

March 12th, 2024



## THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

### Suffolk-Nansemond Chapter



S-N IWLA Chapter Newsletter

The Blue Heron Times (March, 2024 Issue)

### Points of Contact

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**Chair:** Allen Kiger  
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**Membership Chair:** Alan Ferguson  
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 Suffolk Nansemond Chapter of  
 the Izaak Walton League of  
 America

### IWLA State/National

[IWLA Virginia Division](http://IWLA Virginia Division)

[IWLA National](http://IWLA National)

### Backyard Conservation News

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

[Chesapeake Bay Foundation](http://Chesapeake Bay Foundation)

[Department of Conservation & Recreation](http://Department of Conservation & Recreation)

[Division of Wildlife Resources](http://Division of Wildlife Resources)

[Hoffler Creek Wildlife Foundation and Preserve](http://Hoffler Creek Wildlife Foundation and Preserve)

[Nansemond River Preservation Alliance](http://Nansemond River Preservation Alliance)

[SCCC - Suffolk Clean Community Commission Recycling](http://SCCC - Suffolk Clean Community Commission Recycling)

[TerraScapes Environmental Consulting](http://TerraScapes Environmental Consulting)

[The Wildlife Society](http://The Wildlife Society)

[Virginia Conservation Network](http://Virginia Conservation Network)

### Meetings

Chapter Board of Directors meetings are held on the second Monday of each month. They last met at 7pm on **Monday, March 11th** at the Constantia House behind Baker's Funeral Home. Next month's Board meeting will be at 7pm on **Monday, April 8th** at the same location.

Chapter monthly Members Dinner meetings normally 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 March 20th**.

The dinner menu is baked ham, cheesy potatoes, 3-bean salad, rolls, tea, and desserts. The cost of the meal will be \$10. Our guest speaker for the evening will be Dave Bosselman, President of the Agriculture Committee for the City of Suffolk, who will be giving a program about the recently established Agriculture Committee and their goals for keeping agriculture a viable part of Suffolk's heritage and economy.

### 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 end of April is shown below:

MON 3/11 at 7:00pm - Board meeting.  
 SAT 3/16 at 9am - \*Nansemond River Cleanup.  
 WED 3/20 at 6:30pm - Dinner meeting.  
 SAT 3/23 at 8:30am - Youth Program Committee meets. SAT 3/23 at 9am - \*SCCC Recycle Drive&Tire Amnesty. SAT 3/23 at 10am - Prospective Member Orientation. MON 4/1 - Scholarship Applications are Due.  
 MON 4/8 at 7pm - Board meeting.  
 FRI 4/12 at 4pm - \*BBQ Fundraiser.  
 SAT 4/13 at 8am - \*Park Maintenance Work Day.  
 WED 4/17 - Monthly Dinner meeting.  
 SAT 4/20 at 9am - .22 Rimfire Members-Only Shooting Competition.  
 SAT 4/20 at 10am - Prospective Member Orientation.  
 SAT 4/27 at 9am - TBH Volunteers need to be at the park NLT 0900 to be ready for the children to start hunting Teddy Bears at 10am. RANGES WILL BE CLOSED.  
 SAT 4/27 at 10am - \*Teddy Bear Hunt (TBH).Note: Events marked with an \*asterisk count towards work hour credits for meeting the chapter's annual membership volunteer participation requirement.

### HOLIDAYS and COMMUNITY EVENTS:

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.  
 4/1 - Easter Monday.  
 4/20 - Suffolk Earth & Arts Festival

### TBH Volunteers are still needed

Volunteers are still needed to serve as Teddy Bear Hunt (TBH) Parking Control and Fishing Instructors. Please contact Chris Trimpey directly to volunteer; this is a fun event to get most of your required volunteer hours in.

#### Contact Information:

Chapter Board  
 Member/Youth Coordinator  
 Chris Trimpey.  
 email: [Chris.Trimpey@hotmail.com](mailto:Chris.Trimpey@hotmail.com);  
 cellular: (757) 449-4910

See the TBH Flyer posted later in this newsletter for more information about the event.

### President's Note

Well, it looks like March is coming in like a lion. Haven't seen much pollen yet, but there are 3 inches of standing water in my yard. Be careful in the park, as it will be very muddy and subject to road damage or slips and falls on foot. You might even lose a shoe.

