

FEBRUARY 2014 NEWSLETTER



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

February 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Superbowl XLVIII at WOFGPA	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 General Meeting	14	15 9 th Annual Tackle Swap
16	17 Family Day	18	19	20	21	22 Euchre (hosted by Chatterleys)
23	24	25	26 Youth Committee meeting	27 Executive Meeting	28	

March 2014

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

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

Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association
Executive & Committees for 2013 – 2014

Executive Body

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	
Cora Thompson	519-455-6461
Lawrence Lainchbury	519-681-7199
Past Presidents	
John Manvell	519-455-3627
Bill Rodrigues	519-455-7905
Bill Smith	519-434-3799

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

House	
Lawrence Lainchbury (Chair)	519-681-7199
Don Colborne	519-686-9559
Gord Spotton	519-439-9450

Grounds	
Howard Pearcey (Chair)	226-224-6605
Joe Crombeen	519-686-7386
Brian Ernteman	519-453-3641
Bob Smale	519-457-6644
Henry Van Eerdewijk	519-432-4239

Ponds	
Stan Gibbs (Chair)	519-668-2609
Ron Dennis	519-668-6430
Brian Ernteman	519-453-3641
Andre Koch	519-685-5725
Howard Pearcey	519-685-6044
Bob Smale	519-457-6644

Welfare	
Tom & Shirley McGill	519-652-2875

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

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

Firearms Certification / Safe Hunter	
Emad Hazboun	519-317-4132

On-Site Caretakers
Please contact the any of the Executive for assistance

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 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.



**Smoking is not permitted within
5 metres (about 15 feet) of all club
entrances**

The club website is available at

www.wofgpa.org

Please visit our website and let us know what you think about it and how we can improve it. All feedback from the membership is welcomed. Our website is www.wofgpa.org. Our site contains our club history, information about functions; links to other groups and a photo library. The monthly newsletter is sent electronically to members and is available on the website.

ANNUAL ELECTIONS
THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2014
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 Elections for the 2014-2015 term will be held on Thursday, March 13, 2014 at 7:30 pm (Immediately following a shortened General Meeting).

Note:

- All positions will be for a one year period, covering March 13, 2014 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2015.
- Nominations may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 12, 2014, 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, 2014.

The Election each year is a very important part of this organization. Our members' input and participation in 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.

9th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP

DATE: Sat. Feb. 15, 2014
TIME: Doors open at 9:00 am until 1:00 pm
LOCATION: WOF&GPA Club hall
COST: No entrance fee

The annual Tackle Swap allows us to shake off those winter blues and enjoy a few hours indoor exploring 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 a nominal registration fee for a table and reservations can be made by contacting Stan Gibbs. Tables will be assigned. To help attract the public as the host club, we are asking all participants donate a prize to be used as one of our door prizes.

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

GUNS AND AMMUNITION
WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE AT THIS EVENT.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Canadian Winters EH!!

This past weekend our club sponsored two events that really show what being a Canadian is and how we deal with our winters. On Sat., Feb. 18th, we hosted a Hockey Day in Canada event for 6 junior teams from the George Bray Sports Association. This event was covered by CTV London and was shown on the news that day. This special event was also documented by the photography of many onlookers including some of our club members. There were too many photos to put them all on the web site, but some will be added soon. Special thanks to Lawrence Lainchbury and Ron Dennis for braving the cold to capture some of the nicest pictures I have seen in a while. Nothing says I am having a good time like the smiling face of a child skating on an open pond in the middle of winter.

The second event was our annual Ice Fishing derby which was held on Fe. 19th. Thirty six hearty souls braved the howling wind and the cold temperatures to catch those elusive trout that were hiding under about 10 inches of ice. Personally I gave up after about three hours. I had a hard time keeping my hut from blowing away. The nice thing about this particular event is that it was won by a young boy whose smiling face was captured in a picture with one of his two Trout. This picture is posted in the hall. Both of these events were hosted by virtually the same group of volunteers and I would like to thank them for all their efforts. Special thanks to all our rink builders, cooks, servers, set up and take down crews. We could not have pulled off such a great job without you.

Yours in Conservation
Stan Gibbs

WELFARE

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.

A number of our members have had health issues lately and would appreciate a phone call just to say hello.

The club sends its condolences to Joe Ruscio and his family after the passing of Caterina, his wife of 60 years on Nov. 20, 2013. Our condolences are also sent to Anne Seliski and her family after the passing of Walt, her husband of 58 years on Jan. 21, 2014.

NEW ITEMS - CLUB MERCHANDISE

Andre Koch can be reached at 519-685-5725 or at most club meetings and functions. He has some merchandise in stock and can also place custom orders.

