



THE SPORTSMAN

“Conservation is Our Aim”



SYDENHAM SPORTSMEN’S ASSOCIATION,
 P.O. BOX 264 OWEN SOUND, ONTARIO,
 N4K5P3
www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/
 Affiliated with the OFAH, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters



SSA On Line

 Web Site

Volume 35 No. 5 May, 2015



THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING,

First Thursday of each month, October to June,
 September exception -> second Thursday

Thursday

May 7, 7:30 pm

AT THE CLUB HOUSE,

THE CLUB HOUSE is: on the
 Lincoln Park Road,
 in the township of Georgian Bluffs, or
 {082535 Side Road 6}, or
 {217567 Concession 3 Side road,
 behind Gord Maher Centre}

*We refuse to believe that
 computers are smarter than
 people until we see one refold
 a road map on the first try!*

Presidents Message

Mike Prevost

Knowing that I had some time to wait for my doctor’s appointment I gave some thought as to what I was going to write for my Presidents Message. It seems lately that it is getting harder for me to come up with something half intelligent to say but maybe that is just old age creeping in. The thought also came to me that I shouldn’t stress so much about it because you know there are a lot of our membership, and I really don’t want to know the percentage, that do not even bother to read our newsletter. This is unfortunate for a number of reasons least of which is all of the time and effort that our Newsletter Chairman, Dave Skelton spends on formatting, emailing, folding and mailing out our newsletter. Dave does a great job for us and we are lucky that he continues to do it. Anyway enough of that. Feeling sorry for myself has led me to another thought process.

This past April 21st our clubhouse and property hosted the Regional Envirothon competition for some fifty keen grade 9 to 12 students from Grey Bruce. I do not know the exact workings of the competition but it did involve teams of five students coming up with solutions to onsite questions about wildlife, forestry, water and soils. Sound familiar?

I was glad that I could say in my welcoming address to the students that our club starts off every one of our general meetings with the OFAH pledge that in part says that we defend from waste the natural resources of our country and that “Conservation is Our Aim “ is the motto of our club.

Remember that the June meeting is our auction night so start looking around and clear out all that stuff that you thought was good at one time but just never seem to use. There are always some bargains and great baking items and it is one of our few chances to have a good social evening. Watch for more information in our June newsletter. That’s why you should read it !

Over 60 Years Promoting Conservation



Sydenham Sportsmen's Association

President: Mike Prevost
 1st Vice President: Scott Grimoldby
 2nd Vice President:
 Bill Douglas
 Recording Secretary:
 Tim Lahey
 Past President: Dennis Wiseman
 Treasurer: Murray Smart
 Correspondence Secretary:
 Geoff Ford

Directors:
 Brian Clements, John Ford,
 Wayne Gallagher,
 Chris Geberdt, Fred Geberdt
 Jim Hastie, Al Hillis, Jim Jansen
 Tim Lahey, Ron Robb,
 Dennis Wiseman

Please inform John Ford if your address, phone number, or, email changes!

Newsletter: Dave Skelton
 Webmaster: Bruce Farrell
 Membership: John Ford
 Key Keeper: John Ford

Thanks to all of the Volunteers who came to help us release our Brown and Rainbow Trout recently!

We had a lot of members arrive which made the job a lot easier and faster.

Thanks for your help:
Ron Robb



April 2, 2015 Prize Draw Winners

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Scissor set | Bill Colborne |
| 2. Pruners | Don Lobban |
| 3. Flashlight | Bob Hunt |
| 4. Tarp | Woody Woodpecker |
| 5. Fillet knife | Fred Geberdt |
| 6. Gloves | Emmitt Briand |
| 7. Fishing pole | Mac Gamble |
| 8. Axe | Brian Gamble |
| 9. Folding knife | Donald Duck |
| 10. Tin snips | Kevin Hawthorne |
| 11. Rope | Bob Esplen |
| 12. Duck print | Jack Osadzuk |
| 13. Power bar | Ted Stiemann |
| 14. Muskel | Tim Lahey |

Red tag - 2 - \$25.00 Gift Certificates
 Giant Tiger Jack Osadzuk

Bottle of maple syrup compliments of
 Cliff Springer Don Lobban

Thanks to all for participating
Brian Clements



Updating Contact Information

When the paper newsletter is mailed or the email reminder is sent, each month we have a number of returns. What this means, is that you don't get any email blasts/messages or other information to let you know what is happening in the club. You also do not receive immediate changes in Club activities.

