

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

**December 2020**

Due to the government restrictions, we are not currently able to open our clubhouse to resume our monthly dinner meetings, this will continue on into 2021. However, we have been able to accomplish a few projects and schedule some small educational activities. We are continuing to monitor the government announcements with the restriction updates but still face many challenges to resume business as usual. We will keep you updated as we too would like to have our dinner meetings as well.

Your patience and understanding are greatly appreciated.

**Heinrich Weimer RIP**

It is with heavy hearts we announce the passing of Heinrich (Henry) Weimer. Henry was a very long-time active member of our club throughout his years of membership. Henry cherished all things nature, he loved to hunt and fish and treasured the time he spent at his Biscotasing and Pisky Lake camps.  He adored his time with his friends and family.  He was an avid Formula 1 enthusiast, and was a dedicated member of the Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers, German Canadian Club and in later years, the Raytheon Elcan Retirement Club.  Given the current situation with the coronavirus, a private service has occurred for the family.  A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date, to be announced when we enter safer times. The family requests, in lieu of flowers, Memorial Donations may be made in Henry’s name, to the Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers, P.O. Box 591, Midland Ontario, L4R 4L3   gbhaclub@gmail.com .   His dedication and presence will be greatly missed by many around the clubhouse. We offer our deepest condolences to the Weimer family.

<https://www.arbormemorial.ca/en/nicholls/obituaries/heinrich-weimer/57842>

**Executive Board Nominations and Election Process**

D/t the Covid-19 pandemic and the restrictions that follow with it, GBHA’s Executive have been meeting on a regular basis to deal with day to day business. Unfortunately, we have not been able to have our Annual General Membership meeting to have our nominations and election process. The executive is asking that if any member is in disagreement to postponing the elections this year to please notify us via email gbhaclub@yahoo.ca. This has never happened in the history of our clubs almost 100-year existence. These are difficult times for everyone, and our executive is always trying to come up with new ways to offer and complete events to the membership.

Your pertinence and understanding are greatly appreciated.

**GBHA Annual Food Drive**

Santa is very disappointed he will not be making a visit to GBHA’s to assist in their annual Food Bank Drive. This is all d/t the pandemic restrictions and aiding in keeping everyone safe. Santa and GBHA’s would ask that we not forget those who will go without this year. Please donate in any form you can by cash donation, non perishable foods or an unwrapped Christmas toy to any local food bank. Thank you.

**Indoor Gun Range**

GBHA is looking for a chairperson who would be willing be chair our indoor gun range pending pandemic regulations. We would like to be able to offer one- or two-nights pending volunteers and we hope to be starting in January. Volunteers will be needed to assist, If interested in assisting or chairing, please contact the club at gbhaclub@yahoo.ca

**2021 Memberships and Renewals**

GBHA Chair Elyse Birnie has updated the renewal form and membership applications. These forms are available as a link on our website [www.gbhuntersandanglers.com](http://www.gbhuntersandanglers.com) , with etransfers available to gbhaclub@gmail.com.

**D/T PANDEMIC RESTRICTIONS RENEWALS MUST BE COMPLETED ON LINE OR AT THE CLUBHOUSE, PLEASE DO NOT BRING THEM TO ELYSE’S HOUSE.**

For those whom are interested in coming to the clubhouse to renew their membership or submitting their membership applications, GBHA’s has arranged dates for this to be completed at the clubhouse.

We will be following social distancing rules and protocols. Masks will be made mandatory to wear. We ask that participants enter the front entrance and then once the process is completed, you leave through the hall exit using the ramp system.

We also ask those who will be paying by cash to bring the exact cash required, cheques made to Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers Inc and we will also offer interact payments.

The next opportunity will be on Saturday December 5, 2020, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and will be scheduled for Saturday January 16 2021 10:00 am till 12:00 pm. Printed forms will be available.

**PLEASE NOTE;**

**For identification purposes your PAL number or a Government issued identification will be mandatory, even for renewals.**

***Those not renewing this year and wish to renew at a later date***

***will be faced with the surcharge fee.***

**Turkey Shoot**

GBHA will be hosting a Turkey Shoot! This event will take place Saturday December 05 2020, after our membership drive is over. The Turkey Shoot registration is starting at 11:30 am, with the first heat starting at 12:00 pm. We will be using 12- and 20-gauge rounds that are provided for $5.00 per heat, bring your shotguns. Some shot guns will be available for usage. No PAL required gun instructors will be on site; this is open to all ages, kids to adults. A BBQ lunch and refreshments will be available.**Yes, volunteers will be needed.** If anyone is interested in volunteering please contact Alan Wheeler @ 705-828-1095, or email acwheeler66@gmail.com.

