

# JANUARY 2009 NEWSLETTER



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

## January 2009

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

## February 2009

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 5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Tackle Swap
22	23	24	25	26 Executive meeting	27	28 Euchre

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

**Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association  
Executive & Committees**

**President**

Stan Gibbs

**1st Vice President**

Don Colborne

**2nd Vice President**

Jim Morrow

**Secretary**

Teresa Couture

**Treasurer**

Steve Couture

**Directors**

Brian Ernteman

Herb Lukings

**Past President**

Bill Rodrigues

**Onsite Managers**

Russell & Sheena Fralick

**Worm Machine**

Steve Couture

**Committees**

**Entertainment**

Karen Anderson (Co-Chair)

Teresa Couture (Co-Chair)

Bonnie Earle

Valerie Grahl

Sylvia Lewis

Pat Lockery

Myra Rodrigues

**House**

Don Colborne (Chair)

Don Finch

George Maudsley

Gord Spotton

**Grounds**

Steve Couture (Chair)

Brian Ernteman

Don Finch

Robert Powell

Gord Spotton

Nathan Wales

**Ponds**

Stan Gibbs (Chair)

Brian Ernteman

Don Finch

Gord Spotton

**Welfare**

Tom & Shirley McGill

**Boat Rack**

Jim Morrow (Chair)

**Membership**

Valerie Grahl

**Newsletter**

Teresa Couture

Lawrence Lainchbury

**Committees (continued)**

**Public Relations**

Lawrence Lainchbury

Jim Morrow

**Political & Environmental Research**

Steve & Teresa Couture

Stan Gibbs

Lawrence Lainchbury

Jim Morrow

**OFAH Reps**

Bill Rodrigues

Teresa Couture

**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**

Steve Couture presents the Treasurer's Report 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.



**There is no smoking in  
the club at any time.**

**The newsletter can also be obtained  
online at [www.wofgpa.org](http://www.wofgpa.org)**

Visit our website at [www.wofgpa.org](http://www.wofgpa.org)  
**ELECTIONS**

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

How Time Flies

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2009  
7:30 PM

Another year has come and gone! It seems like only yesterday that we were planning celebrations for the coming New Year, 2008.

Over the past year our Club and its members have participated in many of the same events that have been a main stay for many years.

As active Members we have enjoyed functions such as fishing derbies, group breakfasts, group dinners, card nights, General Meeting socials, Club Promotions, work parties, fund raising, especially selling Christmas Trees, and most precious of all, the quiet times on the pond or grounds.

We have also seen some changes in our operations that some of our members did not totally agree with. As in most businesses or group organizations, the elected persons sometimes have to make decisions for the betterment of all concerned. I would like to thank all of you for your co-operation and patience in the way our membership renewals are now done. Since the inception of this change, we have experienced better turn out at our meetings, which resulted in more informed members, and therefore more participation in club activities.

I am excited at the prospects for the New Year. Some of the interesting things to watch for will be the scientific study the Dr. Woodward and the U. W. O. are going to be doing on our kettle lake. Some members are thinking of a road trip to Bass Masters in Toronto, or possible a group fishing trip (chartered, of course.) Our hall will hopefully see some changes and updates such as a new bar and cosmetic changes to the hall itself. The grounds should see a new walkway to the ponds most southerly dock from the parking lot, and let us not forget the tree carving that is already in its first stages.

I look forward to seeing, and working with you this year around our little piece of heaven.

Yours in conservation,

*Stan Gibbs*

~~~~~  
WOFGPA Executive and members would like to extend a hearty welcome to the new members. Hopefully, we will meet each of you at one of the many functions.  
~~~~~

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive and Committee Elections for the 2009 – 2010 term will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2009 at 7:30 pm.

**Note:**

- All positions will be for a one year period, covering March 12, 2009 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2010.
- Nomination forms may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 11, 2009, 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 the 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 at the club after February 28, 2009.

