



# 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/)

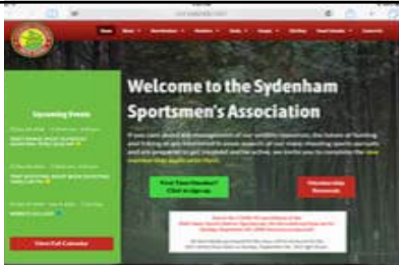
Affiliated with the OFAH, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters

## FEBRUARY 2023

SSA On Line



Web Site



**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}

I am not a Criminal,  
I am a Gun Owner,  
and I do not deserve to be  
criminalized for that.



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

## President's Report

Good day and welcome to month two of the New Year. I would like to welcome three new members to our 2023 Executive, they are Craig Geberdt, Scott Millar and Trevor Dollmaier. I know they will be an asset to us, I also wish to thank those leaving the board, thanks for all your help. At present there are not too many club activities out of the ordinary taking place but I do encourage all members to try to make it out to a General Meeting and get to know one another and Jim Hastie has continued to do a great job of maintaining a guest speaker being arranged for meetings when we have time for one. The Conservation Dinner I have been told is completely sold out so to those of you who put off getting tickets you will have to wait till next year. Thanks goes out to Chris Geberdt and his team who organize this event and I know again it will be a huge success. This is a big fundraiser for the club and one of the many functions that make the SSA such renowned and established name in the community. If you do dare to attempt some hard water fishing please be careful as conditions change quickly, let someone know you are going and what time you plan on returning (just in case). I know there is good ice far north of us ; but Simcoe is pretty spotty at present. Good luck as this is a well enjoyed past time that can be very enjoyable and a great way to introduce youth into fishing.

Scott Grimoldby



**Over 75 Years Promoting Conservation**

Page 1



## Sydenham Sportsmen's Association

**President:** Scott Grimoldby

**First Vice President:**  
Chris Geberdt

**Second Vice President:**  
Bill Douglas

**Past President:** Mike Prevost

**Recording Secretary:**  
Allan Smith

**Treasurer:**  
Dimitrious Geberdt

**Directors:**  
John Ford, Jay Murdoch,  
Jim Hastie, Dave McKinnon,  
Joe Gray, Trevor Dollmaier,  
Craig Geberdt, and Scott  
Millar, Wayne Gallagher, Ken  
Miersch, Mike Thompson,  
Gord Fraser

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



Got Questions? Contact  
[John@sydenhamsportsmen.com](mailto:John@sydenhamsportsmen.com)

## Guest Speakers

Craig Todd and Art Ward, members of the Rankin River Resource Group, will share with members the reasons behind forming the group. They will highlight the role of Blake Smith, a life member of our club, hunting and fishing, farming and general usage on the Rankin River Watershed and the role the group plays in protecting it from development.

## Early Bird Winners

At our January General Meeting on January 5, the Early Bird Winners were drawn. Guy Doherty won the free year's membership. Adam Arpa won the small BBQ, Charlie Thibideau won the smoker and Chris Geberdt won the cooler. Congratulations to all!

## SSA Family Membership Clarification

There may be some misunderstanding about Family Members receiving a paper magazine. This is how it is: If you want to receive a paper Ontario Out of Doors magazine, you must pay the extra \$18.00. There is no gain to the SSA as we have to pay the extra.

## SSA Family Membership Clarification

Over half of our members have already paid their 2023 due and we thank you for that. However, if you have not paid yet, you are not entitled to use our property and ranges until your 2023 dues are paid. Our ranges will be monitored. If you are shooting, you need to wear your membership card with the 2023 sticker displayed prominently. We will have a renewal form listed elsewhere in this newsletter. You can renew on line or by calling me, John Ford at 226-664-0960

## Use of SSA Facilities in 2023

Over half of our members have already paid their 2023 due and we thank you for that. However, if you have not paid yet, you are not entitled to use our property and ranges until your 2023 dues are paid. Our ranges will be monitored. If you are shooting, you need to wear your membership card with the 2023 sticker displayed prominently. We will have a renewal form listed elsewhere in this newsletter. You can renew on line or by calling me, John Ford at 226-664-0960

## Highlights of January General Meeting:

J. Ford reported that 135 adults, 166 seniors, 73 spouses, 21 juniors and 30 students have renewed their memberships for 2023. Winners of the early bird draws for 2023 are: G. Doherty – year's free membership, A. Arpa won the small BBQ, C. Thibideau won the smoker and C. Geberdt won the cooler. Wildlife Advisory meeting will be held on Jan. 12, 2023 at 7 p.m. at the Clubhouse.

