

APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER



790 Southdale Road
London, Ontario N6E 1A8
681-2370

APRIL 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 April Fool's Day	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Jigg's Dinner, Spring Clean up, Trout stocking (tentative date)
10	11	12	13	14 General Meeting	15	16 Pot Luck and Euchre (one week early)
17 Jack Gerard Spring Trout Derby	18	19	20	21	22 Good Friday and Earth Day	23 Easter Breakfast
24 Easter Sunday	25 Easter Monday	26	27	28 Executive meeting	29	30

MAY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Spring Meat Shoot
8	9	10	11	12 General Meeting	13	14 2 nd Trout stocking (tentative)
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 2 nd Trout stocking (tentative)
22	23	24	25	26 Executive Meeting	27	28
29 Ladies Only Derby	30	31				

KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP VALID TO AVOID BEING ON A WAITING LIST TO REJOIN WOF&GPA

**Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association
Executive & Committees for 2011 - 2012**

Executive

President
Stan Gibbs
1st Vice President
Lawrence Lainchbury
2nd Vice President
Don Colborne
Secretary
Teresa Couture
Treasurer
Steve Couture
Directors
Brian Ernteman
Howard Pearcey
Past Presidents
Bill Rodrigues
John Manvell

Committees

Entertainment
Teresa Couture (Chair)
Brian Ernteman
Valerie Grahl
Andre Koch
Pat Lockery
Kim Sims
House
Howard Pearcey (Chair)
Don Colborne
Lawrence Lainchbury
Gord Spotton
Todd Stewart
Grounds
Steve Couture (Chair)
Don Finch
Howard Pearcey
Bob Smale
Todd Stewart
Henry Van Eerdewijk
Ponds
Stan Gibbs (Chair)
Ron Dennis
Brian Ernteman
Andre Koch
Howard Pearcey
Bob Smale
Welfare
Tom & Shirley McGill
Boat Rack
Don Colborne
Membership
Valerie Grahl
Newsletter
Teresa Couture
Worm Machine (seasonal)
Steve Couture

Fundraising
Andre Koch
Public Relations
Lawrence Lainchbury
Political & Environmental Research
Steve & Teresa Couture
Stan Gibbs
Lawrence Lainchbury
Firearms / Hunter Safety
Ed Connor

Our Conservation Pledge

I give my pledge as a Canadian to save and faithfully defend from waste the natural resources of my country, its soils and minerals, its waters, forests, air and wildlife, & to obey all Fish & Game laws.

Our Purpose

- To promote true sportsmanship by the protection, breeding, propagation, and conservation of fish and game.
- To obey the Fish and Game Laws of Ontario.
- To promote reforestation and conservation.
- To maintain a club and pond for the accommodation and enjoyment of the members and friends.

Meetings

General meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30pm, except for the months of July and August. The Executive meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month. Remember that you, as a member, can attend any of the meetings. Your input is highly valued and appreciated.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report is presented at the General and Executive meetings, showing the accounts are in order. If you wish to receive a copy of the full report, please attend either of these meetings.

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The newsletter, the annual Event Calendar, the club history, many photos and up to date club information can be obtained on our website at [www.wofgpa.org](http://www.wofgpa.org)  
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IN CONSIDERATION OF ALL NON-SMOKERS AS THEY ENTER THE CLUB, SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED WITHIN 15 FEET OF ALL CLUB ENTRANCES. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND CO-OPERATION IN MAKING WOFGPA TRULY SMOKE-FREE.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It sure has been a long winter! Well, open water is just around the corner and I hear the fish calling us. I think it is safe to say that most of us joined this club for one very good reason, to fish!