***RAIN OR SHINE THIS EVENT WILL HAPPEN!***

***THIS IS AN OPEN EVENT AND ALL AGES ARE WELCOMED.***

**Pesty Beaver**

GBHA would like to thank Stuart Lorriman for his trapping services in aiding the removal of a beaver whom was damming our upper pond. Great job in harvesting this creature, thanks again Stuart, he can be reached at *Stuart Lorriman*, Owner/Operator Heartwood Tree Service (705) 427-3124

**Big Game Blood Trackers**

Badger(dog) and I are members of Big Game Blood Trackers of Ontario.

Big Game Blood Trackers Ontario is an Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) sponsored and affiliated organization of volunteer handlers and trained tracking dogs. Our mission is the ethical, humane and quick recovery of big game animals in the province of Ontario.

It is purely a volunteer service, cannot accept or request payment for this type of service as it would be unlawful. Donation to offset fuel costs is acceptable.

Dog is leashed and we can only track during legal shooting hours.

Badger and I are available to track within 1-hour travel of Midland. Some tips to keep in mind is to limit the scent in the area, if you lose the blood trail or you are unsure of the shot, back off the track and contact me. If you need a tracker or have any questions in relation to this, feel free to give me a shout.

I can be reached at Ben- 613-913 1128 (text preferred)

**Wendat Visit to The Trout Pond**

On November 1st we hosted trout fishing day for some members of the Wendat Social Clubhouse. We supplied the fishing rods tackle and worms for the day.

Although no fish were caught in our throat pond and the weather was a mixture of freezing rain and sunshine everyone had a great time. It is wonderful to provide these types of opportunities within our community.

Hopefully we can do it again next year!

I I did take a few pictures that day and each person signed photo release for the club to use their pictures however we see fit. Janice Ferris

GBHA’s would like to thank Janice for overseeing this community involvement event. Its always good to help out with the community, thanks again Janice.

**Monarch Conservation Project**

I just wanted to give an update on the milkweed for Monarch’s Conservation project.

For what I thought would be a small conservation project it surpassed my expectations. I am very excited to report that seeds where delivered to 162 different residences. That is 162 new milkweed habitats that have been created for our ever-depleting Monarch population!

This project has provided education to so many people who have read the posts on Facebook. It was also put on the Victoria Harbour Town website! People as far away as Brampton and Bradford have contacted me for instructions on how to collect and planting.

I delivered the seeds to Penetanguishene LaFontaine, tiny beaches, Waverly, Victoria Harbour, Elmvale, Port McNicoll, Waubaushene, Coldwater, Fox Mead and of course Midland.

As a club I think we should be very proud of this project.

Janice Ferris

GBHA would like to thank Janice for coming up with this project idea and following through with it. Great job Janice thanks again.

**Outdoor Gun Range Inspection**

GBHA’s would like to thank Franz Klingenschmitt and Mike Crawford for taking on the task of ensuring the range was maintained and ready for our inspection from the Chief Firearms Office. These two members often went above and beyond when dealing with the range and it is greatly appreciated, our Range Chairman Franz Klingensmith would like to thank all of the volunteers who have helped out through the last year in keeping the range open and safe to use. Great job folks.

**Outdoor Gun Range “Gong” Targets**

Come the spring of 2021, Franz Klingenschmitt will be having “Gong” style metal targets installed in the berms of the outdoor range. This will be a first of this type of target permitted at the club, it goes without saying abuse of the targets will not be tolerated. Range rules are mandatory to follow.

**Mandatory New Member Orientation Program**

GBAH will be hosting a range orientation session on Sunday Dec 6th at 10am for all new members and those from 2020 who may still require it. This is mandatory orientation is in order to use Club's outdoor and indoor ranges once you are a member, with an OFAH membership # in 2021. We will meet 10am SHARP in the upstairs hall of clubhouse. Chairs will be set up minimum 6 feet apart to ensure physical distancing is adhered to. Masks will be required (bring one) when physical distancing cannot be observed during tours of ranges.
We will have an introduction to the club, a discussion of range safety rules, range opening and closing procedures etc. Once all questions are answered, we will break into 2 groups.
Each group will receive a tour of both indoor and outdoor ranges. Once tours are complete and all your questions are answered you will be required to sign our "Range Agreement form".
Once your membership in 2021 is processed and you receive your 2021 OFAH membership # you will be able to use ranges.
Please notify Range Chairman, Franz Klingenschmitt directly if you are able to attend and reserve a spot. Need to leave your name, phone # and or email address so you can be contacted if there are any changes to this event. Email at franz1@bell.net or 705-543-0463 (text message preferred)

