

DECEMBER 2016



790 Southdale Rd E., LONDON, ON. N6E 1A8
 (519) 681-2370 www.wofgpa.org

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 <u>General meeting & Turkey Roll</u>	9	10 <u>Breakfast with Santa & Bake Sale</u>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 <u>Youth Committee meeting & Executive meeting</u>	23	24
25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve

January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 General meeting	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Youth Committee meeting & Executive meeting	27	28 Euchre
29	30	31				

REMEMBER TO KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP VALID TO AVOID BEING ON A WAITING LIST TO REJOIN

**Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association
Executive & Committees for 2016 - 2017**

**Executive
President**

Stan Gibbs	519-668-2609
1st Vice President	
Andre Koch	519-685-5725
2nd Vice President	
Brian Ernteman	519-453-3641
Secretary	
Teresa Couture	519-668-6257
Treasurer	
Steve Couture	519-668-6257

Directors

Mary Degan	519-438-8104
Lawrence Lainchbury	519-681-7199

Past President

John Manvell	519-455-3627
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Committees

Entertainment

Teresa Couture (Chair)	519-668-6257
Mary Degan	519-438-8104
Brian Ernteman	519-453-3641
Valerie Grahl	519-453-0659
Andre Koch	519-685-5725
Cora Thompson	519-455-6461
Julie Thursby	519-473-5506
Diane Waite	519-685-7393

House

Lawrence Lainchbury (Chair)	519-681-7199
Steve Couture	519-668-6257
Bert Smit	519-472-5624

Grounds

Henry Van Eerdewijk (Chair)	519-432-4239
Steve Couture	519-668-6257
Dan Efford	519-474-6488
Brian Ernteman	519-453-3641
Lawrence Lainchbury	519-681-7199
Howard Pearcey	226-224-6605
Bert Smit	519-472-5624
Gord Spotton	519-439-9450

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair)	519-668-2609
Brian Allen	519-668-1908
Rod Cameron	519-685-1377
Brian Ernteman	519-453-3641
Jim Graham	519-681-0975
Joe Isenor	519-681-4301
Lou Liberatore	519-649-1988
Lawrence Lainchbury	519-681-7199
George Maudsley	519-681-6429
Doug Springer	519-680-2599
Bob Thursby	519473-5506
Diane Waite	519-685-7393

Welfare

Tom & Shirley McGill	519-652-2875
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Boat Rack

Don Colborne	519-686-9559
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Membership

Valerie Grahl	519-453-0659
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Newsletter

Teresa Couture	519-668-6257
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Fundraising

Andre Koch	519-685-5725
Steve Couture	519-668-6257

Youth Committee (Adult Mentors)

Jeanette Jurasek (Chair)	519-685-0237
Brian Ernteman	519-453-3641
Autumn Ernteman	519-453-3641
Anne Jurasek	519-685-0237
Andre Koch	519-685-5725

Club Merchandise

Andre Koch	519-685-5725
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Website Administrator and Public Relations

Lawrence Lainchbury	519-681-7199
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Political & Environmental Research

Steve & Teresa Couture	519-668-6257
Stan Gibbs	519-668-2609
Lawrence Lainchbury	519-681-7199

Club Caretakers

Ray and Barb Smith	519-681-2370
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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, are welcome to attend all club meetings. Your input is highly valued and appreciated.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report is presented at the Executive meeting and questions and comments are always welcome. If you wish to receive a copy of the full report, please attend this meeting.



Smoking is not permitted within 5 metres of all club entrances. Smokers are asked to use the containers provided for cigarette butt disposal.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Financial Stability

When I began my term as 2nd Vice President (approximately 1996) I became aware of the fact that the club was experiencing some financial difficulties. We had very little money in the bank and there were many lists of projects and upgrades to be completed. The Executive at that time decided to create a long term plan that would increase the financial stability of the club. These included fundraising, membership fees, rentals and most importantly, volunteer hours. Our volunteers deserve a round of applause for their commitment to the club. I cannot imagine what our yearly membership fees would be without their help. Next spring, another major upgrade will have taken place. Our old docks will be replaced with a modern module system that will need little to no maintenance and has a full twenty five year warranty. This will provide a much more stable dock area for our members to enjoy. This project was originally planned to take place over a three year period. We were offered a substantial savings to purchase the docks this year. Unfortunately, we have also experienced major increases for the basic expenses of the club (heat, hydro, property taxes, insurance and fish stocking.)

