

Fur, Fins and Feathers



February 2018

The Clubhouse is off Old Oliphant Road on Northacres road and off County Road 13 in Wiarton.
Next meeting, February 22nd, 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

2018 Youth Firearms Program



On Sunday, Jan. 14/18, 1:00 PM the Club House was alive with activity. Thirty-four new and some experienced shooters along with parents and Handgun Club Members filled the building. Robert & Krista Quesnel head up the program again this year and have done a wonderful job getting the word out.

The program begins with a classroom program dealing with firearm safety, range rules and a comprehensive section involving proper handling of all firearms. Each youngster was assigned to an experienced safety officer/coach for one on one supervision and at least 12 Handgun Members were on hand to sign up, instruct, coach and act as safety officers. The program runs to mid March. A BIG thank you goes out to all Members that helped to make the program a success.







Early Bird Handgun Club Membership Draw

On Monday, Jan. 8/18, V.P. Kat McCulloch drew the winning ticket in the Early Bird HG Club Membership Draw. As you know, the BPSA Hand Gun Club has a new Membership Chair in Mark Young and Treasurer Joerg Klein. Bill Wattie filled both positions for many years but he and Deb are going to take an extended well deserved vacation and plan to compete in a number of Cowboy Shoots in Arizona and neighbouring states.

In order to make a smooth transition we urged BPSA Handgun members to get their renewals in no later than Dec. 31/17 and that members that did so would have their name entered in a draw for a \$ 75.00 gift certificate at Lake Huron Rod and Gun.

The winning Member was Ron Heck. Congratulations Ron and a big thank you to Lake Huron Rod & Gun in Underwood for their support.



BPSA Handgun Club VP President Kat McCulloch drawing the winning ticket with HG President Al Hunter.

Hatchery Work on Yearling Rainbow Trout

Now celebrating 56-years of conservation success, BPSA operates the longest running volunteer/community fish-stocking program in Ontario. Each year we stock thousands of rainbow and brown trout. Last year we planted 89-thousand rainbow trout. In fact since the sixties, we have helped beef up our sports fishery by stocking more than 4-million trout in Grey-Bruce waters.

As of this writing the BPSA hatchery boasts 35-thousand rainbow yearlings that will be stocked in about 3 months. The fish are larger than the rainbow trout we raised last year. We also have 32 thousand brown trout eggs that are developing well.

Our Fish Committee volunteers continuously work towards maximizing the survival rate of the fish we are raising. With that in mind, early on a bitterly cold Sunday morning, a dozen BPSA members gathered at our hatchery West of Wiarton. The project at hand was to re-distribute half of our rainbow trout to separate tanks as the tank they were in was over-crowded. Over-crowding can negatively affect the growth rate of the fish. Both groups of rainbow are now evenly distributed which will increase their growth rate and give them a better chance of survival when stocked as yearlings.

Our hatchery operates under licenses from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment. BPSA is part of the 40-member Ontario Community Hatchery Program run for the province

by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters. Half of our hatchery costs are covered by the Hatchery Program.

BPSA boasts several annual community events including our KIDS FISHING Day, the BPSA Annual Fishing Derby for members and guests, and our BEEF & PORK BARBECUE our largest fund raiser of the year. We are enthusiastic participants in the annual Wiarton Fall Fair. We are a member of the Wiarton District Chamber of Commerce.

Our 250-member club operates archery and shooting sports education and safety programs for youth and adults. We have launched a "BOOT SCRUBBER program" aimed at preventing the spread of invasive species in our forests parks, trails and waterfronts. We are working with the Bruce Trail folks and hope to install dozens of new scrubbers at the entrances to many regional trails.

*Submitted by Stu Patterson
BPSA*

Fish Committee-Hatchery:

Ray Marklevitz / Gord Smith

- Received approximately 32,000 Brown eggs. They are starting to hatch.
- Over wintering about 35,000 Rainbow
- Purchased an electric blanket to thaw lines.



BPSA Fish Committee member Al Sutter (left) and BPSA Vice-President Kevin Harders were part of a work group moving rainbow trout into separate tanks to give them more space to grow.

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 BQ 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.

Ladies Firearms Program

Ladies Firearms Program: On Sunday Jan. 14/18, 7:00 PM, the range hardly had time to cool down when 14 women arrived to begin the first session of the BPSA Handgun Club Program. Al Hunter, BPSA HG President welcomed all participants and introductions were made. BPSA HG Club Chief Safety and Training officer Frank Hutter, gave a session outlining firearm safety rules and club range rules which was followed by a practical session in which the attendants safely handle the firearms they will be using.

This session was followed by a live fire session in the club range using .22 cal. rifles. Handgun Club Safety Officers/coaches were on hand to ensure a safe and enjoyable time in the range.

At the end of the 1st. session all were in agreement that fun and learning went hand in hand with a very enjoyable time had by all.

Many thanks to BPSA HG Member Patricia Krieg for pulling together many of the participants to make this years Ladies group a success.





Family Day Open House

February 19th 2018
11:00am - 2:00 pm

This Family Day, come out to the Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen Association's Open House for a look at what we are about. You can check out the Hatchery, find out about our Archery, Conservation and shooting programs. There will be something for everyone and best of all, its FREE.

If you have any questions you can contact Ian MacGregor at 519-534-0587.

611 North Acres Road, Wiarton, ON

