

MARCH 2023



790 Southdale Rd E., LONDON, ON. N6E 1A8
 (519) 681-2370 www.wofgpa.org

March

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

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Post Election Dinner
2	3	4	5	6	7 Good Friday	8 Easter Breakfast
9	10	11	12	13 General Meeting	14	15 Spring Clean up
16 Spring Trout Derby	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 / 30	24	25	26	27 Executive Meeting	28	29

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

**Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association
Executive & Committees for 2022 - 2023**

Executive

President

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

1st Vice President

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

2nd Vice President

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Secretary

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

Treasurer

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Directors

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Past President

John Manvell 519-455-3627

Committees

Entertainment

Randy Keating (Chair) 519-476-1916

Jeanette Jurasek (Co-chair) 519-685-0237

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Mary Degan 519-438-8104

Valerie Grahl 519-453-0659

Julie Thursby 519-473-5506

House

Lawrence Lainchbury (Chair) 519-681-7199

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Grounds

Lou Liberatore (Chair) 519-649-1988

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

Henry Van Eerdewijk 519-432-4239

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-709-9413

Brian Allen 519-668-1908

Rod Cameron 519-685-1377

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Doug Springer 519-680-2599

Bob Thursby 519-473-5506

Welfare

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

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)

Jeanette Jurasek (Chair) 519-685-0237

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Club Merchandise

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

Website Administrator and Public Relations

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Political & Environmental Research

Steve & Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Wreath Brigade

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

Angela Liberatore 519-680-1222

Club Caretakers

Ray and Barb Smith 519-681-2370

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 and minerals, its waters, forests, air and wildlife, and 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 and comments are always welcome. If you wish to receive a copy of the full report, please attend this meeting.



Cigarette smoking is not permitted within 5 metres of all club entrances. Smokers are asked to use the containers provided for cigarette butt disposal. Cannabis use and vaping is not permitted anywhere on club property.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Club Elections

At our next General Meeting, the members of this Association will have the opportunity to exercise their Democratic rights and elect a new Executive body to represent our club.

I realize that some of you joined this club for the sole purpose of having a place to drop a line, and enjoy the quiet serenity of the lake and grounds. This sounds nice, but this kind of thinking could become a trend, and then very few people would get involved.

Our Association needs good people to run the club and more good people to help them. If you are not interested in running for an elected position, please do not pass on the Election night. At the very least come out and support the people that are willing to do the job and cast a vote, or maybe sign up for one of the many committees that we have, they all need help.

Yours in Conservation
Stan Gibbs

Quote: "Elections belong to the people. It's their decision. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters."

WELFARE

Many club members who are not 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 Teresa Couture who will gladly make contact on behalf of the club.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

For each General Meeting that you attend, you will receive a ballot for the free one-year membership draw. The draw is done each March during the Elections.

There is also a monthly General Meeting draw. Your chances of winning increase with each meeting that you attend.

SINKING OF THE SS HERMANN



The SS Hermann, belonged to the late Hermann Szielasko. After quite a wait, it sank on Feb. 15th at 3:25 pm. Tim Locke guessed the date and sinking time and pocketed \$ 150.00 from the 50/50 draw. Congrats Tim!

ELECTIONS THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023 7:30 PM

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive Elections for the 2023 - 2024 term will be held on Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

Note:

- All positions will be for a one-year period, covering March 9, 2023 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2024.
- Nomination letters may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 8, 2023, in a sealed envelope addressed to -
Jeanette Jurasek - 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 Jeanette Jurasek (Secretary) on or before election night.

All membership fees must be up to date on election night to reflect that you are a member in good standing. 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.

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.

APPLIANCE REMOVAL AND SCRAP METAL PICKUP

For those aged 55 and over, I will remove any unused appliances at no cost if the appliance is already outside. I will charge only half price of \$ 35.00 if the appliance is inside.

I will also remove any scrap metal that you have. Please call me to discuss the details and pricing

Tom Carriere
519-520-0767

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

You must attend either the General or Executive meeting to pay your dues. These dates are the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm, before the meeting starts at 7:30 pm. General meetings are not held in July and August.

The new membership rates (effective April 1, 2021) are:

Family	\$ 160.00
Single	\$ 140.00
Senior	\$ 135.00

There seems to be confusion as to the grace period permitted to pay dues. If your renewal date on your renewal notice is March 1, 2023, then your membership ran from March 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023. Your membership will lapse at the end of March, which is the one-month grace period permitted. At the end of the grace period, your name will be removed from the membership list. If you choose to rejoin the club, your name will be added to the waiting list.

