

JANUARY 2024



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

January

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

February

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

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

**Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective
Association
Executive & Committees for 2023 - 2024**

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

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Past President

John Manvell 519-455-3627

Committees

Entertainment

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

Mary Degan 519-438-8104

Valerie Grahl 519-453-0659

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

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

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

Vito Lorusso 519-471-2114

Henry Van Eerdewijk 519-432-4239

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-709-9413

Brian Allen 519-668-1908

Rod Cameron 519-685-1377

Ron Dennis

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

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

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

Youth Committee (Adult Mentor)

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

Club Merchandise

Please see the Executive at any meeting or function

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

The holiday season has come and gone. I hope that yours was restful and enjoyable, if you helped out at the club over December you deserve the rest.

Our Tree lot and Wreath Brigade did very well this year and all the volunteers went above and beyond in their efforts to raise money for our association. As you are aware all monies raised are used for the betterment of membership which includes our hall, pond and grounds, and programs that we offer.

There was also a Christmas Breakfast, with a bake sale. I would like to thank Santa for making an appearance; all the children were excited to receive a gift which was kindly donated by members.

Our Annual Turkey Roll was also a hit; one of our members did an amazing job on securing turkeys, hams and a gift basket. Most importantly thanks need to go out to your Executive Body for organizing these events; I would be lost without them.

The most rewarding activity in December, was delivering two pickup truck loads of toys for the Toys for Tots Program. All of those folks that donated toys and cash, I thank you.

All the best to you and yours in the coming year, see you at the club.

Yours in Conservation
Stan Gibbs

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 Teresa Couture who will gladly make contact on behalf of the club.

Our wishes for healthier days ahead are with Mary Degan and Bob Smale as they recuperate.

Congratulations to first time Grandparents, Marco and Angela Liberatore. Their son Anthony and his wife Juliana welcomed their son in early December.

Our heartfelt sympathy is with Anna Doan and her family at this difficult time as they grieve the passing of her husband, Doug James in mid- December. Doug was a Past President of WOFGPA.

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.

ELECTIONS

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2024 7:30 PM

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive Elections for the 2024 - 2025 term will be held on Thursday, March 9, 2024 at 7:30 pm.

Note:

- All positions will be for a one-year period, covering March 9, 2024 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2025.
- Nomination letters may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 8, 2024, 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. 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.

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.

The new membership rates (effective July 1, 2023) are:

Family	\$ 170.00
Single	\$ 150.00
Senior	\$ 145.00
Boat Rack	\$ 60.00

There seems to be confusion as to the grace period permitted to pay dues. If your renewal date on your renewal notice is January 1, 2024, then your membership period ran from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Your membership will lapse at the end of January 2024, 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. 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.

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

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA Sat. Dec. 9th

Thank you to all those who assisted in making this yet another successful Breakfast with Santa.

Thank you to the members who donated small gifts which Santa "Tim" gave out to the children.

ANNUAL TURKEY ROLL Thurs. Dec. 14th

The Annual Turkey Roll was a success. The winners of the evening were:

Turkeys: G. Bradley, A. Liberatore, G. Cammaert, V. Ruscio, K. Mayer, J. Robertson and J. Colborne.
Hams: L. Holtzman, B. Thursby and J. Colborne
Door Prizes: C. Silverthorn, A. Sims, H. Lukings, A. Liberatore and J. Robertson

50/50: V. Grahl (\$ 145.00)

At the start of the evening, the sealed bids were opened to determine the winner of the Esnagami Wilderness Lodge fishing trip. The winners were Ken Mayer and Larry Hackman.



Owner Eric Lund presents the winners, Ken Mayer and Larry Hackman with their prize.
LONDON PUBLIC LIBRARY

LECTURE SERIES "NATURE IN THE CITY"

Nature London in conjunction with the London Public Library is presenting a lecture series for Londoners.

All lectures are to be held in the WOLF Performance Hall, 251 Dundas St. (Main library) from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. There is no cost to attend but seating is limited so arrive early. Family friendly. 2hr validated parking will be offered.

