



BRUCE PENINSULA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOC.

P.O. Box 548, WIARTON, ONTARIO N0H 2T0
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Yours in Conservation
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MARCH 2015 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, Mar 26th, 2015. Your participation is welcome and anticipated. Editors Jim Martell 519-534-2502 or e-mail bpsportsmen@gmail.com or Kat at rkmcc@gbtel.ca

BPSA "News and Views" Monthly Bulletin February 2015

Monthly BPSA minutes February 2015 The regular monthly meeting was held on Thursday February 26, 2015 with 25 members present. The Club President Jim Martell asked if the January 2015 meeting minutes had any errors or omissions as posted in the News and Views Bulletin. There were 3 grammatical and or spelling errors: personal s/b personnel, to s/b too, and Marg s/b Marj A motion to adopt the amended minutes of the January meeting by Jerry Beaver seconded by Frank Hutter carried.

Guest Speaker – none

The scheduled speakers Chris Davis and David Gonder had to attend another meeting. They will however be at the BPSA to discuss the 2015 lake forecast make a presentation and follow up with a Q & A period. All BPSA members are encouraged to attend this meeting, MARCH 10 at 7pm.

New Members / Guests-

Brian Allen is a new resident of Stokes Bay who enjoys fishing and became a new member this evening.

Correspondence –

None were of major significance.

Treasury - Mel Urbshott – November-January

Roy Hamilton Memorial Severe Winter Deer Feeding Fund	\$ 3576
Receipts	\$ 3338
Expenses	\$ 2324
Ways and Means balance	\$ 1158

BPSA received a grant of \$680 to pay for costs associated with the Willy weekend. BPSA will forward \$115 to SSA to help cover some of the bird feeder material.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report by Brian Allen seconded by Carl Berfelz carried.

Membership - Forbes Symon: fpsymon@sympatico.ca tel 519 534 1726

Memberships can be dropped of at 363 Hunter Street or the BDO office 663 Berford Street

Adults: 64 Family: 32 Youth Total: 96

This is a reminder to send in your 2015 dues.

Committee Reports and Discussions

Archery: Karen Van Nest- tel. 519.378.3339

Email kvn_ca@yahoo.com

- The Tuesday indoor shoots will shut down for most weeks during the two coldest months in the winter. Please contact Karen if you want to shoot later in March.

Bulletin – Phil Henderson

About 55 January bulletins were mailed out.

Phil and Karen will be involved in many competition shoots in the summer and fall, so we need someone to look after the bulletin.

Web Site: Kat McCulloch n/r

- All members are encouraged to continue forwarding information and pictures of club activities to Kat.
- A special thanks goes out to Kat for designing and procuring one large and six smaller signs showing the BPSA logo, cost \$359. The signs were prominently

displayed at the Willy Festival and the Family Day and will be used in many future events.

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. THIS FUNCTION IS REALY IMPORTANT AND WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!! Students feeding the fish is a great way to contribute towards achieving their 40 hours of community service work, required for high school graduation. The students however must be a BPSA member or accompanied by a BPSA member.
- The 26 thousand Brown Trout eggs received, in January look good and should hatch over the next 2 weeks. The remaining 4 to 5 thousand from the initial poor quality eggs will have to be handled separately to avoid any conflict that could arise from the 2 month difference in age
- Currently on hand in the hatchery are 30,000 Rainbow Trout.
- Water flow is currently 16 gpm. We need a snow melt to improve the water supply.
- There has been a problem with a hatchery tank drain plug not sealing. A temporary fix has been made but additional modifications might have to be done in the spring.
- Paul Sutter will help arrange the return of the Brown Trout egg shipping containers to the MNR in Ste Saint Marie. Ray was shocked at the cost to return these containers verses the apparent small initial cost of the containers. MNR might consider using disposable shipping containers to reduce costs.
- Ray gave a report on the 2014 hatchery data- total fish stocked 214 thousand, cost to run \$10 thousand, volunteer man hours 2500, water used 51 thousand liters.
- Rainbow fin clipping will be April 8 at 1pm and 7pm. signup sheets are in the club house. We need about 25 - 30 volunteers for each session.
- Fay Welsh gave BPSA through Ray 2 complete rod and reel down rigger fishing poles that were her deceased husband Paul's. BPSA will have a silent auction of these rods for anyone interested. Sealed bids marked ROD AUCTION can be mailed to the club, or handed in at the February or March meetings, or the April awards presentation on April 4th, at which time the successful bidder(s) will be announced. The rods are in the club house for viewing and some bid envelopes are attached. Bid on the rods individually as the Sirius rod is marginally better than the Strike Force rod.

