

June 2009 NEWSLETTER



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

June 2009

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------|---------|-----------|---------------------------------------|--------|----------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 Kids Only Derby Mardi Gras Dinner | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 General Meeting – BBQ Meat Draw | 12 | 13 Garage Sale |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 Fathers Day | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Executive Meeting | 26 | 27 |
| 28 Family Day | 29 | 30 | | | | |

July 2009

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------------|--------|---------|--------------|----------------------|--------|----------|
| | | | 1 Canada Day | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 Bass Derby | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 Executive meeting | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 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 2009 - 2010**

President

Stan Gibbs

1st Vice President

Don Colborne

2nd Vice President

Jim Morrow

Secretary

Teresa Couture

Treasurer

Steve Couture

Directors

Brian Ernteman

Lawrence Lainchbury

Past Presidents

Bill Rodrigues

John Manvell

Onsite Managers

Russell & Sheena Fralick

Worm Machine

Steve Couture

Committees

Entertainment

Karen Anderson (Co-Chair)

Teresa Couture (Co-Chair)

Valerie Grahl

Sylvia Lewis

Pat Lockery

Myra Rodrigues

Barb & Richard Toner

House

Don Colborne (Chair)

Alex Duffitt

Tony Dukic

Don Finch

Jack Gerrard

Lawrence Lainchbury

George Maudsley

Howard Pearcey

Walt Seleski

Gord Spotton

Grounds

Steve Couture (Chair)

Brian Ernteman

Don Finch

Howard Pearcey

Walt Seleski

Bob Smale

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair)

Tony Dukic

Brian Ernteman

Don Finch

Walt Seleski

Bob Smale

Welfare

Tom & Shirley McGill

Boat Rack

Jim Morrow (Chair)

Membership

Valerie Grahl

Newsletter

Teresa Couture

Lawrence Lainchbury

Tree Carvers

Herman Szielasko

Walt Seleski

Public Relations

Lawrence Lainchbury

Jim Morrow

Political & Environmental Research

Steve & Teresa Couture

Stan Gibbs

Lawrence Lainchbury

Jim Morrow

OFAH Representatives

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

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.



