

February 2011 Newsletter



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

February 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Superbowl Party	7	8	9	10 General meeting	11	12 Hockey Day in Canada events including ice fishing derby and hockey
13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18	19 7 th Annual Tackle Swap
20	21 Family Day	22	23	24 Executive meeting	25	26 Euchre
27	28					

March 2011

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

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

**Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association
Executive & Committees for 2010 - 2011**

President

Stan Gibbs

1st Vice President

Lawrence Lainchbury

2nd Vice President

Jim Morrow

Secretary

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

Teresa Couture (Chair)

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

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.



IN CONSIDERATION OF ALL NON-SMOKERS AS THEY ENTER THE CLUB, SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED WITHIN 15 FEET OF ALL CLUB ENTRANCES EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND CO-OPERATION IN MAKING WOFGPA TRULY SMOKE-FREE.

The newsletter, club history, photos and up to date club information can be obtained on our website at

www.wofgpa.org

MESSAGE FROM A DIRECTOR

Several more records! In 2009 I thought we had reached our plateau for annual tree sales. Well I was wrong. I am happy to report that 2010 has topped every previous year. More volunteers dedicated more hours to the challenge. More snow arrived. More trees were sold. More wreaths and swags were sold. I am pretty sure we made more money for the club but that is a calculation for Steve, our club Treasurer.

This year 98 volunteers expended over 1400 hours to our project. 33 turned out to set up the tree lot. 51 put muscles into the unloading the transport and opening the first wave of trees to be sold.

Immediately upon arrival of the trees, Hermann Szielasko and his wreath brigade went to work making beautiful wreaths and swags from the lower branches of the trees. Throughout the year Hermann and his group have been gathering supplies from nature and home for this project. It is easy to see this fundraiser growing in years to come. What a great start. Well-done Wreath brigade. Two thumbs up.

Sales started on Nov 27th. Three weeks later on Dec 19th we had sold 951 trees, 600 bags, and 100 wreaths and swags.

The early snowstorms caused lots of havoc and called for a lot of extra bull work to keep the tree lot clear and the sales going. Our gang rallied to the challenge. They did themselves proud.

Our busiest day was Dec 11th when 169 trees were sold. The afternoon shift with 13 volunteers sold 85 trees and bagged 40 of them. A Christmas tree was leaving the lot every 3 minutes. Not quite a record for us but a pretty busy day.

It was a true pleasure to see so many of our new members volunteering this year. No doubt everyone enjoyed the experience and hopefully they will be going home for the next year. We have to be proud that nearly 40 percent of our primary members participate in this fundraiser of the year. Take a bow people.

Sincere thanks to everyone for your contribution to our huge success this year. Thanks especially to my wife, Marian and all the partners who would hold down the home front while "hubby" is out having fun. Without your contribution there just wouldn't be a tree sale fundraiser for the club.

Best wishes to all in 2011.
Don Colborne
Director

ELECTIONS THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2011 7:30 PM (Following a short General Meeting)

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive and Committee Elections for the 2011-2012 term will be held on Thursday, March 10, 2011 at 7:30 pm.

Note:

- All positions will be for a one year period, covering March 10, 2011 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2012.
- Nomination forms may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 9, 2011, in a sealed envelope addressed to -
Teresa Couture
Secretary – WOF&GPA
RE: Election Nomination
- All nominated members must be present on election night to accept their nomination
OR
Provide a written acceptance delivered to Teresa Couture (Club Secretary) on or before election night.
- All membership fees must be up to date on election night. Please have your valid membership card with you. (The one-month grace period for membership renewal will not apply).
- One vote shall apply per membership, regardless of the membership type.
- An updated membership list will be available for viewing after February 28, 2011.

The Election each year is a very important part of this organization. Our members' input and participation into the election process is necessary to keep this organization viable and accountable to its members.

Get involved and strive to make Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association in London, Ontario the very best that it can be.

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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.

## 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 the Club's caretakers.**

**WREATH BRIGADE**

I would like to thank everyone who was involved in the wreath making. It was certainly a success. I never imagined that I would have so much support and good will for this project from so many people.

The quality and the speed of making these wreaths was something to see. The decorations were second to none. It was fun just to watch the volunteers apply their talents with not only with the finished decorations but also with painting of the pinecones and other small trinkets.

