

Steenburg Lake

"SHORELINE NEWS"

AUGUST 1989 - Editor: Tom Hughes

Steenburg Lake Community Assoc.

Events

Rock Bass Derbies - Aug 4th & 5th and Sept. 2nd & 3rd Register by phone with John Savage, Mike Duggan or Wayne Hadley and call in your count. Prizes for 1st and 2nd. Honor system prevails.

Sailing Regattas: Sat. Aug 5th and Sat. Sept. 2nd. In front of Double De Marina. Windsurfers start exactly at 2:00PM. Participants will have to sign a waiver releasing Assoc. from liability. Trophies awarded on a point basis.

Past Events

Corey Ferguson was the only entry in the July Rock Bass Derby. Hats off to him for pulling out 37 Rock Bass.

A Tribute to a Long Time Friend of the lake

William Ronald Mathieson..... 1917 to 1988

When Dr. Will and Dr. Lily B. Mathieson brought their four-month old son "Ronnie" to Bass Lake the summer of 1917 and put him to sleep in a special hammock slung between two trees, they couldn't have known that invisible strands would reach down, take root, and draw him back to the same lovely spot at every opportunity the rest of his life. There was even the time in his youth when hitch-hiking rides were scarce and he had to walk the last 25 miles from Madoc! Later, in his business life as Manager of the Association of Municipal Electric Utilities (an organization of Utility executives throughout the province), Ron often amused his colleagues by using "St. Ola" on his name tag as his place of residence. He was only carrying on a family tradition that began in 1915 when his father and mother (a dentist and a medical practitioner respectively, in Toronto) became Bass Lake "campers" by buying the 3-room cottage on Hunter's Point.....at a time when the trip up took all day by train to St. Ola, then by Mr. Weller's horse-drawn wagon to the end of the lake, and the rest of the way in a loaded boat. Gramma, Mrs. Elizabeth Olive Boyington, had to hold the family fort when the professionals were at work.

In the 1930's when he was a teenager Ron made the first move on his own that set his Bass Lake course for the future. Using a windfall of \$100.00 (a fortune for a boy then) the gift of a family friend Will Wood, Ron paid all of ten dollars for a 2-storey house of 12" hand-hewn and hand-sawed logs, at "The Ridge". Having the carefully-numbered logs moved to the hill above the family cottage further depleted his funds. By the time he and "Bruce Fitzgibbon were ready to raise the new structure, rain washed away the numbers and rotting bottom logs reduced it to one storey. With only a sub-flooring, no cranking, and a cedar shake roof, Ron's bachelor retreat

Tribute continued...

sat out the war years as a storage shed while he served in the R.C.A.F.. A civilian once more, every cent was channeled into completing his 27' by 18' single room log home...much by his own hands but callin in the experts for such as fireplace. His marriage in 1951 to Mary Dampier of Toronto changed the bachelor status of the place but added new impetus. The new family moved in and a board-and-batten addition of bathroom, kitchen and bedroom was completed just in time to receive baby Will in 1961. A later addition of bedrooms and a screened back porch completed the master plan.

It was in the main cabin that the Bass Lake (now Steenburg Lake) Community Association was born at a meeting of the Founding Members the summer of 1954. Warren Lloyd was unanimously elected president by Ron, Keith Little and Val Carswell, who had all come to realize the need for a body to consult with the Limerick Township Council and other government agencies, for better roads, a proper dump (there was none), fish stocking etc....Family members of the "Oldtime Campers" served on the executive board for the first years until the new cottagers made a more balanced representation. Suring his term as President Ron was proud that he managed to negotiate a ban on development of the "Headland" property.

One of the immediate dividends of forming the B.L.C.A. was providing an annual occasion for cottagers to meet new and old friends, exchange gossip and enjoy the two-sitting supper provided by the St.Ola U.C.W. before the Annual Meeting. Those dinners were major accomplishments considering the lack of running water or a stove in the St. Ola Orange Hall where they were held. Simpler but happy days.

Ron Mathieson died at his home in Tornto on October 1st, 1988. One of his greatest delights iin his latter years was that son Will shared from the beginning his father's loveof "the Cottage", and chose in 1984 to marry a girl from Kingston, Heather McGlynn, who turned out to be as avid a frogger and fisherman as her husband. The perfect end to a Bass Lake evening for Ron was to share the excitment of measuring the evening's catch, hearing the argument about the one that got away, and admiring the ploate of fillets from Will's expert hands.

From the many expressions of affection received by the family, which includes his sister Violet, it seems safe to say that this Founding Member of the S.L.C.A. will be greatly missed by all those who have known him over the years.

