Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers Inc. 

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 AIR, WATERS, FORESTS AND WILDLIFE.

MIDLAND --- ONTARIO

**March 2018**

In the spirit of giving, a donation box will be permanently set up

In the clubhouse for the local food bank, donations are greatly appreciated by many all year long.

**Outdoor Gun Range!**

Is it open or is it closed? That is the question! Well folks as we all know this has been a wild winter with all ranges of temperatures and snow fall coming at us. We have had to close the range due to weather and ice conditions, and have re-opened it as the thaw came and made it usable. We always encourage the use of our outdoor range but we always insist upon safety first. Please check on our website for closures of the range. We will update it as often as possible. But we do ask members to follow the availabilities made. Your co-operation and understanding is appreciated. Safety first!

**2018 Membership Renewals**

2018 Membership renewals have **extended** the renewal date for 2018 memberships until March31/18 and can be paid by E-transfer, mailed in or at our March 21/18 dinner meeting. 2018 Membership cards will be available at the March General Dinner Meeting. Please be sure to update you contact information correctly. This will include your up to date 911 address and your proper mailing and email address.For more info please contact our Membership Chairman Ian Driver 1-705-816-5416 iandriver27@gmail.com

**E-Transfers**

We have had many members inquire about the use of e-transfers to pay for memberships etc. This is now possible by emailing our treasurer Walker McKay @ albion@bell.net . After you send your e-transfer to Walker please send him another email with the security code (answer) to the security question. This will allow the e-transfer to be opened and processed. Some thanks go to Walker for setting this up.

**2018 OFAH Conservation Lottery Tickets**

OFAH lottery is a huge fundraiser for the OFAH and each club selling the tickets. **Tickets have been issued and “MUST” be turned in at our dinner meetings, sold or not!** **Please return all SOLD TICKETS at the next dinner (Mar21/18) so they can be entered June 1, 2018 for the main draw).** Ian Driver will have extra tickets available and is looking for volunteers to sell them at the clubhouse during the Auction House rentals. For more information or volunteering contact Ian Driver @ 1-705-816-5416

**Executive Nominations, Constitution and By-Law Change**s

GBHA Executive would like to remind everyone that last year we passed to move the dated of review for the Constitution and the nomination and election of the 2018/2019 Executive Board Members to the spring of this year. By-Laws can be modified anytime of the year. Any submissions for the constitution must be submitted no later than the March 21/18 General Membership Meeting so it can be voted upon in April with the results being put into place in May. **There are a few members of the Executive that will be stepping down from their positions. So, there will be positions open and members needed to fill them.** If you have ever thought you would like to step up and be nominated and try one of these positions out, please have your name nominated. The nominations for the Executive Board of Directors will take place in March; the voting will take place in April at our General Membership Dinner Meeting. The new executive will be in place for May.

**Next General Membership Dinner Meeting**

On Wed March 21/18 GBHA Club will be hosting our monthly dinner meeting. A delicious Stuffed Pork Loin Dinnerwith all the fixings will be prepared by Chef Claude and his crew. We hope to see you all there to join in another fine meal. Please don’t forget guests are always welcomed. Doors will be open by 5:00 pm and dinner will begin serving at 6:30 pm. Volunteers will be needed in the kitchen. Cash Sales Only.

PLEASE BRING YOUR OFAH LOTTERY TICKETS AND REMEMBER

NOMINATIONS BE TAKING PLACE THIS EVENING!

**Conservation Wild Game Dinner 2018**

GBHA’s will be hosting another Conservation Wild Game Dinner on Sat. April 21/18; tickets are **SOLD OUT!** We need Volunteers to help out.This event is a huge undertaking and with the right amount of committee members it can be another successful event.This dinner is an open event. We encourage members to come out and support the club, buy and sell tickets, donate door prizes, wild game meats of any type, anything to help make this a successful event. To volunteer on this committee or for more information, please contact Leslie Edwards @ 1-705-333-0615cheynataussies@gmail.com and Michele Vardy @ 1-705-828-1431belleinthebush@gmail.com.

***As this is a Wild Game Dinner, any and all***

***types of meats donated will be greatly appreciated!***

**Wild Game Donations**

Often you have seen the request for wild game meat to be donated to the club for events. This can be made up of many different types of meats, such as moose, venison, bear, birds, fish etc. We ask for these donations so that these events are less expensive for the club, and for the experience of others to have a taste of the wild game meats they would not normally be exposed to or have ability to obtain. These donations are always greatly appreciated not only by the club but by the attendees of the events. So, we ask that if you have some wild game meats and you are willing to donate to our club, please contact Dan Gardner @ 1-705-527-0447

**Zone “H” Meeting**

GBHA club will be hosting a Zone “H” meeting Sunday April 22 2018, in our lower hall. We encourage members to come out and learn what is being discussed with the OFAH and our Zone. Jake and Chuck Edwards will be on hand to give a presentation on their QDMA trip to Georgia USA. Lunch will be available. For more information please contact Kevin Vardy @ 1-705-686-7593 or email him @ trophyhunter2384@gmail.com

**Pistol and Holster Orientation Courses**

GBHA’s will be hosting a Pistol and Holster Orientation courses. We have hosted these events in the past and are very insightful to new and seasoned participants.

