

◆ Shoreline News ◆

August 1994

Steenburg Lake Community Association

F.O.C.A.

What's in This Issue

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Book Order form
Watershed Status
Capital Gains Exem.
Waste Disposal Sum.
Barbecue & Regatta
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Wedding Reception
Classified
Furies of Nature*



Fall Issue Deadline
for newsletter

October 30th

Mail to:
Tom Hughes
6 Highview Trail
Pittsford, NY 14534

Highlights Of Steenburg Lake Cottage Association's 36th Annual Meeting - July 31, 1994

41 Cottages were represented totaling 82 people. This represents 25% of the cottages and therefore a legal quorum per the by-laws.

Presentation by John McDermott: A regional planning consultant engaged by the association to assist in the modification of existing rules pertaining to development in the watershed of Steenburg Lake.

Objective to establish a Steenburg Lake Watershed Plan that will designate the land around the lake for specific purposes with consideration given to environmental issues.

This plan, in conjunction with the township's Lake Capacity Study, will provide a controlled playing field for any future development proposals around Steenburg Lake.

President Quinn made a plea for all cottagers to be proactive and support the association in this effort.

New Directors Elected: Staggered elections per the revised by-laws went into effect this year. Babara Rockwell (#30B) stood for Membership chairperson replacing Anita Waddell and Dianne & Rick Burke (#97) stood for co-Lead Directors of the Social committee, replacing Charlie Quinn. Both retiring directors received a big ovation for their efforts.

Interim Financial Report: Colin Gaddas provided a status of our accounts: Special fund has received \$8,900 and \$4,400 of that has been spent. Regular account stands approximately at \$6,000. A full report will be included with the fall newsletter. Colin reported very few checks for dues were received over the winter.

Meeting Highlights Continued.....

Membership Report: Three replacement canvassers are needed for next year. Please call Barbara Rockwell if you wish to volunteer.

Municipal Affairs: Tom Quinn reported for Tom Little. This falls election is very important and you are urged to take advantage of the Proxy voting ballot available at your town hall. As a group our lake made a very poor showing in the last election.

Natural Resources: Griff Lloyd provided status:
Level of lake under control
Request to report location of Loosestrife to either Fred Neub or Gary Goodfellow.
No acid rain problem impacting the lake.
Water quality continues acceptable via feed back from MNR on the Self Help Program.

Corresponding Secretary: Tom Hughes reminded all that the newsletter is for everyone's use for human interest articles, classified, maintenance hints, wild life seen around the lake, etc. Each newsletter will contain a deadline date for input for the next issue.

Fire Department: Loy Rossati made a plea for support in raising funds to update equipment.
August 20th - Auction at Sam's restaurant.
August 27th - Raffle at Coe Hill Fair.

Limerick Reeve Report: Wes Moffatt
- Supports the Steenburg Lake Watershed Plan
- Limerick 5 year road plan to be completed in August.

Lake Historian - Bill Dafoe critiqued the book entitled Bass Lake by Jack McGeachie. "An interesting personal account of the area dating back to the late 1800's". An order form for the book is included with this newsletter.

Annual Dinner: One hundred and thirteen people enjoyed a fantastic dinner put on by three wonderful ladies: Trudy Heersink, Rita Evans and Thelma Park. Our thanks to them.

A Message From Your President

by Tom Quinn

It has been a year since I was elected President and I might add a very challenging year. I am exceptionally pleased in how the year has progressed and the amount of work and effort of the Executive in co-ordinating the various activities that were planned and the attendance at these events.

The issues facing the cottagers with the proposed development of the Hastings Estate land was one of the main reasons that I accepted the position of President. For those of you who did not attend the annual meeting, Mr. John D. McDermott (Urban Planner) provided a 45 minute presentation at the annual meeting, explaining the various issues and processes involved in the Hastings Official Plan and the Beaver Creek Study initiated by the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority. Mr. McDermott expressed the importance of the continued strong involvement of the Steenburg Lake Cottagers Association and the possible impact of the study on the land development surrounding Steenburg Lake. Notes from his presentation are available at cottages 15, 26, & 30 should you desire a copy. To fully understand the events that will be taking place I urge you to stop by and pick up a copy.