Further details can be obtained:
Nature London www.naturelondon.ca
London Public Library 519-661-4600

- Jan 16 Bats as Beings
- Jan 23 Building Bird friendly communities in London
- Jan 30 Some bugs suck! Why the insects in your garden have a drinking problem
- Feb. 6 London's Naturals
- Feb. 13 London's Secretive Wildlife: Challenges Faced by Reptiles and Amphibians
- Feb. 20 Naturally Western

18th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP

DATE: Sat. February 17th
TIME: Doors open at 9:00 am until 1:00 pm
LOCATION: WOFGPA club hall and basement
COST: No entrance fee

The annual Tackle Swap allows us to shake off those winter blues. You may also want to sell some of that old equipment you have lying around. 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.

Preregistration for a reserved table is mandatory. There is a nominal registration fee of \$ 15.00 for a table and reservations can be made by contacting Stan Gibbs. Tables will be assigned.

If you have anything to donate, please contact Stan as soon as possible.

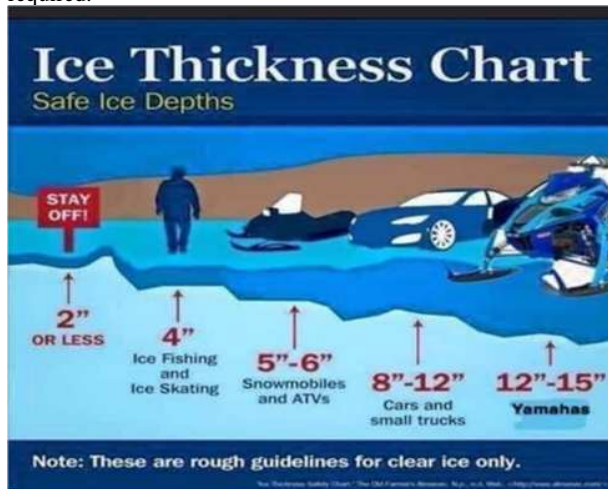
**GUNS AND AMMUNITION WILL NOT BE
AVAILABLE**

DANGER – THIN ICE

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

The ice conditions will be monitored regularly but not posted. Please stay off any unsafe ice and remember that ice conditions vary from day to day. When in doubt, stay off the ice. Always use the “Buddy” system and never venture out alone. It is a good idea to have safety measures in place, carry a whistle and have ice picks on your person.

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.



A windmill has been installed to aerate the water with 2 buoys marking the location of the aeration stones which will always be open water or 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 and in control of their owners. It is best to leave your pet at home.

Do not break the ice away from the docks, use an auger or punch small holes. At no time should anyone use club brooms or shovels to break the ice for fishing. If the ice is continually broken away from the docks, this creates a hazard of thinner ice and makes it hazardous for anglers and skaters stepping off the docks.

Mark all holes with a small branch or flag.

If there is a skating rink located near the main dock, please keep your fishing holes at least 15 metres away.

If ice derbies are planned, it will be last minute notice and dependant on ice conditions. If you wish to be informed of these derbies, please contact Stan Gibbs.

PLEASE PATRONIZE THE BUSINESSES THAT ADVERTISE WITH WOFGPA

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 night only. 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.

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 locations frequently.

Thurs. Jan 11	General Meeting
Thurs Jan 25	Executive Meeting

Thurs Feb 8	General Meeting
Wed Feb 14	Valentines Day
Sat. Feb 17	Tackle Swap
Mon. Feb 19	Family Day – Ice Derby
Thurs. Feb 22	Executive Meeting

Thurs. Mar 7	General Meeting & Annual Elections
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Thurs. Mar. 21	Executive Meeting
Fri. Mar. 29	Good Friday
Sat. Mar. 30	Easter Breakfast
Sun. Mar 31	Easter Sunday

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.

Watch for details of upcoming event in your newsletter, check the bulletin boards and the club website.

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or drop me a line at
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Nick Robertson - owner



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Murray Howard, President
Email: murrayhoward@execulink.com

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Brewmaster / Owner

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