



The Genesee County Fish & Game Protective Association (Godfrey's Pond) consists of 235 acres of land and 35 acres of stream and spring-fed waters. There are numerous rolling hills, hiking trails, woodlands and open meadows providing excellent recreation and wildlife habitat.

Tent and trailer camping are available with a new swimming pool opening this season! We offer several picnic pavilions for your family to enjoy.

Come see what we are all about!

7935 Bigelow Drive, Bergen, NY 14416
585-815-1545
www.godfreyspond.com

At A Glance

Newsletter Highlights

- **Message From President Rickard** | page 2
- **Committee Messages** | page 3-5
- **Tent & Trailer Camping** | page 6
- **Calendar of Events** | page 7
- **Project Updates** | page 8

Godfrey's Pond

ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 217 | Batavia, NY 14020-0217 |
585.815.1545 | www.godfreyspond.com



Spring—March 2019

“

The best kept secret in Genesee County”. A family-friendly organization with a dedication to the great outdoors.

”

A Message From Michael Rickard, President



Dear fellow members of our Club, Genesee County Fish and Game Protective Association, Inc. (In short, Godfrey's Pond):

Well, it is a new year and I as your President would like to welcome you back! Things are happening at our Club and things are GROWING! I do mean that! Many changes and improvement are in the works. I have asked each Chairperson to write a brief article about their area of responsibility to better keep you informed.

First of all, we have been constructing our new Pool House! This house will contain an Office for Pond business, and a new store. There are changing rooms for ladies and men, a family-handicap changing room and lavatory, coin-operated showers for the campers and a new laundry facility as well.

Now what's next? As soon as the weather breaks, our pool will be dug and built 24' x 48' with a pool deck for the sunbathers to get some rays and seating with pool chairs! We are hoping to be wet on schedule in May. Much of the Pool House has been built with the dedication of a few volunteers that make this Club work. Actually, there are too many to mention at this point. We still need your help so please do lend us a hand.

The Fish and Fowl Project has undergone a rejuvenating of sorts! The Water Fowl area has completely been reworked with a new water-fowl water area for the birds and the fence enclosure has been built.

Campground "B" is undergoing updates and improvements, with increased lot sizes, additional sites, and a few drive-through sites for the weekender. Something new is also being added – a cabin from our property that will be rentable for a week or weekend! The Association has purchased a cabin which will be moved and set-up soon. No start date has been set yet. For more information – stay tuned! The Rifle and Pistol Range is also undergoing improvements.

Looking forward to seeing you here! It's our Club – let's all work together!

President Michael Rickard

Michael Rickard | 716-983-0354 | mikebknyv@yahoo.com

Special Note: Don't forget to "Like" our Facebook page and view our website (www.godfreyspond.com) to keep updated on news and events happening throughout the year.



A Message From Michael Hammon, Director—Grounds



In 2018, we took a little different approach to grounds operations. Instead of hiring a Caretaker and Pond Boys, I agreed to handle the caretakers responsibilities, as the Grounds Chairman. The Executive Board allowed me to occupy the Caretakers house and for that I'm grateful. I essentially volunteered to do the work and oversee that summer staff.

We did have one grounds employee, John Douvlos, who worked his butt off in his final year at the pond. He even came to enjoy honey wagon duty, maybe! John has since taken employment as a contractor for N-Grid's tree removal operation. Many thanks to John for all his efforts.

So how did we accomplish all the tasks and projects last year? With volunteers, the backbone of our organization. Several members stepped up and helped us to keep the property looking good, the wood racks full and even helped during the site development phase of the pool project. My brother, Matt Hammon, acted as mechanic and welder. He rebuilt the blue tractor hood and replaced the broken valve cover. Took my pencil drawing and build the box sifter that we have used to sift topsoil, concrete slag for the site projects. If equipment broke or needed work, Matt fixed it.

Three other members stepped up and volunteered to mow the lawns, so John and I were free for other tasks. Each had specific areas to mow and they shared a schedule to use the good mower. David Mullen, a resident; David Haffly, another resident; and Doug Landry, our neighbor to the east, all worked to keep the property looking good. Many thanks for all your help.

