

Fur, Fins and Feathers



October 2019

The Clubhouse is off Old Oliphant Road on Northacres road and off County Road 13 in Wiarton.
Next meeting, October 31st, 2019 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

Community Living Fishing Day

There were smiles and there was laughter around the Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association (BPSA) fish pond. This outbreak of joy took place on a recent Sunday afternoon at the Community Living Fishing Derby hosted by the outdoors club.

The weather co-operated, but the fishing? There was a lot of fishing going on and not too much catching. It may have been too sunny as the estimated 50 rainbow trout in our pond appeared to be hiding in the deep section. But the participants had a ball.



Jeff Thornton caught the first rainbow trout, one of two he landed. The heaviest weighed about three pounds.



Kayla Hiscock with pumpkin seed and Bob Catcher

Kayla Hiscock got the first of several fish caught. It was a small pumpkinseed also known as a sunfish. We figure a cormorant picked up the small fish in a nearby lake, then dropped it off here hoping to catch a rainbow trout instead





President Bruce Beacock handing out prize packs to all the participants.

Just seeing the pure joy in the faces of our guests makes this event very worthwhile for BPSA members. All of our Community Living anglers were winners. All went home with great memories of this day and a BPSA prize pack.

For more than thirty years our conservation group has hosted folks with the Bruce Peninsula Association for Community Living. Why do we do this? We love being part of our community. We love doing things for our community. This is just one of several public events BPSA stages every year as part of our community outreach. Many years ago the community came together to help our club kick off our fish stocking program. Since the sixties BPSA members have stocked more than 4-million fish to boost the sports fishery. Today we boast a state of the art fish hatchery as well as archery, firearms safety training and shooting programs, tree planting and an invasive species awareness “boot-scrubber” program.

It took 20 BPSA volunteers to mount this event. We had no trouble encouraging our members to help.

The Bruce Peninsula Association for Community Living (BPACL) was so thankful for the efforts of BPSA in a statement it said “we have made so many great memories around the pond and we look forward to being back with you next year.”

Community Living Board member Dave Waddington passed on BPACL’s appreciation saying that all who took part thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon.

The groups Communications Manager Christi Ronholm said about this special day at the pond “thank you for everything. A great time was had by all!”

The association offers a variety of services for over 80 people with developmental disabilities. Community Living promotes the idea of people participating and contributing



Mike Smith and Stan McNeil revived caught fish before they were returned to the pond as this was a “catch and release” event

fully in their community. Over 70 Support workers are employed through the agency, and part of their role is to help people to be independent, to be included in their community and to contribute to their community. The Community Living office is in down-town Wiarton. The organization owns three group homes, and two apartment buildings.

A spokesperson for the group says “our clients are simply ...people. People who are striving to live full and fulfilled lives and be as independent as possible, to be included in community activities, and treated as equal community members.”



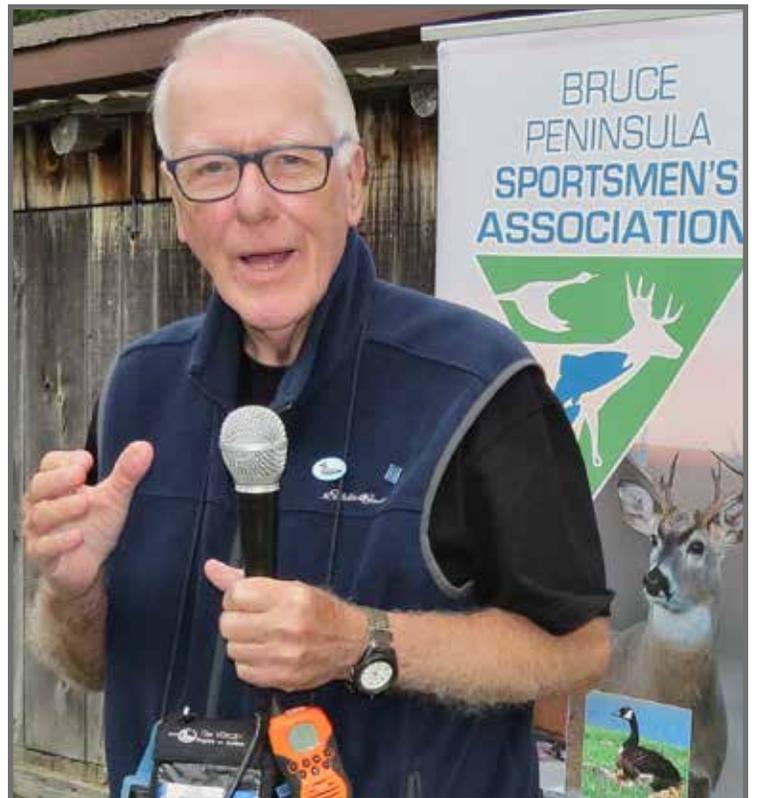
Sponsors for this BPSA event and all 2019 BPSA events include - Giant Tiger Owen Sound, MacDonald's Owen Sound, The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters Zone H, Lures N Lines, Cedar Crest Fish Farms, Coca Cola Bottling, Fretzes Value Mart, Wiarton Marina, Country Bait, Paterson Media, Charlie Robertson, Gary Fisher, J & S Tackle, and MPM Property Maintenance.