By a unanimous show of hands, the cottagers present indicated their approval in proceeding with an in-depth review of the subwatershed Plan and to continue to work in harmony with the various councils and the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority in the development of this plan for the Beaver Creek River Watershed area. I believe the Watershed plan will answer many questions regarding the future development of our area.

A final note with regards to the work your Executive and I are doing, we still require your financial assistance for the continued planning processes with the various agencies and levels of government. Your contribution of \$100.00 or whatever you can afford, in order that we can continue with this project, is needed.

Presidents Message Continued.....

It is one thing for people to pat us on the back and say *You are doing a good job*, however, we require your financial support as well if we are to have proper control and orderly development in the two townships relative to your lake. We have made good progress this past year and if we are to continue to monitor the development of the lands surrounding the lake then we must have the support of all cottagers.

Working with the various Local Councils, Crowe Valley Conservation Authority and other Provincial Agencies we will ultimately realize our goal of a Subwatershed Plan for Steenburg Lake, accepted and incorporated into the Beaver Creek Watershed Plan in the County of Hastings and ultimately into the County's Official Plan.

Prior to the meeting a taxation seminar was conducted by Mr. Wayne McConnachie of the Investor Group Financial Services Inc. in Peterborough. This seminar provided tax information surrounding exactly what the Federal Government is doing and how that affects cottage owners. If you were unable to attend this seminar and would like information, you may contact Mr. McConnachie at 705-876-1282.

Lastly I would like to express my thanks to all the Directors and the Executive for their efforts without which all the events would simply not happen. The efforts are made to provide the feeling of a community around the lake. We all come from different areas and for a few weeks each year we become a community. That is what the association is about. On the lake we all live on the same street.

**Communications
(Keep up to date)**

As a lake community we have three ways of communicating with each other:

- Word of mouth (unreliable but fast)
- Our bulletin board at Trudy's : check it each time you go to the store(reliable but slow)
- The Shoreline News (reliable and everyone gets the same message if its read)

Our goal
Amendment to the official Hastings County plan - Controlled development within our subwatershed

Mary Little

Nov. 28, 1908 - Jan. 25, 1994

by Tom Little

.Steenburg Lake was Bass Lake. Trudy's was Mawson's General Store. Bancroft's main street was hard packed dirt, framed by wooden sidewalks.

It was summer 1952 when Mary Little, with husband Keith, and children Jim, Diane, Tom and Doug piled out of the car for their summer holiday, leaving Toronto far behind. The rest of each year Keith worked, while Mary raised the kids. In the first decade after the war money was tight. So they chose a holiday they could afford renting McGeachie's cottage near the public beach.

About 40 summer places were clustered in twos and threes around the lake - a few near the beach, more along the north road, at least one on every island (even Little Bob) and a bunch at Maple Landing. The names on the signs were: McGeachie, Hamm, Brett, Vivian, McMahon, Dodd, Reil, Lloyd, Wilson, Mathieson, McCarthy, Johncox, Bateman, Burton, Kellogg, Flavelle, Pinder, Powers, Carpenter, Rotman, Brooks, Dewey, Fitzgibbon, Alyea, Weller, Moore, George, O'Krafka, Mucklestone, Langman, Dafoe, Landon, Walsh. They came from Belleville (Blawlvul to people who lived there), Oshawa, Toronto, Rochester, and beyond.

Development of the south side of the lake was still years away, waiting for the days of middle management and early mustangs. Sunset Point stood as the guardian of the south, eyeing cedar strip boats and canoes as they slipped through the narrows by Bateman's Island.

In 1954, two years later, a grateful parishioner willed to the Reverend Neal her large, luxurious cottage down the lake, and the Reverend suddenly had one too many Steenburg Lake residences

So he offered Keith & Mary the chance to buy his old one - for cash-\$3500.

Their response: "It's way too much."

Six months later the Reverend called again. Perhaps he had undergone a religious experience. This time they reached a deal -cash-\$1700.

Mary Little Continued.....