**The Pistol course** will include grip, stance, zeroing your gun, taking the perfect shot and other skills to get you started or improve on existing skills.

The Pistol Course is scheduled for Saturday April 14/18 with a start of 8:30am and will come to a finish approximately between 4:00-5:00 pm. Each participant is required to bring 250 rounds of ammo and a minimum 2 but 3 or more magazines preferred.

**The Holster Course** includes discussing equipment and configuration, learning how to safely holster, draw and shoot your handgun reinforcing the skills learned in the pistol course.

Pre requisite for holster course is the pistol course or equivalent.  This is a great program for experienced shooters also.

The Holster Course is scheduled for Sunday April 15/18 with a start of 8:30am and will come to a finish approximately between 4:00-5:00 pm each participant is required to bring 250 rounds (again) of ammo and a minimum 2 but 3 or more magazines preferred. Holster is to be attached to a sturdy belt, and a minimum of 2 mag pouches.

The cost is $35.00 per course or $60.00 for both, **(HST included)** A lunch will be provided both days.

For more information or registration and **ALL payments** go to Kevin Vardy via email or in person. trophyhunter2384@gmail.com registration forms are available for download on our website.

**Harvesting Volunteers Required**

GBHA’s are looking to have our name put on list with the OPP Com-Center in Orillia to harvest wild game that has been killed or injured. We will need a lead contact volunteer to be able to take this call from the OPP Communication Center at all times of the day or night. This person would need to have volunteers they could rely upon to assist in the harvesting of the wild game. Some travelling will be required; you will need to dress appropriately and bring tools and clean up kits. It is this type of harvesting that assists in making our events successful and cost effective. Those interested in volunteering and practicing your field dressing and skinning, please contact Kevin Vardy @ 1-705-686-7593 or email him @ trophyhunter2384@gmail.com or Calvin King @ 705-734-8043

**OFAH Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Fish and Wildlife Conference**

**The OFAH will be hosting their 90th Annual General Meeting and Fish & Wildlife Conference (www.ofah.org/conference) will be March 16th & 17th, 2018** at the Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale Hotel. For more information on attending or the agenda please contact Kevin Vardy (Zone H Representative) @ 1-705-686-7593 or email him @ trophyhunter2384@gmail.com

**GPS, Map & Compass Course**GBHA is offering a GPS, Map & Compass course.  This would be an all-day course and May 05 2018. The cost will be $40.00 HST included. This event will be an open event and with a max of 20 participants. Please contact Ken Sweet if you are interested @ 705-527-9949 or email @ k.sweet@sympatico.ca

**Possession and Acquisition License (PAL) program and Hunter Safety Courses**

These programs will be offered by GBHA on May 26th and 27th 2018. PAL course cost $150.00 and the Hunter Safety course is $140.00, HST included. A Restricted Firearms Course ($150.00 HST included) will be offered in the spring of 2018, the date to be announced. All programs will be put on at the clubhouse in the downstairs hall. For more information on educational programs, or to enroll contact Greg Edwards @ 705-835-6846.

**Family Fishing Day** - On Saturday February 17th, the Junior Club partnered with other local sporting clubs and the Town of Penetanguishene, to collectively host a Family Fishing Day as part of Winterama. During the day we had hundreds of people venture out onto the ice to give ice fishing a try, many of them for the first time. Despite everyone’s best efforts, especially Alan Wheeler who spent most of his day being the “fix-it” guy working on reels and untangling lines, we were not able to land a single fish that day. We did see a lot of happy kids and excited parents that day and we feel it was a huge success. Thanks to Kevin and Michele Vardy for providing the huge tub of suckers, that helped keep smiles on the children’s faces. We want to thank all of the volunteers from the club that came out that day to help. We wouldn’t have been able to pull it off without each of you there to help drill holes, bait hooks, keep holes clear and untangle lines.

We are trying very hard to plan outings for March and April, and we have a couple of great ideas, but so far March is proving to be a hard month to schedule. Please keep an eye on the Facebook Pages and your email for updates as we get them out ASAP.

