



SHERWOOD PARK FISH AND GAME ASSOCIATION

December 2015 —January 2016



As fall and the 2015 hunting season get behind us I am trying to collect all my thoughts on what is going on

with the Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association. Unfortunately 2015 has continued to be a trying year for the club. I feel the obligation to fill you all in on what has been going on, and my apologies if this runs a little long.

First and foremost, we experienced the most serious safety incident that anyone I have talked to can remember in the 50+ year existence of the organization. The essence of the incident was an accidental discharge that resulted in a rifle bullet buried deep in the engine compartment of a truck belonging to a member. The discussion and conclusions are not yet finalized but some details on the event are published elsewhere in this newsletter. This is the kind of thing that brings sleepless nights to executive members of this or any other shooting range, and while I am glad that the SPFGA has gone so long without this kind of mishap, I am mortified to know that this happened while I was heading the organization. The executive has

had the chance to discuss the details of the incident at one meeting, and I think I can assure everyone that there will be many more discussions to come on what we can learn from this and how we can prevent such a thing from happening again.

I will remind everyone that all gun accidents come from violating at least one of the basic firearms safety rules. Whether you are more familiar with the "Four Basic Rules" as promoted for years by gun writer Jeff Cooper or the "ACTS & PROVE" concept of the Canadian Firearms Safety Program, you should always keep those rules in mind when handling firearms and for cripes' sake, don't grow complacent just because you feel you are an experienced gun handler. The rules continue to apply, no matter how many rounds you've sent downrange.

We also faced some unexpected challenges with renewal of our shooting range permit this year. We had the Chief Provincial Firearms Officer send an inspector early in the summer to view our new 50m range, and given that our existing license was due to expire in November, we thought we would be proactive and have the all the ranges inspected at that time.

We received no negative comments from the inspector, formal or informal, during the inspection, and no further communications from the CPFO office for months. When one of our volunteers finally inquired as to the hold up we were informed that no response would be forthcoming until we had submitted our range application paperwork. This simple task was quickly completed and at that point we were surprised to be told that several of our ranges had been deemed inadequate, and that a license renewal would not be forthcoming until necessary changes were implemented! The major shortcomings were insufficient heights of various backstops, necessitating about \$20,000 in earthwork. Given that it was very late in the construction season when we found this out, it took some major scrambling and dedication by our valiant range maintenance work crew (that's you, Jim) to get the work accomplished before freeze up.

With the earthwork completed, evidence of the reworked berms was sent to the CPFO office. But instead of sending back the new license, the reply was a last minute directive to install barrel limiters at all rifle shooting stations. When it was pointed out that no such devices were mentioned in the report, the CPFO stated that he was pretty sure he had mentioned it verbally. Regardless, they were

required now.

The idea is that shooters fire through horizontal bars that keep shooters from dropping their muzzles too low (which could result in a bullet strike on flat ground and subsequent ricochet) or from raising them too high (which could lead to an overshoot). After some experimentation we demonstrated to the inspector that the upper bar could not be made to work with the wide variety of sights to be found on all the rifles used by our members, and the inspectors "compromised" by allowing us to install bottom bars only (for now). All rifle shooters will now be expected to set and use these bottom bars when they setup their shooting stations.

It would take me several pages to list off all the problems I have with these procedures and demands, but the thing I find myself coming back to over and over again is the effort and expense required to meet these requirements. The Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association is fortunate to have the resources it took to meet these floating targets on short notice, but many clubs do not. I wonder if the CPFO is now holding our ranges up as an example, and demanding that every shooting range be brought up to the standards we agreed to meet. I worry that this province may lose many of its places to shoot if those other clubs can't come up with the funds and the manpower required to meet standards

that are set arbitrarily, with no right of appeal, by a bureaucrat who has no interest in keeping shooting sports alive (and may in fact be outright hostile to the concept of civilian guns and shooting). Worse yet, given the results of the recent federal election, this may be the tip of the iceberg.

