



BRUCE PENINSULA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOC.

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FEBRUARY 2015 NEWS AND VIEWS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Meetings are the last Thursday of the Month at 7:30 p.m. The Clubhouse is off Old Oliphant Road on Northacres road and off County Road 13 in Wiarton. Next meeting, Feb 26th, 2015. Your participation is welcome and anticipated. Editors Jim Martell 519-534-2502 or e-mail bpsportsmen@gmail.com or Kat at rkmcc@gbtel.ca

BPSA expanded its participation this year in the Wiarton Willie Festival

Two Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association archery instructors hosted a well-attended demonstration of their sport at Bluewater Park. Says archery paralympian Karen Van Nest "Archery at the Wiarton Willie Festival on Saturday January 31st was a huge hit. Kids and adults lined up for four hours to try archery under the pavilion. We had about 120 kids and 20 adults shooting recurve bows from 10am till noon and again from 1 till 3pm. It was cold, but the smiles on the children's faces made braving the bitter conditions worthwhile. We are looking forward to seeing more smiling faces shooting archery at the clubhouse on family day."



Nearby, BPSA set up an ice fishing display and handed out hot chocolate and hot dogs. Visitors had the option of roasting their own dogs by a very welcoming bonfire, or enjoying pre-heated steamies. BPSA members who set

up the display and hosted this event were Jerry and Marje Beaver, Wayne and Annette Musselman, Jim and Martha Martell and BPSA Fish Committee Chair Dennis Morrison. Prizes donated by Home Hardware Stores Ltd. were won by: Steve Schroeder, a \$25.00 Gift Card, Blake Davis of Wiarton and Alec Hunter of Toronto won Ice Fishing Rods & Reels.





Jerrold Beech of Paisley who made knives out of animal bones, jaws etc.



BPSA Fish Committee Chair Dennis Morrison gets the "willie" spirit at Bluewater Park.

At a third location in the park, BPSA teamed up with the Sydenham Sportsmen for a bird house and bird seed giveaway. The feeder project is designed to remind youngsters of the wonders of nature. This year 100 feeders were handed out. BPSA members involved were Don Elliott, Ed Elliott, Eric Plein, Gord Smith and Jim Martell. And from the Sydenham Club Ron Robb, Shane Ruther, John Morneau, Dave Hartrick, Bob Hunt, and John Ford.

Sponsors supporting this two club effort included, Don Elliott Firewood, Home Hardware Head Office, and seed supplier Doug Gilkinson of Bayshore Country Feeds Owen Sound. Membership in both conservation groups totals more than 900 people. Both clubs are dedicated to preserving and enhancing fish and wildlife in Grey-Bruce.



Brit Twigger and Alexis West excited about their new bird feeder

BPSA "News and Views" Monthly Bulletin January 2015

Monthly BPSA minutes January 2015 The regular monthly meeting was held on Thursday January 29, 2015 with 21 members present. The Club President Jim Martell asked if the November 2014 meeting minutes had any errors or omissions as posted in the News and Views Bulletin. A motion to adopt the minutes of the November meeting by Al Hunter seconded by Stu Paterson carried.

Guest Speaker -

Craig Todd a 22 year veteran from the MNRF gave an overview of his experience with the MNRF, some of the major changes in funding, since 1995 when their budgets were cut in half to today's budgets which improved by \$40 mil this year. He explained that they have or are in the process of increasing personal levels by 295. This means that they will be able to get out of the office and into the field. The MNRF is responsible for implementation and enforcement of 50 statutes and interface with Federal, Provincial, and regional Governments. Much of their work includes working with and supporting many other Local and Canada wide Conservation organizations such as BPSA, Ducks Unlimited, Conservancies, etc. Todd can be reach by Email at craig.todd@ontario.ca

New Members / Guests- Doug Murdock

Correspondence -

Many inter personal BPSA communications to numerous for the time available at the meeting.

Treasury - Mel Urbshott - November-January

Roy Hamilton Memorial Severe

Winter Deer Feeding Fund	\$ 3576
Receipts	\$ 9553
Expenses	\$ 4517
Ways and Means balance	\$ 1158

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report by Dave Morton seconded by Marg Beaver carried.

