

FEBRUARY 2009 NEWSLETTER



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

February 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 General Meeting	13	14
15 Ice fishing derby	16 Family Day (Holiday)	17	18	19	20	21 5 th Annual Tackle Swap
22	23	24	25	26 Executive meeting	27	28 Euchre

March 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 GBSA Silent Auction & Dance
8	9	10	11	12 General Meeting & Election	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 81 st OFAH Conference in Toronto	20 81 st OFAH Conference in Toronto	21 81 st OFAH Conference in Toronto
22	23	24	25	26 Executive Meeting	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

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 can also be obtained
online at www.wofgpa.org**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

THANKS!!

I would like to express my gratitude to all those who have made my year as President such a rewarding and enlightening experience.

During the past year, our club has seen some significant improvements, with many more good ideas still waiting to be implemented. Our goal to keep the club financially sound has been met, due to new memberships, hall rentals and successful club functions, such as fishing derbies, euchres, etc...

My job as President has been made much easier with the help of the Executive board. Some new faces were placed in some of the Executive positions and with the help of other experienced members; we were guided in the right direction.

I feel this Executive board and committee chairs have done an excellent job and should be commended on a job well done!

Be sure to attend the upcoming elections at our March General Meeting, your support will be greatly appreciated

Yours in conservation,

Stan Gibbs

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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.  
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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.

Our website is www.wofgpa.org

ELECTIONS

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2009
7:30 PM

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive and Committee Elections for the 2009 – 2010 term will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2009 at 7:30 pm.

Note:

- All positions will be for a one year period, covering March 12, 2009 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2010.
- Nomination forms may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 11, 2009, in a sealed envelope addressed to -
Teresa Couture
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 the Club Secretary on or before election night.
- All membership fees must be up to date on election night. 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.
- An updated membership list will be available for viewing at the club after February 28, 2009.

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.

Get involved and strive to make Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association in London, Ontario the very best that it can be.

The General Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm. Please attend and add your input so that informed decisions can be made about YOUR club. You may also attend the Executive meeting held on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm. Your name will be entered on a ballot to win a one-year membership each time that you attend a General Meeting. The more meetings that you come to increases your chances of winning this membership. WOFGPA holds this draw annually on Election Night.

5th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP

Attention Fishing/Hunting & Conservation Clubs
& related organizations & groups

DATE: Sat. Feb. 21, 2009

TIME: Doors open at 9:00 am until 1:00 pm

LOCATION: 790 Southdale Road East
London, Ontario
(Located on the north side of Southdale Road
between Wellington Rd and Adelaide St South)

COST: No entrance fee

It is once again time to shake off those winter blues and enjoy a few hours indoors of interesting information on fishing, hunting, and conservation efforts. You may also want to sell some of that old equipment you have lying around. The Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Assoc. Inc. is once again hosting the Annual Tackle Swap at our clubhouse at 790 Southdale Rd. East in London. We are looking for clubs to join in this venture. Previous years have been a great success with many different clubs promoting their club's activities and selling different fishing/hunting related wares to the visitors.

There is no registration fee for a table. Tables will be assigned to clubs as they register. To help attract the public, we as the Host club are asking all participating clubs to bring a prize to be given away as door prizes. The Host club will have food and beverages for sale to help offset costs and we will be selling O.F.A.H Lottery tickets to generate funds.

Preregistration is mandatory for a table
All registrants must make set up arrangements of
their table by contacting Stan Gibbs

Stan Gibbs, President of W.O.F. & G.P.A
Phone 668-2609

Email s.c.gibbs@sympatico.ca

Club Website www.wofgpa.org

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 valgrahl@rogers.com and provide her with your OFAH membership number. She will also gladly accept renewals and new OFAH memberships



EUCHRE RESULTS

January 24 Euchre winners:

High man – Tim Flinn
High lady – Arlene
Mystery man – Gerry Johnston
Mystery lady – Debbie Parker
Most lone hands – Jim Arnold, Marie House and Cora Thompson
50 / 50 draw – Dave Jefferies - \$ 31.00

The next Euchre is Saturday, February 28, 2009 and will be hosted by Karen Anderson and Steve Couture. 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, as reserving seats is not allowed. 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 is open to both members and non-members. You do not need to have a partner or a foursome to play. We make sure that there are enough players to make a group of four to start. After each set, the players change partners throughout the evening.

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.

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

For Sale

Are you looking to purchase a canoe for only \$ 200? If so, check out spot # 5. If interested or just want more details, please call 519 – 473 – 6378

For Sale

Fin Bore 111 – 8-inch Ice Auger. This ice auger is a sharp as a razor and the owner is only asking \$ 75.00 or best offer. If interested, please call 519 – 649 – 2405

Wanted to buy

I am looking for a manual carpet sweeper. Please call Teresa at 519 – 668 – 6257 if you have one that you will sell.

Thanks to Howard Pearcey who has donated flagstone, which the club is going to use when, doing the front deck this summer.

The monthly General meeting draw was won by: Brian Ernteman (ice fishing rod and reel) and Andre Koch (toque). Congratulations!

GREYHOUND BUS TRIP TO BASS PRO SHOP TORONTO

DATE: Sat. May 2, 2009

PICKUP TIME: Greyhound bus will leave at WOFGPA at 8:00 am

ARRIVAL TIME: 10:00 am arrival at Bass Pro Shop

RETURN: 2:00 pm for the return to London

COST: \$ 25.00 per person (50 Person maximum on the bus).

- All money must be paid in advance to reserve a seat on the Greyhound bus
- There will be games and a 50/50 draw on the bus
- This bus trip is open to club members, their families and guests (club member must also be on the bus)
- All money must be paid to Andre Koch in order to reserve a spot for you on the bus.
- Andre will be at club functions and at the clubhouse on April 4 & 5 from 10:00 till noon.
- You can contact Andre Koch at 519-685-5725 for more details or to arrange payment.

