

January 2017



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	12 General meeting	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Youth Committee meeting & Executive meeting	27	28 Euchre
29	30	31				

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 Superbowl Party	6	7	8	9 General meeting	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 12 th Annual Tackle Swap
19	20 Family Day Ice fishing derby	21	22	23 Youth Committee meeting & Executive meeting	24	25 Euchre
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 2016 - 2017**

**Executive
President**

Stan Gibbs	519-668-2609
1st Vice President	
Andre Koch	519-685-5725
2nd Vice President	
Brian Ernteman	519-453-3641
Secretary	
Teresa Couture	519-668-6257
Treasurer	
Steve Couture	519-668-6257

Directors

Mary Degan	519-438-8104
Lawrence Lainchbury	519-681-7199

Past President

John Manvell	519-455-3627
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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
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
Brian Ernteman	519-453-3641
Lawrence Lainchbury	519-681-7199
Howard Pearcey	226-224-6605
Bert Smit	519-472-5624
Gord Spotton	519-439-9450

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair)	519-668-2609
Brian Allen	519-668-1908
Rod Cameron	519-685-1377
Brian Ernteman	519-453-3641
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

Tom & Shirley McGill	519-652-2875
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Boat Rack

Don Colborne	519-686-9559
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Membership

Valerie Grahl	519-453-0659
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Newsletter

Teresa Couture	519-668-6257
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Fundraising

Andre Koch	519-685-5725
Steve Couture	519-668-6257

Youth Committee (Adult Mentors)

Jeanette Jurasek (Chair)	519-685-0237
Brian Ernteman	519-453-3641
Autumn Ernteman	519-453-3641
Anne Jurasek	519-685-0237
Andre Koch	519-685-5725

Club Merchandise

Andre Koch	519-685-5725
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Website Administrator and Public Relations

Lawrence Lainchbury	519-681-7199
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Political & Environmental Research

Steve & Teresa Couture	519-668-6257
Stan Gibbs	519-668-2609
Lawrence Lainchbury	519-681-7199

Club Caretakers

Ray and Barb Smith	519-681-2370
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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 Executive meeting and questions and comments are always welcome. If you wish to receive a copy of the full report, please attend this meeting.



Smoking is not permitted within 5 metres of all club entrances. Smokers are asked to use the containers provided for cigarette butt disposal.

**INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP DUES
EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2017**

The Executive has decided that a nominal increase in membership dues is warranted due to the rising costs of operating and maintaining WOF & GPA.

An increase of \$ 5.00 will come into effect for all membership types that come due as of March 1, 2017 (even if you pay your dues in February). The Boat Rack fee will increase by \$ 15.00 per year.

The new rates (as of March 1, 2017) are:

Family Membership	\$ 150.00
Single Membership	\$ 130.00
Senior Membership	\$ 125.00
Boat Rack	\$ 50.00

There will not be any changes in membership dues for Youth or for a Sponsored Child.

**CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION AND
MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

In order to remain a valid member in good standing please attend the club on the 2nd or 4th Thursday of the month to pay your membership dues, preferably at 7:00 pm (just before the scheduled meeting). Any payments that are mailed or left at the club will not be accepted and will be returned to you. If you are unable to attend the club to pay your dues on either of these dates, special arrangements for payment can be made only by contacting the Membership Chair, Val Grahl.

Please send any changes in mailing address, email or phone number to Val Grahl.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

How Time Flies!

I hope you all had a very merry Christmas and enjoyed some special family moments.

I'm sure that most of you have already heard that our Christmas tree lot was another successful fund raising venture. I know that Don will have a full report, so I won't go into all the particulars except to say thanks to all who helped.

It seems such a short time ago we were ushering in the year 2016. Now with 2017 just starting we can look back on the past year and reflect.

Over the past twelve months, there have been many improvements and up-grades to our facility; we have enjoyed multiple social events, participated in political processes to promote conservation, and hopefully you took the time to enjoy our pond and grounds. We have new caretakers that are doing a great job, and a pool of fabulous volunteers that make doing work around the club cost effective and most enjoyable.

I am looking forward to another great year at the Western Ontario Fish & Game Club, with all that it has to offer.

From my Family to Yours
Have a Happy and Healthy 2017

Stan Gibbs

**ELECTIONS
THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2017
7:30 PM**

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive Elections for the 2017-2018 term will be held on Thursday, March 9, 2017 at 7:30 pm.

Note:

- All positions will be for a one-year period, covering March 9, 2017 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2018.
- Nomination letters may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 8, 2017, in a sealed envelope addressed to -
 - Teresa Couture
 - Secretary – WOF&GPARE: Election Nomination
- All nominated members must be present on election night to accept their nomination OR provide a written acceptance delivered to Teresa Couture (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.

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.

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?" 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.

Congratulations to Hermann and Patti Szielasko as they celebrate 50 years of marriage.

Our condolences are sent to Adam Mohammed and his family after the passing of his father in early December.