Membership - Forbes Symon: fpsymon@sympatico.ca tel 519 534 1726

Memberships can be dropped of at 363 Hunter Street or the BDO office 360 Berford Street

Adults: 19 Family 17 Youth Total 36

Just a reminder to send in your 2015 dues.

Committee Reports and Discussions

Archery: Karen Van Nest- tel. 519.378.3339 Email kvn_ca@yahoo.com n/r

- The Tuesday indoor shoots will shut down for most weeks during the two coldest months in the winter

Bulletin - Phil Henderson

Phil had mailed out 47 November bulletins.

Phil will be taking a job in the West managing an arena and will not be available until about the end of April. He is going to see if Community Living will be able to handle the stuffing and mailing of the bulletins. Phil and Karen will be involved in many competition shoots in the summer and fall, so we need someone to look after the bulletin.

Web Site: Kat McCulloch n/r

- All members are encouraged to continue forwarding information and pictures of club activities to Kat.

Fish Committee-Hatchery: Ray Marklevitz / Gord Smith

- Bruce Mallard needs volunteers to feed the fish in the hatchery. If you can help, please call him at 519 534-1274. THIS FUNCTION IS REALY IMPORTANT AND WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!! Students feeding the fish is a great way to contribute towards achieving their 40 hours of community service work, required for high school graduation. The students however must be a BPSA member or accompanied by a BPSA member.
- The Brown Trout eggs received in December were from first year breeding stock. The eggs were very small and of poor quality, consequently only 3 to 4 thousand hatched. This was also a problem with other volunteer hatcheries. The MNRF were contacted and BPSA received, in January, 26 thousand new eggs from 5 year old breeding stock. These eggs look good.
- Currently on hand in the hatchery are 30,000 Rainbow Trout. They will be fin clipped in March.
- Water flow is currently 20 gpm..
- Fay Welsh gave BPSA through Ray 2 complete rod and reel down rigger fishing poles that were her deceased husband Paul's. BPSA will have a silent auction of these rods for anyone interested. Sealed bids marked ROD AUCTION can be mailed to the club, or handed in at the February or March meetings, or the April awards presentation on April 4th , at which time the successful bidder will be announced.
- Dennis will send out an Email and contact the Fish Committee suggesting that a succession planning program be developed for the hatchery manager and the assistant manager positions. Anyone that would like to actively participate in handling either of these functions and is not contacted by Dennis should contact him.
- The pending loss of the BPSA property tax exception, estimated at approximately \$4.5 thousand, in 2015 presents a huge financial burden over and above almost \$10 thousand annually that it costs to run the hatchery. Applications for supplemental funding from the LCOB \$4.5 and OFAH \$5.5 thousand have been initiated.

Fish Management Zones-13 Lake Huron-14 Georgian Bay

Stewardship Councils: Dennis Morrison

- Dennis attended the FMZ meeting November 29th in Sudbury. The main topic at the meeting was the Walleye Management Plan for Lake Huron and Georgian Bay. A study of the 15 major spawning areas showed that 6 areas have suffered from extensive over fishing and some such as the Nottawasaga River has been completely eliminated.
- Dennis's canvass of the 41 community hatcheries regarding the length, number of years, that their operating license is valid for showed that 28 hatcheries had licenses for from 2 to 5 years; however all licenses in the Midhurst district were for only 1 year. He suggested that all hatcheries should have multi year licenses and that the MNR should have a standard electronically available license format that would eliminate a whole bunch of paper work, save time for the MNR and hatchery managers and ensure that licenses are completed on time.

Handgun Club: Al Hunter

- Handgun rim fire shooting is Monday and Wednesday's at 7pm. And center fire on Wednesday afternoons.
- Competition Team 1 is doing great and Team 2 is lower than last year.

Youth Winter Programs January-April:

Firearms-Rob and Krista Quesnel 519-935-2444

- The winter program started January 11, 2015 at 1pm. and will run every other week. Last week there were 12 juniors out on the range and the hand gun club had 10 range masters.

