

# Shoreline News

Steenburg Lake Community Association

Autumn 2005

## Mission Statement

To source and make available relevant information to the Membership regarding political and environmental changes that impact cottage ownership and take appropriate action on behalf of the Association when deemed necessary by the executive; to promote, educate and encourage responsible lake stewardship and to provide opportunities to meet and socialize at events throughout the year with fellow cottage owners.

## President's Message

Change is the only constant. September 18, 2005 saw the close of a chapter in the history of Steenburg Lake. Raymond Mucklestone first came to the lake as a boy of six, around 1920. The family built the cottage (old number 190) within a year or two of that date and Raymond came back regularly to spend his summers hunting, fishing and later working in the area. He had many friends among the early residents around the lake, including the McGeachies.

As the years went by, Raymond became an Ontario Land Surveyor, and worked both here in Ontario and in other provinces as well, but he returned regularly to the cottage. Later in life, after raising a family, and losing his first wife, he retired to the Caribbean on his sailboat. Soon after, he met and married Jane, and introduced her to summers here on Steenburg Lake. It was only after this that I became acquainted with them both, and learned to value them as neighbours and friends. They were well read, and interested in many topics, which made for wonderful, intriguing conversations.

Jane's health deteriorated over the last year or so, and decisions had to be made. Raymond sold the cottage this summer, and moved into an apartment in Kingston, Ontario, near a daughter and the nursing home where Jane was being cared for. September 18 was his last visit to clear out the many personal items that had accumulated at Steenburg Lake, over the years, and to revisit a few of the memories that inexorably insinuated themselves into the crannies and crevasses of the old property.

Many on the lake will miss the Mucklestones.

It is with deepest regret that we report Jane passed away on the morning of September 24 in Kingston. Her last request of us all was that we have a party to remember her.

"Here's to the girl who wears the red shoes."

## Your SLCA Board

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Dave Golem –  
President

Steve Brown –  
Social

Marlene Pollard –  
Membership

Garry Goodfellow  
– Municipal  
Affairs

Glends Opsahl –  
Treasurer

Rick Burke – Lake  
Stewardship

Kim Kerr and  
Barb Lavalley –  
Secretaries and  
Editors

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT SEPTEMBER 2005

The summer is over and what a hot summer!!!! I hope everyone enjoyed it as much as we did. The memberships went well this year. A few were missed and I will be sending out letters to 12 of them. We currently have 152 paid memberships, plus 10 members who have been on the lake for more than 50 years making it a total of 162 members. I would like to welcome some new people. They are:-

David and Jane Patrick from London #2

Steve, Kim, Jerry and Lotte Fitzgerald from Oshawa #41

Gayle Catney from Brampton #57

Virginia Gibberd/Christopher Rose from Scarborough #88

Maxine Bairos #49.1 A reminder that the above #'s are the cottage numbers and not the 911 numbers. Numbers are duplicated with the two townships around the lake.

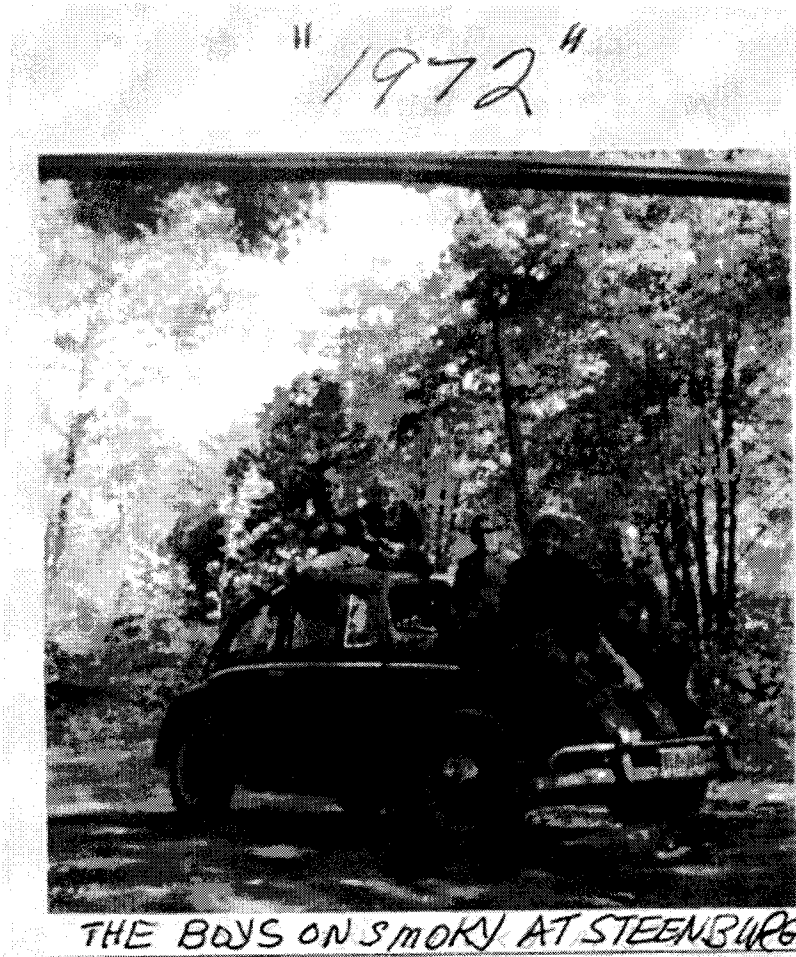
I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the canvassers who took time to go to the cottages and collect the memberships. They were:- Susan Nevins, Jimmy Nevins, Ian Fraser, Lee Burton, Judy Hughes, Peter Belsey, Barb Rockwell, Elaine McCarthy, Irene Horne, Ed Horne, Joanne Boyce, Sue Jarson, Dave McDonald, Joe Cameron, Amy Truscott, Garry Goodfellow and Eileen Walsh. Again THANK YOU.

