

LAKE



HURON

Fishing Club

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Next LHFC General Meeting

Please mark your calendar for the first general meeting for 2018. Join us on April 12th, which will take place at Underwood for 7:30 P.M.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I write this letter it is still looking like Spring is a long way off but the calendar says no.

The club would like to thank all the volunteers who clipped fish in Port Elgin. It is very satisfying to see the great support. The MNR has informed the club that fish for the pond behind the hatchery in Port Elgin will be stocked April 18th ready for spring trout opening. It is the club's hope that parents and grandparents will take their kids fishing which will result in teaching children to catch and release plus taking a fish or two home to eat. I will inform some able bodies to help with the stocking.

The next big club project will be to help Grant McAlpine and crew to radio tag fifty adult fish to track the spawning run. Also, to obtain eggs for the hatchery. We will

email the membership when the temperature is right to complete this task at the peak rainbow run.

"The club would like to thank all the volunteers who clipped fish in Port Elgin."

Also the price for the water sampling has gone up to \$73.45 per month. Karen Lorente from OCWA, which is Georgian Highlands Ontario Clean Water Agency, has once again said they will be glad to sponsor our costs at the Port Elgin hatchery. Thanks again Karen and OCWA for sponsoring this initiative.

Our next General Meeting will be April 12th at the Underwood community centre at 7:30 p.m. Hope to see lots of you out.

Yours in Conservation,

Phil Hahn
LHFC President

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Attention all members with unpaid dues your membership has now been expired for 3 months. This will be your last newsletter you receive until dues have been paid. Please renew your Membership ASAP.

Bob Moss



LHFC SCHOOL HATCHERY PROGRAM UPDATE

I was at BPS Spring Classic with a School Hatchery and a TV to promote the program and LHFC. A very positive weekend with lots of interest and could end up getting more members. Here are a couple of photos and one of the employees at BPS. I was set up beside the Kids Trout pond and everybody stopped by while heading to the boats and tackle area.



Richard Elliott



TROUT HATCHERY REPORT

I would like to congratulate the Kincardine Trout Hatchery volunteers for receiving the OPG Environmental Award from the Chamber of Commerce. The hatchery would not run without all our volunteers. We have 60,000 rainbow trout and 7,000 brown trout that are ready to be stocked into the Saugeen River and Lake Huron. We will be stocking as soon as the river reaches 10 degrees, this usually is the later part of April. We will be sending out a notice when we are close to stocking and will be looking for volunteers for this event. I look forward to seeing you then.

Thanks,
Ron Krulicki
Hatchery Manager

2018 CHANTRY CHINOOK CLASSIC SALMON DERBY APRIL UPDATE

Very brief update with little news to report.

Due to a lack of club members and volunteers, the Port Elgin and District Lions Club, asked the Derby committee to assist with a pancake breakfast for Maplefest 2018 in Port Elgin. As mentioned in the previous updates we appealed for Club members to help at the Maple Syrup Festival, a one day event on March 24th.

A huge thank you to the 20 some LHFC and Derby committee members for your assistance in making this event a success and making our presence known. It was a good community public

relations event as we were able to display our promotional information and banners. As well as the public attending the festival, our local MP, MPP and local politicians attended and participated with us to flip pancakes and serve sausages.

For anyone wishing to join us, the Derby committee will hold their next meeting at the Port Elgin hatchery on April 16th at 7:00 P.M.

Stay tuned to the Derby website at www.chantrychinook.com for up to date news, coming from your 2018 Derby Committee. Follow us on Facebook! 

Bert Kuntz



COASTAL SPEAKER SERIES 2018

On March 1st "The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation" of Goderich (www.lakehuron.ca) presented a Coastal Speakers Series in Kincardine. The Centre hosts these types of events throughout the year to inform the public about environmental issues, up and down our coastline.

I signed up to see what it was about, registered, and then found out that community groups could set up displays at the event. I contacted our Derby Chairman, Brian Lang, who supplied me with a Derby banner, that you'll see at the upcoming hamburger and hotdog BBQ fund raising days, and some 2018 info cards about the Kid's Day Program and the Chantry Chinook Salmon Derby. Just a reminder, the hotdog BBQ fund raising days will take place

cont'd

on May 19th at Home Hardware in Port Elgin and on June 30th, over at Rowland's Independent Grocer.