There have been several incidents this summer of the new electronic gate latch becoming inoperative, mostly believed to stem from abuse of the latch. We have tried a couple of different designs of buffers and shock absorbers to try to take some of the impact off the latch, but none will compensate for lunk-headed behaviour. Please show some care, the latch was never intended to take the full weight of that steel gate slamming shut under power of a strong shove.

Finally, as the year-long executive term winds down I have decided that I

will not be putting my name forward for the president's role in 2016. My predecessors had established a tradition of a president sitting for three consecutive years, but I don't see this as possible. It has been a difficult year for me, and it has showed in my efforts as president. The association deserves better than the litany of unanswered email inquiries and neglected duties that I fear I have left behind. Fortunately there is one bit of good news: Pat Harris, who stepped down just 11 months ago after 3 years as an exemplary president, has agreed to take up the task again to try to get the executive back on track. I have great faith that he is better suited for the job than just about anyone. I encourage all members of the association to consider how you can contribute to supporting Pat and the rest of the organization however you can.

Gary Chambers

SPFGA President 2015





Hello again all of you members that take the time to read our newsletter. As Gary has stated, I am willing to take over the presidency of SPFGA for another term of two years.

I would like to thank Gary for stepping up last year and taking over the presidency from me -- our club only runs on the backs of capable volunteers like Gary. Gary took on a challenging, time consuming commitment while working more than full time at a career that demanded even more of his time and effort. Where he found the energy I don't know. We all should be thanking him for his determination on seeing, persevering, and overcoming difficulties that a club of our size regularly encounters and for making our organization a better one. Once again, thank you Gary from all us members.

In looking briefly to the future I have a few things that we as members should evaluate. One such item is our general meetings held at the end of most months. Our attendance has been steady but very low with only a maximum crowd of 40 or so people being there. This despite the fact that the speakers brought in are very knowledgeable in their areas and sacrificing their time to give us presentations. I am wondering how we can attract more of you to these meetings? or should we not even bother? What topics and speakers would you like to see at these meetings? Do you know of any speakers that would be willing to give a presentation on a topic of interest to you and others of the club? If you have suggestions please contact me, or any one of the executive, and let us know.

The executive hopes the members have enjoyed the upgrades to the facility over the last few years including the clubhouse, campground, ranges both improved and new, the new archery range, and the roads. We have acted on suggestions from you members and are always willing to listen to positive suggestions -- it's your club. Let us know.

Volunteers are always welcome. If you would like to be more involved with the club and help your club then by all means approach an executive member on a chair that you are interested in and volunteer your help. It's only an email or phone call away.

Till we meet again, Pat Harris.

Beer Butt Duck-Peking Style

This is the only recipe that I know that would make me pluck a mallard duck. It's a version of beer can chicken, but you need to use the small cans that you would get from tomato juice or other such juices, because they have to fit into the small rear end cavity of a mallard duck.

Beer Can Ingredients Using the empty small can, fill the can two thirds full with Japanese beer (or any beer). Into the can add the following:

- 2 star anise.
- 3 cloves
- 1 inch cinnamon stick.
- 2 slices fresh ginger root
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- 2 inch piece of green onion

Set the can aside and make the rub.

Duck Rub

In a small glass bowl, combine:

- 1 tablespoon of sugar.
- 2 teaspoons of freshly ground black pepper
- 1 teaspoon Chinese 5 spice.

Combine the above ingredients and set aside. Rub the duck with 1 tablespoon of sesame oil (give or take) over the duck, place the duck on the can, then sprinkle and rub in the dry rub ingredients.

I usually make 2 or 3 ducks and you can place them in a deep roaster at 350°F in the oven for 1 to 1 ½ hours. In the last 15 to 20 minutes increase the temperature to 450°F to crisp the outside. Remove from oven and allow to cool before carving. You can also use a barbecue and place the ducks on the grill and barbecue, same as above with non-direct heat. You may not need to increase the temperature if using the barbecue.