Have a wonderful Fall and Winter and see you all in the Spring.

Marlene Pollard

## LOOKING FOR PICTURES AND STORIES

This picture tells it all. My first experience at Steenburg Lake (south shore road).



In 1972 friends were going away to Australia for two years. They asked us to take care of their cottage for that time. The first time I saw Steenburg Lake I fell in love with it. It was so peaceful and beautiful. My boys learned how to swim here and we discovered that our dog could not swim. Yes we almost lost Shultz in the lake. I always thought all dogs knew how to swim. Were we wrong. We had such a wonderful holiday and an experience that our family will never forget for the two years. We made wonderful

friends new and old. Through the years no other lake ever seemed right. So in 1990 we were on the hunt for a cottage. Yes we ended up back here at Steenburg Lake and bought on the north shore road. We have been owners for 15 years. Love Steenburg Lake so much that we retired here in 2000. Still love Steenburg Lake and especially now that we live here full time.

This is my story. How about you????? I am looking for stories and your memories on Steenburg Lake. Once I get these pictures and stories and depending on how many, I will either put them in a book or on a CD. What do you think?????????

Looking forward to hearing from all of you members.

Send your stories to me at Box 326, Gilmour, ON. K0L 1W0 OR send them to [rmpollard@bancom.net](mailto:rmpollard@bancom.net) OR give me a call and we can talk about it 613-474-2392

Thank you  
Marlene Pollard

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We wish to extend sincere thanks to all the cottagers of Maple Landing (Austins Bay) who provided help and support to the Grouchy family of Belleville. With sadness we have to say that on July 28/05 Holly passed away in Conception Bay South, Newfoundland. Your help was greatly appreciated. Sincerely, Dorothy Cooper, Bayview Lane, Steenburg Lake.

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## **Important Information About Black Bears**

One of the main reasons my husband and I had for buying a cottage was so our children could experience the great outdoors. We wanted to create memories as a family while getting up close and personal with nature. What we didn't count on was nature getting so close to us.

Imagine my husband's surprise as he headed out to the barb-e-que, which is located approximately 6 feet from the cottage door only to discover that a bear was already there (probably wondering what was on the menu for dinner!). Fortunately for us the bear was young, easily frightened and quickly ran off leaving us with nothing more than an exciting story to tell. One that is becoming more and more familiar.

As black bear sightings continue to become increasingly common in our neck of the woods we have included the following information in the newsletter to provide members with some basic do's and don'ts to assist us in habituating harmoniously with the bears.



### **Bear Wise - What Cottagers Can Do**

Most problems between bears and humans occur when black bears are attracted by the smell of food or garbage. When their keen noses pick up the scent, bears will venture onto cottage properties to forage for an easy meal. Here are tips to help avoid these unwanted visitors.

