into today's second round as she has always been her best when coming from behind. I encouraged her with *"Just shoot to the best of your capability and whatever the score, you will have won,"* but I was on pins and needles as 13 points is a steep hill to climb. In round two, she moved from 13<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> assuring her a spot in the Finals. Both her personal Coach from Florida and her "soon to be" University Coach from Georgia, were in attendance and watching closely.

In this competition, the ten ring has a dot the diameter of a pencil point in the center and the closer the shot gets to that point will add tenths of a point to each ten score. At this level of competition the winner is always determined in "tenths of a point" differences. In other words,



Getting Ready For Small Bore Competition.

Fort Benning Small Bore Outdoor Shooting Facility. Each Shooting Station Has Its Own Door Open to the Outdoor Target



Fort Benning Winners of Small Bore Team Competition.



# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Twelve

theoretically, you can put every shot in the ten ring and not finish on the podium in one of the top three medaling positions. For example the scores for the eight shooters qualifying for the Finals were: #1: 625.3, **#2: 623.2**, **#3: 623.1**, **#4: 623.0**, #5: 622.8, #6: 622.2, #7: 621.9 and #8: 620.1. Notice the placement of Second, Third, and Fourth there is only .1 of a point between each.



Fort Benning Competition Indoor Range.

**Army Jr Championship RESULTS**  
**10m AIR RIFLE**  
**Qualification**  
 Ft Benning  
 SAT 21 JAN 2023, START TIME 07:00

Rank	FP	Bib No	Name	Series						Total	Remarks
				1	2	3	4	5	6		
1	11	4061	BUTLER Bremen	104.7	103.4	105.2	104.7	103.7	103.6	625.3	QF
2	25	4075	WEE Tyler	103.1	105.1	103.6	105.1	103.8	102.5	623.2	QF
3	66	4052	MARTIN Caroline	103.7	102.7	103.6	105.3	104.6	103.2	623.1	QF
4	66	4109	DEMERLE Katrina	104.7	103.0	105.5	103.9	103.3	102.6	623.0	QF

In the top eight competitor accelerated Finalist Match that followed, the last two competitors standing were tied and it came down to a one shot shoot off and suddenly, Bremen had won Gold, to cap her two Jr. Olympic Silvers.

Shot	Score
1	102
2	106
3	99
4	99
5	104
6	103
7	107
8	102
9	100
10	106
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>625.3</b>

4061 BUTLER Bremen

FW Chapter Bremen Butler's Score Board At Conclusion Of Fort Benning Air Rifle Competition.



Air Rifle Winners Podium—Fort Benning



# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Thirteen

## APOLLO RECOLLECTIONS BY E.E. BAKER, MEMBER OF FORT WAYNE CHAPTER

During the interview of Chapter member Eve Baker (See Jan 2023 issue), we discovered that he worked at NASA and was an integral part of all of the Apollo Shots. As his story unraveled as we talked, it was obvious that this was a unique opportunity to share a 1st person history of one of the defining moments in history. But how to do it.

We decided to run it as a serial, over several issues of the FW Chapter NEWS. All of the photos included were the personal ones graciously provided by Eve and he furnished some important graphics as well.

- Managing Editor—FW Chapter NEWS

These memoirs are the exclusive intellectual property of E. E. Baker, and may not be reprinted or copied without the exclusive permission of E. E. Baker.

Permission has been granted exclusively to the Fort Wayne Chapter, Izaak Walton League of America – Fort Wayne Chapter to print this memoir in its entirety as a serial article in several consecutive issues of the Fort Wayne Chapter NEWS.

E. E. Baker

### **Apollo recollections by E. E. Baker (CWCP)**

I graduated from Purdue in 1966. A week after graduation I got Married. A week or two after that we drove to Coco Beach Florida so I could go to work for The Boeing Company. NASA was getting things ready for the first SATURN V launch. The idea was that for the Moon landing program, sub-contractors would supply all the components and perform the work.