To maintain financial stability in the future, these increased costs and the funding of capital projects (wheel chair accessibility for the building and washrooms, road signage, parking lot barriers) will have to be covered by rental income and the membership in their support of fundraising, volunteerism and membership fees. More details to follow at a later date.

Yours in conservation
Stan Gibbs

WELFARE

Many club members who aren't able to attend the club for meetings or fishing might welcome a quick call to say "Hello and what have you been up to?" 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.

In late November, the club suddenly lost two very special members. Both of them gave a terrific amount of time to the club by assisting where it was needed. Our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time are with the families of Dan Efford and Myra Rodrigues.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

In order to remain a valid member in good standing please attend a membership meeting to pay your membership dues, preferably at 7:00 pm (just before the scheduled meeting) Any payments that are mailed or left at the club will not be accepted and will be returned to you. If you are unable to attend the club to pay your dues on either of these dates, special arrangements for payment can be made only by contacting the Membership Chair, Val Grahl.

Please send any changes in mailing address, email or phone number to Val Grahl.

HELPING OTHERS AT CHRISTMAS

As in previous years, WOFGPA will be sponsoring two families through the Salvation Army Christmas campaign. The goal is to give a family a great Christmas dinner and a few gifts to open Christmas morning.

At the time of this newsletter, the details of each family were not available. Stan Gibbs will send this information to the members in a separate email.

Until the breakfast on Dec. 10th, members are asked to bring non-perishable donations to the club, which can be left with the volunteers in the trailer.



A NIGHT OF EUCHRE

Thank you to the Youth Committee for doing such a great job of hosting the November Euchre evening for the players in attendance.

The winners of the evening were:

High Man –	Ed Brown
High Lady –	Belinda Bainbridge
Most Lone Hands –	Sylvia Lewis, Bonnie Earle & Cora Thompson
Mystery Man –	Jim Henderson
Mystery Lady –	Lois Davis
50 / 50 –	Cora Thompson

The next Euchre will be on Saturday, January 28, 2017. The games start at 7:00 pm SHARP and the doors open at 6:00 pm to allow the card players to socialize before the games begin. The cost is only \$ 5.00 per player and you do not need to have a partner when you arrive. The games are open to both members and non-members.

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.

If you are interested in hosting a Euchre night, please speak with Teresa Couture. Hosts are needed for 2017.

ANNUAL TURKEY ROLL

Thurs., Dec. 8, 2016

At 7:30 pm

(Immediately following a shortened General Meeting)

Once again, we are having our annual Turkey Roll with 7 turkeys and 3 hams to be won. There will also be a door prize to be won.

Refreshments, snacks and prizes will be available. Come out for a great social evening with lots of laughs, cards and good company. Hope to see everyone there!

ONTARIO HUNTER EDUCATION & BOW-HUNTING COURSES

Emad Hazboun teaches these courses for a very reasonable cost. He offers a discount if you are a WOFGPA club member.

For more information and the starting date of the next course, please contact Emad by phone at 519-317-4132 or by e-mail at emadhaz@heafs.com or visit his website www.heafs.com

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
Saturday, December 10, 2016
9:00 till 11:00 am

Come on out to visit Santa and enjoy a great club cooked breakfast. The Breakfast with Santa is open to everyone.

Your hot and fresh breakfast consists of: sausage and eggs, pancakes and baked beans, juice and coffee or tea.

The cost is very reasonable at:
Adults - \$ 5.00
Children - \$ 3.00 (2 to 5 years)
Children under two years old – no charge

There will be colouring pages for the little ones (or the young at heart) while they wait for the visit from Santa.

After this event, and for a very reasonable price, the family can go outside to pick out their fresh cut and trimmed Christmas tree and a real wreath from the tree lot.

CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE
Sat. Dec. 10, 2016

The Youth Group is organizing a Christmas Bake sale to be held in the main hall of the club during the Christmas Breakfast with Santa.

They are asking for donations of home-baked goods with all proceeds going to the club.

Anyone who wishes to donate baked goods is asked to bring them to the club early (before 9:00 am) in the morning on Sat. Dec. 10. The doors will be open at 7:30 am, as the cooks for the Breakfast with Santa will be at the club.

Please spread the word to your family, friends and neighbours that they can also come to the Bake Sale when they come to pick up their Christmas tree from the lot. Many of the goodies sold out early last year so don't delay.