**Possession and Acquisition License (PAL) program and Hunter Safety Courses**GBHA will be offering a Pal and Hunter program on the week end of Sat January 09 2021 and Sunday January 10 2021 in our lower hall. The PAL course has a cost of $170.00 and the Hunter Safety course is $150.00, HST included. We are doing a 1 stop course on the 9th and 10th of January. We are only accepting students looking for the complete package at this time. (both Courses) Let me know if you are still interested, thank-you Larry J Ferris 705-529-6364

**Restricted Possession and Acquisition Course**As well a Restricted Firearms (R-PAL) Course ($170.00 HST included) will be offered in 2021. Dates to be announced. For more information on educational programs, or to enroll contact
Larry Farris @ 705-529-6364 or ferris.larry51@gmail.com

**CONSERVATION UPDATES**

**Pollinator Garden**

We would like to remind everyone that the Club, thanks to the hard work of the Junior Club, had established a pollinator Garden next to the block shed last year. It is in need of some love and we'll continue to work with the Juniors to get it better established and help it flourish with native species of shrubs and flowers. We want to remind everyone to please not keep the site clear of trash and other materials, to allow the existing plants to grow.

**Nest Box Program**

Our Conservation Chair Craig Lalonde had a golden opportunity to meet up with two of our members Yana and Jamie. They wished to help him out with the Duck Nesting Boxes. When Craig met up with them, he was pleasantly surprised to be presented with three nesting boxes donated to our club for the nesting box project. Craig is hoping to have the boxes completed so they can be installed on a property in February pending weather and pandemic restrictions.

Having members stepping up to donate such items to the club not only cuts the costs but helps to make this project become complete. Thank you, Yana and Jamie, again for your greatly appreciated donation, and thank you Craig for chairing this project.

As the fall and (gulp) winter approaches, we'll be trying to plan days to build more Wood Duck boxes, and to go out to do installs and maintenance. As with everything these days, plans will be made accordingly, to be compliant with any and all Covid restrictions at the time of the event.

One is Tiny Marsh, who we committed to last year to take on the maintenance of their nesting structure program. The second is a property, belonging to Club Associate Dave Russell. He had previously reached out to us and offered for our Club to take over the maintenance and monitoring of the 40-50 nesting boxes on his property. I will be going out to both sites in the winter months, once the ice has settled over the wetlands, to locate and assess the structures. I'd appreciate a couple of volunteers to help visit the sites to assess the condition of existing structures, when conditions allow.

The installs will be done on **February 6th, 2021**. We had a great turnout last year and we'd like to make it an annual event, to celebrate World Wetland Day (which falls on February 2nd every year). If you would like to volunteer for any (or all of the days), please contact Craig Lalonde at (705)427-3542 (text or call) or craiglalonde@hotmail.com

**General Conservation Reminders**

As always, I invite all members to please contact me with any info you come across for conservation related efforts in the area.  Also, if you are involved with any conservation projects (with other organizations, on your own properties, etc.) please share any stories/pictures so that we can keep everyone updated on the types of efforts our membership is making. I can always be contacted at (705)427-3542 (text or call) or at craiglalonde@hotmail.com

**Junior Club**

Our Junior Club continues to plan a few outdoor events with limited numbers. Please check our calendar and watch for emails with notifications of events. As well the Junior Club is looking for a couple more mentors to help out. If anyone is interested please contact Karl Gostick @ 705-716-1612 or forest9101@yahoo.ca.

**2021 Junior Club Memberships**

Starting NOW, we will be accepting registrations for the Junior Club.  Anyone who is currently a member of the Junior Club, as well as those interested in joining, are required to complete a registration form with us.  Membership to the Junior Club is free for any youth (4-16 years) that are part of a GBHA family membership, but registration is required.  Non-GBHA members are also able to join, with a paid family OFAH membership plus an annual fee of $20 per child.  Please contact Karl Gostick at 705-716-1612, gbhajuniorclub@gmail.com or forest9101@yahoo.ca with any questions, or to make sure you are on our email list.

**Trail System**

Don’t forget folks we have many trails on our 100 acre of property that members are more than welcome to hike, ski or snowshoe through. Many tails all leading back to the parking lot, they are there to be used! Enjoy!

**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.

**Editor’s Note;**

To say this year has been stressful would be an understatement! We as a club had so many goals to accomplish this year for our future, now like everyone else, our future is so uncertain. We hope that membership remains active even during these dormant times. We will be back and we will move forward and make our club better than ever.

Don’t forget to take a moment and check all your licenses and permits to make sure they are not expired and all your equipment is ready for next year!

The Executive would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding. I for one will be staying up late on New Years eve, not to see a new year come in, but to make sure 2020 goes out!

*Stay Safe, Stay Well!*

***We Wish You All A Very Merry Christmas***

***and Happy New Year’s!***

**Bruce Dunn - Bulletin Editor**

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

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

**PLEASE NOTE!**

 **THE “BUY N SELL” WILL ONLY BE**

**POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE**

