

Political Action... *by Glen Michelson*

Our Lethbridge Fish and Game Association is a great conservation organization with more members now than we have had for a good many years. At our regular meeting on October 20th, there were around 15 members attending including 10 executive members. With nearly 1100 members, one would wonder, why the low numbers at meetings. Our President, Brian Dingreville, is doing an excellent job as are our executive members. Brian has volunteered to be president for another year. The executive and committees have worked their butts off, but volunteers for help are not there as it should be. Surely with the number of members we have there should be more support in our conservation organization. A little more support and your time would be appreciated.

Gun Control:

As I have mentioned before, the Gun Control issue is still my top priority and it will be until the Liberal Gun Control Bill C-68 is repealed as promised by the Conservative Government.

Let us go back to 1993 when this fiasco first started with a bad dream by Liberal Justice Minister Allan Rock, who publicly stated, "Only Police and the Military should have guns!" Prime Minister Jean Chretien and his Liberal government spent over a billion dollars on this new Bill C-68 that was to cost around a million dollars. Anne McLellan followed Allan Rock as Federal Justice Minister. She was even more outspoken. She wouldn't meet with gun owners and stated on T.V. - "the debate is over." Anne "Get Your Gun" McLellan was ousted in an election by gun owners in Alberta, indicating we do have power and a voice. Many gun owners did not register their long guns because they did not trust the Liberal Government.

This long gun misguided registry is completely out of control with spiraling costs with no control on the criminals using guns, mostly hand guns. It is ineffective against crime and a waste of taxpayers dollars. Do the Liberals really believe criminals will register their illegally obtained guns?

The sad part is the Liberals, the N.D.P. and the Bloc continue to support this long gun registry and one would wonder with any intelligence or common sense, why?

The Conservatives with a minority government, have promised to repeal this useless costly legislation and we would hope they will find a way to keep their promise.

Honourable Peter Van Loan is the new Minister of Public Safety, Honourable Robert Nicholson is still the Minister of Justice. Garry Breitkreuz, M.P. from Yorkton, Melville, Saskatchewan, has assured us he will continue to fight this issue. I will continue writing letters

We would hope our Prime Minister and his cabinet ministers and M.P.'s will soon put an end to the Liberal government mistake.

Poaching Concern:

Poaching is a big problem in Alberta, probably not noticed in this area, but it is here.

Animals are shot for trophy purposes, taking capes, heads, leaving the body to rot (example: February 2007, three bighorn rams killed southwest of Pincher Creek).

The Government of Alberta has operated a forensic laboratory to support Fish and Wildlife officers for 25 years. This forensic unit offers a wide range of services such as DNA.

Fish and gamers, hunters, farmers, ranchers can assist Game Officers in arresting poachings by using the "Report a Poacher" program - phone 1-800-642-3800 outlined on page 71 of Alberta Guide to hunting regulations.

It was recently announced that the Alberta Government will have a pilot project to crack down on problem hunters by using the Provincial Sheriffs law enforcement officers to team up with Fish and Wildlife officers. Majority of hunters follow the rules and respect land owners, but there are always a few who do not. This pilot project will assist our wildlife officers who try to cover huge vast areas in Southern Alberta. I am all for it.

Attention Hunters and Fishermen!

Wild Game, Birds and Fish are required for the Annual L.F.G.A. Awards Banquet February 7, 2009

Call Audrey Blaylock at 403-328-8252 or drop your meat off at the Clubhouse.

The freezer is in the back room.

Thank you for your support.

Positions Available

The L.F.G.A. has volunteer positions available for

Secretary
Club House Manager
Bird Chairman

Call Brian at 315-5887 or any member of the Executive.

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In speaking to him about this, many hides that are dropped off are left with a large amount of flesh, sometimes heads are left on the hides, sometimes they are left on a very hot day, or late at night, sometimes these hides are already rotting and there are very bad smells to his store as well as neighboring stores.

Who do we think look after these hides once we do drop them off?? Well it's Ted or his staff.

This program is not for the benefit of Ted or his store, he does this for us. Let's have a little consideration to him, his store and his employees..

I don't have a solution to this problem but I do know Ted is not a happy camper.

I also feel he is not willing to continue with this program, which I am sure neither would you or I under those circumstances.

If you have any suggestions please contact me I would be more than willing to look at any and all other alternatives.

Antler measuring day will be held Saturday, January 17, 2009 and remember your heads must be clean; they will not be accepted otherwise. To be eligible for all hunting trophies you must have purchased your 2008 membership prior to this years hunting season.

To be eligible for the junior trophies you must have purchased your 2008 membership prior to your 18th birthday. If you are not clear on this, contact me at 403-315-5887.

I have tickets available for the 2009 Dream Hunt, 6 Day NWT Central Barren Ground Caribou Hunt for Two. If you would like one again please contact me at the number above.

On a final note if you attended the past few years banquet we have put up a power point presentation of pictures on activities, hunts, camping trips, fishing trips that a number of our members send me, If you have any pictures you would like to have on this power point please send them to my email address brianad@shaw.ca

Have a safe and happy final couple of weeks hunting and hope to see you at our up and coming general meetings. Don't forget to come out to the year end Social which will be held on December 15.