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

~~~~~  
The newsletter and up to date club information  
can be obtained on our website at

[www.wofgpa.org](http://www.wofgpa.org)

The OFAH website is [www.ofah.org](http://www.ofah.org)



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At our last General meeting in May, we had the honor of listening to Ian Deslauriers from the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters head office give his views on why we, as a Club, should have 100% affiliation with the Federation. He was very passionate about the Federation and all that it represents. He also tried to answer all questions put to him about some concerns some of our members had on this subject. I hope that the last two speakers were of some help to those that had concerns.

As I have expressed to all of you, a decision of this magnitude will not be made lightly, even though at one time our Club already had 100% affiliation. Since O.F.A.H affiliation has waned, we will seek a majority ruling on returning to full affiliation (for more information see page 6 & 7 of this newsletter). At our next General Meeting we will take one last look at all the pros and cons and make a decision on how to proceed to our final decision. This change, if it occurs, would be a change to our Rules and Regulations and not a change to our Constitution. If you have any questions or concerns, please come out and exercise of your democratic rights as club members. If you don't participate, you will have no right to complain at a later date.

Yours in conservation,  
*Stan Gibbs*

---

### 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.

|                                        |          |
|----------------------------------------|----------|
| 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 McGill at 519-652-2875.

---

The WOFGPA newsletter is a great place to advertise as the newsletter reaches over 225 families 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@gapenviromic.com](mailto:tcouture@gapenviromic.com)

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL CLARIFICATION

We currently have a long waiting list of people wishing to become members of WOFGPA. These prospective members are being told that the wait time could easily be a couple of years or longer. The Executive has decided that no new names will be added to this waiting list.

It has been stressed repeatedly to members that they should not let their membership lapse. **Your membership payment is due on the renewal date.** This date is provided to you on the membership renewal form that is mailed to you along with your monthly newsletter. Memberships that lapse do not get automatic renewal. If your membership lapses and you have a boat or canoe on the Boat Rack, your boat / canoe must be immediately removed.

### Do not mail your payment.

Membership fees can be paid on any meeting night (at 7:00 pm) or by special arrangement made with Stan Gibbs. At that time, you will be given your new sticker to validate your badge so that you may enjoy all that WOFGPA offers its members.

You are invited to discuss this in further detail with Stan Gibbs or by attending a meeting. General meetings are not held during the months of July and August although the Executive meetings are still held on the fourth Thursday of each of these summer months.

WOFGPA Executive and members would like to extend a hearty welcome to the new members. Remember to introduce yourself at one of the many functions.

---

### FIREARMS AND HUNTER SAFETY COURSES & SAFE BOATING

If there is sufficient demand, extra courses will be scheduled. For more information and dates for the next course contact:

Paul General  
905-765-4627  
[pgeneral@sixnations.ca](mailto:pgeneral@sixnations.ca)

**Member discounts, OFAH and additional family member discounts are available.  
Discounts cannot be combined.**

All courses held at: Western Ontario Fish & Game, 790 Southdale Rd. E. London

---

## PLEASE PATRONIZE THE BUSINESSES

### THAT ADVERTISE WITH US

**FIFTH ANNUAL "JUNIORS ONLY" DERBY**  
**Sunday, June 7, 2009**

This derby is open to children only, aged 12 years and under. One adult may assist each child (BUT remember that the adult assistants are only there to help). This derby was started five years ago so that our young anglers would be able to enjoy a morning of fishing with other young anglers. We will also have onshore lessons for casting where the kids can learn new techniques and perfect their skills before landing the "big one".

**Rules:** A point system format used in previous years will be used to determine the derby winners and will teach young anglers to recognize and identify their catch

**Time:** 9 am until 12 Noon  
Registration: 8:30 am

**Cost:** \$ 5.00 per junior, which includes lunch

**Volunteer & Assistants lunch available for \$ 2.00.**

All lunches must be purchased before 10:00 am so that enough food is purchased for everyone in attendance.

To volunteer with this derby, please contact Stan Gibbs. A few volunteers are needed to measure the many fish (mostly sunfish) that are caught during this derby

Our annual Bass Derby is scheduled for Sun., July 12. Details will follow in the next newsletter.

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

**Student Volunteers**

Volunteering at one or more of our many functions is a great way for high school students to complete the mandatory 40-hour of community service before their graduation day.

This offer of volunteering is only open to the children and grandchildren of members. The club secretary, Teresa Couture, records the names and hours of all student volunteers so make sure that you register your name with her.

If you want more information or wish to register a teenager, please call Teresa at 519-668-6257 (evenings).

**MARDI GRAS DINNER**  
**Sunday, June 7, 2009**

Lots of fun, music, draws and silent auction. All proceeds to the building fund for Cheryl Stanley and her five children. Their home and contents were lost due to a fire. Cheryl Stanley is the daughter of Karen and John Anderson.

**Where:** WOFGPA  
790 Southdale Road East  
London

**Time:** Cocktails 4:00 pm  
Dinner served 5:00 pm

**Admission:** \$ 20.00 per person (Tickets are available at the door although advance purchase is much appreciated.)

**Cash bar**

**For additional information and to purchase tickets, please call Karen or John at 519-685-9217.**



**BARBEQUE MEAT DRAW**

After a short, June General meeting, on Thursday, June 11, we will be holding the Barbeque Meat Draw. There are 8 Barbeque meat packs to be won, two of which are larger meat packs.

Tickets cost only \$ 1.00 each. The meat packs contain a select variety of meat in portions for two people.

Remember that nothing tastes better from the barbeque than meat that you have won at WOFGPA. You cannot win if you are not there.

**GARAGE SALE**

**Saturday, June 13 (Rain or Shine)**  
**Time: 8:00 am til ?**

When you do your spring-cleaning, remember to put things aside for the garage sale. You can get cash for all those items that just are not used any longer. At the same time, you are invited to sell any fishing, hunting (no guns please) or camping items that you might have.

Call Teresa Couture at 519-668-6257 (evenings) to reserve a table for only \$ 10.00.

**FAMILY DAY**  
**Sunday, June 28, 2009**

This is a great fun filled afternoon for the WOFGPA members, their families and guests to relax and enjoy camaraderie with others.

This year, we hope to have representatives of the each of the City of London's different emergency services (meet and greet firemen, the OPP and the Police Force - Canine unit). We expect their attendance confirmation to arrive shortly. Canoe Races (one adult and child per canoe), a Taxidermy and Wildlife display by Greg Balch, a Water Balloon Toss (clean cool fun on a hot afternoon) are scheduled. Also planned are ongoing Children's Scavenger Hunts and many obstacle course, face painting, crafts and maybe a clown or two. Surprise mystery entertainment and plenty of musical entertainment to delight the young and the young at heart. In our refreshment tent, we serve burgers and hot dogs, French fries, an assortment of cold drinks. At the Ticket / Membership booth, you may purchase additional tickets for Food purchases and Adult Draw prizes and view all the prizes.

As each vehicle arrives, the driver will be given a goody bag for each child in the vehicle, appropriate number of food tickets and one Child's Draw prize ticket for each child. Additional tickets for Children's prizes are **NOT** available for purchase. Food and refreshment tickets and draw prize tickets for the adults may be purchased at the membership / ticket booth

This is a sampling of the many activities planned. A full schedule of the afternoon's activities will be posted around the grounds at the club on Family Day.

Bring your own lawn chairs and blankets to sit on as the picnic tables are usually taken early by other members and their families. Come out and have some fun with other members and their families before the long hot days of summer arrive.

**To all members, there are no Fishing privileges allowed on Family Day until after 5:00 pm.**

This is also the largest function of the year and many hours of volunteer time is spent organizing and carrying out the day's festivities.

If you can assist in any capacity or would like to donate a prize to either the Childs or Adult prize table, please contact Teresa Couture at 519-668-6257 or Karen Anderson at 519-685-9217.

