

# Shoreline News

FALL NEWSLETTER

STEENBURG LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

NOV 2011



## President's Letter

The transition from summer into fall can trigger mixed emotions to a cottager. Labour Day symbolizes the last long weekend of the normal cottage season. Then

Thanksgiving tends to sneak up pretty quickly.

The boats are pulled from the lake, the summer toys are stored, and for some of you, the cottage gets shut down until next spring. It is hard for me to imagine the seven month stretch between now and next spring without thinking about all the

activities available in the country during the fall/winter months.

The season has changed, and so have the activities around our lake.

If you are looking for an excuse to travel to the country, why not consider checking out the performance cars competing at this year's "Rally of the Tall Pines" in Bancroft in late November (25/26), or the dog sled races in Eldorado on January 22nd, or in Bancroft on February 18th.

Remember that November is the start of hunting season. If you are on the South Road, be advised that there are hunting camps in the woods behind that road which I've been told have expanded by 500 acres this year.

Once the snow falls and the lakes freeze, the skating rinks will be cleared off, and the sleds will take to the trails. For those who enjoy snowshoeing or

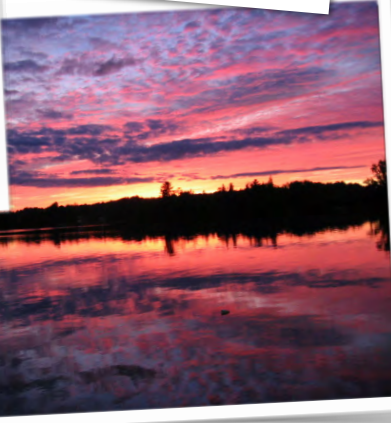
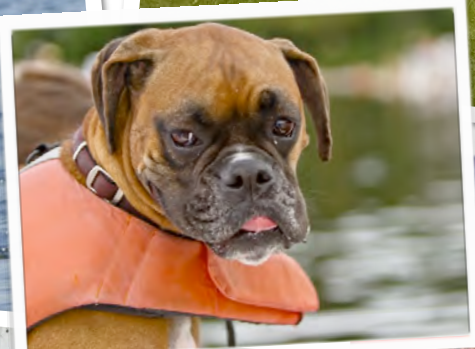
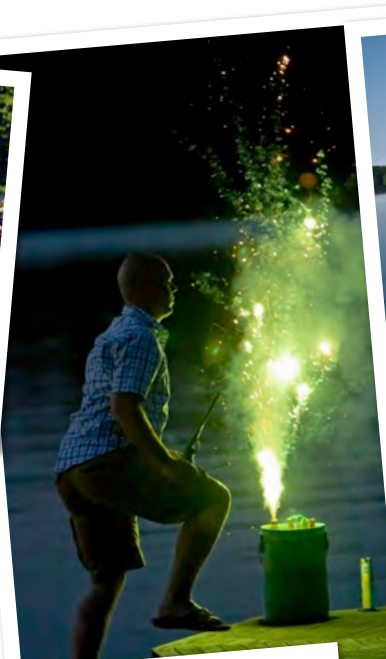
cross-country skiing, consider visiting the McGeachie Trails off of North Steenburg Lake Road.

On behalf of the Steenburg Lake Community Association, I would like to thank all of our members and volunteers for making this such a special place to be.

Enjoy your fall and winter, and play safe.

**Anthony, President SLCA**





# Membership Report Fall 2011

by *Marlene Pollard*

What a perfect summer we had. The lake seemed busier this year, and membership is up from last year. We had 173 members before I sent out 11 reminder letters. 4 have responded to date and this makes our total to 177 members this year. I believe this is the highest count since I took the membership chair. A total of 18 members used our pay pal on the web site. Again if you use pay pal your canvasser will still drop off your package in the spring. Adding a free mug for membership was a great idea and appreciated by all members. If any of the members were missed with the free mug please let me know and I will see that you receive your mug.

I would like to thank all my canvassers for doing such a good job. Thank you Terry Locke, Margot Whitey, Wendy Butler, Pat/Heather Stallaert, Dave Anderson, Elaine/John McCarthy, Christina Candy, Sue Jarson, Dave McDonald, Jim/Susan Bridger, Joanne Boyce, Alana Cameron, Irene Horne, Cathy Wilson and Eileen Walsh. Without all these hard workers we would not have the membership we have.