There were other helpers too, and you know who you are, and I thank you for all the help. The money we saved on staff, was used to bankroll the early stages of the pool project. And those efforts will be in a future report on the pool project.

So what's new for 2019? The Association would like to hire a new full time Physical Facilities Manager. So far, our search netted a great candidate, but we were trumped by his current employer, who offered a raise and benefits for him to stay. The search continues..

With the season starting in less than 6 weeks, we need to move forward. I have agreed to continue to oversee operations in addition to my role as Grounds Chairman. I will continue to live in the house and answer the phone. We will be hiring one lawn Maintenance position (Pond Boy\Girl) and a seasonal general maintenance position. These are immediate openings and will be filled as soon as possible. Pond Boy/Girl starts at \$13.00/ hour and the Maintenance Guy/Gal starts at \$17.00/hour. Don't wait, call today for an application and maybe an interview. We will also need store clerks and lifeguards, but that's next month.

And finally, there are lots of tasks at hand and a very limited staff. We can always use volunteers to help out. Please consider introducing yourself and offering to help. I know for sure that we are behind in processing firewood for the coming camping season. If you would like to cut up logs or split and stack the blocks, please let one of us know. I hope to see you all on the property this summer, enjoying your time at the Pond.

Michael Hammon | 315-406-8937 | safekid202@yahoo.com

A Message From Craig Gillard, Director—Rifle Range

This year has been a good year for improvements at the range.

First, there was a problem with the old flag pole which has been replaced with a larger pole and has also seen the placement of the Don Johnson memorial to a nice, safer location. This placement has also facilitated the installation of a stone walkway to the rear of the shooting line. The shooting line has been painted a solid red to increase safety at the range. Along with this improvement came target standards that can be placed at any range so that shooters remain behind the red safety line.

Next up we saw the replacement of the red posts at all three range distances along with the new rebar for hanging the target boards. A new locked brass collection box has been installed so that all fired brass can be recovered and either resold as reloadable or as scrap. This has resulted in hundreds of dollars added back into the pond coffers.

Stay tuned as there are big plans for the range this year. As things progress, they will be posted on the website. Thanks to all for their continued support of the range and the second amendment.

Craig Gillard | 585-250-2894 | cgillard@rochester.rr.com

A Message From Richard Richmond, Director - Bylaws & Constitution

To my fellow Members: I recently took over from John Roach. I'm presently reviewing his well thought out pages of notes and suggestions for future updates and changes. John has been very helpful during this transition.

One important change: "All Board Members shall, by mandate, turn over all keys, records, paper, electronic or otherwise no later than one business week after the said election."

I will be bringing the suggested changes before the Membership at my completion for their vote and approval.

Richard Richmond | 585-356-8073 | richardrichmond.batavia@gmail.com

A Message From Greg Teeter, 1st Vice President—Archery

The 3-D bow course in the woods saw many improvements in 2018. All of the target mounts were custom built and replaced with tube steel and the bags are hung off of chains keeping them off the ground to prolong bag life and greatly improve appearance.

A special thanks to Buster for help building and installing in the woods. The new targets should last for several years and take many shots. If you enjoy bow hunting, I encourage you to give it a try.

Greg Teeter | 585-746-4082 | gteet.4082@yahoo.com

A Message From Donna Bobzin, Dana Phillips, Director—Playground/Misc.

Hello, my name is Donna Bobzin and I'm your new Chairperson for the Playground Committee. There will be two of us - Dana Phillips will be helping me and is in charge of taking care and maintenance of playgrounds. I will be heading up kids activities and fundraising with some help from my friends.

The Playground Committee is very excited for this year's camping season. We have already started with a Bike Raffle. \$5.00 ticket winner receive a \$400 value bike from Adam Millers in Batavia. The drawing will be held on June 1, 2019 along with a bike safety course that day.

