

JANUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER



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

January 2015

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|----------------------------|----------------------|--------|------------------------------------|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 General Meeting | 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 Youth Committee Meeting | 22 Executive Meeting | 23 | 24 Euchre (hosted by the Lockreys) |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

February 2015

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|----------------------|--------|---|
| 1 Superbowl XLIX Party | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 General meeting | 13 | 14 Valentine's Day and Hockey Day in Canada |
| 15 | 16 Family Day Ice Fishing Derby | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 Tackle Swap |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Youth Committee meeting | 26 Executive meeting | 27 | 28 Euchre (hosted by the McGills) |

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

Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association
Executive & Committees for 2014 – 2015

Executive

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 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

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Bert Smit 519-472-5624

Grounds

Henry Van Eerdewijk (Chair) 519-432-4239

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Dan Efford 519-474-6488

Brian Ernteman 519-453-3641

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Howard Pearcey 226-224-6605

Bert Smit 519-472-5624

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-668-2609

Brian Allen 519-668-1908

Ron Dennis 519-668-6430

Brian Ernteman 519-453-3641

Jim Graham 519-681-0975

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

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

Youth Committee (Adult Mentors)

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

Sue Ann Moyer 226-926-3992

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 leave a message on the club phone or 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 Executive meeting and questions are always welcome. If you wish to receive a copy of the full report, please attend this meeting.

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 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.



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

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

In order to pay your membership dues, you must attend the club at 7:00 pm on the second or fourth Thursday (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 the club to pay your dues on either of these dates, special arrangements for payment can be made only by contacting the Membership Chair, Val Grahl.

ELECTIONS THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2015 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 2015-2016 term will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2015 at 7:30 pm.

Note:

- All positions will be for a one year period, covering March 12, 2015 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2016.
- Nomination forms may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 11, 2015, 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, 2015.

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.

All members are encouraged to get involved and strive to make Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association in London, Ontario the very best that it can be.

WELFARE

It is with sadness to hear of the passing of member, Leo Joseph on August 4th. Our heartfelt condolences to his wife, Betty and their family.

Many of the club's 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 Tom and Shirley McGill who will gladly make contact on behalf of the club.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome 2015!

As the year 2014 fades into the past, it is a good time to reflect on all that has happened in and around our club.

Working together we have achieved some good progress on our hall and the property around it. A new porch was built as a starting point for our front entrance overhaul, a new carving completed on the front lawn, and a new boat rack was completed to accommodate the members waiting for a spot. In addition, improvements have been done to the club's electrical, security and A/V projector systems. As members we pooled our resources together to take care of all the jobs that were left vacant from having no live in caretakers. We can be very proud of ourselves for doing such a great job.

On a sadder note we lost some very important long standing members who had helped to shape this successful club into what it is today.

On a brighter note we added some very interesting new members who will help us take our club into the future.

Early in the new year we hope to have new caretakers once again handling the day to day operations of our hall and grounds.

So, as the saying goes "Out with the old and in with the new", let us embrace 2015 with all its promise of good health and prosperity as we continue to actively participate in the best and oldest conservation club in Canada.

Yours in Conservation,
Stan Gibbs

ANNUAL TURKEY ROLL

What a great turnout to the Annual Turkey Roll this year. Thanks to all the volunteers who assisted in this function.

The winners of turkeys were: Gary Carew, Dianne Waite, Sue Brown, Mike Steele, George Maudsley, Fred Sanders and Brian Allen.

The winners of the hams were: Tracy McCaw, Jim Graham and Janice Colborne.

The door prize winners were: Detleff Von Ruczicki, Hermann Szielasko, Brian Allen, Jeremy Beaton, Bob Thursby, Brian Roach, Mike Steele, Bob Planques, Gord Spotton, Cora Thompson and John Findlay.

SUPERBOWL XLIX PARTY Sun. February 1, 2015

The festivities will start at 4:00 pm, although game kickoff is at 6:00 pm. There will be lots of food, raffled items and door prizes throughout the evening.

Please speak with Andre Koch to obtain your ticket for only \$ 25.00 each. Tickets went on sale at the December General Meeting and Turkey Roll on Dec. 11. There is a limited number of tickets so don't delay and get your ticket soon!

CHRISTMAS TREE AND WREATH SALES 2015

Our super group of volunteers wound up 2014 with another great year for Christmas tree and wreath sales, starting with 8 volunteers setting up the tree lot and trailer on November 15th, followed by a record 68 volunteers who unloaded the transport and prepared the trees. Our sale started this year on November 22nd.