Mary Mathieson

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A Tribute to Ronnie

I first met Ronnie over a piece of cake
That was the first time I came to Bass Lake
When we used to see him over there
He would always be sitting in a big yellow chair
Hw was always full of jokes and a smile
I could sit and listen for a long while
Many stories about Bass Lake he told
Some were new but most of thme old
He treated me to an ice cream cone every year
And that to me was something very dear
We have many fine memories of "Ronnie" in our hearts
For every summer at the lake he played an important part

Melissa Walsh

Annual Meeting Door Prizes

Mike and Marion Duggan cover the waterfront for the door prizes for the annual meeting and we would like to recognize those merchants that have so willingly donated.

Bancroft

Bancroft Sport and Marine	Mary Brown's Chicken
Bancroft Sport Centre	MOM's Restaurant
Canadian Tire	Pop Shoppe
Cashway Lumber	Stedman's
Dixie Lee Chicken	Whitfield's Plumbing
Eastons	Wilson's Lumber
L'Amble Lunch	Ye Olde Barne Restaurant
M & B Esso	I.G.A. Super Market

Gilmour

aver Creek Lumber	Stan's Service Centre
Lighthouse Restaurant	Trudy's Store
Sam's Restaurant	

Dock Side Cottage Numbers

For deliveries and visitors by boat, dock side cottage numbers would be a big help. This would be a good winter project for the artistic member of the family.

A Note Of Caution

We tend to get complacent about security around the lake as very little happens that we hear about. In early July around cottage #141 on two occasions, a prowler was seen. This was reported to the OPP, investigated and nothing found. Again later in July some children sleeping out in a tent observed a prowler with a flashlight. One cottager had his gate crashed. This also was reported to the OPP. The OPP is now making an occasional run down the lake roads. Please report any damage or strangers in the area to the OPP.

A Note Of Thanks

Ray Kaufmann, a lawyer from Belleville with a cottage on the lake very graciously prepared a "Release" for the Association to use for participants in water events. It was suggested that it would be wise for such a document to be used. In every case it will not protect you from liability but the courts look favorably on it when presented.

Septic System Certification

The Association has inquired of the Hastings County Health Bureau how to lobby for a change to the 1974 Environmental Protection Act. That act "grandfathered" all existing systems and some of those systems by now could be in very poor condition. We would like to see all septic systems certified at the time of sale or transfer. The Federation Of Ontario's Cottagers Associations estimates that 65% of the septic systems in the province are thought to be seriously sub-standard against current standards. F.O.C.A. petitioned the Ministry of Environment (MOE) to adopt a resolution requiring certification. This proposal was rejected by MOE. Their reasons run as follows:

- Too difficult to estimate septic tank capacity required at the time of sale. (This can be done on the basis of number of bedrooms).
- Buyers check with local health unit about condition of system.(what does it know and in most cases nothing is ever said about the septic system).
- Proposal would require increase in staff (right, but look what it could do!)
- MOE has an on-going program to inspect septic systems(only being done in Muskoka at the rate of 4 lakes per year, estimate over 100 years to do the province at that rate).

FOCA is committed to continue pushing this issue with MOE. You can help by adding your voice by writing to the following people:

The Honorable Jim Bradley
Minister of Environment
15th Fl. St. Claire Ave. W
Toronto, Ont. M4V 1P5

Premier David Peterson
Legislative Building
Queens Park
Toronto, Ont. M7A 1A1

The Honorable J. Eakins
Minister of Municipal Affairs
17th Fl. 777 Bay St.
Toronto, Ont. M5G 2E5

The Honorable Vince Kerrio
Minister of Natural Resources
Rm 6323, Whitney Block
99 Welesley St. W
Toronto, Ont. M7A 1W3

The Honorable Elinor Caplan
Minister of Health
10th Fl., Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor St.
Toronto, Ont. M7A 2C4

You might also include your MPP & MP

**---OUR CONCERN---
CONTINUED LAKESHORE DEVELOPMENT**

The use of an Interim Control By-Law has been discussed with the Limerick Town Council. Such a by-law would put a freeze on any further development for some specified period of time on all lake in the township. This period would provide the council with time to develop a policy for lakeshore development. The town of Cardiff has developed such a policy. The Association's Executive Committee developed the attached list of action items that could be under-taken during the period the by-law was in effect. The analysis of this information from Steenburg Lake could be the basis for the council to develop their policy for future lakeshore development in the township.

