



# THE SPORTSMAN

“Conservation is Our Aim”



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



SSA On Line  
  
 Web Site

**Volume 41 No. 4 April, 2021**



**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}

President’s Message (April 2021)

Welcome to April and spring is in the air. I hope all of you are staying safe and keeping well. Things seem to be improving slightly on the Pandemic front and the Executive was able to meet in March after many months of having to conduct club business via email.

I don’t know when the conditions and rules will allow us to resume General Club meetings but let’s hope soon we can reconnect socially. As most of you know April is the month we celebrate Earth Day which will be the 22nd, we have organized a Pitch In clean up in the city and outlying areas for many years. Last year the event was postponed and again this year we cannot organize an event due to the Pandemic that restricts us from socially gathering. That being said I would like to challenge all of our members and friends to responsibly and safely do what they can to clean up your neighbourhood, yard or choose an area such as a road, park area, river access or lake access area and do your part to pick up any unnecessary trash items that have been discarded.

If you can post your pictures to our Face book page or email them to myself (Scott.Grimoldby1@gmail.com) or other Executive members we can put something together for future newsletters to showcase how great our members are at looking out for our environment and our conservation values.

Let’s do our part and we as a whole can help to ensure a brighter future for our next generations.

Yours in Conservation,  
 Scott

The SSA has rented ranges for many years, recently there has been a renewed interest from organizations to rent our facilities. While we understand that this may inconvenience some members, it is a welcomed source of revenue for the club. Proceeds will help maintain and upgrade the facilities.

**Famous last words**  
*“I notice that people who claim everything is ‘predestined,’ still look before they cross the road!”*

*What is a fish net?  
 A fish net is a lot of holes tied together!*

**Over 60 Years Promoting Conservation**



Sydenham Sportsmen's Association

President: Scott Grimoldby

First Vice President:  
Chris Geberdt

Second Vice President::  
Bill Douglas

Past President:: Mike Prevost

Recording Secretary: Allen Smith

Treasurer: Dennis Wiseman

**Directors:**

Jeff Caldwell, John Ford

Robert Lovelace, Jay Murdoch

Jim Hastie, Al Hillis

Dave McKinnon, Joe Gray

Wayne Gallagher, Ken Miersch

Mike Thompson, Gord Fraser

*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

SSA Shooting Ranges Operational Manual

Attention all shooters:

Please be advised that the updated copy of the Shooting Ranges Operational Manual Rev 3.4 2021/14/2 is now available on the Clubs Website.

We strongly recommend that all shooters review this new version so you are completely up to date on all the rules and regulations. An updated copy is also available for your reference at each of the Ranges in the sign-in books.

Thank You

**Bill Douglas**



**SSA TREASURER**

**With nine months left to go in 2021, we still haven't seen any interest, in the position of SSA Treasurer for 2022 and beyond. I hate to think about what will happen should this situation remain unchanged at the end of the year, with no volunteer to fill the SSA position of Treasurer. The SSA can't afford to hire an accountant to do this kind of work, without adding a significant monetary strain on our finances. Our operating costs are the bases for the work that is done to determine our annual membership fees, and if we are compelled to hire a treasurer, those fees would see a relatively large increase. Membership fees are always a concern, and we would prefer not to find ourselves in a position where we are compelled to consider this. It goes without saying that EVERYTHING THE SSA IS ABLE TO DO, IS ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF OUR VOLUNTEERS.**

**We need a VOLUNTEER that lives in the immediate area, having suitable accounting knowledge and computer skills; a volunteer that is willing to join the Board of Directors in 2022. If you feel you have the necessary skills, and are looking for a worthwhile project to be involve in, let us know. Time flies past so quickly, and before we know it, the end of 2021 will be here. Hopefully we will have a person in place before then; a person that is in a good position to take on the tasks of an SSA Treasurer.**

**Thanks**

**Dennis Wiseman, SSA Treasurer**



The spring runoff has filled the pond we created last year on the Doug Reid Memorial S.S.A. Foundation property in Derby Township. Over the winter there was a lot of sign, trails, droppings and pawing scrapes showing that deer in the area were foraging on remnants of clover that had been planted in the excavated top soil that had been smoothed out along the edge of the pond.



Thanks to Mike Prevost

**LOCAL GREY BRUCE MARKETING AGENCY FOCUSED  
ON BUSINESS RESULTS & CLIENT SUPPORT!**



Your external marketing department

About 2015, a number of SSA Members felt that the SSA needed a new website. There were numerous complaints about the old site even though several updates had happened. The Executive wanted a new site. So in 2018, we decided to hire the Gem Webb Inc. ([GemWebb.com](http://GemWebb.com)) team in Owen Sound to start this large task of creating a NEW WEBSITE because I had known Gem previously as a sponsor of the Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular.

