

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

**April 2023**

***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.***

**Membership Renewals**

Our Membership renewal drive is now closed. Membership applications and renewals will be re-opened again in November 2023. GBHA would like to thank Leslie Edwards for chairing this position. Leslie has agreed to chair this position again next year and it is greatly appreciated by the club. This is a very time-consuming position and requires patience! Your co-operation with Leslie during her first year in this position has been appreciated by the club and Leslie. Great job done Leslie, thanks again.

**Bylaws and Constitution Changes**

At the last General Membership meeting we had a call out for any written Bylaw and Constitutional Changes. At this time, we did not have any bylaw changes. Just a reminder that any bylaw changes can be requested in writing at any General Membership meeting.

As for Constitutional Changes, Alan Wheeler had put forth a written change and it was read to the membership. The changes were voted upon and accepted with all in favor. The new Constitution will be emailed out to all members shortly.

As well the Board of Directors have reviewed the bylaws and have some written changes they are recommending. These revised bylaws will be emailed out prior to the Annual Meeting April 19 2023. At the Annual Meeting they bylaws will be voted upon by the membership present. If anyone else has any changes they wish to present in writing to the Board of Directors please ensure they are submitted prior the Annual Meeting.

**100-year Anniversary Committee Meeting**,

GBHA will be holding our next meeting Monday May 01 2023 at 07:00 pm. Everyone is welcomed to join this committee to plan and oversee all the events and activities for this celebration. Please contact Bruce Dunn for more information or to offer suggestions. 705-528-2709 gbhaclub@yahoo.ca

**2023-2024 Executive Nominations,**

This year we had a total of fourmembers step down from the Board of Directors. This is a large amount of the members to lose at once, but we want to assure the membership we have 13 other long standing experienced members and that the members stepping down are all willing to assist at any time. They have been long term members and who brought a great amount of service and dedication to the board and to the club itself. Experience, knowledge and hands on work that will not be forgotten.

We give great thanks for their service and dedication to our club. We thank; Dan Gardner, Ken Langley, Alan Wheeler and Allen MacDonald. It will be nice to see you around the clubhouse and enjoying the events! Job well done by all!

Nominations were held for the 2023-2024 Board of Directors. The remaining 13 members agreed to be nominated and we also had four new nominations. They are; Jamie Kennedy, Hannah Edwards, Jared Daley and Warren Pawlikowski. Janice Ferris was nominated but later declined. As we did not have more than our maximum number of Board of Directors, (17) there will be no need to proceed with the voting process scheduled to be held in April at our Annual Meeting. Each nominated member accepted their nomination and agreed to stand on the board. Our current Board of Directors would like to welcome these members to the board for the May 2023- April 2024 year.

At the Board of Directors meeting on April 24/23 these new members will be introduced and welcomed to the board. Then the new Board of Directors will be voting for the Executive positions; The President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd-Vice President, and the Secretary. The position of the Treasure is now appointed from the Board of Directors is filled by Jamie Kennedy. These Executive positions will take affect for the May 17, 2023 General Membership Dinner Meeting. We have a total of 17 Board of Directors members, and Calvin King will remain in the Past President position.

The position of Director/Treasurer Bingo Operations will be an appointed position and will be Chaired by Robert Capling.

Please note that any other of the Chairman positions do not need to be voted upon nor do they need to be filled by a Board of Directors member. If any eligible member wishes to volunteer for a chairman position, please notify the Board.

**ATTENTION TURKEY HUNTERS!**

If you are going to pattern your shotgun, please go down and shoot there. Please remember that when signing into the range to use your GBHA membership number, not the OFAH number, effective immediately!

**DO NOT SHOOT FROM THE BUILDING.**

**Volunteer hours**

We have been asking for your volunteer hours so that we can record and use them as a sign of involvement from our members when requesting grants or, in explaining what we do and who we are as an organization. This is very important to GBHA

When you volunteer in group activities, the group leader will record your name and hours but if you singularly volunteer for dinners or events, we ask that you provide you hours to us. Alan Wheeler has been recording hours in the past and Craig Lalonde has come forward to assume this role.

Please, make sure that you forward your hours to Craig as follows: craiglalonde@hotmail.com

Thank you, Alan Wheeler

**OFAH Insurance Coverage**

As you are likely aware, you have an insurance product attached to your OFAH membership which is part of your Membership package with GBHA. We have once again reviewed our insurance coverage through OFAH and the implications of the existing waiver that is mandatory for those using our ranges or participating in shooting sports at our Club.

