



BRUCE PENINSULA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOC.

P.O. Box 548, WIARTON, ONTARIO N0H 2T0
www.bpsportsmen.com
Yours in Conservation
bpsportsmen@gmail.com

APRIL 2014 NEWS AND VIEWS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Meetings are the last Thursday of the Month at 7:30 p.m. The Clubhouse is off Old Oliphant Road on Northacres road and off County Road 13 in Wiarton. Next meeting, April 24th, 2014. Your participation is welcome and anticipated. Editors Jim Martell 519-534-2502 or e-mail bpsportsmen@gmail.com or Kat at rkmcc@gbtel.ca

Georgian College Police Foundations Students



BPSA hosted annual Twin County Bounty Hunters Cowboy Action Shooting.



BPSA “News and Views” Monthly Bulletin March 2014

Monthly BPSA minutes March 2014 The regular monthly meeting was held on Thursday March 27, 2014 with 28 members present. Club President Jim Martell asked if the substitute February 2014 meeting minutes had any errors or omissions as posted in the News and Views Bulletin. A motion to adopt the minutes of the substitute February meeting by Stu Paterson seconded by Dennis Morrison carried.

Guest Speaker – David McLeish (MNR)

David is the Lake Manager from Sarnia to Thunder Bay. He lives between Owen Sound and Wiarton and has a special interest in the area. He gave an over view of the Commercial Fishing Agreement and the numerous committees that have been established to implement the agreement. Some of these committees include: Governance, Total allowable catch, Fish stocking, Economic development, communication and education etc.

Concerns about compliance to the agreement are to be addressed by Randy Tippen, MNR located in Sault Saint Marie and Staff Sgt. Rob King, First Nations Cape Crocker.

Data regarding White fish total allowable catch shows that the first Nations reported catch in the last two years has not exceeded more that 60% of the sustainable allowable catch (as determined by the committee).

The most significant development is the potential of using a “Structured Decision Making Process”. This would be a group made up of affected individuals representing First Nations, MNR, Sports Fishermen, and possibly Provincial and Local Governments all reporting to an arbitrator, Mike Jones, who has just completed his assignment as head of Michigan State University Biology. Mike will be available by August 2014 to take on this assignment. MNR and First Nations were to have agreed to this process at a meeting initially scheduled for the fall of 2013 but was delayed due to personal concerns by Cape Crocker representatives. MNR will follow up in an attempt to obtain First Nations buy into the concept and reschedule the meeting this spring.

Following David’s presentation, many BPSA members expressed their total frustration with the way that the Commercial Fishermen have decimated fish stocks in the local bays, ignored net length restrictions, and net end marker flags or night lights that create significant safety concerns. These concerns discourage people from fishing in the bay especially in small boats and discourage tourism and economic development in the area. Sports fishermen have also lost faith in the Provincial Legislators and the MNR who signed an agreement that in effect paid the First Nations to comply with the agreement and then when known infractions to the agreement are reported there are never any follow up or charges laid. David

McLeish will review our expressed concerns and review them with Dennis at a FMZ meeting.

David also provided 2 copies of the 2012 and 2013 Aerial Boat Count Survey in Owen Sound and Colpoy’s Bays. The data shows that 90% of the angling boats are completely within the bays (Colpoy’s 15% and Owen Sound 75%) with the occasional boat further into the lake or along the outer shores. Non-angling boat activity in the bays were (Colpoy’s 39% and Owen Sound 21% with the balance 40% along the shore and out into Georgian Bay). The surveys also showed that most of the angling occurred in the early Am or late PM, and on weekends versus week days, and during the Salmon Spectacular Derby.

