



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 39 No. 1 January 2019



THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING,

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

Thursday

January 3, 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}

**SWAP MEET, SUNDAY
MARCH 17th 2019**

**WATCH THIS SPACE FOR
MORE INFO !**

*Remember, if people talk behind
your back, it only means you are
two steps ahead of them!*

President’s Message (January 2019)

As we welcome in the New Year, I hope everyone enjoyed the festive season and your naughtiness of 2018 was relinquished with some great swag from ole Kris Kringle. Thanks to all the SSA members who prepared a dish for our December nibble night and congratulations to the winners, also thanks to all who continue to support our monthly meetings and a big thanks to Brian Clements for always ensuring some great draw prizes are there for those wishing to take part.

We will be having our final nominations for the SSA Executive at our January meeting followed by our election to determine the 2019 Board of Directors. Once again Guy Doherty and myself are planning to continue on with our Annual Chili/Soup/Stew Social evening and would appreciate any suggestions and/or help from fellow members. We have had this event for the last 2 years and is a great evening out to bring together members and guests to enjoy some homemade dishes along with some socializing, and as always there will be some prizes up for grabs.

Once again as we move into the winter weather, if the weather is too bad for driving, I will try to relay to Dave Skelton to get an email out if a meeting is cancelled. Also if any members are looking to help out but don’t know who to contact, come to a meeting and there will be lots of fellow members who can guide you in the right direction.

Scott

Over 60 Years Promoting Conservation



Sydenham Sportsmen's Association

President: Scott Grimoldby
1st Vice President: Fred Geberdt
2nd Vice President:
Bill Douglas
Recording Secretary:

Past President: Mike Prevost
Treasurer: Dennis Wiseman
Correspondence Secretary:
John Ford

Directors:
Jeff Caldwell, John Ford,
Wayne Gallagher,
Chris Geberdt, Jim Hastie,
Al Hillis, Jim Jansen
Ron Robb,

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



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

Clubhouse Bookings:
Contact-
Ron McCartney (Club Custodian)
Home 519-794-3456
Cell 226- 668-6031
ultrasoundkennel@gmail.com



Monthly Meeting Draw Prize Winners

DECEMBER 6, 2018
STEAK DRAW

Ernie Van Leevwen
Dennis Wiseman
Dave Clark
Ally Murdock
Bob Hunt
Mary Hillis
John Thompson

Thanks to all for participating:
Brian Clements



Gate Keys

Yes, the locks on our property will change in 2019. However it won't happen until April 1. That means that your black key will work until then. However, we all know that you must have your 2019 membership paid before using club facilities. Make sure you wear your membership card with the 2019 sticker on the back.

Upcoming OFAH Zone H Meeting

On January 13, we are hosting a Zone H meeting at our clubhouse. The meeting starts at 10:00 am and lunch is available. We are hoping to have a speaker talking about C W D which has been discovered very close to Ontario's border with Quebec. You are all members so come out and find out what the OFAH is doing on many fronts.

I would just like to get an idea as to what interest there is among current members for **club merchandise**.

We have been able to secure a local supplier for jackets, hats, golf shirts, T shirts, etc. Costs of these items will vary with quantities ordered.

For example:

Jackets	\$ 40.00	Golf shirts	\$ 30.00
T Shirts	\$ 15.00	Hats	\$ 15.00

Please note: prices are subject to change but include sales tax.

At this time I would like to find out as to what level of interest currently exist among our members for such items.

Items can be ordered at any general meeting!

If there is any interest at all or if you have any suggestions,

please contact me at **519-376-3343** or at
mna.inspection@sympatico.ca

Jim Jansen

Wanted: Help with **bluebird program**, as my legs are not working as well any more; old age. Walking to check boxes is difficult to do. **Need help with the over 30 runs.**

I have some good guys helping but just need more.

Call me at 226 668 8241 or email bobhunt1@hotmail.ca

I want to keep this going as was started with Lorne Smith.

Any help you can give will be appreciated.

Thanks: **Bob Hunt.**

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

December Wild Game Nibble Night was another success.

First time participants, Tracy Allison, Allie MacKay and Jay Murdoch were voted first place for their stuffed mushrooms.

Cliff Springer took 2nd place and somehow Mike Prevost snuck in for third.



