

Fur, Fins and Feathers



October 2018

The Clubhouse is off Old Oliphant Road on Northacres road and off County Road 13 in Wiarton.

Next meeting, October 25th, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. Your participation is welcome and anticipated. For inquiries e-mail bpsportsmen@gmail.com or mail to P.O. Box 548, Wiarton, Ontario N0H 2T0

BPSA BBQ Fund Raiser a Success

Warton's Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association is mostly known for stocking fish to beef up the sports fishery. On July 14th BEEF was a main attraction at the non-profit club's largest fund raiser of the year.

The event at our clubhouse west of Wiarton, was the annual pork and beef barbecue which this year attracted more than 250 guests, up significantly from last year. Under the direction of hatchery manager Ray Marklevitz, BPSA's expert "grilling team" prepared exceptionally tasty and tender pork and beef. Add in all the trimmings and you have a stupendous main course.

A taste-tempting selection of homemade desserts capped off the fine dining experience. At 16 bucks a person it was a bargain. It took more than 35 BPSA member volunteers to mount the event. Under the direction of barbecue chair Murray Garniss, there was the renowned "grilling team", the food preparers, the servers, the kitchen team, the setup and take-down folks, the prize-draw team and the parking team. It all went smoothly.

Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound MPP Bill Walker addressed the diners.



Walker suggested under the new Ontario Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry Jeff Yurek, conservation clubs like BPSA will have a solid working relationship with the ministry.

Walker also congratulated BPSA on its 56 years of conservation work which includes fish stocking, stream rehabilitation, tree-planting, invasive species projects such as our boot-scrubber campaign, firearms training and adult and youth archery programs.



BPSA President Jim Martell thanked the guests for their support of our club and praised the volunteer members who work so hard to ensure the success of our events.

The next major project for this club takes place August 22nd when BPSA members help raise the giant tent, headquarters for the 31st annual Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular fishing derby. The 10-day Spectacular Festival is the largest event of the year in Grey-Bruce. It is considered the largest family fishing festival in North America. BPSA members will volunteer at the Great Lakes Fishery Commission display at the tent, showcasing the commission's successful multi-million dollar sea lamprey control program.

BPSA BBA cont.



Community clubs such as BPSA depend heavily on corporate and individual sponsors. They generously support our events by donating cash and products that we use as prizes.

These are the donors supporting BPSA for 2018:
Pork & Beef BBQ, Kids fishing Day and 9 other BPSA events:

Legend Boats

Frank Hutter, Firearms Trainer

Murray Garniss

Jon/Chris Janelle

Sutters Home Hardware, Warton

Northern Dunes Golf Club

Grey Bruce Upholstery

Horned Booby Lures

Lures N Lines Tackle Shop Warton/Georgian Bluffs

Corey AquaFeed Services.

Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters, Zone H

Larry Miller, MP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound

Dekker Country Baits

ThomBoys Power-Sports

Frosty Freeze, Warton

Ram Trophies and Sports, Warton



Warton District Chamber of Commerce
J & S Tackle , Port Elgin
Jordan Myles, South Bruce OPP
Ken Burrows & Son Construction
McCartney Family, MPM LIMITED, Warton
Paterson Media
Northstar Marine Insurance
Bell Outdoors Wear
Garry Stewart
Lorne Fletcher



Submitted by Stu Paterson



Grey-Bruce conservation groups **praised by MNRF Minister**

Ontario's new Minister of Natural Resources & Forestry, Jeff Yurek, MPP for Elgin-Middlesex-London, had high praise for volunteer clubs that stock fish at a visit to Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association's clubhouse on Aug. 24.

During his visit, Yurek promised to "transform" his ministry so it will be more responsive and engaged with local conservation club members.



At the BPSA hatchery (left to right) MNRF Minister Jeff Yurek and MPP Bill Walker discuss improving freshwater flow with veteran BPSA hatchery volunteer Gord Smith.

Yurek has only been Minister of Natural Resources & Forestry for a few weeks. He previously served as the Conservative Party critic of the MNRF. Now as Minister, he was on the job in Grey-Bruce last Friday, being shown around by Bill Walker, MPP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound. The two visited fish hatcheries, met with conservation groups and the Minister officially opened the 31st annual Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular fishing derby, which runs until September 1.