Serving Sauce.

Combine the following ingredients in a saucepan:

- 2/3 cup, hoisin sauce.
- 3 tablespoons dry sherry
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons rice vinegar
- 2 tablespoons liquid honey.
- 1 tablespoon sesame oil
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 teaspoons fresh ginger root, minced
- 1 tablespoon minced scallion greens.
- 2 tablespoons water

Mix the ingredients in a saucepan and let simmer over medium heat until thick and richly flavored about 6 to 10 minutes. Let the sauce cool to room temperature before serving with the carved duck. The above can be served with rice, Chinese onion pancakes etc.

Dennis

RANGE SAFETY INCIDENT

On September 11, 2015 an accidental discharge of a firearm occurred on the big bore range . The member explained that he took his rifle off the rack, closed the bolt and pulled the trigger to release the firing pin spring when it unexpectedly discharged. The member's rifle was pointed in an unsafe direction and a vehicle in the parking lot behind the range was struck. We are very fortunate that no one was injured.

The incident was reported to the police, and a member of the Tofield RCMP detachment attended to gather information for an investigation. Camera surveillance video was provided to the police to support that investigation.

SPFGA has a policy of zero tolerance for unsafe behavior in handling of firearms at our ranges. Safety at the ranges is of paramount importance to insure the well being of everyone on and around association property, and to ensure that our ranges may operate into the future. Rules for range use are posted at the ranges and on our website. Please make a point of reviewing them each time you go to shoot. If you see someone not following the rules, please advise them to do so and if they are uncooperative ask to see their membership card and report them to the SPFGA Executive.

The range pass of the member involved has been suspended pending completion of an executive investigation into the matter, including rights of the member to appeal any decisions. The final outcome of this incident will be reported at later date.

2016 SPFGA Executive

Election of the 2016 Executive was held December 3, 2015 at the Old Log Cabin, 50 Spruce Avenue, Sherwood Park. Thanks to all members that volunteered to serve and support SPFGA for another year.

PRESIDENT

PAT HARRIS

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

DOUG BURTON

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

LEE SIMKIN

PAST PRESIDENT

GARY CHAMBERS

TREASURER

ROBERT LOEWEN

SECRETARY

LEE HORNE

MEMBERSHIP

DEANNA LOEWEN

NEWSLETTER

RICHARD ROTHWELL

ARCHERY

AL KEELER

BIG GAME DOUG BURTON

FISH

VERN McINTOSH

HANDGUN

JERRY PURPUR

SHOTGUN

KEITH LACEY

POLITICAL ACTION/ENVIRONMENT

ANDY BOYD

RIFLE

PETE BEAUVAIS

AWARDS

STEVE WITIUK

SONG BIRDS

RON DURSTLING

SPECIAL PROJECTS

GAETAN RICHARD

TELEPHONE-EMAIL

JESSICA HOFFMAN

AWARDS NIGHT

FRANK LEE

WATERFOWL

JIM ROMANIUK

WEB SITE

DEANNA LOEWEN

YOUTH COORDINATORS

SANDRA GEORGE

TRISHA MARTINEZ

RANGE SUPERVISOR

JIM CLARKE (appointed)

CATERING

Elaine Xenos (appointed)

2015 TROPHY SCORING

Trophy scoring of big game, gamebirds and fish and submission of wild-life and scenic photos is scheduled for January 31 2016, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm in Sherwood Park in the Old Log Cabin located at 50 Spruce Avenue.

The deadline for late entries is February 15, 2016.

