



S-N IWLA Chapter Newsletter

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IWLA State/National

[IWLA Virginia Division](#)
[IWLANational](#)

Backyard Conservation News

[AskH2Green.org](#)
[Chesapeake Bay Foundation](#)
[Department of Conserv. & Recreation](#)
[Division of Wildlife Resources](#)
[Hoffler Creek Wildlife Foundation](#)
[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 St.
Suffolk, VA 23434

Appomattox River Company
(757)890-0500; 3009 W. Mercury Blvd.
Hampton, VA 23666

Arzillo Recycling (Scrap Metal)
(757)539-8593; Suffolk & PTMS Blvd.

The Blue Heron Times (July 2025 Issue)

Meetings

Chapter Board of Directors meetings are held on the second Monday of each month. They last met at 7pm on **Monday, July 14th** at the Constantia House behind Baker's Funeral Home. The next month's Board meeting will be at 7pm on **Monday, August 11th** at same location.

Chapter Members Dinner meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. The next chapter dinner meeting will be held at **6:30pm on Wednesday, July 16th** at the Oakland Church Community Life Center in Chuckatuck located at 5641 Godwin Blvd, Suffolk, VA 23434. The dinner menu will be Spaghetti with Vic Pisani's special Marinara sauce, meatballs, garlic bread, tossed salad and assorted desserts. The cost will be \$10. Guest speaker is unknown.

Firing Range Closure

Members, on **Tuesday, August 5th**, the Firing Range will be closed all day in support of scheduled Suffolk community NNO (National Night Out) events at adjacent schools.

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 the end of August is provided below:
MON 7/14 at 7pm - Board Meeting.
WED 7/16 at 6:30pm - Dinner Meeting with Elections.
FRI 7/18 & SAT 7/19 - IWLA National Convention.
TUE 8/5 - Firing Range Closed.
MON 8/11 at 7pm - Board Meeting.
WED 8/20 at 6:30pm - Dinner Meeting.

Chapter Elections

Members, on **Wednesday July 16th** at the chapter dinner meeting, our Nominations/ Elections Chair will conduct elections for selecting officers and board members to serve for the 2025-2026 term.

President's Note

We just celebrated the 4th of July. Our country started 249 years ago. Our ancestors saw a great untamed wilderness stretching out before them, opportunity abounded. Many decades later, we had settled the land and then finally realized that the resources were finite. Now it is our responsibility to go forth and protect that wilderness. Take your children out fishing and hiking. Teach them environmental stewardship. Volunteer for our cleanups and youth activities.

"July is hot afternoons and sultry nights and mornings when it is joy just to be alive. July is a picnic and a red canoe and a sunburned neck and a softball game and ice tinkling in a tall glass. July is a blind date with summer."
— Hal Borland

Respectfully Yours,
Chris Ferguson, Chapter President,
Suffolk-Nansemond IWLA

Membership Participation Policy

Changes Made Effective as of January 1st, 2025

Members, we are about halfway through the 2025 calendar year. Have you provided your 8 hours of service to the chapter?

A reminder, the Board of Directors made changes to the Membership Participation Policy at their November 2024 Board meeting, effective as of January 1st, 2025. The Board was prompted to make these changes to encourage participation by its members in chapter events and activities. The following committees schedule service events throughout the year and give a variety of opportunities to earn service hours:

- Adopt-A-Road
- Park Maintenance
- Food & Facilities
- Save Our Streams
- Fund Raising
- Scholarship
- Membership Orientation
- Youth Programs.

You can find a written summary of the activities for each of these committees on the chapter website at <https://sniwla.org/sniwla/committees/>.

- The Board increased the non-participation fee for this year from \$50 to \$150.
- The fee cannot be prorated for hours of service less than 8 hours.
- Members who turn 75 or are older are exempt from providing service but are welcome to participate.
- All completed participation forms are required to be submitted to the Membership Committee by December 1st to be credited for the required service hours.

To see the Membership Participation Policy click on the link below:

<https://sniwla.org/sniwla/membership-info/membership-participation-policy/>.