## 2023 Executive election results:

Last year of the 2 yr. term: C. Geberdt, S. Grimoldby, M. Prevost, J. Ford & B. Douglas

2 year term: G. Fraser, K. Miersch, D. Geberdt, C. Geberdt and J. Murdoch

1 year term: M. Thompson, S. Millar, A. Smith, J. Gray, T. Dollmaier, J. Hastie and D. MacKinnon





## SWAP MEET MARCH 19th, 2023

Yes, swap meet time again. This is just a reminder that the times have changed to accommodate some vendors from 'away'. We hope it works well for everybody. I will be there for 0730 for any early birds.

With the shorter hours, please try and stay until the 11.30 close. We often have 'spenders' arriving after 1100 only to find the the hall half empty ( or half full, depending on your outlook ). And, before leaving, please put your tables away.

Have fun, which is why we ( Garry and I ) started to meets years ago.

Plenty of time to talk politics and get your blood pressure elevated for the ride home.



**Fishing rods and reels? Camping and boating equipment?  
Another rifle or shotgun perhaps?  
Need reloading equipment or supplies?  
Fitting yourself up in cowboy action gear?  
Or is it time to sell or trade some of those firearms or  
fishing gear that you don't use anymore to make room for  
new toys?**

**Then you need to come to Sydenham Sportsmen Club.  
You can bring anything you want to sell or trade sports  
related. Set up a table or share a table. Dicker for the sale  
price. Sit and chat about hunting or fishing stories.  
There will be coffee and donuts to purchase for a \$3  
donation or bring a lunch. There is no entrance fee and  
no table fee, but donations are always welcome.  
Tables open to Sydenham members and invited guests.**

**For more information contact: Garry Willis at  
willisgarry@rogers.com or 376-5347,  
Stew Wallace at  
swallace@bmts.com or 794-4423**



35<sup>th</sup>  
Annual

# OWEN SOUND SALMON SPECTACULAR



**August 25 to September 3, 2023**

- Come & reel in a Winning Chinook Salmon
- Saturday Night Fish Fries
- Daily Fish Entry Draws for Men, Women & Children
- Musical Entertainment Nightly
- Kid's Day, Ladies Afternoon, Seniors Afternoon, Molson's Day, Yamaha Day, Cabela's Day

**Over  
\$175,000  
in prizes!**

*Early Bird Draw for ticket purchases  
up to and including  
Saturday, August 5, 2023*

*Prices are \$30.00 Single Registration  
and \$70 Family Registration*

*Registration tickets can be  
purchased online at*

*[www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/ssashop](http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/ssashop)*



P.O. Box 264 Str. Main  
Owen Sound, ON N4K 5P3

**[www.sydenhamsportsmen.com](http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com)**





## Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular

### 2023 Outdoor Shows to Enjoy in Jan and Feb 2023

Fri Jan 20 to Sun Jan 29, 2023 - Toronto Boat Show - Direct Energy Centre

**Weekdays (23 – 27)**  
11am to 7pm

**Saturdays (21 & 28)**  
10am to 6pm

**Sunday, January 22**  
10am to 6pm

**Sunday, January 29**  
10am to 5pm

Fri Jan 27 to Sun Jan 29, 2023 - Hamilton Cottage Show- War Plane Museum

**Fri. Jan 27** 12pm - 9pm  
**Sat. Jan 28** 10am - 8pm  
**Sun. Jan 29** 10am - 5pm



### Spring Fishing and Boat Show - International Centre

**Friday, February 17**  
12:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Saturday, February 18**  
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

**Sunday, February 19**  
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

## Reinstatement of SSA Club Awards

Recently the SSA Executive reinstated the Club Awards for 2023. We will forward more information to you next month. But want to give you a quick overview now. One cardinal rule is that these entries must come from Grey or Bruce counties and must be harvested by current club members.