New Members / Guests- Dennis Morton

Correspondence –

- A letter from David Oraziotti the Minister of Natural Resources in response to BPSA concerns about ministry staffing, funding support and commitment to fisheries management on Lake Huron. He essential said that the FMZ councils on Lake Huron, the ministry and UGLMU are continuing to strive to meet its mandate of effectively managing the aquatic resources of Lake Huron
- A letter from David McLeish that outlined FMZ member attendance at meetings over the last year and a half. He identified poor attendance as anyone who attended less than half the meetings (FMZ 13 55% and FMZ 14 20%). Poor attendance makes the functioning of the Councils difficult and reduces their effectiveness. Sidebar- the BPSA member Dennis Morrison had perfect attendance!!
- A letter from Bill Walker indicating that he supports the Spring Bear Hunt and trapping and relocation of nuisance bears. He is looking for public support of this position and the spring hunt when approved by local councils. Your comments can be sent to www.premier@ontario.ca and minister.mnr@ontario.ca

Treasury - Mel Urbchott – March

- Roy Hamilton Memorial Deer Feeding Fund \$ 3476
- Receipts \$ 1405
- Expenses \$ 1485
- Ways and Means balance \$ 580

A motion by Al Hunter seconded by Ray Marklevitz to approve the March Treasury report carried.

- A motion by Frank Hutter seconded by Al Hutter to reimburse Stu Paterson’s travel expense related to attendance to the 2014 OFAH annual conference, in the amount of \$774, carried.

Membership - Larrilee Leckie / Forbes Symon:

2014 paid membership

BPSA - Adults: Family Junior

Total members n/a

Archery - Adults: Family: Junior :

Handgun - Adults: 71 Family: Junior:

Membership buttons are available at Bob Bell's Spirit Rock and at Cindy Waugh's barber shop as well as in the clubhouse.

Committee Reports and Discussions

Archery: Karen Van Nest- tel. 519.378.3339 Email kvn10x@bell.net n/r

- Indoor hours are Juniors 6-7 and Seniors 7-8.30pm

Bulletin – Phil Henderson

- Phil mailed out 50 bulletins in March. For our members who have address changes, please provide your updates to the membership secretary.
- Mel Urbchott talked to Karen Lancaster re the purchase a laser printer, paid by BPSA, to reduce the cost of printing the bulletins. She had already bought a printer and declined the offer, but will still give BPSA a best possible price for printing the bulletins.

Web Site: Kat McCulloch n/r

- All members are encouraged to continue forwarding information and pictures of club activities to Kat.

Fish Committee-Hatchery: Ray Marklevitz / Gord Smith

- Bruce Mallard needs volunteers to feed the fish in the hatchery. If you can help, please call him at 519 534-1274.
- There are 30,000 Rainbows left in the hatchery. They are in good shape and will be fin clipped Wednesday April 9th at 1pm and 7pm. Signup sheets were available at the meeting. We need to have at least 25 volunteers for each shift.
- The water supply in the hatchery is 20 gpm.
- BPSA received 28,100 Brown Trout eggs. They have hatched and are now in the 17 foot tank. We currently have 25,000 live Browns.
- Ray made up a record of BPSA fish stocking, a BPSA brochure, and a membership application and then placed them at the Colpoys dock. The intent is to have dock fishermen support BPSA and practice conservation measures.
- Ray completed 2 more bureaucratic MOE reports re water quality.

Fish Management Zones-13 Lake Huron-14 Georgian Bay Stewardship Councils: Dennis Morrison.

Dennis attended a three day Great Lakes Fishery Committee meeting in Windsor or Sarnia this week. He

will report next month on the details after he has the opportunity to write up a report. Some brief comments include: the Americans are doing a lot more research than our Ontario counterparts, Americans are no longer stocking Lake Tout. Whitefish are eating more of the lake forage base than all the Salmon Rainbow and Walleye combined.

The next meetings are scheduled for:

- FMZ 14 April 5
- Hatchery meeting April 12
- FMZ 13 April 13

Handgun Club: Al Hunter

- Weekly shooting is Mon. & Wed. evenings at 7:00 PM and centre fire on Wed. afternoons at 1:00 PM. New shooters always welcome.
- The Cowboy shoot on Saturday March 15, 2014 was a great success with 18 participants.
- Seven Georgian College Police Foundations students and two faculty advisors on March 20, 2014 came to BPSA for instruction on safe handling and firing of handguns. This was the first time any of the students had fired a handgun.
- The government continues to pursue lead health impact on ranges and all other businesses such as paint manufacturing, automotive, etc.(another bureaucratic organization).