~~~~~  
The May General meeting draw was won by: Don Colborne – fishing reel and Ron Sparling – WOFGPA hat. Congratulations Don and Ron!

As of September 15, 2009, all operators of motorized pleasure craft will need an operator's card. To obtain a Pleasure Craft Operator Card, candidates need to pass an accredited test. Visit www.tc.gc.ca and search "operator card" for more information.

~~~~~  
Congratulations to Greg Balch who was the first Canadian ever to be presented with the National Wild Turkey Federation's - Roger M. Latham Sportsman Wild Turkey Service Award. This honour is given to NWTf members not employed as professional wildlife managers, but who have made significant contributions to wild turkey conservation. A licensed trapper, Greg as helped plant 21, 000 trees and his travel ling school program has reached 70,00 students province wide. Greg Balch plans on attending our Family Day in June with some wildlife examples.

**POACHING**

Poaching is a serious problem. Anyone not visibly wearing a valid membership card should NOT be fishing on WOF&GPA property. If you see anyone fishing with no visible card, ask to see proof of valid membership. While we welcome visitors to this site, use of the club facilities (including the docks) is for members and their guests only.

Remember that even as a member, if you do not have a valid card displayed, you should expect to be asked by any other member to stop fishing and that you must leave the premises immediately.

All non-members caught fishing on club property are subject to prosecution for trespassing and poaching.


~~~~~  
Remember that at each General Meeting you attend, you will get a 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. Don Finch was the lucky winner of a one-year membership for 2009 – 2010. Don now has extra money to spend on tackle and fishing supplies. Come to a General meeting and get your name on a ballot.

TREE CARVING PROJECT

The work is progressing nicely. Some of the details are becoming very distinctive, including a very life-like face carving. (Can you guess who it is?)

Volunteers are always welcomed for their assistance. Herman likes to arrive at the club most days around mid-morning, weather dependant, of course. Thanks to Howard Pearcey for his help.

Contact Herman at 519-681-6507 or email him at the following:
szielasko-carver@sympatico.ca if you want to help. No experience needed, as you will be shown.



100 % O.F.A.H. AFFILIATION

The question as to whether WOFGPA should return to full affiliation with O.F.A.H. has caused a lot of controversy, as we expect it should. As Stan noted in his President's Message, a decision of this magnitude will not be made quickly or lightly. All discussions are still ongoing. The Executive is aware that rumours have started about this topic: some positive, some negative and some based on misinformation. In order to address some questions from the membership present at both the April and May General Meetings, the Executive had arranged for a guest speaker from the O.F.A.H. to address the group.

We now ask that our members educate themselves so that they are able to add informed input in this decision process and not get caught up in the "rumour mill". To assist our members in educating themselves about the O.F.A.H. Visit their website at www.ofah.org. I have included the O.F.A.H. FAQ to help all members and especially those without access to the internet.

