

NEWSLETTER

Coming Events —Meeting Locations

Start time is 7:30 P.M. for the June 1 meeting at the Police Association Offices. This is on the second floor upstairs over
Proulx Photo –141 Catherine Street *near the corner of Bank and Catherine. The parking lot is across from the Police Association.*

Upcoming Club Fishes

Sat. June 4 — Reeve Craig

Walleye and pike plus panfish. Meet for lunch at the ramp at 1:00 PM.

Sat. June 18 – Wendover

Walleye and pike plus panfish – one of my favourite spots.

For new members; this is a good spot to get to know. There are some monster muskies available (in season). Big bass have been known to come out of here.

Don't miss it.

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On the Agenda

1 New Meeting Location Discussion

Jim and Neil have been scouting out a more permanent location. I'll try to summarize it on **Page 2** of the Newsletter. We can talk about it at the meeting.

2 Back to Basics Seminar

Dave and Jim plan to have a back to basics talk about fishing tackle for the June meeting.

Mark will cover rods reels and line?

Greg – plastics +?

Dave – crankbaits and spoons?

Jim will volunteer for – you guessed it – spinnerbaits and the Moss Boss.

3 Breakfast Meetings

A related suggestion was to substitute a monthly Breakfast Meeting for the usual Wednesday get-together.

I haven't heard any more about this, so I guess it's dead.

New on the OFC Web site:

New – the OFC Classifieds Page.
Email Greg with the details of your deals. gajda@compmore.net

New Meeting Location

Neil has found an excellent meeting site at the Westboro L Legion.

The site is on Richmond road just west of Churchill on the north side of the street (near Mountain Equipment Co-op).

There is a very good room UPSTAIRS with appropriate privacy and seating and a bar and washrooms. No hats allowed, etc., (this is a military tradition, and failure to comply will cost you a drink for EVERYONE in the place– they have no sense of humour.)

Parking is good on local side streets. This is a great site with one problem only: **the first Wednesday is not available.**

For them, Thursday is best with Tuesday closing early.

The 2nd week in the month is a possibility.

We could start there in July on the 1st Thursday.

We would need to make a donation to the legion, which is what Muskies Canada does in Bells Corners.

For discussion at the June meeting.

Personal comments:

1. Although we've had the first Wednesday for what seems like forever, I don't have any problems with a shift to the first Thursday.
I understand that the second Wednesday is a possibility, but maybe I misunderstood. Again, no personal angst with the second Wednesday.
2. In past years, we didn't hold monthly meetings in July and August, but scheduled Club Fishes for local sites, such as Black Rapids or Reeve Craig on the first Wednesday. We don't have any such Club Fishes scheduled this year, so I guess it isn't an issue.

Club Fish Results

May 7 – Reeve Craig:

We had a very good turnout again with great weather and 20 km. wind from the east. Our two new family groups were present to try out the ramp and the fishing. The ramp was good and the fishing was not. Moe brought in some perch and a catfish and Dave Mingie and Jim caught a few small crappie.

Dave and family did a great job cooking what we had plus the generous donation of beans by Neil and Heather McColl. Our new father and son team donated a nice salad.

So, despite the lack of crappies we ate well.

Mike and Philippe Belley were there.

Bob Stoddard and friend were there but left early.

Mark Patry was there and harvested a musky clerethrum.

Greg was there

Our new members were trying out their new impressive Lund.

May 22 – Mississippi Lake

Well, Jim wimped out and did not go to the club fish at the last minute. No partner, wind, rain, not feeling the best and family, etc. – the usual excuses.

Neil McColl went; no partner, no family, got wet, ripped his raincoat jacket to shreds – too many shirts, sweaters, etc. His motor acted up – he thought it wanted to go home but he paddled on (just joking). He landed two pike (21" and 26"), no records, just made him feel better. Neil hooked up with Greg & Allison at lunch. They saw Bob Stoddard's truck, but didn't talk to him. Neil left about 3:30. Ryan Weinheimer and Bob Stoddard caught a few pike, a bass, and some perch.

Greg and Allison found it was wet, cold and windy – altogether unpleasant. They finished up around 4 pm with a couple of 3 pt. pike each and some panfish.

Greg commented that he hoped this isn't going to be the pattern for the rest of the season; i.e., if you want to know when a cold front is going to hit, just look at the Club Fish schedule.

