

JANUARY 2020



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

January

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

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 GBSA Pond Hockey	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 General Meeting	14 Valentine's Day	15
16	17 Family Day Ice Derby	18	19	20	21	22 Tackle Swap & Euchre
23	24	25	26	27 Executive Meeting	28	29 Leap Year

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

**Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association
Executive & Committees for 2019 - 2020**

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 Grahl 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

Tim Lindsay 519-668-2272

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 Grahl 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.

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. The bake sale did really well, all the goodies were donated. We have some really talented bakers in our group.

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 a boat load of food and toys for the Salvation Army Hamper Program. The Salvation Army volunteers replied that they had all kinds of vehicles filled but they had never seen a boat used. All of those folks that donated items, I thank you.



Delivering a "boatload" of toys, food and clothing to Salvation Army Hamper Program.

Left to Right: Ron Dennis, Marco Liberatore (1st VP), Stan Gibbs (President), Dave Jeffries and Murray Lane.



Loading the "boatload" of donations for delivery to Salvation Army Hamper Program.

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

Yours in Conservation
Stan Gibbs

CHRISTMAS TREE LOT SUMMARY

First, a bit of history on our club's Christmas tree sales. My records only go back to 1996, however I am told that prior to that date a group of volunteers actually got a truck and harvested about 100 and 200 trees in previous years to raise some cash for the club. Needless to say, they found it very labor intensive and few were enthusiastic to continue with their own harvesting.

In 1996 where my records start, we bought 450 trees. Only 384 were sold, 12 were donated via radio announcement and 65 were junked. Even so, a profit of over \$1500 was realized. Certainly, enough to encourage the Executive to continue yearly sales and keep our membership dues as low as possible. 48 volunteers made this happen in 1996 and tree sales became an annual event.

This year, although the final figures aren't available yet, approximately 120 volunteers spent over 1500 hours making about 130 wreaths and selling all but 9 of our 950 trees.

This was a bit of a reduction from the last few years. Our supplier explains that trees are very scarce now and will be for the next few years until their crop matures. This problem is with most if not all suppliers, at the price we prefer to pay. We are already warned that the prices will continue to go up for the next few years. Point of interest . . . a recent news article cited the average Christmas tree now costs \$78 in larger cities. So far, we are able to hold our prices reasonable and keep our customers coming back.

This year things got underway with the tree lot setup on Saturday Nov 16th and (very late) arrival of the transport on Monday Nov 18th. Sales started on Saturday Nov 23rd and last tree sold Friday Dec 13th. Three weeks to the day.

I really can't say enough to thank all our volunteers for both the sales efforts and those who worked long and hard on the wreaths. Beautiful again this year by the way! It was most encouraging to see some new volunteers come out this year. I'm sure you all enjoyed the time you spent with many of your fellow members and longtime volunteers.

Volunteering. Getting involved. Helping out. These make the difference from being "a real club member" or being "just a club member". If you spent productive time on our Christmas tree and wreath project, this was your financial contribution to support the activities and operational costs of your club.

A sincere thanks to everyone who treated with cookies, snacks and all things good. Also, to all the Executive team for their unheralded background work and support throughout. Last but not least a big thank you to all the partners taking care of the home front while our volunteers are at the club. Your contribution must never be underestimated.

Trusting everyone will enjoy the year to come and you'll be available to do it all again next season.

On behalf of my wife, Marian and George and Shirley Maudsley.

Happy New Year
Don Colborne

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

In order to pay your membership dues, you must attend the club at 7:00 pm (just before the scheduled meeting) in order to remain a valid member in good standing. 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, a friend or family member should bring your annual dues to the club at the designated time. Special arrangements for payment can be made only through the Membership Chair, Val Grahl.

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

If you choose to rejoin the club, your name will be added to the waiting list which is currently has over 200 names on it and a 4-year wait.

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

Our heartfelt condolences to Shirley Young after the passing of her husband, Don Finch, in early December. Don's son, Wesley Finch is also a club member and mourns the loss of his father.

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.