Alex Martin kindly showed us how to paint items of any kind with a blow pen. Any colour you want without any electrical tools required.

My many thanks goes to the young girls and boys who left their marks with such enthusiasm and again my greatest praise, admiration and thanks to all of you, with the hope that I will see you again in November 2011.

In the meantime please collect ribbons and other decoration items and spread the word. You can leave these items at the club with the name "Hermann" marked on the bag so that they can be stored until needed.

Thank you  
Hermann Szielasko

**7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP**

**DATE:** Sat. Feb. 19, 2011

**TIME:** Doors open at 9:00 am until 1:00 pm

**LOCATION:** WOFGPA Club hall

**COST:** No entrance fee

The annual Tackle Swap allows us to shake off those winter blues and enjoy a few hours indoor of interesting information on fishing, hunting, and conservation efforts. You may also want to sell some of that old equipment you have lying around. Previous years have been a great success with many different clubs promoting their club's activities and selling different fishing/hunting related wares to the visitors.

**Preregistration for a reserved table is mandatory**

There is no registration fee for a table. Tables will be assigned upon registration. To help attract the public, we as the Host club, are asking all participants to bring a prize to be given away as one of our door prizes.

All registrants must make set up arrangements of their table by contacting Stan Gibbs.

Stan is asking members for donations of their unwanted items for the WOFGPA table. If you have anything to donate, please contact Stan as soon as possible.

No guns or ammunition will be available at this event.

**SNOW BLOWERS AND SHOVELERS NEEDED**

On snowy days, Howard Pearcey (Grounds) is seeking help from members with snow blowing and shoveling from the patio area and the walkway and steps leading to the apartment and the stairs into the main hall. Please use sand and / or Ice Melt on the steps and walkway.

**ANNUAL DRAW – FREE MEMBERSHIP**

At each General Meeting you attend, you will receive a ballot per membership for the free one-year membership draw. The draw is held annually on Election night at the March General meeting.

The winners of the January General meeting draw were: Brian Ernteman (Ice fishing rod and reel) and a WOFGPA club T-shirt was won by another man whose name was not provided. Congratulations!

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

**FOR SALE**

I have a 16 foot aluminum canoe that I am asking \$ 600.00 firm for. If you are interested and want more details, please contact Jim at 519-649-2415.

**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 519-808-1777 (cell) for more information and to register for one of these courses.

**CLUB MERCHANDISE IS AVAILABLE**

We have pens, lanyards, Tee shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, toques, patch crests, key chains available in stock.

We can also order lined jackets with embroidered club crest, with or without your name.

Orders for custom merchandise can be made at any time by contacting Tom McGill., either at a meeting or by telephone.



## HOCKEY DAY IN CANADA

Thank you to Alex Duffitt, Roseanne Parent and Tyler Parent for a super job in hosting the January Euchre games.

The winners were:

High Man – Fred Sanders

High Lady – Grace Sanders

Mystery Man – John Remillard

Mystery Lady – Pat Lockrey

Most Lone Hands – Cora Thompson

50/50 draw – Cathy

Steve and Teresa Couture will host the Euchre games on Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to host the March Euchre games on Sat. March 26<sup>th</sup>, please let Teresa Couture know by phone at 519-668-6257. New hosts are always welcome. Euchre is held on the fourth Saturday of the month.

Progressive Euchre is a fun filled evening open to both members and non-members. The cost to play Euchre is only \$ 5.00 per player. The games start at 7:30 pm sharp. Arrive early enough to socialize with others. 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

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DANGER – THIN ICE

With the arrival of cold temperatures in December, ice formed on the pond. In January, the temperatures stayed cold allowing our ice to get thicker. Here are just a few reminders about ice safety:

A windmill, located on the west side of the pond by the middle dock has been installed to aerate the water. There are buoys marking the location of the aeration pipes. This area may stay as open water or may have a thin ice covering. Please keep well away from this area, as it will never be deemed safe to support any weight, including your pet's weight.

A minimum of four inches (10 cm.) of CLEAR ICE is necessary to support the weight of a person.

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. We currently have thin ice areas (near aeration buoys which are marked) and some slushy areas (unmarked) so please avoid these sections of the pond.