Three weeks and three days later the last of our trees left the lot. In fact, by our best calculations at this time, we actually sold 1008 trees, 139 wreaths and 15 swags. All these figures are our best results ever.

The tree and wreath project involved approximately 115 volunteers who spent over 1600 hours to make the wreaths and smoothly operate the sales lot. Wreath production is very labour intensive. Congratulations to Hermann and his entire Wreath Group for an super job done.

Again this year we have shown what a great organization we have when better than half of our membership volunteer their time in this annual project. Thirty of our volunteers put in over 20 hours to this project and several actually contribute over 40 hours. Without these volunteers you can be sure our tree sales fund raiser would no doubt challenge us to keep our membership fees so low.

Special thanks to Brian Ernteman for his mustering the loyal troops again this year while I was away and all others that make the job so easy in so many ways.

For the most part, volunteers hours involve the time of two people and I want to take this opportunity to thank all the partners and spouses who maintain the home front and are so nice on the phone when I call.

Wishing everyone a very good and prosperous year ahead.

Don Colborne

BUCKET LIST – FISHING TRIP

Glen LeGrand, the owner of Camp Bonaventure in Paspeblac, Quebec, located in the Gaspé Peninsula, generously donated to the club an all-inclusive Atlantic Salmon fly-fishing trip for 2 to Camp Bonaventure.

This “Bucket List” fishing package includes lodging, meals, fishing and professional guides.

The successful bidder for this Silent Auction item is club member, Bert Smit, who with his guest will be enjoying this trip of a lifetime. Congratulations and happy angling, Bert!

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND BAKE SALE

The Youth Committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to our first and Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale.

We look forward to seeing you next year at the second Annual Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale.

We also wish to thank the talented, Patti Szielasko for playing music on her harp in the main hall during this event.

FAMILY DAY ICE FISHING DERBY

Mon. Feb. 16, 2015

The Executive is pleased to announce that one of our enterprising members, Pat Devincenzo, who also owns Angling Sports in London, will host an ice fishing derby for the whole family to enjoy.

This derby will take place on our pond on Family Day, which is Monday, February 16th, 2015 from 9am till 1pm. There will be prizes for big fish in specific different species, and a good hot lunch to fill you up.

The cost for this event is \$10.00 per angler. Due to limited parking and hall capacity, this event will be held to the first 100 people who have pre-registered and paid at Angling Sports, located on Highbury Ave. just south of Dundas St.

As commonly practiced for all our derbies, no fishing is allowed prior to derby time and only the registered participants can fish the pond during the derby.

RULE CLARIFICATION

Recently, I was asked to clarify when the ice fishing season starts, which would then allow a member to use 2 angling rods.

This issue was discussed at the December Executive meeting. At that time, I advised the members present that the staff at Aylmer’s MNR office explained “safe and legal” ice fishing depends on the weather conditions of the day. To start, anyone walking on ice should be aware that at least 4 inches of clear ice is needed to safely support one person. Then, once safely on the frozen pond, you must cut, chop or drill a hole in the ice to “ice fish” with two rods. The MNR office also explained that any open water accessible to an angler means that only one rod is allowed.

I hope this clarifies the rules, as interpreted by MNR, when ice fishing on the property.

Stan Gibbs

10th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP

DATE: Sat. Feb. 21, 2015
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 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 WOFGPA table. If you have anything to donate, please contact Stan as soon as possible.

GUNS AND AMMUNITION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

Since the youth members formed a committee, they have become quite involved with club functions, both old and new.

The Youth Committee members have been involved in all derbies, two pond walkabouts and they raffled a gift basket at the Ladies Only derby. At the Easter Breakfast, they raffled a jelly bean/ candy jar.

In June, they were instrumental in helping and measuring at the Youth Activity Day and they also hosted a movie night with "Finding Nemo" on the new A/V system.

They raffled a bowling party at the Summer Bass derby.

In October, they learned how to host a Euchre night. A second movie night showing "Hotel Transylvania" was well attended.

In December, the Youth Committee helped at the Breakfast with Santa and then held the first annual Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale.

It is so refreshing to see the club's future leaders hone their skills as they become more involved with club activities and also generate many new ideas for functions for our members to enjoy. Kudos to the Youth Committee and their adult mentors for all they are accomplishing. Give yourselves a pat on the back.

On another note, since 40 hours of community service is now a key requirement for high school graduation, WOFGPA extends an invitation only to the children or grand-children of club members, who trying to obtain this requirement. Please speak to the contact person of each function if you know of an interested teenager.

