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 2022**

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.

**Covid Restrictions:**

With the Covid restrictions being lessened we will no longer be required to ask for proof of vaccinations and no longer have the need to wear masks.

We ask that respect be given to any participant attending any GBHA event that wishes to wear masks or protective equipement etc. Your support and understanding are always appreciated.

**2022 Membership Renewals Closed**

As of **March 31 2022**, Membership renewals is closed. GBHA would like to welcome all the new members over the past couple years to attend our events, get out and meet our current members and participate in the fun. We hated to see anyone leave the club, but we understand and hope that one day you may return.

For the last three years GBHAs have been graced to have the Chairperson we did. Elyse Birnie took this task and made it her own. She improved it to the point that it should be easy for the next Chairperson to take this position on and run with it.

GBHAs would like to thank Elyse for her hard work and dedication to the club and its members. We are going to greatly miss Elyse but we understand that she is not able to devote her time to this project d/t family matters. We wish you and your family all the best Elyse and hope to see you at the clubhouse for events.

**Outdoor Gun Range Reminders**

Please note, we have had a couple points of interest reported to us about the use of the outdoor gun range. A sign has been posted to remind range users that when leaving the shooting shack empty to go down range, the door must be closed and locked at all times. We ask that all members sign in using their OFAH Membership number and should a member bring a guest ensure they are an OFAH member in good standing. This guest must sign in with their OFAH number as well, not their names, not the word “Guest” and not the GBHA’s members numbers! Lastly each member must wear their GBHA membership card. OFAH membership cards are not needed to be worn by guests, but proof of OFAH membership must be available. These membership cards are to be clearly visible for identification purposes. Safety First!

**Constitution and By-Law Change**s

At our Sportsmen’s Memorial Dinner, we did not receive any submissions for any changes to our Constitution or any Bylaws. For this year our Constitution will remain the same. Please remember our By-laws can be addressed for any changes our any regular meeting.

**Indoor Gun Range**

The indoor gun range on Tuesday nights will now be on Monday nights. This event will be held at the same time of the evening, for the month of April. By the end of April, it will be safe and warm enough to use the outdoor gun range.

GBHA would like to thank Mike Weimer and Mike Crawford for volunteering as co-chairs for this event. We understand they had a few volunteers throughout the year and we thank them for assisting when needed.

**2022 Executive Nominations**

Nominations for the executive board were taken at the Sportsmen’s Memorial Dinner in March. Voting will take place, by ballot, at our April 20th 2022 General Membership Dinner meeting. Ballots will be handed out at the meeting, and there will be one ballot per registered member (only one vote per household for family memberships). The new Executive will take positions in May 18th 2022.

On the voting ballot will be (alphabetically):

Joe Belcourt, Reid Belfry, Rob Burston, Mike Crawford, Bruce Dunn, Chuck Edwards, Greg Edwards, Larry Ferris, Janice Ferris, Dan Gardiner**,** Don Gostick, Calvin King, Craig Lalonde, Ken Langley, Allen MacDonald, Sterley Stubbings, Matt Weissflogg and Allan Wheeler.

We thank the members whom have come forth to have their names put onto the ballot. There have been a few executive members step down and a few more have stated their intent to step down next year. It is a best practice to replace these members frequently and at a safe ratio. Our regulations allow up to and including 17 members on the board.

**2022 Sportsman’s Memorial Dinner**

On March 16 2022 we hosted our annual Sportsmen’s Memorial Dinner. The turnout for this dinner was a huge success. Our first dinner had an occupancy of 35 participants, the second had 47. This event had 110! Members wanted to come back to the club, and with the restrictions being lifted it showed the support to the club and respect to each other by still following the mandates in place.

This event was also our first dinner with a new chef, Pamela Planting from Coldwater area (Country BBQ Catering). Pamela will be replacing our current and dedicated Chef Claude Veins as he will be retiring and moving to the east coast. Pamela will have full rein of the kitchen by June. Claude has been with the club for many years and will be missed greatly. Next time you’re in the line and you see a new face, it will Pamela, please say hello and welcome her to our club, and thank Claude for his services to our club. He will be missed!

On this memorial night, the event was celebrated by a wild game dinner. We were fortunate to have wild game meats donated by members such as Dan Wilson, Ed Scott, Ken Langley, Brian John. We thank you all for these donations and apologize if we forgot any names, without it we would have altered our menu, but with it, it made the event that much more special.

These meats were processed into a beautiful tender Elk stew, Venison and Moose sausage, and bear meatballs. Some roast beef was on hand for those not wishing to enjoy the taste of wild game meats. This dinner was topped off with all the fixings and carrot cake and ice cream to follow.

GBHA would like to thank all the volunteers who came out to assist in the processing of the wild game meats into the stew, sausage and meatballs. As well for tending to the ticket sales, bar sales, and the draw sales.