#### **Examples:**

- SATURN rocket first stage (S1-C) – The Boeing Co. (burn time 168 seconds)
- Second stage (S-II) – North American Rockwell (burn time 360 seconds)
- Third stage (S-IVB) – McDonnell Douglas (two burns, 165 + 335 seconds for TLI – Trans Lunar Injection)
- Service module - North American Rockwell
- Instrument Unit - IBM
- Apollo Space Craft – North American Rockwell
- Lunar Excursion Module (LEM) – Northrop Grumman
- SATURN first stage F1 engines - Rocket Dyne
- Space suits - ILC industries
- Digital Events Evaluator - IBM
- Facility guards - Wackenhut
- Ground support equipment (Pads A and B activation) – The Boeing Co.

The VAB (Vehicle Assembly Building) is on MILA (Merritt Island Launch Area). NASA likes to use a lot of acronyms. MILA is located a short distance from the Air Force launch pads on Cape Kennedy. The complex is located on the East coast of

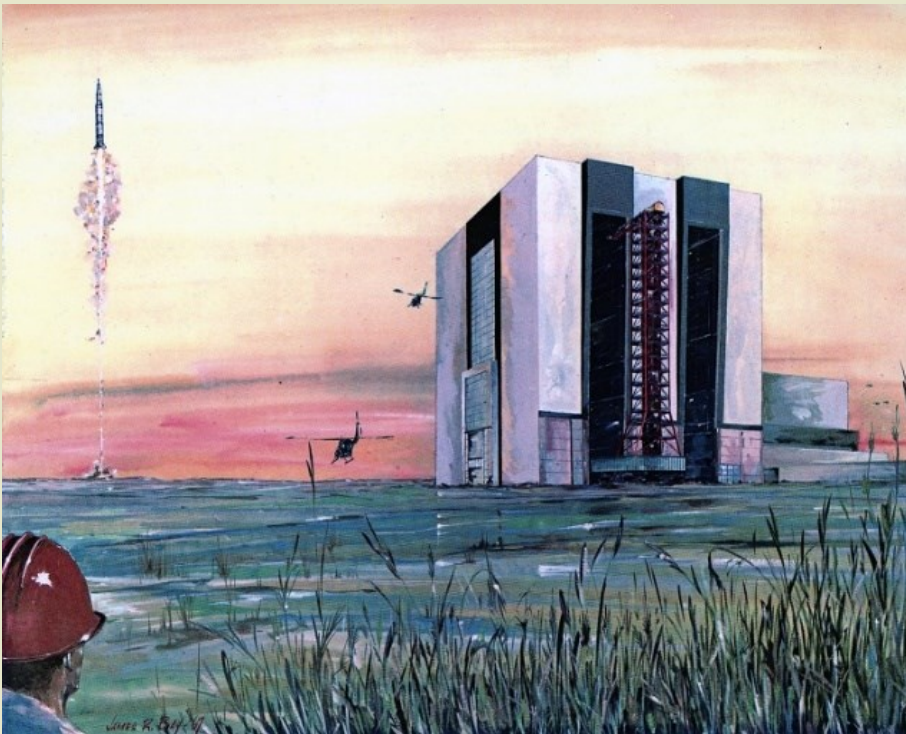
# the Fort Wayne Chapter

## Page Fourteen

Florida to launch over the Atlantic Ocean. If a failure occurs it will fall into the ocean. It also takes advantage of the Earth's spin to give the rockets a little "kick" into orbit. The VAB was (and may still be) the largest building in the World. It is a cube shaped building. It was intended to house up to 4 Saturn V rockets. It is so tall that clouds sometimes form near the top and they have louvers to let the clouds out. There are multi-floor offices in each of the four corners. Boeing occupies one of these "towers." I was to report work at the VAB and find my Boeing boss.