Youth Winter Programs January- April:

Firearms -Rob and Krista Quesnel 519-935-2444

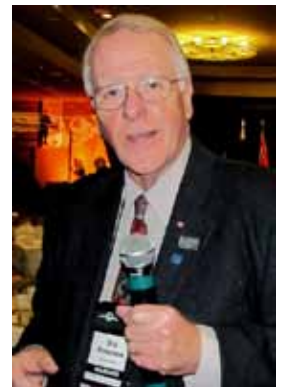
Archery- Karen Van Nest and Phil Henderson 519-378-3339

- Youth awards BBQ is tentatively set for Sunday April 13th at 1pm.
- Currently there are 19 youths signed up in the program.
- Ray Marklevitz inquired as to the age when youth can participate in the youth rifle safety training and shooting on Sundays. Frank Hutter indicated that age is not a factor but rather the determination is based on the height and strength of the child. A youth is eligible when they are tall enough to be able to hold a rifle high enough to shoot through the range port holes.

O.F.A.H.: Stu Paterson

COVERAGE OF THE OFAH ANNUAL MEETING

1. Congrats to our partners in conservation! The Mary Pickford Trophy is presented to the OFAH club considered to have done the most conservation work over the past year. Named after the late actress and avid angler, this award recognizes the spirit and



determination of OFAH conservationists. Although several deserving clubs were nominated, multiple-time winner, Sydenham Sportsmen's Association (SSA), walked away with the award again. As the judges noted, the SSA, "continues to dedicate enormous amounts of time and energy to the conservation of our resources. Their contributions and the number of volunteer hours they contribute are truly remarkable, as are their efforts to involve young people in so many of their projects."

The SSA's featured projects included stream improvement, spawning rehabilitation work, the Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular, annual conservation dinner, hatchery work, firearms safety training, community outreach and pollution abatement.

2. Its always interesting when the deputy minister of Natural Resources David O'Toole, answers questions from the floor. He responded to this question "Sir, last year in the months following the signing of the commercial fishing agreement for Grey-Bruce, witnesses, along 12 mile long Colpoy's Bay near Wiartion, observed a dozen instances where commercial fishing nets were laid that were 3-thousand feet long....much longer than the 984 feet allowed under the agreement. Yet the conservation officer for our area told our group there are no penalties for such infractions and also said oh yes there are some rebels among our commercial anglers".



The deputy did not answer my question.

He asked Brad Gerrie, Regional Enforcement Manager for the MNR southwest Great Lakes Section, to come up to the mike.

Brad revealed something we did not know. That there were not just 12 reports of infractions of the agreement.



Witnesses called the MNR tips line to report 28 instances of breaking the rules. The MNR tips line had 28 complaints from witnesses who saw infractions of the agreement. I asked about penalties for this rule breaking... the answer.. " some of these complaints have been handed to the Cape Croker Police". "most were resolved by the 1st nations".

Was any of this made public? NO.

Several MNR folks at the conference mentioned the calls the ministry had about nets in Owen Sound Bay

during the 2013 Salmon Spectacular. These calls were investigated and it turns out they were crank calls.....so the MNR folks were totally not impressed by loogans. They are defined as idiots who don't know what they are doing and make a fool of themselves; they are not hooligans or juvenile delinquents who would wasted everyone's time.

Brad Gerrie emphasised the importance of calling the MNR TIPS line the moment you see any infraction either involving 1st nations or sports anglers.

The tips line 1-877-847-7667 (1-877-TIPS-MNR)

3. OFAH Fisheries Biologist MATT DEMILLE has been very helpful in liasing between clubs like ours and the MNR over the implementation of the commercial fishing agreement for our region. He has a meeting with the Minister of Natural Resources David Oraziotti, MPP (Sault Ste. Marie) in April. Matt is seeking input from us on the front lines of this rule breaking by first nations.