Respectfully Yours,

Chris Ferguson,  
 Chapter President,  
 Suffolk-Nansemond IWLA

[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

## Volunteers are Needed to Prepare/Bring \*Desserts for Dinner meeting.

*Message from Claudia Powell, Chapter Food Chair*

Members, we need 4 (four) volunteers to prepare and bring a dessert for our March chapter dinner meeting. Plan for 12-to-16 servings per dessert. To signup, you can use this SignupGenius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0948A9AF29A4FFC61-48376181-desserts>

You will be prompted to enter your name and email address, and in the comments block please enter the specific dessert that you will be bringing. Any questions please contact me at [powelcje@gmail.com](mailto:powelcje@gmail.com).

\*Note: Chapter Members who volunteer to prepare/bring a dessert will earn chapter work hour credits towards our chapter's membership [participation policy](#).

## 2024 Chapter Education Scholarships are due April 1st

*Reprinted from February's newsletter issue.*

Applications for 2024 chapter education scholarships are open for submission, and are due no later than April 1st. This year we are awarding 2 (two) \$1,000 awards.

See <https://sniwla.org/sniwla/scholarships/> for qualifications, instructions on how to make your submission, and contact information for the Chapter Scholarship Chair David Perdue should you have any questions.

## Upcoming BBQ Fundraiser Ticket Availability/Volunteers are Needed

*Message from Chapter Board Member/Fundraising Chair Richard Wentz*

BBQ Tickets for our April 12th BBQ Chapter Fundraiser will be available at our March 20th dinner meeting. To purchase tickets between March 21st and April 11th, please leave a VM for Richard at 757-635-1215 and he will contact you with a place to meet to receive your tickets.

A sign-up sheet to volunteer to work at the BBQ Fundraiser will be circulated at the March dinner meeting. We need volunteers to fill two work rosters: one group **from 3 pm to 5pm** and a second group from **5pm to 7pm**.

Thanks,  
Richard

## Member Advisory - Range Closure April 27th

Members, please be advised that the chapter's firing and archery ranges both will be closed on April 27th so that we can hold the scheduled chapter Teddy Bear Hunt (TBH) event.

## Youth Program 3 Year Plan

*Reprinted from February's newsletter issue.*

Our Youth Program Chair is seeking your support on a committee to develop a three-year plan for the Youth Program. Please contact Mr. Chris Trimpey directly if you would like to participate in the committee. Youth are our best investment for the future so please consider supporting the committee and future Youth Program activities.

*Contact Information:*

Chapter Board  
Member/Youth Coordinator  
Chris Trimpey.  
email:  
[Chris.Trimpey@hotmail.com](mailto:Chris.Trimpey@hotmail.com);  
cellular: (757) 449-4910

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## Recipe of the Month - Buffalo Chicken Chili Slow Cooker

Source Credit Online Recipe: <https://www.mamagourmand.com/slow-cooker-creamy-buffalo-chicken-chili/>.

Author: [Melissa Erdelac](#).



Chapter Ike Cheryl Pisani cooked this chili for the recent chapter chili cookoff. Thanks for sharing the recipe, Cheryl!  
Serves 6

### Ingredients

- 1&1/2 pounds boneless chicken breasts.
- 14.5 ounce can Great Northern beans, drained.
- 14.5 ounce can fire roasted diced tomatoes, drained (can substitute regular diced tomatoes).
- 14.5 ounce can chicken broth (read label to make sure it's gluten free).
- 1/4-1/2 cup buffalo wing sauce (e.g. Frank's Red Hot).
- 1 package ranch dressing mix envelope (Hidden Valley brand is gluten free).
- 14.5 ounce can sweet corn kernels drained.
- 1/2 teaspoon onion powder.
- 1/2 teaspoon celery salt.
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder.
- 1/2 teaspoon dried cilantro. *(continued...)*

### Ingredients (...continued from previous column.)

- 1/4 teaspoon salt.
- 8 ounce cream cheese softened.
- Optional toppings: tortilla chips, fresh cilantro, blue cheese crumbles, additional hot sauce.

### Instructions

In a 5 quart slow cooker combine all the ingredients except the cream cheese and toppings.  
Cook on high for 4 hours or low for 8 hours.  
Shred the chicken in the slow cooker using two forks. (You can also use a slotted spoon to remove the chicken to a cutting board, shred it, and then return to the pot.) Add the cream cheese and stir until it is incorporated. Serve with desired toppings.

## Recap of 6th Annual Chapter Chili Cookoff at the February Dinner Meeting



We had a good showing of chapter members for the Chapter's 6th Annual Chapter Chili Cookoff. Thirteen (13) members brought pots of chili to enter in the competition, and other members brought cornbread and desserts.

After the meal, Claudia Powell, Chapter Food/Facilities Chair, announced that there was a tie for the first place Golden Spoon award between Greg Syvertson's beef chili and Virginia Wahab's pork loin chili. While she presented them both with the traditional Golden Spoon ladles, Chapter President Chris Ferguson handed out their award certificates.

