

AUGUST 2009 NEWSLETTER



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

August 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 / 30	24/31	25	26	27 Executive meeting	28	29

September 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labour Day	8	9	10 General Meeting	11	12
13	14	15 Pleasure Craft Operators Card required	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Executive meeting	25	26 Euchre resumes
27	28	29	30			

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

**Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association
Executive & Committees for 2009 - 2010**

President

Stan Gibbs

1st Vice President

Don Colborne

2nd Vice President

Jim Morrow

Secretary

Teresa Couture

Treasurer

Steve Couture

Directors

Brian Ernteman

Lawrence Lainchbury

Past Presidents

Bill Rodrigues

John Manvell

Onsite Managers

Russell & Sheena Fralick

Worm Machine

Steve Couture

Boat Rack

Jim Morrow (Chair)

Membership

Valerie Grahl

Newsletter

Teresa Couture

Lawrence Lainchbury

Tree Carvers

Hermann Szielasko

Howard Pearcey

Public Relations

Lawrence Lainchbury

Jim Morrow

Political & Environmental Research

Steve & Teresa Couture

Stan Gibbs

Lawrence Lainchbury

Jim Morrow

OFAH Representatives

Bill Rodrigues

Teresa Couture

Committees

Entertainment

Karen Anderson (Co-Chair)

Teresa Couture (Co-Chair)

Valerie Grahl

Sylvia Lewis

Pat Lockery

Myra Rodrigues

Barb & Richard Toner

House

Don Colborne (Chair)

Alex Duffitt

Tony Dukic

Don Finch

Jack Gerrard

Lawrence Lainchbury

George Maudsley

Howard Pearcey

Walt Seleski

Gord Spotton

Grounds

Steve Couture (Chair)

Brian Ernteman

Don Finch

Howard Pearcey

Walt Seleski

Bob Smale

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair)

Tony Dukic

Brian Ernteman

Don Finch

Walt Seleski

Bob Smale

Welfare

Tom & Shirley McGill

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 & Minerals, its Waters, Forests, Air & 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.



**There is no smoking in
the club at any time.**

**The newsletter and up to date club information
can be obtained on our website at**

www.wofgpa.org

The OFAH website is www.ofah.org
Important Notice

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Approximately two weeks ago, I was approached by one of our members that caught a couple of Trout that concerned him. Upon inspection of the fish, I noticed some abnormally sore areas along the lateral lines of the fish. The angler informed me that these were not the first ones that he had caught like this. He also told me that other than the visual appearance of the fish everything else seemed normal. The meat was clean and the gills were healthy.

I have contacted the Upper Thames, the MNR, and our fish supplier, and sent them pictures and info; they are helping with info and direction.

I have also contacted Craig Woodward from the UWO for info, who is currently doing tests on the pond as a study. And as a further check I have asked an independent chemist to do some water checks.

If anyone has concerns about the health of our trout, for now until I get some answers you can simply discard them. Do not put them back in the lake. I will inform all members as soon as I get anything definite to report.

Please note that only the trout seem to be affected. If you catch one of these Trout, please contact Stan Gibbs immediately. Place the Trout in a bag with aeration in cooled pond water with ice outside the side of the bag in a cooler at your home. Laboratory testing may be the only way to be certain what the concern is. There are many reasons that cause lesions on fish such as a stress, scrapes received from sharp rocks or fights with other fish. Such scrapes may become naturally infected sores due to a combination of stresses such as the health condition of the fish, bacteria, virus and/or water chemistries, such as deteriorating oxygen and changing pH. The cause could also be temperature related.

We have been advised that with respect to the concern of human consumption, if the fish is properly cleaned, the affected areas cut away and the fish is cooked well, any bacterium would not be a health concern for people consuming the fish.

The Pres Mess is also a statement to be posted at the club. If anyone has objections please respond directly to Stan Gibbs, who is the spokesperson for this matter.

Notice to all Members

As all of you should be aware, we will be holding our annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on August 23, 2009 at our club. Normally we hold this function indoors, without disrupting any activities outside.

But to our great delight, the number of volunteers has grown to the point that we need more space to thank all the people that do volunteer time around the club. This year we are going to hold this event outside on the club grounds, so we are

reserving the grounds (front lawn area) to set up tables, weather permitting, from noon till 7pm on that day. We trust this setup does not inconvenience anyone to severely. As a further note if you have volunteered at the club over the past year and do not receive an invitation by Sunday, August 16, please accept our apologies and call me to correct this oversight. We try to keep good records, but sometimes persons get missed.