- Dennis sent out the following Email -

Members of the BPSA Fish Committee are seeking candidates who are interested in taking on an active role as either the Hatchery Manager or the Assistant Hatchery Manager. As part of a healthy succession plan we are seeking out interested BPSA volunteers who might want to take over in either of these two roles. The current incumbents will remain in their exiting roles while mentoring their replacements. The hatchery operation is one of the key cornerstones of the Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Association's mandate of preservation and enhancement of fish and wildlife. Ray and Gord have honed their skills managing our hatchery successfully for many, many years and have plenty of experience to pass on to the new recruits. There will also be training courses available from time to time courtesy of the OFAH's Community Hatchery Program.

Please send the Fish Committee chair (libby@bmts.com) an e mail outlining your interest along with a brief statement describing why you feel that this volunteer role would be desirable. Please submit your expression of interest before the closing date of 31March2015 to be considered.

Dennis Morrison

If you are interested in becoming the hatchery manager or assistant and were not included or do not have Email, please contact Dennis prior to March 31.

- The pending loss of the BPSA property tax exemption, estimated at approximately \$4 thousand in 2015 presents a huge financial burden. Dennis has submitted a funding applications to the LCBO for \$4 thousand to help cover this additional cost.
- Dennis will attend the Great Lakes Fish Committee meetings, March 24-26, in Michigan. Costs will be picked up by the Provincial Government.

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

- The meeting originally scheduled for March has been postponed.

Handgun Club: Al Hunter

- Handgun rim fire shooting is Monday and Wednesday's at 7pm. And center fire on Wednesday afternoons.
- New shooters are encouraged to participate but should contact Al or other hand gunners to ensure that the necessary safety instructors are available at the range.
- SSA will have a swap event on March 8th from 8:30 to noon at their club house.
- Competition Teams are doing well.

Youth Winter Programs January-April:

Firearms-Rob and Krista Quesnel 519-935-2444

- The next session is Sunday March 1st.
- There is coco mix for hot chocolate in the kitchen cupboard, and hot dog wieners, buns and roasting sticks in the hatchery, left over from the Willy Festival, if some of the support parents want to use them rather than using pop.

Archery-Karen Van Nest and Phil Henderson 519-378-3339 Volunteer replacement required for 2015

Native Affairs: n/r

O.F.A.H.: Stu Paterson

February 2015 Zone H OFAH report – Stu Paterson for BPSA

1. Your federation is calling for a phased in approach to new rules governing moose hunting in our province. The aim is to ensure moose hunting opportunities are not prematurely and un-necessarily restricted.

The OFAH claims its response would provide the ministry with a chance to assess the effectiveness of planned changes which will limit hunting opportunities in a manner our federation refers to as, “overly restrictive and un-necessary”.



As part of the Moose Project, the MNRF has proposed two significant changes to moose hunting across much of the north. The first, takes effect this year. It is a reduction in calf hunting opportunities. Currently, moose hunters can harvest a calf under the authority of their provincial moose licence. Under the new proposal, calf harvest in northern Ontario would be prohibited outside of a two-week period in October.

While the OFAH acknowledges that some Wildlife Management Units would benefit from a reduction in calf harvest, OFAH argues a two-week calf season is overly restrictive and could result in crowding and poor hunt quality while making it difficult for hunters to accommodate fluctuations in weather, work schedules and hunting preferences.

The OFAH wants moose hunters to have their voices heard by commenting on the EBR and helping us spread the message that Ontario has to stop focusing its management efforts solely on licensed moose hunters, and start managing moose populations.

Go to the Environmental Registry (EBR) website www.ebr.gov.on.ca and search for EBR posting [#012-3413] Amendment to regulations under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act for moose hunting in northern Ontario and submit a formal comment to express your opinion.

Hunters can also help the OFAH spread the message on Twitter (@ofah) using the hashtag #ONMoose and encourage others on social media to respond to the EBR. For all the latest on this issue, visit www.ofah.org/moose.

Here is the link to the original OFAH news release on this <http://www.ofah.org/news/sweeping-moose-proposal-ontario>

Some attending our zone meetings suggest temporarily closing the moose hunting season for everyone including natives. It has been pointed out 1st nations and metis hunt moose all year and often fail to report their kills resulting in a major reduction in moose populations in many WMU's.

Please read the shocking article about the drastic reduction of moose hunting tags for this year. It is on page 3 of the latest edition of the OFAH member-only HOTLINE in the just issued Ontario Out of Doors Magazine which continues to be a great read.

2. The OFAH has issued a position paper on commercial fish netting in South West Georgian Bay. I have handed out copies at our most recent BPSA meeting. OFAH reps say they are pleased that BPSA has ongoing discussions with Grey-Bruce first nations folks regarding the future of both our sports and commercial fisheries.

