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www.ofah.org/zonej

OFAH Zone J Executive & our families would like to wish you & yours a very Merry Christmas, A festive Holiday season & a Happy New Year!!

Tight lines & straight sights in 2018!!

Rondeau Rod & Gun Club is at
10260 Campbell Line, Blenheim N0P 1A0

From Highway 401 go South on Highway 40 (Communication Road). As you approach Blenheim you will see Canadian Tire and Sobey’s at the corner of Highway 40 and Allison Line. Turn left (east) on Allison Line. At the “T” intersection turn left onto Harwich Raleigh Towline Road. Drive about 150 metres and turn right on Campbell Line. The Club is on the right about 200 metres down the road.
To have something added to the OFAH Zone J website, please send an email request to websitezonej@gmail.com.
Mark Your Calendars

2018
January 7—OFAH Zone J Membership meeting hosted by Rondeau Bay Waterfowlers, Blenheim
April 7—OFAH Zone J Annual General Meeting & Election, Tavistock District Rod & Gun Club, Stratford area
June 15-17—OFAH Zone J 30th Annual Youth Camp—Wellington Street Sportsmans Club, Dorchester
August 19—OFAH Zone J membership meeting hosted by Royal City Fishing Club, Guelph

2019
January 6—OFAH Zone J Membership meeting hosted by Port Colborne & District Conservation Club, Pt.Colborne
April 6—OFAH Zone J Annual General Meeting & Election, London area
June 14-16—OFAH Zone J 31st Annual Youth Camp—Wellington Street Sportsmans Club, Dorchester
August 18—OFAH Zone J membership meeting hosted by Southwest Outdoors Club, Wheatley

We are seeking a Club in Middlesex, Oxford or Elgin county to host our OFAH Zone J AGM on April 6, 2019.
A huge Thank You to Clubs who have invited us to their Club.

Message from The Chair:

As I sit to write this report, the final Controlled Hunt is underway. I have heard mixed reports on deer numbers throughout our Zone. From hunters seeing strong numbers of deer, along with good harvest, others are seeing smaller numbers. As reflected in recent media, vehicle collisions with deer have remained high this fall. This has prompted the OPP to once again remind motorists to keep an eye out for deer or other wildlife that may be near or crossing the roadway.

In October, I had attended an information session on the recent discovery of EHD found in London. Wellington Street Sportsman Club in Dorchester was kind enough to host this event. This session was held by QDMA with speakers from the University of Guelph and the MNRF. Dr. Samantha Allan from the UofG is conducting surveillance on the Southern Ontario deer population by collecting blood samples from dead deer. The samples may come from a variety of sources, including; Found Dead, Hunter Harvest or Road Killed deer. The samples must be taken with wet, fresh blood of the deer. The sample kits include everything you need, including a postage paid return envelop. If you would like a kit for this year or to have one on hand, please let me know by email or phone.

We will soon be meeting with the Wellington Street Sportsman Club in Dorchester to begin the planning for the OFAH Zone J Youth Camp being held on Father's Day weekend, 2018! This next camp will mark our 30th anniversary! Stay tuned as we anticipate this to be one of our best camps yet! As a reminder, registration opens April 1st, with limited spaces, we recommend that you register early to prevent missing out on this unique camping weekend.

Please remember to involve someone new, your investment today may leave a life long impression!

Brian Moore
The Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters (OFAH) is extremely pleased to announce our rekindled relationship with American Income Life (AIL). After a couple years apart, the OFAH is excited to announce our renewed partnership with Gabriela Berloni and her team. Similar to our previous agreement, AIL will be providing all active OFAH members with a no-cost, $4,000 Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D) Policy. This is a 24/7 coverage, meaning that any accident resulting in the loss of life is eligible for coverage. In addition, all OFAH members will be given the opportunity to purchase an additional $10,000 AD&D policy, totalling $14,000 in coverage, for only $2 for the first year ($5 a year upon renewal), as well as having the opportunity to designate a beneficiary to their policy. Keep your eye out for this fantastic upcoming opportunity!

So what does this mean for you? You will now have two (potentially three) different AD&D insurance policies, simply by being an OFAH member! For more information, contact us at 705-748-6324.

To learn more, visit www.ofah.org/insurance
The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry have set up an interactive map and web page to assist in solving old unsolved natural resource violation cases. 

https://www.ontario.ca/page/solve-natural-resource-case

Report a natural resource violation by calling MNRF TIPS line at 1-877-847-7667 or remain anonymous by calling Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477)

NASP continues to grow at a very steady pace. To date, there are 74 active NASP schools with over 400 certified NASP instructors in Ontario. Part of the reason for the steady growth in Ontario, is the government funding the OFAH received to showcase the program.

We have been able to provide over 100 AFD’s, (Archery Fun Days) throughout the province over the last 2 school years. Some of the schools who have enjoyed the AFD, have added NASP to its school curriculum, because of the amount of fun the kids had that day.

