

March 8th, 2022



THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

Suffolk-Nansemond Chapter



S-N IWLA Chapter Newsletter

The Blue Heron Times (March, 2022 Issue)

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IWLA State/National

[IWLA Virginia Division](#)

[IWLA National](#)

Backyard Conservation News

AskHRgreen.org

[Chesapeake Bay Foundation](#)

[Department of Conservation & Recreation](#)

[Division of Wildlife Resources](#)

[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](#)

Meetings

The Chapter's Board of Directors met at 7pm on **Monday, March 7th** at the Constantia House behind Baker's Funeral Home. Next month's Board meeting will be 7pm on **Monday, April 11th** at the same location.

For the Chapter Members Dinner meeting at **6:30PM on Wednesday, March 16th** at the [Kings Fork Community House](#) on Kings Fork Road, the menu will be ham, apples/yams, green beans, rolls, tea, and desserts. The cost will be \$10. Our guest speaker for the evening will be Chris Lowie, Refuge Manager of the Great Dismal Swamp Wildlife Refuge, who will talk about the Refuge's recent archaeological discoveries and some new financial developments.

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 April is shown below:

MON 3-7 at 7PM - Chapter Board Meeting.
WED 3-16 at 6:30pm - Chapter Dinner Meeting.
SAT 3-19 at 10AM - *St. Patty's Day Cleanup
SAT 3-19 at 9AM - Chapter RimFire Members-Only Shooting Competition.
SAT 3-26 at 9AM - *Suffolk Tire Amnesty
Recycle drive.
FRI 4-1 - Chapter Scholarship Submissions

President's Note

It is March, and spring is in the air. Wait, that is pollen, and it is on my car!

Covid is retreating, at least for the time being and we are pursuing a traditional schedule this year. This will include the upcoming .22 rimfire competition and the Teddy Bear hunt in April. We are also looking at having a picnic, on a Saturday, in lieu of the May dinner meeting.

One note for our members, the City of Suffolk will be decommissioning the old (Norfolk) well in the middle of our park. I do not have an exact schedule, but the work must be complete by the end of April. The contractor is marking trees for removal or trimming. The access route is from the school (baseball diamond) straight back. Please do not remove any flags or markings.

Science has never drummed up quite as effective a tranquilizing agent as a sunny spring day.

Respectfully Yours,

Chris Ferguson, Chapter President,
 Suffolk-Nansemond IWLA

[Virginia Master Naturalist](#)

Classifieds

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

[Meadowbrook Farm Bed and Breakfast](#)
(757)371-5896
700 Kings Hwy, Suffolk, VA 23432

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

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

[Wilcox Bait & Tackle](#)
(767)595-5537; 9501 Jefferson Ave, Newport News, VA 23605
Specializing in Fishing & Hunting Supplies, Archery Equipment, Aluminum Boats, Canoes, Live Bait

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and Amazon will make a donation to:

Izaak Walton League Of America Inc
Suffolk-Nansemond Chapter

See <http://sniwla.org/sniwla/donations-2/>



due.
SAT 4-9 - IWLA VA Division Meeting.
MON 4-11 - Chapter Board Meeting.
SAT 4-9 - *Chapter Adopt-A-Road Cleanup.
SAT 4-16 - *Chapter Park Maintenance WorkDay.
WED 4-20 at 6:30pm - Chapter Dinner Meeting.
SAT 4-23 at 10:30am - *Chapter Teddy Bear Hunt.

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

Holidays
SUN 3-13 Daylight Savings Time Starts
THR 3-17 St. Patty's Day
SUN 4-17 Easter Sunday

Recipes of the Month- Baked Stuffed Pork Chops

- Servings: 2
- Time: 1hr 10mins
- Difficulty: easy

Source Credit: Sue Lau | Palatable Pastime | palatablepastime.com



Ingredients

- 2 (10-ounces each) thick bone-in pork rib chops
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 2 cloves minced garlic
- 1/2 teaspoon each salt and black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon dried rosemary
- 1 teaspoon dried sage
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh Italian parsley
- 2 cups dry bread cubes
- 1/2 cup chicken or vegetable broth
- 1 egg
- olive oil, salt, pepper

Instructions

Preheat oven to 350°F.
Cut slit in chops, going back to the bone.
Mix stuffing and put into chops.
Drizzle chops with olive oil and season with salt and pepper.
Bake at 350°F for 40 minutes or until they probe 145°F in the center.
Let rest 10 minutes before serving.

Suggested sides: serve with green peas and fingerling potatoes!

Chapter Teddy Bear Hunt

Our 6th annual S-N IWLA Chapter Teddy Bear Hunt (TBH) is scheduled for **Saturday, April 23rd, 2022**. This is a great event to show our chapter's support for introducing youth to the outdoors and an opportunity to bring your children or grandchildren out to the park for a fun-filled day.