The cottage came with the luxury of hydro, installed the year before. But sorry no running water or indoor plumbing. Keith arranged a mortgage to finance the closure.

July 1st 1955 marked the beginning of an annual event - the Little's pilgrimage to the cottage. For the whole summer. No more teachers, no more books, no more soap until September. The Prowse family joined them that first year, helping to clean and renovate, even build a dock (sort of). The Prowses liked it so much they too rented and then Prowses built on the south side. And so the cycle began again.

Mary would hold forth with the kids, while Keith commuted on weekends. The kids learned to water ski behind a 10hp engine, brand new in 1956. A \$600 Johnson Sea Horse, brown with white trim. The third largest on the lake after Fitzgibbon's 33 and Bateman's 18.

She encouraged the kids to be active and they were - building houseboats, rafts, and tree-houses. Stepping on nails, cutting their heads open with hatchets. Playing, running, splashing, fishing, fighting, pouting.

Mary made friends easily. Warren and Helen Lloyd, Vivan and Russ Prowse, Pat and Ian Fraser, Griff and Tina Lloyd, Ron and Mary Mathieson, and more. Cottage friends. Long lazy visits at the beach. Catching up on last winter. Bonfires and summer birthdays.

When they were older, after another birthday bonfire, the kids set out for the Coe Hill Fair, while the adults stayed behind. Mary was apprehensive. North on 62, left onto 620. The road curved. The kids didn't. But on that warm autumn night, after the noise of a car smashing and bouncing into the ditch had receded, the kids learned a lesson about "city bums" and "country bumpkins". They learned that trouble bridges the gap between "hi" and "gdday" in the seconds it takes to walk from a car in the ditch to the nearest house. That a couple living in the house may not have much, but they will tear up their only bed sheets to bandage a bleeding head. They will call Mary and Keith, and the police

Mary Little Continued.....

Somehow the four kids grew up and left home. But in the 60's, through the 70's and into the 80's another wave hit Steenburg Lake. - the grandchildren. Karen, Ingrid, Britta and Laura. Katherine, Jennifer and Allyson. Erin and Madeleine. Anna and Tim. And she encouraged them too.

This was Mary Little. She loved Steenburg Lake. It was like her. Spiritual. Healing. She departs but her memory and heritage linger on.

**A Wedding Reception On The Lake
July 23, 1994**

by Tina Lloyd

July 23rd was an eventfull and joyous day for the Lloyd family (#19). Their younger daughter Sandra was married to Carlos Repetto of Sydney, Australia.

The ceremony took place in the little historic Ormsby Presbyterian Church (est'b 1904) and the reception was held at Griff & Tina's cottage. Guests came from Sault Ste. Marie, Ottawa, Australia, Los Angles, Hamilton, Waterloo, Peterborough, Kingston and the Toronto area.

Carlos, who is a chef, and his family are originally from Uruguay, South America. The food, which he and his family prepared was a blend of Canadian, Australian and Uruguayan fare. Two suckling pigs were slowly roasted over hardwood coals in Griff's maple syrup pit. The hors d'oevres were enjoyed while mingling under the hemlocks, spruce and pines on the point. Dinner was served in a festively decorated tent back of the house.

Sandra is the fifth generation to settle or summer near or on Steenburg Lake. Great-great grandfather Walter Brett settled at Brett's Lake in the 1860's. Great grandfather Richard Curtis Brett settled on the lake in 1917 where #6 is on the North Road. Grandmother, Helen Lloyd has spent her summers here since a wee girl and enjoyed her cottage (#17). Griff came as a 7 week old and has not missed a summer. Sandra joined sister Heather and brother Ricko here at the age of 4 months.

Wedding Reception Continued.....

According to Violet Mathieson (#20) who has been summering here for more than 78 years, this is the second wedding and/or reception by summer folk to be held here. The first was the wedding of Dr. & Mrs Steve Ireland who were married on their island (now Simpsons #195) in the 1930's.

Sandra and Carlos Repetto will reside in Sydney, Australia.

