

Okotoks & District  
Fish & Game  
Association



ODFGA  
Newsletter

January  
2016

MAJOR CLUB YEARLY EVENTS

**Horn Scoring Night**

Friday February 26<sup>th</sup> – 5:30 to 9:00pm

Crystal Shores Beach House

**Sausage Making**

Date TBD? 7:00am

Siegfried Honseks Residence

**Okotoks Parade of Garage Sales**

May 21<sup>st</sup> – 9:00am?

??? Residence

**Annual Fishing Trip**

Date TBD?

Location TBD?

**Summer BBQ**

Saturday August 6<sup>th</sup> - 2:00 pm

Siegfried Honseks Residence

**Christmas Social**

Friday December 9<sup>th</sup> - 5:00 pm

Crystal Shores Beach House

2016 MEETING SCHEDULE

Frank Bertel's House  
49 Downey Rd. Okotoks  
7:00pm

January 19<sup>th</sup>  
February 16<sup>th</sup>  
March 15<sup>th</sup>  
April 19<sup>th</sup>  
May 17<sup>th</sup>  
June 21<sup>st</sup>  
July 19<sup>th</sup>  
September 20<sup>th</sup>  
October 18<sup>th</sup>

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# Recent Success

Fishing / Hunting / Photography

## FISHING

CHAIN – 13' of water, maggots, corn, white or pink power bait trout nugguts on small jigs, fish suspended at 8' from ice, ice 14" thick

TWIN VALLEY –

CLEAR –

TRAVERS –

McGREGOR –

BADGER –

NEWELL –

KANANASKIS –

SPRAY –

SHEEP –

BOW –

HIGHWOOD -

OTHERS -

## HUNTING

WHITE TAIL DEER –

MULE DEER –

ELK – Siegfried & Dustin both got cow elk in 212 January primitive weapons season

