## **DECEMBER 2008 NEWSLETTER**







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

## December 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 General Meeting / Turkey Roll	12	13 Breakfast with Santa
14	15	16	17	18 Executive Meeting	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day	27
28	29	30	31 New Years Eve			

January 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Years Day	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
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

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**

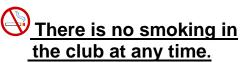
- •To promote true sportsmanship by the protection, breeding, propagation, and conservation of fish and game.
- •To obey the Fish and Game Laws of Ontario.
- •To promote reforestation and conservation.
- •To maintain a club and pond for the accommodation and enjoyment of the members and friends.

### 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.



The newsletter can also be obtained online at www.wofgpa.org

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This time of year is very special for members and their families. It is a time to celebrate the joy of giving that Christmas brings.

When I think back over the past Christmas' that I have enjoyed, the look of gratitude on peoples faces when they receive something, no matter how big or small, is what warms my heart the most.

I received a very special gift this year and it was from every member who gave a little time to do something for our Club. I am very thankful that our Association has members that enjoy giving of themselves to help our cause. I hope the smile on my face shows the gratitude that I feel.

As many of you are aware, the Christmas tree sale is our largest fundraiser. The proceeds from this venture assist in keeping your membership fees as low as they are and also keep the pond stocked with trout for your angling pleasure. There are a few time slots for tree sales where additional assistance is needed. If you are able to assist, please let Don Colborne know as soon as possible.

Immediately following a shortened General Meeting in December, we will be holding our annual Turkey Roll. Here is an opportunity to win your turkey for Christmas. There will be 15 turkeys available to be won and an assortment of door prizes will be available to be won.

Also, at the December General Meeting, we will have Dr. Craig Woodward from UWO coming to the club to do a short presentation for the members. He is studying pond compositions over time. During his study, he will be sampling the water to observe the aquatic life and also to take core samples from the bottom of the pond. His observations at WOFGPA will be compared to other ponds of similar nature. At the end of the process, he will provide a summary for the club. This pond is one of many that he will be studying. He will also be very interested in speaking with members who are knowledgeable of the history of the area.

I would like to extend to you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year.

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.

#### **CHRISTMAS TREE SALES**

\$ 28 each – any size, any type (Trimmed the way you like it). Xmas tree bags - \$ 2.00 each

#### Candy canes are free

Our volunteers will trim your tree to your specifications and give you tips on how to care for the tree over the holiday season.

Volunteers are needed to assist with tree sales. The shifts last only a few hours. It is a great way to meet other members and to help our organization make its biggest fund raising event of the year successful. Do not delay as the time slots are quickly filling up.

This is our largest fundraiser of the year. It is what keeps your membership dues so low and funds many events throughout the year. It ensures a continuous stock of fish in the pond. Join the fun!

Please leave your name with Don Colborne if you can assist with set-up or tree sales.

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 <a href="https://www.wofgpa.org">www.wofgpa.org</a>. Our site contains our club history, updated information about functions; links to other groups, a photo library and of course our newsletter.

OFAH Zone J Meeting Sun. Jan. 11, 2009 9:00 am start time

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.

The winners of the November General Meeting draw were: Don Finch – toque and gloves and Jim Morrow - \$ 10 voucher for Tim Horton's. Congratulations!

Stan Gibbs has organized a group which will arrange for guest speaker, demo or talk for each General Meeting. Their mandate is keep these meetings interesting for members.

Stan will gladly welcome new ideas for the General Meetings.

#### **Turkey Roll**

Thursday, December 11, 2008 At 7:30 pm

Immediately following a shortened General Meeting

Once again, we are having our annual Turkey Roll with 15 turkeys weighing between 4 - 5 kgs each. Tickets for each draw are only \$ 1.00 each.

Light snacks and door prizes will be available. Come out for a great social evening with lots of laughs, cards and good company. Refreshments available.

Hope to see everyone there!

#### **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

Saturday, December 13, 2008 Served from 9:00 till 11:00 am

Invite your friends, neighbours, hockey team and co-workers to a great club cooked breakfast.

The cost is very reasonable at:

- -Adults \$ 3.00
- •Children \$ 1.50 (2 to 5 years)
- ■Children under two years old no charge

Your hot and fresh breakfast consists of:

Bacon and eggs,

Hash browned potatoes and baked beans

Toast (white or whole wheat)

Orange juice

Tea or coffee

There are crafts and colouring for the little ones (or the young at heart) while they wait for the visit from Santa. After this large reasonably priced breakfast, the family can wander out to the tree lot and pick out their fresh cut and trimmed Christmas tree from the Tree lot.

Santa will visit the children around 10:30 am.

## 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 <a href="mailto:valerial@rogers.com">valerial@rogers.com</a> and provide her with your OFAH membership number. She will also gladly accept renewals and new OFAH memberships

# PLEASE PATRONIZE THE BUSINESSES THAT ADVERTISE WITH WOFGPA

#### 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.

Get your spouse or yourself any article of our club's clothing. We will be placing an order on December 5<sup>th</sup> to assure delivery by December 19<sup>th</sup>, just in time for Christmas.

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.

#### DANGER - THIN ICE

We know that it is hard to imagine ice fishing with the temperatures so warm in early November, but there was ice on the pond on Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>. 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
- 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 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.

The members would like to thank Don Colborne for supplying the video for the November General meeting.

The video was taped at the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual OFAH meeting early in 2008. The keynote speaker, Shane Mahoney, held the audience captive as he went into descriptive details during his speech. Once again, thank you Don.



Kudos to Bill and Sylvia Lewis for their fantastic job of hosting the November euchre games.

The winners were:
High man – Jim Morrow
High lady – Cora Thompson and Marie House
Mystery man – Don Colborne
Mystery lady – Marian Colborne
Most lone hands – Janice Colborne
50 / 50 draw – Don Colborne

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. 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 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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#### **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 events gets closer, the details will be printed in the newsletter and posted on the Bulletin Boards at the club and on the website.

Thurs. Dec. 11	General Meeting & Turkey Roll
Sat. Dec. 13	Breakfast with Santa
Thurs. Dec. 18	Executive meeting (One week early due to Christmas)

Thurs. Jan. 8 General Meeting

Sun. Jan 11 Zone J Meeting

Thurs. Jan 22 Executive Meeting

Sat. Jan. 24 Euchre resumes

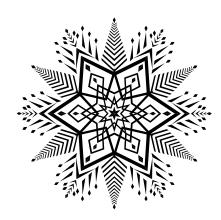
Thurs. Feb. 12 General meeting

Thurs. Feb. 24 Executive Meeting

#### **Christmas Time Safety Tips**

- Inspect wires carefully to make sure they are not cracked or broken.
- Throw away damaged or "suspect" lights.
- Do not overload wall sockets or extension cords during the holiday season.
- Keep all real Christmas trees well watered and away from heat sources and fire places.
   Trees will need a fresh cut on the trunk and should be put into water as soon as possible.
- Did you know that tinsel, the sparkle glue and regular glue on many decorations are highly poisonous to small animals? Do not feed your pet anything but their regular food during the holidays.
- Never leave candles unattended or on surfaces that could catch fire.
- Have fun with family and friends and remember – DO NOT DRINK AND DRIVE OR ALLOW YOUR GUESTS TO. Call a taxi or have them stay overnight.

U NEED A CAB 438-2121 ABOUT TOWN 432-2222 CHECKER LIMOUSINE 659—0400



The Executive of WOFGPA would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and all the best to its members in the year 2009.

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