To see the chapter calendar and the upcoming events click the link below:

<https://sniwla.org/sniwla/calendar/>.

Alan Ferguson
Membership Chair

Recipe of the Month - Crab Stuffed with Mushrooms

Recipe Source Credit <https://www.food.com/recipe/crab-stuffed-mushrooms-106228>.
by @Diane in Nebraska <https://www.food.com/user/29506>.

Yields: 24 mushrooms



Ingredients

- 1/4 cup olive oil or 1/4 cup melted butter
- 24 large white mushrooms
- 12 ounces flaked crabmeat
- 4 tablespoons finely chopped onions
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1 cup shredded parmesan cheese
- 1 cup soft breadcrumbs or 1/2 cup dry breadcrumbs
- 2 teaspoons parsley, chopped
- 1/8 teaspoon ground red pepper
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/8 teaspoon garlic salt
- 1 egg, beaten
- 3 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup melted butter
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic salt
- 2 cups shredded parmesan cheese

Instructions

Spray a 9x12-inch glass baking dish with cooking spray. Use an additional baking dish if needed. Drizzle olive oil or butter in the bottom of the baking dish. Wipe mushrooms with a damp paper towel to clean. Remove stems, set aside caps and chop stems to add to filling. In a medium bowl, mix crabmeat, chopped mushroom stems, onion, dry mustard. Also mix in 1 cup parmesan cheese, SOFT bread crumbs. Next, mix in parsley, red and black pepper, and garlic salt. Mix well and then stir in egg and mayonnaise. Use a small cookie scoop to mound filling onto each mushroom. Melt butter and mix in garlic salt and drizzle over the filled mushrooms. Mound a generous portion of the shredded parmesan cheese on top of each filled mushroom. Note: For softer, melted cheese, you may want to use mozzarella cheese or brick cheese for the topping. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes at 425°F. Best served hot. Can be prepared ahead, refrigerated and then baked just before serving by adding 7-10 minutes baking time.

Recap of June Chapter Dinner Meeting



At the June members dinner meeting on June 18th our guest speakers for the evening were King's Fork High School teachers Tonya Bangley (left) and Austin Kulp (right). Tonya is a science teacher and Austin teaches physical education. Tonya and Austin have embraced Meaningful Watershed Environmental Experiences (MWEE- "me-we") as a pathway to watershed stewardship, a Virginia Standards of Learning requirement. MWEE is a student centered, standards-based learning that focuses on environmental issues in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The Chapter partnered with the Nansemond River Garden Club, along with

Tonya and Austin, for an event at our chapter park on Thursday, June 19th. A group of youth collected and analyzed micro invertebrates from the pond to evaluate the quality of the pond water. In addition, they learned how to bait cast and fly fish.



Following the presentation, chapter Award Chair Virginia Wahab can be seen in the photo on the right presenting the 2024 Tobin Award to Darden Langston.

The Tobin Award is presented annually to the member who makes significant contributions to the operations of the Chapter. Congratulations Darden, in receiving this prestigious award and also for being the longest serving member of our Chapter.



Richard Kole is shown here in the photo on the left below being sworn in as our newest member by Chris Ferguson. Welcome to the chapter, Richard.

For more information about this dinner meeting, see the full news article posted on our chapter website under the News menu entitled [June 2025 Members Meeting](#).

IWLA National Convention will be held July 18th-19th

Ikes from across the country will gather at the Tundra Lodge Resort, Waterpark & Conference Center in Green Bay, Wisconsin on July 18-19 for the 2025 IWLA National Convention. The theme of this year's convention is Defending America's Great Outdoors: A Promise to Future Generations. The Tundra Lodge is located in the heart of the Stadium District four blocks from legendary Lambeau Field. The main attraction is the 30,000-square-foot waterpark with towering water slides and a lazy river.

The two-day schedule includes fun events, national officer and Executive Board elections, and votes on policy resolutions, as well as speakers and panel discussions on a range of critical conservation, natural resource and other topics.

For more information see the IWLA National news article posted at <https://iwla.org/2025-national-convention/>.

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