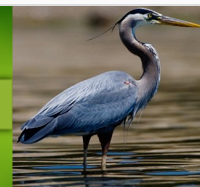


October 10th, 2023



## THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

### Suffolk-Nansemond Chapter



S-N IWLA Chapter Newsletter

The Blue Heron Times (October, 2023 Issue)

### Points of Contact

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[webmaster@sniwla.org](mailto:webmaster@sniwla.org)



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 the Izaak Walton League of  
 America

### IWLA State/National

[IWLA Virginia Division](#)

[IWLA National](#)

### Backyard Conservation News

[AskHRgreen.org](http://AskHRgreen.org)

[Chesapeake Bay Foundation](#)

[Department of Conservation & Recreation](#)

[Division of Wildlife Resources](#)

### Meetings

Chapter Board of Directors meetings are held on the second Monday of each month. They last met at 7pm on **Monday, October 9th** at the Constantia House behind Baker's Funeral Home. Next month's Board meeting will be at 7pm on **Monday, November 13th** at the same location.

Chapter Members Dinner meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. The next dinner meeting will be held at the [Kings Fork Community House](#) on Kings Fork Road at **6:30PM on Wednesday, October 18th.**

For the dinner menu, Chapter Ike Jonathan Echols, is cooking up what is sure to be a scrumptious fish fry dinner, with sides of french fries, cole slaw, and hush puppies with tea and assorted desserts. The cost will be \$10.

The Chapter's annual Tobin award will be presented at this dinner meeting.

The guest speaker is unknown at the time of this publication.

### President's Note

Moving quickly, I dispatched the vampire and witch at the door. My wife said "What did you do? You're supposed to give them candy!" It's that time of year; October is here. It's a great time to get outside and enjoy what nature has to offer. Warm days. cool nights, flannel shirts and blue jeans, apples, and fresh cider. Clearly my favorite time of the year. This is the tenth month of the year, in the northern hemisphere usually considered the second month of autumn.

The year is ending. The chapter has accomplished much this year. The City of Suffolk recently filed a quit claim deed on the well property. Between that and the Riddick property purchase, we've added approximately 7 acres to the park and provided an important buffer against encroachment.

Now is the time to look at your opportunities to volunteer for any of the vacant chairs and make us even more successful. But above all else, get outside and enjoy the fall.

Respectfully Yours,

Chris Ferguson,  
 Chapter President,  
 Suffolk-Nansemond IWLA

[Hoffler Creek Wildlife Foundation and Preserve](#)

[Nansemond River Preservation Alliance](#)

[SCCC - Suffolk Clean Community Commission Recycling](#)

[TerraScapes Environmental Consulting](#)

[The Wildlife Society](#)

[Virginia Conservation Network](#)

[Virginia Master Naturalist](#)

## Classifieds

[Chuckatuck Trading Post](#)  
(757)255-9295  
5969 Goodwin Blvd,  
Suffolk, VA 23452

[Suffolk Radio & TV Service](#)  
Radio/Television Repair  
(757)539-2110  
536 W. Washington Street  
Suffolk, VA 23434

[Appomatox River Company](#)  
(757)890-0500  
3009 W. Mercury Blvd.  
Hampton, VA 23666

[Arzillo Recycling](#) (Scrap Metal)  
(757)539-8593  
Locations: Suffolk & PTMS  
Blvd

## Calendar of Events

You can review our full chapter website calendar online at <https://sniwla.org/sniwla/calendar> for the most recent information about meetings and upcoming events. A courtesy extract through mid-November is shown below:

MON 10/9 at 7pm - Chapter Board Meeting.  
SAT 10/14 - \*River Cleanup.  
WED 10/18 at 6:30pm - Fish Fry (Monthly Chapter Dinner Meeting).  
SAT 10/21 at 10am - Prospective Member Orientation.  
SAT 11/4 at 9am - \*Recycle Event SCCC (Suffolk Clean Community Commission).  
SAT 11/11 at 8am - \*Park WorkDay.  
SAT 11/11 at 10am - Prospective Member Orientation.  
MON 11/13 at 7pm - Chapter Board Meeting

*Note: Events marked with an asterisk count towards work hour credits for meeting the chapter's annual membership volunteer participation requirement.*

**HOLIDAYS/COMMUNITY EVENTS:**  
10/5 through 10/8 - Suffolk Peanut Fest.  
10/9 - Columbus Day; Indigenous Peoples Day.  
10/31 - Halloween  
11/1 - First Day of American Indian Heritage Mo.  
11/5 - Daylight Savings Time Ends.  
11/7 - Elections Day.  
11/11 - Veterans Day.

## Chapter Member Dues

Membership renewal notices will be available at the October 18th dinner meeting. Please ask at the sign in table for yours.

The Board of Directors voted to keep the dues amount for 2024 the same as in 2023. Membership dues for an individual are \$130 and \$160 for a family. You will find the amount of your dues printed at the bottom of the renewal notice. Please make your check payable to S-N IWLA and return the pink card with your check using the preprinted return mailing address label.

