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

**February 2019**

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.

**Please remember 20019 Memberships and renewals end February 28 2019**

**Trillium Foundation Grant Denial**

Unfortunately, we were denied our application for the grant we applied for with the Trillium Foundation. This grant was to complete a list of renovations to the clubhouse to ensure the continued heritage of our club and interest in the outdoors in the future. We will be collecting more information required and moving forward to be ready for the next grant coming available, hopefully later this year.

Many thanks to Ken Langley and his volunteers Walker McKay and Alan Wheeler for the dedication to this process. It is greatly appreciated by the club and its members.

**2019 OFAH Conservation Lottery Tickets**

The OFAH Conservation Lottery tickets will be available at our General Membership Dinner meetings. Please return sold books as soon as possible. If anyone would like to have tickets mailed to them to sell please contact Ian Driver @ 1-705-816-5416 iandriver27@gmail.com

**“Bring a Guest to Dinner” Draw**

GBHA would like to congratulate Joe Trudeau in the draw for two free dinner tickets to be used for any regularly priced General Membership Dinner in 2019! Joe has been a long-time member and can often be found volunteering in the kitchen helping serve dinners. Thanks, Joe, for volunteering and bring guests to our clubhouse to participate in our dinners and socialize with our members. As well many thanks to everyone who brought a guest to dinner and participated in our draw.

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

These programs will be offered by GBHA on March 16th and 17h 2019, then again May 11th and 12th 2019. PAL course has a cost of $150.00 and the Hunter Safety course is $140.00, HST included. As well a **Restricted Firearms (R-PAL) Course** ($170.00 HST included) will be offered this spring of 2019, 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

Reid Belfry @ 1-705-209-1702 or mid.shipping@schott.com

**2019 Membership/Renewal Invoice**

Membership renewal forms for 2019 memberships are available either on our web site or available at the clubhouse during dinner meetings or events **until February 28/19**. Please ensure to update your contact information including your proper mailing address and an up to date 911 address. For further information or to have renewal form mailed to you, contact Mike Weimer m2bweimer@gmail.com  705-529-9353 Direct deposit can be sent to gbhaclub@gmail.com thank you.

**2019 Sportsman’s Memorial Dinner**

GBHA Club hosted their Sportsman’s Memorial Dinner on **Wednesday January 16/19**. A moment of silence was taken for our fallen member David Brooks as well a special mention to Paul Yelland who is still missing.  Paul’s family graciously hosted a garage sale and the family donated 50% of the proceeds to the club and the other 50% went to the search committees from the fall and spring.  A presentation will be made to them next time they are able to attend a general membership dinner meeting.

Our award winners were:

Smokey Woods – Most amount of OFAH Conservation Lottery Ticket Sales - Ken Sweet

Harold Kettle (Conservation Award) - Junior Club

Merit Award (Most Dedicated and Participating Member in the last year) - Joe Belcourt

Dedication Award (Years of Dedication and Participation) - Alan Wheeler

Biggest Walleye - Greg Edwards

Biggest Pike - Michele Vardy

Biggest Speckled Trout - Dan Wilson

Biggest Largemouth Bass - Joe Belcourt

Toots Wallace Award for the Biggest Smallmouth Bass - Shelby McQuaid

Biggest Turkey - Jake Edwards

Highest Scoring Deer - Dave Winfield

Highest Scoring Moose - Dave Winfield

Thanks to all those who participated in entering and congrats to the winners of the awards.

GBHA is looking at revamping the awards for next year to include prizes as well. Should anyone have any suggestions on awards please notify Calvin King

**Cadet Winter Camping and Training Exercises**

The 724 Midland Lions Air Cadet Squadron will be at the clubhouse and will be out on the property for a winter Field Training Exercise on February 8-10 2019. Your co-operation is greatly appreciated.

**Next General Membership Dinner Meeting**

On Wed February 20/19 GBHA Club will be hosting our monthly dinner meeting. A delicious entre of Roasted Stuffed Pork meal 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.