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.

~~~~~  
**PLEASE PATRONIZE THE BUSINESSES THAT ADVERTISE WITH WOFGPA**

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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](http://www.wofgpa.org). Our site contains our club history,

updated information about functions; links to other groups, a photo library and of course our newsletter.

**Christmas Tree Volunteers  
- Take a bow!**

Our biggest fundraiser of the year wound down Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> when 8 volunteers completed dismantling our tree sales set up.

From start to finish 85 volunteers contributed over 800 man-hours to our project this year.

In just 4 weeks, 900 super nice trees were unloaded, unwrapped, trimmed and sold with over 350 bagged for the convenience of our customers. This has been our most successful year ever, in every respect. Take a bow. Give yourself a pat on the back and accept this as my sincere thanks to all of you for your cooperation and dedication. You make me proud.

On behalf of the executive and all Club Members, Marian and I wish you a healthy, happy and successful 2009.

THREE CHEERS FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS!

*Don & Marian Colborne*

**WOFGPA Merchandise is available again!**

We have a new supplier of WOFGPA merchandise. Be the first one to get your merchandise and wear it proudly at the club.

Tom plans on placing the next order for merchandise in the first week of January. If you wish to place an order, please call Tom.

Jackets with embroidered crest	\$ 40.00
Hooded fleece sweatshirt with crest	\$ 30.00
Caps with embroidered crest	\$ 12.00
Toques with embroidered fish crest	\$ 10.00
T-shirts with embroidered club crest	\$ 13.00
T-shirts with silk-screened club crest	\$ 10.00
Lanyards / key fobs	\$ 5.00

All taxes are included in the price. To place an order, call Tom at 519-652-2875.

**OFAH MEMBERS**

Were you also aware that you could apply for OFAH membership or renew your OFAH membership through WOFGPA at a lower cost than if you contacted the OFAH directly?

With the membership you will receive the Outdoors magazine delivered to your home.

Please contact Valerie Grahl by phone or by email at [valgrahl@rogers.com](mailto:valgrahl@rogers.com) and provide her with your OFAH membership number. She will also gladly accept renewals and new OFAH memberships

**5th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP**

**Attention Fishing/Hunting & Conservation Clubs  
& related organizations & groups**

**DATE:** Sat. Feb. 21, 2009

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

**LOCATION:** 790 Southdale Road East  
London, Ontario  
(Located on the north side of Southdale Road  
between Wellington Rd and Adelaide St South)

**COST:** No entrance fee

It is once again time to shake off those winter blues and enjoy a few hours indoors of interesting information on fishing, hunting, and conservation efforts. You may also want to sell some of that old equipment you have lying around. The Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Assoc. Inc. is once again hosting the Annual Tackle Swap at our clubhouse at 790 Southdale Rd. East in London. We are looking for clubs to join in this venture. 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.

There is no registration fee for a table. Tables will be assigned to clubs as they register. To help attract the public, we as the Host club are asking all participating clubs to bring a prize to be given away as door prizes. The Host club will have food and beverages for sale to help offset costs and we will be selling O.F.A.H Lottery tickets to generate funds.

**Preregistration is mandatory for a table**

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

**Stan Gibbs, President of W.O.F.& G.P.A  
Phone 668-2609**

**Email [s.c.gibbs@sympatico.ca](mailto:s.c.gibbs@sympatico.ca)**

**Club Website [www.wofgpa.org](http://www.wofgpa.org)**

Kudos to Herman Szielasko who came up with the idea to make swags to sell at the club. He took small branches from the Christmas tree trimming, bound them together with twine and attached a beautiful bow. These swags now adorn a few doorways in the city. Hopefully next year we will make both swags and wreaths. Thanks Herman.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Ice derbies will be held throughout the winter months, on short notice.

Unfortunately, such short notice does not always allow for the members to be notified by newsletter.

If you want to know about upcoming derbies, please leave your name and number with Stan Gibbs or check the Bulletin Boards regularly.

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### Turkey Roll

On December 11<sup>th</sup>, there was a full house at WOFGPA hoping to bring home a great turkey for their Christmas dinner.

The winners of the turkeys were: Dan Efford, Sue Brown (x 2), Howard Jaeger, Umberto Toso, Craig Woodward, Tom McGill, Garry Pridham (x2), Teresa Couture, Bill Lewis, Myra Rodrigues, Janice Colborne.

The door prize winners were: Don Colborne (x2), Tom McGill, Andre Koch, Sue Brown (x2), Paul Polischuk, Richard Toner, Janice Colborne, Garry Pridham, Teresa Couture, Sylvia Lewis.