We had completed a HOW TO video together to assist people in understanding HOW TO PURCHASE ONLINE DERBY TICKETS.

As we worked through, we had input from our Shooting Sports component which was helpful. Along came 2019 and it was suggested that we use Facebook Ads to sell derby tickets and to generally promote the Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular. Gem donated his time to create these FACEBOOK ADS and they were used very effectively at minimal cost to the SSA. In 2019, we dramatically increased our online derby ticket sales as a result of the 1st year test of FACEBOOK ADS!!! Preview the dramatic results here:

<https://www.gemwebb.com/owen-sound-fishing-derby-facebook-marketing/>.

Just before the Derby started in 2019, we decided that we should have a professionally done corporate video of the Derby Kids Day event. Since the timeline was so short, Gem had to approach a number of videographers in a short time - and he was successful! The final result has been breathtaking and knocked the socks off our SSA board!

SEE VIDEO HERE: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PfcrAjxpMco>

We continued to work on the website during 2020 face to face until COVID-19. Then the work was visual only. One of the many strengths of our website is that we have training videos available that permitted access. Recently we made our site live in 2021 and have been working to assist members in navigating it. Gem and his staff have been over and above helpful in troubleshooting and assisting us with our members. Gem and his staff have provided much free time to make this project successful. I would not hesitate to recommend Gem and his staff for your business website, corporate videos, Facebook Ads and marketing needs. **Thanks so much!**

**John Ford, SSA OSSS Co-Chair** ★★★★★



In March a small group of us were able to get out and check/clean out and refill wood shavings in some established wood duck nesting boxes. It is all about the timing for snow and ice conditions. This day on McNabb Lake we were lucky to walk in on a snowmobile trail and find the lake like a skating rink, with hard ice everywhere so no wet feet this time. However these conditions change fast and we are just getting to old to be huffing and puffing on snowshoes in soft snow so we did not make it to all of the sites.



Fortunately Ducks Unlimited surveys have shown that wood duck populations have rebounded to be at least stable for now.

My surveys during the duck hunting season have been just the opposite so I guess I am hunting in the wrong areas.

**Mike Prevost**



## Wildlife Committee Projects

We are always looking for help from any members that would want to get involved in our club wildlife projects. You do not have to join the committee or attend any meetings, just send me your contact information so we can let you know what projects are coming up.

Maybe you have ideas for some projects.

Contact **Mike Prevost** at [mbprevost@hotmail.com](mailto:mbprevost@hotmail.com) or 519-376-7368

Thanks

*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*



## RE: Membership

First, I want to thank all of you who have renewed your membership. As well, a number of you have renewed using the website. Thanks again!

## New Website

REMINDER: YOUR OLD ACCOUNT FROM THE OLD WEBSITE WILL NOT WORK. YOU NEED TO CREATE A NEW ACCOUNT.

If you haven't already, a new account will allow you to use the online store and to book a shooting time.

In other words, it allows you to use the full capability of the new website. For those who don't have an account: if you go on the website, you will see the Registration Button on the main page at the top.

Click it and create your new account. Use that information to log in. Please record your user name and password for future reference. Now that you have an account, you can simply log in.

If you need additional help, you are welcome to call me: John Ford at 226 664 0960.

Boat Draw tickets are now available in the SSA Shop for purchase.

We are currently working on the online Derby tickets which are not available now but will be shortly.

However, anyone can purchase Derby tickets from Chris Geberdt ([cgeberdt@hay.net](mailto:cgeberdt@hay.net)) with your credit card.

Recently we posted information on purchasing Boat Draw tickets on Facebook.

You can help us get that information to the public by sharing it from the Sydenham Sportsmen page.

## Gate Keys

A number of you have ordered gate keys with your membership. We have mailed these out to many of you along with your membership stickers. As well, I know some of you have picked up keys from Watsons Tackle House. Since we were using recycled keys along with new ones, there may be some occasional glitches.

Please try your key to make sure it works. If you have difficulty, please contact me at 226 664 0960 and we will replace your key.

Thanks for your patience. I know it is frustrating to have your key not work.

## Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular

At present, we are organizing the 33rd Annual Salmon Spectacular starting on August 27 until September 5, 2021. Currently, we have most spots full in the computer operators schedule but the weigh-in station schedule still have spaces available.

However, if you would like to volunteer, please contact me. We'll find a place to slot you in.

At this time, we don't know exactly how the Derby will look but are confident that the fishing part will happen.