- If you have garbage collection, put garbage out on the morning of garbage day, and not the night before
- Do not leave pet food outdoors
- Thoroughly clean outdoor barbecue grills after use
- Fill bird feeders only through the winter months
- Do not put meat, fish or sweet food (including fruit) in your composter
- Keep meat scraps in the freezer until garbage day
- Pick all ripe fruit off trees, and remove vegetables and fallen fruit from the ground
- Use electric fencing to protect valuable trees, orchards, vegetable and berry patches

## **Bear Wise - How to Recognize a Potentially Dangerous Encounter**

Injuries by black bears are rare, but can occur in the following situations:

### **Cornered bears:**

Black bears may become anxious or annoyed if they are crowded by people or dogs, or if intently focused on a food source. These bears will generally give many warning signs (they may make huffing or "popping" sounds, swat or beat the ground with their forepaws or even bluff charge) to let you know that you are too close.

### **Mother bears protecting their young:**

Mother bears are rarely aggressive towards humans but they are protective of their cubs. Do not test this by intentionally approaching cubs or knowingly getting between them and their mother. The mother bear will generally give you many warning signs to let you know that you are too close.

### **Predatory black bears:**

On EXTREMELY RARE occasions, black bears (usually adult males) have attacked humans with the intent to kill and eat them. This has happened about 40 times in the last century in North America (six incidents in Ontario). By comparison, many more people have been killed by lightning, dogs, and bee stings. Predatory black bears may not make huffing or "popping" sounds, swat or beat the ground with their forepaws or perform bluff charges. Instead, they may press closer and closer to their intended prey assessing whether it is safe to attack.

### **Here is what to do if you find yourself in one of these situations:**

- Slowly back away, watching the bear.
- If the bear tries to approach you, stop. Be aggressive, yell, throw rocks or sticks and use pepper spray if you have it. NEVER TURN AND RUN.
- If you are with others, stay together and act as a group. Make sure that the bear has a clear escape route, then yell and wave your arms to make yourself look bigger. Use a whistle or air horn if you have one. The idea is to be aggressive and to persuade the bear to leave. This will work if the bear is still partly afraid of humans.
- If you are near a building or car, get inside it as a precaution. If the bear was attracted to food or garbage, make sure it is removed after the bear leaves to discourage the bear from returning.
- If the bear continues to approach you, resume backing away slowly while continuing to be aggressive towards the bear.
- If a bear makes contact with you, DO NOT PLAY DEAD. Fighting back is the best chance of persuading a black bear to stop its attack. Use a large stick, a rock or anything else that you have on hand to hurt the bear.

(Bear info. Cont'd)

IN AN IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY: contact your local police force or dial 911

TO REPORT BEAR PROBLEMS: contact the Bear Reporting Line at  
**1-866-514-BEAR (2327)** (TTY) 705 945-7641

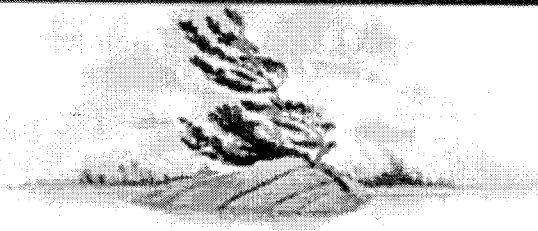
FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE BEAR MANAGEMENT PROGRAM: contact your  
local MNR office.

\*reprinted with permission from the MNR

Looking for ways to help protect our environment on Steenburg Lake? One way is to use "Nature Clean" products, now available at **Trudy's**. These products are competitively priced, environmentally and septic safe and Canadian made. I have had the opportunity to use their laundry products and have been very happy with the results.

By using non-toxic cleaning and laundry alternatives you'll help preserve your lake for future generations!

**NATURE CLEAN**



**All Natural**  
**Household Cleaning,**  
**Laundry &**  
**Body care products**

# ATV- All Terrain Vehicle Safety



For ATV-riders, autumn is a time to enjoy the outdoors but also a time when there is an increase in ATV-related injuries. The following is a summary of recent literature in regards to ATV injuries:

- the number of ATV-related hospitalizations has increased by almost 50% in the last 5 years
- ATV-related injuries are the **only** type of injury whose incidence has **increased** dramatically during the past 5 years
- speed, inexperience, improper apparel, non-use of helmets and alcohol are common factors in ATV-related injuries
- males are involved in 75% to 85% of ATV crashes leading to injury
- children between the ages of 5 and 19 years account for than one-third (36%) of all ATV-related injuries
- **almost half of all deaths occur in children 16 years of age or younger**
- inexperience, inadequate physical size and strength and immature cognitive development contribute to the increased risk of injury seen in children
- children under 16 years of age operating an ATV are four times more likely to experience an injury requiring emergency room treatment than their older counterparts
- the majority of ATV-related fatalities result from injuries to the head and neck
- ATV-related injuries are 6 times more likely to result in hospitalization and 12 times more likely to result in death than bicycle-related injuries



