

DECEMBER 2020



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

December

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

January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Year's Day	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 General Meeting	15	16
17	18	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 2020- 2021**

Executive

President

Stan Gibbs 519-668-2609

1st Vice President

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

2nd Vice President

Joe Isenor 519-691-7510

Secretary

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Treasurer

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Directors

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Past President

John Manvell 519-455-3627

Committees

Entertainment

Teresa Couture (Chair) 519-668-6257

Mary Degan 519-438-8104

Valerie Grahf 519-453-0659

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Julie Thursby 519-473-5506

Diane Waite 519-685-7393

House

Lawrence Lainchbury (Chair) 519-681-7199

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Bert Smit 519-472-5624

Grounds

Henry Van Eerdewijk (Chair) 519-432-4239

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-668-2609

Brian Allen 519-668-1908

Rod Cameron 519-685-1377

Jim Graham 519-681-0975

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

George Maudsley 519-681-6429

Doug Springer 519-680-2599

Bob Thursby 519-473-5506

Diane Waite 519-685-7393

Welfare

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Boat Rack

Don Colborne 519-686-9559

Membership

Valerie Grahf 519-453-0659

Newsletter

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Fundraising

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Youth Committee (Adult Mentors)

Jeanette Jurasek (Chair) 519-685-0237

Autumn Ernteman 519-453-3641

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Club Merchandise

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Website Administrator and 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

Wreath Brigade

Stan Gibbs 519-668-2609

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.



Cigarette smoking is not permitted within 5 metres of all club entrances. Smokers are asked to use the containers provided for cigarette butt disposal. Cannabis use and vaping is not permitted anywhere on club property.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

It is very important that you send any and all changes in mailing address, email or phone number(s) to Val Grahl (Membership Committee). WOFGPA will not be responsible if your membership lapses due to incorrect contact information.

All membership renewal notices will be sent electronically. Renewal notices will be mailed only to those persons without an email on file. Please bring your notice with you when paying your membership dues. Mailed payments are not acceptable. Any late payment will not be accepted and you will no longer be considered a member in good standing. If you choose to rejoin the club, your name will be added to the waiting list which is currently has over 250 names on it and an estimated 4 to 5-year wait time.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Merry Christmas to one and all!

This message is passed on to family and friends at this time of year. What accompanies this phrase is the selfless act of giving. This is very apparent around our club, as I have commented many times before, this Association has the best volunteers anywhere.

To the 60 plus volunteers who showed up to unload 900 trees, the many workers who are helping Angela Liberatore and myself with wreaths, and to the projected 1,500-man hours that will go into the operation of the tree lot; I thank you!

As in years past, our club is going to support those in need by doing a "Fill the Boat" food and toy drive. There will be a boat at the club to be filled with unwrapped toys and non-perishable foods, which will be delivered to the Salvation Army Hamper program before Christmas. Please donate.

Best holiday wishes from my family to yours.

Yours in Conservation
Stan Gibbs

WELFARE

Many club members who aren't able to attend the club for meetings or fishing might welcome a quick call to say "Hello and what have you been up to?" This is especially important during the pandemic as many of our members venture outside or visit friends and family infrequently and would likely welcome a call.

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 wish for healthier days is with Bert Smit, Hermann Szielasko, George Maudsley and Tony Dukic.

CANCELLED EVENTS

Euchre – cancelled until Jan 2021, possibly longer
Breakfast with Santa
Annual Bake Sale
Annual Turkey Roll

MERCHANDISE

NEW ITEM – Black mask with embroidered "fish" logo.

Cost is \$ 13.00 each or 2 for \$ 25.00. This item is in limited supply. Please contact Stan Gibbs about mask purchases.



The club has pens, lanyards, T-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, toques, patch crests and key chains available in stock. Lined jackets with an embroidered club crest and your name are available as custom orders only. Custom orders can be placed at any time. Current selection includes larger sized hoodies and T-shirts (sizes up to 3XL).

Andre Koch can be reached at home by phone.

CHRISTMAS TREE SALES

This is a record year for the Christmas tree sales. Almost half of our tree lot were sold on the first weekend that the tree lot opened for business. The wreaths, crosses, swags and potted arrangements have been sold as soon as they are created in the basement workshop.

New this year...WOFGPA can now take interact and credit card payments for your purchases and membership dues.

There has been a small price increase in some tree sizes this year. The pricing for 2020 is:

\$ 35	Under 6 ft
\$ 45	6.5 – 7.5 ft
\$ 60	7.5 – 8.5 ft
\$ 75	over 8.5 ft
\$ 20	Wreaths, table tops, crosses and "Charlie Brown" trees
\$ 5	Desktop trees and bundled branches

If you haven't picked out the perfect tree for your home, don't delay or you will end up getting a wrapped one from a grocery store.

HONEY AND PURE MAPLE SYRUP FOR SALE

For those who always purchased their honey and maple syrup from Don Parker at Euchre, Teresa Couture will be selling it on his behalf. I will be bringing a small quantity of each to the meetings. Otherwise call Teresa at home to arrange your purchase.

The cost is:

Pure honey (1 kg)...\$ 10

Pure Maple Syrup (1 Litre)...\$ 18

DANGER – THIN ICE

December weather means a drop in the daily temperature and the ice will soon form on the pond. Please stay on the docks to fish until the ice has completely formed and is at least 10 cm. thick. 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 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.

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. 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 with a flag or small branch – for safety and consideration of others. If an ice rink is made off the main dock, please keep your fishing holes at least 15 m away.

Ice derbies will be held throughout the winter months and often on very short notice. If you want telephone notification of scheduled derbies, please leave your name and number with Stan Gibbs. The derby dates will be posted on the website and the Bulletin Boards at the club.

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 membership card, ask to see proof of valid membership. Club members who do not display their valid membership card should expect to be told to immediately stop fishing. Non-members caught fishing on club property could be charged with trespassing and poaching.

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? 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 fireplaces or woodstoves 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The event calendar for 2020 – 2021 is also available on the club website. Please be advised that all functions listed in this newsletter may be cancelled due to the government regulations. If an event is cancelled, the President, Stan Gibbs will notify members by email. The cancellation will also be posted on the bulletin board at the club.

Thurs. Dec 12	General meeting
Mon. Dec. 21	Executive meeting (early due to the holidays)
Fri. Dec. 25	Christmas Day
Fri. Jan 1	New Years Day



The Executive, the Directors and the Committee Chairs would like to wish all members and their families the best of the holidays with good health, happiness and prosperity is 2021.



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