First, we have the Big Fish awards. They include Chinook Salmon, Rainbow Trout, Brown Trout and Brook Trout. We have trophies for Adults, Students and Juniors in these categories. In each case, you complete an application form, which we hope to have available on our website within the next month. You are required to measure the fork length and girth, take a photo on your phone and have a witness. You can release the fish and still enter it.

We also have a Best Buck contest, where the antlers will need to be measured using the Boone and Crockett criteria. Finally, we have a Best Turkey Trophy.

Another category of the Awards programme is the Hard Luck award. Some of you will remember the great fun we had at the Awards Ceremony with Fred Geberdt regaling us with stories about the Hard Luck winners. We have 2 awards for this category. First and Second place. If you have incidents to share about this, please send them to Al Smith [allanewoodworks4@gmail.com](mailto:allanewoodworks4@gmail.com) Mike Thompson will receive your entries, His email is [bigmikey1@hotmail.com](mailto:bigmikey1@hotmail.com)

We hope to have members enter in these contests in 2023 and would try to answer any questions you would have. John Ford, [johnrichardford5@gmail.com](mailto:johnrichardford5@gmail.com)

Thanks John Ford, Al Smith, Mike Thompson

**SSA Membership Renewal:** Our 2023 renewals were due on January 1, 2023. If you haven't renewed, would you please do so, either on line, using the renewal form as part of this newsletter or calling me, John Ford, at 226-664-0960.

## SSA RENEWAL FORM FOR 2023 (TO BE COMPLETED BY 2022 MEMBERS ONLY)

(For your convenience SSA Renewal Memberships can be purchased directly on our website after Oct 1/22)

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\*\*\*** unless we already have it.

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

Membership Fees for 2023:		Memberships are based on the Calendar Year (January until December).	
	Family	Adult, Spouse, Children, includes full time students under age 25	\$215.00
	Adult	Individual	\$160.00
	Senior Citizen	Age 60 & over	\$145.00
	Student	Age under 25 in full time student (no magazine)	\$80.00
	Add a Spouse	Additional fee	\$55.00
	Junior	12 and under (no magazine)	\$75.00
	Property Gate Key		\$5.00
	OFAH Paper Magazine		\$18.00
Check off your selections above		Total	

**Note to Family Members:** If you do not require a paper Ontario Out of Doors Magazine, please check here

**Note: Late Renewal Fee:** Those who renew after April 1, 2023 must pay a late fee of \$25.00. This is added on to your renewal fee.

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

NAME:	TELEPHONE:
ADDRESS (Include City/Town):	
POSTAL CODE:	
EMAIL ADDRESS:	(Please Update your Email Address)
FIREARMS LICENCE NUMBER AND EXPIRY _____	

**To keep membership fees reasonable, please help with the General Maintenance of your Club Facilities. Contact any Chair or Executive Member**

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		

*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:

**We are providing you with an OFAH paperless membership this year. You will get a membership card emailed to you and can read the OFAH magazine digitally. However, you won't get a paper magazine unless you don't have an email address. A Paper copy of the Ontario Out of Doors magazine is available for an additional cost of \$18.00**



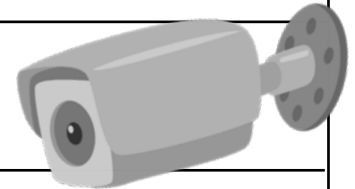


## Reloading Workshop

A Special Event Announcement- Reloading Workshop On Saturday February 11, 2023 from 10:00 to 12:30, there will be a Reloading Workshop held at the Kincardine Nimrod Club Clubhouse (KNC). This workshop, with the emphasis on safe reloading of shotgun, rifle and handgun ammunition, will cover everything from the basics of why, to the how and beyond. Just some of the topics discussed are safe reloading, the basics, costs and economic benefits, why reload, equipment and reloading components, and pitfalls that can be avoided, followed by a Q & A session where the audience is encouraged to share their experiences. David Fritz will be the lead in this very interactive workshop. Dave has held similar workshops in the past and has offered to organize this one. If you are just thinking of getting started in reloading or you are an old hand at it, this workshop may be for you. There is no charge for this workshop and is open to KNC members, family, friends and other shooting sport enthusiasts. The invitation is extended to other local gun Club members as well. This is a NO Live Ammunition and NO Firearms Event. Because of venue limitations, registration is required and of course, space is limited. Doors will open at 09:45 to view some of the reloading stuff on display. In the event of inclement weather, registered participants will be contacted by email to inform them of the postponement and the rescheduled date. Phone number too please when registering. Contact Dave Fritz at [daveandpat.fritz@gmail.com](mailto:daveandpat.fritz@gmail.com) to register or for further information.