The #1 issue with new schools joining NASP, is the actual cost of the equipment. While the initial cost is somewhat high ($5900 plus tax), the cost to a school is basically nothing for years to come. The equipment is very high quality, and will last for years without repair.

As part of the government funding the OFAH received, schools willing to commit to the NASP program will receive a discount in their equipment purchase. As of right now (Dec 4th, 2017), there is a $900 discount available to each school.

The discount applies to EVERY school. NASP will allow 2 schools to share a kit. Therefore, EACH school would get the discount towards 1 equipment package, making the cost very affordable. $1800 would be deducted off the equipment purchase, if 2 schools are willing to commit NASP to their gym class curriculum, and share the equipment between them. With every equipment purchase, the teacher training session is included. OFAH will come directly to the school, and train the staff how to run the NASP program safely.

To discuss how to bring this incredible program to your school, please contact:

Tim Watts, NASP Coordinator
Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters
P.O. Box 2800, 4601 Guthrie Drive
Peterborough, Ontario    K9J 8L5
705-748-6324 Ext. 235

Since “2002”
EXCLUSIVE TO OFAH ZONE J MEMBERS

In partnership with Fitzsimons Financial Group Inc., OFAH Zone J is proud to offer you affordable cedar wood duck box kits and blue bird house kits.

These quality manufactured kits will be available at our OFAH Zone J Meeting being held at the Rondeau Rod & Gun Club on Sunday January 7th.

These limited edition boxes are available first come first serve.

- Cedar wood duck box kits $10.00 each
- Cedar blue bird box kits $5.00 each

Limit of two wood duck box and two blue bird kits per person.

Orders and payment (cash only) will be taken at 8:30am.

Box kits will be available for pick up at noon

Many Thanks to Fitzsimons Financial Group Inc. for cofunding this amazing conservation project!

OFAH Provincial Conservation Award Nominations
Deadline is January 30, 2018
For award details, please visit http://www.ofah.org/conference
Did You Know….

- The Canadian Wildlife Federation is a national, not-for-profit charitable organization dedicated to fostering awareness and appreciation of our natural world. By spreading knowledge of human impacts on the environment, carrying out research, developing and delivering education programs, promoting the sustainable use of natural resources, recommending changes to policy and co-operating with like-minded partners, CWF encourages a future in which Canadians can live in harmony with nature. FYI—Less than 5% of their members are Hunters.

- Grizzly bear hunting is still allowed in BC but no trophy hunting is allowed. This means that you may still hunt grizzlies BUT you must leave the head, hide, claws and paws behind, only bringing out the meat. What a sad waste of the resource.

- Many complaints about the lack of migratory bird stamps at our postal outlets resulted in a huge increase in on-line applications—exactly what was intended to be accomplished by providing fewer stamps to the post offices.

- Bring Back The Salmon program received $300,000 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation over 3 years to further develop the classroom hatchery and broader education potential of the program. This money will provide a year round classroom hatchery coordinator.

- No till farming has been practiced in Southern Ontario for close to two decades. During this time we have seen an increase in wildlife populations and over wintering migratory birds. With current changes in farming practice, the fields will again be plowed. Will we see a decrease in wildlife? Makes you wonder….

- American Income Life (AIL) provides all OFAH members a FREE $4,000.00 Accidental Death & Dismemberment Policy. Watch your mailbox for an update coming soon.

- For $1,000.00 you can purchase an OFAH Life Membership.

- Ontario Spring Bear Hunt pilot program ends in 2020. MNRF continues to monitor and study this issue. Mandatory Bear Hunter survey was turned in by just over 50% of Bear Hunters. PLEASE turn in your survey if you haven’t yet. The MNRF uses the information.

- Hunters will soon receive another survey about the socio-economic impacts of hunting.

- Watch for a new look in the Ontario Out of Doors magazine in March 2018!

- Mute swan populations in Ontario have grown from 2014 to 2017. In Long Point there were 18 mute swans in 2014 but in 2017 there were 109. The mute swans are also moving further inland.

- The Minister of Health has invited OFAH to serve on a special 10 person task force to provide advice on a patient-centred approach to treatment and the creation of a Centre of Excellence for research on Lyme disease. OFAH is the only lay, non-medical representative on this task force.
OFAH CELEBRATES our
90th AGM & Wildlife Conference
March 16 & 17, 2018
Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale is the place to be for a fantastic weekend of workshops, seminars, friendship and fun!
www.ofah.org/conference

Can you help?
OFAH supports educating our Political leaders thru experience. We assist in providing wild game dinners each year at both Queens Park and Parliament Hill. We also provide a wild game buffet at our OFAH Annual Wildlife Conference. Our continued success with these events relies on donations of wild game from our members. If you have game that you would like to donate, please contact your Zone J Executive.