At the Wiarton-based Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association (BPSA) hatchery, Yurek congratulated the club for its 40 years of fish stocking and stream rehabilitation projects. As the Minister wrapped up his two-hour visit he



Veteran BPSA hatchery volunteer Gord Smith explains hatchery operations to MNRF Minister Jeff Yurek and MPP Bill Walker as BPSA members look on.

encouraged club members to "keep up the good work."

"You folks are doing great things," he said.

Since the sixties BPSA has stocked more than 4-million rainbow and brown trout in Georgian Bay. The volunteer club is one of 40 hatcheries in the Ontario Community Hatchery Program.

Yurek also promised to make the MNRF easier to deal with club members.

"We will be better at consulting with your volunteer clubs. We hope to offer better customer service including streamlining the way we deal with conservation and sporting groups such as BPSA, the Lake Huron Fishing Club and the Sydenham Sportsmen's Association," he said. These organizations have a long history of stocking to support local recreational fisheries.

The Minister met with BPSA fish committee members to discuss ways to improve the survival rate of stocked fish, cut red tape for community hatchery operators by streamlining the hatchery licencing process, and other topics.

Jim Martell, President of BPSA, thanked Yurek for visiting the Wiarton club. Martell called the Minister's approach "refreshing and encouraging for our club, which looks forward to an era of co-operation and positivity as we continue to work on our conservation projects."

After Yurek and Walker visited BPSA, Walker issued a news release reflecting on the new Minister's visit.



BPSA President Jim Martell (right) and MNRF Minister Jeff Yurek discuss ways of improving the survival rate of fish stocked from his club's hatchery during the Minister's visit to the conservation club

Local constituents were very pleased Yurek chose Bruce and Grey for his first official ministerial visit, Walker said.

"This was an opportunity to connect and allow Minister Yurek to see first-hand how important recreational fishing is in our area, especially the positive economic impact," Walker said.

In addition to visiting BPSA, Yurek also met with members of the Sydenham Sportsmen's Association, Quality Deer Management Association, Hepworth Anglers Club, and Outdoor Adventures, Walker's news release said.

Submitted by Stu Paterson

Conservation Club completes hatchery improvements:

The Wiarton based Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association (BPSA) has completed a ten-thousand dollar improvement to its hatchery. The hatchery walls and ceiling have been spray-foamed. The insulation keeps the building cooler in summer and warmer in winter. That in turn improves the health of fish being raised there. Part of the work was supported by a donation from one of our neighbouring clubs the Barrow Bay and District Sport Fishing Association.

The insulation spray was done professionally. Tarp-laying to prepare the hatchery so fish were protected during the spraying, was done by the following volunteer BPSA members: Ray Marklevitz, Gord Smith, Al Sutter, Murray Garniss, Wayne Musselman, Cory and Stan McNeil.



During the spraying a long tube from a truck outside the hatchery, fed the spray material to a masked worker inside who applied the foam.

Some BPSA Fish Committee members took time out to inspect the foam-spray job. They declared the project a success. During their visit on a hot summer night, the building was noticeably much cooler than it would have been before the work was done.

BPSA is mostly known for stocking fish to beef up the sports fishery. Our volunteer members work year round to raise and stock thousands of rainbow and brown trout which become part of what's called a "put-and-take" fishery. We put the fish in the lake. You catch them.

Half of the cost of operating our state of the art hatchery is covered by the Ontario Community Hatchery Program (CHP) that controls a network of 40 volunteer run Ontario hatcheries. This program is run by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters under the guidance of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. Our fish stocking program is the longest operating volunteer run stocking effort in Ontario. We began improving the Grey-Bruce recreational fishery in the early sixties.

The next major BPSA project takes place August 22nd when members help raise the giant tent, headquarters for the 31st annual Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular fishing derby. They pull down the tent September 3rd. The 10-day Salmon Spectacular Festival is the largest event of the year in Grey-Bruce. It is considered the largest family fishing festival in North America. BPSA members will also volunteer at the Great Lakes Fishery Commission display at the tent, showcasing the commission's successful multi-million dollar sea lamprey control program.