**Gun Show Sale**

On Sunday February 24 2019 09:00 am – 03:00 pm GBHA will be hosting a Gun Show Sale. Tables will be for rent ($30.00 per table) for persons interested in selling their firearms, accessories and hunting and fishing equipment. As well we are offering for our members only a chance to put their unwanted long guns on a club table **for a commission of $15.00/item**. Hall Entry fee of $4.00/Adult, children under 12 free.

For more information contact Joe Belcourt @ 705-427-2065, joebelcourt@hotmail.com

**Fire Arms and Range Usage Re-Orientation**

GBHA is offering an opportunity for any member that may be interested in a refresher on how to properly use a fire arm and have some 1:1 range time, or get re-orientated to our gun ranges. For more information on this educational program, or to enroll contact Reid Belfry @ 1-705-209-1702 or mid.shipping@schott.com or Franz Klingenschmitt @ 1-705-543-0463 or email franz1@bell.net

**Junior Club Memberships**

It is that time of year again, to renew/register for membership into the GBHA Junior Club. Registration into the Junior Club is completely free for anyone that is currently part of a GBHA membership.  We do require that a registration form to be filled out so that we have the youth's information, emergency contact info, and parent's permission (or refusal) for pictures to be shared on our social media.

We do also accept non-GBHA members into the Junior Club, so please pass the information on to anyone in the community that you know that may be interested.  They are required to have a family membership with the OFAH.  They can either provide proof to us that they are a current OFAH member, or the membership can be purchased through us.  In addition to an OFAH membership, non-GBHA members pay $20 per child to help offset the costs throughout the year.  Please contact Craig Lalonde at (705)427-3542, or gbhajuniorclub@gmail.com for any questions related to the Junior Club (ages, activities, membership), registration forms, or to be added to our Junior Club specific email list.

**Junior Club Outings**

On January 5th, we were joined by a small group of Junior Club and GBHA members at the Wye Marsh for their Christmas Bird Count.  This was one of many outings planned by various groups throughout Ontario as part of a project that takes place each year to provide information on songbird species presence and distribution.  We want to thank everyone that joined us to help provide this important information, and we hope you enjoyed the time at the Marsh, the bannock, and hot chocolate.

Through the winter months we have a couple of things planned, the main one being our return to The **Penetanguishene Winterama for their Family Ice Fishing Day.**  This will be taking place on February 16th at the town docks, from 11:30 - 3:00 pm.  This event is open to the public, and it is a **free** fishing weekend in Ontario, which means anyone can try fishing without a license.  All gear and bait will be provided, but please feel free to bring your own if you'd like.  Guests can come anytime during those hours and stay for as long as they'd like.  We could use some volunteers that are willing to meet during an evening the week before the event to help prepare all of the gear, and maybe head down to the docks to drill some holes and use fish finders to try and identify some key fishing spots.  Of course, we will also need plenty of volunteers for the day of the event to set people up with lines, bait hooks, and hopefully remove some great fish from their lines.  We will also need people out early to drill holes and get everything ready before guests start to show.

We are also still working on the details to get some duck nesting boxes built and installed over the winter months.  GBHA President, Calvin King, is working with some of his contacts to get the materials donated and has access to shop space to pre-cut and drill the materials.  Ideally this will be done in the winter months, with one outing at the club to build the boxes, and subsequent outing(s) to some wetland locations to install the boxes.  We will provide details as we get everything finalized.  If you are interested in attending or volunteering with the fishing day or nest boxes (or have a potential location for a nest box), please contact Craig Lalonde at (705)427-3542, or gbhajuniorclub@gmail.com

**Wild Game Donations of any kind for our 2019 Conservation Wild Game Dinner will be greatly appreciated as we are in dire need of wild game meats.**

**Door “Prize” donations would be greatly appreciated as well.**

Often you have seen the request for wild game meats 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 yes, these events are less expensive for the club, but 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 some to our club, please contact Alan Wheeler @ 705-828-1095, or email acwheeler66@gmail.com

**2019 Conservation Wild Game Dinner Volunteers (April 27 2019)**

Alan Wheeler has once again volunteered to chair next year’s Conservation Wild Game Dinner April 27 2019 and is looking for volunteers to help out. **ONLY 150** tickets are on sale for $40.00 per person and are selling FAST. Please notify Alan if interested in a ticket. Alan will be chairing meetings to prepare for what we hope to be another successful dinner and fundraiser for GBHA.