An assortment of t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, zip-ups and tote bags have been ordered and will be ready for sale at the opening of camping season. A list of activities scheduled for this camping season are:

Date	Event	Time
Sunday, April 7	Easter Egg Hunt	1:00 p.m.
May (Date to be determined)	Tie-Dye T-shirts (bring your own shirt)	
Saturday, June 1	Bike Safety Course and Bike Raffle	
Saturday, July 6	4th of July Kids Games, activities, popcorn & fireworks	Dusk
August (Date to be determined)	Candy Bar Bingo	
Saturday, October 5	Halloween Party for Kids	1:00 p.m.
December (Date to be determined)	Breakfast with Santa	

If anyone is interested in donating a bag of candy for the Easter Egg Hunt, you can call me or you can drop it off to Mike Hammon. We are very excited for this season to start – we'll see you all soon!

Donna Bobzin | 585-750-3327 | donnab246@gmail.com



Tent and Trailer Camping

We welcome existing and new campers to Godfrey’s Pond camping facilities! We offer sites with electric and water hookups all in proximity to restrooms and shower facilities. Coming soon in the new Pool House will be a laundry facility as well as a main store, and additional restrooms and shower facilities! A “honey wagon” tank portable pumping service is available to trailer campers for a reasonable fee. Please see the website for more information or call 585-815-1545. We look forward to having you this camping season!

MEMBER Camping Rates	Tenting	Trailers	Trailers with Air Conditioning	2nd Refrigerators
Seasonal Fees	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 100.00
Monthly Fees	\$ 200.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 340.00	\$ 20.00
Weekly Fees	\$ 55.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 7.00
Daily Fees	\$ 9.00	\$ 13.00	\$ 16.00	\$ 1.00
Number of Sites	26	28	36	
Winter Storage (with Insurance) - Storage is available, price to be determined.				
- Only members can rent a campsite. Guests can stay on sites with the members so long as guest fees are collected. Guest Fees are \$3.00 for adults and \$1.50 for kids and seniors.				
	One Pump	Two Trips		
Honey Wagon	\$ 7.00	\$ 12.00		

- Any seasonal member that camped on a site for three (3) consecutive months of the 2018 season will be able to reserve that same site for the 2019 season. The fee for the entire season must be paid to the Caretaker in advance, by Monday, April 15, 2019.
- Tuesday, April 16 through Wednesday, May 1, 2019, other members may select an unreserved site for the season. The fee for the entire season must be paid to the Caretaker in advance by Wednesday, May 1, 2019.
- All paid members (as noted above) may come in and set-up on Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. (weather permitting).
- Beginning Saturday, May 18, 2019, Campers can sign-up by the day, week or month. Campers must check-in at the Pond Store which is open daily for regular business.

Communications



I’m thrilled to be able to offer my assistance in communication within Godfrey’s Pond and our outlying community. My experience in social media, website management and effective communication will allow me this opportunity to bring new ideas and efficiency to grow this Association. My husband and I have been members for approximately 10 years in Campground A. We look forward to another relaxing season in our beautiful surroundings!

Arline VanDeWater | 585-520-4624 | arlinevandewater@gmail.com

Dues Renewal and Volunteering

On the Dues Renewal slip is an option to give in any designated area (i.e. Capital Improvement Fund, Fish & Fowl Project, Pond Improvement Program or Inground Pool Program). Your 2019 Dues bill will be included with this newsletter mailing. The deadline for payment is Wednesday, May 15, 2019.

At the end of 2018, the memberships were over 1,400! Annual membership drives are conducted throughout the year with public Open Houses and Hunting & Fishing Day events. These events offer exhibits, food & drink, Pond merchandise and much more! Club members will be on site to answer questions and give tours of the grounds. We invite family and friends to experience Godfrey's Pond and take in the nature and beauty which surrounds us!

Do you have a particular trade or skill to share? We'd love to have you join us to work on any number of projects around the Pond. Even if you'd just like to lend a hand somewhere, we will not turn you away! Please reach out to Michael Hammon if you're interested.

