



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



Volume 33 No. 9

November, 2013



THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING,

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

Thursday

November, 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}

November presentation:

An enforcement perspective of
the SON commercial fishing
agreement by MNR Lake Huron
Unit Conservation Officer Ben
Sumner.

**Nibble Night coming-
See inside for more
information!**

Presidents Message

Mike Prevost President

Ah November, overcast, dull, dreary days but when you are out on that hunt or late season fishing and the sun breaks through those cloud formations it is an invigorating time to be outdoors. Although October is a more comfortable month to be out November for me is really the hunting month. I think of deer camp and bucks getting active for the rut. With most of the leaves off the trees, hunters are working their dogs on pheasant, woodcock and grouse. Smaller family groups of geese are gathering together to form impressive flocks whose sounds cause everyone to look upward. The question of if the northern ducks have made their way down yet is always on my mind. All of these things make me restless around the house to the point of where my wife tells me to just go out somewhere as I am driving her crazy.

Getting out is good. Coming home safely is better. Sighting in my rifles at our range under the direction of a Range Safety Officer has reminded me of this. Getting old has not helped my memory improve and so I have learned to make a list of all the things I need to take away to deer camp and then I just have to remember where I put the list. I give myself credit for also making a list of all things that could go wrong and how do avoid such circumstances. Happily I have not had any serious incidents but I have to admit, as all of us would do for ourselves, that I have done some stupid things even knowing better at that very moment. Things that have me asking myself how could I be that stupid.

So be safe and I will look forward to seeing you all after the deer hunt at our general meeting (note the change) on the second Thursday November 14th.

Over 60 Years Promoting Conservation



Sydenham Sportsmen's Association

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

Directors:

Brian Clements, Terry Faulkner,
 John Ford, Wayne Gallagher ,
 Chris Geberdt, Jim Hastie,
 Al Hillis, Doug Murdoch
 Ron Robb,

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

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

October Meeting Prize Winners

Terrycloth towels	Dennis Wiseman
Moose print	Jack Osadzuk
Moose print	Deborah Wattie
Tooke	Murray Peer
Multi function knife	Jim Hastie
Multi function knife	John Morneau
Gloves	Larry Fischer
Moose video	Rick Wardrop
Deer video	Dennis Green
Cap light	Bill Douglas

Red tag - \$50.00 gift
 Certificate Walmart Art Hawes

Congratulations to all, **Brian Clements**



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.

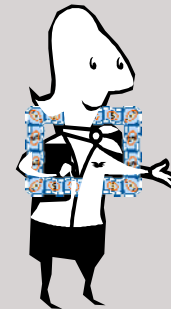
The SSA Executive



It's Early Bird Membership Time Again!—J Ford

As Autumn approaches, and many of us are turning our thoughts to checking out the sights on our favourite deer rifle along with asking our wives where our orange hunting clothes are, it is also time to remind you that again, we are having an Early Bird Membership Contest for 2014 memberships. Simply put, if you renew your membership during the month of November, you will have 3 free chances at our Early Bird Prizes. One of the prizes will be a free 2014 membership. Remember that the membership dues have not increased and are Family--\$125.00, Adult--\$100.00, Senior (60 and up)--\$85.00, Spouses--\$25.00, Students--\$40.00 and Juniors--\$35.00

Disclaimer:
 The editorial



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

Reproduction of any SSA material in this document is encouraged by any paid up member of the SSA.

New Member Application Forms for 2014

There are paper copies of the New Member Application forms at the clubhouse. Later on this will be available on our website. However, please note that all applications must include either an existing member sponsor or a reference from a previous club. I will be contacting sponsors before the memberships can be passed by the executive.

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### Property Gate Keys

The property gate keys will change in 2014, as usual. The date of the change is **April 1, 2014**. Until then your current key (green key spotter) will work. This provides current members with ample opportunity to renew memberships. The cost is unchanged at \$4 with the return of last year's key or \$5 without. Yes, even though the Hi-Power Rifle range is now supervised, you will need a key to access the Handgun, Archery, .22 range or to go to the river.