Archery-Karen Van Nest and Phil Henderson 5193783339
Volunteer replacement required for 2015

Native Affairs: n/r

O.F.A.H.: Stu Paterson

1. In early January more than 100 people attended the OFAH sponsored coyote workshop in Elmwood.

We learned at the meeting coyotes remain a problem for farmers.



Jim Magee of the OFAH told the meeting if a pack is eliminated from one area, another pack will likely move in. He says bounties don't usually work, but if

you target educated "livestock killing" animals, that will help control the problem. Problem coyotes cost taxpayers. When a newborn calf is killed the farmer gets 70 per cent of the value of the animal.

2. The OFAH welcomes the news that for the first time in 13 years, you can now legally catch and keep lake herring (cisco) from Lake Simcoe.



Lake herring populations are way up so the Natural Resources and Forestry Ministry has re-opened the fishery on Simcoe. Anglers have been anxiously awaiting the opportunity, said Matt DeMille, OFAH manager of fish and wildlife. "This is something our members have wanted for many years. It has taken patience and persistence to achieve, but, in the end it is an excellent example of collaboration with stakeholders to provide increased fishing opportunities for federation members and the entire angling community," DeMille said.

Lake Simcoe is the fourth largest inland lake in the province. In past decades, the lake has faced environmental issues leading to poor water quality and degraded coldwater habitat.

The ministry closed the lake herring season on Simcoe in 2001 as the population was in steady decline. Government and non-government groups came together to improve the water quality by advancing sewage treatments, restricting livestock from tributaries and reducing soil erosion and urban runoff. Slowly, fisheries data started showing a steady increase in lake herring numbers. The federation and other members of the Lake Simcoe Fisheries Stakeholder Committee asked the ministry to collect the necessary data to determine if an open lake herring fishery could be sustainable. Although hesitant in the beginning, the ministry has dedicated significant time and resources to collecting this data during the last few years.



3. OFAH information sessions on Asian carp threat
Asian carp pose one of the greatest threats to the biodiversity of the Great Lakes. An Asian carps invasion would jeopardize the Great Lakes' \$5-billion fishery and decimate native fish populations. While Asian carps are not yet established in the Great Lakes, their DNA has been detected in a Lake Erie river and near Chicago just a few miles upstream of Lake Michigan, prompting both the Canadian and Ontario governments to commit major resources to the threat.

The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH), home to Ontario's Invading Species Awareness Program, will be hosting Asian carp information sessions to inform the public about the latest federal and provincial responses to this invasive species.

The OFAH has had three information sessions in Windsor, Niagara Falls and Sault Ste. Marie and will host sessions in Toronto and Peterborough this month. Each session will include keynote speakers from the federal and provincial governments and a local speaker that will offer a community-specific perspective. All sessions start at 6:30 p.m.

February 3 – Toronto, Gladstone Hotel February 11 – Peterborough, OFAH/Mario Cortelluci Hunting and Fishing Heritage Centre

Matt Smith Manager Invading Species Awareness Program Coordinator 705-760-5537 (cell) 705-748-6324 ext 247 matt_smith@ofah.org

4. At our pre Christmas "get to know you" meeting with two top MNRF people in Owen Sound, we requested that the current taxpayer funded SON study of the fisheries in Colpoy's Bay and Owen Sound answer the following question "Why is the sports fishing so poor in Colpoy's and not bad in Owen Sound." One of those people we talked with MNRF sr. biologist Dave Gonder will be visiting us at our next meeting in February. We will have another chance to convince him of the benefits of expanding the SON study and sharing the information gathered with us. We hope to eventually get an answer to the question "has sports fishing in Colpoy's Bay crashed and why?"

5. From the December 2014 OFAH Fisheries Advisory Committee Report:

"Jack Osadzik advised the committee that a study in Colpoy's Bay in Georgian Bay has been underway. The study is being done by the MNRF Lake Huron Management Unit, with the index netting being done by the Aboriginal commercial fishermen and the University of Guelph. The results will be shared with all resources users when finished."