## SSA Club Property Cameras

Our cameras are now up and running. Keep up the good safety practices.



## Upcoming Meeting Programmes

We are planning to have a presentation of Handgun Marksmanship in April and a presentation of Shotgun Sports in May.

## SSA Website and All Events Calendar

This is a reminder to use our website. The address is [www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/calendar/](http://www.sydenhamsportsmen.com/calendar/)  
Check out the All Events Calendar to know what is happening on our ranges and other activities.

### SSA Public Events and Range Calendar

< DECEMBER

JANUARY 2023

FEBRUARY >

SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			TRAP RANGE OPEN	SSA GENERAL CLUB MEETING @ 19:30		SKEET RANGE OPEN
				SKEET RANGE OPEN		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
TRAP RANGE OPEN			TRAP RANGE OPEN	SKEET RANGE OPEN		SKEET RANGE OPEN



## February 2023 SSA Newsletter – Range Committee update

Welcome to 2023. The warmer than usual weather has meant that the ranges have been busier than normal for the first few weeks of January. Depending on weather (!) you are a skier, snowmobiler, or not – you might find this winter easier than normal. Light snow conditions have meant that moving around the ranges have been easy so far this year.

The 2023 range committee welcomes our newest member – John Stockmann. John has volunteered to lead on the care and maintenance of the Handgun Range AND will help co-ordinate training courses on this range as well in the future. The range committee members and all their contact info can be found under the Ranges tab on our website.

We hosted the first club Orientation tour this year on Sunday January 29th. The next one will be in March or Early April – date to be determined. Although the primary reason for these tours is to educate new members on the basic range rules so that they can start to use the ranges, its also about introducing everyone to our club facilities and the other conservation activities the club is involved in. If you have been a member for many years already – this is your invitation to come to the next orientation tour and get updated on what we are doing as a club. Watch the website All Events calendar and the newsletters for future dates.

Chuck Cannons Handgun Proficiency training modules are back! Times two. Chuck has generously offered to teach his series of Five Handgun Proficiency modules this year at our club - the first series in the spring will tentatively run from April 2nd every other week ending May 27th . The second series will repeat in the late summer/fall. Both training sessions will finish with a challenging “qualification shoot” on the 100 yard range - hosted by Chuck – which will present an interesting variety of shooting challenges. Not only are these training sessions a great way to build your skills with your handgun, for those members wanting to get holster certified at our club you can achieve this by attending all of the first four training dates with Chuck.

Registration is required for this Handgun training with Chuck – with the plan for online via our website – watch for full details in the next club newsletter and on our website calendar.

Chuck is ALSO looking for a member volunteer (or two) with an interest in Handgun shooting to be involved in these Handgun courses as instructor trainees. There would be no cost involved in participating as an instructor trainee. The ideal candidate would be someone who has taken his courses in the past - but it is not required.

We are planning the first Handgun Range safety courses and 100 yard range safety courses of 2023 for late winter/early spring. Reach out to if you are interested in getting your handgun sticker or Trevor is you want to get your 100 Yard range sticker.

The SSA Sporting Clays course is looking for a new helper for 2023. Do you have some experience shooting sporting clays, and want to get involved and learn more about the sport? Have you ever put some thought into what the targets are doing, and why? We are looking for someone to help with the sporting clays machines setup and course maintenance. We can teach you what you need to know. The Interclub Trap league will start this year on April 29th with the first shoot hosted by North Grey Bruce Rod & Gun Club. All the dates for the 9 scheduled shoots are posted on our website.

There will be private range rentals again in 2023 on the Handgun range, Rimfire range, and 100 yard range during which time they will be closed for individual shooting activities. The ranges are also closed to members when training courses are being held. REMEMBER to check the All Events calendar before you go to the club to see if the range you want to use is available. We are trying our best to put range closed notices on the calendar as early as possible so that no one gets surprised when they arrive that a range might not be available.