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

[http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/2013-SSA-Membership\\_form.pdf](http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/2013-SSA-Membership_form.pdf)

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



## Handgun Stew Wallace

### HANDGUN

Just a short article this month with some good news, some very good news and some really, really good news.

The good news is that the range is being regularly used and is being kept in good shape by Dan and Mark and others. This is probably the only range on the property where the 'chair' of the discipline doesn't really need to do too much. My thanks to all who help out, it really makes a difference to the success of the sport. Again, this winter, the range will be partially covered in by Rob and Ken. This proved to be a real asset last year and made winter shooting sooooo much more enjoyable.

Under the 'very good news' category, the sport of handgun shooting in our club is flourishing. The new (to us) discipline of Defensive Pistol has become a great success under the leadership of Mike S. and the enthusiasm of Peter R. and others.

Defensive Pistol is a competition that is based on the assumption that the shooter has the legal right to wear a concealed carry handgun and, on a trip to the store. ATM machine etc., is confronted by 'bad guys'. From that moment, the shooter has decisions to make. Return fire ?, shoot ? don't shoot?, is there available cover ? what if there's a hostage ?

The first competition was held on the high power range on Saturday October 12th. It was a picture perfect fall day and the merry band of shootists engaged a series of targets, some stationary, some moving, some with handguns, some with shotguns. The diversity of the scenario made for some really interesting, and fun to watch, action. "Thanks" to Mike for setting up some really interesting and challenging stages.

Defensive Pistol and Cowboy Action shooting are two shooting sports that really are good spectator sports and I'd encourage all of the SSA members to come out and watch any time we have these shoots.

Now for the really, really good news, and this is 'really, really, good news' for everybody involved in handgun shooting. Peter Robson has agreed to take on the position of Handgun Chair at SSA. and will take over from me at the end of this year. Eight or nine years in the position has led to waning personal interest on my part and I can't think of anybody better suited to take over the reins than Peter. His enthusiasm for, and knowledge of the sport, is contagious and his taking over this position will be a positive move for the sport of handgun shooting at SSA. My personal thanks go to Peter for making this transition possible.

Okay, not such a short article after all, but it was all positive and a pleasure to write !  
Shoot safely and remember 'muzzle control'.

**Stew. Wallace, Handgun Chair.**



### Chris Geberdt

### Money Doll Draw

Well that time of year is quickly upon us and we have our Sydenham Sportsmen's annual money doll draw fast approaching. Anyone that is interested in selling tickets at Canadian Tire or Food Basics for a 2 hour shift please contact Chris Geberdt by e-mail or phone. I look forward to hearing from you in the very near future.

*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*

**For more SSA Pictures:**

**Connect to the SSA website!**

<http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/photoalbum/index.php> or  
<http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/index.php> then click PHOTOS (left side)

**S S A Renewal Form for 2014**

(to be completed by 2013 members only)

We need you to take a few minutes to help us update our records. If you have a rural address, Canada Post requires your fire number and road as well as your rural route.

Memberships are based on the Calendar Year (January until December).

**Please use reverse for additional names, ages etc. for family memberships. Membership Fees for 2014 are:**

- FAMILY (Adult, Spouse, Children)-\$ 125.00      STUDENT (Age under 21 if in full time study; (no magazine)...\$40.00)
- ADULT (Individual).....\$100.00                  JUNIOR (12 and under; no magazine)..\$35.00
- SENIOR CITIZEN(Age 60 & over)..\$85.00        PROPERTY GATE KEY: \$5.00 (without last year's key);
- SPOUSE: additional \$25.00                         \$4.00 (with the return of last year's key)
- Please circle the appropriate membership above. (Magazine available for Juniors & Students for an extra \$8.00)