6. Ontario Family Fishing time is coming up - the Ontario Family Fishing Events are sure to warm people's spirits and encourage them to get outdoors and go ice fishing. OFFE provides an opportunity for Canadian residents to fish Ontario waters licence-free February 14 to 16 (12:01 a.m. Saturday to 11:59 p.m. Monday), and encourages new and young anglers to drop a line and start jigging. With family-oriented community events planned across the province, organizers are eager to share their fishing passion with those who are excited to get started.

Whether anglers join an event in their community or go out on their own, the licence-free fishing days are a great way to spend the Family Day weekend.

7. The 87th OFAH Annual General Meeting and Fish & Wildlife Conference

I will attend this conference in the GTA to represent BPSA and OFAH members in Grey-Bruce
THURSDAY, MARCH 19
FRIDAY, MARCH 20
SATURDAY, MARCH 21



A motion by David Morton seconded by Al Hunter to pay for Stu Paterson's out of pocket expenditures to represent BPSA at the OFAH annual meeting in starting March 19, carried.

Property –Ron Snelling n/r

Rankin Resource Group- Larry Isbester- n/r

Scheduling: Ron Snelling- n/r

Events are on the board and in the bulletins.

Special Events: the tentative dates for special events in 2015 are:

- **Warton Willie Festival** Jerry and Marj Beaver and Wayne and Annette Musselman on Saturday January 31 (8am to 4pm) will man a ice fishing display and fire to roast hot dogs and serve hot chocolate. Karen Van Nest will show archery activities Jim Martell, Don Elliott and others including Ron Robb from SSA and his support staff will distribute bird feeders and bird seed from Bay Shore Feeds as well as sell SSA boat draw tickets for the Salmon Spectacular on Sunday (10 am- 3pm) or until all the feeders are given out.
- Family Day Holiday- Don Elliott – February 16, 2015 - 12 - 2 pm.
BPSA approved and is committed to support the TSBP if they want us to hold this event. We would serve hot dogs and ice cream. Ray and Gord will have hatchery tours and Phil will see if Karen can demonstrate archery. Bat houses and some bird boxes will also be given away.

- Awards Presentation and Potluck Dinner-Don Elliott April 4, 2015 social – 5:00 PM, dinner 6:00. Trophy Contest entry forms submitted prior to December 2014 were lost during a house keeping clean up. I currently have entries for:

Fish	Salmon	Stu Paterson
	Rainbow	Jerry Beaver
		Ian MacGregor
	Brown	Bill Nafziger
	Moose	Bill Nafziger
	White Tail	Mike Lutman
		Ray Reidel
		Bill Nafziger

If you previously submitted an entry and your name is missing from the above list the entry has been lost. Please call me prior to February 15 at 519-534-2217 and I will add your name and weight or score to the contest. If you caught a Fish or harvested a spring or fall Wild Turkey, Moose, Whitetail Deer or Bear and have not previously submitted an entry you can call me with the detail again prior to February 15 and I will include your submission.

- Fish Derby – Jack Seatter May 15- 17, 2015.
- Fish Fry – Ken Barrett May 17, 2015 2:00-4:00pm.
- Kids Fishing Day- Don Elliott-Saturday July 4, 2015 4-9pm.
- Beef and Pork BBQ- Murray Garniss and Dennis Morrison- Sunday July 12, 2015 from 4-6:30 pm. Previous reports showed in error July 11th.
- Community Living-Fishing on the Pond – Sunday September 13, 2015 2-7pm.
- Potluck Dinner – Saturday November 21 2015. Social time from 5pm with dinner at 6:00pm.

Wildlife: Al Hunter

Jody Schiefley approached Al about BPSA hosting a kids fishing day on the hatchery pond. He would supply the Brook trout. The plan was shelved as any remaining fish would not survive in the warm water pond. We might be involved if a cold water pond or stream could be located and club rep’s will check with the local Conservation Authority.

Awards: Don Elliott-

- Entry forms are available on the wooden tray in the club house or on line on the website.
- Moose and Deer racks must be dried 30 days prior to scoring. George McDougall at G&D Products, 1550 Superior Street Owen Sound will score racks if presented during business hours week days 9 to 6 and or Sunday noon to 4pm. Tel. 519 376 1699.

- The 2014 awards entries were accidentally thrown out in November. Please call Don Elliott 519 534 2217, to provide your best estimate of data that had been previously submitted as previously detailed under Special Events.

