

The WALT NIAN



December 2020

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ALL MEETINGS, ORIENTATIONS, MATCHES, SHOOT, SETUPS AND ANY GROUP ACTIVITIES ARE CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO PA COVID RESTRICTIONS, AND MARYLAND/ PENNSYLVANIA TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS.

THE RANGES ARE STILL OPEN FOR INDIVIDUAL USE BY MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS, BUT YOU MUST FOLLOW PA'S COVID RESTRICTIONS. YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOU, AND YOUR GUEST'S BEHAVIOR AND SAFETY AT THE CLUB AND FOR KNOWING AND FOLLOWING THE MOST CURRENT REGULATIONS.

THE OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS, COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN, AND SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN ACCEPT NO RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP YOU INFORMED OR SAFE, AND WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENFORCING THE REGULATIONS SET FORTH BY THE STATE.

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www.yorkiwa.org/calendar.html
<https://yorkpistol.blogspot.com>



From the President's Desk:

Sadly, there isn't much to report. Covid 1s really having an effect on our club as well as many of our members.

We have suspended all meetings, orientations, shoots and other scheduled activities indefinitely. With requirements changing daily and many out of state members we can't continue to gather people in good conscience. Unfortunately, we are unable to process new membership applications at this time as well. We will resume that as soon as possible but we expect it to be a few months.

Meanwhile we are accepting renewals for 2021 and you should have received your renewal form recently. Please pay them as promptly as possible, but don't panic if you don't get your 2021 card right away. There is always the typical bureaucratic delay. You may still use the ranges, the pond, and all of our amenities with guests as normal but please use proper social distancing and common sense.

Happy Holidays to all, and Happy New Year!
Let's hope things improve in 2021.

—Howard Thompson
president@yorkiwa.org

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Hello from Membership!

Due to COVID restrictions we are not accepting new member applications at this time. Please check our website or facebook page for more info.

I also want to make everyone aware that while we cannot renew our memberships online, there are several things you can do to help me out. If you go to the National website, www.iwla.org, there is a tab titled Member Center. When you click on it, there are links where you can update your address, your phone number or add your email. The York Chapter does not currently share your email address with Nationals, so if that is something you are interested in, please update the information with them. Please also drop Gary or me a note on email changes, because we do use them at the Chapter level. You can also request a replacement card if you lost yours and request a copy of a magazine if yours did not arrive. And one last note, please contact me if you know a member who has passed so we are able to keep our membership correct. — Lisa

All Information for the January Newsletter due to: Nancy Webb by 1/6/21
Send to: iwlanewsletter@yorkiwa.org

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**ALL SHOOTING SPORT EVENTS & TRAP ARE POSTPONED
DUE TO COVID-19.**

Check the blogspot for updates. If you are new to our club, you can find out more about our great Shooting sports below...Check out our website for more info and how you can participate. You can learn more about our activities by going to www.yorkpistol.blogspot.com.

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JUNIORS

Hi Juniors! Unfortunately all meetings & events canceled. Hopefully 2021 will be full of fun stuff! Thanks, Sarah Chenowith

Visit our Junior Page for more information: <http://www.yorkiwa.org/juniors.html> or contact Sarah Chenowith at 717-841-5136, juniors@yorkiwa.org

TROUT COMMITTEE

Overall, the trout are doing well with a low mortality rate, but the Rainbow trout are showing some tail issues. The State has provided medicated food and we will monitor them closely. Again, thanks to our "Feeder" Volunteers for your continued support of getting the fish ready for spring stocking.

All ages are welcome to participate with trout activities, so If interested in helping, please contact Bob Nelson at the email address below.

Holiday Gift needed? There are still Trout T-Shirts available, for \$10 each, at the clubhouse. You can purchase them by contacting **Bob Nelson** at treasurer@yorkiwa.org.



NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Thank you for making the 2020 Newsletters full of great information about our amazing club. Without all of you it would not be possible. I would also like to thank all the advertisers this year, your ads help fund the expense of the newsletter each year. If any of you are interested in advertising in the Newsletter for 2021 please shoot me an email and I will send you all the information. Those who advertised this year, look in your email inbox for your chance to advertise in 2021. There is a limited amount of spaces so it is a first come first serve basis. — Nancy Webb **Deadline for Advertising is December 18th**

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LAKE TONIAN



Is anyone still fishing? If you're not, you're are missing out! November was a slow month as far as fishing reports went, so I got together my team and we spent some time making certain there were still fish in the pond. I'll be honest, it was a game of patience some trips, but the fish always made the time spent worthwhile (not that simply being by the water isn't always worthwhile). Some days it was a jerkbait bite, some days it took a more finesse approach by hanging a micro jig under a float, yet other days it was a bucktail jig hopped along the bottom. Whatever the mood of the fish was, they seemed to want nothing to do with anything over 3".



This detailed account of what worked for us this month was a lesson in paying attention to the details. That being said, I may have discovered why some of you have made the comment to me over the past year of, "Are you sure there's fish in this pond?" Yes, I'm positive. But one thing I did experience 1st hand this month is that the larger bass, those over 13", have become hook shy. My story details a trio of bass observed following a jerkbait for many, many feet but never committing to a strike. The fish were there, but had their dark form not been noticed just inches below and behind the bait, they were ghosts. Being the experimenter I am, I removed all the hooks from one of the baits I was getting follows on, and re-cast the area again. Within the first few inches of my retrieve, I was getting strikes.....rod jarring strikes from the same bass that just earlier would not commit to letting their presence known. The next step was to return the hooks to the bait and see what would happen next. You guessed it, more casting practice w/o any indication other than follows from the fish; this took place the entire way around the pond. Keep that in mind as you are fishing if your catch rate isn't as high as you would wish.

The bluegill and crappie are still willing, but you have to put the time in and hopefully be there when they decide it's time to eat. We would fish a couple hours, only to have all our fish caught within a 15-20 minute time frame. With the water being low and cooling down, we will be turning to slowly, painfully slowly, fishing small jigs below a float. The key to this time of year isn't so much the color of the bait, but the size of the bait and where at in the water column the fish are at.

November's spotlight is on Holden Depew, age 12, son of Christopher Depew. I have had the honor and privilege of fishing with Holden on numerous occasions, and let me tell you, the pictures don't lie. This kid can fish! He officially joined the 10" bluegill club this year after many close-but-not-quite fish that were over-sized. He has tangled with the channel catfish that inhabited the pond on gear that was much better suited for panfish. He has helped remove the management size bass from the pond. He has done it all with a smile that any angler can understand.

Please let me know about your time around the pond. Pictures, stories, and questions are always appreciated. — Zig
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November Spotlight



Holden Depew



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