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 – for safety and consideration of others.

This year marks the 11th year of Hockey Day in Canada, which was started by Scotia Bank in an effort to get people involved with our national sport. This year, the official festivities will be held in Whitehorse. If you visit the online site "Hockey Day in Canada", you will find it full of events, information and memorabilia auction.

Of course, any hockey player will state that every day in the winter is a good day for hockey.

This year, WOFGPA will host its own 1st Annual Hockey Day in Canada. The morning will start with an Ice Fishing derby hosted by Stan Gibbs and Alex Duffitt. The derby will run from 8:00 am till noon. The cost is only \$ 5.00 per angler and is open to members and non-members. Warm refreshments will be available throughout the morning and lunch is included with the registration fee. Spread the word!

In the afternoon, the Junior division of George Bray Sports Association (GBSA) will have 3 exhibition games of hockey. WOFGPA sponsors a team in the GBSA program. Come out and watch the action. After the exhibition games, the rink will be open for skating or maybe a game of shinny hockey between club members.

Of course, you may ice skate on the rink any time that the rink is not designated for a game of hockey.

If you can assist at all with this day, please let Stan Gibbs or Alex Duffitt know as soon as possible.

This will definitely be a memorable day as we start our own traditional celebration of our nation's most popular winter pastime.

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Display a valid membership card, observe your fishing limits and 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.

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](http://www.wofgpa.org)) each month. The price is very reasonable. If interested in placing an ad or you would like more information, call Teresa Couture at 519-668-6257 (evenings) or by email at [couture.house@hotmail.com](mailto:couture.house@hotmail.com)

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Angling Sports is located on Adelaide Street, just north of Commissioners Road and is one of our sponsors for many of our derbies. The new owner, Pat Devincenzo has generously provided discounts cards for club members, which are included with this month's newsletter. If you are a fly-fisherman, your discount card may be traded in for one that offers a higher discount.

Remember to visit Angling Sports and meet the new owner,
Pat.

ICE FISHING DERBY

The first Ice Fishing Derby was held on January 30. Mother Nature also co-operated by giving the anglers a day that wasn't bitterly cold and windy. The winners were:

- 1st Mark Stack
- 2nd Don Colborne, Andre Koch and Carlos Correia
- 3rd Travis Eveland

Another ice fishing derby is scheduled for Saturday, February 12, which is also Hockey Day in Canada. Please see further details about the club's itinerary for Hockey Day in Canada in this newsletter. Weather and ice conditions permitting may warrant additional ice fishing derbies. Watch the Bulletin boards and the website for details.

The ice rink is available for use at any time. We ask that you shovel the ice rink when you are finished skating or playing hockey so it is ready for others when they arrive.

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

General Meetings and Executive Meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursday, respectively. There are no General meetings in the months of July and August due to many vacation schedules. Members are encouraged and invited to attend and participate in all meetings.

- Sun. Feb. 6 Superbowl XLV Party at WOFGPA hosted by Alex Duffitt, Andre Koch and Stan Gibbs
- Thurs. Feb. 10 General meeting
- Sat. Feb. 12 Hockey Day in Canada (at WOFGPA) Many events are scheduled throughout the day and are outlined in this newsletter.
- Sat. Feb. 19 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Tackle Swap
- Thurs. Feb. 24 Executive meeting
- Sat. Feb. 26 Euchre hosted by Steve & Teresa Couture
- Thurs. Mar. 10 General meeting and elections
- Thurs. Mar. 24 Executive meeting
- Sat. Mar. 26 Euchre
- Sat. Apr. 9 Jigg's Dinner – A WOFGPA tradition
- Thurs. Apr. 14 General meeting
- Sat. Apr. 16 Pot Luck and Euchre (held one week early this year due to Easter weekend)
- Sat. Apr. 23 Breakfast with the Bunny
- Thurs. Apr. 28 Executive meeting



In consideration of all non-smokers as they enter and exit the club, smoking is not permitted within 15 feet of any club entrance effective immediately. Thank you for your co-operation and consideration in making WOFGPA truly a smoke-free environment.

**George Bray Sports  
Association Inc**

*A Hockey Program for Children with  
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**Murray Howard, President**  
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