



Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers Inc.

I GIVE MY PLEDGE AS A CANADIAN TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY DEFEND FROM WASTE,
THE NATURAL, RESOURCES OF MY COUNTRY, ITS SOILS AND MINERALS, ITS AIR,
WATERS, FORESTS AND WILDLIFE.

MIDLAND --- ONTARIO

February 2024

*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.*

Next General Membership Dinner Meeting

On Wednesday February 21, 2024 GBHA Club will be hosting our Annual Sportsmen's Memorial dinner meeting. A delicious dinner with all the fixings will be prepared. 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.

General Membership Dinner Costs

As we are all aware of rising costs of foods and services these days, we notified the membership last fall that the prices of our monthly dinners will be rising by \$5.00 per plate, now Members will be \$25.00 per person, Guests will be \$30.00 per person and Youth will be \$15.00 per person.

Zone H Meeting

Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers hosted the OFAH Zone H quarterly meeting On January 14, 2024. Despite the weather, 25 people attended the meeting, and learned about various topics ranging from lyme disease, the lonestar tick, fishing line disposal and more.

Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers Sportsmen's Memorial Dinner

This dinner has historically been a time designated to pay respect to our fallen members and honorary mentions of past members and very significant people that have had an impact on and to our club. It is also a time to recognize our club's and members' accomplishments.

This year we honoured William "Bill" Handy, John "Chub" Lavigne Monday June 05 2023, Chub was in his 90th year, Ed Malkin Thursday July 27 2023, Ed was in his 88th year.

As communications of these people passing is often a challenge to maintain. Unfortunately, we can only honour the fallen that we are made aware of during this year. We apologize if we missed anyone

connected to the club and we hope that in the future, if anyone is aware of fallen members or honorable mentions to please contact the club with such information.

GBHA Board of Directors would like to apologize for anyone that may have been turned away at the door. This year's event was much larger in attendance than what was expected and we fell short of being able to provide entry for everyone wanting to attend, especially members.

Special events or regular dinners are very hard to plan and predict the attendance. Many hours of planning are put in by our volunteers, chairpersons and kitchen staff. We need to improve our planning for such events.

This is an event that historically was a separate special event rather than our General Membership Dinner meetings. The Board of Directors is looking at having this event return to a special event held on a Saturday evening event, with tickets sold in advance, not at the door, so that members have first opportunity to be able to attend. We will remain to have our regular general membership dinner meeting as well for January.

Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers Sportsmen's Memorial Awards:

1. Winner of Best Pike 36.75Lx18.0g 15lbs went to Mr. Ed Scott, congratulations.
2. Winner of Best Walleye- 26inx14.5g =6.5lbs. went to Mr. Mike Weimer, congratulations.
3. Winner of Best Largemouth 16.14 in 2.5 lbs went to Mr. Craig Lalonde, congratulations.
4. Winner of Best scored Wild Turkey, 23 lbs. 10.25inch beard x 1, 3/8-inch and 1, 1/4-inch spurs went to Mr. Dave Winfield congratulations.
5. Winner of the Toots Wallace Memorial award for the Largest Smallmouth Bass 4lb 11 oz went to Mr. Richard Carriere, congratulations.
6. Winner of the Best Scored Deer in our Junior class was 8 pts 175lbs processed, went to Ms. Olivia van der Veen, congratulations!
7. Winner of Best scored Deer Senior class, 10 pts 20in spread, went to Mr. Claude Cameron, congratulations.
8. Winner of Best scored Black Bear was 6 ft 9.5 in tall over 200 lbs. went to Ms. Melanie Gagnon, congratulations.

Awards Nominated by Board of Directors and Members

9. The Lloyd Wilson Award for the Most Active New Member went to Mara and Norm Burton, thank you for always volunteering and willing to go beyond expectations.
10. The Harold Kettle Award for Most Active Member in Conservation went to Brenda Weimer, thank you Brenda for all your hours of assistance, and projects like our pollinator garden.
11. Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers Award for Leadership Award for Dedication to Advancing and education of the Outdoors went to Mike Crawford. Thank you, Mike, for your endless hours of volunteering, mentoring the Junior club and being a Board of Director member.
12. Outstanding Dedication Award went to longstanding member for years of never-ending support and dedication - Frank Handereck. Thank you, Frank, for always answering the call to volunteer as a group member or even on your own to help get projects and events a completed success.
13. Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers' Merit Award for Most dedicated member to Conservation and Service to club last year- Bruce Dunn.

Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers would like to thank everyone who entered their harvests for judging and the nominations for the awards. We look forward to the entries and nominations next year. GBHA would like to give a special thanks to Chuck Edwards for chairing this event once again this year. Job well done again Chuck.

GBHA Smoker BBQ Package Raffle

GBHA would like to congratulate Jeff Weismann for winning the Pit Boss Smoker Raffle with accessories. We would like to thank all those who supported us and bought tickets. As well we would like to thank Joe Belcourt for arranging the prizes and the volunteers who sold tickets. A sales report will be presented at the February dinner.

