

DECEMBER 2012 NEWSLETTER



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

December 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Breakfast with Santa
9	10	11	12	13 General Meeting & Turkey Roll	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Executive Meeting (one week early)	21	22
23 / 30	24 / 31	25 Xmas Day	26 Box Day	27	28	29

January 2013

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

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

Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association Executive & Committees for 2012 - 2013

Executive

President

Stan Gibbs 519-668-2609

1st Vice President

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

2nd Vice President

Brian Ernteman 519-453-3641

Secretary

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Treasurer

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Directors

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Howard Pearcey 519-280-3080

Past Presidents

John Manvell 519-455-3627

Bill Rodrigues 519-455-7905

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

Howard Pearcey (Chair) 519-280-3080

Don Colborne 519-686-9559

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Gord Spotton 519-439-9450

Todd Stewart 519-668-8442

Grounds

Todd Stewart (Chair) 519-668-8442

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Joe Crombeen 519-686-7386

Brian Ernteman 519-453-3641

Howard Pearcey 519-280-3080

Bob Smale 519-457-6644

Henry Van Eerdewijk 519-432-4239

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-668-2609

Ron Dennis 519-668-6430

Brian Ernteman 519-453-3641

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Howard Pearcey 519-685-6044

Bob Smale 519-457-6644

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

Club Merchandise

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

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

Bob and Paulette Schmidt 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 & 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 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.



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

The club newsletter 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 is www.wofgpa.org. Our site contains our club history, updated information about functions; links to other groups, a photo library and of course our newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Merry Christmas, or whichever way you want to wish someone Holiday Cheer.

Over the next few weeks our club will be very busy with the hectic pace that holiday season brings. As most of you are aware, our tree and wreath sales have begun and many hours from our faithful volunteers are needed. In addition to this, Old Saint Nick will be joining us for breakfast, and our annual Turkey Roll will be held after a shortened General Meeting.

This year our club has decided to help others in great need, especially at this time of year. We plan to donate a Christmas tree, food for the holidays and gifts for the children in the family that we sponsor. In light of this, we are planning a food drive. The next time you are around the club, please drop a non-perishable food item to help the cause. We are in contact with many agencies to help us pick a family.

On a conservation note, since we do not have recycle pick up at our club, we are going to purchase some closable bins for paper, glass and plastic. Please watch for these items and use them. When they get full, they will be emptied.

Please enjoy this wonderful Holiday Season.

Best wishes from my family to you and yours,

Stan Gibbs

COYOTE IN WINTER

Photo on canvas
Draw date: Thurs. Dec. 13, 2012

Andre Koch is selling tickets for a beautiful picture on canvas of a local coyote in the wintertime. This stunning photo was taken by Paul Brewer, a local photographer. The canvas can be seen at each meeting and club function.

The tickets cost only \$2.00 each and are in limited number and available to club members only.

The draw date is Thurs., Dec. 13, during our Annual Turkey Roll, which follows a shortened General Meeting.

SUGGESTION BOX

For your convenience, a suggestion box has been placed in the hallway by the washrooms.

The Executive and Committees hope that you will use it to provide fresh ideas, comments and criticisms. This input from members will help to provide direction as decisions are made to better WOF&GPA.

If you have a specific complaint, please provide full details, including your contact information in a sealed envelope addressed to the Club President, Stan Gibbs. Feel free to speak with Stan directly by calling him at his home 519-668-2609 in the evenings.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Sat. Dec. 8, 2012
9:00 til 11:00

Come on out to visit Santa and enjoy a great club cooked breakfast. The breakfast is open to everyone.

Your hot and fresh breakfast consists of: bacon and eggs, hash brown potatoes and baked beans, juice and coffee or tea.

The cost is very reasonable at:

\$ 5.00	Adults
\$ 3.00	Children (2 to 5 years)
No charge	Children (under 2 years)

There will be colouring pages for the little ones (or the young at heart) while they wait for the visit from Santa.

Remember to tell the children that Santa will only visit the children who have eaten all of their breakfast.

After this event, and for a very reasonable price, the family can go outside to pick out their fresh cut and trimmed Christmas tree and real wreath from the tree lot.

