

August 2010 Newsletter



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

August 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Dart League Sign up
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Bass Derby	16	17	18	19	20	21 Grounds clean up
22	23	24	25	26 Executive meeting	27	28
29	30	31				

September 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Dart League	9 General meeting	10	11
12	13	14	15 Dart League	16	17	18 Doors Open London
19 Doors Open London	20	21	22 Dart League	23 Executive meeting	24	25 Euchre
26	27	28	29 Dart League	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**

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Stan Gibbs

1st Vice President

Lawrence Lainchbury

2nd Vice President

Jim Morrow

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Teresa Couture

Treasurer

Steve Couture

Directors

Alex Duffitt

Don Colborne

Past Presidents

Bill Rodrigues

John Manvell

Onsite Managers

Russell & Sheena Fralick

Worm Machine

Steve Couture

Committees

Entertainment

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Diane Boudreau

Alex Duffitt

Brian Ernteman

Valerie Grahl

Andre Koch

Sylvia Lewis

Pat Lockery

Barb & Richard Toner

House

Don Colborne (Chair)

Alex Duffitt

Tony Dukic

Don Finch

Lawrence Lainchbury

George Maudsley

Howard Pearcey

Gord Spotton

Grounds

Howard Pearcey (Chair)

Steve Couture

Don Finch

Walt Seleski

Bob Smale

Henry VanEerDewijk

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair)

Brian Ernteman

Andre Koch

Howard Pearcey

Bob Smale

Welfare

Tom & Shirley McGill

Boat Rack

Jim Morrow (Chair)

Membership

Valerie Grahl

Newsletter

Teresa Couture

Tree Carvers

Herman Szielasko

Howard Pearcey

Public Relations

Lawrence Lainchbury

Jim Morrow

Political & Environmental Research

Steve & Teresa Couture

Stan Gibbs

Lawrence Lainchbury

Jim Morrow

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 & 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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

If you have not had the opportunity to visit the Club lately, please take a few minutes to stop by and admire the intricacy of the tree carving. As you all know a special project has been underway at our club for almost two years. Except for some landscaping, "The Goodwill Tree of Life" carving is finished. We ask that you stand back from the landscaping while you count the many creatures.

This carving will be showcased it at Doors Open London in the later half of September.

I would like to thank, on behalf of all club members present and future, the artists Hermann Szielasko and his apprentice Howard Pearcey, for their countless hours of dedicated workmanship. These dedicated club members have created a spectacular art piece that is difficult to describe, so come out and see it for yourself.

The best fitting praise that I can give is that the tree carving adds one more piece to the puzzle that is our beautiful gem in the heart of the Forest City.

The many other members who helped out along the way, thanks go out to all. Please take pride in our new addition to the WOFGPA heritage.

Yours in conservation
Stan Gibbs

DART LEAGUE REGISTRATION Saturday, August 7, 2010

**Drop in to register
anytime between 9 am and noon**

Cost per player - \$ 100 for the season

Alex Duffit has organized a weekly dart league. This group will play darts at WOFGPA starting on Wed. Sept. 8 and continue on each Wednesday evening for 26 weeks. This league is open to all members, their families and guests. There is no age limit for this league and you do not need to be an experienced player to have fun.

We need people to register early in order to organize playing times, teams, etc. However, if you are unable to come to the club sometime in the morning of Saturday, August 7th or to get additional details, contact Alex at 519-200-6452. Hope to see you there on August 7 and again in early September when we start playing darts.

Our website is www.wofgpa.org.

This website contains our club history, updated information about functions; links to other groups, a photo library and of course our newsletter. If you have photos of the club, which you would like to share, please contact us.

WOFGPA wishes a speedy recovery to club member, Deb Freele, an experienced and apparently very lucky outdoorswoman who recently survived a Grizzly bear attack while camping in Montana with her family. She sustained minor injuries to her casting arm. Deb will be spending some time in a Montana hospital and then heading back to London.

A speedy recovery and healthier days ahead are also sent to Jack Gerard as he recuperates in the hospital after an illness.

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.

SUMMER BASS DERBY Sunday, July 18

Sunday, July 18 turned out as a beautiful summer morning for the 35 anglers who came out for the 1st Bass Derby of this season.