He wants us to feed him the latest information. He will also ask the minister about fair sharing of our fish resources, by-catch by 1st nations anglers, provisions allowing safe sportsfishing in the dark, and a lot more with references to the massive over quota reports reported by these commercial anglers in the past. Can the fish committee please forward me some of the groups concerns for presentation to the minister.

OFAH executive Director Angelo Lombardo promises your federation will continue to work with the MNR on the fishing agreement with safety and conservation front and centre.

4. The OFAH Government Affairs/Policy Committee in its annual report reminded us that unlimited and unregulated harvest of fish and wildlife will lead to depletion of our resources and will lead toward collapse. It states....our federation will continue to pay close attention to issues such as the Algonquin Land Claim, The SON Fishing Agreement, the Williams Treaty court case, the Lake Nipissing commercial gillnet walleye fishery, and the aboriginal harvest of elk north of Manitoulin and near Bancroft. On the Algonquin claim and the Williams Treaty the OFAH has applied for intervenor status.

5. There were several references to Lake Nipissing where native over-harvest referred to as ``un-regulated commercial gill net harvesting`` has put the lakes walleye fishery in crisis mode.
One speaker was less optimistic than last year suggesting Lake Nipissing walleye populations will never rebound.

6. Moose management and tag distribution. The OFAH Senior Wildlife Biologist Mark Ryckman reports the MNR will change the way tags are handed out based on questionnaire responses from hunters, and population studies of the animals. He said generally populations are stable. Mark added that 1st nations refusal to report moose kills, makes it more difficult for MNR to do effective moose population management.



7. Both Brian McRae of the OFAH Club Services department and former President Bill Blackwell made a special effort in 2013 to visit as many zone meetings as possible.
I personally have been impressed with Blackwell from Port Elgin. He demonstrated a keen understanding of our issues with the SON Fishing Agreement. New OFAH President Glen Rivard also has a deep understanding of the issues we face heading into his new term.

8. General information ...there are 42 community sports fishing hatcheries in Ontario....5 in our region...they stock 9 species of fish

9. In 2013 OFAH paid out more than 64-thousand dollars to help those who cant afford to take hunter education courses. We had a record number taking those courses last year being led by more than 300 instructors ... some of whom are considered among the best in the world. The message is ``invest in our youth...we teach them to be good hunters and good conservationists and they will become the leaders in our world of hunting and fishing``.

On Friday, November 8, 2013 at approximately 4:29 p.m., Grey County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) received a report of an injured hunter on the A Line in the Township of Georgian Bluffs.

The victim, who was alone in a tree stand at the time of the incident, attempted to hang his rifle on a tree hook when it discharged. The bullet struck him in the buttock.

Grey County Emergency Services (EMS) transported the victim to the Grey Bruce Health Centre in Owen Sound where he was treated for the non-life threatening injury. The Ministry of Natural Resources was notified. A 21 year old Owen Sound man was charged with "Use Firearm Carelessly to Hunt" under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act.

The next Zone H OFAH meeting is coming up on Sunday April 6. It will be held at 10 am at the Sydenham Sportsmen`s Association clubhouse in Georgian Bluffs South of Owen Sound.

Property: Ron Snelling

- The sewage line to the septic tank froze and blocked the line. Jim Martell arranged to have the line water blasted February 18th at a discount price of \$200. Unfortunately it froze again. Rob Thomas (cell 3744683) cleared it again March 8th. John McGill supplied a 85 foot waterline heating coil that was installed by Murray Garniss and friends March 19th. Ted McCaw then ran a 220 electrical line directly to the main electrical panel. We have not had a problem since the last fix.
- Ron will be away a lot and wants someone to take over as property chairperson.

Rankin Resource Group- Larry Isbester- n/r

Scheduling: Ron Snelling-

Events and club house usage are posted on the bulletin board.