REMEMBER THAT TO GET A SEAT, THE FIRST 50 PERSONS TO PAY WILL GET A SEAT. DON'T DELAY

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

**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

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 ice fishing with no visible card, ask to see proof of valid membership.

If you do not have a valid card, you should expect to be told by any other member to stop fishing and that you must leave the premises immediately. Non-members caught fishing on club property are subject to prosecution for trespassing and poaching.

ICE FISHING DERBY

We held our first ice fishing derby of 2009 on Sun. Jan 25th. Thirty-six anglers came out to brave the bitter cold and test their well-honed skills.

Kevin Ripley was fortunate enough to catch the only Trout (30 cm) today. Angler's names were randomly drawn to determine 2nd and 3rd place which were respectively Rich Buncick and Paul Vanderplas.

Many thanks to all those who helped throughout the day: Stan Gibbs, Jim Morrow, Brian Ernteman, Steve and Teresa Couture, Roseanne and Shania Duffitt. Thanks to Mike Steele who donated a large bag of lures, which will be used as door prizes at the derbies.

Some people complain of the bitterly cold weather but to WOFGPA members, it means that the ice on the pond keeps getting thicker. Just before this derby the ice averaged 10 inches thick, although there are a few soft spots. By now, there are many fishing holes marked on the ice. Thanks to all the anglers who regularly mark their ice fishing holes with a branch or some other marker. This simple habit helps other anglers locate holes easily. Keep up the good job!

Another ice derby. We are planning to hold another ice fishing derby on Sun. Feb. 15. The derby will run from 8:00 am till noon, with registration beginning at 7:30 am. The cost will be \$ 5.00 per angler and is open to members, their guests and the general public. With your paid entry, you will enjoy coffee, hot chocolate and homemade soup throughout the morning as well as a hot lunch.

Mark your calendar and remember to tell your family and friends about the next derby. Hope to see you there.

Ice fishing derbies are held only if the ice conditions are safe to venture out on. Check the bulletin board at the club regularly. If you would like to be notified of upcoming derbies by phone, leave your name and number with Stan Gibbs, the pond committee chair.

DANGER – THIN ICE

- 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 at the club
- 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
- Always tell someone where you are ice fishing and what time you expect to return.

REBUILDING FUNDRAISER

On Thanksgiving morning, October 13, 2008, tragedy struck for John and Karen Anderson's daughter Cheryl and her young family. Their home and all its contents were lost to fire. John and Karen's grandson, Bobbie, was badly burned and is now recovering at home after being hospitalized for many weeks.

A good friend has kindly offered her home for the family to stay for the winter. Come spring it will be time to rebuild. With no insurance, they are trying to raise funds to help them build a new home and start again. John and Karen have arranged a wonderful fundraising event.

WHEN: Sunday February 22, 2009
WHERE: East Side Bar & Grill, 750 Hamilton Rd., London, ON
TIME: 2pm -8pm
TICKETS: \$10.00
FOR INFO CALL: 519-685-9217 (John and Karen Anderson)

There will be lots of music: Pat Waterfield's Blues & Soul Revue; John Anderson's Big Electric Dixie Band, Hoo Doo 2, Jon Zaslow Duo, Cow Town Cats, Glenn Bennett, Jim Chapman, Paul Langille, Jimmy Vail and more....

Raffles & Auction and lots of Fun

All donations are gratefully accepted and thank you for your kind generosity. Every penny raised will go to build a home for this family. A special "Thank you" to all the musicians for the generous donation of their time and talent.

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

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PLEASE PATRONIZE THE BUSINESSES THAT ADVERTISE WITH WOFGPA

81st Annual OFAH Conference

It's that time of year again! We are excited to inform you of our upcoming 81st O.F.A.H. Annual General Meeting and Fish & Wildlife Conference. Join us at the Delta Meadowvale Resort & Conference Centre in Mississauga, to ensure you don't miss out on an action packed informative weekend. The Annual General Meeting begins Thursday, March 19, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.

Registration for our 81st Annual Conference includes free shuttle service to and from the Toronto Sportsmen's Show on Saturday, where many exciting and informative events and seminars will be taking place.

The Conference is held in conjunction with the Toronto Sportsmen's Show, which takes place at the Direct Energy Centre. The Toronto Sportsmen's Show has over 450 exhibitors and events.

Be sure to register early to avoid disappointment!

For more information, please visit the OFAH website at www.ofah.org

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**GEORGE BRAY SPORTS ASSOCIATION**  
**Silent auction and dance**

**WHEN:** Sat., March 7, 2009  
 7pm till 1 am  
**COST:** \$ 10.00 per person  
 (Available in advance or at the door)  
**WHERE:** Dufferin Hall – Lower level  
 (located at 445 Dufferin Ave)

**WHAT'S GOING ON:**  
 There will be dancing all night long. A light lunch will be served around 11 pm and there are many fantastic items for you to bid on. There are also many door prizes available.

George Bray Hockey Association is a unique, non-profit hockey organization for children with special needs. WOFGPA has sponsored a hockey team in this organization for many years. This fundraiser is important to them as they raise much needed money to keep this program affordable.

Come out for an evening a fun, entertainment and prizes. If you want more details or wish to purchase tickets in advance, please call Steve Couture at 519-668-6257 (evenings).



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

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[murrayhoward@execulink.com](mailto:murrayhoward@execulink.com)

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Email: [gordfisher@ismsecurityinc.com](mailto:gordfisher@ismsecurityinc.com)

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