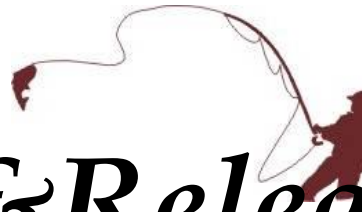


Sunnybrook Catch & Release



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The Monthly Newsletter of Sunnybrook Trout Club – February 2024

Wild Game Dinner Coming March 16th

FROM MY DESK – It's been quite a mild winter with above average temperatures and very little snow. No complaints here. Spring is still 6-8 weeks away but subtle hints of it's arrival are noticeable. The days are definitely getting longer with earlier sunrises and later sunsets. Before you know it another season at Sunnybrook will begin.

Mark the date March 16 on your calendar and we will call that the official unofficial beginning of spring. That will be the date we will host our Wild Game Dinner, Stream Stocking Raffle and Chinese Auction. This fun filled evening will be a great kick off for the new season. Newer members may not be aware of what the evening entails, so here is a breakdown.

Activity #1 - Chinese Auction & Happy Hour begins at 5:30 with complimentary appetizers, soft drinks and beer. During this social hour, guests will be able to enter a Chinese Auction for valuable prizes that have been donated to the club. Each guest attending the dinner will be given 3 tickets to enter the drawings for these prizes. Additional tickets will be available for purchase that night for those that would like to increase their chances of winning.

Can you help? I am soliciting donations of items to be placed in the auction. Items should be new or like new and do not need to be fishing related. Many women attend the dinner and an eclectic mix of prizes is well received.

Activity #2 - The Wild Game Dinner is served at approximately 6:30 - 6:45. Dan & Heidi will showcase their culinary skills preparing unique dishes from game harvested by our members or purchased by the club. A tentative menu of the following is planned. Alaskan Black Bear Stew, Ohio Venison Goulash, Farm Raised Pheasant Crescent Pockets, Lake Erie Walleye Gumbo, Alaskan Moose Meatloaf and Shredded BBQ Wild Boar Roast.

While the meal is truly wild game, it is not just a meal for the men. Some of the entrees border on fine dining and are well suited for even the pickiest of diners. We are able to seat 100 diners and many of those seats have already been reserved. Don't delay or you may get shut out.

Activity #3 = The Stream Stocking Raffle follows the

dinner and is the high point of the evening. We expect to give away \$9000.00 in cash prizes to 5 lucky winners. The raffle is an important source of income to fund our stocking program for 2024. One half of the money collected from ticket sales goes towards purchasing fish and the other half is given back to members as prizes.

Important note: Winners do not need to be present. Even if you are unable to attend you can still be a winner. Please support our effort and purchase your ticket(s). Also note that raffle tickets will **not** be on sale at the club that evening. All raffle tickets sold must be pre purchased.

This event is extremely popular and an important fundraiser that helps fill the coffers of our fish stocking budget. Our annual stocking budget of \$50,000.00 is one of the greatest individual expenses the club experiences. The funds raised with the raffle are necessary to maintain this budget. Your purchase of a raffle ticket(s) guarantees great fishing at Sunnybrook throughout all of 2024.

Cost to attend the evening is \$50.00 per person and includes the appetizers, open bar, three tickets to participate in the Chinese auction, the dinner and door prizes given away at the end of the evening. This cost does not include a raffle ticket. They also are \$50.00 and must be purchased separately.

UPDATED NUMBERS – The raffle jackpot currently stands at \$6625.00 and grows with each additional ticket purchased. Eighty eight dinner reservations have been taken and only 12 seats remain available. If you are uncertain whether or not you have reserved, check with me and I can confirm.

FROM THE KITCHEN – The kitchen remains closed for lunch and will re-open after the Wild Game Dinner. The club itself will remain open for fishing and the lodge will be accessible for restrooms or snacks from the bar. Members are welcome to pack their own lunches during this time.

REDUCED WINTER GUEST RATE – During February and through March 16, there will be a reduced guest fee of \$35.00. Fishing during the winter months can be very productive. Pick a day when temperatures are in the upper 20's or warmer with some sunshine and focus on the midday hours.