MOOSE -

WATERFOWL –

UPLAND –

PREDETORS –

VARMITS –

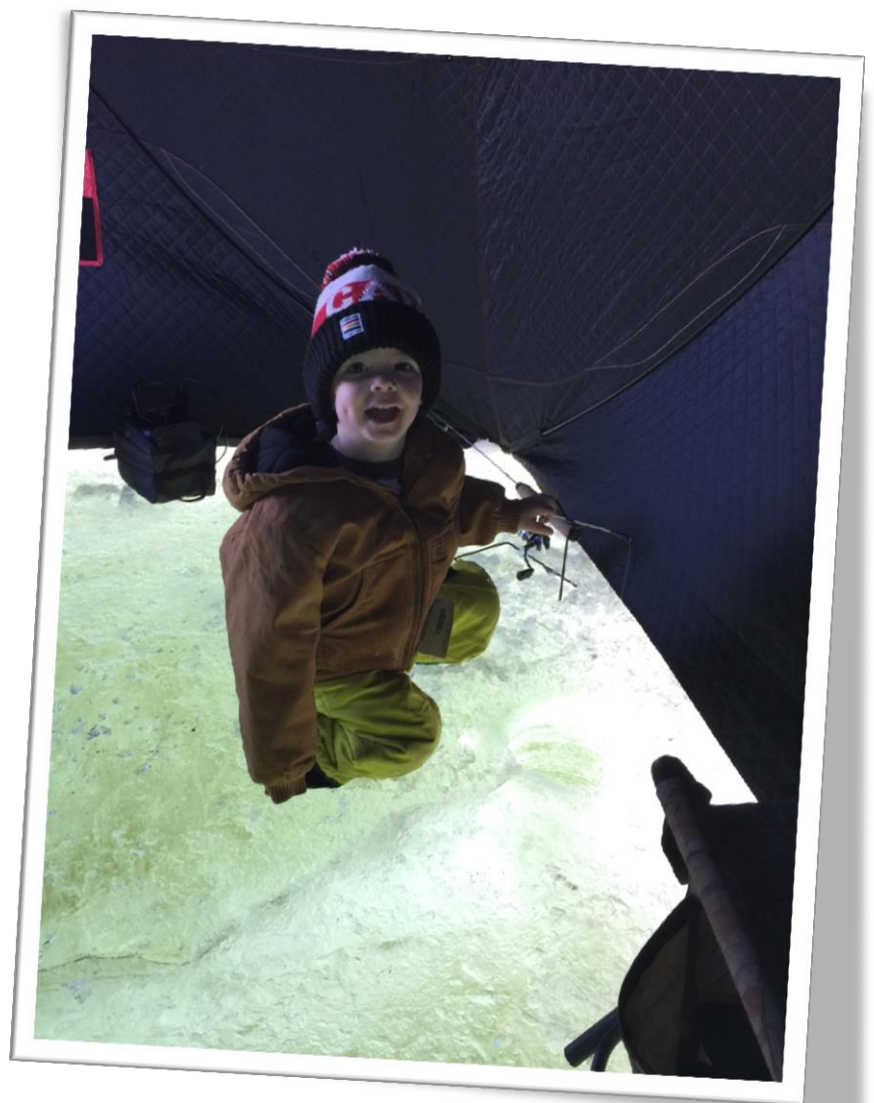
EXOTIC –

## PHOTOGRAPHY

Lots of ducks East of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Street bridge in Okotoks on the Sheep River

## Have a Photo/ Success To Submit

Send your photo, description & caption to:  
d.d.outward.bound@gmail.com



West Moore  
Chain Lakes Ice Fishing

# ZONE 2 MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

by MARK ANDERSON – Sunday January 24<sup>th</sup> / 2016

- The 2016 AFGA Annual Conference is being held from February 18 to 20, 2016 in Edmonton (info package attached). The cost is \$400 per person, plus hotel and meal costs. Are we sending anyone?
  - There are a number of Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) grants and AFGA Minister Special License grants available to provide funding to fish and game clubs for community or habitat projects. Last year some of these grants were not issued because no one applied.
  - Lots of discussion around the Suffield elk hunts and some statistics on Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). Not much to report.
  - Reminder that some Alberta counties will donate trees and shrubs for habitat projects.
  - Reminder to get the appropriate liquor license for events depending if it's open to the public or members & invited guests only.
  - The AFGA Wildlife Banquet is on 2016-04-23 in Edmonton.
  - Cabela's can provide grants to fish and game clubs or provide space at the store for events/meetings. They'd prefer win-win's, where we get free space and they get more traffic in the store or visibility at an event. Cabela's invited any club to have a table/booth at the Cabela's spring or fall "Great Outdoors Days". Their marketing contact is [Sean.Smallwood@cabela.ca](mailto:Sean.Smallwood@cabela.ca)
  - Suggestion from another club to obtain a fishing derby permit (Competitive Fishing Event) for future OFGA fishing events to minimize issues with Fish and Wildlife enforcement.
  - Early indications are that 2016 Pike and Walleye limits will be reduced to zero on the following southern lakes: Crawling Valley, Badger, Little Bow Reservoir.
  - The next AFGA Zone 2 meeting will be held at the Strathmore Wheatland clubhouse on 2016-05-01.
- ## Action Items
- Any resolutions (such as youth fishing clarification) that we want raised with the AFGA must be drafted and passed by our local club, submitted to the Zone 2 director, and then it will be raised to the AFGA Executive. We've missed the 2016 deadline but can submit a resolution for the 2017 conference.
  - Deb Clarke, the Zone 2 director, wants a list of the OFGA 2016 events and dates.
  - The AFGA is looking for community involvement stories from our clubs to provide content for the Outdoor Canada West magazine. The theme is "Bringing the outdoors and community together." Send stories to Deb Clarke.
  - The AFGA is looking for silent auction item donations for the 2016 AFGA conference in Edmonton.

# ODFGA JANUARY AGM MINUTES

by MATT ZAZULA

Meeting held at the Bertels residence.

Meeting called to order by President Patrick McKnight at 7:10 p.m.

In attendance were Frank Bertels, Mark Anderson, Dan Robley, Matt Zazula, Glen Sproat, Rui Teixeira, Dan Bertels, Dustin Moore, Darcy Russell, Siegfried Honsek, Patrick McKnight, Horst Rolhsberger, Horst Haage.

**Presidents Report** was presented. Moved by Siegfried that we accept the Presidents Report as presented. Seconded by Glen. Carried.

**Vice-presidents** report was presented. Moved by Patrick that we accept the Vice-presidents report as presented. Seconded by Siegfried. Carried.

**Treasurer's Report** was presented. Moved by Matt that we accept the Treasurers Report as presented. Seconded by Glen. Carried.