GBHA thanks; Greg and Leslie Edwards (special thanks for the use of their equipement and donation of baked beans), Calvin and Adam King, Franz Klingeschmitt, Dan Gardiner, Claude Veins, Reid Belfry, Karl and Michelle Ellery, Mike Weimer, Sterley Stubbings, Larry and Janice Ferris, Ken Langley, Don Gostick, Karl and Annette Gostick, Allan Wheeler, Alan MacDonald, Mike Crawford, and Bruce Dunn.

More hands do make less work and in a record-breaking time! Thanks everyone for chipping in, it was amazing to see everyone come together and made the process quick and easy!

The primary reasoning of the Sportsmen’s Memorial dinner is to pay homage to our fallen members and honorary mentions.

This year we honored:

Jerry Peltier, Don Dittman, Guenter Naumann, Henry Weimer, Leonard "Len" Quesnelle, Raymond “Bay” Gignac, Victor Wallace Nesbitt. Honorary Mentions went to Ron Crawford, Harold Nightingale and Gary Priest.

These mentioned gentlemen are or were all at one point a member of the club, some executive members, and past president. They will not only be missed by their families but by our club members as well.

We apologize if we missed any members, and we ask that families and friends of fallen members to please inform us of any member passing. It is greatly appreciated.

We also took time to celebrate the harvesting of anglers and hunters, to celebrate accomplishments of members and the club. With the pandemic in place, it was very difficult for the club to have major accomplishments, but we should all take great pride in the fact that we managed to keep our doors open for any business the restrictions would permit and we are moving forward with planning more events and projects in our near future.

As for the awards and trophies we were able to recognize the following accomplishments and harvests;

Largest Turkey - Craig Lalonde

Largest Walleye - Ed Scott

Largest Catfish - Allan Vallee

Toots Wallace Award for Largest Small Mouth Bass - Rob Burston

Largest Large Mouth Bass - Craig Lalonde

Largest Small Mouth Bass - 8-year-old winner - Caleb Lalonde

Largest Black Bear - Adam King

LOYD WILSON AWARD; For most active new member, Mark Zimmerman

HAROLD KETTLE AWARD; Most dedicated to conservation, Craig Lalonde

MERIT AWARD; Member displaying most dedication and service over the past year, Mike Crawford

OUTSTANDING DEDICATION AWARD; Member showing dedication and service to the club over the years, Dan Gardiner

GBHA would like to thank Calvin King for scoring the entries and encourage all our members to bring forth your entries for next year’s event.

**Outdoor Gun Range Closed**

Georgian Bay's Spring Thaw-UKC Elite Shed Dog Series Trial will be held **Saturday April 02 2022** and **Sunday April 03 2023**. This event will take place on our property, in the parking lot, around the clubhouse and in our forest.

D/t the nature of this event, having an open gun range would interfere with the trials.

***Our outdoor gun range will be closed for the week end***.

Our Junior Club will be on hand preparing a BBQ lunch and have refreshments available. We apologize for any inconveniences and appreciate your understanding and co-operation.

For more information on the event, please contact Ben Leger benleger24@gmail.com

**Turkey Shoot**

GBHA will be hosting the Turkey Shoot on **Sunday April 10 2022**. Registration will begin at 11:30 am and the Shoot will begin at 1200 noon. We will be using 12- and 20-gauge rounds that are provided for $5.00 per heat, bring your shotguns. Some shot guns will be available for usage. No PAL required gun instructors will be on site; this is open to all ages, kids to adults. Our Junior club will be selling BBQ lunch and refreshments. Yes, volunteers will be needed. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact Alan Wheeler @ 705-828-1095, or email acwheeler66@gmail.com.

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

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

**General Membership Dinner Meeting**

On **Wed April 20 2022** GBHA Club will be hosting our monthly dinner meeting. A delicious entre of Chicken and Ribs dinner will be prepared by Chef Claude, Chef Pamela and crew. We hope to see you all there to join us another fine meal. Please don’t forget guests are always welcomed. Doors open by 5:00 pm and dinner will begin serving at 6:30 pm. Volunteers will be needed in the kitchen.

**EDUCATION AND MENTORSHIP**

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

Larry Ferris will be hosting a PAL and Hunter program and will be hosting an R-PAL course in May 2022. For more information, dates, costs of programs and or to register please contact Larry at 705-529-6364 ferris.larry51@gmail.com

**NEW GBHA MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**

Recently, we have heard from new club members that there is a need for, and lack of, mentorship and learning opportunities for folks that are new to an outdoors lifestyle. These days, we are seeing more and more adults getting into hunting and fishing, that may not have come from a family that traditionally took part in these types of activities, and they are looking for ways to learn more about all that is involved with this lifestyle. With so many great programs out there specifically geared to teaching youth and women who are new to the outdoors, we are looking at starting our own “in-house” program that will be open to all newcomers (or anyone that just wants to learn more). As a club, with such a large group of members, with lifetimes worth of knowledge and expertise in all things outdoors. With this in mind, we want to start by canvassing our membership to see who may be interested in helping with this program, in some way. We are looking for club members that may be interested in being a mentor, who may be open to assisting in seminars/outings, or who are willing to help in any other way. 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

**Archery Range and Outdoor Gun Range Closed**

Our outdoor gun range and the archery range will be closed on **Saturday April 23 2022** for the Canadian Sportswoman Society in partnership to run their seminar on “Ladies Intro To Turkey Hunting” Your co-operation and understanding is greatly appreciated.