If interested in volunteering, please contact Alan Wheeler @ 705-828-1095, acwheeler66@gmail.com.

**Cabela Club Membership Discount**

Joe Belcourt has arranged a club membership discount at Cabela’s! This will work on proof of membership with your GBHA 2019 membership card, but bring your OFAH card as well to show you are a member of both. It is designed on a yearly basis of purchases by the club’s members. So, the more that each member spends there the higher discount we will each receive. **Remember you will need an up to date GBHA 2019 membership!**

**GPS, Map & Compass Course**

**Instructor:** Jacek Wojcik

**Location:** Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers

**Address:** 3175 Ogden's Beach Road, Midland

**Date:** Saturday,May 25, 2019

**Time:** 08:00-16:00

**Cost:** $40.00, HST included

This event will be an open event with a maximum of 20 participants.

The course will introduce the fundamentals of map, compass and GPS navigation at a beginner to intermediate level. Maps will be provided. Please bring your own compass and GPS.

**The Course will cover following topics:**

Topographical Maps, Grid Coordinates, Latitude and Longitude, Map Datum, Magnetic Declination, Triangulation,

Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM), Military Grid Reference System (MGRS),

Plotting a Bearing, Navigation with Compass, Navigation with GPS using Routes and Tracks

This course is intended to be hands-on and will take participants out of the classroom and into the woods. Please dress accordingly as there might be some wet conditions on the trail.

**For registration please contact Ken Sweet**

Phone: 705-527-9949 or email: k.sweet@sympatico.ca

**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

**Monday Night Indoor PISTOL Night**

GBHA Club is offering this season an opportunity for Indoor Pistol Night on **MONDAY** nights (.22 cal PISTOL ONLY) will run until the outdoor range is open for the season. Please check the clubs web site calendar for dates of operation. For more information please contact Kevin Vardy @ 705-686-7593 trophyhunter2384@gmail.com

**Thursday Night Indoor Gun Range 2019**

GBHA executive will offer the indoor gun range for .22 cal and down usage. This will take place on **THURSDAY** nights. Thanks to Mike Weimer and Joe Belcourt for taking the lead role in running this event for our membership. They will be looking for volunteers to assist. For more information please contact Mike Weimer1-705-529-9353 or Joe Belcourt @ 705-427-2065

**Trap Shooting**

If anyone is interested in going trap shooting on a regular basis, please contact Kevin Voisin at 705-543-1459. We will be shooting only 2 KM's from the gun club.

***PLEASE NOTE THIS IS NOT A GBHA SPONSORED EVENT***

**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.

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

GBHA Executive would like to remind everyone that we moved the date of review for the Constitution and By-Laws and the election of the 2019-2020 Executive Board Members to the spring, this will take place in April 2019 at our General Membership Dinner Meeting.

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. Vest, hats and crests will be sold at the dinner meetings or by contacting

Bruce Dunn @ 1-705-534-0632.

**Editor’s Note:**

Even though we have been denied the Trillium Grant we had budgeted to replace our kitchen stove and oven this year. This new system would be propane units, it will be more efficient to run and will include a range hood for ventilation. We will be installing propane outside on the south side of the building so our smoking area will have to be moved upon completion. We will have a temporary location until we can put up a small structure on the north side of the building by the cedar trees and benches. Our old cooking units are becoming very old and expensive to run and with parts becoming next to impossible to obtain a decision was made to replace them.

We are noticing a difference in our operation costs with our new heating system installed, and removing our old oil furnace. We are making these improvements not only as an operational need but as a conservational act of saving energy.

We will not give up on applying for further grants. By applying for them we are educating ourselves on key points to include to make ourselves a more favorable candidate for receiving the funding.

Many hours go into projects like this. Your executive members are constantly moving forward with not only keeping the facility operational but moving the club forward as well. Should any member have any suggestions for renovations, upgrades, club activities or just day to day business please contact the executive with your thoughts. We are always open to receiving a different view and suggestion.

Stay warm, healthy and active, hope you can make it out to our dinner meetings, the food and comradery is always top notch!

**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**

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