



THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

Suffolk-Nansemond Chapter



S-N IWLA Chapter Newsletter

The Blue Heron Times (February, 2025 Issue)

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Chapter website: sniwla.org

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Meetings

Chapter Board of Directors meetings are held on the second Monday of each month. They last met at **7pm on Monday, February 10th** at the Constantia House behind Baker's Funeral Home. Next month's Board meeting will be at **7pm on Monday, March 10th** at the same location.

Chapter Members Dinner meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. The next chapter dinner meeting is our **annual Chapter Chili Cook-Off**, coordinated by Chapter Ike Joyce Dugan, at **6:30pm on Wednesday, February 19th**, at the Oakland Church Community Life Center in Chuckatuck located at 5641 Godwin Blvd, Suffolk, VA 23434. The cost will be \$10. There will be no guest speaker.

2025 Chapter Education Scholarships are Open as of February 1st

Applications for 2025 Chapter education scholarships are now open for submission, and are **due no later than April 1st, 2025**.

This year we are awarding 2 (two) \$1,000 scholarship awards.

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

Nominations for Tobin Award

Members: every year, Izaak Walton League chapters across the country present the IWLA National Judge John W. Tobin Award to one of their members.

If you wish to nominate one of our chapter members to receive this award, please contact our Chapter Award Chair, Virginia Wahab, via email at wahabv@cox.net, and please do so **ASAP so that she can meet the submission cutoff of March 15th**.

This award is a singular and distinct honor because it represents a chapter's acknowledgment of a dedicated member whose outstanding volunteer contributions to the chapter have made a difference throughout the previous year.

IWLA State/National

[IWLA Virginia Division](#)

[IWLANational](#)

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](#)

[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

[Appomattox 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 the end of April is shown below:

SAT 2/1 at 10am – Prospective Member Orientation.
MON 2/10 at 7pm - Board Meeting.
WED 2/19 at 6:30pm - Chili Cookoff Dinner Meeting.
SAT 3/1 at 10am – Prospective Member Orientation.
MON 3/10 at 7pm - Board Meeting.
SAT 3/15 - Deadline for Tobin Award Submittals.
SAT 3/15 9am-12pm - *St. Patrick's Day Cleanup.
WED 3/19 at 6:30pm - Dinner Meeting.
SAT 3/22 10am-12pm - *Bird House Building Youth Event (ages 5-12 Open-To-The-Public).
FRI/SAT 3/28-29 - *Great Suffolk Cleanup.
MON 4/1 - Chapter Scholarship Submissions Due.
FRI 4/11 3-6pm - *BBQ Fundraiser at Westminster Reformed Presbyterian Church, 3488 Godwin Blvd, Suffolk.
SAT 4/12 at 8am - *Park Maintenance Workday.
MON 4/14 at 7pm - Board Meeting.
WED 4/16 at 6:30pm - Dinner Meeting.
SAT 4/26 at 10am – *Teddy Bear Hunt Open-To-Public Youth Event (Rain Date May 3rd).
SAT 4/26 at 10:30am – Chapter Hosts IWLA VA Div.

*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

02/14 Valentine's Day. 02/17 President's Day.
03/09 Daylight Savings. 03/17 St. Patrick's Day.
04/15 Tax Day. 04/20 Easter Sunday. 04/21 Easter Monday.

2025 Membership Cards & Gate Code

*Message from Alan Ferguson,
Membership Chair*

The Chapter Park Manager will change the park gate code just prior to the February 19th dinner meeting. If you have paid your membership dues prior to or at the January dinner meeting your membership has been renewed. 2025 Membership Cards will be given out at the February dinner meeting along with the new gate code printed on the back. If you will not attend the dinner meeting your membership card will be mailed to your home address. For those who renewed their memberships after the February dinner meeting your membership renewal is in process and your membership card will be mailed to you when they are received.