Certainly, questions remain but we are hoping to have answers by June.



## **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**



## Range Reminders

(From the Range Committee)

Donation Boxes: Donation Boxes at each range are for more than just donations. If you bring a non-member guest to the range the expectation is that a \$5 guest fee will be paid into the donation box on each visit. After a few days of visiting – we hope they see the value of joining the club and hope you will encourage them to do so!

Funds collected from the donation boxes are used to build and maintain the range shelters, target backing structures, maintain the sandbags, berm structure, etc. If you are a regular user of any of these ranges please make a small regular donation.

### Target Placement:

A Friendly reminder to position your paper targets ONLY on the target backers so the shot placement will be away from the 2X4 target structure. Please do not pin your targets to the 2X4 structures themselves. We are seeing some bullet damage to these structures which increases the costs and workload to maintain the ranges in the condition we all like.

### Shotgun Sports Update

Shotgun Ranges: The Main Event Calendar on our website is the official place to go when you want to know when the ranges will be open. It also lists contact information for the Co-ordinators for each range/sport if you have questions. We intend to be accurate with the dates and times for Trap, Skeet, and Sporting Clays. If the website says we will be there from 12 to 3, we will be there.

### Interclub Trap:

After missing out on 2020, we are excited to host the first of nine interclub trap events of 2021 at the SSA on Saturday April 24, 2021. The other two dates we will be hosting interclub trap this summer are Saturday July 10th, and the year end Georgian Bay Open shoot on Saturday August 21st. If you have done a little – or a lot – of trap shooting and have never participated in interclub trap come and join in the fun comradery.

Sporting Clays: The first shoot is planned for May 2nd this year. The course will also be open May 16th, May 24th (Load 3), June 6th, and June 20th. Expect more specific communication on sporting clays to come out soon.

If you haven't tried sporting clays yet reach out and we will give you a guided experience during one of the shoots.

Volunteers Needed: We are asking for volunteers to help us keep the trap and skeet ranges open all summer.

You will be responsible for making sure the shooting activity remains safe for everyone and operating the target machines and cash register, etc. We will teach you these duties - and be there to help you learn the role.

Please consider committing a day or two a month to share the workload with the few guys that are carrying the bulk of this work to keep our ranges open. We are a club run by volunteers!



### Bad news regarding Atlantic salmon raised at Platte River State Fish Hatchery

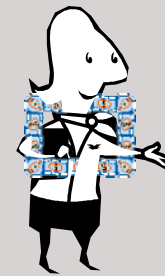
On July 16, 2020 during a power shut down, flow was decreased to the hatchery building causing the loss of flow to six of eight tanks holding Atlantic salmon. The majority of the fish in these tanks were lost, however the crew was able to salvage a few thousand. Total losses are some 136,000 fish, while 40,000 remain on inventory. These were fish planned to be stocked in the spring of 2021.



### Lake Michigan Chinook salmon stick with declining alewife as their main meal

Over the past few decades, invasive species like zebra and quagga mussels have been eating up much of the base of Lake Michigan's food web, affecting organisms throughout the lake, including alewife, a staple meal for salmon and trout. As menu options shift for these top predators, their success going forward may depend on expanding their diets.

#### 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.

Once again Dean Herzberg will be having skeet clinic at the Sydenham club.  
To book your spot contact him direct from flyer info.  
Come out and improve your game!

See page 8 for Dean's address....

# SURE SHOT

COACHING



## PRIVATE INSTRUCTION DAY

WHEN: Friday May 21 2021

WHERE: Sydenham Sportsmen Association (Owen Sound, Ontario)

Time Slots available between 9 am and 5 pm deposit required to reserve time slot

COST : \$100 per hour (2 and 3 hour time slots are available)  
Plus target costs to be paid to the club

Private instruction is a great way for a new shooter to get strong start in skeet shooting or for an experienced shooter to make the tweaks needed to get their game to the next level.

Gain valuable insight from 5 x Krieghoff All American (Triple Sub), NSSA Level II and Zone 8 Instructor, Dean Herzberg His passion for skeet shooting and enthusiasm for helping skeet shooters improve rubs off on all of his students He can find the weak spots in your game and help craft a plan to help you achieve your skeet shooting goals

Dean Herzberg  
Level II NSSA  
Instructor

Cell: 613-986-6446

Email:

sureshotcoaching13@gmail.com

**CONTACT ME TODAY  
TO RESERVE YOUR TIME SLOT**

# SURE SHOT

## COACHING

Dean Herzberg Level II NSSA Instructor  
 Zone Instructor NSSA Zone 8 Eastern Canada