The contact person for late entries is
Dean Bromberger ()

For more detailed information on trophy scoring for big game, fish and birds see AFGA score sheets at: <http://www.afga.org/document-library.html>

TROPHY CATEGORIES

BIG GAME

TYPICAL WHITETAIL DEER, NON TYPICAL
WHITETAIL DEER
TYPICAL MULE DEER
NON TYPICAL MULE DEER
AMERICAN ELK
CANADA MOOSE
BIGHORN SHEEP
BLACK BEAR
COUNTY OF STRATHCONA BIG GAME
LARGEST BIG GAME –ARCHERY
LARGEST BIG GAME BLACK POWDER
JUNIOR BIG GAME UNDER 18 YEARS OLD
MASTER HUNTER BIG GAME

BIRDS

DUCK
GOOSE
PHEASANT

FISH

WARM WATER FISH
COLD WATER FISH
JUNIOR FISH UNDER 12 YEARS OLD

PHOTO CONTEST

WILDLIFE PHOTO
SCENIC PHOTO

(PHOTO SIZE 8 1/2 BY 11 INCHES WITH
APPLICANT'S NAME AND TELEPHONE ON BACK SIDE OF
PHOTOS—SUBMIT PHOTOS AT TROPHY SCORING OR AT
JANUARY OR FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETINGS)

2016 AWARDS NIGHT BANQUET

APRIL 2, 2016

Mark this event on your calendar for an evening to celebrate the success of fellow members in the field and on the water at the German Cultural Center 8310 Roper Road Edmonton.

Tickets available in the new year





2016 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Deanna Loewen

- Membership Renewal Notices for 2016 will be mailed to all 2015 members in mid-September.
- Membership Applications for 2016 must be received by December 31, 2015. Membership applications can be submitted either by email, Canada Post or by Fax.
- Our email address is: .
- Our mailing address is:
- Our fax number is: .
- Memberships will be processed in the SPFGA office. Hours of operation will be posted on the Club telephone message.
- If you have any questions regarding membership, please call and press 1 to speak to the Membership Chair or call .
- New members can submit their 2016 Membership Applications on January 1st, 2016 and their name will be placed on a waiting list until we determine if we have range and family range memberships available for 2016.



Want to know about club events?
Range closures?
SPFGA meetings?
What's new?

Check our Facebook or follow us on Twitter, and
be in the know.



SHERWOOD PARK FISH AND GAME ASSOCIATION

PO Box 3098, SHERWOOD PARK, AB T8H 2T1

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

2016 Membership Fees

- ☐ Regular \$ 55 Member benefits for one person. Does not include range privileges.
- ☐ Family Regular \$ 75 Member benefits include spouse/partner, dependent children under 18 years of age. Does not include range privileges.
- ☐ Range \$ 130 Member benefits for one person. Includes all privileges and use of shooting ranges.
- ☐ Family Range \$ 170 Member benefits include range member, spouse/partner, their dependent children under 18 years of age. Includes all privileges and use of shooting ranges. Children under 18 years of age must be supervised by a Range Member.
- ☐ Youth \$ 20 Open to any young person under 18 years of age. Children under 18 years of age must be supervised by a Range Member.

- ☐ NEW
- ☐ RENEWAL
- ☐ MALE
- ☐ FEMALE

BIRTH YEAR

☐ Access Card \$10 (one time charge)

☐ Lost Membership Cards Replacement fee is \$20 per individual membership and \$50 for an entire family.

Name

Mailing Address

Town/City.....Province.....Postal Code

Phone (.....).....Email.....

Note: Email address is used only for emailing Club information such as notices of Meetings. NO SPAM advertising will result.

Do you wish to continue receiving emails from the Club about notices of Meetings, etc.? Yes ☐ No ☐

PAYMENT METHOD

☐ ☐ CHEQUE, MONEY ORDER OR BANK DRAFT

Amount Enclosed

\$

☐ VISA Name On Card.....

☐ MASTERCARD Card No.

☐ AMEX Expiry Date..... Security Code.....Signature.....

FAMILY REGULAR AND FAMILY RANGE MEMBERSHIPS: PLEASE PRINT NAME, YEAR OF BIRTH AND RELATIONSHIP

This information is essential for dependant members under Family Memberships to qualify for Club Insurance.