Photos by Rob Cameron and Mike Prevost

SSA volunteers were kept busy at the **City of Owen Sound Winter Festival** in Harrison Park helping kids/families build bird feeding/nesting boxes, 150 of them. This is probably the 6th year we have helped with this activity and it has always been well received by the community.



Photos by Rob Cameron and Mike Prevost

Selling OFAH Conservation Lottery Tickets next February

We will be selling Conservation Lottery tickets at Giant Tiger at the Heritage Place Mall during the month of February. Last year we earned more than \$2000 by doing this. We very much appreciate your help and I am working on a schedule now. If you have preferred dates and times, please email them to me or give me a call.

Thanks in advance for your help. Johnrichardford5@gmail.com or 226 664 0960 or 519 372 5060



SSA Membership Report

Our Early Bird Membership programme will conclude at the January general meeting. There will be 3 prizes this year which are a free membership, a floater suit and a knife set for those to choose to renew early. The draws will be made at our next meeting.

Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular

We want to thank all of the volunteers who worked to make the 31st Annual such a success. What was particularly encouraging was the significantly greater number of fish that were entered.

The Derby Committee deserves a big pat on the back for a job well done!

Since I try to co-ordinate the Weigh in Station schedule as well as the Computer Operators Schedule, I am already working on both of those for 2019. I already have some requests for days and times. If you have

requests, this is the time to contact me. Probably sending me an email is the easiest way.

(johnrichardford5@gmail.com)

Again thanks to all who helped!!



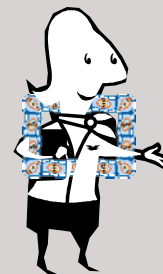
Help Needed with Nesting Box Programme

Bob Hunt, the co-ordinator, mentioned that he needs more help with maintaining our many Bluebird Nesting Boxes. Please contact Bob to offer your volunteer help.

In the process, you will learn a lot about these little creatures.

You can call Bob at the Maher Centre (519-371-8560). Bob is there most weekday mornings.

Disclaimer:



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

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SSA RENEWAL FORM FOR 2019 (TO BE COMPLETED BY 2018 MEMBERS ONLY)

(For your convenience SSA Renewal Memberships can be purchased directly on our website after Nov 1/18)

We need you to take a few minutes to help us update our records. *PLEASE NOTE THAT WE REQUIRE YOUR FIREARMS LICENCE # AND EXPIRY DATE*****

If you have a rural address, Canada Post requires your fire number and road as well as your rural route.

Membership Fees for 2019:		Memberships are based on the Calendar Year (January until December).	
	Family	Adult, Spouse, Children, includes full time students up to age 25	\$175.00
	Adult	Individual	\$130.00
	Senior Citizen	Age 60 & over	\$115.00
	Student	Age up to 25 in full time student (no magazine)	\$60.00
	Add a Spouse	Additional fee	\$45.00
	Junior	12 and under (no magazine)	\$55.00
	Property Gate Key		\$5.00
Check off your selections above			Total

Note: Help us save money and select to view the Newsletter on our website, please update your email address below.

Please use reverse side for additional names, ages etc. for family memberships

NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ (Please Update your Email Address)

FIREARMS LICENCE NUMBER AND EXPIRY _____

Wildlife Advisory Committee	Derby Committee	Fishery Advisory Committee
Public Relations Booth	Shotgun Shooting	Hatchery
Tree Planting	Social Activities	Derby Weigh In
Board of Directors	Fishing	I D P A shooting
Derby Fish Fries	Trap Shooting	Skeet Shooting
Sporting Clays Shooting	Cowboy Action Shooting	Handguns
Black Powder	Boat Draw Ticket Sales	Archery
Property Care	Wildlife Enhancement	Stream Work
Fish stocking	Hunting	Junior Activities
High Power Shooting	Earth Day	Fall Fair Gates
Computer	Other Interests (List Below)	
Retired	Have ATT	

TO MAINTAIN A STRONG AND VIABLE ASSOCIATION, ALL MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE. Please select activities of special interest to you from the list above. This information is used in planning work parties, committees, etc.

If you would like to purchase your renewal by credit card, please enter the number and expiry date below.

Name on Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Security Code as it appears on the back of the Credit Card: _____

HANDGUN RANGE

If you were shooting S&W 9mm steel cased ammo on the handgun range on Nov. 25, we have some bad news for you.
Your Mommy didn't turn up to pick up after you.
Just sayin'!
Another HG range user.