Old Business

Stu Paterson and Al Hunter had a meeting with the TSBP Public Works Manager, Tom Gray, January 16, 2015 to discuss:

- Re-claim and stabilize the shoreline east of the launch area.
- Unsafe condition of eastside dock ramp, and inadequate buoyancy.
- West side dock not installed causing congestion.
- Poor or insufficient waste receptacles.
- Docks should be installed as soon as ice is out.
- Inadequate lighting in the launch and parking areas.
- Have any funds been proposed for improvements to the launch and dock area, lighting, paved parking and or grading potholes from the entrance lane.

Tom advised Stu and Al essentially that the town had little or no funds for improvements in the 2015 budget and or was unaware of the fore mentioned concerns. He indicated that he would review the requests and get back to Stu and Al. Tom advised that the town has drainage work scheduled for the east side of the park this year.

New Business:

- TSBP BPSA property tax has been deferred for six months.
- BPSA hand out brochures and logo signs have been made up to be used at the Willy festival and for other future events.
- Jim met with Chief Arlene Chegahno and discussed common interests and possible future interface activities.
- Dennis advised that the Sutherland quarry expansion has been approved and the extension has started on the other side of the road from the current quarry.

The next BPSA meeting will be Thursday February 26, 2015 at 7:30 pm.

Winners of Draw Prizes

Rod & Reel	Al Hunter
Knife tool set	George Berfelz
Jam	Dennis Morrison
T shirt	Murray Garniss
Line	Don Elliott
Lures	Dennis Morrison (5), Ian MacGregor (2), Jerry Beaver, Dave Morton, Gord Smith, Stu Paterson (2)
Fish Crisp	George Berfelz, Annette Musselman, Martha Martell

A motion by Dave Morton to adjourn carried, ending the January 2015 meeting at 10.30 pm.



Youth Shooting Program started in January. Not too late to get them involved. Call 519-935-2444



Presidents message

Happy New Year everyone. We have lots to be thankful for and a prosperous 2015 year ahead.

Warton Willie Festival is over for another year with an "EARLY SPRING" PREDICTION. Many kudos to members who participated in the festival. Jerry and Marje Beaver, Wayne and Annette Musselman set up and assisted the festival visitors hot dogs and hot chocolate while they learned about ice-fishing. Other club members attended to help out as well sharing info on the fun winter activity. Karen Van Nest and Phil Henderson led the archery demo on a very cold morning and afternoon at the pavilion in Bluewater Park. People had a chance to be shown how to handle a recurve bow. Thanks Karen and Phil.

Over in the big igloo our club and Sydenham Sportsmen teamed up to distribute bird seed and feeders to kids on Sunday Kids day. Bird feeder builders were Don Elliott, Ed Elliott, Eric Plein, Jim Martell. Thanks to Don Elliott, Ron Robb and Gord Smith for attending and giving away the bird boxes on kids day.

We have David Gonder and Chris Davis from MNR as guests next month to discuss studies of Colpoys and the health of the lake.

Good luck to the shooters in the upcoming WOHL competitions.

Remember our open house on Feb 16 2015. The community has been invited to tour our club and facilities. We will have hot dogs, ice cream and refreshments. Don Elliott is hosting this event. Please give Don a call to help out. As a reminder to all club members that we have chosen to use only paper products (no Styrofoam) in our events. This is a conservation move to have our waste more biodegradable. Please use paper plates, cups etc. We have started cordial relations with Nawash. My meeting with Chief Chegahno was friendly. We are invited to a workshop hosted by Nawash in late March or early April to provide information on the health of the lake. We also are grateful to Kat for her efforts to obtain our new club signs. These signs are to be used at all our club events. They have excellent quality and kudos to Kat thanks good job.

Thanks to Ray and Gord who are continuing to do a fine job at the hatchery. We hope the planning for the future is successful.

I would like to call on the club members to take time to label, organize and put items away when they are finished with them.

Perhaps, we could consider listing where items are after we finish an event. This will help any new volunteers find items when they are leading an event.

*Thanks
Jim Martell, President*