

## DECEMBER 2021



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

### December 2021

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

### January 2022

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

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

**Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association  
Executive & Committees for 2021 - 2022**

**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

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

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

**Grounds**

Henry Van Eerdewijk (Chair) 519-432-4239

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

**Ponds**

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-668-2609

Brian Allen 519-668-1908

Rod Cameron 519-685-1377

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

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.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Due to the holidays, the Executive meeting will be held on Mon., Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm. Members can attend to pay their dues on the same night starting at 7:00 pm.

WOW! There really must be a Christmas tree shortage. The many volunteers who came to help unload the trees didn't think so. However, people were lined up to get their tree on the morning of Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> and the club had not intended on opening the lot for sales. Once again, our volunteers stepped up to help people pick just the right tree. Sales continue but the trees and wreaths are flying off the lot at break-neck speed: selling almost half of the trees in the first few days of sales.

A special thanks to Steve Gaebel who serenades tree shoppers with his banjo and a host of Christmas tunes. Steve and Ron Dennis lovingly restored the vintage Santa and sleigh with reindeer on the lawn for family pictures.



As with other years, the club is helping the Salvation Army Christmas Hamper Program. All non-perishable food items, toys and clothing items can be left at the trailer or in the hall. If you choose to make a monetary donation, please give it to Stan Gibbs or one of the other Executive. All donations will be delivered to Salvation Army later in December for distribution to help families at Christmas.

Yours in Conservation  
Stan Gibbs

## ATTENDING CLUB FUNCTIONS

The government has set out guidelines which must be followed by members and their guests when attending club functions. Each person attending an indoor club function must provide proof of full vaccination for covid-19. The club will retain this information and will not share with anyone unless a situation for contact tracing should arise. In this situation, it will be shared only with pertinent organizations.

All attendees must wear a mask or face covering at all times except when they are eating or drinking. During functions, it may be necessary to place families together and observe physical distancing limits.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

You must attend either the General or Executive meeting to pay your dues. These dates are the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm, before the meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

The new membership rates (effective April 1, 2021) are:

Family	\$ 160.00
Single	\$ 140.00
Senior	\$ 135.00

There seems to be confusion as to the grace period permitted to pay dues. Hopefully this will clarify things for everyone. If your renewal date on your notice is December 1, 2021, then your membership ran from December 1, 2020 through November 30, 2021. Your membership will lapse at the end of December, which is the one-month grace period permitted. At the end of the grace period, you are no longer a member in good standing and your name will be removed from the membership list. If you choose to rejoin the club, your name will be added to the waiting list which is currently has an estimated 4 year wait time.

It is very important that you send any and all changes in mailing address, email or phone number(s) to Val Grahl (Membership Committee). This can be done by telephone or contacting her through the club website. WOFGPA will not be responsible if your membership lapses due to incorrect contact information on our files.

All membership renewal notices are sent electronically. Only members without an email on file will receive a mailed notice.

The club will accept cheques, debit and credit card payments but not e-transfers on a scheduled meeting night starting at 7:00 pm. Mailed payments and late payments will not be accepted and will be returned to you. The caretakers, Ray and Barb will not accept membership renewals.

## 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.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Paul Noble and his family after the passing of his mother and with Joe Ruscio and his family after the passing of Joe's brother.

Our wish for healthier days ahead is with Barb Toner.

## ANNUAL TURKEY ROLL Thurs. Dec. 9 (Following a shortened General Meeting)

Proof of full vaccination is required to attend and the information collected for contact tracing, if required. Masks must be worn unless you are eating or drinking.

Once again, we are having our annual Turkey Roll with 7 turkeys and 3 hams 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!

## BREAKFAST WITH SANTA Sat., December 11 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. Proof of full vaccination is required to attend and will be confirmed at the door. All guests, including children must wear a mask or face covering except when they are eating or drinking.

Families will be seated together yet away from other groups. Seating may be limited.

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.

Family pictures can be taken on the lawn with Santa and his sleigh.

## 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

## 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.

A monthly meeting draw is done following the General Meeting on the 2nd Thursday of the month.



## EUCHRE

Proof of full vaccination is required to attend. Masks must be worn except when eating or drinking.

DATE: Saturday, January 22nd

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

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 the public. You do not need to have a partner or a foursome to play. There snacks served and door prizes. A donation of a door prize is always welcome. If you are interested in hosting a Euchre night on the fourth Saturday of the month and would like more details, please speak with Teresa Couture. She is available by phone and at Euchre night. When you host an evening, one of the Executive will be present. Hosts are needed to host evenings throughout the season.

## MERCHANDISE

Black mask with embroidered "fish" logo. Cost is \$ 13.00 each or 2 for \$ 25.00. This item is in limited supply.

The club has pens, lanyards, T-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, toques, patch crests and key chains available in stock. Custom orders can be placed at any time. Current selection includes larger sized hoodies and T-shirts (sizes up to 3XL).

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. Any of the Executive body can assist you at any time.

## 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. 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.

## HALL RENTALS

Did you know that the WOFGPA hall can be rented for your next “special” occasion for a very reasonable price? Hall rentals cover use of the hall and brick patio area but not the grounds and docks.

The hall has a maximum seating capacity of 80 persons, which makes it just the right size for a small reception, showers, meetings, Anniversary parties, Christmas parties and birthdays. The hall is available to members or their families to get together after the passing of a loved one for a “Celebration of Life”.

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 evening only.

Please contact the club caretaker, Barb at 519-681-2370 to get the low rental rates and availability of the hall.

The club hall is not available for Engagement or Stag and Doe parties, outdoor weddings and photoshoots on the property.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Now that the Ontario government is starting to relax the covid-19 rules about gatherings, the Executive is actively planning many of the functions which have not been held since the pandemic started.

Details of these functions will be posted on the club website, the bulletin boards and in the newsletter. Please check these frequently. In the event that there is a last-minute change, the President will send an email out to the membership.

Thurs. Dec. 9      General Meeting  
                         Annual Turkey Roll  
Sat. Dec. 11      Breakfast with Santa  
Mon. Dec. 20      Executive Meeting (New Date)

Thurs. Jan 13      General Meeting  
Sat. Jan. 22      Euchre  
Thurs. Jan. 27      Executive Meeting

Thurs. Feb. 10      General Meeting  
Sat. Feb. 19      Annual Tackle Swap  
Mon. Feb. 21      Family Day holiday  
Thurs. Feb. 24      Executive Meeting  
Sat. Feb. 26      Euchre

Thurs. March 10    General Meeting and Annual Elections  
Thurs. March 24    Executive Meeting  
Sat. March 26      Euchre

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. If you wish to join the Executive Body, you must have served on a committee, so get involved. Please contact the Committee Chair to get more information or to join a committee at any time.

**The club website is [www.wofgpa.org](http://www.wofgpa.org)**

If any members would like a copy of WOFGPA's Rules & Regulations or the its Constitution, please contact the club Secretary, Teresa Couture at [couture.house@hotmail.com](mailto:couture.house@hotmail.com) or by telephone.



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