## 100 Yard Range

At the end of November, a review was conducted of all of the range users from April when we started the 100 Yard Range Users course. The 100 Yard Range Users course had 109 members complete the course.

### From the first courses completion to the end of November the log sheets showed:

- There were 478 entries that were legible,
- The range was used by 120 members (some members used it multiple times during that time-frame),
- Records showed that the 120 users of the range were either Range Safety Officers or members who completed the 100 yd Range Users Course,
- There was a total of 38 guest during that time frame.

During that same timeframe unannounced inspections during shooting activities were conducted by one of the Range Co-ordinators and there were no non-compliances with SSA Range Operations requirements observed.

However, during a 100-yard Range Inspection in the middle of December it was found that the 100 marker for lane 1 was missing. On closer inspection the marker was actually shot so bad through the target structure that it just folded over. It was concluded that the possible reason for this is;

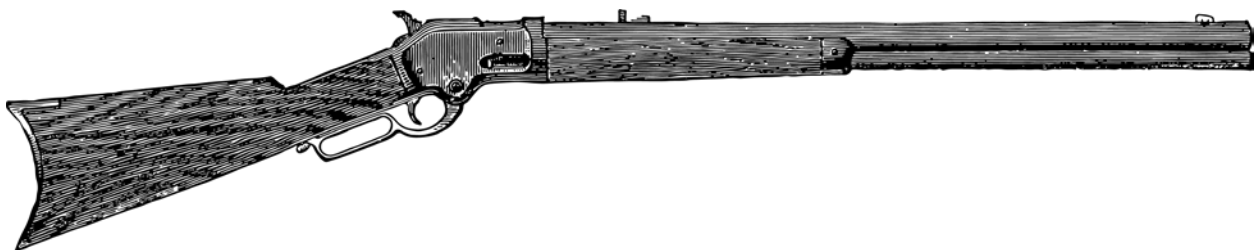
- Targets not placed properly on the backer boards,
- Firearms not sighted in properly, or
- Wilful disregard for SSA assets by shooters (which we hope is not the case).



In addition, lots of brass was found in the concreted area that was not picked up by shooters when they are done and left for other to pick up.

Most of the shells are rimfire shells. If these practices continue the range committee may have to look at the use of the 100-yard Range by individuals and possibly look at options of preventing this in the future. I know a lot of members like to use the range on their own, but if these practices of others continue there may be no other option.

Users of the 100-yard Range please treat this range as if it was your own range and let's keep it clean and safe.





## Range Operations – Use of Targets

SSA has to submit a copy of Range Operations Manual to the Chief Firearms Office (CFO) on a regular basis for review and acceptance as part of the ongoing approval for Continued Range Operations. Recently it has been brought to the Range Committees attention that there is some misunderstanding regarding the use of steel targets on the Handgun, 22 Cal Rim Fire Range and the 100yd High Powered Range. The SSA Operations Manual clearly states that: “Only paper targets are to be used on the ranges, mounted on backers between the support rails. The only allowed exception is the use of shrouded steel targets for sanctioned Cowboy Action, IDPA, & Precision Rimfire Shooting, with a minimum distance to target of 10 yards.”

Sanctioned events need to be scheduled and identified in the event calendar on the SSA Website and require an SSA Approved Range Safety Officer during the event.

If steel targets are being used outside of sanctioned events, it will result in the CFO asking additional information regarding the accepted Range Operations Manual, SSA's enforcement of the Range Operations Manual requirements and possible loss of the approval to continue operating the ranges.

Sanctioned events are not difficult to arrange in the SSA Calendar. Please contact the Range Co-ordinators.

I do not think that anyone wants to lose the operation approval of the ranges.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to the SSA Range Committee Members identified in the Range Operation Manual and the SSA Website.

## Rimfire Precision Shooting

There have been some inquiries to a possible “Precision Rimfire Shooting Event” by our members.

A SSA Range Safety Officer has come forward and is willing to set up the 100-Yard Range with precision steel targets in the 100-yard bunkers and possible shrouded targets at the 25- and 50-yard backstops.

These events are open to all current SSA members and their guest. Please check the SSA website event calendar for dates and times. Currently these are scheduled for Sunday Afternoons.