Calendar of Events

Day/Date	Event	Time
Saturday, April 27, 2019	Camp Ground Clean-Up	10:00 a.m.
Sunday, April 28, 2019	Rain Date for Camp Ground Clean-Up	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, May 1, 2019	Camp Grounds Open for Seasonal Campers	8:00 a.m.
Saturday, May 18, 2019	Camp Grounds Open for Regular Season	9:00 a.m.
Sunday, May 26, 2019	Godfrey's Pond Open House	12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, June 16, 2019	Open House and Chicken BBQ	12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, July 6, 2019	4th of July Celebration!	Dusk
Sunday, August 4, 2019	Paul Wood Fishing Contest	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
September 21-22, 2019	Hunting and Fishing Days	10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. daily
Saturday, October 19, 2019	Camp Grounds Close for Season	
Saturday, November 16, 2019	Camper & Resident Thanksgiving Dinner	To be determined



In our continued efforts to update the existing database, we are looking for current contact information (address, cell #, email) so we may be able to electronically communicate to members and families.

Please submit your contact information to:

Dave Fitzsimmons at dfitzsimmons2003@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your attention to this matter!

Inground Pool Engraved Tile Campaign



As Godfrey's Pond continues to improve its facility, you can participate through giving and allowing our Club to add an in-ground pool for our members and visitors to enjoy for years to come.

Imagine having your name, the name of a loved one, your company, and/or organization engraved on a brick as a lasting symbol at Godfrey's Pond.

As the Club moves forward, be a part of the movement. A memorial brick makes a wonderful holiday, birthday or anniversary gift. As of 3/7/19, \$7,000 has been raised so far. Please visit the Clubhouse or our website to review the various options: www.godfreyspond.com.

Douglas Landry | 585-703-1212

Fish & Fowl Project



Robyn and Tim Sweeney, along with Matt Hammon, are the new Chairpersons for the Fish & Fowl Project. With our combined backgrounds in agriculture and love for animals, we are very excited to be a part of this project at Godfrey's Pond. Matt has been working very hard getting the pens looking great for Spring and caring for the birds for all of us to enjoy. Tom Boss will continue to be a part of the Fish & Fowl project and we appreciate his years of experience. Thanks Tom!

During 2018, major renovation work was done on the Duck Pen area. There was some preliminary landscaping, building of shelters in both the new pen and the older existing one, and released the birds into their new environment. The new pen is well designed, constructed of the best materials, vermin proof, and should last for many years to come. Thank you to all members who gave so much of their time and effort to this project. Come see this

renovated area that will prove to be a great addition to our conservation display!

Robyn & Tim Sweeney | 585-269-1055 | rlsmoo@hotmail.com

Pool and Pool House Project

The building shell has finally been completed by the contractor. Since January, we have been working on the inside of the building. Plumbing is all roughed in by John Pestillo and his son, John Jr. All of the walls have been framed in by the whole crew and are named in this report. Electrical has also been roughed in by Tim Sweeney, Mike Rickard, and Frank Capuano. All of the wall & ceiling insulation has been installed by Rick Heaton, Bob Schoenheit, and Larry Liles.

Larry has also offered to install the sheet rock and be the primary finisher. I'm sure that we could use some more sheetrock volunteers. As of today, two thirds of the sheetrock is up. Thanks to the usual crew, plus Steve Nicot and his son Daniel and Richard Richmond. Once the walls are finished there will be a couple of painting parties for additional helpers to get involved. Watch the website for details.

New power pole is complete by N-Grid. Now waiting for Spectrum to move their equipment. We have temporary power and expect the new service as soon as we can dig for underground line. That is on track, at this time. We are currently struggling with the costs the privacy walls for the bathroom, required fire alarm system, and other "commercial building" codes requirements. Craig Gillard has offered to build the privacy walls for the bathrooms. The materials will be less than half the cost of the commercial ones. Albion Pools is waiting for the weather to break to start digging for the pool. Joe estimates it will take 3 weeks for the install. Of course mother nature will have a significant say in the real time line.

We are currently operating within the approved project budget. We have several hidden costs that have been added to the original estimates. We have also had a couple of unexpected savings too. It will be close, but I'm confident that we can complete this project within total available funding. Our goal is to have the building open on May 1st for the start of seasonal camping. May 18th is the actual start of open camping and we expect to have all facilities functional by then. Finally, I need to thank Charlie Knapp, Craig Wilcox, and Doug Landry for their help and support too. Stay tuned for more updates on the website and Facebook.

Michael Hammon | 315-406-8937 | safekid202@yahoo.com