(Source: www.ofah.org)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the O.F.A. H.? The OFAH is a grassroots, nonprofit, nongovernment, membership organization – the largest of its kind in Canada that with a mandate to support fish and wildlife conservation and the traditions of fishing and hunting.

How many members does the O.F.A.H. represent? Currently the O.F.A.H. has over 82,000 dues paying members and 655 member clubs.

Is the O.F.A.H. a government organization? No. We work in cooperation with the government to deliver specific programs. Whenever necessary, we confront the government on the issues important to our fishing, hunting and conservation mandate.

Does the O.F.A.H. set hunting and fishing regulations? No, hunting and fishing regulations are set by the government. The O.F.A.H. provides scientific advice and takes input from our members and lobbies on their behalf. The current sale of additional deer seals, for example, was presented as a O.F.A.H. Zone A resolution and endorsed provincially by MNR scientists.

Is the O.F.A.H. a registered Canadian charity? Yes.

What is the O.F.A.H. definition of conservation? Conservation is the protection, use and management of natural resources to supply benefits at optimal sustainable levels for present and future generation of Canadians.

Does the O.F.A.H. invest in projects that support non-game species? Yes, O.F.A.H. projects have benefited a host of non-game species such as Trumpeter swans, spotted turtles and barn owls. Naturally, as a result of O.F.A.H. efforts to restore elk, wild turkey and Atlantic salmon, local habitat improvements benefits many other species.

Why do so many people belong to the O.F.A.H.?

Some O.F.A.H. members wouldn't go anywhere without having the protection of \$ 3 million in O.F.A.H. members fishing and hunting public liability insurance. Some members believe they have a responsibility to always be informed on hunting and fishing issues which they read about every month in their members' only section of Ontario OUT OF DOORS Magazine, and some members enjoy hundreds of dollars worth of O.F.A.H. members' discounts provided by our various affinity partners. Preferences for membership benefits may vary but every O.F.A.H. member would agree that hunting and fishing is a way of life that's worth fighting for – and, that's what O.F.A.H. membership is all about.

Conservation

Elk and Wild Turkey Restoration

Atlantic Salmon Restoration

O.F.A.H. / Toronto Sportsmen's Show Ringwood Fish Culture Station

Community Stream Stewart Program

O.F.A.H. / MNR Invading Species Awareness Program

O.F.A.H. Fisheries Research Laboratory

Education and Outreach

O.F.A.H. Get Outdoors Youth Clubs

O.F.A.H. Tackle Share

Ontario Family Fishing Weekends

Ontario Hunter Education Program

O.F.A.H. / MNR Wild Turkey Seminars

O.F.A.H. Ontario Angler awards Program

Women's Outdoors Weekend

Advocacy

Saved fishing and hunting on Crown Land

Advocates fair fishing and hunting opportunities

Demands cormorant control programs

Stopped "no discharge of firearms bylaws"

Lobbying for early season bear hunting

Proposed new Sunday gun hunting opportunities

Leading crusade to scrap the long gun registry

Pushed for multiple deer tag system

Information

Angler & Hunter Hotline

The Angler & Hunter Television

O.F.A. H. Annual Conference

O.F.A. H. Zone membership meetings

Editor's note:

I found this "Frequently Asked Question" web page very informative and I learned a lot more about the O.F.A.H.

Did you know that the O.F.A.H. started in the early 1920s as coalition of angling clubs in North America who rallied for closed seasons to protect spawning bass? They soon learned that they had strength in numbers and the O.F.A.H. was officially chartered in 1928. Our records show that WOFGPA was one of the founding clubs affiliated with the O.F.A.H.

In the following 81 years, the O.F.A.H. have joined with many groups, governmental departments, interested parties and specialists of various disciplines.

The Executive asks that our members take the time to educate themselves about the O.F.A.H., get involved and be able to provide informed input into the decision process.

As you will find in any group, there might be some issues that you do not agree with. Every environmentally aware, conversationally minded person will have strong compassion for one issue but less or none for other concerns. But, you may find that the O.F.A.H. actively works for some of same causes that you are passionate about.

Avoid the "rumour mill" and get informed with accurate information. Attend all meetings. Be actively involved and add your informed input in the discussions with other members and the Executive.

