

January 9th, 2024



## THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

### Suffolk-Nansemond Chapter



S-N IWLA Chapter Newsletter

The Blue Heron Times (January, 2024 Issue)

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 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](#)

[Hoffler Creek Wildlife Foundation](#)

### Meetings

Chapter Board of Directors meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at the Constantia house behind Baker's Funeral Home. This month's Board meeting was held at 7pm on **January 8th**. Next month's Board meeting will be held at 7pm on **February 12th**.

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 on Wednesday at **6:30PM on January 17th**. The dinner menu will be pork loin with blueberry reduction sauce, roasted potatoes, green beans, salad, rolls, tea, and assorted desserts. The cost will be \$10.

The guest speaker will be Andrea Davis, the new Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Agent in the City of Suffolk. She started in Suffolk in September, but has been serving as the Horticulture Agent in the City of Virginia Beach for about ten years. She is excited to be in this new location with a great mix of both traditional agriculture and ornamental horticulture industries.

### Calendar of Events

You can review our full chapter website calendar online at <https://sniwla.org/sniwla/calendar> for

### Membership Dues are Due

Members, this is another reminder that you should have received the 2024 membership renewal notice and for those who did not provide 8 hours of service to the chapter in 2023, an invoice for a \$50 fee as well. You can mail your payment to the Membership Chair, Alan Ferguson, at 3231 Matoaka Road, Suffolk, VA 23434. You may also pay your dues at the January 17th dinner meeting. Members paying their dues after the dinner meeting will be assessed a \$20 late fee.

### President's Note

Another year is in the books. I hope the new year finds you and yours well. Say what you will about the weather here in Virginia, but we seem to be spared most of the weather that is affecting much of the country.

We have a lot planned for this year and you are integral to our success. We are planning two BBQ fundraisers, the teddy bear hunt, the youth fishing rodeo as well as several park and road cleanups this year. Please sign up and come out to help.

January is the first month of the Gregorian calendar. It was named after Janus, the Roman god of all beginnings.

[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

the most recent information about meetings and upcoming events. A courtesy extract through the end of the 1st calendar quarter is shown below:

MON 1/8 at 7pm - Board Meeting.  
WED 1/17 at 6:30pm - Dinner Meeting.  
SAT, 2/10 at 10am - IWLA National Midwinter Meeting (virtual).  
MON 2/12 at 7pm - Board Meeting.  
WED 2/21 at 6:30pm - Chili Cookoff Dinner Meeting.  
MON 3/11 at 7:00pm - Board Meeting.  
FRI 3/15 - Deadline for Tobin Award Submittals.  
SAT 3/16 at 9am - \*River Cleanup.  
WED 3/20 at 6:30pm - Dinner Meeting.

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

### HOLIDAYS:

1/1 - New Year's Day.  
1/15 - Martin Luther King Jr Day.  
2/1 - 1st day of Black History Month.  
2/14 - Valentine's Day.  
2/19 - President's Day.  
3/1 - 1st day of Women's History Month.  
3/10 - Daylight Savings Time Begins.  
3/17 - St. Patrick's Day.  
3/31 - Easter Sunday.

January replaced March as the first month of the Roman year no later than 153 BC.

Respectfully Yours,

Chris Ferguson,  
Chapter President,  
Suffolk-Nansemond IWLA

## Get Your Tickets for the Chapter BBQ Fundraiser Planned for April 12th

*Message from Board member/Fundraiser Chair Richard Wentz*

"I will have the tickets printed and available for pickup/purchase at the January dinner meeting. Tickets will be \$13 each for Chicken, BBQ, Cole Slaw, Macaroni and Cheese. The ticket has no mention of dessert but we would like to have a 'big' cookie to add to the meal that the the chapter will provide".

## Recipe of the Month - Creamy Potato Soup

Source Credit: [House of Yumm](#), [Serene Herrera](#).

### Ingredients

- 6 slices bacon chopped
- 1 yellow onion diced
- 3 cloves garlic minced
- 3 tbsps all purpose flour
- 4 cups chicken broth unsalted
- 1½ cup milk
- ½ cup cream
- 3 lbs potatoes peeled and diced
- 1½ tsp salt
- ¼ tsp ground black pepper
- ⅓ cup sour cream
- 1 cup sharp cheddar cheese shredded
- TOPPINGS:
- green onion diced
- bacon cooked and diced
- cheese shredded
- sour cream

### Instructions

1. Add the bacon to a large dutch oven or pot and cook over medium high heat until the bacon is crispy. Remove the bacon to a plate lined with a paper towel and set aside, leave the grease in the pot.
2. Add the diced onion and cook until softened and translucent. Add the minced garlic and cook for an additional 30 seconds or until fragrant.
3. Stir in the flour and allow this to cook for about 2-3. This cooks the flour.
4. Pour in the chicken stock, milk and cream. Add in the diced potatoes, salt and pepper. Stir to combine.
5. Bring the pot to a simmer and cook stirring occasionally until the potatoes are softened and easily mashed.
6. Turn heat off and using an immersion blender, blend the soup until some of the potatoes are blended, be careful not to overblend, leave chunks of potato in the soup. IF you don't have an immersion blender then carefully pour portions of the soup into a blender or food processor and blend until smooth. Return soup to the pot.
7. With the heat still off, stir in the sour cream and shredded cheese. Return the bacon to the soup. Stir to combine.
8. Serve warm with any additional toppings of your choice.

## 2023 Capital Campaign Comes To A Close

The chapter extends a grateful "Thank You" for the 2023 Capital Campaign donations. As a result of donations from approximately 15% of our membership, we are able to call the campaign a success. Although we did not reach 100% of our original goal, the funds will allow the chapter to completely repay the Virginia State Division loan next year, interest free.

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