Phil Hahn and Eugene Lo sent me electronic copies of the February and March newsletters. I printed off a mitt full of the newsletters and had them as handouts for the crowd. The newsletters and Derby info cards went over well, but the Kid's Day info was very popular.

A lot of people weren't aware of Kid's Day so here's hoping we'll keep Mr. Lang and the Derby Committee extra busy on the August Civic Holiday on Saturday, August 4th!

Dick Verrips emailed me a PowerPoint presentation about the Club. The PowerPoint presentation details the many initiatives we're involved with, for example, stream enhancement, the Chantry Classic Chinook Salmon Derby, Kincardine and Port Elgin Hatcheries, the elementary School Hatchery Program, egg collection, live release, working in cooperation with the Ontario Steelheaders at Denny's Dam, the MNRF, and being the lead organisation on the upcoming Walkerton Truax Dam removal etc., etc.

There wasn't any way to show the electronic PowerPoint slides at the presentation so I printed a bunch of the slides and set up a display of our different initiatives.

There were about 45 people at the event. It was a little surprising but many couldn't figure out the link between a fishing derby and a speaker series about environmental issues so I did a lot of talking to explain that the money raised from the Derby and the monies provided by our corporate sponsors all goes to the two main hatcheries, Richard

Elliott's amazing School Hatchery Program, and towards any other environmental endeavours the club is asked to support.

This is something I think I'll table at the upcoming LHFC AGM scheduled for 7:30pm Thursday April 12th, at the Underwood Community Centre.

I know that Dick Verrips along with the club's Sustainability Committee are looking at updating the club print and website information so maybe a strong mention that we are an environmentally focused organisation could be highlighted.

The Coastal Conservation Speaker Series of March 1st featured three groups. I'll provide each of these group's websites so you can investigate further.

The first presentation was "Dark Sky Friendly Lighting – Dark Skies on the Bruce" by Mike Warkentin of the Bruce Peninsula Biosphere Association (www.bpba.ca), near Oliphant.

Mike informed us that even though the new LED street lights and outside household lights have cut the cost of electrical bills down, the intensity of these lights is negatively affecting birds, amphibians and astronomy activities. Manufacturers are aware of this problem and have started producing less intense bulbs for purchase in the future.

The second was a presentation about the invasive species Emerald Ash Borer and the

decimation our ash forests will experience.

Emily Martin, Projects Coordinator with the Pine River Watershed Initiative Network (PRWIN), out of Ripley, explained that the borer is here now and here to stay. Ash will virtually disappear and go the way of the Elm, and the dodo. The PRWIN currently is administering a program along the Pine River shoreline to plant more hardy native species such as White Pine, Red Pine, White Spruce, Norway Spruce, Tamarack, Black Walnut, White Cedar, Sugar Maple etc. PRWIN can be found at "www.pineriverwatershed.ca" and a complete list of native trees can be found on their site under "Programs".

The third speaker Tineasha Brenot, of the Coastal Centre, spoke on the common reed we see everywhere—phragmites. Phragmites, like the Emerald Ash Borer, is an invasive species. This plant has taken over many of our wetlands and waterways, destroying the natural habitat of our native species. The message is that like the borer, it is here to stay, virtually impossible to eliminate, only control. Individual home owners are asked to do their best to keep the weed at bay and prevent it's spread.

If you are in that situation contact Dr. Janice Gilbert at the Invasive Phragmites Control Centre, jmgilbert@phragcontrol.com.

Kelly Mullen
LHFC Director



Courtesy of the Kincardine Record.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Executive Meeting Dates:

May 17, 2018
October 18, 2018

General Meetings:

April 12, 2018
September 13, 2018

Special Events :

Adopt a highway -TBA
Spring fish fry - June 9, 2018
Derby Media Day/Sponsor Appreciation - July 6, 2018
Derby - July 27 to August 12, 2018
Derby Awards - August 12, 2018
Pig Roast - September 8, 2018
Christmas Party - December 6, 2018

Special Projects:

Docks in (Kincardine) - April 28, 29, 2018
Docks out (Kincardine) - September 29, 30, 2018
Chinook & Rainbow egg collection - TBA
Chinook, Rainbow, Brown release - TBA
Baie Dor Docks - TBA
2017 Conservation Projects - TBA