### My first day at work

The VAB is miles from the MILA entrance gate. The Wackenhut guards let me thru the gate. I did not have my badge yet but I had hire-on paperwork. The building is so large that you think you are close when you are still miles away. I found a parking place and started for the building. I was like a fish trying to go upstream. Everyone was leaving the building and heading out to the parking lot. I asked which way to the Boeing tower but was pretty much ignored. Finally someone explained that they were minutes away from a launch off one of the Kennedy - Air Force pads. I turned and enjoyed a spectacular midmorning rocket launch my first day at work.



### Early days

The pads were in the final stages of being built. First pad A and then pad B. My office was located in the base of the pad next to the Flame Trench. For the first launch I balanced my coffee cup on the edge of my desk to see if vibrations from the rocket would knock it off? It didn't. As an EE (Electrical Engineer) my tasks were to work with schematics and help install the wiring that sends signals to the firing room and controls the IWS (Industrial Water System). Many additional signals were going thru a newfangled system that IBM was responsible for. A large line printer in the firing room was called the DEE (Digital Events Evaluator). It used the then new "digital" format to send information. NASA felt that more important signals should be hardwired. I worked on the hardwire signals. The Firing Rooms are the smaller buildings next to the VAB. Two Firing

Rooms were completed to allow for a rocket on both pads at the same time. A third firing room was used for scheduling. Every morning the "chiefs" would meet to discuss progress. It has been said that one of the biggest achievements of the Saturn program was to get all the contractors to finish their work at the same time. If someone other than you was behind schedule, you were off the hook. If you were the cause of a potential schedule slip, you were in the spotlight. One time Boeing indicated that to remain on schedule they would need an additional 300 technicians. A day or two later 300 technicians arrived on busses, shipped in from the Boeing facility in Huntsville Alabama. After the equipment was installed and inspected by QC (Quality Control) it had to be evaluated and tested and required procedures to be written. The procedures had to be approved by NASA. Lots of paperwork. We learned how to do things the NASA way.