Special Events: the special events for 2014 are:

- Family Day Holiday- Don Elliott – February 17, 2014 - 12 - 2 pm. We had a great turn out. Karen Neerhof the TSBP Recreation Programmer sent the BPSA a thank you letter and is looking forward to our participation next year.
- Awards Presentation and Potluck Dinner-Don Elliott April 5thrd 2014,- Social – 5:00 PM, dinner 6:00 PM.
- Fish Derby – Jack Seatter May 09 - 11, 2014.
- Fish Fry- Ken Barrett May 11, 2014 2:00-4:00pm.
- Kids Fishing Day- Don Elliott-Saturday July 5, 2014 4-9pm.
- Beef and Pork BBQ- Murray Garniss and Dennis Morrison- Sunday July 13, 2014 from 4-7 pm.
- Community Living-Fishing on the Pond – Sunday September 14, 2014 from 2-7pm.
- Potluck Diner – Saturday November 22 2014. Social time from 5pm with dinner at 6:00pm.

Wildlife:

- We need a Chairperson for this function

Awards: Don Elliott-

- As there is limited access to the hatchery blank forms and the mail basket is now in the clubhouse. If anyone has a blank of the form could you run some copies and also set up a blank form on the web site which should make it easier for members to access and print them in their own home. Please set up a form section on the website with a copy of the award form.
- 2013 award winners are:

| Category | Score | Senior | Junior |
|----------|---------|-------------------|--------|
| Salmon | 13.75# | Hunter Masonneuve | |
| | 8.5# | Christine Janelle | |
| Rainbow | 10.5# | Jon Janelle | |
| Pike | 8.5# | Judy Nafziger | |
| Moose | 106 1/8 | Judy Nafziger | |
| Deer | 97 7/8 | Mike Lutman | |

Old Business:

- n/r

New Business

- BPSA requires volunteers for the positions of Vice President, Wildlife and Property Chairpersons.
- Stu Paterson and Al Hunter will initiate a proposal outlining docking, retaining walls and dredging requirements for Blue Water Park and present it to town officials. Their presentation is close to being completed.
- Ray Marklevitz asked if we could have BPSA membership decals, similar to the OFAH stickers, made up to attach to our vehicles homes or businesses.
- Murray Garniss has some used deep fryer vegetable oil that could be used for the spring bear hunt. Please contact him if you want it.
- Henry White asked if seniors from Kelso Villa would be able to have a hatchery tour in May. Ray suggested that the tour should be scheduled in the fall when we will have lots of fish in the hatchery.
- The Georgian Yacht Club hosted a public meeting March 22nd to address the drop in water levels in the Great lakes, mainly Michigan, Huron and Georgian Bay. Al Hunter and Stu Paterson attended the meeting and completed the Following report: Contact for further information can be obtained through website www.stoppeddrop.ca

Draw Prizes

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Fish | Ray Marklevitz, George Berfelz, Al Hunter |
| Rod and reel | Bruce Mallard |
| Lures | Martha Martell, Stu Paterson(2), Ken Barrett(2) |
| Boat wax | Henry White, Ken Barrett |
| Holster | Tim Lahey |
| Hat | Al Hunter |
| Fish crisp | Henry White, Carl Schroeder, Al Hunter |
| Towel | Murray Garniss, Frank Hutter |
| Seafood sauce | Dennis Morrison |

A special thank you to Tim Horton's Warton for supplying Tim Bits

A motion by Frank Hutter to adjourn carried, ending the March 2014 meeting at 10:30pm.

The next scheduled meeting is Thursday April 24th at 7:30pm.

President's Message

Spring is almost upon us. We have had a long old fashion winter. Soon the nice weather will be here.

Members are encouraged to participate in Club events. Remember upcoming events like: April 5 social at the club house awards and potluck; Mother's day fish fry and derby coming up. Thanks To organizers, Don Elliott for the spring Social and Ken Barrett for the Mother's Day event.

As many of you know Ray Marklevitz and Gord Smith are organizing an day/evening for fin clipping April 9th at the hatchery, we ask for members to participate in that event as well.