The BRUCE PENINSULA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION was established in 1962 to preserve and protect fish and wildlife. BPSA boasts Ontario's longest operating volunteer run fish hatchery. Tourism officials credit the club's fish stocking efforts with pumping \$18-million into our regional economy. BPSA is now celebrating 57 years of conservation. We felt this year's Community Living event was a perfect way to celebrate our 57 years of service.

By Stu Paterson



BPSA Director Al Hunter explains the rules.



Stu Paterson emcees the 2019 BPSA Community Living Fishing Derby.

BPSA Tent Work Gets Rave Reviews



BPSA helps kick start the 2019 Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular:

Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association (BPSA) members had a successful 2019 Salmon Spectacular tent raising effort putting up the 300 foot long tent in a record 3 hours. Completing the tough job were 30 BPSA members and 20 Sydenham Sportsmen's Association (SSA) volunteers. The two clubs often help each other with projects including fish

stocking. The giant tent which is the headquarters of this joyous fishing celebration, went up Wednesday August 21st under sunny skies with light winds.

By helping raise and lower the tent, BPSA saves the Sydenham club about ten thousand dollars a year. That would be the cost to the hosting organization if it had to pay the tent company, Big Top Tent Rentals, to put it up and down.



The Salmon Spectacular Derby and Festival, the largest event of the year in Grey-Bruce wrapped up on Sunday September 1st with the derby awards. More than 150-thousand dollars in prizes including boats, motors, trailers and fishing gear were handed out for the largest fish in several categories. Fishing in this derby takes place on southwest Georgian Bay on Colpoys Bay, including Owen Sound to just east of Thornbury.

The day after the derby ended, Labour Day Monday, was a holiday for most folks. However BPSA was committed as a club to help bring down the giant tent starting at 8 am. It took four and a half hours to put the huge tent to bed. 20 BPSA members were on hand to do the job along with a

handful of Sydenham Sportsmen club volunteers. In relief they all said “ that’s a wrap” when the task was complete. On his CFOS 560 radio talk show host Bill Murdoch paid tribute to our tent raising and teardown efforts saying “the Sydenham club couldn’t do it without you guys with the Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen’s Association.” At the tent raising, commenting on the help from the neighbouring club, SSA Hatchery Manger Ron Robb said “we couldn’t do this without you. You are a huge help in kick-starting our derby preparations each year. You’re hard work is much appreciated.” Several SSA members said the same thing as BPSA members were volunteering in the tent at the SEA LAMPREY display of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. Every year the giant tent at the Georgian Shores Marina, turns into a village headquarters with fishing folks coming from far and wide camping nearby to be close to the water and the fishing action in southwest Georgian Bay. 50-thousand people attend events at the tent during the ten day derby festival. Profits from the OWEN SOUND SALMON SPECTACULAR support the fish stocking and other conservation work done by the Sydenham Sportsmen’s Associations member volunteers.

By Stu Paterson



BPSA stocks 27,000 Brown Trout in Colpoy’s Bay

On July 31st. the BPSA stocking team of Alan Sutter, Mike Smith, Ray Marklevitz, Gord Smith, Murray Garniss and Bob Sarver stocked 27,000 Brown Trout at Warton Marina. The BPSA is counting on the Brown Trout to imprint on Colpoy’s Bay and provide exciting fishing for both shore and boat anglers.

Great job men and the dozens of volunteers that feed and care for the fish in our hatchery 365 days a year. Also, special thanks to Jeff Hammill and Warton Marina for their continued support.

By Al Hunter



Miller Promises Increased Involvement With Conservation Clubs



"I hope to spend lots of time with family and make time to do more with clubs like the Bruce Peninsula and the Sydenham Sportsmen's Associations." That's what retiring Member of Parliament Larry Miller told Bayshore Broadcasting's "fish finder" Gary Byers. It happened in a radio interview at the "Larry Miller Farewell Breakfast" during the waning hours of the 2019 Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular fishing derby.

Executive members of the Sydenham Sportsmen's Association which mounts the big derby, said they wanted to make sure Miller got the credit he deserves for his solid work on behalf of the outdoors community. Several BPSA members attended this Farewell Breakfast.

Larry Miller has served 15 years as the Conservative MP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound and is retiring from politics. He has often been outspoken on issues such as those which are in conflict with our club's conservation policies, particularly when it comes to the stocking of salmon and trout. As a member of the Federal Outdoors Caucus, our MP has also been vocal about the Liberal governments firearms legislation especially on the issue of the infamous Long Gun Registry.

In 2015 Miller was honoured by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) for his efforts on behalf of anglers and hunters. He was one of three MP's receiving this special award for his work in support of issues affecting anglers and hunters. The OFAH executive said Miller understands the issues that affect us, issues that are important to our conservation movement.



Miller told Postmedia News he wants to be remembered for his outspokenness and for his ability to not forget his Grey-Bruce roots. He said "I am very proud of where I came from and my rural heritage." He said while he was controversial at times "I always have been someone who spoke my mind."

BPSA members look forward to having Larry Miller around our clubhouse more often. We wish Larry a long life and good health in his retirement.

By Stu Paterson

Handgun Club:

Shoot Monday and Wednesday 7:00pm and Wednesday afternoon at 1:00pm.



Archery

Program runs Tuesdays at BPSA. Youth practice 6-7 pm adults practice 7-9 pm. Starting Oct 22nd. the fall/winter program will be the 1st and 3rd Tuesday upstairs of the Home Hardware Design Centre. You can contact Donna and Paul Maginnis at bpsaarchery@gmail.com for details and location.