

APRIL 2026



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

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Good Friday	4 Easter Breakfast
5 Easter Sunday	6	7	8 Trout stocking	9 General meeting & guest speaker	10	11 Spring Cleanup
12 Spring Trout Derby	13	14	15	16	17	18 Post Election Dinner
19	20	21	22	23 Executive Meeting	24	25
26	27 Last date to register for Ladies Only Derby	28	29	30		

May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Ladies Only Derby - preregister by Apr. 27
10 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14 General meeting	15	16
17	18 Victoria Day - STAT	19	20	21	22	23
24 /31	25	26	27	28 Executive Meeting	29	30

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

**Western Ont. Fish & Game
Protective Association
Executive & Committees for 2026-2027**

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

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Vito Lorusso 519-857-8240

Past President

John Manvell 519-455-3627

Committees

Entertainment

Jeanette Jurasek (Chair) 519-685-0237

Valerie Grahl 519-453-0659

Darlene Keating 519-857-8915

Angela Liberatore 519-680-1222

Tracy McCaw 519-438-8884

Julie Thursby 519-473-5506

House

Lawrence Lainchbury (Chair) 519-681-7199

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Vito Lorusso 519-471-2114

Grounds

Lou Liberatore (Chair) 519-649-1988

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Larry Hackman 519-657-5161

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

Vito Lorusso 519-471-2114

Mike Masse 226-977-8327

Ken Mayer 519-808-0525

Jeff Murphy 519- 870-0049

Steve Robertson 519-872-4671

Frank Stepien 519-671-2334

Henry Van Eerdewijk 519-432-4239

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-709-9413

Brian Allen 519-668-1908

Frank Colozza 519-476-1888

Ron Dennis 519-577-8888

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Steve Robertson 519-872-4671

Bob Thursby 519-473-5506

Welfare

Teresa Couture 226-224-6351

Boat Rack

Don Colborne 519-686-9559

Membership

Valerie Grahl 519-453-0659

Newsletter

Teresa Couture 226-224-6351

Merchandise

Marco & Angela Liberatore 519-680-1222

Fundraising

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

Youth Committee (Adult Mentor)

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Around the Pond

Have you ever wondered what makes our pond tick. As most of you know the Western University has been doing some investigation on the makeup of our waters and the effects of the environment, and weather has on it. If this is of some interest to you, please come out to our general meeting in April, and hear a presentation from Professor Katrina Eyvindson and Cameron Stewart, one of her students. It should be an enlightening talk.

It has been one of the mandates of our club to promote fishing. This is especially true for the youth in and around our city. We, from time to time offer our club to special groups of youth, that would like to learn to fish. We usually run these in the evening for a couple of hours, and use the front two docks, leaving the back one open for members. In July, with the agreement of our members Fishing Frenzy will be running their fishing league from July 8th till the 29th. These will only take place on Wednesday nights. Two other dates we have for special groups is the Boys and Girls Club on June 15, and a Cub group on May 25th. If you would like to come out and assist these young anglers on the art of fishing you are more than welcome.

We are stocking fresh trout on April 8th shortly after lunch, not much help is needed but you are welcome to come and watch the show. We will be tagging 3 trout with special prizes for the angler that turns them in.

Don't forget the Spring Trout Derby is on Sunday April 12, see newsletter for details.

Yours in Conservation

Stan Gibbs

EXECUTIVE 2026 – 2027

Many thanks to the club's Past President, John Manvel for officiating the club's annual elections and for the membership for their participation in the democratic process.



From Left to Right – Steve Couture (Treasurer), John Manvel (Past President), Lou Liberatore (2nd VP), Stan Gibbs (President), Val Grahl (Membership), Lawrence Lainchbury (Director), Marco Liberatore (1st VP), Jeanette Jurasek (Secretary) and Vito Lorusso (Director).

GOODWILL

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.

Best wishes are with Joe Ruscio, Dave Jeffries and Janine Robertson as they recuperate from illness and injury.

Heartfelt condolences to Joe Ruscio and his family after the passing of Joe's sister, Barbara Bruni.

Heartfelt condolences to Rob and Ryan Sharpe and their families after the passing of Rob's mother, Norma Mae Sharpe.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The club recognized its newest life member, Mary Degan. Mary spent many years giving time to the club through organizing and volunteering at many functions and helping when needed. Thank you Mary as we appreciate you.



Mary Degan proudly holds her lifetime membership certificate.

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

There seems to be confusion as to the grace period permitted to pay dues. If your renewal date on your renewal notice is April 1, 2026, then your membership period ran from April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026. Your membership will lapse on April 30, 2026, 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.

The new membership rates (effective April 1, 2026) are:

Family	\$ 175.00
Single	\$ 155.00
Senior	\$ 150.00
Youth (16-18 Yrs)	\$ 75.00
Boat Rack	\$ 60.00 (unchanged)

If you need special consideration regarding payment of dues, contact Val Grahl before your membership lapses. If you must pay dues, please attend prior to the General or Executive meeting each month, held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. WOFGPA will not be responsible if your membership lapses due to incorrect contact information on our files. 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.

SINKING OF THE SS HERMANN

With little fanfare, the SS Hermann sank quietly in the middle of the night. As no one had guessed the actual sinking time, a draw was done with the names of all who had entered. The winner was Tom Facchin - \$ 100.