The "Lakeshore Capacity Simulation Model" was discussed in the last newsletter. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs has advised us that no in-house testing of the model has taken place since the report was released in 1986. The model is still classified as experimental and therefore not available for use. A letter of inquiry has been addressed to the Minister of Municipal Affairs requesting why this model has not been tested in the 3 year period since the study was completed. It seems like a big waste of taxpayers dollars. Additional letters addressed to the Minister might add more weight to the request.

Gypsy Moth Spraying

West of our area was infected very heavily this year with the Gypsy Moth and the migration is coming our way. I have had a Gypsy Moth trap up and so far I have emptied it three times. We restacked a wood pile and found numerous caterpillars getting ready to pupate. If you thought the Forest Caterpillar we had this year was bad, you haven't sen anything yet..... Hasting County will have a spraying program for 1990. I have reproduced their announcement for you information. There will be a limited supply of applications at the Annual meeting. Talk this up along your shoreline as it is only effective if all participate and the price it right at \$5.00 per acre or portion thereof. Spraying is planned for March of 1990.

Stocking of Splake in Steenburg Lake

Mr. Collins of the Ministry of Natural Resources in Bancroft was contacted to find out if this was to be our year for stocking. The answer was negative for 1989 but a good chance for 1990. Several lakes have been stocked out of the Bancroft office with mixed success.

We will know in advance of the stocking as an impact study needs to be completed prior to the stocking of the fingerlings. Availability of the fish and budget enter into the prioritizing of the program. Splake is a hybrid strain, a cross between a male Brook Trout and a female Lake trout. They seek the deepest part of the lake and can survive with less oxygen than the Lake Trout.

Waste Disposal Survey

As of the preperation of this newsletter only 24 survey forms have been placed in the blue box at Trudy's. This is a very poor return for such a small concentrated sample and certainly not adequate to be able to draw any conclusions concerning the lake or mount any defensive position. This is one of our action items to support the Interim by-law and YOUR COOPERATION IS ABSOLUTLEY ESSENTIAL to finalizing a picture of our lake relative to how we handle our waste. The form is included again and we urge you to complete it and place it in the box at Trudy's. If the response does not approach the 80% level, we will have to hire and train interviewers to complete the survey. This will draw quite heavily upon our financial resources. Assistance has been requested of the Health Bureau in Belleville.

Waste Disposal Survey

Name: _____

Cottage # _____
Type of system(check all you have)

Septic tank w/leach fields _____
Approx. installation date _____

Privy _____ Last time moved _____
of feet from the lake _____

Chemical _____
 Holding Tank _____
 Other (describe) _____

_____ Where does your kichen waste go? _____

_____ Do you have any plans to up grade your present system? _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COPERATION

Classified

For Sale:

Motor Guide Electric Trolling Motor, 14lb. thrust, 86 model - stern mount asking \$90.00 call 474-5753

Aluminum Deck Chaise on wheels, 2 cushions, water proof - asking \$30.00 call 474-5753

Aluminum motor mount for a canoe, adjustable. asking \$40.00 call 474-5753.

Included is a map of buoy locations around the lake and an update map of cottage locations and numbers

New Neighbors around the Lake

Rill & Ann Whiteside of Scarborough #132
David Johnson of Toronto #49E
Fran & Dick Downing of Scarborough #49A

Please update your listing. You will receive an updated list next Spring from your solicitor.



COUNTY OF HASTINGS

COUNTY OF HASTINGS GYPSY MOTH SPRAYING PROGRAM

Applications are now available to landowners who wish to participate in the 1990 Gypsy Moth Spray Program. This is a voluntary program and landowners must apply to be included.

Because of a 75% subsidy from the Ministry of Natural Resources, the cost to the landowner is \$5.00 per acre.

Applications should be completed and returned as soon as possible so that spray blocks can be made up and mapped. The deadline is January 31, 1990.

For further information and applications contact your local municipal office or the undersigned.

John Anstey
Gypsy Moth Co-Ordinator
P.O. Bag 4400
Belleville, Ontario
K8N 3A9
Telephone: 613-966-6712

Dyno & Bicroft Uranium Mine Sites

CVPA Endorse Call For Immediate Cleanup Action

At their annual general meeting Sunday, June 18, 1989 at the Glen Alda Community Centre, THE CROWE VALLEY PRESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (CVPA) unanimously endorsed two important environmental initiatives.

The "Fill, Construction and Alterations to Waterways Regulations" proposed by The Crowe Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) were approved in principle as a viable means of controlling the impact of development on our waterways. CVCA General Manager Keith Taylor reported that The Authority has dealt with an over 600% increase in the number of severance applications impacting on water bodies since 1986. "The final approval of these regulations will provide CVCA with a clear and unequivocal definition of what constitutes sustainable development on our waterways." stated CVPA Chairman Craig Nicholson.