Just hearing about all this made me feel a lot better about being in Saskatoon in somewhat cloudy and cool weather.

Dow's Lake Youth Fishing Day – July 10

OFC members participated in this event last year. Ian Midgley received this message recently.

"As was determined last year at the wrap up meeting we are still going to keep this a pre-registered event, meaning we will invite participants from local boys and girls clubs such as: Big Sisters, Big Brothers of Ottawa, Optimist Clubs (East Ottawa, Nepean) and maybe the Ottawa Boys and Girls club. I will extend the invitation to the clubs this week but what I would like from you is the volunteers that you will be able to send for the day and perhaps any other "special" activities you can see your club/organization sponsoring.

There was a lot of interest at the wrap up meeting from last year's event in getting more shore activities such as education activities that teach kids the basics of fishing (knot tying, casting, fish handling, environmental stewardship etc.). Maybe the Casting Kids competition or at least an overview of it so that kids know what it is all about and how to get involved in competition if they feel they have the knack. I have searched around trying to find some education program that can be done fairly quickly with good participation from kids and I found the "Passport to Fishing and Boating" program put out by the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF) in the United States. There is a free CD with good graphics on it that I have ordered and many of the program packets (or modules) can be downloaded.

Anyhow, I would like to get together with some of the volunteers for the day to organize who is going to deliver what part of the education program, or if you have something you have devised for a program that is easy to deliver and not time consuming then we should discuss this as well.

I would like to have the opportunity for the showcasing of clubs/organizations at this event this year and would like to know what you think your club/organization would be bringing to the event. Maybe we can arrange for a large army tent where tables can be set up out of the elements for the kids/parents to browse through. Feel free to advertise your location, the events and activities you are involved in and how someone can be come involved.

Please be advised that since this event is on NCC property all advertisements/handouts etc. should be in both official languages. (My italics)

If you can think of any other fishing clubs/organizations that may want to be a part of this day or partner with us to promote fishing in Ottawa and youth participation please forward this email to them so that they may contact me.

Thanks,

Cathy Leeson-Roche

URBAN FISHING PROGRAM

Ministry of Natural Resources

Kemptville District"

Ottawa Stewardship Council

I got a package in the mail last week from the Ottawa Stewardship Council (OSC), containing their 2004 Annual Report. Maybe I'm suffering from that disease whose name I forget, but I don't recall ever hearing about them before. Anyway, they say that this program has been in effect for 10 years, so there.

The Stewardship Program is spearheaded by the MNR and supported by many community groups. There are some 40 such programs across Ontario.

Examples of some of the programs that the OSC has been involved with include the Carp River Remediation Project – Environmental Farm Model and the Friends of the Carp River Tree Planting program. They are also part of the Eastern Ontario Children's Water Festival (EOCWF), which is held at three locations; Alfred Bog, Upper Canada Village, and the Baxter Conservation Area. The EOCWF aim is to educate students about water resources issues in a fun, dynamic environment.

The Ottawa River/Petrie Island Canoe Launch has been completed, thanks to the OSC, the Friends of Petrie Island, and the City of Ottawa.

In more exciting news, the OSC completed its Strategic Plan. It has a number of thematic components, including:

- Woodlots
- Agriculture
- Wetlands
- Soil and water
- Fish and wildlife.

Perhaps the Executive would like to contact this group and see whether there is a role that the OFC (that's us) might play in the fish and wildlife "thematic component".

Speaking for my self, I'm only interested in the "fish component". I'm too old for "wildlife" and I don't think that I'd be allowed to take part anyway.

They have a web site www.ontariostewardship.org/ottawa

The phone number is 692-0014. The chairman is David Spence and the Stewardship Coordinator is Joffre Coté.

ODDS AND ENDS

Every once in a while, people ask what I, the humble scribe, look like. I don't have any recent pictures, but here's one from my youth. Note that I had hair (some) on my head then. Also note that my hair was dark – it's started to turn white.

My typing skills have improved and I moved up to a computer. While it may not look like it, I still have teeth. I now wear glasses for close-up work.



ABOVE: Nice to see bilingual signs going up all over the place.

Even I know what's wrong with this picture. There are 2 R's in ILLITERATE (I think).