ANNUAL MEETING DRAW

For each General Meeting that you attend, you can complete a ballot for a free one-year membership (no cash value). The draw is done each year at the Annual Elections in March of each year. The winner of the free one-year membership drawn in March was Brian Allen.

The winner of monthly meeting draw for March was Anna Doan - \$ 90.00

EASTER BREAKFAST

Sat. April 4
9-11 am

Come out for a great club cooked breakfast made by the Entertainment Group.

Cost:

Adults	\$ 10
Children	\$ 6 (ages 5 to 10)
No charge for children aged 4 and under	

SPRING CLEANUP

Sat. April 11

Many volunteers are needed to clean up the property after a long cold winter. Come out by 8:30 – 9:00 am to assist. Please bring a rake if you have one.

Lou Liberatore

SPRING TROUT DERBY

Sun. April 12, 2026

Members are NOT allowed to fish on the morning of a derby, including before the derby starts. After the derby ends, members may fish the pond with their daily catch limit determined by their membership type.

TIME:	Register at 7:30
DERBY:	8:00 till noon
COST:	Members & non-members \$ 25
	Youth (12 and under) \$ 15
	Gentleman/ volunteer lunch \$ 15

The derby rules will be provided at registration. Only those anglers participating in the derby will be allowed to fish during the derby. All fish caught during a derby do not count towards the member's daily limit.

With your registration, you will receive a light lunch and will be eligible to win one of many door prizes available. Prizes are awarded to the winners in both the Adult and Youth divisions.

POST ELECTION DINNER

Sat., April 18

The last day to get your tickets is at the April General Meeting on Thurs., April 9.

It is a tradition that the "old" Executive serve dinner to the "new" Executive, members and their guests.

Dinner is served at 6:00 pm with cocktails at 5:30 pm.

Tickets are available now from the club Secretary, Jeanette Jurasek for \$ 30.00 each. The tickets are in limited supply and are available now. Please see Jeanette at any meeting or function.

The meal for this year includes: herbed roasted chicken, roasted Pork with herb stuffing, herb roasted potatoes, mixed vegetables, garden salad with Balsamic, ranch or blue cheese dressing and dinner rolls. Dessert is assortment of chocolate, lemon and pecan tarts.

GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Lou Liberatore is heading the Grounds Committee. He is asking that those interested in helping with the grounds come each Wednesday morning at 9:00 am. The project will be announced each week. Many hands make light work.

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. Professional bar service is offered in the wet bar.

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

Please contact Barb Smith to discuss hall availability and rates. 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 get discounted rates on Friday and Saturday evening rentals and not on hourly rate rentals.

CLUB MERCHANDISE

The club is now loaded with plenty of new swag for its members, family and friends. This is the club's 150th anniversary so come and get your collectable swag.

Blue zippered hoodies	\$ 55
Blue sweaters	\$ 30
Blue, long-sleeved T-shirts	\$ 30
Blue, short sleeved t-shirts	\$ 20
Blue Hoodies	\$ 40
Ball caps	\$ 15 - \$ 35
Winter Toques	\$ 15

Some items can be custom ordered such as jackets with name for an additional cost. Please see Marco or Angela Liberatore at any meeting or function.

LADIES ONLY DERBY Sat. May 11

Pre-register by Mon. April 27 by contacting Stan Gibbs.

Members are NOT allowed to fish on the morning of a derby, including before the derby starts. After the derby ends, members may fish the pond with their daily catch limit determined by their membership type.

Men are not allowed to fish. They may row the boat, assist with netting your catch and to make Tim Horton's runs.

TIME:	Register at 7:30
DERBY:	8:00 till noon
COST:	Members & non-members \$ 25
	Youth (12 and under) \$ 15
	Gentleman/volunteer lunch \$ 15

The derby rules will be provided at registration. Only those anglers participating in the derby will be allowed to fish during the derby. All fish caught during a derby do not count towards the member's daily limit.

With your registration, you will receive a light lunch and will be eligible to win one of many door prizes available. Prizes are awarded to the winners in both the Adult and Youth divisions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The event calendar for the 2026 – 2027 year is available and posted on the club website www.wofgpa.org. Details are also posted on club bulletin boards.

Fri, April 3	Good Friday
Sat. April 4	Easter Breakfast
Sun, April 5	Easter Sunday
Thurs, April 9	General Meeting & guest speaker
Sat., April 11	Spring cleanup
Sun, April 12	Spring Trout Derby
Sat., April 18	Post Election Dinner
Thurs, April 23	Executive Meeting
Sat., May 9	Ladies Only Derby (tentative)
Sun, May 10	Mothers Day
Thurs, May 14	General Meeting
Mon, May 18	Victoria Day
Thurs, May 28	Executive Meeting
Sat. June 6	Yard Sale
Thurs. June 11	General Meeting & BBQ
	Meat Draw
Sun, June 14	Father's Day
Thurs, June 25	Executive Meeting
Sat, June 27	Youth Activity Day

Be an active member of WOF & GPA and reap the all the benefits this club has to offer and be not just a "name" on a committee list. Volunteers with a common purpose are the core reason why the club has existed for nearly 150 years.



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