Several new members were sworn in at this dinner meeting by Chapter President Chris Ferguson. From left to right, Matthew Smith, Milton Chalkley and his spouse Ekatarina Cumin and family, and Adam Joerger are shown below. Welcome to the Chapter, all!



Although there was no guest speaker for this dinner meeting, Chapter Board Member/Youth Coordinator Chris Trimpey gave the annual safety review and discussed requirements for the upcoming Teddy Bear Hunt in April. Chapter Board Member/Fundraising Chair Richard Wentz recapped details of the BBQ fundraiser scheduled for April and had BBQ tickets available to hand out to members present. Chapter V.P. Darden Langston chimed in with a message about the importance of selling tickets to help support our chapter.

For more photos, see the full news article entitled [February 21st 2024 Members Dinner Meeting-Chili-Cookoff](#) that is posted under the chapter website's News main menu.

## Volunteer Opportunity - \*River Cleanup on March 16th

*Reprinted from February's newsletter issue. Message from Sam Chambers, Chapter SOS/Clean Water Liaison.*

A chapter river cleanup is scheduled for **March 16th** in coordination with the Suffolk's Litter Control Department (Keep Suffolk Beautiful) St. Patrick's Day River Cleanup event from 9am - 12pm. I will be coordinating a land-based cleanup effort along the river's shorelines; chapter members who wish to help out should **plan to assemble in the Belk's parking lot behind the Burger King at 9am**. Vests, grabbers, gloves, and trash bags will be provided. \*Note: Chapter Members who participate in this event will earn chapter work hour credits towards our chapter's membership [participation policy](#).

## Volunteer Opportunity - SCCC \*Recycling Drive and Tire Amnesty on March 23rd

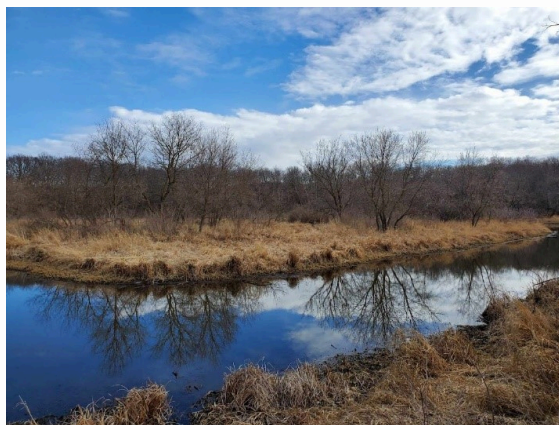
*Reprinted from February's newsletter issue.*

There is Suffolk Clean Community Commission (SCCC) Recycling Drive and Tire Amnesty Day is scheduled for **Saturday, March 23rd** from 9am to 12pm at the 800 Carolina Road facility. At this event, Suffolk residents can responsibly dispose of various items such as common recyclables (#1-2 plastic bottles, cardboard, paper), household hazardous waste, clothing, electronics, appliances, scrap metal, residential tires, eyeglasses/hearing aids, plastic bags, and decommissioned US flags. They also have secure document shredding available on-site, and will be taking donations of non-perishable food and toiletries. \*Note: Chapter members who volunteer to help out at this event will receive chapter work hour credits for their time in accordance with our chapter's membership [participation policy](#).

## Izaak Walton Rochester Minnesota

*Submitted by Membership Chair Alan Ferguson*

While visiting Rochester Minnesota Alan and Carol Ferguson visited the local chapter of the Izaak Walton League. Their cabin and meeting house is on Silver Lake in Rochester.




The land was purchased in 1936 for \$237 and the cabin was finished in 1938 with a fireplace containing stones from all 48 states, Alaska, Mexico and Canada. Why only 48 states? Because Hawaii and Alaska did not become states until 1959. In 1956 Charles Mayo donated 27 acres of wetlands to the chapter in support of the public use of the 1.8 miles of trails on the property. Many of the species of trees were labeled and it was a great place for a walk in the woods to see wildlife. We saw mallards and a pheasant while walking the trails.

## Flyer for Chapter \*BBQ Fundraiser scheduled for April 12th

*Reprinted from February's newsletter issue.*


Chapter Board Member/Fundraising Chair Richard Wentz is counting on Members to help sell tickets for the upcoming BBQ fundraiser scheduled for April 12th. Tickets will be available at the front desk at the March member's monthly dinner meeting, or you can contact [Richard](#) directly. \*Note: Chapter Members who participate in this event will earn chapter work hour credits towards our annual membership [participation policy](#). See the flyer below for more information. Click on it to download a printable version.