The Membership Policy in Good Standing requests members pay their membership dues by December 31st prior to the new year. If you plan to attend the January dinner meeting, you can pay your dues in person. Members paying their dues after this date will be charged a \$20 late fee. Being prompt in returning your dues aids in the processing of the chapter membership with the National office and for you to receive your membership card in a timely manner.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email the Membership Chair, Alan Ferguson at [Alan.Ferguson.IWLA@gmail.com](mailto:Alan.Ferguson.IWLA@gmail.com). Submitted by Alan Ferguson, Membership Chair.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Members, a reminder, as a result of this year's pancake supper fundraiser being canceled, there are only three (3) volunteer opportunities scheduled for the remainder of this calendar year at which you can earn additional work hour credits to meet the annual 8 hour work requirement as described in the chapter's [volunteer participation requirement](#).

They are: River Cleanup, Recycle event, and Park Combo Workday/Adopt-A-Road as listed in the chapter website calendar excerpt shown above. For more information, see the respective articles about each of these events shown later in his newsletter.

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## Recipe of the Month - Crock Pot Short Ribs

Article and Photo Source Credit: Budget Savvy Diva, [budgetsavvydiva.com](http://budgetsavvydiva.com)



### Ingredients

- 3½ pounds beef short ribs
- 1 yellow onion, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 3 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1 cup beef broth
- 2 Tablespoon Flour
- ½ tsp pepper
- 1 tsp salt
- 2 Tablespoon butter
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- Pinch Chili powder
- ½ cup ketchup
- 1 Tablespoon red wine vinegar

### Instructions

In a skillet over medium heat melt butter – add onions.  
 In a bag place ribs and flour — shake — this will help create the crust you want.  
 Place ribs in the skillet and brown each side – sprinkle with salt and pepper – 3 minutes PER SIDE.  
 Place ribs on the bottom of the slow cooker  
 Place the rest of the ingredients into the crock pot.  
 Set it to low and let cook for 6 hours.  
 Check it out at the 6 hour mark – meat should fall off the bone — if not tender enough then cook for another hour.

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## New Chapter Members Sworn In

Three new members were sworn in by Vice President Darden Langston at the September 20th member's meeting. From left to right, shown below, are Ed Weaver, Danielle and Mike Kimidy. Welcome to the chapter, all!



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## Volunteer Opportunity - \*River Cleanup October 14th

*Message from Sam Chambers, Chapter Save-our-Streams Coordinator/Clean Water Liaison*

Chapter Ikes, a reminder, there is a scheduled Nansemond River Cleanup on our chapter calendar for **Saturday, October 14th, 2023** at **9am**, in conjunction with Keep Suffolk Beautiful/International Coastal Cleanup.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Sam Chambers via email at [geogr4.sam@gmail.com](mailto:geogr4.sam@gmail.com) or 757.761.7404 (m) to sign-up. Volunteers will meet in the **Suffolk Plaza Shopping Center parking lot behind the Burger King on North Main St.**

We'll be handing out trash bags and pickers. Please wear good footwear for walking on uneven ground and/or bring rubber boots if it may be damp. Also if you have work gloves you should bring them as well.

*\*Note: This event is applicable for accruing chapter work roster credit hours towards meeting the required annual minimum volunteer participation hours according to our chapter's [volunteer participation requirement](#).*

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## Volunteer Opportunity - \*Recycling Drive November 4th

**When?** NOVEMBER 4, 2023 - 9am TO 1pm

**Where?** Suffolk PUBLIC WORKS OPERATIONS ([800 CAROLINA ROAD, SUFFOLK, 23434](#))

*\*Note: This event is applicable for accruing chapter work roster credit hours towards meeting the required annual minimum volunteer participation hours according to our chapter's [volunteer participation requirement](#).*

**Materials Recycled:** Batteries; Plastic bottles (#1 & #2); Cardboard; computers; Cordless tools; Electronics; Flat screen televisions (must be 42 inches or less, will not accept TVs with tubes--these can be placed out with your regular trash for collection by the Refuse department); Small furniture; Gently used clothing and shoes; Glass; Paper & magazines; Cellphones; Plastic bags; Aluminum & tin cans; Household Hazardous Waste: (Suffolk ID required).

**Document Shredding:** Protect against identity theft and shred your personal document. During busy periods a 3 grocery bag limit on quantity will be introduced. Please remain with your documents until shredded.

**The Lions Club:** The Lions Club will be on hand to collect and refurbish old eye glasses and hearing aids. Plus you could buy a quality new broom from this awesome charity.

**Food and Toiletry Donations welcome:** Donations of non-perishable food items, toiletries, deodorant and all things that make bubbles such as hand soap and dish soap are collected to support local charities.

**DISPOSAL OF UNSERVICEABLE OLD U.S. FLAGS:** Scout Troop 16 was onsite to collect your old flag to be respectfully retired at their Flag Retirement Ceremony.

