

MAY 2025



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

May

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

June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Yard Sale
8	9	10	11	12 General Meeting & BBQ Meat Draw	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Executive Meeting	27	28 Friends & Family Day – 150 th Anniversary
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 2025 - 2026**

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

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Vito LoRusso 519-857-8240

Past President

John Manvell 519-455-3627

Committees

Entertainment

Jeanette Jurasek (Chair) 519-685-0237

Teresa Couture 226-224-6351

Mary Degan 519-438-8104

Valerie Grahl 519-453-0659

Darlene Keating 519-857-8915

Angela Liberatore 519-680-1222

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

Larry Hackman 519-657-5161

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

Vito Lorusso 519-471-2114

Ken Mayer 519-808-0525

Jeff Murphy 519- 870-0049

Steve Robertson 519-872-4671

Frank Stepien 519-671-2334

Henry Van Eerdewijk 519-432-4239

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-709-9413

Brian Allen 519-668-1908

Ron Dennis

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Steve Robertson 519-872-4671

Bob Thursby 519-473-5506

Welfare

Teresa Couture 226-224-6351

Boat Rack

Don Colborne 519-686-9559

Membership

Valerie Grahl 519-453-0659

Newsletter

Teresa Couture 226-224-6351

Merchandise

Marco & Angela Liberatore 519-680-1222

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

Let's Celebrate

In our last newsletter, there was mention of two separate events we are planning this summer to celebrate our 150th Anniversary. The first one in June is geared towards the youth in our club, there will be many activities to take part in and enjoy. This totally free event includes all events and food.

The second event will be held in August. This event is for the adults, there will be a dedication ceremony, food, refreshments, 4 different musical groups, and a Bucket Bonanza. Again, this event is totally free.

Please note that both events have preregistration with a cutoff date. Get your name on one or both lists and help us celebrate our milestone.

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.

Good wishes are with Cora Thompson and Joe Isenor as they recover.

Our heartfelt condolences to Deb Freele and her family after the passing of her husband Bill.

POST ELECTION DINNER Sat. April 5

The post-election dinner was a success. A great meal was accompanied by good friends and lots of laughter.

The winners of the prizes were: Ron Bonasia, Gord Spotton, Bo Grahl, and Joe Ruscio.

Rita Bonasio won \$ 90.00 in the 50/50 draw

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

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

There seems to be confusion as to the grace period permitted to pay dues. If your renewal date on your renewal notice is May 1, 2025, then your membership period ran from May 1, 2024 through April 30, 2025. Your membership will lapse at the end of May 2025, 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.

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

If you need special consideration regarding payment of dues, contact Val Grahl before your membership lapses. If you must pay dues, please attend prior to the General or Executive meeting each month, held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. 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.



Stan Gibbs and Lawrence Lainchbury stocking the pond

SPRING TROUT DERBY April 13

It was a beautiful day for all the anglers who came out. A total of 68 adults, 6 youths caught a total of 130 Trout.

The winners of the derby were:

Adult Division

1 st	Adam Russolo	128.5cm
2 nd	Ethen Bilodeau	124.5cm
3 rd	Marco Dariano	124cm

Marco also caught one of the tagged trout for which he received a 150th long sleeve T Shirt



Marco Dariano – Tagged fish

Youth Division

1 st	Jace Huber	117.5cm
2 nd	Ty McMillian	114cm
3 rd	Drew Henry	42cm



Jace Huber – 1st pl Youth

50/50 Brian Allen \$ 125.00



Our caretaker, Ray Smith proudly shows his Trout lunch

LADIES ONLY DERBY Sat., May 10th

Members are NOT allowed to fish on the morning of a derby, including before the derby starts.

After the derby ends, members may fish with their daily catch limit determined by your membership type.

REGISTER: 7:30 am until 9:00 am

DERBY: runs from 8:00 am until 12:00 noon

COST: \$ 25.00 Members & Non-members
 \$ 15.00 Girls (age 12 and under)
 \$ 8.00 Gentleman's lunch

The rules will be provided at the time of registration. The men are allowed to assist the ladies by helping her with the line should it become tangled or hooked, netting their fish, boat driving and making "Timmies runs". Men must not cast out or bring Trout in.