The winners of the December General Meeting draw were: Paul Polischuk (Fanny pack) and Stan Gibbs (ice fishing road and emergency hammer). Congratulations Paul and Stan!

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### BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

December 13, 2008

Over 110 people were served a great club cooked breakfast while they waited anxiously for Santa to arrive.

Thanks to all the volunteers who came out to assist in making this yet another successful breakfast.

Thanks to the doormen, Stan Gibbs and Jim Morrow. Thanks to the cooks: Val Grahl, Marie House, Karen Anderson and Teresa Couture. Thanks to the servers: Sylvia Lewis, Pat Lockrey and Jim Morrow (before his promotion to doorman). Thanks to Sherry Harding who assisted the children with their crafts.

...and last but not forgotten: thanks to Santa "Bob" who took time from his busy schedule to come to WOFGPA to see all the good girls and boys.

Thanks to all the spouses, friends and others who came forward to offer a hand wherever it was needed throughout the morning. We really appreciate it.

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## OFAH Zone J Meeting

Sun. Jan. 11, 2009  
9:00 am start time  
Doors open at 8:15 am

Here is the opportunity for OFAH members to meet other members from the different clubs within Zone J. They will be updating members on current issues that are relevant to Zone J OFAH members. You will also be updated on current legislation changes and get factual information about the OFAH's efforts with hunting, fishing and conservation matters. This is your opportunity to be more involved as an OFAH member.

There will be a hearty lunch served for a nominal fee. Refreshments will be served throughout the day.

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### EUCHRE RETURNS ON JANUARY 24

The next euchre is Saturday, January 24, 2009 and will be hosted by Ken and Pat Lockrey.

Cards start at 7:30 pm SHARP and the doors open at 6:45 pm. Please arrive early enough to get a seat to play, as reserving seats is not allowed.

The cost is only \$ 5.00 per player.

Progressive euchre is a fun filled evening with good company, good cards and a lot of laughter and are open to both members and non-members.

You do not need to have a partner or a foursome to play. We make sure that there are enough players to make a group of four to start. After each set, the players change partners throughout the evening.

We serve a light snacks. Door prizes are available at the end of the evening. A donation of a door prize or dessert is always welcome.

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The WOFGPA newsletter is a great place to advertise as the newsletter reaches over 225 people each month. The price is very reasonable. If interested in placing or you would like more information, call Teresa at 519-668-6257 (evenings) or by email at [tcouture@gapenviomic.com](mailto:tcouture@gapenviomic.com)

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Our wishes for better health go to Brian Ernteman, Larry Holtzman, Ed Brown and Jack Mook. It would mean a lot to these men and their families is you take a few moments to call and just say hello and those they are missed at the club.

## DANGER – THIN ICE

We know that it is hard to imagine ice fishing with all the new gear you just got for Christmas. We ask that you please wait a bit longer to ensure that the pond is completely frozen and that the conditions are safe to ice fish. Just a friendly reminder that:

- 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 at the club
- Stay off any unsafe ice
- Always use the “Buddy” system
- Obey the signs and exercise caution at all times on pond ice.
- Mark your fishing holes – for safety
- When in doubt, stay off the ice

Ice fishing derbies will be held once the ice conditions are safe. Check the bulletin board at the club regularly for updates. If you would like to be notified of derbies by phone, leave your name and number with Stan Gibbs, the pond committee chair.



Stan Gibbs ice fishing



Club members enjoying cold weather angling

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT WOFGPA

Please remember to mark your calendars so that you don't miss an event. With each event, a contact will be named if you wish to volunteer a bit of time to better your club. As the date of each event gets closer, the details will be printed in the newsletter and posted on the Bulletin Boards at the club and on the website.

Thurs. Jan. 8	General Meeting
Sun. Jan 11	Zone J Meeting (contacts: Bill Rodrigues & Teresa Couture)
Thurs. Jan 22	Executive Meeting
Sat. Jan. 24	Euchre resumes (hosts: Ken and Pat Lockrey)
Thurs. Feb. 12	General meeting
Sat. Feb 21	5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Tackle Swap (contact: Stan Gibbs)
Thurs. Feb. 24	Executive Meeting
Thurs. March 12	General Meeting and Annual Elections
Thurs. March 26	Executive Meeting
Sat. March 28	Euchre
Sat. April 4	Jiggs Dinner (tradition at WOFGPA where the new Executive group serve dinner to the old Executive and club members)
Thurs. April 9	General Meeting
Sat. April 11	Breakfast with the Bunny (another great club cooked breakfast with a visit from the Easter Bunny)
Thurs. April 23	Executive meeting
Sat. April 25	Pot Luck dinner and euchre

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