Prone Shooting at Outdoor Range

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our survey for prone shooting at the outdoor range. Given the responses we've received, we have made the decision to proceed with building a prone shooting bench which can be easily stored when not in use. Anyone with comments, questions, or suggestions is welcome to reach out to Jared Daley at jareddaley64@hotmail.com or 289-258-6221.

Junior Club Event

The junior club will be having an event on February 18th. They will be having an ice fishing event on Penetang Bay just off the boat launch. If anyone wishes to come out and see what we do or would like to volunteer please join us at any of our events. If there are any questions, please contact Karl Gostick at forest9101@yahoo.ca

Boat Smart

Drew from the Power Squadron will come to the Feb 21 dinner meeting. He will do a slide show presentation on safe boating after the dinner. The Power Squadron will also put on a boating licence course on May 2 from 9 till 3:30. The course cost is 105.00 including books and test. People register and pay by going to www.boatingcourses.ca A lunch will be available.

Conservation

Duck box maintenance day is a great way to help our feathered friends and get conservation volunteer hours! March 2, 2024 is duck box maintenance day at Matchedash Marsh. (Ice conditions permitting of course.) We will empty the boxes and replace the bedding. Matchedash Marsh is located on Quarry Road. (From Midland; Take highway 12 to the 400 North, take Quarry Rd, go west on Quarry until you see us on the RH side before you get the LaFarge's quarry.) Snowshoes are not necessary but helpful. Don't forget to bring your membership card to get your hours recorded. We are looking forward to seeing a good turnout for a fun morning.

Range Rules

Just a reminder to everyone that shooting on the outdoor range cannot start until 9 am. You can continue to shoot until half hour after sunset.

Designated Smoking Area

Please take note that we have built a designated smoking area at the side of our front entrance of the building. We have provided motion detection lighting, a bench to sit on, and a designated container for cigarette butts. Please be respectful by keeping this area clean and to use this designated area to keep

the front entrance smoke free and clean of cigarette butts. Snow will be removed when needed from this area for usage during the winter months. Your appreciation is greatly appreciated.

Designated Accessible Parking

Historically we have had the front three parking spots located at our front entrance as the designated accessible parking for patrons with visible parking permits. We have not had a chance to post our designated accessible parking signage directly in front of our clubhouse. Please be respectful and leave these three spots for patrons with visible parking permits to use. We will be posting signs in the near future and do not want anyone to be caught parking to be susceptible to a parking ticket! Please be respectful and leave these three parking spots open for permitted users.

Membership Information

The memberships for the Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers expire December 31 each year. The club accepts membership applications up until Feb 28. If you are using the facilities after December 31 you could very well be asked to show your **new** membership card. When possible please fill the forms in electronically in order to help get the correct information, especially email addresses.

On the back of your new membership cards there are areas for signatures. This is for your volunteer hours and dinner meetings. As voted upon by the general membership at a recent Dinner Meeting, all Members are required yearly to attend 3 dinner meetings OR do 10 hours of volunteer work. Each member is responsible for having their membership card either signed or stamped. At renewal time each year you will need to present your membership card to the membership chair with the stamps or signatures. Failure to do your volunteer hours or dinner meetings or failure to present your card at renewal time will result in a surcharge of \$100.00.

If there is any members that do not want to receive the Ontario Out of Doors magazines with their membership please let the membership chair know and we can stop this mailing.

If there are any questions regarding the memberships please contact Leslie Edwards at 705-333-0615 or cheynataussies@gmail.com

Club Emails

If you have renewed your membership for 2024 and are not receiving any emails from the club (e.g. monthly bulletin and reminders) please reach out to gbhaclub@yahoo.ca with your correct email address so we can get this corrected. Please note that the email address added to the mailing list is the one that is submitted on your application forms.

Catch and Keep fishing

The upper pond was stocked with fish for the 100 year anniversary. Members can fish in the pond, but please note that it is \$5 per fish, and there is no catch and release. All fish that are caught must be kept and paid for. Etransfers can be sent to gbhaclub@gmail.com. If sending an etransfer, please make sure you include what the etransfer is for. Alternatively, you can pay at the monthly dinner meeting.

ONCA Rule Change

Beginning Mid January the new rules for Not for Profit Corporations (Onca) will begin. The Onca committee will review requirements and propose changes to our Letters of Patent, Constitution and Bylaws to align with the new standards. Final day for compliance is Sept 2024.

Bingo Volunteers

The Bursary Committee has had volunteers working at Bingo in Penetang to earn funds to support the James Townes Memorial Bursary. This Bursary was originally established in 2012 by the North Simcoe Hunters and Anglers. It offers significant financial support to a student wishing to pursue a post-secondary level diploma or degree program and who would otherwise have difficulty attaining this goal. Since January we have been earning an average of \$2300 per month to go towards supporting the bursary. We are looking for more people who want to volunteer a night or two a month to help out at Bingo. Volunteering for bingos is a commitment - it is not just once and a while venture. The job comes complete with a shirt and name tag. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Robert Capling at capling@hotmail.com for more information.