We have a few new members on the lake. Please welcome them when you see them. They are Ken Vivian from Ayr, Andy and Nicola Robertson from Burlington, Jim and Sharon Gruntz from Gilmour, Mike and Lisa Robinson from Mississauga, Marianne Loranger from Toronto, Jenny and Ted Winter from Pickering, Richard and Gisele McLeod from Baltimore, Scott and Laurie Caverly from Guelph. Again welcome.

I would also like to remind everyone of our members who have been on this lake for 50 years. The Families are as follows:- Prowse, Landon, Reil, Gaddas, Zylka, Little, Rusaw(McLaughlin), Boyce, Hill, Matthews, Fraser, Truscott, Opsahl, Lloyd, Walsh, Langman, Bateman, St. John (Johncox), Hughes, Flavelle, Frey, McCarthy (John & Rich), Cooper and Burke.

I had a member ask if he could write an article of his time on Steenburg Lake. My answer was of course you may. I am still looking for stories from the members for our newsletter about your time on the lake, events on the lake. I would also like to hear from the new members as to what attracted them to the lake. Please send stories to me at [pollard@xplornet.ca](mailto:pollard@xplornet.ca) or mail to Box 326 Gilmour On K0L 1W0.

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## SLCA Services & Information

### Laminated Steenburg Lake Maps

\$10 - Contact Marlene Pollard

### Boat Launching

Mike's Boat Launch on the North Road \$15/ launch. The beach launch site is available from Sept. 15th - June 15th.

A Note from the marina: *Mike and Donna Cochrane were pleased with all the kindness during the boat launching this past season. They are looking forward to next season.*

*Also they are willing to do a "Canada Day Celebration" at their place. They are looking for interested families to help with the celebration. If every family puts in \$50.00 we could have quite a show. Oh! should I mention that they will also supply "FRESH CUT FRIES" to everyone.*

### 125 Anniversary in 2012:

Limerick Township will be celebrating their 125th anniversary next year. In order to help document the history, they are collecting old documents, stories and photos of important landmarks, people and events in the township.

If you have some historical information that you are willing to share, you can e-mail them to us at [Internet@Steenburglake.com](mailto:Internet@Steenburglake.com)

# Lake Steward Report

By: *Dave Langman*



## Invasive Species

### *Zebra Mussels*

Despite last fall's unfortunate test results showing evidence that zebra mussel larvae were detected in our waters, there have been no reports of any adult zebra mussels by anyone on the lake. My own observations of the lake bottom during early morning canoe rides did not result in any visual sightings of zebra mussels either.

Continue to clean your boat and trailer if you are transporting it from an infected lake such as those in the Kawarthas. Leave your boat out of the water for a week to ensure it will be zebra mussel free before launching it in Steenburg Lake.

### *Periwinkle & Glossy Buckthorn*

Be aware that a common garden plant – Periwinkle – is an invasive species. It will crowd out native plants. Another invasive species - Glossy Buckthorn – has been sited on the lake. Please feel free to remove these bushy plants by any appropriate mechanical means.



## Water Quality

In general, Secchi disk depth and phosphorus concentrations have changed very little over the past decade in Steenburg Lake. This is an indication of continued acceptable water quality. The lake continues to be at low risk of algae blooms as indicated by current phosphorus level below 10 ug/l. Continue to use phosphate free soaps, detergents, and shampoos. Ensure your septic system is in good working order – have it inspected and maintained on a regular basis. Create a buffer between your weeping tile bed and the shoreline by allowing the shore zone to become naturalized with deeper rooted plants that will take up some of the leaching phosphates that come from your weeping tile bed. Mowed lawns create shallow root plants that are unable to take advantage of available nutrients generated from your septic weeping tile bed. Keep the grass on the septic bed, but let the zone between the tile bed and the shore “go back to nature”.



If we all do this, the lake stands a better chance of maintaining good water quality.

This year, the water level was lower than usual due to the late installation of stop logs on Bass Creek and dry, hot weather throughout the summer. The lower water

levels are good for water quality since wave action is broken up on the shore by rock “rip-rap”, and not by the exposed soil higher up on the banks. Be aware that larger boats create larger wakes, and larger wakes can cause soil erosion during

high water periods in spring and late fall.

Each year I travel to another lake and enjoy a trip on the water. This year, I traveled to Jack Lake near Apsley. As we explored the shores of Jack Lake, I noted that almost every cottage was difficult to see from the lake – very few had the trees cut down in front of them, rarely was there a mowed lawn, and most cottage colours were dark. This gave the lake a natural/wilderness look. The shore zone (15 meters back from the shoreline, is the most important ecosystem for our lake. It needs to be as natural as possible to minimize run off of organic matter, and uptake as much effluent/phosphorus from our septic systems. If you are still cutting the grass to the shoreline, or have a beach to the shoreline, give some consideration to letting the first few meters of shore go “back to nature”.