Yours in conservation

Stan Gibbs

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Just a reminder that all members pledged to assist, when possible in making this "Jewel in the heart of London" really shine. To assist at any function or venture, make contact with any of the Executive, committee chairs or just show up. The little bit you give of yourself will come back to you tenfold. WOFGPA Executive and members would like to extend a hearty welcome to the newest members. Remember to introduce yourself at one of the many functions or projects.  
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WOFGPA Merchandise is available again!

Wear your WOFGPA wear proudly.

Jackets with embroidered crest	\$ 40.00
Hooded fleece sweatshirt with crest	\$ 30.00
Caps with embroidered crest	\$ 12.00
Toques with embroidered fish crest	\$ 10.00
T-shirts with embroidered club crest	\$ 13.00
T-shirts with silk-screened club crest	\$ 10.00
Lanyards / key fobs	\$ 5.00

All taxes are included in the price.
To place an order, call Tom McGill at 519-652-2875.

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The WOFGPA newsletter is a great place to advertise as the newsletter reaches over 225 families each month. The price is very reasonable. If interested in placing or you would like more information, call Teresa at 519-668-6257 (evenings) or by email at [tcouture@gapenviromic.com](mailto:tcouture@gapenviromic.com)  
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**FIREARMS AND HUNTER
SAFETY COURSES & SAFE BOATING**

If there is sufficient demand, extra courses will be scheduled.
For more information and dates for the next course contact:

Paul General
905-765-4627

pgeneral@sixnations.ca

Member discounts, OFAH and additional family member discounts are available.

Discounts cannot be combined.

All courses held at: Western Ontario Fish & Game, 790 Southdale Rd. E. London

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**PLEASE PATRONIZE THE BUSINESSES**

## THAT ADVERTISE WITH US

### Annual Bass Derby Sunday, July 12, 2009

Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup> turned out to be great sunny day to spend the morning angling for bass and then enjoying a burger with friends while swapping “fish tales”.



Largest Bass Trophy (photo taken July 2005)



Tyler Parent proudly displays the Trophy for the Largest Bass (above) and the largest bass (below), which earned him this year's honors.



The anglers at award time.



A father and his daughter share some time on the back dock.

The winner's names will be printed in the next newsletter. Thank you to all the volunteers for their assistance with this annual function.

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Please visit our website and let us know what you think about it and how we can improve it. All feedback from the membership is welcomed. Our website is www.wofgpa.org. Our website contains our club history, updated information

about functions; links to other groups, a photo library and of course our newsletter.

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WOFGPA was recently informed that Fred Pearce, Isabelle and Gary Carew are doing well. If you know of a 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.  
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EUCHRE IS BACK AGAIN

Calling all euchre players to the first progressive euchre game of the season so mark your calendars. This function is open to members as well as non-members so remember to spread the word that euchre is starting again.

- DATE:** Saturday, September 26, 2009
- TIME:** 7:30 pm SHARP (arrive earlier than 6:45 to ensure you get a seat to play).
- COST:** \$ 5.00 per player

Progressive euchre is a fun filled evening with good company, good cards and a lot of laughter. The games are open to both members and non-members.

You do not need to have a partner or a foursome to play. There is a light snack served during the break and door prizes at the end of the evening. A donation of a door prize or dessert is always welcome.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

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You may obtain your valid membership card when you pay your membership renewal at any meeting or through special arrangement with Stan Gibbs only. **DO NOT MAIL YOUR PAYMENT.**

As a member, if you do not have a valid card displayed, you should expect to be asked by any other member to stop fishing and that you must leave the premises immediately. Any non-members caught fishing on club property are subject to prosecution for both trespassing and poaching.

Observe your fishing limits, which are determined by your membership type and record your catch in the Fish Registry Logbook.

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As a reminder to all members who smoke cigarettes and cigars. Please completely extinguish your butts and leave ALL cigarette butts in the large cans placed on all the docks and around the building. Nothing is less appealing than

cleaning a Trout only to discover a butt in its belly or a parking lot that is littered with cigarette butts. Garbage cans are also conveniently located around the property for all refuse. Strive to keep the pond, grounds and parking lot of your club in pristine condition for all to enjoy.

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Thanks to all members who gave a few hours to put in the flagstone walkway, which runs from the parking lot to the south dock. The new grass is starting to grow on this slightly raised walkway. Give yourselves a pat on the back for a job well done!

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Please note that General Meetings are not held during the months of July and August. See your calendar for dates of the Executive meetings, which are open to all members.

A fish story . . . ?