### Pre-launch

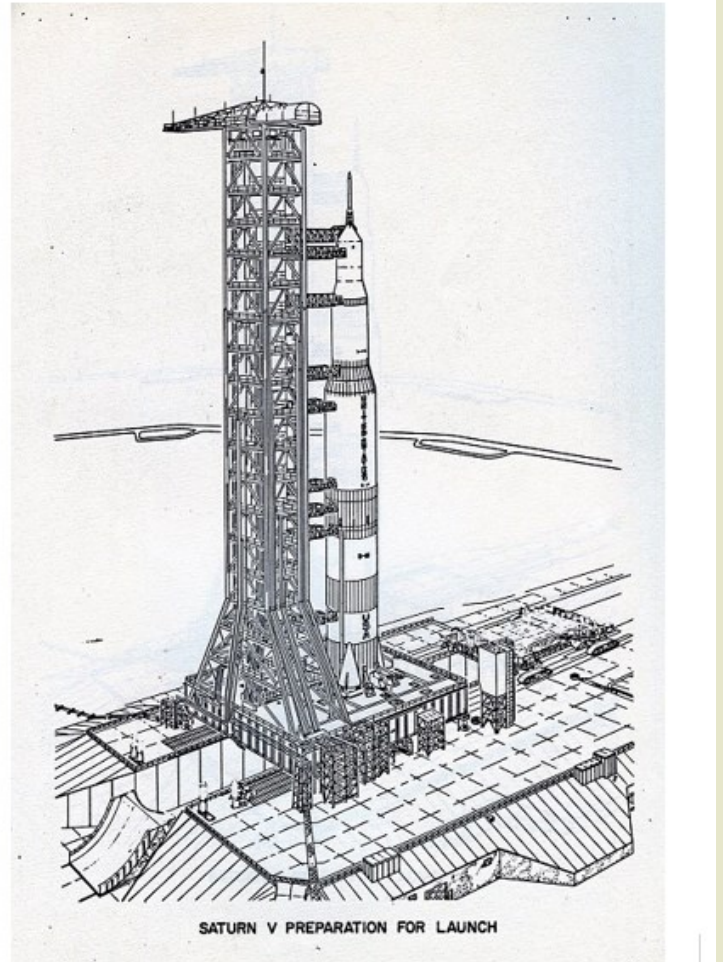
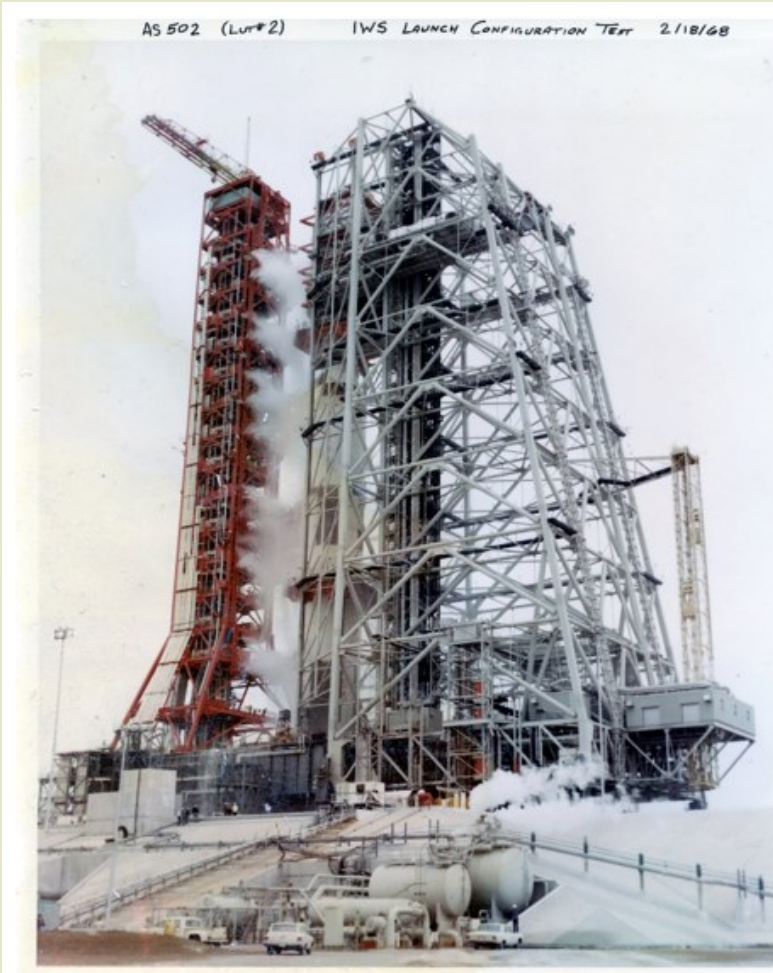
With the hardware complete and the procedures written and approved it was time to test. The Saturn V rocket must be moved from the VAB to the pad. A large Crawler is used to transport the Saturn V rocket atop the LUT (Launcher Umbilical Tower) from the VAB to the pad. It travels about 1.5 miles per hour. Once at the pad the ECS (Environmental Control System) is connected to keep a positive purge pressure inside the rocket at all times. This keeps the rainwater



# the Fort Wayne Chapter

## Page Fifteen

out! The white pipes going up the side of the LUT are ECS. Photo shows the LUT with white ECS pipes, and Mobile Service Tower (Service tower is rolled back for launch)



Note: the big T2 water tank has completed its discharge and is venting

There is lots of testing before launch. Especially for the first launch. I was involved with the IWS (Industrial Water System). Water is used during launch to cool and protect the launch tower and flame deflector. The smoke you see coming out of the flame trench after engine ignition is really mostly steam.



Saturn V launch –  
Smoke from flame trench is mostly Water System steam.

# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Sixteen



Test of Flame deflector cooling— where the steam comes from in the flame trench.

This was considered a dry bucket because we sprayed water onto it. At Huntsville they used a wet bucket with openings for water to come out on the bucket. At Huntsville they did full duration S1-C burns.