SUPERBOWL "LI" PARTY
Sun. February 5, 2017

The Superbowl "LI" festivities will start at 4:00 pm, although game kickoff is at 6:00 pm.

There will be lots of food, raffled items and door prizes throughout the evening.

Please speak with Andre Koch to obtain your advance ticket for only \$ 25.00 each.

Tickets are on sale now so don't delay and miss out on the 51st year of Superbowl celebrations.

ANNUAL FREE MEMBERSHIP DRAW

Remember that at each General Meeting you attend, with the exception of the meeting in the month you renew your membership, you will get one 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.

The winner of the November monthly meeting draw was Brian Ernteman. Congratulations Brian.

CLUB MERCHANDISE

NEW ITEMS – "Wick-away" navy golf shirt and "camouflaged" ball cap, embroidered with orange "WOFGPA" - cost \$28 and \$20, respectively.

The club has pens, lanyards, T-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, toques, patch crests and key chains available in stock

Current selection includes larger sized hoodies and T-shirts (sizes XL to XXXL). The embroidered "bucket" hats can be purchased for only \$15.00 each.

Lined jackets with an embroidered club crest and your name are available as custom orders only.

Andre Koch can be reached at home by phone and is present at club meetings and functions.

DANGER – THIN ICE

December weather means a drop in the daily temperature and we know that soon, the ice will form on the pond. Please stay on the docks to fish until the ice has completely formed and is at least 10 cm. thick.

A windmill has been installed to aerate the water. There are buoys marking the location of the aeration stones. These two areas may stay as open water or will have a thin ice covering. Please keep well away from these areas, as they will never be deemed safe to support any weight, including your pet's weight.

Do not let your pet run loose on the property, including the ice. It is the club policy that all dogs be leashed at all times and in control of their owners.

A minimum of four inches (10 cm.) of CLEAR ICE is necessary to support the weight of one person. If you are fishing with a partner or a group, additional ice thickness is required.

The ice conditions will be posted and monitored regularly. Please stay off any unsafe ice and remember that ice conditions vary from day to day. Obey the thin ice signs and exercise caution at all times on pond ice. When in doubt, stay off the ice.

Always use the "Buddy" system and never venture out alone.

Mark your fishing holes with a flag or small branch – for safety and consideration of others.

Ice derbies will be held throughout the winter months and often on very short notice. If you want telephone notification of scheduled derbies, please leave your name and number with Stan Gibbs. The derby dates will be posted on the website and the Bulletin Boards at the club.

POACHING

Poaching is a serious problem. Only club members wearing their valid membership cards, and their guests, are allowed to fish on the pond.

If you see anyone fishing with no visible membership card, ask to see proof of valid membership. Club members who do not display their valid membership card should expect to be told by the caretaker or any member to immediately stop fishing. Non-members caught fishing on club property could be charged with trespassing and poaching.

CHRISTMAS TIME SAFETY TIPS

Carefully inspect wires on light strands to make sure they are not cracked or broken. Throw away damaged or “suspect” lights. New LED lights are much safer than the “old” ones and very energy efficient. Do not overload wall sockets or extension cords.

Keep all real Christmas trees well-watered and away from heat sources and fireplaces. Trees will need a fresh cut on the trunk and should be put into water as soon as possible. Take your tree down when it starts showing signs of dryness as it is a fire hazard.

Did you know that tinsel, the sparkle glue and regular glue on many decorations are highly poisonous to animals? Keep your pets away from these items or refrain from purchasing them.

As tempting as it seems, do not feed your pet anything but their regular food during the holidays. Spend time with your pet. They are often overlooked and get stressed as we enjoy the festivities with family and friends.

Never leave candles, a fireplace or woodstove unattended for any length of time. A fire can become out of control in a few moments.

Have fun with family and friends and remember – DO NOT DRINK AND DRIVE OR ALLOW YOUR GUESTS TO DO SO. There are many other options such as abstaining, having a designated driver, staying the night, taking public transit or calling for a ride home.

All the best in 2017.

HALL RENTALS

Did you know that the WOFGPA hall can be rented for your next “special” occasion for a very reasonable price?

The hall has a maximum seating capacity of 80 persons (which includes all children), which makes it just the right size for a wedding reception, bridal and baby showers, your next meeting, anniversary party, family reunions and get-togethers, Christmas party and birthdays.

The hall offers full kitchen facilities, except dishwasher. Professional bar service is offered in the wet bar.