Our hopes for healthier days in 2017 go out to: Tom McGill, Brian Logie, Ted Henderson and Gary Carew.

THANK YOU

At this time, WOFGPA would like to thank all who assisted in making this Christmas possible for the two families that WOFGPA sponsored through Salvation Army. Your donations of non-perishable items, gifts and money were appreciated.

A special thank you for Cindy Gibbs, who spent many hours shopping for food and gifts and then wrapping the gifts to be delivered to the sponsored families by Salvation Army.

ANNUAL FREE MEMBERSHIP DRAW

Remember that at each General Meeting you attend, with the exception of the meeting in the month you renew your membership, you will get one 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.

The winner of the December monthly meeting draw was Julie Thursby. Congratulations Julie!

CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

The Youth Committee wishes to thank everyone who donated baked goods to our Bake Sale on Dec. 10. It was a huge success and we are very thankful for the support.

Youth Committee

CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST

Thank you to all the volunteers who assisted with the Breakfast with Santa. Almost eighty breakfasts were served to the guests before they shopped for baked goods at the Bake Sale or headed out to the tree lot to pick that "special" tree.

Thank you to Santa "Tony" and Elf "Mary. As usual, you are always a big hit with the children.

ANNUAL TURKEY ROLL

The winners of the Turkeys were: Al Saunders, George Cammaert (x2), Hermann Szielasko, Tony Dukic, Len Greenwell, Janice Colborne. Thank you to Lou Liberatore who donated his turkey back to the club to be redrawn. Thank you to George Cammaert who donated one of his turkeys to the larger family that was sponsored by WOFGPA through Salvation Army.

The winners of the hams were: George Cammaert, George Maudsley and Ron Dennis.

The winners of the door prizes were: Dianne Waite and Don Turner.

Thank you to the volunteers who assisted with this evening.

CLUB MERCHANDISE

NEW ITEMS – "Wick-away" navy golf shirt and "camouflaged" ball cap, embroidered with orange "WOFGPA" - cost \$28 and \$20, respectively.

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

Current selection includes larger sized hoodies and T-shirts (sizes XL to XXXL). The embroidered "bucket" hats can be purchased for only \$15.00 each.

Lined jackets with an embroidered club crest and your name are available as custom orders only.

Andre Koch can be reached at home by phone and is present at club meetings and functions.

AS GOOD AS EVER CHRISTMAS TREE AND WREATH SALES 2016

Ball Park figures for this year show over 119 volunteers donated over 1400 hours to our tree and wreath manufacture and sales. I don't have the exact figures for the number of volunteers and hours that Herman and his group spent before and during the sale period but I know they were preparing well before our sale start on Nov 26th.

Sixteen days later, on Dec 11th we were sold out. In those 16 days, 1000 beautiful Christmas trees and over 100 immaculate wreaths, swags and mini trees left with happy customers. Near the end there was a miss count of our trees where we thought we were short 20 or 30, but this was not the case in the final count. This was the earliest date we have ever sold out, primarily due to an early start on Nov 26th. It matches last year's 16 day sale which ended Dec 13th. It seems that our customers are catching on to coming early when there is plenty to pick from. I overheard one of our customers comment that he will come Nov 30th next year to beat the rush and have more choice.

I'm sure most people around the trailer have heard Brian and I mumbling about how hard it is to get enough volunteers to adequately cover all the shifts. Granted some shifts are actually overloaded but most are not. In spite of our mumbling, our great group of volunteers seem to 'ged 'r done'. Special thanks to several of our members who volunteer 30 to 50 hours of their valuable time to fill in when needed. My personal thanks also to Brian Ernteman for his super help with phone calls and scheduling again this year and all who helped to make this fund raiser such a success. Indeed, thanks to all the executive who support and put so much effort into making this fund raiser a success.

Last but not least a special thanks to all the partners who support our volunteers from the home front. And another special thanks for all the treats to the trailer. Cookies, doughnuts candies, oranges, chocolates and more cookies and coffee were so much appreciated by everyone.

Happy New Year and all the best for you and yours in 2017

Don Colborne

12th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP

DATE: Sat. Feb. 18, 2017
TIME: Doors open at 9:00 am until 1:00 pm
LOCATION: WOFGPA Club hall
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 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

A NIGHT OF EUCHRE

The next Euchre will be on Saturday, January 28, 2017. The games start at 7:00 pm SHARP and the doors open at 6:00 pm to allow the card players to socialize before the games begin. The cost is only \$ 5.00 per player and you do not need to have a partner when you arrive. The games are open to both members and non-members.

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

If you are interested in hosting a Euchre night, please speak with Teresa Couture. Hosts are needed for 2017.

SUPERBOWL "LI" PARTY Sun. February 5, 2017

The Superbowl "LI" festivities will start at 4:00 pm, although game kickoff is at 6:00 pm.

There will be lots of food, raffled items and door prizes throughout the evening.

Please speak with Andre Koch to obtain your advance ticket for only \$ 25.00 each.

Tickets are on sale now so don't delay and miss out on the 51st year of Superbowl celebrations.