ANNUAL TURKEY ROLL

On Thurs., Dec. 12, following a shortened General Meeting, the club held its Annual Turkey Roll. What a great turnout of members, their family and friends.

The winners of the evening were:

Turkeys:

Mary Degan, Wanda Saunders, Joanne Feere, Ed Yamamoto, Larry Holtzman, Bill Van de Wetering, Adam Mohammed, Tim Locke, Bob Smale, Cora Thompson

Hams: Mike Steele, Angela Liberatore, Enoch Greenwell

Door Prizes: Teresa Couture, Ruth Fredette, Henry Van Eerdewijk, Larry Holtzman, Geoff Bradley, Al Saunders, Adam Mohammed, Angela Liberatore, Brian Allen

Draw Winners:

Ring – Al Saunders

Pendant – Wes Lovell

Farm Boy Gift Basket – Steve Gaebel

Congratulations to all winners. Thank you to all the volunteers who made this evening such a resounding success.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

On Sat., Dec. 14th, the club hosted a great club cooked breakfast. Thank you to all the volunteers who assisted throughout the morning. When Santa "Tim" gave the children their goody bag, he also gave them a gift which was donated by a couple of members.



Santa "Tim" arrives on time

CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

The club's Annual Bake Sale was held during the Breakfast with Santa.

Thank you to all those who donated samplings of baked goods and made this bake sale one of the best yet. A special thank you to Jeanette Jurasek for her continuing tireless efforts in overseeing the bake sale.

The winner of the cake donated by Katie Gibbs was Andre Koch.

ONTARIO HUNTER EDUCATION & BOW-HUNTING COURSES

Emad Hazboun teaches these courses for a very reasonable cost. He offers 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 e-mail at emadhaz@heafs.com or visit his website www.heafs.com

EUCHRE RESUMES

Euchre will resume on Sat., Jan. 25th.

Progressive euchre is a fun filled evening with good company, good cards and a lot of laughter. The games are open to both members and the public. You do not need to have a partner or a foursome to play. 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.

The doors open at 6:00 pm with the games starting at 7:00 pm sharp. The cost is only \$ 5.00 per player and is open to the public.

If you are interested in hosting a Euchre night on the fourth Saturday of the month, please speak with Teresa Couture for details. When you host an evening, one of the Executive will be present. Hosts are desperately needed to host an evening throughout the season.

ELECTIONS
THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2020
7:30 PM

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive Elections for the 2020 - 2021 term will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 7:30 pm.

Note:

- All positions will be for a one-year period, covering March 12, 2020 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2021.
- Nomination letters may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 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 Teresa Couture (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.

14th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP

DATE: Sat. Feb. 22, 2020
TIME: Doors open at 9:00 am until 1:00 pm
LOCATION: WOF&GPA 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

Ice has started to form on the pond and is unsafe to support weight. Please stay on the docks to fish until the ice has completely formed and is at least 10 cm. thick.

Please close the gates to all docks to keep the geese from venturing onto the property.

The ice around the windmill will always be unsafe due to aeration stones which are marked with buoys. Keep well away from the windmill area.

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 often best to leave your pet at home.

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 are 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.

An ice rink will be made near the main dock when ice conditions permit. Ice fishing is not permitted with 15 m of this rink.

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.

HALL RENTALS

Did you know that the WOF&GPA 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 evening only.

Please contact the club caretaker, Barb at 519-681-2370 to discuss the amenities and low rental rates and availability of the hall. The club hall is **not** available for Stag and Doe or "engagement" parties or outdoor weddings.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thurs. Jan. 9	General Meeting
Thurs. Jan. 23	Executive Meeting
Sat., Jan. 25	Euchre
Sun. Feb. 2	GBSA Pond Hockey
Thurs. Feb. 13	General Meeting
Mon. Feb 17	Family Day Ice derby – ice permitting
Sat. Feb. 22	Tackle Swap
	Euchre
Thurs. Feb. 27	Executive Meeting
Sat. Feb 29	Leap Year
Thurs. March 12	General Meeting and Elections
Sat. March 14	Spring Fling – Silent Auction and Dance
Thurs, March 26	Executive Meeting
Sat. March 28	Euchre



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