**Note: If you have a computer with internet access and wish to receive your newsletter electronically, you will receive your newsletter in colour, receive email blasts of information and save both the club and the newsletter chair considerable cost and effort. Please include your up-to-date email address below and place a checkmark here.**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ \ **TELEPHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **POSTAL CODE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE OF BIRTH:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Juniors and Students only)

- |                                   |                                    |                              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 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) _____ | Expertise (List Below _____  |
| Retired _____                     | Have ATT _____                     | Telephone Committee _____    |

**IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN A STRONG AND VIABLE ASSOCIATION, ALL MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN AREAS OF SPECIAL INTEREST. Please indicate which of the above activities are of special interest to you. 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.***

**Credit card number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Expiry date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Security code as it appears on the back of the Crediy Card:** \_\_\_\_\_



## Range Report - Shooting Sports

**Bill Douglas and Al Hillis**

Well as you all are aware the the 100 yd Range is up and running again under the guidance of a SSA Range Safety Officer. Usage at first was quite slow, but picked up substantially as we neared the Moose season. The past few weekends has been quite busy and with the Deer season fast approaching it's even going to get more usage. If you haven't already seen our new web-site go take a look at it, it's fantastic and you will now find the shooting schedule for the 100 yd. Range prominently displayed on it. Any time you want to know if it's open and when, just check the schedule there. The schedules are also posted on the 100 yd. Range bulletin board as well as at the Hand Gun Range. We also recommend that you arrive at least half an hour before the closing time if you want to get in any shooting, since we do follow the schedule fairly closely.

The archery range has also been getting a fair number of members using it since we put out some 3D targets on positions #10 through 20, that coupled with everyone honing their skill for the early archery Deer season has kept this range more active than we have seen it in a long time. By special request from our president Mike Prevost, we will be keeping the 3D targets out till the end of November for your shooting pleasure.

We are continuing to work on an in-house program to train more Range Safety Officers, and will be able to make an announcement about it in the near future. Then we will canvas our members to see who is interested in taking the course, but If you do want to take it, you must be prepared to do your fair share of shifts down on the 100 yd. range. Naturally all SSA approved Range Safety Officers must pass the course and be approved by the Executive.

**Bill Douglas**  
**Al Hillis**



### Reminder about SSA Awards

This is a reminder that we still have an Awards program that includes Adults, Students and Juniors for most fish species. There is also a best turkey and best buck contest. Last year, George McDougall, at GAD Products on Superior St kindly agreed to score racks for us.

### OFAH Conservation Lottery Tickets for Sale

We are, again, selling OFAH Conservation Lottery tickets. The SSA realizes \$6 for each book sold. We expect to have them ready for you to pick up at our November meeting. As well, we plan to sell them at the Heritage Place Mall during the month of February. If you can help out, please let Mike Prevost or John Ford know. That will make our job easier. Thanks in advance for your help!



*He that finds that he is too small  
has never been bitten by a  
mosquito!*

### Nibble Night in December

While you are putting all your packaged game into your freezer please think about how you might prepare some of it to bring out to our Nibble Night general meeting on December 5th. I find this encourages me to try some new recipes or substitute game meat into some of my wife's favorite recipes that I like which as it happens had my dish chosen for 1st place last year. That fact suitably fits the saying " if I can do it so can you". Don't take this to seriously. It's all about enjoying the evening. We are not a demanding crowd and everything is appreciated  
**Mike Prevost**

## **FLETCHER SPORTS**

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**For a coloured version of this document,**

Go to the SSA website at <http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/members/index.php>

## **Fish On Line**

**Arnie Clark**

Local anglers often ask “Is there any fish stocking happening in our area? “What kind of fish are being stocked and where?”