Please help us by updating your contact information. You can email me at johnrichardford5@gmail.com or call me at 226 664 0960.
 Thanks for your help;



Helpers On Earth Day- Thanks!



Stocking Brown and Rainbow Trout

Photos by Mike Prevost

SSA Awards Presentations

At our May 7 meeting, the 2014 awards will be presented. These include fishing trophies as well as handgun and other service awards. Please try to attend to recognize these award winners.

J Ford and J Doherty



Volunteers - Thank you -

The Sydenham Sportsmen's Association would not function, if it were not for its many volunteers. Thank you to everyone that helps with our fund raising ticket sales, shooting range improvements, fish hatchery maintenance, wildlife projects, the Salmon Derby and the many other things that keeps our club going.

The SSA Executive

For a coloured version of this document, go to the SSA website at <http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/> select from SSA Newsletters - right side.

Bob McKay **Firearms Safety Courses**

The snow has started to melt which means that Firearms Safety Courses can once again be held at the Clubhouse. There will be a NON-RESTRICTED COURSE May 27th-29th. ONE SPOT AVAILABLE!
There will be a RESTRICTED COURSE Saturday JUNE 6TH. ONE SPOT AVAILABLE!

Restricted courses begin at 9:00am

The cost for any course is \$35.00 Registration Fee (NON REFUNDABLE). This pays for the book and the test only. Payable at registration.

In addition the course fee is as follows

Members \$50.00	Junior Members \$35.00
Non Members \$85.00	Non Member under 18 years of age \$50.00

PAYABLE AT START OF COURSE.

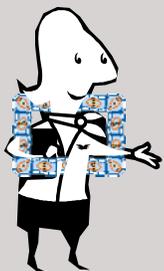
To register for any of these courses PHONE Bob McKay at 519-534- 0827 AFTER 6:00pm. Let the phone ring AT LEAST 10 times. I may be outside or in another part of the house.

There may be more courses coming in the fall. Keep watching the newsletter for Dates and Types.



Larry Miller MP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound riding, was recognized at the recent annual meeting of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters. Miller an active angler and hunter, was honoured with a special award at the OFAH annual convention. He was one of three MP's to get the nod from this organization which is considered one of Canada's most effective lobby groups. With more than 100-thousand members and 725 member clubs, the OFAH is considered to be the main voice of anglers and hunters in Ontario . Larry was praised for his support of conservation clubs in our region such as the Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen, Sydenham Sportsmen, and the Barrow Bay Anglers. Several delegates at the meeting from our riding commented that Larry understands the issues that affect us and are important to, our conservation movement.

Disclaimer:



The editorial comments in this Newsletter do not always reflect the policies or opinions of the SSA.

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left to right - Greg Farrant Dir. OFAH Government Affairs, Bob Sopuck MP, Dauphin-Swan River, Manitoba, Candice Bergen MP Portage-Lisgar, Manitoba, Larry Miller MP, Angelo Lombardo OFAH Executive Director.

Stu Paterson PATERSON MEDIA

Want to try Archery?
Email Bill Douglas at bcdouglas@bmts.com



For more SSA Pictures: Connect to the SSA website using <http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/> then click SSA Gallery Images (right side)

A cold day on the range!

Police Foundations students from the Owen Sound campus spent Friday learning firearms safety.

On March 27, members of the Sydenham Sportsmen's Association welcomed second year Police Foundations students to their open-air facility, just south of Owen Sound.

Members provided instruction on firearm safety using a variety of weapons.

Students then tried their hands at skeet and target shooting. For many, skeet shooting was their favourite part of the day

Proud winners of the Sharpshooter competition are pictured left to right:

Brendan Reay, Quinton Hewitt, Timothy Reynen, Daniel Boers, Jean-Sebastien Barrette, Use of Force Instructor Michael MacLachlan, and Alisha Jones.