### Suffolk Nansemond Izaak Walton League

### Fundraiser

## BBQ Dinner Drive –Thru Pick Up



### Friday, April 12th 4 PM—7 PM

Westminster Reformed Presbyterian  
Church 3488 Godwin Blvd, Suffolk

### \$13 Ticket per person

Captain Bob's BBQ & Fried Chicken  
w/ Cole Slaw, Mac & Cheese, Hushpuppies

To support the SN-IWLA Conservation Projects &  
Environmental Education

**Tickets are available for purchase now! To buy yours, contact either:**

**Fundraiser Chair/Board Member Richard Wentz**  
**e: [rehwentz@gmail.com](mailto:rehwentz@gmail.com) m: 757.635.1215 (leave voicemail message).**

## .22 Rimfire Members-Only Shooting Competition April 20th

*Message from Eric Fjell, Chapter Shooting Coordinator*

On **Saturday, April 20th**, at 9am we will conduct a Members-Only .22 rimfire shoot competition. There will be four classes; 25 yard open sighted handguns, 50 yard scoped handguns, 50 yard open sighted rifles, and 100 yard scoped rifles. Ammunition will be limited to .22 caliber rimfire; short long, or long rifle, subsonic or high velocity. Each distance and firearm combination will cost \$5. We will have sign up sheets and will be taking entry fees at the March dinner meeting or on the day of the event. Early sign ups will help us gauge the number of competitors.

## Flyer for Chapter \*Teddy Bear Hunt scheduled for April 27th

*Reprinted from February's newsletter issue.*

Chapter Board Member/Youth Coordinator Chris Trimpey has been busy lining up the resources we will need to support this year's annual chapter Teddy Bear Hunt. He is the central point of contact for registering families and their children who want to participate in this open-to-the-public event. Cutoff to R.S.V.P for registration is April 13th. Also, he needs help from our membership to fill all of the work rosters needed to make this event a success, so Members, please reach out to him if you are available to help on the day of this event. \*Note: Chapter members who volunteer to help out at this event will receive chapter work hour credits for their time in accordance with our chapter's [membership participation policy](#). See the flyer below for more information. Click on it to download a printable version. Any questions, please contact Chapter Board Member/Youth Coordinator [Chris Trimpey](#).



**2024 Suffolk-Nansemond IWLTA Teddy Bear Hunt**

**Date: Saturday, April 27th, 2024**

**Time:**

10:00 - 12:00 Teddy Bear Hunt (Ages: 3-10)
11:30 - 1:00 Lunch
1:00 - 3:00 Explore the park (Bring your favorite fishing pole and fish or just relax).

**Location: 480 Kings Fork Rd, Suffolk, VA 23434**

**Cost: \$15 per family (covers parents/guardians and 1 child), \$5.00 extra for each additional child). Lunch is included for all.**

**Limited spaces are available, so please RSVP no later than April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to [Chris\\_Trimpey@hotmail.com](mailto:Chris_Trimpey@hotmail.com) or 757-449-4910.**

**A fun-filled family day of nature brought to you by the Suffolk-Nansemond Chapter of the Izaak Walton League**

## Environmental/Conservation News: Should Menhaden Fishing Be Banned in the Bay?

Source Credit: [npr.org](https://www.npr.org) blog posting "A small fish is at the center of a big fight in the Chesapeake Bay" by Katherine Hafner, February 14th, 2024.

"In recent years, menhaden have become a major symbol of the bay. The little forage fish is a crucial part of the local ecosystem, a nutrient-dense food source for species from ospreys and eagles to the striped bass and red drum that support the local recreational fishing industry. The fish are also valuable to a commercial fishery dating back more than a century, which harvests hundreds of millions each year to produce fishmeal and fish oil for products like pet food and omega-3 supplements.

Virginia is the last East Coast state that allows menhaden reduction fishing in state waters. Now, environmentalists and sportfishing groups throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed want the state to ban the fishery in the bay completely. They worry overfishing is threatening the local menhaden population. Omega Protein, the last company harvesting menhaden in the Chesapeake, says there's no evidence backing up the concerns, pointing to recent federal surveys finding the overall East Coast menhaden population appears healthy. Critics argue that data doesn't address what's specifically happening in the bay. The company says banning its operations in the bay would put it out of business, threatening more than 200 local jobs.

Researchers say more data is needed to fully understand what's happening in the bay. But in January, Virginia lawmakers passed on a chance to fund a major study on the status of menhaden. The proposal has been delayed for at least a year. It's the latest chapter in a fight that stretches back decades."

For more information, see the full blog posting at <https://www.npr.org/2024/02/14/1231309407/a-small-fish-is-at-the-center-of-a-bigfight-in-the-chesapeake-bay>.

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