Truth is powerful, and it prevails!

For 2019, you will need to provide us with your current Firearms Licence number and expiry date.

We will provide a renewal form in this newsletter.
We need you to complete this form as part of your renewal, so please bring it with you! There are a couple of changes in the current renewal. One is the firearms licence number and expiry date. The second involves our family membership. Now children up to and including age 25 can be part of your family membership (if they are in full time attendance in school). The membership fees remain the same for 2019 as last year. If you prefer to renew on line, that option is now available. We now have a cordless point of sale machine that does not use the telephone cord. We should be able to renew your membership easily at our monthly meetings. We now have the 2019 windshield decals and will make them available to all who have renewed. Only 2019 members should be using club facilities starting on January 1. The exception is non-member trap and skeet shooters who pay extra.
The on line membership application is presently up and running. This is information to those renewing on line. When you click on the submit button, you will be sent to the Paypal website. If you don't already have an account, you can choose to create a temporary account and pay with your credit card.
You need to be aware that a requirement for new members in 2019 is that the firearms licence number and expiry date needs to be included.
As well, we require new members to provide a current police criminal records check.

Fishing regulation changes on Lake of the Woods and Rainy River

Anglers will be able to keep fewer walleye and sauger beginning March 1 on Lake of the Woods and the Rainy River. "The new regulations will help ensure the long-term sustainability of the resource while maintaining fishing opportunities," said Phil Talmage, DNR Baudette area fisheries supervisor. "We received a ton of public comment from anglers and there was very strong support for the proposed changes."
The winter regulations on Lake of the Woods will match the current summer regulations, reducing the aggregate walleye and sauger limit from eight to six, with no more than four walleye. The protected slot limit remains in effect that requires anglers to immediately release any walleye between 19.5-28", with only one fish over 28" allowed in possession.

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*

Canada has 127 species classified as threatened on the International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List.

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



The Province of Ontario is proposing to list the double-crested cormorant as a game bird, create a hunting season in Ontario for population management and make related changes. This proposal would be implemented through a series of regulatory and legislative amendments. The proposal is open for comments through January 3, 2019. Double-crested cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) populations declined significantly in the Great Lakes from the 1950s to the 1970s primarily due to environmental contaminants affecting reproduction. Their numbers began to increase rapidly from the 1970s to the early 2000s, with the latest information indicating Great Lakes populations have since stabilized or declined slightly.

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.**



Invasion of snowy owls blamed on changing Arctic

Ottawa Citizen

Author: Tom Spears • December 20th, 2018 • **Page Number:** A2

Snowy owls have again flown south in large numbers to Eastern Ontario, and now birders are starting to think of this previously rare pattern as the new normal for the Arctic birds.

They're also coming up with a theory: The owls are being driven south not because the Arctic is too harsh, but because it is no longer harsh enough. In an odd way, this may make life harder for owls in the North.

This is the sixth straight year of irruptions - abnormal movements - of a lot of the big, powerful white owls. Normally they stay in the Arctic year-round, but young adults, especially, tend to move south if there is a shortage of food in the North.

This often happens when owls have had a good breeding season. It's not that food itself runs short, but rather a case of having too many owls hunting in the same area.

Birders have reported some 30 snowy owls on Amherst Island in Lake Ontario near Kingston and a couple of dozen more on nearby Wolfe Island.

(A study is currently looking at whether the construction of wind turbines is going to affect them.)

In Ottawa, birder Bruce Di Labio says snowies are gathered in the same areas where they have been for several straight winters: near Eagleson and Fallowfield roads, near Arnprior, Casselman, St. Isidore and Winchester.

"There could be 20 or 25 in the greater Ottawa area."

This emerging trend is forcing bird experts to search for possible explanations.

"It could be climate change: The Arctic warming up, more vegetation available, so it's producing more rodents," Di Labio said.

Rodents are owl food.

"In turn, the snowy owls are being successful (in breeding) every year.

"There is something going on," he said, because the snowy owl appearances have gone from being rare to happening every year.

In the past six years, they have started to arrive by late October.

"What typically happens is the numbers (in our region) go up into January."

Then they remain stable until the birds return north in early March.

tspears@postmedia.com twitter.com/TomSpears1

Thanks to Dennis Wiseman