**Election of Officers** was held. Results of the election were:

President – Patrick McKnight

Vice-President – Mark Anderson

Secretary – Dustin Moore

Treasurer – Siegfried Honsek

Patrick thanked everyone who let their names stand for the various elected positions, and especially those new to the board.

## Year Ahead Activities:

-Barbeque – tentatively scheduled for Saturday August 6 at 2:00 p.m. Set-up will begin at 1:00 p.m. Will be held again at Honseks.

-Big Game Scoring will be held either Feb 19, Feb 20, Feb 26 or Feb 27. Matt volunteered to contact various certified scorers to see if they can help, and then organize the Crystal Shores Beach House as a location to hold it.

-Sausage making – still to be determined

-Fishing Trip? Various options were discussed, including Minnewanka, Pigeon Lake again, Travers / Little Bow, Buck Lake. No decisions were made. We may prefer to hold a trip more local this year. We'll do a little more research on what lakes might be good, and make a decision later. Patrick is off Mondays and Tuesdays, for people who might want to get together with him for a day trip.

-Christmas Social – Is always a good time. Matt will look into booking the Beach House for the second Friday in December, if available.

-Event ideas for meetings / otherwise included survival techniques, fire starting / bush craft.

## Follow Up items from last year:

-Garage sale. We didn't hold one last year, but it was felt we should do so again this year. It will be held the long weekend in May which is Okotoks Garage Sale weekend. More to come.

-Club logo has been finalized, so we can move forward with shirts, hats and promotional items.

-The club email address hasn't been used in some time.

-Should we look at a club website? Mark offered to do some ground work and see what the costs might be and what it takes to set one up. General feeling was it would be good exposure for us.

The AGM is the time to consider fees for the coming year. Decision was to leave them as is for now.

The AGM is the time to consider amendments to the Bylaws. No motions have come forward, so it was decided they are fine the way they are.

Matt is looking after membership sign-up and renewals.

The Zone 2 meeting will be held Sunday January 24. We can send 2 voting members to represent our club. Anyone wanting to go can contact Matt for details.

The Free Family Fishing Weekend is Family Day weekend Feb 13-15. If anyone wants to try to coordinate a club trip, contact Patrick.

Motion to adjourn by Siegfried. Seconded by Mark. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Next meeting Tuesday February 16 at the Bertels, starting at 7:00 p.m.

## ODFGA ACTIONS ITEMS

### Volunteers Required

Horn Scoring Night – Provide supper, stand for mounts, scorers assistant,

BBQ Setup –

Garage sale -

### Club Website / Facebook Page

Mark Anderson is investigating

Do we want to start a Facebook page?

## NEWS RELEASES

### Southern Alberta Ice Conditions

●●○○ TELUS LTE 7:41 PM 22%

< Ice Advisories

My Wild Alberta.com Information for anglers, hunters & trappers

About MWA  
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Sitemap

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Environment and Parks > My Wild Alberta > Fishing > Safety & Procedures > Ice Safety Tips > Ice Advisories

Family Fishing Weekends  
Game Fish  
Regulations  
Safety & Procedures  
Aquatic Invasive Species  
Blue-green Algae  
Fish Consumption Advisory  
Fish Handling Techniques  
Ice Safety Tips  
Ice Advisories  
Ice Safety On Stocked Waterbodies  
Sport Fishing Survey  
Stocking Reports  
Summer & Winter Kill  
Walleye Draws  
Waterbody Closures  
Websites We Like

**Ice Advisories**  
**Fishing**

Due to recent unusually warm weather conditions in Alberta, an ice condition advisory has been issued for various areas across the province – please use caution.

A current advisory has been issued for:

- Beauvais Lake Provincial Park
- Beaver Mines Lake Provincial Recreation Area
- Chain Lakes Provincial Park
- Chinook Provincial Recreation Area
- Island Lake Provincial Recreation Area
- Jenson Reservoir Provincial Recreation Area
- Lake McGregor Provincial Recreation Area
- Little Bow Provincial Park
- Little Bow Reservoir Provincial Recreation Area
- Oldman Dam Provincial Recreation Area
- Park Lake Provincial Park
- Police Outpost Provincial Park
- Payne Lake Provincial Recreation Area
- St. Mary's Reservoir Provincial Recreation Area
- Traverse Reservoir
- Waterton Reservoir Provincial Recreation Area
- Wyndham Carseland Provincial Park