President's Note

So, Punxsutawney Phil has seen his shadow; indicating six more weeks of winter. In reality, he's wrong as much or more than a meteorologist. Therefore, go outside and enjoy our park. The fish will be waking up and there is paper to be punched. Come out and play Robin Hood.

The Roman month Februarius was named after the Latin term februum, which means "purification", via the purification ritual Februa held on February 15 (full moon) in the old lunar Roman calendar. January and February were the last two months to be added to the Roman calendar since the Romans originally considered winter a monthless period of the year.

"While it is February one can taste the full joys of anticipation. Spring stands at the gate with her finger on the latch." --*Patience Strong*

Respectfully Yours,

Chris Ferguson,
Chapter President,
Suffolk-Nansemond IWLA

February Chili Cook-off Volunteers

Members, thanks to those of you who signed up to bring something to the upcoming **Wednesday, February 19th** annual S-N IWLA Chapter Chili Cookoff dinner meeting. Thus far, 13 of 15 slots to bring a pot of chili are filled. All slots for cornbread and desserts are filled.

So, we still need need more volunteers to sign up to bring two (2) more pots of chili. IF YOU SIGN-UP TO BRING SOMETHING YOU WON'T PAY FOR YOUR MEAL, per usual. So, if you want to help us out by signing up to bring something, please click on this link: [SignupGenius](#) where you can enter your contact information and what you plan to bring. *Note: If you are bringing chili, please specify in the comments whether yours will be mild, or medium, or hot.*

Any questions, please contact Joyce Dugan, Chapter Chili Cookoff Coordinator at joycedugan53@gmail.com.
THANK YOU.

Recipe of the Month - Honey Garlic Pork Tenderloin

Source credit: *The Shortcut Kitchen* <http://www.centslessdeals.com/>

4 Servings



Ingredients

- 1 pound pork tenderloin
- 2 tablespoons butter

For the Rub

- 1 tablespoon garlic salt
- 1 tablespoon *garlic pepper
- 1 tablespoon onion powder
- 1 tablespoon fresh thyme minced
- 1 tablespoon fresh rosemary minced
- 1 teaspoon chili powder

For the Honey Garlic Sauce

- ½ cup honey
- ½ cup light soy sauce
- ⅓ cup brown sugar
- ⅓ cup orange juice
- 1 tablespoon garlic minced
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch + 2 tbs water for slurry

Instructions

Preheat oven to 400°F. Remove any fat from pork.

Using a fork, puncture the pork in several places.

Add garlic salt, garlic pepper, onion powder, fresh thyme, fresh rosemary, and chili powder into a small bowl.

Spread on all sides of the pork, pressing firmly to adhere the rub.

Using a heavy skillet, heat over medium-high heat and add butter.

Allow butter to melt then place pork in skillet and sear just until brown flipping to sear all sides for about 2 minutes.

Place skillet in the oven and roast for 20 minutes.**

Meanwhile in a small saucepan add honey, brown sugar, soy sauce, orange juice, and garlic.

Whisk to combine and bring to a slight boil.

Combine the cornstarch and water to create a slurry and add to sauce.

Whisk until slightly thickened. Remove from heat and set aside.

Remove pork from the oven and baste with honey garlic sauce.

Set the oven to "HI" broil and broil pork for 3 minutes until sauce caramelized.

Let rest 5 minutes covered. slice and garnish with fresh chopped thyme and rosemary.

NOTES:

*If garlic pepper is hard to find, substitute 1 teaspoon of pepper.

**Make sure the skillet is oven-proof.

Pork tenderloin is lean cut, so it's best to use a meat thermometer to keep it tender and juicy.

Remove the pork from the oven the moment it reaches 145°F.

Always let meat rest after cooking to allow the juices to recirculate back into the meat so they don't run out when slicing.

Leftover honey garlic pork tenderloin will keep in a covered in the refrigerator for up to 4 days.