TURKEY ROLL

Thurs., Dec. 13, 2012
(Immediately following a shortened General Meeting)

Once again, we are having our annual Turkey Roll with 12 turkeys weighing 4 – 5 kgs each. Tickets for each draw are only \$ 1.00 each.

Refreshment, snacks and door prizes will be available. Come out for a great social evening with lots of laughs and Good Company. Hope to see everyone there!

KNIFE AND SCISSOR SHARPENING

Hermann Szielasko is offering to sharpen your knives, tools and scissors to your satisfaction at no charge to you. In lieu of payments, he is asking that you make a donation to the club Wreath Brigade, which will assist in offsetting costs. Please contact Hermann in the club basement during the month of December.

WELFARE

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.

Happy 52nd Anniversary to Cora and Lloyd Thompson (Nov. 26th)

**PLEASE PATRONIZE THE
LOCAL BUSINESSES THAT ADVERTISE
IN THE WOFGPA NEWSLETTER.**

CHRISTMAS TREE AND WREATH SALES HAVE BEGUN



EUCHRE

Progressive 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. You do not need to have a partner or a foursome to play. In progressive Euchre, your partner will constantly change throughout the evening.

There is a light snack served during the break and door prizes are drawn at the end of the evening. A donation of a door prize or dessert is always welcome.

The last Euchre of 2012 was held on Sat. Nov. 24 and was hosted by Andre Koch and Teresa Couture.

The winners of the Nov. 24th were:

High Man	Tony Dukic (67)
High Lady	Arlene (64)
Mystery Man	Jerry
Mystery Lady	Cathy Tolsma
Most Lone Hands	Ed and Sue Brown
50-50 draw	Cathy Tolsma

Hosts are needed for the following dates in 2013: January 26, February 23 and March 23. These Euchre nights will have to be cancelled if hosts are not available.

In order to host an evening of cards, two persons are needed and it does not have to be a couple. One person will greet the players and make sure refreshments are available throughout the evening while the other will operate the bar. If you are interested in hosting an evening of Euchre, please speak to Teresa Couture at 519-668-6257 as soon as possible. It is still enjoyable to host an evening and at least one Executive is present should any questions arise throughout the evening.

DATE: Saturday, January 26, 2013
(hosts are needed)

TIME: New start time is 7:00 pm SHARP!

Arrive early enough to socialize before the games begin.

COST: \$ 5.00 per player.

Mark this date and the new start time on your calendar so you don't miss out on the fun.

POACHING

Poaching is a serious problem. Only club members wearing their valid membership cards, and their guests, are allowed to fish on the pond. If you see anyone fishing with no visible card, ask to see proof of valid membership.

Club members who do not display their valid membership card should expect to be told by the caretakers or any other member to immediately stop fishing.

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

The discharge of firearms, including pellet guns, is prohibited in the City of London. If you hear gunshots, please call 911 immediately to report the occurrence.

The tree and wreath sales began on Sat. Nov. 24 and will continue until all Christmas trees have been sold. Don Colborne would like to thank all the people who came out to unload the trees on Wed., Nov. 21. It was amazing to see how fast the truck was unloaded with so many helping hands.

The tree that you choose will be trimmed to your specifications and you will be given information on how to care for it throughout the holidays. The cost will also include a bag, if you wish one.

\$ 30.00 up to 7 feet tall

\$ 40.00 over 7 feet tall

Candy canes are free

If you wish to volunteer for a shift to sell trees, please call Don Colborne at 519-686-9559. There are still some openings in the tree sale shifts, which are only a few hours in length. If you realize that you have some extra time, you may also drop by the trailer to offer assistance.

Hermann and the Wreath Brigade are hard at work most afternoons and some evenings, making and decorating wreaths and swags. Drop by the club basement. Help is always welcomed in either the assembly or decorating department. No previous experience with a glue gun is needed.

\$ 40.00 large wreath

\$ 12.00 small wreath

If you find unused and no longer wanted Christmas decorations and trinkets as you decorate your home for the holidays, please drop them off in the club basement or in the trailer. There is always a need for these items for decorating wreaths and it is surprising at the innovative ways these items are used. Thank you in advance for your ongoing contributions to this venture.