**Ladies Intro to Turkey Hunting**

The GBHA has partnered with the Canadian Sportswoman Society (CSS) to bring you the "Ladies Intro to Turkey Hunting" seminar.  This event is geared towards introducing women 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 **Saturday April 23rd, 2022**, from 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM, right here at our Club.  The cost to join is $60 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 25 guests, and there are only a few seats left, so reach out ASAP if interested! Please contact Lori-Anne Horst at (226) 923-0193 if you have any questions.

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

**CONSERVATION UPDATES**

 **“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 24th** 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

**Junior Club Turkey Hunt**

Our Junior Club will be hosting a Mentored Turkey Hunt **Sunday May 08 2022** on our clubhouse property. Please be conscientious and respectful of this event if planning to enter the property forest. Your understanding and co-operation are greatly appreciated. Please contact Karl Gostick at 705-716-1612 or gbhajuniorclub@gmail.com with any questions

**Junior Club Archery Day**

On **Sunday May 8th** the Junior Club will be having an archery day from 10-3 hosted by Tori Edwards. If anyone would like to join, please feel free to stop by and join in. Everyone is welcome. Please contact Karl Gostick at 705-716-1612 or gbhajuniorclub@gmail.com with any questions

**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 15th** at 10:00 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/

**GBHA’s Annual Gun Show**

Georgian Bay 3rd Annual Gun Show will be hosting this event on **June 12th** 9am to 2pm

General Admission will be $5.00 for adults and Children under 12 free

Tables are still available if you would like to sell at our gun show.

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

**2022 Junior Club Memberships**

GBHA’s Junior Club is accepting registrations for the Junior Club.  Anyone who is currently a member of the Junior Club, as well as those interested in joining, are required to complete a registration form with us.

Membership to the Junior Club is free for any youth (4-16 years) that are part of a **GBHA family membership**, but registration is required.  Non-GBHA members are also able to join, with a paid family OFAH membership plus an annual fee of **$25 per child**.

Please contact Karl Gostick at gbhajuniorclub@gmail.com 705-716-1612 with any questions, or to make sure you are on our email list.

**Editor’s Note:**

Elections! Normally when you hear this word, we all think of Provincial and Federal elections and the all the behavioral acts that go along with it! It never seems to be a great experience for any of us.

At GBHA’s we have not had the opportunity to have our Executive Board elections. Our Executive have been held in limbo you could say by the Pandemic and all of its restrictions. Prior to the pandemic we had not hosted an election as there were no new nominees for the positions. We have had members say that they did not think they would get in as everyone was familiar with the current board, and would not get voted for as they were not known. By being nominated if the first step of being known, and we thank the nominees for accepting their nominations.

Any vacancies we experienced during the pandemic, were back filled with volunteers in acting positions. A process that has worked very well for the club.

With our elections we do have candidates get up and make promises, we do not have the down grading our other candidates, we simply have a list of volunteers whom believe it is worth their time to stand up and join the executive. To volunteer more than just a few hours here and there with certain projects.

We have a group of members whom are willing to meet at least once a month, respond quickly to emails, phone calls and text messages. Times have improved and so have out ways of operating.

The candidates you will see on the ballot will bring new ideas to the club, often much needed and appreciated, by the remaining members.

The remaining members are more than willing to take in the new candidates work with them and share their experiences and knowledge on how projects and events are completed, how to communicate with each other and the membership and how to keep the club moving forward.

We have 18 names on the ballot. We have room for 17. That means one person will not get voted in. I have been in this spot as have many other members over the years. We ask you to keep in mind that you are not voting a person in because they hold a position and may have held that position for many years you are voting in members to sit on the executive. One that you feel will dedicate their time and work well with the other members of the board.

Many of the existing executive members whom have agreed to run for the 2022-2023 term have voiced their wishes that this will be their last term. We need to keep in mind that the executive board needs members who will be dedicated for the term and hopefully leave their names on the ballot for the next year to assist in keeping the club going smoothly. And should any new candidate not get voted in please offer to chair any events or projects, help is always needed and names will always be accepted on the following years ballot.

This year we had Ian Driver, Mark Bocock, Franz Klingenschmitt, and Jayne van der Veen all step down from their executive positions. Each have played a valued part in holding our club together through the pandemic and prior to the pandemic. GBHA’s is in debt to these members for their dedication and loyalty. They will be missed on the executive board but also their choice to move on is respected.

We thank each of you for all you have done and we hope to see you continue volunteering with in the club and participating at our events and dinner meetings.

Thanks again.

**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)