Submitted by Stu Paterson



BPSA hatchery crew inspect insulation left to right Ray Marklevitz -Hatchery Manager, BPSA Fish Committee members Al Sutter, Gord Smith, Murray Garniss



Sea lamprey Invasive Campaign

The Great Lakes Fishery Commission (GLFC) has completed year-5 of its Sea lamprey invasive species information campaign in Ontario's Grey-Bruce region. The Commission's display at the annual Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular Fishing Derby tent, ran for the 10 days of the giant festival, considered the largest event of the year in our region.

Representatives of the Commission, Canada's Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association worked the booth. The main focus being, the battle against the sea lamprey.



This invasive parasite with no predators in the Great Lakes, sucks the blood out of fish killing 6 out of 7 fish they attack. Each sea lamprey is capable of killing 40-pounds of fish during their 12-18 month feeding period.

At the GLFC display young and old gathered to see up close these snake-like creatures. The message to the public was "we have sea lamprey under control, and we continue developing new methods of keeping their numbers down to record low levels."



Several anglers brought in fish with lamprey attached. The live ones were added to our sea lamprey collection.

The Great Lakes Fishery Commission is the lead group on the 4-million dollar renovation of Denny's Dam on the Saugeen River at Southampton which is expected to be completed within the next few weeks. The work was designed to prevent sea lamprey from swimming over the dam and heading upstream to spawn.



For more information on the SEA LAMPREY INVASION check out this link
<http://www.glf.org/control.php>

Submitted by Stu Paterson



Hepworth Anglers Restoration Project

The Hepworth Anglers Club resumed the sixth year of the Spring Creek Restoration Project by planting trees along the stream banks. Later two riffle beds and aeration structures were constructed in the stream. Additional cover was provided by embedding cedar trees/root wads into the stream banks and by opening up side channels. Summer students Colin Burchell and Edyn Hillman assisted with the restoration work, including working with Dr James Hamilton (Wilfrid Laurier University) monitoring equipment sites and gauging water flows. Tom MacDonald was the local contractor for the 2018 portion of the Restoration Project, which was conducted under the guidance of Chris Cummings, Matrix Solutions. Bio mass studies were taken to measure the results of the past years of restoration.



BPSA 2018 EVENTS

- February 19th Family Day 11 am -2 pm.
- March 24th Potluck Supper at 5 pm.
- March 29th Elections of Officers and Directors club meeting 7:30 pm
- April 21st Potluck Social 5 pm (tentative)
- April 26th Club meeting Wilderness First Aid presentation 7:30 pm
- May 5th Tree Planting Activity
- May 26th Potluck Social 5 pm.
- June 9th Kids fishing day at the club 9-11 am
- July 14th Beef and Pork BBQ 4 -7 pm
- Aug 22 Set up Fish Tent at Sydenham Sportsman event Owen Sound 8 am to noon
- Sept 15th Community Living fishing at the club 2:00 to 5:00 pm (tentative)
- Nov 17th Pot luck supper at the club.

Archery



Planning to run a 3-D tournament for kids on Sunday, October 21st, 2018. There is no cost to the kids to compete. If not an Archery member you must register for the event. It will be a 3 round competition, 9 stations around the trail and the 10th is a 6 arrow shoot. Only 1 arrow per station on the trail. Put into groups of 3 with an adult in each group.

Archery program runs every Tuesday. Youth practice 6-7 pm adults practice 7-9 pm outside as long as weather is good. Warton Home Design Center has graciously offered the upstairs for winter Archery shooting. The space is perfect and Al Sutter has already installed backstops and is adding more lighting. We will start shooting indoors on November 6th and will continue every other Tuesday. A Big Thank You to Al!

You can contact Donna and Paul Maginnis at bpsaarchery@gmail.com.

Handgun Club:

Thanks to Al Sharpe for helping me with range work in regards to building backstop and target frames. Also to Ron Heck for helping install LED lighting at 20 yard mark to improve target visibility and reduce hydro usage.



There is a vast improvement in quality of light and the removal of shadows on targets. Jobs well done by our members, for our members, Thanks Kelly

Shoot Monday and Wednesday 7:00pm and Wednesday afternoon at 1:00pm. Other times by prior arrangement with a Range Officer.W