Volunteers are Needed for Open-To-The-Public Chapter *Teddy Bear Hunt Scheduled for Saturday, April 26th

Message from Chris Trimpey, Board Member/Youth Coordinator

Members, it is the time of the year when children start to anticipate the annual Teddy Bear Hunt! This year's event is scheduled for **Saturday 26 April from 10am-3pm** (with a rain date of May 3rd). In order to make the event a success, volunteers are needed for the following positions:

- Registration (2)
- Archery (2)
- Parking Control (5)
- Teddy Bear Hiders/Safety Monitors (4)
- Photographers (2-3)
- Floater (1)
- Fishing Instructors (4)

Volunteers will assemble at the park at 8am for safety/event briefings/preparations to ensure we are fully prepared for children starting their Teddy Bear Hunting at 10am. If you are interested in a fun event to obtain some/all of your annual required volunteer hours, please contact Mr. Chris Trimpey, our chapter Youth Program Committee Chair, at email: chris_trimpey@hotmail.com or (757) 449-4910 to sign up for the event.

**Note: This event is applicable for chapter work roster credit hours towards accumulating required annual minimum volunteer participation hours. The flyer for this event is shown below. To retrieve a full-sized printable PDF version of the flyer, see the news article posted at our chapter website: <https://sniwla.org/sniwla/chapter-teddy-bear-hunt-april-26th-2025/>.*



2025 Suffolk-Nansemond IWLA Teddy Bear Hunt

Date: Saturday, April 26th, 2025

10:00 - 12:00 Teddy Bear Hunt (Ages: 3-10)
11:30 - 1:00 Lunch
1:00 - 3:00 Afternoon Youth activities available to participants include walking trails, fishing, and archery.

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 19th, 2025 to 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

Flyer revision 2025-01-2121

The Story of the Teddy Bear

Did you know that the Teddy Bear was invented in honor of President Theodore Roosevelt? It all began when Theodore Roosevelt was on a bear hunting trip near Onward, Mississippi on November 14, 1902. He had been invited by Mississippi Governor Andrew H. Longino, and unlike other hunters in the group, had not located a single bear.

Roosevelt's assistants, led by Holt Collier, a born slave and former Confederate cavalryman, cornered and tied a black bear to a willow tree. They summoned Roosevelt and suggested that he shoot it. Viewing this as extremely unsportsmanlike, Roosevelt refused to shoot the bear. The news of this event spread quickly through newspaper articles across the country. The articles recounted the story of the president who refused to shoot a bear. However, it was not just any president, it was Theodore Roosevelt the big game hunter!



Teddy Bear



Clifford Berryman's 1902 cartoon that lampooned T.R.'s bear hunt

A political cartoonist by the name of Clifford Berryman read the article and decided to lightheartedly lampoon the president's refusal to shoot the bear. Berryman's cartoon appeared in the Washington Post on November 16, 1902. A Brooklyn candy shop owner by the name of Morris Michtom saw the cartoon and had an idea. He and his wife Rose were also makers of stuffed animals, and Michtom decided to create a stuffed toy bear and dedicate it to the president who refused to shoot a bear. He called it 'Teddy's Bear'.

After receiving Roosevelt's permission to use his name, Michtom mass produced the toy bears which were so popular that he soon founded the Ideal Toy Company. To this day the Teddy Bear has worldwide popularity and its origin can be traced back to Theodore's fate: full hunting trip in 1902.

<http://www.nps.gov/thrb/historyculture/storyofteddybear.htm>

Volunteers are needed for the Chapter BBQ *Fundraiser Scheduled for Friday, April 11th

Message from Richard Wentz, Chapter Fundraiser Chair

BBQ Tickets for our **Friday, April 11th** BBQ Chapter Fundraiser (to be held from 3-6pm at the Westminster Reformed Presbyterian Church, 3488 Godwin Blvd, Suffolk) will be available at our February 19th chili cookoff dinner meeting. To purchase tickets between February 19th and April 10th, 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 2:30 pm to 4:30pm and a second group from 4:30pm to 6:30pm. Thanks, Richard.

