

## ODFGA Presidents Report to 2022 Annual General Meeting

The Okotoks and District Fish and Game Association had a successful year in 2021. Although the ongoing pandemic did put a damper on some of our planned activities, we held a few activities and increased our membership, which is great news all around.

We had delegates at the Alberta Fish and Game Association Annual General Meeting in April. Covid restrictions required this meeting to be held virtually for the first time. Other than a very reduced agenda, the meeting went quite well. Our club donated \$250 to the Parade of Donations, to be used by the AFGA in whatever program areas they felt needed.

Because of social gathering limits, we held our Annual General Meeting virtually in April. The existing Executive were all acclaimed for another year. Required business was taken care of, and some good ideas were raised for consideration.

We held a membership drive and contest from May 1 to June 13. The names of all new members, as well as the name of the person who sold the new membership, were placed in a draw. The draw prize was a pair of binoculars. The membership drive resulted in 51 new members, so was a big success. Our overall membership saw a huge jump in 2021. Our final membership in 2021 was approximately 125 members. I want to thank all those people who joined us or renewed their memberships in 2021. We are a large club, and more people means more opportunity for activities and programs.

We had proposed a 'hike and fish' day for members to Odlum Ponds for sometime during the summer. However, the summer was so hot we decided to cancel this. The 11 km hike would have been difficult with the heat, and we didn't want to put the strain on the trout by fishing during such hot weather and low water levels.

We voted at the last AGM to set aside some funds to help members attend the AFGA Pronghorn Corridor Enhancement program. As you know, the AFGA works with farmers and ranchers in southeast Alberta to remove the bottom barbed strand of wire on fencing and replace it with smooth wire so that antelope can pass under the fences without being harmed by the barbs. Close to 1000 km of fence has been modified through this program, providing great relief to antelope. One of our members did attend the project, and we reimbursed some of his costs.

Our member Meet and Greet in August at the Beach House was well attended. 30+ members enjoyed a barbecue while we met each other and talked about our various interests. Thank you to the many people who donated items for the door prizes. Some great ideas for future club events were suggested. This was a nice family event.

Club members and guests participated in a fun shotgun trap shoot at the Alberta Hunter Education Instructor Association range near DeWinton in September. The shoot was a

lot of fun, and a barbecue was held after. Thank you to Joe Baranyay for setting this up and making all the arrangements.

We held our December meeting at the Beach House. The meeting included some social time and a little regular business, followed by a very interesting presentation on Optics. Club member Jaren Baranyay shared his knowledge of how rifle scopes work, the wide variety of scopes available, and answered lots of questions. We all enjoyed his PowerPoint presentation and the samples he brought for us to look at. Thank you to Jaren for stepping up.

I want to thank the rest of the executive for their support, and all the members who helped out in so many ways.

I have a message for all members: This is your club. The programs we undertake depend on you. If you have an idea for a meeting, a presentation, a group activity or something you are interested in, let us know and we'll try to set it up. If you have an area of expertise that would be of interest to others, let us know and we'll arrange for you to share your knowledge with others.

Thank you for a successful 2021.

Matt Zazula,

President