## Chance to work for ILC Industries

Ed Vickers was the mechanical engineer that was involved with and was responsible for the water system during the early days. Ed ran the IW panel at the first launch. It must have felt like a fitting end to a lot of hard work. Because, shortly after the launch he moved to Houston to work for ILC Industries. The parent company (International Latex) makes Playtex Bras. They bid on and got the contract to provide the Apollo Space suits. Ed's job was to keep track of 9 spacesuits. The suits are all custom made for individual astronauts. 3 prime, 3 backup, and 3 reserve backups. His job required lots of interface with the Apollo astronauts and their families. After Ed was established he had the company try and recruit me. Rubbing elbows with the astronauts' crews was an attractive idea. But, with my EE degree it did not seem like a good fit.

## Engine deluge and the Clarence Corn encounter

There is a million-gallon reservoir of water for use at launch. Three IW diesels pump the water thru a 32-inch diameter main line to the water pit at the pad.

A 1000 horsepower electric motor at the pad increases the pressure to get the water up the launcher tower. The water is sprayed onto the swing arms during launch. The intent is to get a protective mist barrier between the rocket exhaust and the tower. The LUT deck also has a lot of water put on it. In addition, the flame deflector gets a lot of water as well. All this water flows for only a few minutes at launch. It starts a few seconds before engine ignition. There is still another way to flow water. Engine Deluge, if activated, puts 11,000 gallons per minute directly onto the five Rocket Dyne first stage F1 engines. This would only occur if an abort were ordered after the engine started sequence. It would result in the destruction of the rocket engines.

I was on another long 12-hour shift in front of the control panel in the firing room. It was very quiet with little happening. I realized that someone was standing next to me. The first thing I noticed is that his shoes were high end, perhaps 300 dollars. As I looked up he said "I would like to introduce myself, my name is Clarence Corn". I said how do you do. He said he would like to ask me a few questions. OK. I understand that you will be running the IW panel at the upcoming launch of Apollo 8. Yes.

Do you know where the ENGINE DELUGE valve switch is located on the control panel?..... Please point to it - but do not turn it on. It's near the lower right-hand side of the panel. I pointed. Your headset will be on channel 121 (the launch director) during launch. Is that correct? YES! He said "I am concerned that there may be a confusing time develop after main engine ignition and you might think you hear someone request ENGINE DELUGE". Do not turn it on under any circumstance unless you hear the following "CWCP this is Clarence Corn, please turn ENGINE DELUGE on at this time". If you don't hear that, don't touch that switch. I believe that for the next launch they installed one of those red spring



# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Seventeen

## LUT deck flush and the wet workers

The water system required a full up test. Since water would be flowing all over, it was usually done in the early morning before sun rise to minimize interference with other people's work schedule. Many things were covered with plastic to protect them from the water. You could tell that something was up because IW technicians were in full rain gear and there was not a cloud in the sky. Later on I ran one of these tests. I was in the firing room operating the Water Panel. It took a long time for the mechanical tech that would observe water flow on the LUT Deck to give me the go ahead to flow water. The LUT deck had to be clear of all personnel because the water flow was so strong it could wash people off (three stories down to the pad surface). Finally I got the verbal OK through my head set to proceed. But I could tell that he wanted me to do it quickly. On the narrow communication panel, below the water control panel in the firing room is a red button. Most control panel stations in the firing room have one. When you press this button, your voice is heard on Every loudspeaker in the firing room and at the launch Pad. I pressed the button and said, "on my mark, Pad A water flow will commence 3... 2... 1... mark". The LUT deck gets 60,000 gallons per minute for about 50 seconds. About 20 seconds in I heard the mechanical tech laughing into his head set mike. It is voice activated and he forgot to turn it off. Later I asked what that was all about. He said some North American workers gave him a really hard time when he asked

them to clear the LUT deck so we could run our water test. We needed to complete the test before daybreak. There is a three story, all wire mesh, elevator going down from the LUT deck to the top of the pad. They had just gotten into the elevator and pressed the down button when he told me to flow water. A wall of water came down on them as they were halfway down. He said they looked like drowned rats. He told them we were going to flow water but they just laughed at him.