(ATV info. Cont'd)

Reduce your risk of injury while riding an ATV. Always wear your helmet, eye protection and appropriate gear (gloves, protective footwear, long sleeved jersey and long pants are minimal requirements). Ride smart-never use alcohol or drugs as they can impair your judgment and reaction time. Be sure you know the location and operation of all the controls your ATV may have. Do not allow inexperienced riders to use your ATV without proper supervision. Stay on the designated trails and roadways, obeying all traffic related laws. Remember that ATV's were intended for off road use only. They were not designed for paved surfaces and may be difficult to control in such an environment.

Knowing all you can about your ATV and the places you can ride is the best preparation for safe and enjoyable riding.

**References:**

Canadian Paediatric Society (2004)- Preventing injuries from all-terrain vehicles.

National SAFE KIDS Campaign (2004)- The dangers of all-terrain vehicles and safety tips.

The Regional Municipality of Durham: Health Department (2005)- Celebrate ATV safety week

*Bonnie McLean-Dyas*  
*"Your Full Service Representative"*  
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*1-877-670-SOLD (7654) or 474-SOLD (7653)*

Did you know that Cottagers can get their name on the Voters list  
by  
calling 1-866-296-6722?



Check out our web site at  
[www.steenburglakeassoc.ca](http://www.steenburglakeassoc.ca)

Please contact Susan Nevins at  
[steenburglake@aol.com](mailto:steenburglake@aol.com) if you have any  
suggestions or comments.

### The Hikers and the Bear

Two hikers are out hiking. All of a sudden, a bear starts chasing them. They climb a tree, but the bear starts climbing up the tree after them. The first hiker gets his sneakers out of his knapsack and starts putting them on. The second hiker says, "What are you doing?" The first responds, "I figure when the bear gets close to us, we'll have to jump down and make a run for it." The second says, "Are you crazy? Don't you know you can't outrun a bear?" The first guy says, "I don't have to outrun the bear... I only have to outrun you!"

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If anyone has any suggestions or concerns that you would like the SLCA Board to address at the Annual Meeting you may do so by contacting:

Dave Golem at [dgolem@fyrelytte.net](mailto:dgolem@fyrelytte.net)

or

Marlene Pollard at [mpollard@bancom.net](mailto:mpollard@bancom.net)

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Steenburg Lake Cottage Association  
 Financial Report  
 For the period September 1, 2004 to August 31, 2005

	2005	2004	2003
<b>Assets:</b>			
Bank ENS #62422 002 00957 88	\$ 3,473.38	\$ 2,556.64	\$ 3,772.35
GIC - 1 Yr Cashable	1,055.57	2,045.12	870.00
GIC - 1 Yr Non-redeemable	<u>12,466.05</u>	<u>12,300.00</u>	<u>12,000.00</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 16,995.00</u>	<u>\$ 16,901.76</u>	<u>\$ 16,642.35</u>
=====			
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	16,901.76	16,642.35	16,395.65
Excess, Current Year	<u>93.24</u>	<u>259.41</u>	<u>246.70</u>
Net Assets, End of Year	<u>\$ 16,995.00</u>	<u>\$ 16,901.76</u>	<u>\$ 16,642.35</u>
=====			
<b>INCOME:</b>			
Membership Fees	4,067.00	3,778.00	3,295.00
Interest Income	<u>181.50</u>	<u>686.96</u>	<u>22.44</u>
Total Income	4,248.50	4,464.96	3,317.44
<b>EXPENSES:</b>			
AGM, Barbeque, Meetings	607.42	845.86	1,021.36
FOCA Dues & Expenses	489.53	386.87	0.00
Insurance, (to Sept 15)	1,863.00	1,431.00	896.40
Newsletter, Postage/Supplies	579.11	557.30	232.70
Members Handbook	0.00	562.23	0.00
Bank Charges	15.72	1.25	2.50
Rock Markers, Fishing Derby	297.73	371.04	264.61
Decals	0.00	0.00	632.50
Sign Maintenance	0.00	0.00	20.67
Donations, Gifts	135.90	50.00	0.00
Web	<u>166.85</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Expenses	<u>4,155.26</u>	<u>4,205.55</u>	<u>3,070.74</u>
=====			
Excess for period	<u>\$ 93.24</u>	<u>\$ 259.41</u>	<u>\$ 246.70</u>
=====			