Many members expressed frustration to the MNR Lake Manager at our recent club meeting over the process of the SON MNR agreement, our club must continue to be aware of the position taken by our representatives on any agreements and that our influence is limited.

We as stakeholders of our lakes and waterways, must continue to push for a say in the health and conservation of our lakes and the fishery.

Thanks to the passion of our members we continue to influence the governments and general public on the benefits of conservation that will allow us to keep stocking fish.

We hope you get out and enjoy the fishing opportunities in derbies and family outings during this spring season.
best regards,

Sincerely,
Jim Martell, President

Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association Trophy Contest

Trophies are given each year in these classes for Junior and Senior Winners:

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Rainbow Trout | Speckled Trout | Brown Trout |
| Largemouth Bass | Small Mouth Bass | Lake Trout |
| Chinook Salmon | Northern Pike | Perch White Fish |

Trophies are given each year in these classes:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|------|
| Largest White Tail Deer Antlers | Largest Moose Rack | |
| Spring Wild Turkey | Fall Wild Turkey | Bear |



Rules and Regulations

1. The contest is open to all members of the Association.
2. Area- Counties of Grey and Bruce except Deer and Moose
3. Contest runs from Jan. 01 to Dec. 31 of each year.
4. Each entrant must conform to MNR regulations.
5. A person must be a member of the Association for two weeks prior to entering contest. Also fish must be entered within two weeks of being caught.
6. Weights from Association scale preferred other scales acceptable.
7. Entry form can be left in club house or mailed to Association: Box 548 Wiarton, ON, N0H 2T0

Certificate of Entry

Type of **Fish**: _____ When Caught: _____ Where Caught: _____

Weight: _____ Length: _____ Girth: _____

Whitetail Deer Scoring: _____ **Moose** Scoring: _____ **Bear** Scoring: _____

Wild Turkey Date: _____ Weight: _____ Beard Length _____ Spur Length _____

I hereby swear that I, the undersigned, secured the species above described, and in compliance with the law, and that all statements pertaining to the entry are true.

Name: (print full name) _____ Sr. Jr.

Address: _____ City: _____

Prov. _____ PC: _____ Phone: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

BRUCE PENINSULA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 548, Wiarton, ON N0H 2T0

www.bpsportsmen.com



2014 Membership Form Rev 2013/10/19

BPSA Membership Youth- \$15.00 (under age 18) **Date of Birth:** _____
Adult - \$60.00
Family- \$65.00 Membership includes these members of my family:
 PRINT NAMES IN FULL 1: _____ 2: _____
 3: _____ 4: _____ 5: _____

I hereby certify that as a member of the Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association, I will abide by Rules and Regulations Set forth in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association

Signed _____ Date _____

TOTAL \$

Archery Fee- Adult - \$40 **Family- \$65** **Youth- \$15**

Handgun Fee- Adult - \$45 **Family- \$55** **Youth- \$15** TOTAL \$

Winter Youth Programs - Youth - \$15 Paid at the start of the program

Memberships can be mailed to the address above. **Do NOT mail cash.** TOTAL \$

Membership applications with payment (cash, cheque, money order) are accepted at practice night or at the monthly B.P.S.A. meetings. Memberships are on a yearly basis expiring December 31, 2014. Questions regarding BPSA membership or BPSA membership cards may be directed to Larrilee Leckie (larrileeleckie@gmail.com) (519-534-0377)

****Please print your complete mailing address**

Name _____
 Street/Fire Number/P.O. Box/RR _____
 City _____ Prov/State _____ Postal/Zip Code _____
 E-mail _____ (please inform BPSA if this changes)
 Phone _____ Summer or Cell _____

BPSA Reference: Date application received _____
 cash cheque money order amount rec'd \$ _____
 adult family youth new membership renewal
 wallet card given mailed data entered on spreadsheet _____

** From time to time we take photos of our members and post them in our newsletter or on the BPSA website. It is your responsibility to inform the member with the camera if you do not wish photos to be published. Parents can sign release forms for children's photos. Please be aware that names will be forwarded on to a third party for insurance purposes.