With that in mind I have come up with an idea that might interest a lot of you. A fishing league! Here's how it will work. We will meet at the Club on Wednesday nights to angle for targeted fish to accumulate points. The four main fish species, trout, bass, black crappie and bluegill/sunfish, will be the targeted fish and will be determined by a draw the week before. Example: the fish species are drawn number one to number four in importance, 1) black crappie-20 points, 2) trout-15 points, 3) bluegill/sunfish-10 points 4) bass-5 points. For this week only, the targeted fish species is the black crappie, but points will be awarded for the largest fish in all categories. To include our derbies, any angler that is registered for the league, and places 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or catches the largest fish or the mystery fish, points will be awarded towards his or her league standings as followed, biggest fish (if one awarded a prize at the derby)-25 points, 1st-20points, 2nd-15 points, 3rd-10 points, and mystery fish-5 points. All fish lengths must be verified by at least three anglers. To protect our bass population, bass will be number four until bass season opens in June, do not target them but if one is caught it must be registered immediately and released. All pond-fishing rules apply, so if you catch two trout on that day you must stop fishing for the day.

I will be taking names immediately, and the season will start with the Jack Gerard Memorial Spring Trout Derby. After the derby, the draw will be made for the next Wednesday. The final outing for the league will be the official Ice Fishing Derby, to be determined next winter. You can join at any time, and this is only open to club members. Fishing on Wednesday nights will be from 5:30 till dusk. We will tabulate points and draw again for the next week. Fishing will take place rain or shine. If you choose not to fish on any given week, no problem, however, the more you fish the better chance of accumulating points.

To make it interesting there will be a two-dollar fee for the Wednesday nights. The winner of the number one category will get half and the other half will go towards a nice prize at the end of the year. In addition to the prize, the "Angler of the Year" will have his /her name put on the very impressive plaque that Herman Szielasko carved and donated to the Club.

Who wants to go fishing? Hope to hear from you soon!

Yours in Conservation

Stan Gibbs



JIGG'S DINNER

It is a WOFGPA tradition that the old Executive body serves dinner to the new Executive, club members and their guests. The members can expect a hearty and healthy dinner of corned beef and cabbage, roast beef, potato and veggies, roll, assorted salads and deserts, tea or coffee.

Date: Sat., April 9, 2011

Time: Cocktails at 5:00 pm
Dinner served at 6:00 pm

Cost: \$ 15.00 per adult

Advance tickets can be obtained by contacting
Teresa Couture, the Entertainment Committee Chair.

A few tickets are still available so do not delay and miss out on a great dinner with good company, music and a lot of laughter. It would be appreciated if you can bring a desert to share, but please leave serving utensils at home to avoid confusion.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

You may obtain your valid membership sticker when you pay your membership renewal at any meeting or through special arrangements with Stan Gibbs only. **Reminder, mailing your membership renewal payment is not acceptable.**

If you know of a club member or their immediate family who could use some cheering up or has reached one of life's many milestones, please contact Tom and Shirley McGill who will gladly make contact on behalf of the club.

If you have a few moments, pick up the phone and say hello to a member that you haven't seen at the club lately. Fred Sanders is at home recovering from surgery. Jim Morrow and Hermann Szielasko have been feeling under the weather lately.

ANNUAL DRAW – FREE MEMBERSHIP

At each General Meeting you attend, you will receive a ballot per membership for the free one-year membership draw. The draw is held annually on Election night at the March General meeting. The winner of a free one-year membership for 2011-2012 was Don Turner. Congratulations Don!

The winners of the March General meeting draw were: Todd Stewart – filet knife and club T-shirt and also Cora Thompson – club baseball cap. Congratulations Todd and Cora.

DANGER – DANGEROUSLY THIN ICE

From the shoreline, the pond appears to have a good coating of ice. The London Fire Department has been practicing their cold-water rescue at the club. They have informed us that the ice is no longer safe to venture out on. Please stay off the ice at all times.



Sat. April 9 has been tentatively set aside as the first Trout stocking of the season. Many strong persons are needed to assist with quickly getting the trout from their transportation tank to the pond in order to minimize the shock to the fish. If you can assist, please come dressed to get splashed with water. Many families love to come watch the trout stocking. If you wish bring your family to watch, please choose a spot out of the way of the transfer.

A second trout stocking has been tentatively set for May 14 or 21.