## Light Pollution

I've written in recent newsletters about light pollution caused by exposed exterior lights particularly those on boat houses and near docks pointing out towards the lake. There are a few cottages on our lake that have really bright lights, and as my friends know, I get pretty wound up about them. Despite wanting to paddle down the lake, knock on doors, and state “I'm here to fix your outdoor lighting problem”, I've decided in the better interest to provide information and suggestions, and leave the decision up to cottage owners (After the “white boat house” fiasco of a few years ago, I've kept a lower profile as requested by our fearless president Anthony). I would like to share a little known fact with association members that I tripped over this past summer. It turns out that there is a clause in the

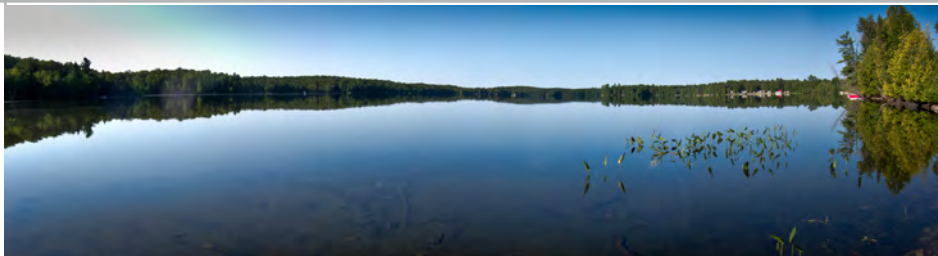
Limerick Township By-Laws that controls illumination. Clause 9.11 of the Limerick Township By-Laws reads “Lighting fixtures designed for exterior illumination shall be installed with the light direction downward and deflected away from adjacent lots.” I was encouraged to find this by-law as it indicates that light pollution has been an ongoing concern for a long time, and it seems like a great guideline for the entire lake to follow. As Lake Steward, I encourage all members of the association to take a look at your current outdoor illumination, and if your cottage has lights pointing out toward the lake, or have unshrouded bare bulbs, or even fixtures that are not shrouded, then consider modification to those designs to comply with the spirit of Limerick’s by-law.



## Noise Pollution

Why is it that I can hear people talking from way across the lake in the evening?

Because of the density of water, it does not heat up as quickly when exposed to light, and is, therefore, colder than the air around it. This means that the water is constantly pulling heat energy from the air around it, making the air directly above a body of water colder than that above land, and because colder, denser air conducts sound more readily than warmer air, sound travels more efficiently over a lake than over land. Cool air also slows down the sound waves



near the surface, causing refraction or bending down of the sound wave and concentrating it along the water surface and hence shoreline. This amplification effect is strongest in the evening when the wind is still and the temperature inversion is strongest. Conclusion. If you plan to vocalize some unpleasant thought about the folks across the lake, better not do it on your dock, in the early evening, on still nights.

If you own an ATV (especially one with performance enhancing muffler), Personal Watercraft, older 2 stroke outboard, leaf blower, riding lawn mower, chain saw, and/or an outdoor “stereo”, keep in mind that you own a device that generates unwanted noise and take appropriate action to minimize that noise. Your neighbours will appreciate it.

## Air Pollution:

Government initiatives to limit air pollution from boats now includes catalytic converters on inboard outboards, and the elimination of carbureted 2 stroke outboards on new models. New boats are quieter and pollute less. President Anthony has two boats. One is a new 4 stroke outboard powered, which is smoke free, and can barely be heard at any throttle setting. His second boat is an older twin two-stroke jet boat. Well, lets just say the new four stroke is quite a bit more forgiving on the environment from an: air, noise, and water perspective.

If you are looking into purchasing a new outboard

motor please consider either four-stroke or direct injected two-stroke outboards. A few things to look for when identifying direct injected two-stroked outboards are Evinrude’s ‘E-Tec’ banner, Mercury’s ‘OptiMax’, Yamaha’s ‘HPDI’ and Nissan’s ‘TLDI’.

Thanks to all cottagers in advance for giving some thought about minimizing their impact on our wonderful lake environment. Hopeful these pages have given you some food for thought.



## Steenburg Lake Shirt Order Form

In the true tradition of cottage life at Steenburg lake, we can proudly wear some great clothes brought to you by the Steenburg Lake Cottage Association.