We have asked for clarification of the waiver in different scenarios and essentially as an individual you give up your right to sue for damages. We are told that this is a “risk management tool” which protects GBHA from lawsuits should an accident occur. We are also assured that the coverage is very generous and, essentially it is, albeit the risk that the insurance company would ever have to pay out is very little.

**But.** The coverage that we have is now called “Excess” coverage, formerly Supplementary coverage. This means that once your primary coverage (insurance that you carry yourself or that provided by employer) has been exhausted, then, and only then does the OFAH coverage engage. For example, if you were to lose use of both hands, due to an accident, the OFAH insurance would cover up to $5000. more after your primary insurance has run out.

If you have no primary insurer, then there is no coverage available through OFAH. If you have signed the waiver of liability, you cannot sue for damages. If you have not signed the waiver, the insurance company takes the stance that you are aware of the waiver and have assumed the risk.

We are actively pursuing alternatives to OFAH and their policy for the 2024 season and will provide more information shortly as to what that may look like. So far, we are encouraged by what we see with other providers offerings of insurance and we must weigh all factors.

**Archery Donation**

GBHA would like to thank Richard Marchand for his donation of archery equipment for our Youth Group to use at our archery range. It is greatly appreciated and will be used at many events to come.

**Name The Clubhouse Halls Contest**

Since 1974 when our clubhouse was built, we have always referred to our two halls as either the upper hall or the lower hall! With this year being as significant with our 100 Year Anniversary we have decided to have a contest to name these two halls with appropriate titles!

This contest will run until June 30 2023. The new titles for the halls will be announced at the 100 Year Anniversary Ceremony. Please remember there are two halls to be titled. The two winners will receive one free dinner voucher to be used at a regular dinner at the clubhouse, one free club t-shirt each of your choice of color and a 100 Year celebratory club crest.

To enter, email the titles you have chosen for the two halls, and a brief explanation why you think it would be appropriate for the hall, to the club at gbhaclub@yahoo.ca . Please include your full name and contact information. Good luck to all entries.

**Clubhouse Renovations**

Once the Conservation Wild Game dinner is completed, we will begin the renovations to the upper hall. We will be doing some drywall repairs and painting the walls and ceiling tiles. As well we will have some electrical upgrades completed. Soon we will be starting the front entrance!

**Renovation Quotes**

If any member is interested in submitting quotes for the front entrance build or electrical renovations please contact Bruce Dunn at 705-528-2709 or gbhaclub@yahoo.ca

**Turkey Shoot**

GBHA will be hosting the Turkey Shoot on **Saturday April 08 2023**. Registration will begin at 11:30 am and the Shoot will begin at 1200 noon. We will be using 12-guage 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.

Our Junior club will be selling BBQ lunch and refreshments. Yes, volunteers will be needed. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact **Mike Crawford 1-705-529-6705 or** **Michael.w.crawford@sympatico.ca****.**

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

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

**2023 Conservation Wild Game Dinner SOLD OUT!**

GBHA’s will be hosting our 2023 Conservation Wild Game Dinner this year on April 15th 2023. Joe’s volunteers have been out attempting to collect door prizes and gifts to help make the event successful. ***If any members wished to donate an item of their choice or an item that represents their business***

***it would be greatly appreciated.***

Please contact Joe Belcourt joebelcourt@hotmail.com or 705 427 2065

Thank you, we look forward to your donation. Volunteers will be also needed for this event. Please contact Joe if able to volunteer in anyway.

Tickets are **SOLD OUT**! If interested in putting your name on a cancellation list, please contact Leslie at 705-333-0615.

**ANY TYPE OF MEATS AND OR WILD GAME or PRIZE DONATIONS WILL BE NEEDED AND GREATLY APPRECIATED!**

**Next General Membership Dinner Meeting**

On Wed April 19/23 GBHA Club will be hosting our monthly dinner meeting. A delicious roast beef dinner with all the fixings will be prepared by Chef Pamela and her 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.