FURIES OF NATURE

Lightning, thunder, hail, torrential downpours and worse, those terrible twisters, can turn a summer afternoon into an evening nightmare. Storms are as much a part of this season as budding trees and blooming flowers. The following information may help you stay safe and dry.

What to Do When Lightning Strikes

If you are caught outdoors in an electrical storm and cannot seek shelter, follow these tips

- Avoid tall, isolated objects, such as trees or telephone poles.
- Avoid hilltops, move to a low lying area, such as a ravine or valley (but watch for potential flooding).
- If lightning is about to strike you, your hair will stand up on end. If this happens drop to your knees, bend forward and place hands on knees. NEVER lie flat on the ground. The goal is to create as small a surface area as possible for yourself. Curl up in a tight ball.
- Stay away from metal objects such as golf carts, bicycles, metal pipes, fences or rails. Remove shoes with metal cleats.
- If you are out in a group of people, spread apart, don't stay **huddled together**.



Real Estate Brokers Make Hay with MVA

by Margaret van Domseler

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the association for the seminar on the tax implications of capital gains on the value of a cottage.

A great opportunity, offered to all members, was the 1:00pm meeting of July 31st with guest speaker Wayne McConnachie from Peterborough. The big question was addressed "Should I take Advantage of the \$100,000 capital gains Exemption with my 1994 tax return?" It is well publicized "Use It Or Lose It!" Wayne's presentation was informative and cottage owners should make themselves aware of their options. Valuable hand-outs were available at the Limerick Community Centre on that day.

I have been in touch with Revenue Canada and the three real estate offices in Bancroft. Revenue Canada's FACT SHEET was also available at the seminar

Here are a few more facts:

1- All three real estate offices are doing 1994 market value appraisals which gives the property owner a "letter of opinion" at a cost of \$150.00 per property.

2- The brokers of Edwards and ReMax informed me of a reduced rate; \$100 per property if you make it a days work of 3 - 5 properties to appraise.

3- I advised the brokers that Revenue Canada does not require a formal appraisal of Fair Market Value as of Feb. 1994 and the fact that the property owner can determine this value by collecting information on sales of similar properties in the same area around Feb. 1994. I suggested to both brokers that they could possibly provide a "new service" which would be time and cost efficient. That is collect and compile the information on sales in 1994, particular to a lake and sell it to the cottage associations for duplication and distribution to the members who elect to use their \$100,000 capital gains exemption (or part thereof) with this "last chance" 1994 tax return year. Broker Merv Carrol would not entertain the thought and broker Kathy Edwards will get back to us.

4- A closed (done deal) real estate sale is public

information. It is wasteful for each cottager to go to the Belleville Registry Office or the Quinte Real Estate Board Office located in Cannifton (for our Hastings area) to acquire this information in order to personally assess the FMV of ones own property.

Food for thought.... Are there members who have purchased property on Steenburg Lake in 1994, 93, 92 who would offer the details of their purchase ie. the psurchase price and the date for the purpose of duplication and distribution to interested members? If so please contact me at cottage #106.

Barbecue-Canoe Races-Regatta-Rock Bass Derby

I think we picked the best Sat. of the summer for our barbecue and canoe races. Much fun was had by all and lots of pop and hot dogs went down the little red lanes. The Executive is looking at pumps to place around the lake to assist in fire containment. The WAJAX pump representative from Marmora came to the beach and gave us a demonstration of their Mini-Mark Fire Pump. For a little thing it sure shot quite a stream of water and the kids loved it.

Many thanks to Glenda Cox, Diane Burke and Fran Downing for their help in pulling off the event, also to Tom & Judie Hughes and Lee Burton for running the races. Trophies of miniature canoe paddles went to the first and second place canoes::

Youth Class

1st - Kristin Macaulay & Tyler Burke
2nd- Susanna Langman & Erika Langman

Junior Class

1st -Chris Watson & Art Williamson(guest)
2nd -Rachael Zylka & Julie Zylka

Adult

1st - Paul Bowsher & Chris Dean
2nd- Ian Dafoe & Max Dafoe

Senior

1st - Colin Gaddas & Rick Allen
2nd - Ken Cox & Ken Waddell

Paddle Boat Races

Youth

1st - Jim Nevins & Rachael Zylka
2nd - Dustin Hughes & DustinWallman

Adult/Senior

1st - Eileen Walsh & Mike Duggan
2nd - John Legre & Keven Birss



Firemens
Auction
August 20th
The Parking Lot
Sam's
Country
Kitchen
BE THERE!!!