Volunteer hours

Thank you to everyone that continues to submit their volunteer hours, for recording and tracking. This is a reminder to please submit any time to me, when you spend your time volunteering for club related activities/business (this means ANYTHING related to the club). This information is important as we use this information when requesting grants or, in explaining what we do and who we are as an organization. This is very important to GBHA (not to mention, REQUIRED as part of your membership). 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 your hours to us. Please, make sure that you forward your hours to Craig Lalonde via email at craiglalonde@hotmail.com

GBHA Mentorship Program

We are finally getting some ice and the ice-fishing season is slowly getting underway. Some of our members are out enjoying coyote hunting through the cold months, and many of us are eagerly awaiting the 2024 Turkey season. We want to remind everyone that we are still looking for members to step up as mentors for hunting **AND** fishing activities. We need folks who are willing to share their knowledge with other (adult) club members that are newer to hunting and/or fishing, and who are looking to benefit from the experience of established individuals. Thank you to everyone that has reached out to us already, looking to step up as a mentor, and those of you that have reached out looking to be mentored. I am happy to say that some people have already been successfully matched up and have been able to benefit from this program. 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

GBHA Club T-Shirts

GBHA club t-shirts are selling rather well. These T-Shirts are being sold at our dinner meeting and events. These t-shirts are 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. For more information or specific ordering or purchasing shirts please contact Mike at 1-705-529-9353 m2bweimer@gmail.com

2024 Midland Ducks Unlimited Dinner

Our friends on the Midland DUC committee are holding their annual fundraising dinner at the Quality Inn, Midland, on March 2nd. Tickets are \$65 each, and include a delicious beef dinner, and a fantastic night with new and old friends. Come out and join us for a night of fun, laughs, raffles and auctions to

help us support the efforts of DUC. Last year the event raised over \$37,000 net dollars, and that money stays in the province, to help ensure the conservation of critical wetland ecosystems. For info and/or tickets please contact Bryan Rushton at (705)529-6574, or Jenni Duval at (705)321-4451.

Canadian Sportswoman Society's (CSS) Intro to Turkey Hunting Seminar

The GBHA and CSS, is once again be teaming up to bring back this popular event in 2024, will be held on April 6th and registration is now open. 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 is also a reminder that all ranges are closed that day, as they are used for this event. The cost to join is \$70 per person, and includes: lunch, refreshments, use of equipment, ammo, and giveaways. The day covers archery and shotgun skills, decoy and blind setup, and proven tactics. Join us to connect with fellow enthusiasts and immerse yourself in the hunt. Space is limited, and the event 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 question

Respecting Your Last Wishes!

While reading some of your favorite magazines or while searching the internet, you may have come across a few articles dealing with somewhat sensitive issues pertaining to fellow enthusiasts, hunters and anglers who have passed away. Some of these issues vary from their last wishes of donations to their choice of clubs and or federations, to, how the family/executor must deal with topics such as firearms, ammunition and other items of interest.

This appears to be on the rise, especially with the long gun registry being abolished! GBHA club has in the past received monetary donations and some families have expressed interest about offering the firearms/equipment to the club as a donation. These donations are always appreciated and are put to good use, but are *not* expected of members!

Often the executive of GBHA is approached regarding the issues of dealing with firearms such as unregistered firearms, registered firearms, how to transfer them to an heir, what happens if an heir does not have a PAL or an appropriate license, who is responsible for dealing with the firearms? Many questions and situations have been brought up on these and other topics. The Board of Directors have been able to answer the questions and or help set up appropriate actions to deal with these situations.

As mentioned, these are delicate situations. Should you or anyone you know may need the assistance of Georgian Bay Hunters and Anglers Executive can be re-assured that each situation will be dealt with discretion and in a professional manor and with upmost respect to the members and family's requests. ALL persons in possession of firearms or other items of interest should be informed of responsibilities and be prepared.

We have also listed some internet links to help inform you and assist in your decision making, please take some time to think about you wishes.

Inherited Firearms; [Executors and heirs | Royal Canadian Mounted Police \(rcmp-grc.gc.ca\)](http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/cfp-pcaf/fs-fd/will-testament-eng.htm)

Information for Executors; <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/cfp-pcaf/fs-fd/will-testament-eng.htm>

Chief Firearms Offices; <http://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/cfp-pcaf/cfo-caf/index-eng.htm>

Notifications of Fallen Members

GBHA Board of Directors, would appreciate notification of the passing of any previous and current members so we can pass on our condolences and notifications to our members. Please notify Leslie Edwards @ 705-333-0615 or cheynataussies@gmail.com

Thanks everyone,

Hannah Edwards - Bulletin Editor

Please check out our web site www.gbhuntersandanglers.com for
Club news and updates or “like us” on Facebook.