

DECEMBER 2019



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

December 2019

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

January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 General Meeting	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Executive Meeting	24	25 Euchre
26	27	28	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 2019 - 2020**

Executive

President

Stan Gibbs 519-668-2609

1st Vice President

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

2nd Vice President

Joe Isenor 519-691-7510

Secretary

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Treasurer

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Directors

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Past President

John Manvell 519-455-3627

Committees

Entertainment

Teresa Couture (Chair) 519-668-6257

Mary Degan 519-438-8104

Valerie Grahl 519-453-0659

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

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

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

Tim Lindsay 519-668-2272

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-668-2609

Brian Allen 519-668-1908

Rod Cameron 519-685-1377

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 519-473-5506

Diane Waite 519-685-7393

Welfare

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Boat Rack

Don Colborne 519-686-9559

Membership

Valerie Grahl 519-453-0659

Newsletter

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Fundraising

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Youth Committee (Adult Mentors)

Jeanette Jurasek (Chair) 519-685-0237

Autumn Ernteman 519-453-3641

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Club Merchandise

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Website Administrator and Public Relations

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Political & Environmental Research

Steve & Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Stan Gibbs 519-668-2609

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Wreath Brigade

Stan Gibbs 519-668-2609

Angela Liberatore 519-680-1222

Club Caretakers

Ray and Barb Smith 519-681-2370

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, and 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.



Cigarette smoking is not permitted within 5 metres of all club entrances. Smokers are asked to use the containers provided for cigarette butt disposal. Cannabis use and vaping is not permitted anywhere on club property.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS
AND CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION**

**DECEMBER EXECUTIVE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
TUES., DEC. 17th at 7:30 pm.**

In order to pay your membership dues, you must attend the club at 7:00 pm (just before the scheduled meeting) in order to remain a valid member in good standing. 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, a friend or family member could bring your annual dues to the club at the designated time. Special arrangements for payment can be made only through the Membership Chair, Val Grahl.

It is very important that you send any and all changes in mailing address, email or phone number to Val Grahl (membership committee). WOFGPA will not be responsible if your membership lapses due to incorrect contact information.

If you choose to rejoin the club, your name will be added to the waiting list which is currently has over 200 names on it and a 4-year wait.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Due to the holidays, the Executive have decided to hold the December Executive meeting on Tues., Dec. 17th. Please note this change in date if you plan on attending to pay your annual membership dues.

Good Day members

Over the last few years, the club has supported the "Adopt a Family" at Christmas through the Salvation Army Church on Southdale Rd East. I have been informed that they will no longer run this program. It was thought that the moneys spent on two families could be spread out to support many families in their hamper program.

Unfortunately, we will not have enough time to find another local organization that runs a similar program, so our thought is to run a "Fill a Boat", food and toy drive and deliver it to the Salvation Army.

We plan to have a boat on a trailer in the tree lot to fill and it will be delivered to Salvation Army around Dec. 18th.

If you would like to help, bring along nonperishable food items, personal care items or unwrapped gifts to the boat at the club and we will make sure that everything gets delivered on time for distribution. At this time, monetary donations will not be accepted. Thanks in advance for your generosity.

Columbia Employees store has extended an invitation to club members to shop in their store from Dec. 6 – 29th. These folks have once again come through for our membership to take advantage of some pretty nice deals on all sorts of shoes, boots, and clothing.

Please print off the attachment sent in an earlier email and follow the instructions on it.

Happy Shopping!!!

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 Teresa Couture who will gladly make contact on behalf of the club.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

For each General Meeting that you attend, you will receive a ballot for the free one-year membership draw. The draw is done each March during the Elections.

The winner of the monthly meeting draw was Randy Keating (\$ 69.50)

ANNUAL TURKEY ROLL

**Thurs. Dec. 12
(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 door prizes 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. The cost of each ticket is \$ 1.00. Hope to see everyone there!

The draw for the silver ring or pendant will be done during the evening. Tickets are \$ 5.00 each and available at every club function.

The draw is in less than two weeks so don't delay and get your tickets soon.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

**Sat., December 14
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 scrambled eggs, pancakes and baked beans, orange juice and coffee or tea.

There will be colouring pages for the little ones (or the young at heart) while they wait for the visit from Santa, who should arrive around 10:30 am bringing goody bags for every child.

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

CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

**Sat. Dec. 14
9:00 am**

The club will host a Bake Sale for anyone wishing to purchase some Christmas goodies for very reasonable prices.

If you are able to donate any baked goods for the bake sale, please contact Jeanette Jurasek (Youth Cte mentor) to make arrangements for delivery to either the club or Jeanette. It is imperative that all donated baked goods are at the club by 9:30 am at the latest.

Thank you in advance for your generous donations.

CHRISTMAS TIME SAFETY TIPS

Here are just a few reminders as you begin to decorate your home for the holidays.