***Please remember we have a hamper out for food donations for our local food bank, we all know how tuff it is out there for some people and how much the food costs have risen. Any help of non-perishable donations would be greatly appreciated.***

**CONSERVATION UPDATES**

**Duck Nest Box Day**

After having to cancel our original date of February 11th, due to poor conditions, a great group of volunteers were still able to get out on March 11th, to maintain the nest boxes at Tiny Marsh. Since this project started several years ago, we have seen an increase in the successful use of these boxes, by Wood Ducks and Hooded Mergansers, as well as song birds and Screech Owls. With the info we have gathered over these past years, we have now started moving into our next phase, of replacing and moving boxes to ensure they are in prime locations, to improve on the amount of use and success of nests. Thank you to Tony Li, Iris Huang, Norman & Mara Burton, Roger Barrett, for making it out this year, with only one day’s notice, and to the members of the Barrie District Hunters & Anglers, the Marl-Tiny-Matchedash Conservation Association, and Midland Ducks Unlimited Committee that joined us as well.

**“Adopt-a-Road” Cleanup**

As we inch closer and closer to spring, it’s time to start looking forward to green grass . . . and the inevitable roadside debris left behind as the mounds of snow disappear. This also means it is that time of year again for our Vindin Street clean-up in Midland.  We will be meeting at 10 am, on Sunday April 30th at 1272 Vindin St. (just before Hwy 93). This will take place rain or shine, so be sure to dress appropriately and bring gloves and any other equipment you think might be handy to have. Trash bags, will be supplied. If you’re interested in volunteering, please contact Craig Lalonde in advance at (705)427-3542 (call or text), or craiglalonde@hotmail.com

**Copeland’s Forest Invasive Garlic Mustard**

We are once again planning on helping The Copeland Forest Friends (http://www.copelandfriends.ca) to assist in their efforts to control the invasive Garlic Mustard (see link below for more info) that is found around their 4,400-acre Resource Management area between Moonstone and Horseshoe Valley. MANUAL PULLING is the best way of controlling garlic mustard; but it must be pulled every year for 5+ years to deplete the seedbank in the ground. We will be meeting at the Copeland Forest (exact location will be updated in the May bulletin), on Sunday May 7th at 11:00 am. If you are interested, please contact Craig Lalonde in advance at (705)427-3542 (call or text), or craiglalonde@hotmail.com http://www.invadingspecies.com/invaders/plants/garlic-mustard/

**EDUCATION AND MENTORSHIP**

**Co-ed Intro to Turkey Hunting Seminar**

The upcoming Co-ed Turkey Hunting Seminar, co-hosted by the GBHA and Canadian Sportswoman Society (CSS), is getting closer to be sold out, but there are still some spots available.

This event is geared toward introducing folks to the world of turkey hunting. Whether you are brand new or a seasoned hunter already, this day is sure to be a fun and informative one, with something for everyone (apprentice hunters are welcome). This event takes place on Sunday April 16th, 2023, from 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM, right here at our Club.

The cost to join is $70 per person, and includes: lunch, refreshments, use of equipment, ammo, and giveaways. Topics will include Turkey tactics, archery basics, shotgun basics, blind set ups and hunting scenarios. There will also be some great door prizes and raffles. Space is limited to, and the CSS' events always sell out, so be sure to register early!

You can register online at www.canadiansportswomansociety.ca and follow them on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/CanadianSportswomanSociety and/or Instagram @canadiansportswomansociety

Please contact Lori-Anne Horst at (226) 923-0193 if you have any questions.

**GBHA MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**

With Turkey and spring bear seasons getting closer to starting up again for the year, we are still looking for members to step up as mentors. We are looking for folks who are willing to share their knowledge with other (adult) club members that are newer to hunting, and who are looking to benefit from the experience of established hunters. If you are interested in being a part of this in any way, please reach out to either Craig Lalonde at (705)427-3542 (text or call) or email craiglalonde@hotmail.com or Janice Ferris at someonenolongerfishing@gmail.com

**Outdoor Ranges Closed**

The outdoor gun and archery range will be closed Sunday April 16th 2023 as it will be used for the Turkey Hunting Seminar. The range will re-open at the completion of the course. Your co-operation and understanding will be greatly appreciated.

**GPS, Map & Compass Course**
Instructor: Jacek Wojcik

Location: Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers Address: 3175 Ogden's Beach Road, Midland

Date: Saturday, April 22, 2023

Time: 08:00-16:00

Cost: $25.00, 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.

To Register: Please e-transfer to gbhaclub@gmail.com and include your name and request to register to this program

**Internet Installation**

Joe Belcourt will be looking for a couple of volunteers the w/e of April 22/23 2023 for assistance to have internet installed in the clubhouse. They will be running cable up the side of the driveway and into the clubhouse. For more information or to volunteer please contact Joe Belcourt joebelcourt@hotmail.com or 705 427 2065

**2023 New Members Mandatory Range Orientation**

On Sunday April 23rd 2023 at 10:00 am, GBHA will be hosting a range orientation session for new members. We will have an introduction to the club, a discussion of range safety rules, range opening and closing procedures etc. This will be an outdoor session so please dress accordingly.