Instructors Dan Rioux, Janice Pepe, Rose Witteveen, Michael MacLachlan and Catherine Wareham all remarked on the excellent range facilities and the enthusiastic welcome they received from the Sydenham members.



EARTH DAY CLEANUP

Thanks go out to all the club members who turned out to help with Earth Day cleanup. In total we had 46 people come out to help.

Thanks go out to Gayle Clements who helped with the registration, and to Su Ann and Ashely Gebert, Jim and Lorraine Jansen for looking after the barbeque hot dogs and burgers.

Also a big thanks to Fred Geberdt, and John Ford, for their attempt at launching the pontoon boat to pick up the garbage along the river banks.

In total, we had 6 draw prizes that were drawn and given away.

Once again, many thanks to all. **Brian Clements**

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6 kms. North of Springmount

*Thanks to those submitting
material for this newsletter.*

*Anyone with articles for this
Newsletter should get them to me by
the 20th (or sooner) of the
preceding month.*

*Dave Skelton 519-376-9554
dskel@golden.net*



Black Rifle

Reducing Neonicotinoid Pesticide Use by 80 Per Cent

News Release

Reducing Neonicotinoid Pesticide Use by 80 Per Cent

March 23, 2015

Ontario Setting New Rules to Protect Bees, Other Pollinators

Ontario is taking the strongest action in North America to protect bees, birds, butterflies, and other pollinators by proposing new rules that would reduce the number of acres planted with neonicotinoid-treated corn and soybean seeds by 80 per cent by 2017.

Some neonicotinoid insecticides are toxic to bees and other beneficial insects. The government is taking a precautionary approach to limit the use of neonicotinoid treated seeds. The proposed regulation sets rules for the sale and use of neonicotinoid-treated corn and soybean seeds.

The draft regulation is available for public comment on the environmental registry until May 7, 2015. If approved, new rules would take effect July 1, 2015.

Following provincewide consultations in winter 2014-15, the proposed regulation will help protect pollinators and ensure a productive agricultural sector. It is also an important step in developing a pollinator health action plan that will examine key stressors that can affect pollinator health, including:

- a.. Pesticides
- b.. Loss of habitat and nutrition
- c.. Climate change and weather
- d.. Disease, pests and genetics

Ensuring a strong and healthy agricultural sector is part of the government's economic plan for Ontario. The four part plan is building Ontario up by investing in people's talents and skills, building new public infrastructure like roads and transit, creating a dynamic, supportive environment where business thrives, and building a secure savings plan so everyone can afford to retire.

QUICK FACTS

- a.. In the winter of 2013-2014, bee deaths in Ontario reached 58 per cent. The generally accepted level by those who care for and breed bees is 15 per cent.
- b.. Bees and other pollinators are responsible for pollinating roughly 13 per cent of agricultural crops in Ontario (crops worth about \$897 million), and support \$26 million annually in honey production.
- c.. Ontario's agri-food sector employs 760,000 individuals and contributes \$34 billion each year to the province's economy.

- ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**
- a.. Read a summary of the proposed regulation
 - b.. Comment on the draft regulation
 - c.. Pollinator health discussion paper

QUOTES

"We heard overwhelmingly that the people of Ontario support immediate action to protect our food sources and the environment from the effects of neurotoxic neonicotinoids. The proposed regulation will contribute to reducing a major stressor on pollinators and other vulnerable species."

— Glen Murray, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change

"After extensive consultation, our government is moving forward with the next phase of our comprehensive pollinator health strategy, based on the advice of agricultural leaders. The proposed regulation released today is a balanced and practical way forward that would ensure farmers have access to treated seeds when needed."

— Jeff Leal, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change

<http://www.ontario.ca/environment>

Submitted by Jim Hastie

An **Application Form** may be obtained by using the link below.

<http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/> Top menu Bar -> **Membership**

Just fill in the form, and mail to the address on the front page of this newsletter, c/o **John Ford.**

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Add the following to the SSA Calendar: "SPORTING CLAYS 1 TO 4 PM." on the following dates: May 3rd., May 18th 11 am. start, May 31st, June 14th, June 28th, July 5th, July 19th, Aug. 3rd 11 am. start, Aug. 16th, Aug. 30th, Sept. 7th 11am. start, Sept. 20th Oct. 4th, and Oct. 18th.