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. Real 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.

During the holiday season, 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 either from a taxi, an Uber or family and friends.

EUCHRE RESUMES

Thank you to Jeanette Jurasek, Teresa Couture and Dave Jeffries for hosting the evening. Thank you also to all the players who came out for an evening to socialize and play cards.

The winners of the evening were:

Most Lone Hands- (4) Gerry Lalonde and Janet Desilets

High Lady – (71) Cora Thompson

High Man – (80) Tony Dukic

Mystery Lady – Darlene Dawes

Mystery Man – Detlef Von Ruczicki

50/50 draw – Dave Jeffries (\$ 36.00)

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 the public. 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.

Mark your calendars for the next Euchre night.

DATE: Saturday January 25

TIME: Doors open at 6:00 pm with the games starting at 7:00 pm

COST: \$ 5.00 per player

If you are interested in hosting a Euchre night on the fourth Saturday of the month, please speak with Teresa Couture for details. When you host an evening, one of the Executive will be present. Hosts are desperately needed to host an evening throughout the season.



Christmas tree sales are in full swing. Angela Liberatore's decorators are designing wreaths just as fast as Stan Gibbs' group can make them. There are lots of volunteers on the tree lot to assist families in picking just the "perfect" tree.

Christmas tree and wreath sales are the club's largest fundraiser of the year. The proceeds are what keeps your membership dues low and funds many club events throughout the year. It also ensures a continuous stock of Trout in the pond. Now is the time to get involved at your club and join the fun!

We are pleased to announce that although we have had a price increase from our tree supplier, WOFGPA will keep the same pricing as last year to all its loyal customers. The pricing is as follows:

- \$ 35 Under 6 ft
- \$ 45 6 – 8 ft
- \$ 55 Over 8 ft
- \$ 15 Wreaths, table tops, crosses and "Charlie Brown" trees
- \$ 5 Bundled branches

While the tree sales are ongoing, the Wreath Brigade will be busy making and decorating the wreaths in the club basement.

Angela Liberatore and Stan Gibbs will head the Wreath Brigade group in the basement, although they will have different roles. Stan will take over the making of the wreaths and scheduling people to assist him. Angela will head the decorating group. She will schedule and oversee the decorators to keep up with the demand.

Drop in anytime to assist. No previous experience is needed and all training will be provided. Coffee, Christmas music and a good laugh or two come at no cost.



Sixty-two volunteers pledged to come and assist with unloading of the Christmas trees in mid-November

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 makes it just the right size for a small wedding reception, bridal and baby showers, your next meeting, anniversary party, family reunions and get-togethers, Christmas party and birthdays.

The hall is available to members or their families to get together after the passing of a loved one. In certain circumstances, a special reduced rate may apply. Members receive a discount on rentals which occur on Friday or on a Saturday evening only.

Please contact the club caretaker, Barb at 519-681-2370 to discuss the amenities and low rental rates and availability of the hall. The club hall is **not** available for Stag and Doe parties or outdoor weddings.

"MUDDY TASTING" TROUT

On occasion, every angler has caught a "muddy" tasting trout.

This taste in trout (and other fish) comes from a chemical compound called "geosmin". Apparently, the human nose is very sensitive to Geosmin.

In our lakes, there are two primary producers of geosmin. These are the blue-green alga and the actinomyces bacteria that decompose organic material on the lake bottom. Geosmin and muddy tasting fish is more of a problem during the hot summer months and seems to diminish as water temperatures cool down.

Muddy Tasting Fish | What you can do about it ...

When you do get a fish that is going to be muddy tasting, you can often smell it while you are cleaning the fish.

Geosmin breaks down under acidic conditions. Try soaking the trout in vinegar to help remove the muddy taste.

It may also help to remove the skin. Smoking the trout will often disguise the muddy taste.

If you are canning the fish, adding vegetable oil prior to canning has been reported to remove the muddy taste.

Thank you to Steve Gaebel for supplying the club members with this method of dealing with the taste of trout.

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

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.

Please close the gates to all docks to keep the geese from venturing onto the property.

A windmill is aerating 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. It is often best to leave your pet at home.

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 are monitored regularly but not posted. 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thurs. Dec. 12	General Meeting and Turkey Roll Draw for silver ring or pendant
Sat. Dec. 14	Breakfast with Santa Bake Sale
Tues. Dec. 17	Executive Meeting (NEW DATE)
Thurs. Jan. 9	General Meeting
Thurs. Jan. 23	Executive Meeting
Sat., Jan. 25	Euchre
Thurs. Feb. 13	General Meeting
Mon. Feb 17	Family Day Ice derby – ice permitting
Sat. Feb. 22	Tackle Swap Euchre
Thurs. Feb. 27	Executive Meeting

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. Be an active member of WOF & GPA and reap the all the benefits this club has to offer and not be just a "name" on a committee.



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