**Note: This event is applicable for chapter work roster credit hours towards accumulating required annual minimum volunteer participation hours.*

To retrieve a full-sized printable PDF version of the flyer shown below, see the news article posted at our chapter website: <https://sniwla.org/sniwla/chapter-bbq-fundraiser-friday-april-11th-2025/>.



Friday, April 11th 3:00 PM—6:00 PM

Westminster Reformed Presbyterian Church, 3488 Godwin Blvd, Suffolk

\$15 Ticket per person

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

To support the S-N IWLA Conservation Projects & Environmental Education

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

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

Flyer revision 2025-02-06(revb)

Recap of January Chapter Dinner Meeting



The first member's meeting of the year was held on Wednesday, January 15th. The cooking crew served up a scrumptious meal of North Carolina barbecue procured from Hardisons, with sides of potato salad, baked beans, cole slaw, and homemade desserts. The guest speakers for the evening were Mike and Alicia Bradshaw of Am Drones, LLC ([Aerial Wildlife Solutions](#)). They gave a presentation on how they use thermal imaging drones in their business for purposes such as pet search & rescue and hunting harvest recovery. With a portable generator and by swapping multiple batteries, Mike indicated that



they can operate their Enterprise level drone for 30 minutes intervals indefinitely, day or night. With an infrared zoom camera, spotlight, and GPS capability, the drone is capable of exploring 100 acres per hour in snow, rain, and high wind conditions exponentially faster than searching on foot, and is small enough to be packed into a backpack for use in mountainous terrain. In FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) parlance, drones are considered UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems). Mike explained that he and Alicia are certified UAS pilots, and operate their drone under FAA regulations and indicated that there are over a million registered drone operators in the country of which

approximately half are commercial entities.

Afterwards, Vice President Darden Langston (in the orange vest) swore in two new members, shown here left to right: Anthony Patrick and Daniel Outland. Welcome to the Chapter, gentlemen!



Build a Birdhouse Open-To-The-Public Youth Activity at Chapter Park Scheduled for Saturday, March 22nd

Message from Chris Trimpey, Board Member/Youth Program Coordinator; Reprinted with changes from the January chapter newsletter issue.

The Youth Program will hold the first ever "Build a Birdhouse" Open-To-The-Public activity at the park on **Saturday March 22nd from 10am-12pm**. The event is limited to children 5-12 years old; there is a limit of 20 children. Please contact Mrs. Claudia Powell who is leading this event at 757-504-8159 (m) or via email to powelcje@gmail.com if you want to sign-up to participate. There is no cost for children/families to participate in this event.

IWLA 2025 National Convention

Message from Jodi Labs, Izaak Walton League National President

In six months, Ikes from across the country will gather in Green Bay, Wisconsin, for the 2025 national convention. The theme of this year's convention is **Defending America's Great Outdoors: A Promise to Future Generations**. The convention follows a two-day format on **Friday, July 18, and Saturday, July 19. The Early Bird Welcome Reception will be Thursday evening, July 17. The Executive Board and Endowment Board will also meet on Thursday, July 17.** The local host committee is planning optional events before and after convention. Stay tuned for more information about these exciting activities. The two-day schedule includes all of the traditional convention business, including national officer and Executive Board elections, votes on policy resolutions, national and membership awards and speakers. Workshops will be offered virtually on a date to be determined. In the months ahead, the national office will provide convention-related information via email, in *Outdoor America* magazine, in a printed convention kit, and on the national website. To reserve your room at the League's discounted group rate, you must call the hotel directly at (877) 886-3725. This is not a chain hotel and because there are different room options and prices vary for room type based on the day of the week, reserving a room online is not feasible. When calling the hotel, tell the reservation staff you want to make a reservation for the Izaak Walton League national convention in July, and this will notify them to provide you with the League's group rate.

[forward to a friend](#)

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