CLUB MERCHANDISE

Andre Koch can be reached at 519-685-5725 or at most club meetings and functions. He has some merchandise in stock and can also place custom orders. Lined jackets with embroidered club crest and your name are available as custom orders only.

The club has pens, lanyards, Tee shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, and toques, patch crests, key chains available in stock.

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. Come to a General meeting and get your name on a ballot.

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

DANGER – THIN ICE

We know that it is hard to imagine ice fishing with the warm November temperatures we have had. Late November days show a drop in the daily temperature and we know that ice will soon form on the pond. Here are just a few reminders about ice safety:

- A windmill, located on the west side of the pond by the front 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 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.
- 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 – 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 derby dates will be posted on the website and the Bulletin Boards at the club.

HALL RENTALS

Did you know that the WOFGPA hall can be rented for your next "special" occasion for a very reasonable price? A number of people have already rented the hall for their function rather than hold it at their home and be left with a huge mess to clean afterward.

The hall has a seating capacity of up to 80 persons, which makes it just the right size for a small wedding reception, showers, your next meeting, anniversary party, family reunions and get-togethers, Christmas party and birthdays. The club hall has full kitchen facilities, except dishwasher. Professional bar service is offered in the wet bar. No Stag and Doe parties please.

Call the club caretakers, Paulette or Bob Schmidt at the club at 519-681-2370 to get the low rental rates and availability of the hall. You will be pleasantly surprised to find out that the club still has the cheapest rates in town. WOFGPA members receive discounted rates on evening rentals.

CHRISTMAS TIME SAFETY TIPS

Carefully Inspect wires on light strands to make sure they are not cracked or broken. Throw away damaged or "suspect" lights. New LED lights are much safer than the "old" ones and very energy efficient.

Do not overload wall sockets or extension cords.

Keep all real Christmas trees well watered and away from heat sources and fireplaces. Trees will need a fresh cut on the trunk and should be put into water as soon as possible.

Take your tree down when it starts showing signs of dryness as it is a fire hazard.

Did you know that tinsel, the sparkle glue and regular glue on many decorations are highly poisonous to animals? Keep your pets away from these items. As tempting as it seems, do not feed your pet anything but their regular food during the holidays.

Spend time with your pet. They are often overlooked and get stressed as we enjoy the festivities with family and friends.

Never leave candles, a fireplace or woodstove unattended for any length of time. A fire can become out of control in a few moments.

Have fun with family and friends and remember – DO NOT DRINK AND DRIVE OR ALLOW YOUR GUESTS TO DO SO. There are many other options such as abstaining, having a designated driver, staying the night, taking public transit or calling for a ride home.

Keys Thankz 519-457-9700

- This service will drive you and your vehicle home from the function. This service offers the advantage of having your vehicle in your driveway the next morning.

U-Need-A-Cab 519-438-2121

About Town Taxi 519-432-2222

Checker Limousine 519-659-0400

- You can leave your vehicle at home. You can arrange the times in advance to be picked up at your home and later in the evening at the function.

Have a safe and Merry Christmas and all the best in 2013.

GENERAL PAINT

1074 Dearness Drive
London, ON
Phone 519 – 686 – 6666

General Paint staff would like to welcome the members to visit their store. This local business is offering a very generous discount on paint purchases to WOFGPA club members.

Please drop in the store soon and let them know that you are a club member.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT WOFGPA

Please remember to mark your calendars so that you don't miss an event. For most events, a contact person is named, if you wish to volunteer a bit of time to better your club, contact them. 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.

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 committee chairperson or Executive. It is your club so please be an involved member and help make WOFGPA the very best it can be.

There are no General meetings held in July and August. Membership dues will be accepted at 7:00 pm of the night of the Executive meetings in the summer months.

Payments mailed to the club or left with the caretakers will not be accepted. If you are unable to attend a meeting to pay your dues, please make special arrangements with Stan Gibbs.

