

January & February, 2025 GIWLA News

Website: www.giwla.org Email: NEWS@GIWLA.ORG

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Renewals have gone out and the deadline has passed. If you haven't sent yours in, please do so immediately. Your gate pass will be de-activated on **Saturday, January 11th** if you haven't renewed by then. If this happens, please contact our Membership Chair, **John Quigley (630-670-6465)** or our President, **Kim Russell-Grodetz (219-629-3189)** and they can help you out.

Our first big winter event is the **2025 Ice Fishing Derby on January 18th**. Sign-in is at 5am with fishing from 6am until noon. There will be lots of prizes including biggest fish and many door prizes. Keep your fish or catch and release! You do not need an Indiana fishing license to participate. Not interested in fishing? Come out and enjoy the breakfast for \$8. If you'd like to help, I'm sure our Lakes Chairs would appreciate it. **Contact Alice Butterfield (708-466-3357) or Jackie Larson at (219-487-0001)** if interested. Be sure to watch our Facebook page for updates on the ice conditions on the lakes but right now things are looking good..

The first Lakes and Grounds meeting will be Monday, January 13th at 6pm. Note that this has been moved up a week, from January 20th, to prepare for the Ice Derby. If you are new to the club, this is a great opportunity to meet some of our most active members, see how things get done and how you might be able to contribute. If you can't make it on January 13th, they meet on the third Monday of the month at 6pm at the clubhouse. **February's meeting will be on the 17th.**

Tickets are on sale for the 2nd Annual Taste of the Izaak Walton on Saturday, April 26th from 5pm-9pm. The dinner will be at our clubhouse again this year and only 120 tickets will be sold. The cost is \$50 for appetizers, a huge full-course meal, dessert, beer, wine and soft drinks. Of course there will be lots of raffles and fun! **See Jackie Larson for tickets (219-487-0001).** Would you like to volunteer at the dinner or just help plan it? Jackie could use your help.

This year's 3-gun raffle tickets are now available. The drawing will be held on April 28th at the dinner. The prizes include an Ermox Xprop 12 ga. shotgun, Scy Cpx-2 9mm pistol or Taurus G2C 9mm pistol. First draw, first choice etc. Tickets are \$10 each and the winner does not need to be present. See Jackie for tickets. **We could REALLY use your help selling these** so if you think you can help out, ask her for a few tickets to take to your buddies at work or wherever you hang out. This dinner is the biggest fund raiser our club has and we need all the help we can get to make it a success. Last year we raised over \$10,000 and there's no reason we can't break that record if we all get involved. Volunteer, buy a raffle ticket and/or sell a few, invite a friend or family member to the dinner (maybe an early birthday or Father's Day present??). Every little bit helps.

The first 3-D Polar Bear Archery Shoot of the year will be Sunday, February 9th from 8am – noon. The club provides the equipment so if you are new to this sport this is your chance to come out and see if you like it. There will be 20-30 targets. **The shoot is open to the public so tell your friends.** Registration is \$10 for non-members, \$8.00 for members. Breakfast will be available so come on out and have fun. You can contact our new **Archery Chair, Mack Budzowski at 805-252-2410** for more information or if you'd like to help.

Don't miss the Annual Presidential Chili Cook-off on Saturday, Feb. 22nd from 3-6pm at the clubhouse. You're welcome to come at 2pm to set-up. There is no fee to enter and only members are eligible. Besides bragging rights, the winners go away with a nice cash prize. Don't cook? Come on out and sample all the entries. It's always a good time and you won't go home hungry!

A message from our President, Kim Russell-Grodetz:

Happy New Year everyone. I hope your holidays were great, and the new year finds you healthy and warm. 2025 is shaping up to be another great year at the club starting with the Ice Fishing Derby on January 18th. Finally it looks like the weather is going to cooperate! If you are not one of those crazy people who like to go out and freeze while fishing on frozen water with holes all around you, then come out and enjoy breakfast and keep your kitchen clean. In February we have the chili cook off and I am sure the few guys who have won in the past would appreciate some competition. I know we have some great cooks out there. The only cost is to make the chili. You make your famous chili, put it in a crock pot and bring it out to the chapter house. You can bring any fixings you like in chili. Members will come by and try your outstanding recipe and vote for their favorite. The judges will get a bowl and vote on strict guidelines ;) The winner gets a world famous trophy and \$100, second gets a state famous trophy and \$75, third place gets a town famous trophy and \$50, and peoples choices trophy is chapter famous and comes with \$50. Finally, we are looking for members who want to take over for some of us so consider coming out and getting involved in 2025. It will give you the chance to learn the ropes and see where you might fit in so we can guarantee a bright future for our club

We'd like to welcome our new members:

Michael Hauser, Griffith

Brian Taylor, Valparaiso

Michael Bendas, Chicago, IL

Richard Bordonado, Highland

Calendar

The range is open, all year round, on Sundays and holidays, from noon until sundown. Other days it opens at 10am and closes at sundown.

Trap is closed until spring

January

Jan. 7th – BOD meeting

Jan. 8th & 15th – Member's meeting

Jan. 11th – Gate passes turned off for non-payment

Jan. 18th – Ice Fishing Derby/Pancake Breakfast

Jan. 20th – Lakes & Grounds meeting

Jan. 22nd & 25th – New Member's Review

February

Feb. 4th – BOD Meeting

Feb. 5th & 19th – Member's meeting

Feb 9th – Polar Bear Archery Shoot

Feb. 17th – Lakes & Grounds meeting

Feb. 22nd & 26th – New Member's Review

Feb. 22nd – Presidential Chili Cook Off

March

Mar. 1st – Division meeting

Mar. 4th – BOD Meeting

Mar. 5th & 19th – Member's meeting

Mar. 6th – Thursday Trap starts, Open to the public

Mar. 15th – Corned Beef Dinner

Mar. 17th – Lakes & Grounds meeting

Mar. 22nd – Competition Shoot

Mar 23rd – 3D Archery Shoot

Mar. 22nd & 26th – New Member's Review

Mar. 30th – Fish Fry

Bingo every Friday – Doors open at 4pm, Early birds start at 5:30.

Regular Bingo at 6:30. Set-ups start at \$20.00.

Annual Activity License #001465 Expires 4/30/2025

Would you like to receive the newsletter by email? Do you have feedback for the editor?

You can contact us at: NEWS@GIWLA.ORG

White barrels are for garbage and blue barrels are for recyclable cans.

Please remember this when enjoying our grounds!

Attention Facebook users:

There may be some confusion concerning our Facebook presence. We have TWO Facebook pages, one is public, for general announcements and event creation. Our second page is private and is "invitation only". This is where you can find all of our newsletters and more club-specific stuff. It can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/giwla/>. If you can't find our private Facebook page, please send us an email (news@giwla.org) and we'll help .