This event is open to the general public for youth ages 3-10. Please help spread the word! **Limited spaces are available**. To sign up as a participant please **RSVP** our chapter youth coordinator, Ken Dugan at kbdugan104@gmail.com or 757-635-1025(m) no later than April 16th, 2022.

Also, chapter members are needed to fill volunteer work rosters to help hide the teddy bears, keep an eye on folks (so no one gets lost), pull hayride trailers, monitor the parking lot, cook, and help with fishing instruction. Members may sign-up for these rosters at the chapter's March monthly chapter dinner meeting, or by contacting Ken in advance.



2022 Suffolk-Nansemond IWLA Teddy Bear Hunt

Date: April 23rd, 2022 (rain date: April 30th)

10:30 - 12:00 Teddy Bear Hunt (Ages: 3-10)
12:00 - 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: \$15.00 per family (covers parents/guardians and 1 child), \$5.00 extra for each additional child). Lunch is included for all.
Limited spaces available, so please RSVP kbdugan104@gmail.com or 757-635-1025 (m) no later than April 16th, 2022.

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

For more information, including a download link for accessing a printable Teddy Bear Hunt (TBH) pdf-formatted flyer, see the full news article entitled [2022 Chapter Teddy Bear Hunt](#) posted under the news menus on our chapter website or simply click on the TBH flyer shown above.

February Chapter Dinner Meeting Recap

A chili cookoff, once again coordinated by Chapter Ike Joyce Dugan, was the center of attention for dinner. A variety of salads, cornbread and deserts rounded out the meal. There were six chili entries in the competition. Jacob Bosco was voted best of the night with Chris Ferguson and Virginia Wahab tying for second place. Joyce awarded Jacob a red plastic serving spoon and a black plastic serving spoon to each of the second-place finalists. This was the second chili cookoff the chapter has held and by the comments from members it won't be the last.



Elizabeth Pittman was the guest speaker at the February member's meeting. She is a Virginia Cooperative Extension Associate Agent and Unit Coordinator for Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Her presentation was on Invasive Species of Southeast Virginia. She described what the definition of invasive species is and the varying invasiveness levels of each plant. Some of the plants she discussed included the Tree of Heaven, Yellow Flag, Japanese Honeysuckle, Japanese Stiltgrass, Common Reed and Kudzu. Their habitat, their impact to the environment and methods to control each type of plant

were explained. For additional information or general questions, Elizabeth can be contacted at 757-514-4337 or emailed at elizp16@vt.edu.

The chapter gained an additional family membership at this meeting. Chapter president Chris Ferguson swore in Daniel and Andrea Diehl, as shown below. Welcome to the chapter!



For more information about our guest speaker, see the news article entitled [February 2022 Guest Speaker](#) posted under the news menus on our chapter website. For more photos taken at the chapter dinner meeting see the news article posted on our website entitled [February 2022 Members Meeting](#).

*St. Patty's Day Cleanup

Date: **Saturday, March 19, 2022**

Time: **10am to 11:30am**

Where? **212 East Washington St, Suffolk, VA 23434**

Join us for a fun downtown cleanup!!! We meet in the parking lot of Nansemond Brewing Station (212 East Washington St, 23434) in the heart of downtown Suffolk. Volunteers will receive cleanup equipment and then spread out to clean up the area.

Below is a link for more information.

<https://www.suffolkva.us/1289/St-Patricks-Day-Cleanup>

**Note: although this event is sponsored by the City of Suffolk Public Works Litter Control Department, our S-N IWLA chapter board of directors will credit work hours for chapter member participation at this volunteer event towards meeting the chapter's annual [membership participation policy](#) requirement.*

*Recycle Tire Amnesty Drive - Suffolk Public Works Litter Control Department

Date: **March 26th 2022**

Time: **9am to 1pm**

Where? **Public Works Operations Yard, 800 Carolina Rd, Suffolk VA, 23434.**

**Note: although this event is sponsored by the City of Suffolk Public Works Litter Control Department, our S-N IWLA chapter board of directors will credit work hours for chapter member participation at this volunteer event towards meeting the chapter's annual [membership participation policy](#) requirement.*

Tire Amnesty: We will be collecting tires 22 inches or less with no rims. For more information about what else can be recycled, please visit the Event Page: <https://www.suffolkva.us/339/Recycling-Drives>.