Andre has a selection of larger sized of hoodies and T-shirts (sizes XL to XXXL). New for this year are embroidered bucket hats which can be purchased for only \$ 15.00.

Lined jackets with embroidered club crest and your name are available as custom orders only. The club has pens, lanyards, T-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, toques, patch crests and key chains available in stock.

ICE FISHING DERBY

On Sun., Jan. 19th, despite the bitter cold weather, a large group of anglers turned out to try their luck. Only a few trout were caught.

The winners were:

1 st Place	Owen Huber	70 cm
2 nd Place	Tom McGill	45 cm
3 rd Place	Peter Welch	40 cm

Mystery Fish Ryan Sharpe Ice Fishing rod

50/50 – Robert Palmer

Congrats to everyone.



1st Place Winner Owen Huber showing one of the two Trout he caught during the Ice Fishing Derby

THE LONDON BOAT, FISHING & OUTDOOR SHOW

This event will be held from Fri. Feb. 21 through Sun. Feb. 23 at the Agriplex on the Western Fairgrounds in London.

Did you know that tickets purchased online and using a promo code are discounted by \$ 5.00, which is given to support local organizations?

Promo Code: **SEACADETS**

- Benefits local Sea & Navy Cadet programs

Promo Code: **FLYFISH**

- Benefits the Forest City Flyfishing Club

Your tickets may be purchased online at www.londonboatshow.ca

Please remember to use one of the two promo codes above which will support local organizations.

NEW YOUTH COMMITTEE

On Wed., Feb. 26 at 7:00 pm in the club basement, we will be forming a Youth Committee which will meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month. If we have enough time on this evening, we will also start “brain-storming” to determine events or fund-raisers involving the youth members.

This new committee will be open to club youths, aged 13 through 17 years. The Youth membership fee of \$ 70.00 will be waived for those participating in this group.

For all the youth members involved with this committee, you will:

- Learn how to run a committee and organize group decisions
- Be a bigger part of the club and be heard
- Meet volunteer hour requirements for school
- Add this experience to your resume
- Have your Youth Membership fee waived
- Be more social with other members in your age group

If there are any parents or youth that have any questions, do not hesitate to call me.

Thank you
Andre Koch
1st Vice President

ONTARIO HUNTER EDUCATION & BOW-HUNTING COURSES

Emad Hazboun will be teaching these courses for a very reasonable cost. There is 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 email at emadhaz@heafs.com or visit his website www.heafs.com

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 caretakers or any member to immediately stop fishing.

Non-members caught fishing on club property could be charged with trespassing and poaching.

SUGGESTION BOX

For your convenience, the Suggestion Box will be relocated into the hall by the washrooms from its current location in the Fish Registry Room. A lock will be put on it. The Executive and Committees hope that you will use this Suggestion Box to provide some fresh ideas, comments and constructive criticisms. This input from members will help to provide direction as decisions are made to better WOF&GPA.

If you have a specific concern or if the matter is urgent or sensitive in nature, please speak to Stan Gibbs (President) directly by calling him at home in the evenings

JIGG'S DINNER

It is a WOFGPA tradition that the old Executive body serves dinner to the new Executive, club members and their guests.

Attendees can expect a hearty dinner of corned beef and cabbage, roast beef, potato and veggies and roll with butter. There will also be assorted salads, relish and cheese trays. After dinner, there will be a selection of desserts to enjoy with your tea or coffee.

Door prizes will also be available.

Date: Sat., March 29, 2014
Time: Cocktails at 5:00 pm
Dinner at 6:00 pm
Cost: \$ 15.00 per adult
ADVANCE PURCHASE ONLY
NO RESERVED TICKETS

Your tickets may be purchased at a function, at every meeting or by contacting Teresa Couture, the club Secretary. Do not delay and miss out on a great dinner with good company, lots of laughter and door prizes. This function is often sold out.



EUCHRE

The January 25th Euchre games were hosted by Ken and Pat Lockrey. Thanks to both of you for doing such a super job.

The winners were:

High Man – Gerry Lalonde (70)
High Lady – Virginia Walker (70)
Most Lone Hands – Sylvia Lewis and Arlene Whiteway (4)
Mystery Man – Steve Couture
Mystery Lady – Mary Degan
50/50 Draw – Virginia Walker

The next games will be held on Feb. 22 and hosted by Dan and Deb Chatterley.

The March games will be hosted by Dave Jeffries and Cora Thompon.