# Outdoors Topic

by Dustin Moore

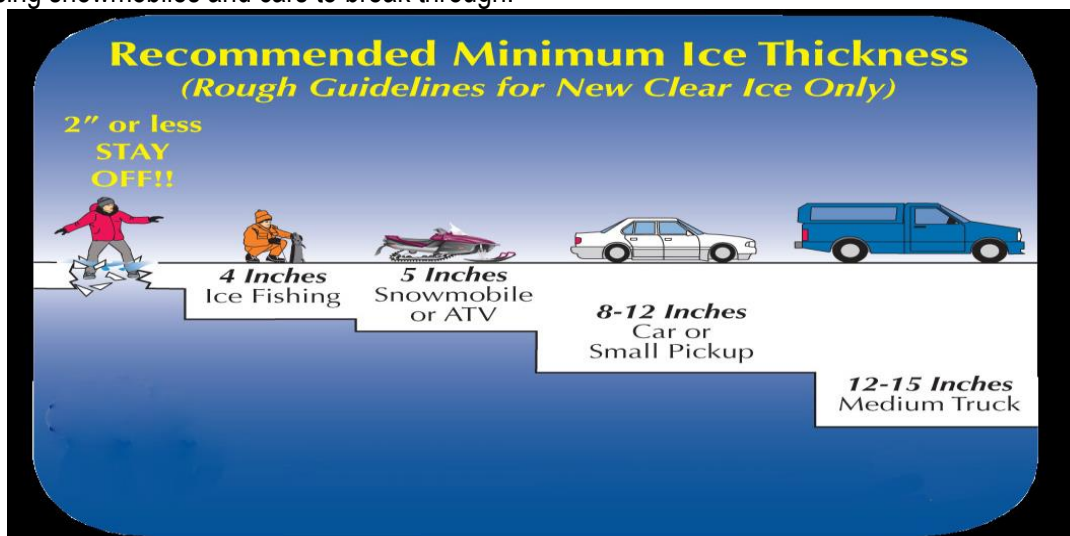
## Ice Fishing Safety

As a person who works as an industrial safety consultant and also as someone who enjoys ice fishing, I am always quite cautious of traveling on ice. I am would suggest that I am not paranoid, but perhaps as someone who has a healthy respect of the dangers that are present. Over the years, I have often cringed at the sight of people on ice pushing the limits of safe travel. Do not be one of those people, and learn to respect the hazard that lurks below.

In the middle of winter, you will see lots of vehicles on the ice, which could be safe with the proper ice thickness. But it is important to remember that ice thickness can change from spot to spot on a lake.

### Here are some cold hard facts about ice:

- New ice is usually stronger than old ice. Four inches of clear, newly-formed ice may support one person on foot, while a foot or more of old, partially-thawed ice may not.
- Ice seldom freezes uniformly. It may be a foot thick in one location and only an inch or two just a few feet away.
- Ice formed over flowing water and currents is often dangerous. This is especially true near streams, bridges and culverts. Also, the ice on the outside corner of a river bend is usually weaker due to the undermining effects of the faster current.
- The insulating effect of snow slows down the freezing process. The extra weight also reduces how much weight the ice sheet can support. Also, ice near shore can be weaker than ice that is farther out.
- Booming and cracking ice isn't necessarily dangerous. It only means that the ice is expanding and contracting as the temperature changes.
- Schools of fish or flocks of waterfowl can also adversely affect the relative safety of ice. The movement of fish can bring warm water up from the bottom of the lake. In the past, this has opened holes in the ice causing snowmobiles and cars to break through.



# ODFGA Executive Committee Members

## **PRESIDENT**

Patrick McKnight

[Patrick.mcknight@telus.net](mailto:Patrick.mcknight@telus.net)

## **VICE PRESIDENT**

Mark Anderson

[mark.t.anderson@hotmail.com](mailto:mark.t.anderson@hotmail.com)

## **TREASURER**

Siegfried Honsek

[honseks@platinum.ca](mailto:honseks@platinum.ca)

## **SECRETARY / NEWSLETTER**

Dustin Moore

[d.d.outward.bound@gmail.com](mailto:d.d.outward.bound@gmail.com)

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Matt Zazula

[dobra1@telus.net](mailto:dobra1@telus.net)

## **HUNTING / FISHING CHAIR**

Vacant

@

## Okotoks & District Fish & Game Association