**TIRES:** Must be 22inches in diameter or less. No commercial tires accepted. ID required.

For more information about this event, see <https://www.suffolkva.us/339/Recycling-Drive>.

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## Volunteer Opportunity - \*Park Combo Workday/\*Adopt-A-Road November 11th

**When?** NOVEMBER 11th, 2023 - 8am to 12pm

**Where?** Chapter Park Gazebo

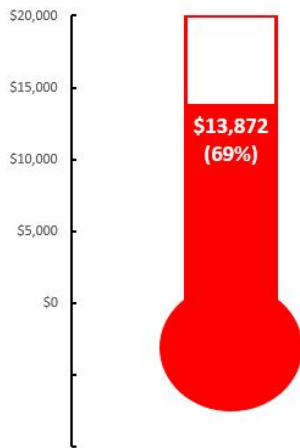
Chapter Park Manager Jimmy Fanny will meet with volunteers at the chapter park gazebo at 8am to review the work that needs to be done at the chapter park. Per usual, volunteers are requested to bring their own tools and safety gear. Any questions, contact Jimmy by email at <https://sniwla.org/sniwla/committees/>.

Concurrently, Chapter board member/Adopt-A-Road Chair Mike Lane will be handing out pickers, trash bags, and safety vests for those volunteers who would prefer to clean up trash from road side ditches alongside Kings Fork and Providence Road. Any questions, contact Mike by email at <https://sniwla.org/sniwla/committees/>.

*\*Note: This combo event is applicable for accruing chapter work roster credit hours towards meeting the required annual minimum volunteer participation hours according to our chapter's [volunteer participation requirement](#).*



## Capital Campaign Tracker



As you can see, to-date, we have received \$13,872 in donations towards our goal of \$20,000. Please contact our Treasurer, Tim Doxey, if you are willing to make a donation. Any help is very much appreciated. Contributions may be tax deductible; see your tax professional.

Information about the Capital Campaign: In order to purchase an adjacent chapter park property, the IWLA Virginia Division loaned our Chapter \$20,000. Our goal is to pay this loan off as soon as possible in order to free up funds needed to make repairs/ alterations to our park dam. We are asking members to consider making a contribution to the Capital Campaign. Donations above our goal will be set aside for park dam repairs/alterations.

The Capital Campaign tracker shown here will be included in future newsletters and updated at members meetings.

## IWLA National Conservation Issue - Update from the Soil and Water Conservation Summit: Farm Bill Important for Wetlands

*Message from Jessica Gordon, IWLA National's Grassroots Advocacy Manager, who attended the recent summit in Des Moines, and sent back this report.*

"The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in May that the Sackett family did not need a Clean Water Act permit to fill wetlands on their property in Idaho. But how the Court reached its conclusion in the case, *Sackett v. EPA*, will have far-reaching consequences for clean water all across the country.

In ruling for the Sacketts, the Court held that wetlands only fall under the protection of the Clean Water Act if they have a continuous surface connection to a waterbody like a stream, lake or ocean, such that there is "no clear demarcation" between the two. Previously, wetlands were covered by the Act if they had a "significant nexus" to what the Act calls "Waters of the United States." By requiring wetlands to physically touch a clearly protected "Water of the United States" with a continuous surface connection, the Court has removed protections for more than half of the nation's wetlands, almost 60 million acres.

So what does the Supreme Court's ruling in *Sackett* mean for the Farm Bill? It makes the wetlands protection incentives in the Farm Bill even more vital than they already were. In the absence of Clean Water Act protections, many wetlands will only be protected by landowners voluntarily agreeing not to dredge or fill them.

The Farm Bill contains two big incentives to help landowners conserve wetlands. The first is called conservation compliance, specifically the aspect of compliance known as Swampbuster. Swampbuster is a simple provision that makes farmers or landowners who drain wetlands ineligible for federally subsidized premiums on crop insurance, as well as any other federal incentive programs for conservation. So if a landowner drains a wetland to plant crops, they cannot enroll their land in the federal crop insurance program or any other incentive program like EQIP or CRP.

The second big incentive for wetlands in the Farm Bill is called the Wetlands Reserve Easement program. This program provides payments to landowners who voluntarily conserve wetlands on their property by

placing them in conservation easements. By entering into these easements, landowners are compensated in exchange for not developing wetlands for crop production.

Both Swampbuster and Wetlands Reserve Easements have established track records for conserving wetlands in farm country. But now that the Clean Water Act no longer covers more than half of all wetlands in the U.S., these two programs are more vital than ever. As the next Farm Bill continues to be debated, Swampbuster and Wetlands Reserve Easements need to be maintained and robustly funded since they are now the last line of defense for many of the nation's precious wetlands."

For more information about the Farm Bill, see the article published on the [Missouri Independent](#) website entitled "The farm bill is on the verge of expiring" written BY: [ALLISON WINTER](#) - SEPTEMBER 27, 2023.

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