Name	Birth Year	Relationship
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

2015 FALL BLACK POWDER SHOOT RESULTS

	FIRST PLACE	SECOND PLACE	THIRD PLACE
RIFLE	Garnet Anthony	Tony Puhan	Paul Christiansen
PISTOL	Barb Christiansen	Tony Puhan	Doug Meeling
TRADE GUN	Randy Chappel	Roger the Bear Murry	Raymond
KNIFE & HAWK	Ken Steinhauer	Raymond	Doug Meeling

If you are interested in learning something about black powder shooting contact John Herbin () and check out their web site

They annual have a spring and fall shoot on our property. Many of their members are also members of SPFGA.



October 2015 General Meeting
Guest Speaker— Kathryn Wilson
Update - Invasive Species Prevention Program



**Kathryn Wilson — Coordinator for the Alberta
Aquatic Invasive Species Program**

Kathryn and Ray Mackowici

What are invasive species? Invasive alien species or invasive species are non-native species that have been introduced, intentionally or unintentionally, from other countries or ecosystems and threaten Alberta's aquatic ecosystems and biodiversity. The species of greatest concern in Alberta currently Quagga Mussel and Zebra Mussels and Eurasian Watermilfoil.

These species are a threat to the economy, especially agriculture, tourism and recreation. They destroy natural lake ecosystems and fisheries. The management of their impacts could cost millions of dollars each year. Possible impacts can include:

- Filling intake pipes, irrigation lines, dam operations
- Clogging screens
- Requiring new capital and maintenance costs
- Increased costs to users
- Crop & food production; drinking water & waste water

How can these species be introduced into Alberta? The primary vector for Quagga and Zebra mussels to enter Alberta waters is from water craft returning from infected water bodies

Elements of the Invasive Species Prevention Program include:

- 1) Policy & Legislation :** The Alberta Fisheries Act March 2015 amended to enable mandatory watercraft inspections and provide for a more robust program. These inspections also include onsite removal of any Zebra or Quagga mussels found. To date 21,000 inspections have been made with only 17 occurrences of mussels found.
- 2) Monitoring** of 55 water bodies for invasive species (fish, mussels, plants)
- 3) Rapid response:** boat inspections and onsite removal of detected mussels
- 4) Education & Outreach** to the public

A Zebra or Quagga infestation in Alberta is estimated to cost \$75 million annually.



Invasive mussels found on boat during mandatory inspection near Sylvan Lake
(<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/invasive-mussels-found-on-boat-during-mandatory-inspection-near-sylvan-lake-1.3080924>)

For more information on Invasive Species Prevention Program check the follow sources:

<https://www.nswa.ab.ca/sites/default/files/documents/Kate%20Wilson%20NSWA%20Educational%20Forum%20Sept%2025.pdf>

<http://esrd.alberta.ca/recreation-public-use/invasive-species/aquatic-invasive-species/documents/QuickFacts-AquaticInvasiveSpecies-Aug2014.pdf>

<http://www.albertaparks.ca/albertaparksca/science-research/aquatic-invasive-species.aspx>



ZEBRA MUSSELS



QUAGGA MUSSEL

Monarch Butterfly Project



Across their migratory route, monarch butterflies face many threats to their survival. In the US and Canada, a loss in breeding habitat is linked to a decrease of milkweed—the main food source for monarch larvae—due to herbicide use and land conversion. In Mexico, monarch hibernation sites are threatened by illegal logging. Extreme climate conditions in Canada, the US and Mexico all contribute to the dramatic decrease in monarch butterflies that hibernate in Mexico.

SPFGA applied for a grant from the Alberta Conservation Association to plant milkweed on our property for Monarch Butterflies.