EUCHRE

The next Euchre is Sat. Jan. 24, 2015 and will be hosted by Ken and Pat Lockrey. All games start at 7:00 pm sharp so arrive early enough to socialize. The door will open at 6:00 pm to allow for socializing before the games begin.

Progressive Euchre is held on the 4th Saturday in each month from September through April, excluding December. Euchre is a fun filled, social evening with good company, good cards and a lot of laughter. The games are open to both members and non-members. Arriving at the games with a partner is not mandatory. There is a light snack served and door prizes are drawn at the end of the evening. A donation of a door prize or dessert is always welcome.

NEW ITEMS - CLUB MERCHANDISE

NEW ITEMS – "Wick-away" golf shirts in navy with "WOFGPA" embroidered on it. What a deal at only \$ 28.00 each.

Andre Koch can be reached at home by phone or is present at club meetings and functions.

There is some merchandise in stock and custom orders can be easily placed. Current selection includes larger sized hoodies and T-shirts (sizes XL to XXXL).

The embroidered bucket hats which can be purchased for only \$ 15.00 are unique items. Lined jackets with an 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.

JIGG'S DINNER

It is a WOFGPA tradition that the old Executive body serves dinner to the new Executive, club members and their guests. This tradition will continue on Sat. March 21, 2015.

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 21, 2015
Time: Cocktails at 5:00 pm
Dinner at 6:00 pm
Cost: \$ 15.00 per adult
ADVANCE PURCHASE ONLY
NO RESERVED TICKETS

Starting at the January 8th General meeting, tickets will be available. Your tickets may be purchased at a function, at every meeting or by contacting Teresa Couture, 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.

DANGER – THIN ICE

December weather means a drop in the daily temperature and we know that ice has started to form on the pond. Currently, the ice will not support any weight and there is still plenty of open water, so please stay on the docks to fish.

Here are just a few reminders about pond 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 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 person's 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 under the direct control of their owners.

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.

Ice derbies will be held throughout the winter months and often on very short notice. Unfortunately, this short notice often does not allow for the members to be notified by newsletter. If you want telephone notification of scheduled derbies, please leave your name and number with Stan Gibbs at 519-668-2609. The ice derby dates will be posted on the website and the Bulletin Boards at the club.

**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 December monthly meeting draw was won by Phil Gingrich. Congratulations Phil!

PHOTOS NEEDED

It has come to the attention of the Executive that the club website could greatly benefit from photos taken at the many functions that are held.

If you have taken photos and would like to share them on the club website, please contact the website administrator, Lawrence Lainchbury. Please provide a caption or details of the photo to Lawrence.

The club website is www.wofgpa.org

**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



The Executive would like to wish all club members and their families a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and all the best in 2015.

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. It will also be posted on the club website at www.wofgpa.org

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 or leave it in the Suggestion Box.

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Thurs. Jan 8 | General meeting |
| Wed. Jan 21 | Youth Committee meeting |
| Thurs Jan 22 | Executive meeting |
| Sat. Jan 24 | Euchre (hosts: Ken & Pat Lockrey) |
| Sun. Feb 1 | Superbowl XLIX party (tickets on sale now) |
| Thurs. Feb. 12 | General Meeting |
| Sat. Feb. 14 | Valentine's Day Hockey Day in Canada (Junior teams from GBSA to visit and play pond hockey) |
| Mon. Feb. 16 | Family Day Ice Fishing Derby (mandatory pre-registration required) |
| Sat. Feb. 21 | Tackle Swap |
| Wed. Feb. 25 | Youth Committee meeting |
| Thurs. Feb. 26 | Executive Meeting |
| Sat. Feb. 28 | Euchre (hosts: Tom and Shirley McGill) |
| Thurs. March 12 | General meeting and Annual Elections |
| Sat. March 21 | Jiggs Dinner (advance ticket sales start Jan. 8 th) |
| Wed. March 25 | Youth Committee meeting |
| Thurs. March 26 | Executive meeting |
| Sat. March 28 | Euchre |

We hope to see you at one of the many functions that have been planned.

Remember to maximize your WOFGPA membership by participating in all the wonderful activities.

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <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>DRUM LESSONS</p> <p>Learn to play drums in a family friendly atmosphere.</p> <p>For details contact Nick at 226-289-3082</p> <p>Nicholaswalker88@gamil.com</p> <p>www.facebook.com/NW_percussion</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>JOHN'S FLY MATERIALS 384 Hamilton Road London</p> <p>Phone John at 519-645-0932</p> <p>Fly tying materials Fly Fish tackle & Rod building supplies</p> <p>www.johnsflymaterials.com</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> |