Discharge By Law reviews Update
City of Thorold—we are very pleased with the revised draft by law that is now seeking a second round of feedback from major stakeholders prior to going back to council for approval. This should happen mid-December.

Town of Halton Hills—the draft by law went back to council mid November without soliciting further feedback. We still have a number of recommendations and questions. This was not a full review of the by law. We feel that this is only the beginning of a full review.

Please remember to contact OFAH Zone J Executive right away if you hear any rumblings of by law reviews that may impact your heritage activities in your area.

2018 OFAH MEMBERSHIP RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>Rate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 year Adult</td>
<td>$54.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year Family</td>
<td>$67.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year Youth</td>
<td>$41.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 year Adult</td>
<td>$109.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 year Family</td>
<td>$135.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 year Adult</td>
<td>$161.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 year Family</td>
<td>$199.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year CLUB Adult</td>
<td>$41.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year CLUB Family</td>
<td>$51.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year CLUB Youth</td>
<td>$36.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*the above rates are for members of Clubs who are 100% OFAH Affiliated

**all above include a $26.00 Annual subscription to Ontario Out of Doors magazine. Any membership is available without the Ontario Out of Doors

Life Membership $1,000
Spousal Life Membership $1,500
Paperless Membership $25.00
OFAH Zone J Membership Meeting
Rondeau Rod & Gun Club

Tentative Agenda

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Meeting called to order, Opening Ceremonies</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chair’s Report</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minutes of August 13 2017 AGM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Financial Reports:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Business Arising from Secretary/Treasurer Reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>GUEST SPEAKER</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st Vice Report:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Vice Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15</td>
<td>Reports continued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>Guest Speaker—to be confirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>adjourn for Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:45</td>
<td>Club reports and activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00</td>
<td>Kate Powell, Terrestrial Invasive Species Outreach Liaison, Invading Species Awareness Program OFAH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Committee Reports – Big Game, Environment, Firearms, Fisheries, Land Access, Outreach, Small Game and Sporting Dogs, Waterfowl &amp; Wetlands, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:30</td>
<td>Old Business: 50/50 draw, door prizes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Business</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CALL TO ALL MEMBERS

The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters Zone J is seeking nominations for the Annual OFAH Zone J Outstanding Achievement Award. Deadline for Nominations is December 31, 2017

This award is to recognize an individual’s outstanding effort towards Stewardship, Conservation, and/or the promotion of angling or hunting in Southwestern Ontario as selected by the OFAH Zone J membership.

Members of OFAH Zone J may nominate anyone, does not have to be an OFAH member, for this award. Nominees for the 2017 award may be submitted to the Zone J Secretary/Treasurer no later than December 31, 2017.

Please include a description of the work the nominee has done as well as photos, news articles, etc. The Zone membership will vote on the winner at the January 2018 Quarterly meeting at the Rondeau Rod & Gun Club, with the winner being announced at the Zone J Annual meeting April 7, 2018 at Tavistock District Rod & Gun Club.

We know there are many deserving volunteers who quietly devote their time, energy and money to conservation, hunting and angling within our Zone. Please help us recognize them by submitting a story about their dedication and passion.
The Objectives of the Association

The objectives of the Rondeau Bay Waterfowlers association, in cooperation with Ontario Parks, the Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters and the Ministry of Natural Resources is to:

1. Provide controlled public waterfowl hunting in Rondeau Provincial Park
2. To encourage and promote waterfowl hunting as well as the undertakings designed to aid in the protection and conservation of fish and wildlife and their natural habitats
3. Assist with Park projects that will aid in the enhancement of the Park environment.
4. Provide communication to the members regarding the maintenance of the Association and actions taken to achieve its goals.

Memberships

The Association regards the preservation of Rondeau Bay as a premier public waterfowling site within the Province of Ontario a major objective. Our concerns, suggestions, and ideas are discussed and action taken as situations require.

Many projects have been accomplished which have significantly improved the hunting experience in Rondeau Park. Such projects include (but are not limited to) the building of blinds and their installation, the removal of blinds at the end of the season, the creation of a blind for individuals with special needs, the improvements to the Shrewsbury launch, our youth hunt, the fishing derby, and the annual dinner.

These projects require a great deal of man power. Members of the Association assist with at least one project per year. As well, they actively protect our hunting resource at all times by following the RBWA guidelines. Simple activities such as cleaning a hunting location when you are finished for the day or being very careful to maintain the cover around a blind or shooting point for the next guy are simple responsibilities followed by all members of the RBWA in good standing.

Be a contributing member! Take pride in our accomplishments. Promote our sport!!

OFAH Zone J is proud to have Rondeau Bay Waterfowlers Association as an OFAH Member Club.

Thank you for hosting us.

www.rondeauwaterfowlers.com