- Over 700 logged hours of coaching experience
- Carleton University Skeet Team Coach since 2017
- Trained and certified 13 new NSSA Instructors
- 2019 Canadian Doubles, 12 Gauge, 28 Gauge, High Overall and High All Around Champion
- 2019 Ontario High Overall and High All Around Champion
- 2016 World Skeet Championships AA Champion
- 5X (consecutive) Krieghoff All American Team Member TripleSub



### Skeet 101 Full Day Clinics

Designed for a wide range of shooter experience levels

Learn the NSSA standard for Skeet fundamentals and mechanics

Break bad shooting habits

Learn strong and easily repeatable mechanics to help improve consistency

The clinic includes a Skeet 101 PowerPoint presentation, in depth discussion, hands-on in-class drills and most importantly range time. Skeet 101 clinics have received high praise and can be a real eye opener for shooters looking to improve their scores.

Provides shooters with the steps necessary to continue their growth beyond the clinic date.

Introduces shooters to mental management for sport shooting to optimize recreational and competitive results.

- **\$250 per shooter (minimum 4 shooters)**
  - **\$100 deposit required to reserve spot**
- Shooters are responsible for all target costs
- Shooters must bring their own ammunition (up to 10 boxes of ammo may be necessary)
- It is recommended to bring a note pad and pen
- Lunch not included

**CONTACT ME TODAY WITH ANY QUESTIONS  
 AND TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT**

When: **Saturday, May 22, 2021**

Where: Sydenham Sportsmen Association  
 Owen Sound, Ontario

Time: 9am-5pm

Contact: Dean to reserve your spot

Email: sureshotcoaching13@gmail.com

Cell: 6139866446

www.sureshotcoaching.ca



## Handgun Range Report:

A hearty Thank You to those who took the time to do the spring brass cleanup forward of the main firing line! It did not go un-noticed and is very much appreciated. It is difficult to pick up brass in the winter months due to the snow on the ground and now that the area is in good shape, it is worthy of taking pride in a clean range. Most members are good at picking up after themselves and thank you for that.

As the cost of building materials skyrocket, our operating costs for the upkeep of our target holders rise. Please be vigilant in posting your targets close to the center of the backer boards so that the bullets strike just the backers and not the vertical 2" x 4"s.

Unnecessary repairs can be avoided by doing proper target placement.

A Thank You goes out to John G. and Mark B. (you know who you are) for answering the request for coroplast. Both of these individual members were able to obtain a nice amount of used coroplast for target backers and range signage. We change out the backers on a regular basis and so we will need more. Please assist in talking to car dealership managers, store managers and other venues where coroplast is used for advertising and see if their old signs can be obtained.

That's it for this report, see you on the range.

*Dave Fritz*

Handgun Range Coordinator



Ref: see page 6

### Bears

#### **Dean Herzberg**

Level 2 NSSA Instructor  
Pilla Sport Canada Sponsored  
Athlete  
Vice President NCRRA Shotgun  
Section  
Canadian University Shooting  
Federation Co-Founder  
OSSA Executive Board Member  
613-986-6446  
[www.sureshotcoaching.ca](http://www.sureshotcoaching.ca)  
[www.pillasport.ca](http://www.pillasport.ca)



Don't approach or try to pet a bear. Injury to people is rare but as with all wild animals, people need to be cautious and give bears plenty of space.

#### **Avoid bear conflicts by following these tips**

- Store garbage in bear-resistant garbage cans or dumpsters. Keep garbage inside a secure building (not a screened porch) until the morning of pickup.
- If there is not a secure building to put bear attractants in, erect an energized fence around trash or any other item attractive to bears (e.g., fruit trees, animal feed, gardens and compost piles).
- When camping, pack out trash, dispose of it properly, and store food in bear-resistant containers or in a locked vehicle or camper.
- Avoid feeding birds from April 1 to November 15.
- If you still wish to feed birds, hang birdfeeders 10 feet up and 4 feet out from the nearest trees. Use a rope and pulley system to refill birdfeeders, and clean up spilled seeds daily.
- Do not leave food from barbecues and picnics outdoors, especially overnight. Standard coolers are not bear-proof, but there are lockable, bear-resistant models available.
- Pick fruit from your trees and collect any fallen fruit promptly. If not feasible to pick all the fruit, protect trees from damage by using an energized fence.

#### **More bear information**

If bear problems persist after cleaning up food sources, contact a DNR area wildlife office for advice.

*A woman gave her grand daughter a sea shell, saying that if she listened carefully, she would hear the sea.*

*The girl put it to ear for a few moments and said, "I think the tide must be out!"*