Progressive Euchre is held on the 4th Saturday in each month from September through April (excluding December). All games start at 7:00 pm sharp so arrive early enough to socialize. The cost is \$ 5.00 per player and you do not need a partner to start the night off. The games are open to members and non-members.

ANNUAL FREE MEMBERSHIP DRAW & MONTHLY MEETING DRAW

Remember that at each General Meeting you attend, 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 January monthly meeting draw was a 50/50 and won by Bert Smit.

DANGER – THIN ICE

Here are just a few reminders about pond ice safety:

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.

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 windmill, located on the west side of the pond by the front dock 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 may 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.

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 seating capacity of up to 80 persons, which makes it just the right size for a small wedding reception, showers, your next meeting, anniversary party, family reunions and get-togethers, Christmas party and birthdays. It offers full kitchen facilities, except dishwasher. Professional bar service is offered in the wet bar.

Please telephone the club Secretary, Teresa Couture at 519-668-6257 or leave a message on the club answering machine at 519-681-2370 to get the low rental rates and availability of the hall.

You will be pleasantly surprised to find out that the club still has the cheapest rates in town. WOFGPA members receive discounted rates on evening rentals.

**THE CLUB HALL IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR
STAG AND DOE PARTY RENTAL.**

**PLEASE PATRONIZE
THE BUSINESSES
THAT ADVERTISE
IN THE WOFGPA NEWSLETTER**

SOME FRIENDLY REMINDERS

MEMBERSHIP

You must display a valid membership badge while fishing at the club.

Please observe your daily limits as determined by your membership type and record your catch in the Fish Registry Book.

Each membership, except Youth, is allowed 2 guests per year and any Trout caught by a guest will count toward the member's daily catch limit.

Payments mailed to the club will not be accepted.

If you are unable to attend a meeting to pay your dues, please make special arrangements with Val Grahl (Membership)

SMOKING

If you are someone who smokes and are visiting the club, please use the conveniently placed cans provided for your cigarette butts. New containers are coming soon.

Please do not toss them in the snow or on the parking lot. We are sure that you would find this very unsightly on your property and ask that you treat the club property with that same level of respect.

Smoking is not permitted within 5 metres of any club entrance.

GARBAGE AND RECYCLING

Garbage cans are located throughout the property for your use. Recycling cans are located on the club patio.

PETS AND CHILDREN

All dogs must be on leash on club property and under the control of their owner at all times.

A barking dog is not appreciated by other anglers.

If you have brought children to the club and they have grown tired of fishing, as they often do, we ask that you do not allow them to run up and down the docks while you continue to fish. All children under 16 must be supervised at all times on the property which includes the docks.

The docks are for anglers to gain access to the water. They are not a piece of playground equipment.

All children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult and not allowed to run around unsupervised on the grounds.

GEESE AND DUCKS

Club members are reminded never to feed the Canada Geese or ducks, especially breads. Your intentions may be well meaning, but they are wild birds and their natural food supply is readily available.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT WOFGPA

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.

Giving some time to help is a great way for both new and old members to get together while they aren't fishing.

Please offer your fresh ideas to any Executive or Entertainment Committee members.

It is your club so please be an involved member and help make WOFGPA the very best it can be.

2014

Sun. Feb. 2	Superbowl XLVIII Party
Thurs. Feb. 13	General Meeting
Mon. Feb. 17	Family Day
Sat. Feb. 22	Euchre (hosts: Dan and Debbie Chatterley)
Wed. Feb. 26	Youth Committee meeting
Thurs. Feb. 27	Executive Meeting
Thurs. Mar. 13	Elections and General Meeting
Sat. Mar. 22	Euchre (hosts: Dave Jeffries and Cora Thompson)
Wed. Mar. 26	Youth Committee meeting
Thurs. Mar. 27	Executive Meeting
Sat. Mar. 29	Jigg's Dinner (tickets available now)

Hopefully, we will see you at some of these events throughout the year.

A new event calendar for the 2014 – 2015 season should be finalized within a few weeks of the elections on March 13.

<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>IMAGINE YOUR BUSINESS ADVERTISED HERE</p>	<p>Foster Automotive Repair Ltd.</p> <p>All Major & Minor Repairs Class "A" Mechanic</p>  <p>Rick Foster 519-452-3511</p>
<p>THIS SPACE IS WAITING FOR YOUR BUSINESS AD</p>	<p>JAY'S FLY SHOP 96 Rectory St. @ Hamilton Rd. London</p> <p>Phone John at 519-672-5487</p> <p>Fly tying materials Fly Fish tackle & Rod building supplies</p> <p>Lessons and Guide Services</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>YOUR AD COULD BE HERE</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>