The results of this derby were:

Adult Division		
1 st place	Dan Clark	159 cm
2 nd place	Steve Couture	127 cm
3 rd place	Andre Koch	117 cm

Youth Division		
1 st place	Jazzlyn Palmer	108.5 cm
2 nd place	Emily Jurasek	97 cm
3 rd place	Perre Delillis	67 cm

Stan Gibbs caught the Biggest Bass at 42 cm length.

ANGLING SPORTS SALE

**Located in London at
317 Adelaide St. South,
(One block North of Commissioners Road)**

One of our suppliers for most of our fishing derbies is a local London business, Angling Sports. We appreciate Kasim Glavas (owner of Angling Sports) for his generosity over the years to our club.

Kasim will be offering a 30 % discount to club members on all rods and reels. His product line includes Shimano, Loomis, Quantum, and Okama, just to name a few. Bring your valid club badge to get the discount. Also included in the store will be many more bargains for your angling supplies.

Ontario fishing licenses may also be purchased at this store. Kasim and his knowledgeable staff will take to time to assist you with making choices that will best suit your angling needs.

SPECIAL EVENT

Regular visitors to the club will have witnessed this magnificent tree carving evolve since its inception almost two years ago. It is not "chainsaw art"; it is a hand and tool creation of wood, representing all of nature's beasts.

As Canada's oldest, private conservation club, WOFGPA plans to take advantage of the Doors Open London weekend and the many expected visitors to our site as we showcase this masterpiece to the rest of London and area. A showcase ceremony will be held on Sat. Sept 18 at 1:00 pm.

Club member and renowned songwriter and musician, John Anderson put pen to paper and composed the following poem as part of his submission for the tree name. His poem was first printed in the April 2010 newsletter.

The Goodwill Tree

I know of a Goodwill Tree
Down by the pond for all to see.
Conceived by Herman, carved with pride,
Howard helping at his side.

Every day they could, they worked
From their task they never shirked.
Through wind and rain and sun and snow,
For near two years to work they'd go.

They'd carve and whittle most every day
The people would drop by and say
How much they liked to watch the show
And bring them Timmies, don't you know.

They carved out things that swam and flew
Yes, so creative were those two
That people came from miles around
To watch them play in their playground.

Soon there were no spaces left
All carved by chisels oh so deft
And then this work of art was done
To be enjoyed by everyone.

So there it stands, "The Goodwill Tree"
A symbol of the club, you see.
Where fellowship is much admired
And conservation is desired.

A fitting tribute to the past.
The monument will surely last.
We thank you and the powers that be
For giving us "The Goodwill Tree".

John Anderson.
6/3/2010

THE BUSINESSES THAT ADVERTISE WITH US WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED PATRONAGE.

2nd BASS DERBY Sunday, August 15th.

Derby times: 7:30 am till noon

Registration starts at 7:00 am (no earlier)

Boats may be put in the water prior to 7:30 am. All registered anglers will start the derby at 7:30 am from the front shore area.

Cost:	Members	\$ 12.00
	Non-members	\$ 15.00
	Junior (age 12 or under)	\$ 5.00

As in all derbies at WOFGPA, only registered derby participants may fish and all those not registered in the derby will be allowed to fish until after lunchtime.

Derby rules will be posted on the day of the derby. A barbeque lunch will be provided for registered anglers.

Trout daily angling limits dictated by your membership type will apply following the derby.

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 **519-680-9872** for more information and to register for one of these courses.

PLEASURE CRAFT OPERATORS CARD

It is important to remind everyone at this time about obtaining and carrying a Pleasure Craft Operator Card. As of Sept. 2009, each boat that is under power in Ontario must be operated by someone with a valid card, which must be present on the operator of the watercraft. This law will be enforced on the pond at WOFGPA.

If you are already in possession of a valid card, please let the Boat Rack Chair, Jim Morrow know by telephone at 519-649-2405 so he can note this on your Boat Rack Agreement.

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) each month. The price is very reasonable. If interested in placing an ad or you would like more information, call Teresa at 519-668-6257 (evenings) or by email at couture.house@hotmail.com



EUCHRE RESUMES

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 25, 2010

Hosts – Steve & Teresa Couture

TIME: 7:30 pm SHARP

COST: \$ 5.00 per player

Progressive euchre is a fun filled, social evening with good company, good cards and a lot of laughter. The games are open to both members and non-members. Try to arrive by 7:15 to avoid confusion at registration.

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.

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 at the March General meeting.