Thanks to the MNR, these questions and more can be answered by logging on to **Fish On Line – Ministry of Natural Resources** web-site. There, you will find a wealth of information. There's interactive mapping, directions to Ontario lakes from anywhere in North America, what species of fish are available in over 13,000 lakes and where the Province is stocking fish. The site also includes depth contours for more than 300 lakes plus a search for water-bodies by name, the species of fish found in these waters and related fish stocking information.

For example, a search of the information for Williams Lake (Municipality of Chatsworth) revealed that over the past 5 years, almost 7,000 brook trout have been stocked in the lake. Bell's Lake (northwest of Markdale) has been the recipient of almost 8,000 brookies over the same time period. To help you plan for future fishing adventures in Bruce-Grey and if you are looking for new waters to wet a line, tune in to the **Fish On Line**.

You'll be surprised at the angling possibilities our area



Owen Sound Sun Times - Summer, 2013

OWEN SOUND - A rare weeping English ash tree by St. George's Anglican Church is a “magnificent” example of the dozens of Grey-Bruce ash trees inoculated against the emerald ash borer by the local conservation authorities' forestry service so far this summer. This one is the only tree of this variety in Grey-Bruce and is said to be one of only a dozen in Canada, said John McLoughlin, a parishioner at the downtown Owen Sound church, who asked both local conservation authorities to ensure it's an ash, then paid \$320 for it to be inoculated soon. ...



By: Bayshore Broadcasting - Summer, 2013

Conservation Authorities busy, Saugeen Shores does inventory of ash trees. Bayshore Broadcasting News was the first to tell you of the arrival of the Emerald Ash Borer in Southampton. And now the Saugeen Shores Committee of the Whole has been brought up to date on the issue. Director of Public Works Stuart Doyle says right now they are trying to review the extent of the infestation and how many Ash trees may be affected. Doyle says an inventory of trees on municipal land is underway and results should be available within the next couple of weeks. They also are putting together a management plan for both the town and private landowners. We reported earlier that some municipalities are allowing owners of the infected trees to bring the wood to their landfill sites where it can be carefully monitored.



## **Facts about Mature Whitetails**

Look for a copy of Ontario Monster Whitetail magazine. Volume 8 No 4 Fall 2013. I found it very interesting to read a report of some facts from studies about mature whitetails. There was also a tip from a hunter who suggested putting out flagging tape to mark the yardages from your bow stand. The key is to use coloured marking tape that corresponds to your sighting pins. I have talked to a number of fellow hunters who have said that deer are not disturbed by the flagging tape. However I have noticed, from my limited experience, that deer do get a little spooked by long pieces of the tape suddenly or constantly fluttering in a wind. So when I try this I am going to keep my tape tied tight to the trees. There is a lot of information out there. If you read something that you think is worth knowing then please pass it on. Good luck on your hunt.

Thanks **Mike Prevost**

## Promoting the Club

Rogers cable has asked us to participate in some live on camera interviews for their Grey County Life Show. We have already done two interviews talking about the salmon run, the hatchery, pitch in day as part of cleaning up our environment and the upcoming rifle deer hunt. The executive is planning to try and do this once a month to help promote our club. If you have any suggestions for topics or be willing to be on the show please let me know. We only get one or two 9 minute segments so you can't talk about to many things at one time. Our next date is for November 13th. The program Grey County Life airs several times a day on Rogers channel 53.

**Mike Prevost**



## C.O. Kirk Silver 1970-2013

**Arnie Clark**

Conservation Officer, Kirk Silver, who spent three years patrolling the Bruce-Grey Owen Sound region (Midhurst District), suddenly passed away at 42 years of age earlier this year as a result of a heart ailment.

During his tenure in our area, one of his first duties was to attend an SSA monthly meeting, introduce himself and meet the membership. He went on to be a familiar face at the Youth Outdoors Expo held each summer at the club property. Kirk was a firm believer in educating our youth about the outdoors, hunting and fishing. When he transferred to the Sudbury MNR District, it was certainly the Midhurst District's loss.