A resident from Deline, N.W.T., out fishing with his son last Friday got more than he bargained for when he netted a fish that weighed approximately 38 kilograms (83 pounds). George Kenny and his son Jordan, 13, caught the huge trout while fishing near Broken Plate Creek along the Great Bear Lake. The lake is home to the biggest trout in the world. Kenny said his son was a bit startled when he first spotted the large trout. "He was kid of scared of it", Kenny told CBC News on Monday. But I told him ..." its only a bit alive. It's not going to do nothing". Kenny said the trout was badly tangled in the net. He tried to return the fish to the water but it wouldn't come around so he brought it back to Deline and weighed it. Word of the large catch quickly spread through the community. People came out to see and photograph the giant fish. Kenny said he caught an even bigger trout last year but he returned that one to the water.

The Deline Land Corporation plans to mount the fish, Kenny said.

Source cbc.ca Tues. July 21, 2009

Please send your "fish story" to Teresa at tcouture@gapenviromic.com who will share as many as possible in upcoming newsletters.

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As of September 15, 2009, all operators of motorized pleasure craft must possess an Operator's Card when operating a boat. To obtain a Pleasure Craft Operator Card, candidates need to pass an accredited test. Visit [www.tc.gc.ca](http://www.tc.gc.ca) and search "operator card" for more information.

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Remember that at each General Meeting you attend, you will get a ballot per membership for the free one-year membership draw. The draw is held annually on Election night as one of the first duties of the new President. Come to a General meeting and get your name on a ballot.

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As of the July Executive meeting, there were 4 spots open in the Boat Rack. If interested in a spot for your canoe / boat, please contact the Boat Rack Chairman, Jim Morrow.

Jim Morrow needs to update all his records for the Boat Rack. All persons with a boat / canoe on the Boat Rack need to reconfirm their Boat Rack Agreement at WOFGPA. Arrangements can be made by contacting Jim Morrow by phone.

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The tree-carving project is really starting to come to life. Herman and Howard could really use the assistance of others and are surprised that more help hasn't been forthcoming. Make your mark in the history of WOFGPA. Stop by anytime the men are there to assist. No experience required.

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Thanks to Tom McGill who has spent many hours caring for the Ron Earle Volunteer Memorial Pergola and the plants around it. This pergola is a beautiful place to sit quietly and enjoy the scenery.

### **DOORS OPEN AT WOFGPA**

This year our club was not selected as one of the sites for Doors Open London. After discussion, we are considering opening our doors anyway on the weekend of Sept. 19 - 20 to the public. This is still in the consideration phase and we would appreciate input from our members. If you are interested in assisting, please leave your name with Stan Gibbs, who will be the key contact for this venture.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AT WOFGPA**

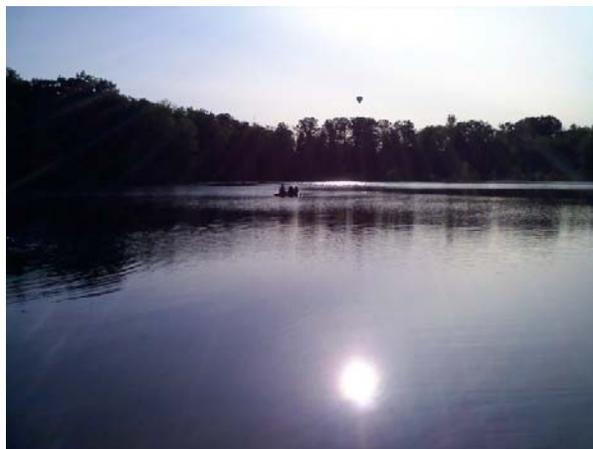
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Please remember to mark your calendars so that you don't miss an event. With each event, a contact will be named if you wish to volunteer a bit of time to better this very unique organization. As the date of each event gets closer, the details will be printed in the newsletter, posted on the Bulletin Boards at the club and on the website. The event calendar for 2009 - 2010 is available on the website www.wofgpa.org

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|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Thurs. Aug 27 | Executive meeting |
| Mon. Sept. 7 | Labour Day (Statutory holiday) |
| Thurs. Sept. 10 | General meeting |
| Thurs. Sept. 24 | Executive meeting |
| Sat. Sept. 26 | Euchre |
| Thurs., Oct 8 | General meeting |
| Sun. Oct. 18 | Fall Trout derby |
| Thurs. Oct. 22 | Executive meeting |
| Sat. Oct. 24 | Euchre |

WE HAVE WORMS!

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The worms cost just \$ 3.00 per dozen and are made available for WOFGPA members and their guests.

If you have any issues with the machine or the worms, please contact Steve at 519-668-6257 (evenings). Steve regularly checks the machine and feeds the worms



**Hot air balloon over Spettigues Pond in the morning**



**Tyler Parent caught a catfish at WOFGPA in 2005**