For your convenience, you may obtain additional information at:

O.F.A.H. head office

4601 Guthrie Drive
PO Box 2800
Peterborough, ON
K9J 8L5
Phone: 705-748-OFAH (6324)
Fax: 705-748-9577
Email: ofah@ofah.org
Website www.ofah.org

O.F.A.H. Zone J office

<http://ofahzonej.tripod.com>

Your local public library

Contact any O.F.A.H. representative

Summertime Safety

- When outside for the day or even a few hours, you should pay attention to the effects of too much sun and heat.
- Always protect your skin from damaging UV rays by wearing sunscreen with a minimum SPF 45. Read the directions and apply sunscreen accordingly.
- Stay out of the sun during the hottest part of the day (11:00 am till 3:00 pm).
- Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water and fruit juices.
- Protect your eyes, and your children's eyes, by wearing sunglasses that have a UV protective coating. Young children and the elderly are especially at risk from excessive sun and heat exposure. This does not mean that a strong, healthy person is safe.
- Watch out for the signs of heat stroke, heat exhaustion and/or dehydration in yourself and your families. These symptoms can include any combinations of dry mouth, excessive thirst, scant urinary output, muscle pain or

spasms in the legs, shoulders or abdomen, vomiting, hot and red skin, absence of sweating, fever and rapid shallow breathing. If at all in doubt, contact a doctor or health care professional or visit the emergency room **IMMEDIATELY.**

- If you are wondering if there is cause for concern, err on the side of caution at once. An affected person's condition can rapidly deteriorate in a very short time.
- Have a safe and happy, fun-filled summer

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 this very unique organization. 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.

Sun. June 7 Fifth Annual Juniors Only Derby

Sun. June 7 Mardi Gras Dinner

Thurs. June 11 General Meeting and BBQ
Meat Draw

Sat. June 13 Garage Sale

Thurs. June 25 Executive Meeting

Sat. June 28 Family Day

Wed. July 1 Canada Day

Sun. July 12 Bass Derby

Thurs. July 23 Executive Meeting

Thurs. Aug 27 Executive meeting

**George Bray Sports
Association Inc**

*A Hockey Program for Children with
Special Learning Needs
A Parent Participating Non-Profit
Organization*

Murray Howard, President
2 Jutta Cr.
London ON N6E 3R2
Phone: 519-685-3392

Email:
murrayhoward@execulink.com

Serving the Community since 1968

**St. Croix Upholstering
Since 1978**

Your guarantee
The job's not done
'til we're satisfied

Daren St. Croix
519-457-4712

1676 Trafalgar Street
London N5W 1X3

A.E.A.

Anderson Entertainment Agency

John Anderson
600 Southdale Rd E
London, ON N6E 1A6

519- 685-9217

aeamusic@aol.com

**TED DILTS
JEWELLERS**

"Your Personal Jeweler"

**DIAMONDS, GOLD FINE JEWELLERY,
APPRAISALS**

City Centre
380 Wellington St
London, ON
N6A 5B5
519-672-0550

C-MORE
Decks & Fences
Custom built & installed

Snow Removal
Residential & Commercial

Free Estimates

Dan Bucci 519-671-0078

**Foster Automotive
Repair Ltd.**

**All Major & Minor Repairs
Class "A" Mechanic**



Rick Foster

519-452-3511

**Preferred
Insurance
Group**

217 Wharnccliffe Rd S
London, ON
N6J 2L2
PH 5

519-661-0200
Toll free 1-800-611-6669
FAX 519-661-0972

**Stacey
HEATING &
PLUMBING SUPPLIES**

Steven Legg

GENERAL MANAGER
280 Burwell St, London, ON

519-432-6759

ANGLING SPORTS

108-317 Adelaide St. S.
London, ON N5Z 3L3

519-649-7429

Kasim Glavas
Owner

"Your full service tackle shop"

ISM

Innovative Security Management (1998) Inc.

Gord Fisher
President

309-148 York St. London N6A 1A9

Bus. 519.858.4100
Cell 519.859.3376

Toll Free 1.866.ISM.1998

Web: www.ismsecurityinc.com
Email: gordfisher@ismsecurityinc.com

JAY'S FLY SHOP

96 Rectory St. @ Hamilton Rd.
London

Phone Jay at 519-672-5487

Fly tying materials
Fly Fish tackle
&
Rod building supplies

Lessons and Guide Services

Lambeth Rod & Tackle Ltd.

2404 Main Street
London, ON N6P 1R2

Steve Plaskett
519-652-5598

For your license and all other fishing
needs