While serving this region, Kirk and Deputy C.O. Tim Ainslie, were awarded a Life Saving Award presented by the Ontario Conservation Officers Association, for saving the life of a deer hunter on the upper Bruce Bruce Peninsula.

On the evening of November 2nd, 2008, Kirk, along with Deputy Ainslie were checking deer hunters when they spotted a vehicle parked on the side of the road. Nightfall had just descended when they heard three rifle shots in succession. Assuming the vehicle belonged to someone illegally night-hunting, Officer Kirk headed into the woods while Deputy Ainslie stayed with the vehicle. After wandering around in the dense forest, Kirk eventually heard a faint voice calling for help. Keeping in constant contact with his Deputy, the Officers notified the O.P.P. A rescue plan was initiated.

Officer Silver subsequently located the hunter who had fallen out of his deer-stand. Because of the extent of his injuries, being in shock and severe weather conditions at the time, it was unlikely the hunter would have survived the night. A rescue team eventually fought their way through the bush, then transported the hunter to a waiting ambulance. The rescue operation spanned more than two hours. The injuries were so severe, that the hunter had to be transported to a London Hospital. The O.C.O.A. Life Saving Award was subsequently presented to Officer Kirk and Deputy Ainslie for their heroic rescue effort.

Besides being an exceptional Conservation Officer, Kirk Silver was a skilled angler and hunter. A strong believer in introducing and educating youth about the great outdoors, his love of being in the field and on the water was shared with his two young sons, Owen (9 years) and Adam (7 years). Kirk Silver is survived by his sons and wife, Melanie.

The SSA expresses its sincere sympathy to the Silver family for the loss of a husband, father and a dedicated Conservation Officer.



## Western Red Cedar

Dave Hartrick and Bob Hunt use western red cedar to build our large deluxe bird feeder and our supply is running out. Our best source has been from used hydro poles that are becoming harder to get. If anyone knows of where we can get some more poles or a source of western red cedar please let me know.

Thanks **Mike Prevost** [mbprevost@hotmail.com](mailto:mbprevost@hotmail.com)

## WILLIE FESTIVAL - conservation



**Former Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters President - Sydenham Sportsmen's Association member John Ford, hands over one of 120 feeders at Wiarion Willie Festival Kids Day.**



**Bruce Peninsula Sportsemens Association member Jim McKane hands out another feeder during Kids Day at the 2013 Wiarion Willie Festival**

One-hundred-twenty Grey Bruce youngsters have new bird feeders thanks to a co-operative effort by two regional conservation clubs.

Volunteers from the Sydenham and Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen's Associations handed out the feeders at the Kids Day Party in the Big Tent, at the 2013 Wiarion Willie Festival.

Children 12 and under were happy to receive the feeders which were built by club members. Included were 2-pound black oiled sunflower seed packs donated by Doug Gilkinson and staff at Bayshore Country Feeds in Owen Sound.

The feeder project is designed to encourage young people to learn about, respect and appreciate, nature and conservation. The giveaway included pamphlets on several Birds common to Grey-Bruce. Anglers and hunters are the best conservationists. These two community Clubs lead the way in this part of Ontario, helping to preserve and protect fish and wildlife. Both Bruce Peninsula and Sydenham club members, go out of their way to encourage young people to appreciate the outdoors, and try to help them understand the magic that nature has to offer.

Please check the clubs web sites at

<http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/members/index.php>

[http://www.bpsportsmen.com/pdfs/2012/Dec\\_Bulletin\\_2012.pdf](http://www.bpsportsmen.com/pdfs/2012/Dec_Bulletin_2012.pdf)

Volunteers from the Bruce Peninsula Sportsmen included Jim McKane, Don Elliott, and Stu Paterson.

Sydenham Club participants were Mike Prevost, Bob Hunt, Brian Clements, John Morneau, Ron Robb, John Ford and Don Lobbin.



**From This Year's Derby**