- Sizes S, M, L, XL, XXL, (adult t's only)  
XXXL (adult t's only)
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- Long Sleeved T: Orange, Navy \$25
- T-Shirt Youth: Cardinal, Denim, Brown \$25
- T-Shirt Ladies: Brown, Navy, Violet: \$20
- Hoodies Adult: White, Blue, Green, Grey \$40
- Hoodies Youth: White Blue Green Grey \$40

*All prices include tax. Take \$5 off the price of each shirt when you order 3 or more!*

To view colours go to [technosport.com](http://technosport.com) (p.g. 5)  
To order your gear please mail the following information along with payment to Butler Marketing Services:

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Phone(905) 683-3456 Fax (905) 683-3456  
56 Splendor Drive, Whitby Ont. L1P1X5

# Update on Steenburg Lake South Road

Ratepayers of Limerick Township who have properties on Steenburg Lake South Road have recently received correspondence from the township with regards to the private snow removal that is contracted for that road. In this letter, the property owners were advised of the township's liability exposure and were encouraged to form a road association and acquire separate insurance.

On behalf of our 87 members on the South Road, the SLCA has reviewed the correspondence and has issued a response to challenge the township's position on this matter. Although the SLCA is not a road association, nor do we have any plans to take responsibility for that township road, we do recognize that our members have enjoyed unrestricted access to that road for over 20 years. Both Limerick and Tudor Townships are aware of the SLCA's position on this matter, and they are agreeable to working with our association and their ratepayers towards a solution. If you have any concerns about the South Road, please feel free to contact me at [President@steenburglake.com](mailto:President@steenburglake.com) or speak with your township office.

Quick Fact: The ratepayers of Limerick Township with properties accessed via the Steenburg Lake South Road contributed approximately sixty thousand dollars ( \$60,000) in property taxes in 2011. The municipal portion of this tax collection is slightly over 50%. Source: 2011 MPAC assessment data and 2011 Limerick Tax Rate

# BUTLER MARKETING SERVICES

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## You Might be a Fisherman If..

- 1) You have a power worm dangling from your rear view mirror because you think it makes a good air freshener.
- 2) Your wedding party had to tie tin cans to the back of your bass boat.
- 3) You call your boat "Sweetheart" and your wife "Skeeter".
- 4) Your local tackle shop has a private line just for you.
- 5) You keep a flippin stick by your favorite chair to change the TV channels with.
- 6) You name your black lab "Mercury" and your cat "Evinrude".
- 9) You have a photo of your 10 lb. bass on your desk at work instead of your family.
- 10) You consider wienies and crackers a complete meal.
- 11) You think MEGABYTES means a great day fishing.
- 12) You send your kid off to the first day of school with his shoes tied in a palomar knot.
- 13) You trade your wife's van for a smaller vehicle so your bass boat will fit in the garage.

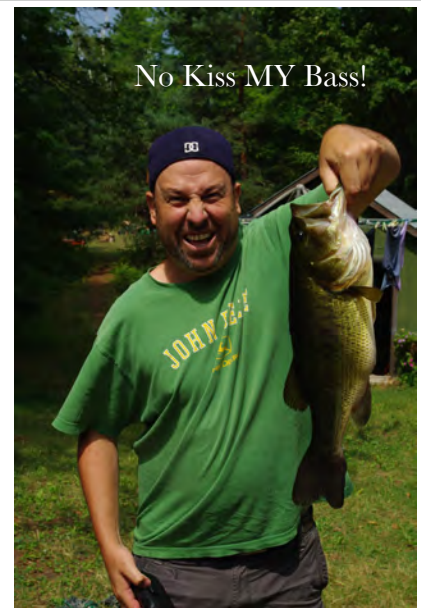


Newest invasive species...??

Kidding - Tom's Halibut (Not Steenburg Lake)



Kiss My Bass!



No Kiss MY Bass!

## Goat Report:

Two Steenburg Lake cottagers (also brothers in law) Rick and Dale, are out looking for their friend Dave because Rick has a problem with his Johnson, and as they are walking along they come upon a huge hole in the ground. They approach it and are amazed by the size of it.

Dale says "Wow, that's some hole; I can't even see the bottom. I wonder how deep it is."

Rick says "I don't know, let's throw something down and listen and see how long it takes to hit bottom."

Dale says, "There's this old boat battery here. Give me a hand and we'll throw it in and see".

So they pick it up and carry it over, and count one, and two and three, and throw it in the hole.

They are standing there listening and looking over the edge and they hear a rustling in the brush behind them. As they turn around they see a goat come crashing through the brush, run up to the hole and with no hesitation, and jumps in head first!