Some of our Junior Club members already hold their Hunting Licenses and/or PAL, and we are currently working at getting even more of them licensed. This is made possible through donations received periodically from GBHA members, our monthly raffles, as well funding made available through our local Midland Ducks Unlimited Committee. If anyone is interested in contributing to this goal in some way, or know of other funding opportunities available, please feel free to contact us. We would also like to reach out to the members and ask for any volunteers that may be interested in mentoring and sharing hunts with our youth members during the fast-approaching Spring Turkey and Black Bear Seasons. Our goal is to have a list of potential mentors that we could pair kids up with and help get them out into the fields and forests this spring. Please contact Craig & Kerrie Lalonde by email gbhajuniorclub@gmail.com or (705)427-3542

**Friends of Copeland’s Forest Annual Meeting**

DATE: SATURDAY MARCH 24, 2018
TIME: 1-3 PM (Doors open at 12:30 pm) Coffee and refreshments served at 2:30 pm
LOCATION: W.R. Best Memorial Public School, Old Barrie Road, about 1 km east of the village of Dalston.

Come on out and see what’s been happening with the Friends. Renew your membership and have your say in the voting of representatives to the Board of Directors. The Board is made up of 11 voting members, with one member representing each of the 9 user groups and 2 Directors-at-Large. The 9 user groups are: Anglers & Hunters, Horse Back Riders, Hikers, Mountain Bikers, Naturalists, Business, Snow Sports, Residents and Horseshoe Resort.
Each year at the AGM, elections are held for 3 of the 9 user groups for a representative on the CFFA Board of Directors. This year, the 3 user groups are: Snow Sports, Naturalists and Horse Back Riders. The two Director-at-Large positions are appointed annually by the Board.
Each paid member of the Copeland Forest Friends has one vote in the election within the user group designation. When you become a member you indicate which user group you wish to be a part of.  *If you are not already a member and wish to join and also have a vote at the meeting on March 24, 2018, you must purchase your membership before February 24, 2018*. As mentioned, the voting this year will be only for the Director positions representing Snow Sports, Naturalists and Horse Back Riders.
Updates on the agenda and details on our guest speaker are coming soon and will be posted on our Facebook page. We look forward to meeting you on March 24th.

**Youth Expo Day**

Kevin and Michele Vardy have agreed to help out the Junior Club and chair the upcoming Youth Expo in June/18. They are looking for volunteers.

Please contact Michele Vardy at 1-705-828-1431belleinthebush@gmail.com.

**2018 Monday Night Indoor Gun Range**

GBHA’s indoor gun range for .22 cal and down usage takes place on Monday nights. This event will run until the outdoor range is open for the season. To volunteer to assist or more information please contact Mike Weimer1-705-529-9353

**2018 Tuesday Night Indoor Pistol Night**

GBHA’s Indoor Pistol Night (.22 cal PISTOL ONLY) will take place 3 out of 4 weeks per month on Tuesday nights, please check the club’s web site calendar for dates of operation. This event will run until the outdoor range is open for the season. For more information please contact Kevin Vardy @ 705-686-7593 trophyhunter2384@gmail.comor Greg Edwards @ 705-835-6846.

**Woodlot Management**

Our Woodlot Management Chairman Matt Wiessflog has had a couple of volunteers come forth to help out and is **still looking** for any experienced volunteers to assist in the clearing of trees on our property. He is proposing to mark the trees this fall and then begin clearing in the spring, but would like to set up a team in advance to prepare for this task. Volunteers of all aspects will be appreciated. As well Matt will be looking at the aspect of wood sales. If interested in volunteering please contact Matt Weissflog

@ 705-321-6035or email the club @, gbhaclub@yahoo.ca.

GBHA now have the large **OFAH crests** for sale for the price of $15.00 each. **Hats** are $15.00 each or 2/$25.00, **crests** are being sold for $5.00 each, **vests** can be purchase for $45.00 each (comes with a large club crest on the back of vest). These vests are a great way to display your badges and buttons of your achievements. ***PLEASE NOTE*** Ken will be getting sample vests made to have on hand at dinner meeting for fitting. Hats and crests will be sold at the dinner meetings or by contacting Bruce Dunn @ 1-705-534-0632. **Vests** are available from Ken Sweet @ 705-527-9949

Please check out our web site [www.gbhuntersandanglers.com](http://www.gbhuntersandanglers.com) for

Club news and updates or “like us” on Facebook.

**Bruce Dunn - Bulletin Editor**

**PLEASE NOTE!**

 **THE BUY N SELL WILL ONLY BE**

**POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE**

[www.gbhuntersandanglers.com](http://www.gbhuntersandanglers.com)