Social Events Continued.....

Regatta:

Another disappointing year for this event. There was no wind to speak of and that probably was the reason so few sailers showed up. The races were run but all agreed it should not be official. Tom Quinn seems to think he should get a trophy just because he got towed by the OPP boat. The committee boat noted that he seemed to stay in one place and in fact it was noted that he was going backwards. This is why the OPP boat came to his rescue.

As far as the sailboards were concerned there was a family competition between Papa Neub and daughter (Tanya) Neub. Fred persevered but not by much. Trophies had to be awarded if for no other reason than endurance.

There is a good chance that the regatta next year will be run on the same day as the canoe races but run earlier in the afternoon.

What really hurts is that on Sunday there was a beautiful wind, steady as well. Makes you want to cry.

Rock Bass Derby

Good participation this year. A total of 7 entered, removing 297 of the little red eyed buggers from the lake. Gene Tracy awarded prizes at the annual dinner. First prize went to Alex McVey (#30) with a total of 103 fish. All who entered received a Steenburg T shirt and a lure. Second & third prizes went to Kristan and Jimmy Nevins. Good job and good for the lake.

Community Well Status

Several years ago the proposal to sink a community well was investigated. A survey indicated enough interest to proceed. A piece of town property on the South Road was the only location that could be located and the Limerick Township seemed disposed to allow us to proceed. Cottages bordering the site were

Community Well Continued.....

not in favor of the proposal but the factor that put the project on hold was the necessity that the well had to be a public well as it would be located on public land. Those that were willing to contribute toward the cost found this to be objectionable as they would be paying for those that were not willing to contribute. It was assumed that a hand pump would be used as opposed to a submersible pump to save on costs and still be useable in the winter. As of this point the project is on hold until an acceptable site can be found.

We have gone to both townships and requested public taps be installed on the exterior of their buildings. Both have refused stating numerous nebulous reasons. The Wallaston Township has installed a public tap on the exterior of their town garage and it refutes all the reasons given by our townships. It seems a crime to have to drive to another township for water because of unyielding councils.



STeenBURG LAKE WASTE DISPOSAL SURVEY SUMMARY

Systems Surveyed: 183 (8/94)

Types and number in use

| Septic | Privies* | Holding Tank | Chemical | Other |
|--------|-------------------------------------|--------------|----------|-------|
| 145 | 19 | 13 | | 4 |
| | System upgrades under consideration | | | 18 |

Routing of Kitchen Waste

| Septic | Dry Well | Lch Fld. | Sand Bed | Hold Tank | Other |
|---|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-------|
| 121 | 24 | 10 | 7 | 9 | 4 |
| Septic systems installed prior to EPA (1974) : 29 | | | | | |

* Privies used on a regular basis, not as back up
183 cottages surveyed out of a total of 201 = 91%

Controlled Development Through Water Shed Management

The following cottages have each contributed \$100 in support of this effort. The Association wishes to express its appreciation to the following cottages for their moral & financial backing in this effort to assure a fine recreational lake into the future.

Please add your name to this list by sending your \$100 to:

Colin Gaddas, 637 Down Cres., Oshawa, L1H 7X9

| <u>Cottage#</u> | <u>Cottage Resident</u> | <u>Cottage#</u> | <u>Cottage Resident</u> |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 11.1 | Brett/Denomy | 106 | van Dompsele |
| 14 | Reil | 107 | Rudd |
| 15 | Little | 114 | Baudo |
| 16 | Fraser | 116 | Ray |
| 19 | Lloyd | 121 | Jones |
| 20 | Mathieson | 122 | Prowse |
| 21 | Mathieson | 126 | Cole |
| 24 | Savage | 128 | Stantial |
| 25 | Pollard | 129 | Dafoe |
| 26 | Quinn | 130 | Boardman |
| 27 | Comuzzi | 133 | Crook & Hennessey |
| 28 | Burton | 135 | Hussey |
| 29 | Johncox | 142 | Clare |
| 30 | Hughes | 143 | Gaddas |
| 30.1 | Talmey | 144 | De Foa |
| 30.2 | Rosati/Rockwell | 145 | Boswell |
| 31 | Flavelle | 146 | Zylka |
| 33 | Brown | 154 | Haigh |
| 36 | Savard | 155 | Tomkins |
| 37 | Pinder | 156 | Wallace |
| 39 | Haddock | 157 | Rampton |
| 40 | Wood | 158 | McLaughlin |
| 41 | Smit | 159 | Boyce |
| 47 | Frey | 160 | Horne |
| 49.1 | Downing | 161 | Hill |
| 49.5 | Johnson | 164 | Cox |
| 49.6 | Belsey | 166 | Ferguson |
| 52 | Smid | 168 | O'Brien |
| 54 | Kelly | 170 | Truscott |
| 56 | Simon/Dean | 175 | Goodfellow |
| 57 | McCullough | 177 | Neub |
| 59 | Pickard | 179 | Opsahl |
| 61 | Ward | 180.1 | Fischer |
| 64 | Mudge | 182 | Jacoby |
| 68 | Cooper | 185 | Cornish |
| 69 | Dawson | 190 | Mucklestone |
| 70 | Cooper | 191 | Golem & Rueggeberg |
| 74 | McCullough | 194 | Walsh |
| 76 | Anderson | 197 | Langman |
| 82 | Candy | 198 | Alyea |
| 86 | Major | 200 | Langman |
| 91 | Corner | 201 | Kosnic & Sirois |
| 96 | Barnes | 203 | Bateman |
| 97 | Burke | | |
| 100 | Wright | | |
| 103 | Crook | | |
| 104 | Galloway | | |
| 105 | Berry | | |

STEENBURG LAKE HISTORY

by Bill & Sandra Dafoe

As the persons that have taken on the task of collecting the historical information for the Steenburg Lake Community Association, we would appreciate your assistance. Please send us any accounts of events of the past which you feel would be of interest historically. For more recent, noteworthy events which have taken place around the Lake, please forward a written account to us at our home address: 1366 Colonial Rd., Belleville, Ont. K8R 1B8

We would like to collect and organize the information you give us because the events of today are truly the history of tomorrow.

A thank you, to those people who have approached us and offered information thus far.

Bass Lake - Hastings County

by J.B. McGeachie

This book is available on a non-profit, one time only basis for \$25.00 a copy to be prepaid by cheque made out to Steenburg Lake Community Association. If you would like one or more copies please complete the order form below and forward it with your cheque by **September 30th** to:

Mr. Colin Gaddas
637 Down Crescent
Oshawa, Ont.
L1H 7X9

Ordered copies will be distributed next summer.

Order form below

CLASSIFIED:

Lost:

One pair oars - Bob Ionson (45) 474-5218

For Sale

16' fiberglass, closed bow with 65hp Mercury engine. Trailer included. \$2,200 or best offer call 474-2267.

Bevelled siding, 1000 lineal feet. 1 x 8 pine \$300 or best offer. 474-2164.

1/2 hp Jacuzzi Jet Pump reconditioned \$150.00. 474-2164.

21 inch 5hp Toro mulching lawn mower \$300-474-2164.

Yardman push lawn mower \$100 - 474-2164

DuroPiston water pump w/tank \$50 - 474-2164

Electric furnace 15KWH 1/4hp \$50-474-2164

Sump pump \$10 - 474-2164

Aluminium windows \$25 each - 474-2164

DEILCRAFT dining room suite - table w/two leafs, 4 chairs, buffet/hutch, Swedish walnut \$600. Call 474-5486 or 416-284-8098



Order form for BASS LAKE - HASTINGS COUNTY by Jack McGeachie

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____ COTTAGE # _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE (please include area code) _____

NUMBER OF COPIES DESIRED: _____