Volunteers are needed to assist throughout the morning and at lunch. If you are able to help, please contact Stan Gibbs as soon as possible.

ANNUAL YARD SALE Sat. June 7th 8:00 start (Rain or shine)

It is time to gather all unwanted items and make a few dollars at the club's annual yard sale. You might even pick up a bargain or two yourself.

Tables are \$ 10 each and can be reserved by contacting Val Grahl. The cutoff for a table is May 22nd.BBQ

MEAT DRAW
Thurs., June 12th
(Following a short General meeting)

The format is the same as the Turkey Roll in December. There are 10 BBQ meat packages portioned for 1 – 2 persons.

Door prizes, 50 / 50 draw.

FISHING LEAGUE

How it works: We meet at the club on Tuesday nights and be ready to fish at 5pm. This starts on the first Tuesday after our Spring Trout Derby, and concludes on the Tuesday before our Fall Trout Derby.

Attendance is not mandatory. Each Tuesday, we assign five different species of fish to target. All anglers pay \$2.00 per night to fish, with half the proceeds going to the angler with the most points that night, and the other half goes into a fund for the Angler of the Year Award. Points are also acquired if you finish 1st, 2nd or 3rd in any of our derbies that we run

SAVE THE DATE

Our club, the Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association is celebrating 150 years this year.

We have some exciting events coming so mark your calendars. Full details will follow in the newsletter and on the website as the date of the event gets closer.

June 28th – Family and Friends Day (pre-register mandatory by June 12th.)

This free event will run from 11 till 4 pm and is open to club members, their families and guests. It will be a fun filled day with games, BBQ, cotton candy and popcorn, bouncy castle, temporary tattoos and many groups coming with displays.

Pre-registration is required. Please contact Val Grahl to confirm how many people will be attending.

Aug. 23rd – Adults Only Event (pre-register by Aug. 5th). This event is limited to the primary member and one guest only (no children)

This event will begin with dignitaries coming to help WOFGPA acknowledge the 150th anniversary and to bury a time capsule. The dignitaries will include representatives from MP's office, Mayor's office, news, MNRF, London Police Services and London Fire Department, affiliated clubs and organizations. There will be a catered dinner, music from Tom Carriere and friends and will end with a Silent Auction Bonanza.

Make sure that you pre-register by Thurs. August 5th by contacting Val Grahl.

CLUB MERCHANDISE

The club is now loaded with plenty of new swag for its members, family and friends. This is the club's 150th anniversary so come and get your collectable swag.

Blue zippered hoodies	\$ 55
Blue sweaters	\$ 30
Blue, long sleeved T-shirts	\$ 30
Blue, short sleeved t-shirts	\$ 20
Blue Hoodies	\$ 40
Ball caps	\$ 15 - \$ 35
Winter Toques	\$ 15

Some items can be custom ordered such as jackets with name for an additional cost. Please see Marco or Angela Liberatore at any meeting or function.

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. 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. 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 get discounted rates on Friday and Saturday evening rentals and not on hourly rate rentals.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Details of these functions will be posted on the club website, the bulletin boards and in the newsletter. Please check these locations frequently.

The event calendar for the 2025 – 2026 year is now available and posted on the club website www.wofgpa.org.

Thurs. May 8	General Meeting
Sat May 10	Ladies Only Derby
Sun May 11	Mothers Day
Mon May 19	Victoria Day
Thurs May 22	Executive Meeting
Sat., June 7	Yard Sale
Thurs, June 12	General Meeting & BBQ
	Meat Draw
Sun. June 15	Father's Day
Thurs. June 26	Executive Meeting
Sat. June 28	Friends and Family 150 th Celebration (pre-register by June 12 th)
Tues, July 1	Canada Day
Sat, July 5	Bass Derby
Thurs, July 24	Executive Meeting
Mon, Aug 4	Civic holiday
Thurs, Aug 21	Executive Meeting
Sat., Aug 23	150 th Adult Only event

Be an active member of WOF & GPA and reap the all the benefits this club has to offer and be not just a "name" on a committee list. Volunteers with a common purpose are the core reason why the club has existed for nearly 150 years.



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