3. OFAH President Glenn Rivard has a warning. He reminds us “anti-hunting, anti-fishing, anti-gun, animal rights activists, are lobbying to diminish or eliminate our fishing, hunting and trapping traditions”. Glenn says they invent concerns using propaganda campaigns which twist public opinion against our heritage activities. Rivard says decision makers often fail to understand the misconceptions and slander these groups spread. Our federation he notes is often the only thing standing between extremist groups and their goals which are the elimination or severe restriction of hunting, fishing and trapping. He points out society is more urbanized and disconnected from our outdoors heritage...so the role of OFAH is more important than ever.



3. Dates for ice hut removal are coming up. OFAH reminds us there are fines of \$150 dollars a day or more if you leave your hut out beyond the removal date. Removal dates for each FMZ begin in March.

4. OFAH is now accepting 2015 Community Hatchery Program funding applications. The deadline is April 30. Last year our



federation handed out 151-thousand dollars to 41 Ontario hatcheries for operations and improvements. CHP funded hatcheries including ours, stocked more than 9.5 million fish last year.

5. From the latest Ontario Out Of Doors magazine-

-If you were thinking about voting NDP in the upcoming federal election remember this.

The NDP leader Tom Mulcair has said an NDP government will revisit the long gun registry if elected. In Bruce-Grey-Owen



Sound David McLaren has been elected to represent the federal New Democrats in the next federal vote.

- In the commons there have been outrageous statements by some NDP members of parliament. One member said wild animals should be given the same rights as children and people with mental and physical disabilities. In 2011 the federal Liberals tried to bring in legislation to give animals the same rights as people.

6. On your behalf I will attend the annual Meeting of the OFAH in Mississauga March 19th to 21st. I hope to meet with Natural Resources Ministry folks as well as with the Ontario Conservative MNR critic Jeff Yuric.



Stu Paterson OFAH Zone H

Property –Ron Snelling

- Ray suggested that the eaves trough on the SW side of the hatchery is coming down. It might have to be removed in the spring.

Rankin Resource Group- Larry Isbester- n/r

Scheduling: Ron Snelling-

Events are on the board and in the bulletins.

Special Events: the tentative dates for special events in 2015 are:

- Warton Willy Festival

A special thank you to Jerry and Marj Beaver, Wayne and Annette Musselman and Phil Henderson and Karen Van Nest . They organized and looked after the Saturday January 31 (8am to 4pm) events. They had a roaring fire and served 300 hotdogs, many cooked over the open fire, and hot chocolate. Ice fishing and archery demonstrations, practices and displays were enjoyed by lots of youngsters as well as the older folks. Many people had previously never known that the BPSA existed and wanted to contribute donations to support BPSA conservation programs. Latter in

the day, a donation box was created and over \$40 was collected. At the meeting tonight, Stu Paterson suggested that a special “FEED THE FISH” collection container be present at all BPSA functions. Marj and Annette volunteered to design and develop or purchase a collection container

Ron Robb and Shane Ruther SSA, Gord Smith and Don Elliott BPSA distributed 100 bird feeders with 2 pounds of bird seed in each feeder on Sunday February 1st (9-noon). Material for the feeders was supplied and pre cut by and at the SSA workshop. A group of SSA volunteers as well as Jim Martell, Eric Plein and Ed and Don Elliott from BPSA assembled the feeders earlier in January at the SSA work shop. The black sun flower seed for the feeders was supplied by Doug Gilkinson of Bayshore Country Feeds Owen Sound.

- Family Day Holiday- Don Elliott – February 16, 2015 - 12 - 2 pm.

A special thank you to Karen Van Nest and her assistants who coordinated, instructed and supervised all the archery shooters. Thanks to Ray and Gord for the hatchery tours and an explanation of how it operates. Thanks to Sharon Smith and Sandra Elliott for looking after the hot dogs, coffee, and hot chocolate. Thanks also to other BPSA members who supported the event by talking to visitors and distributing bat houses and bird boxes supplied by George and Nancy Ottewell of Owen Sound www.fencingandrailing.com or ottewell@fencingandrailing.com .

- Awards Presentation and Potluck Dinner-Don Elliott April 4, 2015 social – 5:00 PM, dinner 6:00. Award winners for 2014 are:

Fish	Salmon	19.6#	Stu Paterson
	Rainbow	19.9#	Jerry Beaver
	Brown	3#	Bill Nafziger
	Pickereel	5#	Ron Snelling
	Moose	68 5/8	Bill Nafziger
	White Tail	106 7/8	Ray Reidel

Please bring your favourite dish and or desert as well as cutlery, and beverage. Paper plates and plastic cutlery are available if you forget your own. We can make coffee and tea in the kitchen.