Reprinted Articles from the Chapter February Newsletter:

Annual Chapter Education Scholarships

Article reprinted from the February newsletter

For 2022, the Suffolk-Nansemond Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA) is offering 2 (two) education scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each to be awarded to students who have been accepted into or who are currently attending an accredited college, university or technical school, and who are pursuing an appropriate course of study related to conservation and the environment. The deadline for accepting submissions is **April 1st, 2022**. Eligibility requirements, application forms, and instructions are posted at <http://sniwla.org/sniwla/scholarships/>. For more information contact the Scholarship Chairman David Perdue at davidkperdue@yahoo.com.

IWLA National Scholarships

Article reprinted from the February newsletter

For 2022, there are two \$2,500 scholarships being awarded by IWLA National. The first is for previous S-N IWLA chapter scholarship award recipients, and the second is for current IWLA members or child/grandchild of current IWLA members. Each scholarship award comes with an accompanying one-year IWLA student membership for qualified college juniors or seniors. Applications are due by **May 15th, 2022**. These scholarships are funded with a generous grant from the Izaak Walton League of America Endowment. *Note: Our S-N IWLA Chapter does not administer these national scholarship awards. See Instructions and*

requirements posted on the IWLA National website at <https://iwla.org/scholarship>.

Rimfire Members-Only Shooting Competition

Article reprinted from the February newsletter

On **Saturday, March 19th, 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, sub sonic or high velocity. Each distance and firearm combination will cost \$5. David Perdue 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 up will help us gauge the number of competitors.

Excerpts from VFA (Virginia Forestry Association) Voice February 5th Newsletter

Submitted by Chapter Board Member Mike Lane

Here are three articles of interest from the recent February issue of the VFA (Virginia Forestry Association) Voice newsletter that may be of interest to our members:

- **Consider a Tax-Time Donation for Recreation, Conservation**

"Virginians with a renewed appreciation for the great outdoors may wish to support the state's Open Space Recreation and Conservation Fund with a voluntary contribution at tax time. By donating all, or any portion of, their 2021 state tax refunds, taxpayers can contribute to the state's efforts to expand and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities and support biodiversity conservation. The fund is managed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the state's lead natural resource conservation agency. To choose the Open Space Recreation and Conservation Fund, enter Code Number 68 on Schedule VAC (Virginia Contributions Schedule), Section II (Other Voluntary Contributions). This form accompanies the state individual tax return Form 760. For the full story from the Star Tribune (2/2/22), [click here](#)."

- **Webert-Sponsored Bills would Add Additional State-Level Checks on Solar Farms**

"Two new bills before the Virginia state legislature would create a more difficult path for small utility-scale solar farms to navigate in order get their state licenses and would require solar projects to mitigate any harm caused by the use of valuable farmland or destruction of forests." The legislation, sponsored by Del. Michael Webert (R-18th) of Marshall, comes in the form of two bills. House Bill 202 would require solar farms in the 20 mw to 150 mw range to obtain their permits from the State Corporation Commission instead of through the streamlined process with the Department of Environmental Quality they enjoy now. House Bill 206 would require those currently going through the streamlined process to analyze their projects' likely impacts on wildlife, historic resources, agricultural land and forests and to submit a plan to mitigate any foreseeable harm – plus undergo a 90-day public comment period. For the full story from Fauquier Times (1/3/22), [click here](#)."

- **Microbes Making Tree Methane 'Farts' in Ghost Forests Are in the Soils, Study Says**

A new study from North Carolina State University shows that methane, a potent greenhouse gas, is largely generated in the soils below standing dead trees in so-called ghost forests, or coastal forests that are being killed off by rising sea levels. See <https://news.ncsu.edu/2022/02/methane-tree-farts-in-ghost-forests-come-from-the-soils/> for more information.

IWLA National News - Farming Practices Can Benefit Chesapeake Bay

Message from IWLA National's Agricultural Program Director Duane Hovorka

"A new report from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation highlights the multiple benefits of farm conservation practices essential to restoring the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. Farm Forward examines practices that reduce pollution, combat climate change, improve soil health, strengthen farmers' bottom lines and boost rural economies.

The report is especially relevant now, with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) rolling out multiple initiatives promoting climate-smart agriculture and Congress kicking off hearings on the 2023 Farm Bill with a review of USDA conservation programs.

The watershed states only have until 2025 under the [Chesapeake Clean Water Blueprint](#) to adopt and implement pollution-cutting measures that will restore the health of the Bay and its waterways. All of the states must accelerate to meet their commitments, but Pennsylvania has, by far, the furthest to go. For more information, [Read the report.](#)"

IWLA National Save Our Streams Annual Report

A message from Janette Rosenbaum, Strategic Communications Manager

"2021 brought even more evolution and expansion for the Clean Water Program, but the core principles remained the same for Save Our Streams: to improve water quality and engage volunteers in water quality issues. Our new annual report revisits the activities and successes our Clean Water Program undertook and experienced in the past year.

[Read about projects and highlights from 2021](#)".

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