Members receive a discount on rentals which occur on Friday or Saturday evenings.

Please contact Barb and Ray Smith at 519-681-2370 to get the low rental rates and availability of the hall.

The club hall is not available for Stag and Doe party rentals.



The Executive, the Directors and the Committee Chairs would like to wish all members and their families the best of the holidays with good health and happiness in 2017.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Our event calendar for 2016 – 2017 is posted on the club’s website at www.wofgpa.org. As the date of each event gets closer, the details of the function, including the contact person, will be printed in the newsletter and posted on the Bulletin Boards at the club and on the club website, www.wofgpa.org

If you are interested in joining one of our many committees, please contact the current Chairperson. Be an active member and not just a “name” on a committee. This summer’s events are:

2016

Thurs. Dec. 8	General meeting & Turkey Roll
Sat. Dec. 10	Breakfast with Santa Bake / Craft Sale
Thurs. Dec. 22	Youth Committee meeting (new date) Executive meeting
Sun. Dec. 25	Christmas Day
Mon. Dec. 26	Boxing Day
Sat. Dec. 31	New Year’s Eve

2017

Thurs. Jan. 12	General Meeting
Thurs. Jan. 26	Youth Committee meeting Executive meeting
Sat. Jan. 28	Euchre
Sun. Feb. 5	Superbowl LI party
Thurs. Feb. 9	General meeting
Sat. Feb. 18	Annual Tackle Swap
Mon. Feb. 20	Family Day (Statutory holiday)
Thurs. Feb 23	Youth Committee Meeting Executive meeting
Sat. Feb. 25	Euchre
Thurs. Mar. 9	General meeting & Elections
Sat. Mar. 18	Jigg’s Dinner
Thurs. Mar. 23	Youth Committee meeting Executive meeting
Sat. Mar. 25	Euchre

Each WOFGPA member pledged to give their time to better the Club during their initiation. Helping out is also a great way for the new members to meet others in a relaxed and friendly setting when they aren’t fishing.

<p>George Bray Sports Association Inc.</p> <p><i>A Hockey Program for Children with Special Learning Needs A Parent Participating Non-Profit Organization</i></p> <p>Murray Howard, President Email: murrayhoward@execulink.com</p> <p>Serving the Community since 1968</p>	<p>My Handyman Bo</p> <p>No job is too small, Call for a free estimate</p> <p>Bo Grahl 519-453-0659</p> <p>Bo can do many tasks in and around your home. Did I mention computer repairs too?</p>	<p>YOUR AD PLACED HERE COULD REACH OVER 225 WOFGPA MEMBERS AND FAMILIES EACH MONTH</p>
<p>THE CLUB HALL IS AVAILABLE FOR REASONABLY PRICED AFTERNOON OR EVENING RENTALS. FOR DETAILS, CALL THE CLUB AT 519-681-2370</p>	<p>DRUM LESSONS</p> <p>Learn to play drums in a family friendly atmosphere.</p> <p>For details contact Nick at 226-289-3082</p> <p>Nicholaswalker88@gamil.com</p> <p>www.facebook.com/NW_percussion</p>	<p>Foster Automotive Repair Ltd.</p> <p>All Major & Minor Repairs Class "A" Mechanic</p>  <p>Rick Foster 519-452-3511</p>
<p>5/0 Sports</p> <p>Supplier of Dobyys rods, NUMA Optics and a wide range of lures and many other fishing needs</p> <p>Visit the website at sales@5aught.ca</p> <p>Brad Arnold (BA) 519-777-8535</p>	<p>JOHN'S FLY MATERIALS London</p> <p>Phone John at 519-645-0932</p> <p>Fly tying materials Fly Fish tackle & Rod building supplies</p> <p>www.johnsflymaterials.com</p>	<p>ANGLING SPORTS</p> <p>681 Highbury Ave North @ Dundas Street</p> <p>519-649-7429</p> <p>Pat DeVincenzo Owner</p> <p><i>"Your full service tackle shop"</i></p>
<p>Custom furniture making and refinishing</p> <p>Mark Steckle 519-474-6848</p> <p>Visit the on-line gallery at www.custom-wood.net</p>	<p>THIS SPACE IS WAITING FOR YOUR BUSINESS AD</p>	<p>Lambeth Rod & Tackle Ltd.</p> <p>2404 Main Street London, ON N6P 1R2</p> <p>Steve Plaskett 519-652-5598</p> <p>For your license and all other fishing needs</p>