2012 Events

- Sat. Nov. 24 Xmas tree and wreath sales have begun and will continue until all the trees have been sold
- Sat. Dec. 8 Breakfast with Santa
- Thurs. Dec. 13 General Meeting (shortened) and Annual Turkey Roll
- Thurs. Dec. 20 Executive Meeting (held one week early)

2013 Events

- Thurs. Jan. 10 General meeting
- Thurs. Jan. 24 Executive meeting
- Sat. Jan. 26 Euchre (**hosts are needed**)
- Sun. Feb. 3 Super bowl Party
- Thurs. Feb. 14 General Meeting & Valentine's Day
- Sat. Feb. 16 Tackle Swap (host Stan Gibbs)
- Mon. Feb. 18 Family Day (holiday)
- Sat. Feb. 23 Euchre (**hosts are needed**)
- Thurs. Feb. 28 Executive Meeting
- Sun. Feb. 10 Hockey Day in Canada
- Thurs. Mar. 14 General Meeting and Annual Elections
- Sat. Mar. 23 Euchre (**hosts are needed**)
- Thurs. Mar. 28 Executive Meeting
- Fri. Mar. 29 Good Friday
- Sat. Mar. 30 Easter Breakfast

2013 Events (continued)

- Mon. Apr. 1 Easter Monday
- Thurs. Apr. 11 General Meeting
- Sat. Apr. 20 Jig's Dinner
- Thurs. Apr. 25 Executive Meeting
- Sat. Apr. 27 Pot Luck Dinner and Euchre (hosted by the Coutures)

The dates of any ice fishing derbies held this winter will be determined by ice conditions. Often the decision to hold a derby is made at the last minute and members cannot be notified by newsletter. If you wish to be notified of ice derbies; please leave your name, email address and phone number with Stan Gibbs.

Watch your newsletter and check the Bulletin Boards for upcoming event details.

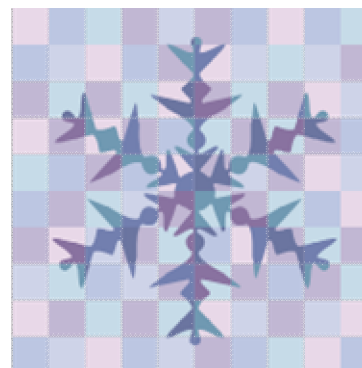
Please contact an Executive member or a Committee Chairperson or attend a meeting to offer some new and fresh ideas. Get involved and make your club the best it can be.

If you are someone who smokes and are visiting the club, please use the conveniently placed cans provided for your cigarette butts. Please do not toss them in the water, on the grassed areas or the parking lot. We are sure that you would find this very unsightly on your property and ask that you treat the club property with that same level of respect.

Garbage cans are located throughout the property for your use.

All dogs must be on leash at all times on club property.

If you have brought children to the club and they have grown tired of fishing, as they often do, we ask that you do not allow them to run up and down the docks while you continue to fish. All children under 16 must be supervised at all times on the property. The docks are for anglers and boaters to gain access to the water. They are not a piece of playground equipment.



The Executive and Committees of WOFGPA would like to wish the members and their families all the best of the holidays and happiness, health and prosperity in 2013.

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REAL CHRISTMAS WREATHS CRAFTED FROM FRESH CUT TREES



Why not add a real Christmas Wreath to your home to enhance your unique decorating style this Christmas time? Placed on your door or garage, it will welcome your guests. Your home would be filled with the “smell of Christmas” if it is placed inside on a wall or in a window. These locally made wreaths will add a festive touch for those persons living in apartments or senior’s residences. These wreaths are made and decorated by volunteers to offset the costs of stocking the pond and operating our club.



Available from Sat. Nov. 24 until Sat. Dec. 22
(noon ‘til 8:00 pm)

Western Ontario Fish and Game Protective Association

790 Southdale Road East

(north side of Southdale Rd East., between
Wellington Rd. and Adelaide St. S)

\$ 12.00

20 inch wreaths already decorated with a variety of colours and ornaments

\$ 7.00

door swags already decorated with a variety of colours and ornaments

\$ 50.00

A 36 inch wreath will be decorated with your choice of decorations and colour theme. These large wreaths are suitable for large homes, businesses and places of worship. Available by custom order only. For details, call 519-681-2370 and speak with Hermann.



At the same time, a tree lot of very reasonably priced, freshly cut trees will be set up on site. Your choice of tree will be trimmed to your specifications and you will get instructions on how to care for it.

**Tell your friends and neighbours.
Hope to see you soon!**