Check the bulletin boards regularly as the date and time will be posted once it is confirmed. You may also contact Stan Gibbs, the Ponds Committee Chairperson.

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**JACK GERARD MEMORIAL SPRING TROUT DERBY**

One of our late members, Jack Gerard passed away late in 2010. To honour Jack and his love of fishing, this derby has been named in his memory.

**Contact person** – Stan Gibbs

**Date:** Sun. April 17

**Cost:** Members \$ 12.00  
 Non-Members \$ 15.00  
 Youth \$ 5.00 (12 and under)

**Derby times:** 7:30 am until noon. All anglers fishing from the shoreline and all boats will start at 7:30 SHARP from the dock.

**Registration:** 7:00 am (No Earlier Please)

The derby rules will be provided at registration. Only those anglers participating in the derby will be allowed to fish during the derby. After the derby ends, members may fish with their daily catch limit determined by your membership type. All fish caught during a derby do not count towards the member's daily limit.

Come and join us for the Jack Gerard Memorial Spring Trout Derby. With your registration, you will receive a light lunch and will be eligible to win one of many door prizes available. Cash prizes are awarded to the winners in both the Adult and Youth divisions.

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SPRING CLEAN UP

Sat. April 9
 8:00 am start

For further details about the cleanup or to confirm your attendance, please contact the new Grounds Committee Chair, Steve Couture. As with every spring, there is always a list of things that must be done after the winter to keep WOFGPA looking presentable for the members and their guests. Some of the tasks scheduled for this cleanup are: raking the ditch area of old debris and the lawn area, patch the driveway; trimming of broken tree branches and general clean up around the club. Bring your own rake, lawn and hand tools.



BREAKFAST WITH THE BUNNY

Date: Saturday, April 23
Time: 9:00 am until 11:00 am
Cost: \$ 3.00 for adults and children age 6 and up
 \$ 1.50 children 2 – 5 yrs
 No charge for children under two years

For a very reasonable price, you can have a club-cooked breakfast of bacon, eggs, hash browns, baked beans, toast, juice and coffee.

Once the children have eaten, they can colour at the Colouring Table while they wait to see the Easter Bunny.

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**SPRING MEAT SHOOT**

**Date:** Sat. May 7  
**Time:** 10:00 am start  
**Contact:** Howard Pearcey and Brian Ernteman  
**Cost:** \$ 2.00 per game

Another Meat Shoot has been planned due to the popularity of this event last year. Five hams will be available to be won this spring.

For those who haven't attended a Meat Shoot, it is done in the basement of the club with pellet guns and targets. The cost is \$ 2.00 per game, which will give you 5 shots at the target. If you do not have a pellet gun, there will be one available for your use at the club. There is no age limit for this event.

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COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT

If any member wishes to be on a committee for 2011 – 2012 term, please contact the current committee chairperson listed at the front of this newsletter. The new committees are starting to form now. Of course, as a member, you are welcome to join a committee at any time. Some individuals may find that their schedule does not allow for them to make the continuous commitment as a committee member. We understand how busy life can get with work demands, family and other interests. If you can only assist occasionally, please let the chairperson know. Your fresh, new ideas and assistance will always be welcomed.

~~~~~  
 Hi everyone! Just a little reminder that if you have or see any Christmas decorations, trinkets or 2 inch wide ribbon, please save it for me (or buy it at a reasonable price) for the next Wreath Brigade season which coincides with Christmas tree sales. I have already bought lots of green jute at a good price. As garage sales start around the city, it is amazing how much Christmas stuff can be found at very inexpensive prices.

Please leave any items at the club and they can be stored until they are needed in November. Thank you so much.

Hermann Szielasko



## EUCHRE

Thank you to Andre Koch and Teresa Couture for a super job in hosting the March Euchre games.

The winners were:

High Man – Don Colborne

High Lady – Arlene

Mystery Man – Bob Powers

Mystery Ladies – Jen Powers

Most Lone Hands – Janice Colborne

50/50 draw – Janice Colborne

The final Euchre game night will be held on Sat., April 16<sup>th</sup> (one week early this month due to Easter weekend). On this night, we will have our Annual Pot Luck and Euchre. The Pot Luck dinner will start at 6:00 pm with cards following at 7:30 pm. It is always a surprise to attend a Pot Luck meal and find the wide assortment of foods available. If you attend, the club has many serving utensils so please leave yours at home to avoid confusion.

The cost to play is only \$ 5.00 per player. The games start at 7:30 pm sharp. You do not need to have a partner or a foursome to play. A donation of a door prize is always welcome.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL LADIES ONLY DERBY

**Date:** Sunday, May 29th  
**Registration** 8:30 am  
**Derby** 9:00 am till noon  
**Contacts:** Andre Koch and Alex Duffitt

Due to the overwhelming popularity of this event last year, it was decided that this derby be added as an annual event. Further details will follow in next month's newsletter.



In consideration of all non-smokers as they enter and exit the club, smoking is not permitted within 5 metres (15 feet) of any club entrance effective immediately. Thank you for you co-operation and consideration in making WOFGPA truly a smoke-free environment.

Every member must display a valid membership card, observe your fishing limits and record your catch in the Fish Registry Logbook. If you know of anyone wishing to become a member, ask him or her to contact Stan Gibbs so that he can add his or her name to the waiting list.

The monthly WOFGPA newsletter is a great place to advertise as this newsletter reaches over 225 member families and publicly on our website ([www.wofgpa.org](http://www.wofgpa.org)) each month. The price is very reasonable. If interested in placing an ad or you would like more information, contact Teresa Couture at [couture.house@hotmail.com](mailto:couture.house@hotmail.com) or by telephone listed at the front of this newsletter.

## RAFFLE ORGANIZER HELP NEEDED

Andre Koch is hoping to arrange a raffle to generate monies for the club. If you have any experience with an organized raffle, your help would be beneficial. He is open to suggestions from all members as to what item to raffle. If you can help at all, please contact Andre Koch.

### CLUB MERCHANDISE

We have pens, lanyards, Tee shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, toques, patch crests, key chains available in stock. We can also order lined jackets with embroidered club crest, with or without your name. Orders for custom merchandise can be made at any time by contacting Tom McGill, either at a meeting or by telephone.

### FIREARMS AND HUNTER SAFETY COURSES

Ed Connor (Senior Instructor / Examiner) is now offering courses in Firearms Safety Certification, Restricted Firearms Certification and Hunter Education. All courses will be held at the club and are open to both members and non-members. Please contact Ed Connor at 519-808-1777 for more information and to register for one of these courses. The fee charged for these courses are among the lowest to be found.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

General Meetings and Executive Meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursday, respectively. There are no General meetings in the months of July and August due to many vacation schedules, although the Executive meetings are still held. Members are encouraged and invited to attend and participate in all meetings.

- Sat. Apr. 9 Jigg's Dinner (a few tickets are still available)  
Spring Clean up  
Trout Stocking – tentative date
- Thurs. Apr. 14 General meeting
- Sat. Apr. 16 Pot Luck and Euchre
- Sun. Apr. 17 Jack Gerard Memorial Spring Trout Derby
- Fri. Apr. 22 Good Friday and Earth Day
- Sat. Apr. 23 Breakfast with the Bunny
- Sun. Apr. 24 Easter Sunday
- Thurs. Apr. 28 Executive meeting
- Sat. May 7 Meat Shoot
- Thurs. May 12 General Meeting
- Sat. May 14 or 21 2<sup>nd</sup> Trout stocking (tentative date)
- Thurs. May 26 Executive Meeting
- Sun. May 29 Ladies Only Derby
- Thurs. Jun. 9 General Meeting & BBQ Meat Draw
- Sat. Jun. 18 Garage Sale
- Thurs. Jun. 23 Executive Meeting
- Sun. Jun. 26 Kids Activity Day
- Sun. Jul. 10 1<sup>st</sup> Summer Bass Derby
- Thurs. July 28 Executive Meeting

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