In a second unanimous show of support and concern, CVPA also endorsed a Paudash Lake Conservation Authority call for immediate action to clean up the

abandoned Dyno & Bicroft uranium mine sites as detailed in a proposal prepared by the Canadian Institute for Radiation Safety. Paudash President Jerry Hunnius declared: "We have been fighting this battle for years; now is the time for action." Each of the other lake associations expressed their concern that failure to act could adversely effect the entire Crowe Valley Watershed.

Other guests at the meeting included Bancroft District Ministry of Natural Resources Manager Adair Ireland-Smith, Land Planner Derryk Renton, Fish & Wildlife Supervisor Bruce Collins and Lands Manager Owen Fleming. Topics of discussion included control of severely sub-standard septic systems, lake capacity studies, and increased participation in municipal politics by seasonal residents.

THE CROWE VALLEY PRESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION is an organization of the Presidents of the 18 Lake Associations in the Crowe Valley Watershed. Together, these Associations represent 2/3 of the property owners, ratepayers and voters in their respective municipalities.

*Readings after severe rain storm

STEENBURG LAKE WATER SAMPLING RECORD FOR 1989

DATE	LOC1		LOC2		LOC3		LOC4		LOC5		LOC6		LOC7		LOC8		LOC9		LOC10		
	TC	FC	TC	FC	TC	FC	TC	FC	TC	FC	TC	FC	TC	FC	TC	FC	TC	FC	TC	FC	
6/1/89	22	0	160	0	160	2	18	5	12	12	160	3	48	10	160	10	104	41	160	36	
6/18/89	30	3	28	1	56	11	24	8	70	15	30	3	160	12	42	5	o/g	10	48	9	
7/9/89 *	76	43	0/g	23	0/g	5	0/g	10	0/g	20	0/g	35	0/g	31	8	0/g	8	0/g	8	0/g	34
7/23/89	34	5	28	1	32	0	76	60	36	21	24	4	16	3	12	2	14	2	14	3	
8/7/89	18	9	36	2	20	6	92	44	20	17	36	21	26	19	54	11	14	5	20	10	
8/20/89 *	10	9	2	2	6	4	0/g	12	50	45	4	3	16	13	8	0	8	2	8	1	
9/3/89	4	4	10	3	56	2	16	16	24	15	0/g	19	18	6	14	1	o/g	7	8	4	
9/6/4	15	23	16	23	0	0	23	9	23	23	0	0	4	0	38	0	7	0	0	0	

TC = TOTAL COLIFORM/COUNT (total count of bacteria from vegetation & human & animal waste)
 FC = FECAL COLIFORM (Count of bacteria resulting from human and animal excrement)

ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN DURING PERIOD OF INTERIM CONTROL BY-LAW
(2 years)

WATER TESTING PROGRAM:

Bacteria Testing - From mid-May through mid-September pull samples from 10 locations around Steenburg Lake every two weeks and have them evaluated by the Health Bureau Lab in Peterborough for coliform and fecal count. Continue this for two full seasons and plot location results.

Ministry of the Environment's" Self Help Program" - Take Secchi disc readings each week and supply Ministry with results of reading and a water sample from the indicated zone. Results are published yearly by the Ministry indicating the amount of algae in the lake through analysis of chlorophyll.

COTTAGERS WASTE DISPOSAL SURVEY:

Determine profile of existing systems around the lake, ie. types, date installed, current condition. Utilize questionnaire initially and if data is not adequate go to a cottage by cottage interview with the interviewer completing the necessary information. Compile results and draw conclusions in conjunction with water testing results.

APPLY "LAKESHORE CAPACITY STUDY" MODEL TO OUR DATA:

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing with assistance from the Ministry of the Environment conducted a study to aid planners and other professionals in objectively determining the impact of development on the natural environment, ie. a planning tool to assist in evaluating the effects of cottage development on inland lakes and lakeshores. In 1986 they published a 7 book report on: Land Use, Fisheries, Microbiology, Trophic Status, and Wildlife. The end product of the Study was "The Ontario Lakeshore Capacity Simulation Model". This model is in the process of being tested. Our activity in this area would be to secure qualified personnel to apply existing data or additional data on Steenburg Lake to this model to determine what is the safe level of development for Steenburg Lake.

(Note: A letter has since been received from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs based on our inquiry, stating that there has been no in-house testing of the model and as such the model remains experimental and not available for use. Further investigation will be initiated.)

toh/7/89