Please be advised that our first Sporting Clays shoot this year will be on Sunday May 3rd, starting at 1 pm. The next one will be on Monday May 18th beginning at 11 am. Please check our SSA Calendar for the Complete listing of dates through to October.

Thank you, Al Hillis



RANGE REPORT - SHOOTING SPORTS

Well Spring has finally arrived, and things are getting busy on all the ranges. So let me give you a brief update on all that's happening by range during the early part of this year.

Range #1 - Handgun range: A work party has been planned to refurbish the backstop, take down the plastic windbreaks and do a general clean up. Then some work will begin to cover in a portion of the lower sections of the structure. A new more simplified Sign-in system will also be introduced.

Range #2 - Rimfire/CBA: Here as well there will be a general clean-up and refurbishing of the backstop and targets. This range is going to be quite busy this year with many Defense Pistol & Cowboy Action sessions planned. Don't forget to come see the action at "Cowboy Camp" on May 23/15. Check our Calendar on the SSA website for all the details.

Range #3 - 100 Yard Range: This range requires some extensive work on the backstops by filling in the cavities, plus refurbishing and replacing many of the sandbags. There is a plan to increase the height of the two bunkers by a couple of railway ties and this will hopefully be completed at the same time. Some minor changes are planned for behind the firing line to make it easier and safer. We also plan to open this range on more occasions with some morning and evening times for our members convenience. Here again please refer to our Calendar on the SSA website for details.

Range #4 - Single Trap Field: Based on the increased number of Trap shooters coming out to the ranges, this one will definitely be open more this year than last. Al is still working on putting up a overhead shelter down here and we should hear some more of the details a little later in the season. This range will just get a general clean-up sometime in May.

Use this link below to renew you membership! **Pay Pal or a Credit Card can be used**

<http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/ssastore/>

Range #5 - Field Sporting Clays: This is the last shotgun range to open each year because of the location in the bush and the snowy/marshy conditions.

We are starting the process of investigating how we can improve this range through changes in stations, additions of stations and changing locations of stations. This is going to take some time, since once we figure out what is the best layout, and how many teams can shoot on the course at once. We still have to get it approved by our Executive and then approved by the CFO's office. Not to mention how much it will cost and when we can start the work of making it happen. This process is already underway and we will keep everyone informed of our progress.

Range #6 - Single Skeet Field/Trap Field: Lots of new things happening or about to happen here again this year. Al has installed a new voice activated system on the Trap Field, he tested it for the first time on Sunday April 19th and it worked great. I know because I was there and tried it out, didn't help my score any, I still shot 20, but it was fantastic. We are going through so many birds lately because of the increased participation in the shotgun sports we need more space to store our supply so, we are also getting a new container to hold our Clay Birds and it will be installed next to the 100 Yd. range side berm.

Archery Practice Facility: Within the next month this area will get some new carpeting put on the older targets and a general clean-up of the area.

Archery Walk-through Range: This range was still too wet and soggy to work on when I walked through on April 20th, so we are planning a work Party the first part of May. Here we will be clearing the windfalls, trimming the lanes and refurbishing and/or replacing some of the butts. We can use all the help we can get here, so if your available to pitch in just give me a call at 519-372-0804 and we can set up the timing. Later in the season we will again be putting out 10 of the 3D targets for your usage, and I will be looking for some help and I will keep you informed on when and how.

Thanks goes out to one of our Members who has taken it upon himself to put up some new bow hangers on this range, your help is very much appreciated.

Range Committee Co-Chairs
Al Hillis & Bill Douglas

P.S. All of the work listed above costs money, and we rely heavily on your donations particularly on Ranges #1,2&3 to keep things in good shape. We strongly urge members using these facilities to donate a \$1 or \$2 every time you use them to help us out. Our basic membership dues don't go very far and are pretty well used up for paying taxes, electricity, insurance, minor road work, snow removal maintenance costs, OFAH membership, etc.

*One golfer to the other golfer: beating you is
only half the fun, rubbing it in is the other half!*

*A rabbit had difficult hopping.
He was hopping on one foot
keeping other foot in his pocket
for good luck!*