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, do not mail your payment or leave cash / cheque with Russell and Sheena, the Club's caretakers.

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 always 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.

DOORS OPEN LONDON AT WOFGPA

Saturday, September 18, 2010

Sunday, September 19, 2010

During these two days, many buildings and historical sites will be open to the public. Representatives at each site will introduce you to the sites' history and significance to London. Doors Open London is the once-a-year chance to fully explore your city as many of the private properties are normally closed to public viewing and access.

During the Sept. 18 – 19 weekend, come out and celebrate the heritage in the London community. The sites range from places of worship, to natural areas, to businesses and grand homes and estates. There is something for everyone to see and something for all to learn.

This year, WOFGPA is proud to announce that it has been selected as one of the sites and it will be our third of hopefully many years involvement with this function. As Canada's oldest conservation club (established in 1875), we have been involved in many joint conservation ventures with other organizations in the area. There have been many changes to the club as it has evolved over the past 135 years. During this time, the membership has also made many contributions to London's unique history.

The Executive and Committee members would like to show other London and area residents about our history, what we stand for and have to offer. On the Saturday afternoon at 1:00 pm, we will hold the official showcasing of "The Goodwill Tree of Life", or as most commonly called "the tree carving project". Please arrange to be here at that time as we make this introduction to our heritage.

All members are welcome to help in planning for this special weekend event. Please contact Stan Gibbs to confirm your assistance.

IMPORTANT NOTE TO MEMBERS WITH A BOAT RACK SPOT

Recently, we have received reports of personal items missing from the boat racks. It is your responsibility to ensure that your boat is secured. Please take all items such as oars, seats and anchors home with you if you cannot secure them to your satisfaction.

Also, please drain your boat on a regular basis if it cannot be stored upside down, which is preferable. Thank you for storing your boat or canoe properly.

Recently, a few chairs have been left on or near the docks and ended up in the water. If you bring your own chair, please take it home each day. Benches are provided on the docks for all anglers.

Please dispose of your waste in the appropriate containers located throughout the grounds and docks.

UPCOMING EVENTS

General Meetings and Executive Meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursday, respectively, although General Meetings are not held in July and August. Members are encouraged and invited to attend and participate in all meetings.

Sat. Aug. 7	Dart League registration from 9:00 am until noon with Alex Duffitt
Sun. Aug. 15	2nd Summer Bass Derby (There are 2 derbies this summer! This one will be hosted by Alex Duffitt and Andre Koch).
Thurs. Aug. 26	Executive meeting
Wed. Sept. 8	Dart league begins
Thurs. Sept. 9	General meeting
Wed. Sept. 15	Dart league
Sept. 18 – 19	Doors Open London weekend
Sat. Sept. 18	“The Goodwill Tree of Life” Tree Carving will be showcased during Doors Open London at 1:00 pm.
Wed. Sept. 22	Dart league
Thurs. Sept. 23	Executive meeting
Sat. Sept. 25	Euchre resumes
Wed. Sept. 29	Dart league
Wed. Oct. 6	Dart league
Wed. Oct. 13	Dart league
Thurs. Oct 14	General meeting
Sun. Oct. 17	Fall Trout Derby
Wed. Oct. 20	Dart league
Sat. Oct. 23	Euchre
Wed. Oct. 27	Dart league
Thurs. Oct 28	Executive meeting
Sat. Oct. 28	Kids Halloween Afternoon Party (watch for further details in the next newsletter. Please contact either Alex Duffitt or Teresa Couture to offer ideas and assistance).

Get informed, get involved, have fun and enjoy all that WOFGPA has to offer its membership.

GROUNDS CLEANUP

Sat. Aug. 21

8:00 am

A few individuals are needed on this morning to give the club and grounds its first cleanup since the spring. Some of the tasks that we plan to accomplish will be lawn care, dock sweeping, cleaning weeds from walkways, just to mention a few. If you can assist on this day, please contact Howard Pearcey at 519-280-3080. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

There will also be a final cleanup just before the weekend of Doors Open London. At this time, the property and clubhouse will receive its final cleaning before we open our doors to the public. This date has not been finalized at this time. Please contact Stan Gibbs at 519-521-5501 to pledge your availability.

Remember to check both our website and Bulletin Boards for updates on upcoming events.



Clubhouse in “The Goodwill Tree of Life”



The tree carvers, Hermann and Howard take a break

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