FAMILY DAY ICE FISHING DERBY Mon. Feb. 20, 2017 (Family Day Statutory holiday)

What better way to spend "Family Day" than entering an Ice Fishing Derby at WOFGPA! This derby is sponsored in conjunction with Angling Sports.

Registration cost of \$ 10.00 per angler includes: ice fishing, hot lunch and prizes. Pre-registration and payment is mandatory and is limited to 100 anglers.

Pre-registration may be done at either:

- Angling Sports in London (located on Highbury Ave, just south of Dundas St) during normal business hours
- or at a WOFGPA function or prior to the start of a meeting.

Don't delay and miss out on this limited entry event.

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 by the caretaker or any member to immediately stop fishing. Non-members caught fishing on club property could be charged with trespassing and poaching.

JIGG'S DINNER Sat. March 18, 2017

Come out for a great meal of corned beef and cabbage, roast beef, potatoes and veggies, salads and relish trays, dessert and coffee.

Tickets are available for \$ 15.00 each. Don't delay as this dinner is usually sold out.

Please see Teresa Couture at all meetings and functions to get yours.

DANGER – THIN ICE

December weather means a drop in the daily temperature and we know that soon, the ice will form on the pond. Please stay on the docks to fish until the ice has completely formed and is at least 10 cm. (about 4 inches) thick.

A windmill has been installed to aerate the water. If ice forms, it will be thin. Please keep clear of the windmill platform as the area around it 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 on leash and under direct control of their owners.

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. 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

As the date of each event gets closer, the details of the function, including the contact person, will be printed in the newsletter and posted on the Bulletin Boards at the club and on the club website, www.wofgpa. Be an active member and not just a "name" on a committee.

Thurs. Jan. 12	General Meeting
Thurs. Jan. 26	Youth Committee meeting & Executive meeting
Sat. Jan. 28	Euchre
Sun. Feb. 5	Superbowl LI party
Thurs. Feb. 9	General meeting
Sat. Feb. 18	Annual Tackle Swap
Mon. Feb. 20	Family Day (Statutory holiday)
Thurs. Feb. 23	Youth Committee Meeting & Executive meeting
Sat. Feb. 25	Euchre
Thurs. Mar. 9	General meeting & Elections
Sat. Mar. 18	Jigg's Dinner
Thurs. Mar. 23	Youth Committee meeting
	Executive meeting
Sat. Mar. 25	Euchre

Helping out is also a great way for the new members to meet others in a relaxed and friendly setting when they aren't fishing.

<p>George Bray Sports Association Inc.</p> <p><i>A Hockey Program for Children with Special Learning Needs A Parent Participating Non-Profit Organization</i></p> <p>Murray Howard, President Email: murrayhoward@execulink.com</p> <p>Serving the Community since 1968</p>	<p>My Handyman Bo</p> <p>No job is too small, Call for a free estimate</p> <p>Bo Grahl 519-453-0659</p> <p>Bo can do many tasks in and around your home. Did I mention computer repairs too?</p>	<p>YOUR AD PLACED HERE COULD REACH OVER 225 WOFGPA MEMBERS AND FAMILIES EACH MONTH</p>
<p>THE CLUB HALL IS AVAILABLE FOR REASONABLY PRICED AFTERNOON OR EVENING RENTALS. FOR DETAILS, CALL THE CLUB AT 519-681-2370</p>	<p>DRUM LESSONS</p> <p>Learn to play drums in a family friendly atmosphere.</p> <p>For details contact Nick at 226-289-3082</p> <p>Nicholaswalker88@gamil.com</p> <p>www.facebook.com/NW_percussion</p>	<p>Foster Automotive Repair Ltd.</p> <p>All Major & Minor Repairs Class "A" Mechanic</p>  <p>Rick Foster 519-452-3511</p>
<p>5/0 Sports</p> <p>Supplier of Dobyys rods, NUMA Optics and a wide range of lures and many other fishing needs</p> <p>Visit the website at sales@5aught.ca</p> <p>Brad Arnold (BA) 519-777-8535</p>	<p>JOHN'S FLY MATERIALS London</p> <p>Phone John at 519-645-0932</p> <p>Fly tying materials Fly Fish tackle & Rod building supplies</p> <p>www.johnsflymaterials.com</p>	<p>ANGLING SPORTS</p> <p>681 Highbury Ave North @ Dundas Street</p> <p>519-649-7429</p> <p>Pat DeVincenzo Owner</p> <p><i>"Your full service tackle shop"</i></p>
<p>Custom furniture making and refinishing</p> <p>Mark Steckle 519-474-6848</p> <p>Visit the on-line gallery at www.custom-wood.net</p>	<p>THIS SPACE IS WAITING FOR YOUR BUSINESS AD</p>	<p>Lambeth Rod & Tackle Ltd.</p> <p>2404 Main Street London, ON N6P 1R2</p> <p>Steve Plaskett 519-652-5598</p> <p>For your license and all other fishing needs</p>