If you need special consideration regarding payment of dues, contact Val Grahl before your membership lapses. WOFGPA will not be responsible if your membership lapses due to incorrect contact information on our files. All membership renewal notices are sent electronically. Only members without an email on file will receive a mailed notice.

The club will accept cheques, debit and credit card payments but not e-transfers. Mailed payments and late payments will not be accepted and will be returned to you. The caretakers, Ray and Barb will not accept membership renewals.

POST ELECTION DINNER

Saturday, April 1, 2023

Dinner at 6:00 pm Cost: \$ 25.00 per adult

(The cutoff date for getting your tickets is Thurs., March 9th)

It is a WOFGPA long-standing tradition that the old Executive body serves dinner to the new Executive, the club members and their guests. In previous years, this was the Jiggs Dinner. This year, the attendees can expect a delicious dinner of lasagna, salads and assorted rolls with butter. After dinner, there will be a selection of desserts to enjoy with your tea or coffee.

Along with a fantastic dinner, your ticket will include a chance to win a 4.5-hour walleye fishing charter in June, for 4 adults or 4 adults and 2 children, courtesy of Twin Bridge Charters. Use of fishing equipment is included in the charter. The normal cost of this charter would be \$525.00. No cash value will be offered to the winner.

Jeanette Jurasek, club Secretary, will be at each meeting and function for you to obtain your advance tickets. Tickets are available now for purchase and will sell out quickly. Only sixty-five tickets are available.

Advance purchase of tickets is required so that appropriate supplies can be purchased.

THANK YOU

On behalf of the members, I would like to thank these individuals for all they have done for the club.

Thanks to Alban Xhuti, the Tile Guy, for the great tile work in the hall and bathroom.

Thanks to Ray Birmingham for donating a Water Testing Meter for the Pond and also to Steve Robertson for donating a garden wagon to the club. Both items will be used.

Stan Gibbs

MERCHANDISE

Black mask with embroidered "fish" logo. Cost is \$ 13.00 each or 2 for \$ 25.00. The club has pens, lanyards, T-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, toques, patch crests and key chains available in stock. Custom orders can be placed at any time. Current selection includes larger sized hoodies and T-shirts (sizes up to 3XL). Lined jackets with an embroidered club crest and your name are available as custom orders only.

Randy Keating will be available at all meetings and functions to assist you with your purchase or your custom order.

DANGER – THIN ICE

Due to unseasonably warm temperatures, the ice is not safe to venture out on. The Family Day Ice Fishing Derby was cancelled for this reason.

Please stay on the docks to fish until the ice is at least 10 cm. thick. Use caution when walking on the docks.

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.

ONTARIO HUNTER EDUCATION & BOW-HUNTING COURSES

Emad Hazboun teaches these courses for a very reasonable cost. He offers 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 e-mail at emadhaz@heafs.com or visit his website www.heafs.com

FOR SALE

If any members wish to sell or donate a watercraft that they no longer use, please contact Stan Gibbs with the details.

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 maximum seating capacity of 80 persons, which makes it just the right size for a small wedding reception, bridal and baby showers, your next meeting, anniversary party, family reunions and get-togethers, Christmas party and birthdays.

The hall is available to members or their families to get together after the passing of a loved one. In certain circumstances, a special reduced rate may apply.

Members receive a discount on rentals which occur on Friday or on a Saturday evening only and not on daytime rentals. Professional bar service is offered in the wet bar. Please contact the club caretaker, Barb at 519-681-2370 to get the low rental rates and availability of the hall.

The club hall is not available for Stag and Doe Parties or engagement parties or outdoor weddings and photoshoots.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Executive is evaluating each function to determine if it can be safely held. Details of these functions will be posted on the club website, the bulletin boards and in the newsletter. Please check these frequently

Thurs. Mar. 9	General Meeting
Thurs. Mar. 23	Executive Meeting
Sat. April 1	Post Election Dinner
Fri. April 7	Good Friday
Sat. April 8	Easter Breakfast
Thurs. Apr. 13	General Meeting
Sat. April 15	Spring Clean up
Sun. April 16	Spring Trout Derby

Be an active member of WOF & GPA and reap the all the benefits this club has to offer and not be just a “name” on a committee list.

The new event calendar for the upcoming year will be completed shortly. Watch for details of upcoming events.



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