Should any members wish to attend as a refresher please contact Larry.

Please notify Larry Ferris Range Chairmen if you are not able to attend and to reserve your attendance, contact Larry at 705-529-6364 ferris.larry51@gmail.com You will need to leave your name, phone# and or email address so you can be contacted should there be any changes to this event.

**Junior Club Event**

The Junior Club will be at the clubhouse for events held on the archery range and outdoor gun range. They will be on the property from 10:00 am till 02:00 pm. The archery range and the outdoor gun range will remain closed until 02:00 pm.
Your co-operation and understanding will be greatly appreciated. For further information please contact Karl Gostick
Junior Club Mentor
705-716-1612

**Range Closed**

D/t the Junior Club event the archery range and the outdoor gun range will remain closed Sunday April 23 2023 until 02:00 pm. Your co-operation and understanding will be greatly appreciated.

**National Range Day**

We are requesting donations and volunteers to help out with National Range Day on Saturday, June 3rd. We are looking for ammunition (22lr - high velocity preferred, and 20 ga target load or birdshot) and decoys to help keep operating costs to a minimum for this event, so that we can keep the event free to the public. For volunteers, we will be needing RSOs, BBQ staff, and greeters. If you would like to be an RSO, we kindly ask that you first complete Larry’s RSO course.  If you are able to donate or volunteer, please contact Jared Daley at gbha.nrd@gmail.com or 289-257-6221.

National Range Day is a day created to recognize the 2.3 million licensed gun owners who responsibly, legally, and safely own and use firearms in Canada. Last year, we celebrated by opening our range to the public to provide new / inexperienced shooters with their first “range day”.  It operates very similarly to the Youth Expo, with guests starting out with an air rifle before working their way up to bolt / lever action .22lr, then semi-auto .22lr, and finally firing a shot out of a 20 ga shotgun at a duck / turkey decoy. Club members are encouraged to attend and bring as many guests as they can!

**Outdoor Ranges Closed**

The outdoor gun range will be closed Sunday April 16th 2023 as it will be used for our National Range Day event. The range will re-open at the completion of the course. Your co-operation and understanding will be greatly appreciated.

**North Simcoe Youth Expo**

The GBHA Junior Club is hosting the 2023 North Simcoe Youth EXPO, chaired by Janice and Larry Ferris. Our North Simcoe Youth Expo will be on Saturday June 10th 2023. We need approximately 50 or more volunteers. Please let us know as soon as possible if you are planning to help with this amazing event. The youth's registration forms will be sent out in March 2023. It does fill up quickly. This is an open event and will be held on Saturday June 10th, 2023 at our Clubhouse. Limited spaces available do not be disappointed. Volunteers for the day would be appreciated; this is also a great opportunity for any students requiring Volunteer hours for school. Fee is $25.00/child.

Please contact Janice at 1-705-529-6364 someonenolongerfishing@gmail.com

**Outdoor Ranges Closed**

The outdoor gun range and archery will be closed Friday June 09th 2023 from 1200 pm till Saturday June 10th 2023 at 7:00 pm. The ranges will be used for our Youth Expo Day event. Your co-operation and understanding will be greatly appreciated.

**Indoor Gun Range Use**

**Pistol Night**

Continuing Monday nights Larry Ferris will be hosting Pistol Night from 6:30 pm till 8:30 pm. Larry will be looking for volunteers to help.

**Long Gun Night**

On Tuesday nights Mike Wiemer will be chairing Long Gun Night from 6:30 pm till 8:30 pm. Mike will be looking for volunteers to help.

Please check website and or Facebook page for any cancellations. For more information, please contact Larry Ferris at 705-529-6364 [ferris.larry51@gmail.com](https://mail.yahoo.com/d/folders/3?.intl=ca&.lang=en-CA&.partner=none&.src=fp&activity=uh-mail&pspid=2142623533&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly9sb2dpbi55YWhvby5jb20v&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAFOykMfOPEKSdEP0qar1sRqf6ew45Hp20T3Kh2kAUb7EIHc5a0D1edmdjsxlHmQbsJUJVcdSl5mpM28txfIxJy4_NotXVQaomwEKzw29oCZpGgRuYQBEoQP6SNkCF41urAQ1xTQJ679v8p30w5EuB8g4rldg6ww1FWWx7GGUXw4O#about:blank) or Mike Weimer at 1-705-529-9353 or m2bweimer@gmail.com

**Ladies Night Indoor Gun Range**

Due to the lack of interest, we will be closing this event for this season. GBHA Club would like to thank Mike Crawford for chairing this event, it was greatly appreciated.