Brian Dingreville
President & Big Game Chair
Lethbridge Fish & Game
403-315-5887
brianad@shaw.ca



2008 was a great year at the LFGA Range and 2009 looks very promising. Please remember to renew your

LFGA membership early so that your gate key will continue to work. The price is the same whether you purchase your membership on January 2 or November 30 so why not buy it earlier? Even with a price increase for 2009, membership is still the best value on the planet. Questions or comments... call me at 320-5860, 382-3593 or alfriesen@gmail.com



Mark your calendars for our upcoming Annual Banquet and Trophy Night – to be held at the El Rancho Convention Centre on Saturday, February 7, 2009. Please note the change of venue – but our caterer remains the same - LA Chefs.

In an effort to encourage our youth to become active in the organization, we are again offering reduced prices for young people under 18 accompanied by an adult. We will be continuing with the kid-friendly entertainment and prizes. So plan on bringing the entire family.

Tickets go on sale at the General Meeting and Wrap-Up Party on December 15, 2008 and would make a great stocking stuffer for the hard-to-buy-for person on your list.

Tickets will also be available at Marksman Guns & Sports, Wholesale Sports and from the Banquet Committee.

Audrey Blaylock, 328-8252
Evelyn Leffingwell, 327-1027
Phyllis Mantler, 328-4657

Attention Hunters!

REGARDING HIDE DROP-OFF

Hides must be clean before dropping off at Marksman's Sports

i.e.

**NO HEADS! NO LEGS!
NO EXTRA FLESH!**

You will NOT be ENTERED in the DRAW if you do not comply.



LETHBRIDGE FISH & GAME ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE 2009

EXECUTIVE:

PRESIDENT: Brian Dingreville	brianad@shaw.ca	315-5887
VICE PRESIDENT: Walter Gripping	grip@telusplanet.net	
PAST PRESIDENT: Jack Stewart	jack.stewart@gov.ab.ca	327-1328
SECRETARY: David M. Green (temporary)	david.green25@gmail.com	388-2635
TREASURER: Rick Blakeley	rick.blakeley@shaw.ca	308-3541

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

Third Year: Wayne Heighington	eheighington@yahoo.com	329-6951
Second Year: John Blaylock	blaylock@telusplanet.net	328-8252

First Year: Ken Peterson

COMMITTEES:

BIG GAME: Brian Dingreville	brianad@shaw.ca	315-5887
BIRD GAME: Vacant		
CASINO: Allan Friesen	alfriesen@gmail.com	
ENVIRONMENT: Ian Gazely	ian.gazely@lethbridgecollege.ab.ca	
FISH: Stephen Prokop		327-8375
HABITAT: Heinz Plontke	information@lfga.org	

HALL MANAGER: Vacant

JR. FOREST WARDENS: Susan Morrison		329-8173
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MEMBERSHIP: Sandra Lund	sdlund@shaw.ca	
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NEWSLETTER: John & Audrey Blaylock	blaylock@telusplanet.net	328-8252
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OUTDOOR EDUCATION: Elfrieda Heighington	eheighington@yahoo.com	329-6951
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PHOTOGRAPHY: John Blaylock	blaylock@telusplanet.net	328-8252
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POLITICAL ACTION: Glen Michelson	information@lfga.org	327-6892
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PUBLICITY: Kristina VanderMolen	communication@lfga.org	
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RANGE: Allan Friesen	alfriesen@gmail.com	320-5860
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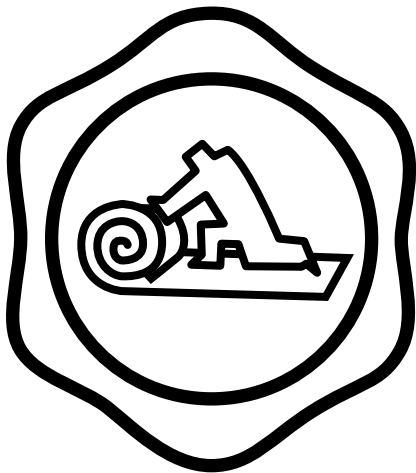
Kevin Bland	kevbla@shaw.ca	381-6052
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BANQUET: Audrey Blaylock, Evelyn Leffingwell, Phyllis Mantler



Mark Your Calendar

- Thursday, Dec. 11 Executive Meeting
- Monday, Dec. 15 Gen. Meeting & Social
- December 22 - 24 Casino
- Saturday, January 3 Photo Deadline
- Thursday, Jan. 15 Executive Meeting
- Saturday, Jan. 17 Horn Measuring Day
- Monday, Jan. 19 General Meeting
- Saturday, February 7 Awards Banquet
- Thursday, Feb. 12 Executive Meeting
- Monday, Feb. 16 General Meeting
- Thursday, Mar. 12 Executive Meeting
- Monday, Mar. 16 General Meeting



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