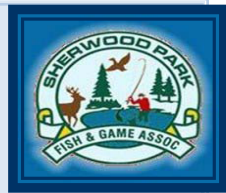
They granted SPFGA \$750.00 towards this project. To date the project has not been productive. With the extremely dry spring and summer the milkweed seeds did not germinate when they should have. Hopefully the seeds will germinate and grow this coming spring.

Milkweed can be a slow growing plant when conditions are adverse. SPFGA thanks the Tofield Junior Forest Wardens who helped with the seeding and weeding and Ken Snell who cultivated the test plot.

Frank Lee Conservation Chair.

SPFGA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 2015—FEBRUARY 2016



December Time			
Dec 3	12:00-17:00	EPS Tactical Team	Overflow Range
Dec 3	1930-20-30	General Meeting	Old Log Cabin 50 Spruce Ave Sherwood Park
Dec 4	All Day	169 Glen Allan Scouts	Club House
Dec 5	All Day	169 Glen Allan Scouts	Club House
Dec 6	All Day	169 Glen Allan Scouts	Club House
Dec 8	09:00-17:00	RCMP Edmonton	Overflow Range
Dec 17	09:00-15:00	RCMP ERT	Overflow Range
January			
Jan 7	09:00-16:00	EPS Tactical	Overflow Range
Jan 12	09:00-16:00	RCMP	Overflow Range
Jan 12	1900	Executive Meeting	100 Ordze Ave Sherwood Park Chamber Commerce Sherwood Park
Jan16	All Day	Calvary Church Youth Group	Clubhouse and Area
Jan 21	09:00-16:00	RCMP ERT	Overflow Range
Jan 22	All Day	Junior Forest Wardens	Club House
Jan 23	All Day	Junior Forest Wardens	Club House
Jan 24	All Day	Junior Forest Wardens	Club House
Jan 28	19:30-21:00	General Meeting	Old Log Cabin 50 Spruce Ave Sherwood Park
Jan 28	09:00-16:00	RCMP ERT	Overflow Range
31-Jan	0900-1500	Trophy Scoring	Old Log Cabin 50 Spruce Ave Sherwood Park
February			
Feb 1	All Day	NAIT Forestry Field Lab	ClubHouse
Feb 4	09:00-16:00	EPS Tactical	Overflow Range
Feb 9	1900-2100	Executive Meeting	100 Ordze Ave Sherwood Park Chamber Commerce Sherwood Park
Feb 18-21	0900—2200	AFGA Conference	Ramada Inn Edmonton
25-Feb	1930	General Meeting	Old Log Cabin 50 Spruce Ave Sherwood Park
Feb 28	All Day	NAIT Forestry Field Lab	ClubHouse
Feb 29	All Day	NAIT Forestry Field Lab	ClubHouse
March			
Mar 1	All Day	NAIT Forestry Field Lab	Clubhouse
Mar1	09:00-16:00	RCMP Tactical	Overflow Range
Mar 7	All Day	NAIT Forestry Field Lab	Clubhouse
Mar 8	All Day	NAIT Forestry Field Lab	Clubhouse
Mar 8	1900	Executive Meeting	100 Ordze Ave Sherwood Park Chamber Commerce Sherwood Park
Mar 9	All Day	NAIT Forestry Field Lab	Clubhouse
Mar 10	All Day	NAIT Forestry Field Lab	Clubhouse
Mar 17	09:00-16:00	RCMP Tactical	Overflow Range
Mar 21	All Day	NAIT Forestry Field Lab	Clubhouse
Mar 22	All Day	NAIT Forestry Field Lab	Clubhouse
Mar 24	09:00-16:00	RCMP Tactical	Overflow Range
Mar 29	All Day	NAIT Forestry Field Lab	Clubhouse
Mar 30	All Day	NAIT Forestry Field Lab	Clubhouse
Mar 31	1930	General Meeting	Old Log Cabin 50 Spruce Ave Sherwood Park

RETURN UNDELIVERABLE ADDRESSES TO: Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association,