LUT deck during a water test



This concludes the first installment of Eve Baker's Memoir: APOLLO RECOLLECTIONS.

In the March 2023 issue of "the FW Chapter NEWS, we will learn of Eve's encounter with Doctors Dr. Werner Von Braun and Dr. Debus.

The contents of the memoir, including photos, graphics, and text are used by permission of Eve Baker, member of the FW Chapter of Izaak Walton League of America and the memoir is based on his personal experiences.

# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Eighteen

## THE FORT WAYNE CHAPTER WELCOMES OUR NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED IN DEC.

1. Chris & Kristen Kerran
2. James Cahill
3. Neil Newmark
4. Michael Brown
5. Jonathon Hale
6. Chris Fisher
7. Rachel Bowers
8. Azelene Schone & Randy Waters
9. Douglas Bastian

10. Paul & Katie Wollam
11. Chris Fisher

16 New Members In January

# WELCOME!

## SOUND OFF!

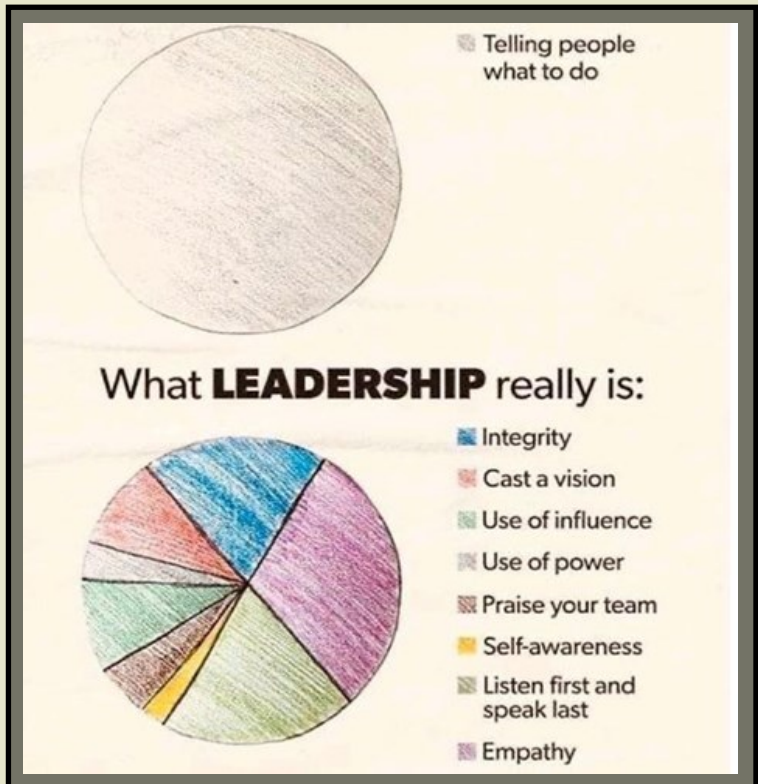


Tell us your thoughts about our "FW Chapter NEWS" or any other Chapter related topic.

Email: [jaybutler1940@gmail.com](mailto:jaybutler1940@gmail.com)

Jay Butler  
Managing Editor

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE OUR NEWS MAGAZINE, SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO [crehinger@gmail.com](mailto:crehinger@gmail.com)**



“ If all printers were determined not to print anything till they were sure that it would offend no one, there would be very little printed.”

Benjamin Franklin—1731



# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Nineteen

## 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

### Jay L. Butler—Executive Secretary

Email: jaybutler1940@gmail.com

### Carl Ehinger—Treasurer & Mbr. V.P.

Email: crehinger@gmail.com

## Our Ranges

### RIFLE & PISTOL

DST: 10:00AM—5:00PM

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

Page Twenty

**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](mailto: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](mailto:kholden@glenbrookhyundai.com)  
[www.HappyCarStore.com](http://www.HappyCarStore.com)

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



# the Fort Wayne Chapter

Page Twenty One



## 2023 MEMBER APPLICATION

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