- Fish Derby – Jack Seatter May 15- 17, 2015.
- Fish Fry – Ken Barrett May 17, 2015 2:00-4:00pm.
- Kids Fishing Day- Don Elliott-Saturday July 4, 2015 4-9pm

There was a suggested change of venue for this event. This year it will be held at the BPSA club house and the children only will be fishing on the hatchery pond. BPSA members are encouraged to invited quests with children, to further outdoor activities for youngsters. BPSA will provide the hot dogs, hamburgers, and ice cream.

Participants are encouraged to bring additional, salads, favorite dishes, deserts, or snacks for the lunch after completion of the fishing. Ray indicated that there are a significant number of Rainbow in the pond and possibly some Brook trout can be introduced for the event.

- Beef and Pork BBQ- Murray Garniss and Dennis Morrison- Sunday July 12, 2015 from 4-6:30 pm. Previous reports showed in error July 11th.
- Community Living-Fishing on the Pond – Sunday September 13, 2015 2-7pm.
- Potluck Dinner – Saturday November 21 2015. Social time from 5pm with dinner at 6:00pm.

Wildlife: Al Hunter

- Al sent the requested information to the MNR about known local deer yards.
- Several BPSA members will continue to monitor local deer yards. The general consensus is that deer feeding will probably not be required as the snow did not start this year until January.

Awards: Don Elliott-

- Entry forms are available on the wooden tray in the club house or on line on the website.
- 2014 award winners are listed under special events.

Old Business

New Business:

- Stu Paterson will approach the town to express the concern over dumping raw sewage into the bay and see if they have plans to eliminate it in the future.
- Bill Nafziger of the Spring Creek Anglers commented that in 2016 they will have an open house to show the completed stream restoration. Any BPSA member that would like to see what has been completed to date could do so by contacting him at 519-422-1073; he will arrange a personal tour.

The next BPSA meeting will be Thursday March 26, 2015 at 7:30 pm.

Winners of Draw Prizes

Rod & Reel	Bryan Taylor
Survival Kit	Bruce Mallard
Jam	George Berfelz
T shirt	Al Hunter
Pickled beets	Al Hunter
Lures	Frank Hutter, George Berfelz, Brian Allen,(2) Dennis Morrison

Fish Cris	Frank Hutter, Dennis Morrison
Bat Box	Bill Nafziger
Rod Holder	Jerry Beaver
Fishing Kit	Martha Martell

A motion by Al Hunter to adjourn carried, ending the February 2015 meeting at 9:30 pm.

Presidents message

Well folks that was a cold February. Glad March is upon us to look for some warmer temps.

The club will host a forum of ideas and information with David Gonder and Chris Davis of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry on March 10 at 7 pm. The forum is to share ideas and to learn about assessment plans for the lakes for the year 2015 conducted by the MNR. A short presentation and then questions and answer forum.

We can expect change we must adapt.

Our club is looking forward to members stepping up to take over the reins of the integral duties of Hatchery Manager and Assistant Manager. Ray and Gord have dedicated over 30 years to the BPSA . Their commitment is commendable and appreciated by us, thanks for all your years guiding our hatchery activities. Time for some interested people to “learn the ropes” and guide us in our future hatchery activities. We are grateful that Ray and Gord will mentor our new Hatchery volunteers.

We have an awards banquet fun evening April 4 at Club house with social hour at 5 pm and dinner at 6.

This awards event is hosted by Don Elliott and we are grateful to his efforts to make this a fun evening. Thanks Don. Please attend and enjoy the evening, bring the usual cutlery, refreshment and a dish.

If any member wishes to suggest or invite a guest speaker to our club meetings please let me know, I will try to give you an open date.

Fish feeding is always in demand so if you have a student in your family who needs volunteer hours please step forward and call Bruce Mallard 519 534-1274 to volunteer for a few weeks. This will be another way for a family member to get their required 40 hours of volunteering while attending high school.

The handgun folks have a number of competitions ahead and if you are looking to participate check the calendar in club house.

Check with Al if you intend to visit club to try shooting in order to make sure a safety officer is available.

So happy spring folks we can hope Warton Willie got it right this year. With an early spring predicted.

yours in conservation

Thanks

Jim Martell, President

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2015 Membership Form Rev 2014/11/17

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 - \$60 **Family- \$70** **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, 2015. Questions regarding BPSA membership or BPSA membership cards may be directed to Forbes Symon (fpsymon@sympatico.ca) (519-534-1726)

****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.