**GBHA Club T-Shirts**

GBHA is now selling club t-shirts at our dinner meeting and events. These t-shirts have our new logo on the front, available in all sizes and in either dark blue or grey colors. T-shirt pricing for small to xl is $20.00 each, 2x to 4xl is $25.00, larger sizes will be special order. We will be ordering all sizes up to 4 xl to have on hand for fitting and will take orders when needed. Thank you to Mike Weimer and Allen MacDonald for stepping up and chairing this task. For more information or specific ordering or purchasing shirts please contact Mike at 1-705-529-9353 m2bweimer@gmail.com or Allen MacDonald at 1-705-795-4402 allenmacd@gmail.com

**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.

**Volunteer Bartenders**

GBHA’s Bar Chairman is looking for certified bartenders who are interested in volunteering at events or dinners. As well, paid events. A copy of your certification will be required, please contact Sterley Stubbings @ sterleystubbings@gmail.com or call 1-705-529-5776.

**Attention Smart Servers**

The AGCO is introducing a five-year term for all new and existing liquor training certifications. This means that anyone involved in the sale, service, delivery, or sampling of liquor, or who takes liquor orders from customers must complete the [Smart Serve training program](https://smartserve.ca/) every five years.   [Information Bulletin: Mandatory Smart Serve® Recertification Will Begin July 1, 2022 | Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (agco.ca)](https://www.agco.ca/bulletin/2021/information-bulletin-mandatory-smart-server-recertification-will-begin-july-1-2022?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Nov-29-2021-LLCA-Info-Bulletin&utm_source=Envoke-Nov-29-2021-LLCA-Info-B&utm_term=Information-Bulletin%3A-Liquor-L)

**NEW GBHA MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**

In the spring, we reached out to the membership, asking for anyone that was interested in being a mentor to reach out to us. This was in response to hearing from new members, who are new to the hunting and fishing lifestyle, indicating that they have had a hard time learning the ropes and were looking for opportunities to learn.

We are happy to say that we have heard from a few of you, expressing your interest and willingness to take a mentorship role in whatever way possible. We want to say thank you for this, and want to ask that anyone else that is interested in being a mentor, OR being put in touch with a mentor, please reach out to us. You can reach out to either Craig Lalonde at (705)427-3542 (text or call) or email craiglalonde@hotmail.com or Janice Ferris at someonenolongerfishing@gmail.com

**Sportsmen’s Memorial Awards**

With the Turkey season soon upon us and fishing seasons opening up we are asking each of you to remember to make note of your harvest for the awards at our Sportsmen’s Memorial Dinner. Please don’t forget to enter your fish and wild game entries (from the 2023 season) to be judged. Forward the information such as Bird weight, beard length and spur size (with pictures) length, girth, weight and a picture to Chuck Edwards @ 1-705-529-8871 (chuckles@csolve.net)

**Editor’s Note:**

Another season is upon us, changes are happening. The cold white blanket is slowly dissolving making way for new growth. The ice will shift, crack, melt and soon be warm enough for a cool dip just in time to cool off from the warm weather ahead of us. Each seasonal change brings a new mind set, often for the better! Once we get over the ugliness that Old Man Winter left behind, we engulf ourselves in getting our homes, camps and equipment ready for the next season and making sure we are ready for the outdoors experiences that we all love and enjoy.

With changes comes some trying times, can find our tools to work with, can’t get something to run or work properly, often thinking of upgrading. Change is good, it like a new season brings new life and exciting times ahead. Don’t be scared of change, because after today, it old news!

At the clubhouse we are going through many changes, outside clean ups, repairs and renovations to improve function and appearances and of course how the club is run and who is behind the scenes making events run successfully.

Our nominations were completed, new blood will be on the board, bringing new life, new ideas helping the remaining members left on the board to revitalize our ways of business in attempts to comply with new government rulings and keep our club successful and moving forward.

Change is good, often the idea of change is worse than the actual change itself. Keep your mind open and eyes even on alert for all the changes coming, and see if you will notice, lol!

**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)