While they are standing there looking at each other, looking in the hole and trying to figure out what that was all about, Dave walks up.

"Hey Rick, hey Dale", says Dave, "You didn't happen to see a goat I found on the road around here anywhere, did you?"

Dale says " Funny you should ask, but we were just standing here a minute ago and a goat came running out of the bushes doin' about a hunert miles an hour and jumped headfirst into this hole here!"

Dave says "Why that's impossible..... I had him chained to a big old boat battery!"



**The Official Open of the New Trail  
at McGeachie Conservation Area  
Oct. 1st, 2011**

On Saturday Oct. 1, the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA) chairperson and staff and Limerick Township welcomed 25 people to the official opening of a new 3 km trail inside the McGeachie Conservation Area on the North Steenburg Lake

The Bancroft Times, Thursday, October 6, 2011 Page 7

**New Trail Open At McGeachie Conservation Area**



Limerick Township Reeve Dave Golem points out the features on the new trail map at the McGeachie Conservation Area to Steenburg Lake Community Association President Anthony Genovese (right). - photo by Brent Goodwin



Some of the 25 people who joined the celebration of the opening of the new trail at the McGeachie Conservation Area on Saturday including local politicians, Crowe Valley Conservation Authority staff and trail users. - photo submitted

Road. The hiking trail winds through the 500 acres and it has already been used by naturalists and hiking clubs with plans being discussed with cross county skiing and snowshoe groups for winter use. Limerick Township Reeve Dave Golem, who had the vision and the creativity to design the trail, welcomed the visitors and he told the gathering the history of the McGeachie family who donated this land to the Crowe Valley CA over the years. First Jack and Ethel McGeachie donated the land around their residence on North Steenburg Lake Road to ensure the natural beauty would be protected in perpetuity by the authority. Later their two sons donated another 200 acres. Reeve Golem also thanked the many volunteers which included those from the Steenburg Lake Community Association (SLCA), the welding students in Stephane Richers' North Hastings High School class, and relatives of the McGeachie family Ian and Pat Fraser.



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# How's Your Johnson?



## What's my old outboard motor worth? (Source: AOMC WEBSITE)

This is the number one question we are asked. Here's the short answer: Less than you thought. Probably not much more, anyway.

Now the long answer. We're not trying to be cruel here, just honest. Grandpa's "old fishin' partner" might bring you warm fuzzy memories, but the guy who's thinking of buying it from you might have leads on several motors just like yours from which to choose. Old outboards were "too useful to just throw away" and small enough that they got stashed in all kinds of places. Thus, folks keep finding them and putting them on the market. The ready supply keeps prices reasonable.

When someone presses an old outboard into regular use, sooner or later something's going to need fixing. These days, most repair shops won't even look at anything over 20 years old. They probably already have a few old motors stashed in the back, motors that were left by their owners when it turned out it would take hundreds of dollars in parts to get them running again. These abandoned motors hit the market, too. People who understand this difficulty in getting old motors fixed shy away from purchasing such relics for regular use, especially if prices try to be on par with merchandise that's more recent.

So then who's buying the old outboards? Among others, collectors. Collectors will restore old motors, often to running condition, fashioning some replacement parts by hand. They'll touch up the paint to restore them to showroom condition. It's a process that no sane person would undertake just to have a motor that runs, when modern motors are readily available for that use. It's a labor of love. The painstaking work can take months, which would be quite expensive in today's world of "time is money". Nobody is getting rich restoring old motors.

### Antique Outboard Motor Websites:

A few links worth exploring if your interested in local antique boats and motors:

Outboard Motors:

[www.mapleleafchapter.org/](http://www.mapleleafchapter.org/)

[www.aomci.org](http://www.aomci.org)

Antique Boats:

<http://www.acbs.ca/>

Classic Glass Boats:

[www.fiberglassics.com/](http://www.fiberglassics.com/)

## Will a hydrofoil improve my boating experience?

A hydrofoil is a plastic fin that bolts onto the cavitation plate of your outboard or stern-drive motor. There are various sizes and models to fit both small and larger motors. I have used these products on several boat/motor combinations and will offer my thoughts on the below manufacturers claims as well as when and when not to use these products for boating on Steenburg Lake.

Manufacturers such as Doel Fin and StingRay claim the following positive effects of their products when mounted on your engine: greater stability, consistent planing at lower RPM, faster out-of-the-hole performance, better gas mileage, steadier turns, higher top-end speeds and lower bow rise at all speeds.

Hydrofoils create a larger planing surface aft of the boat than the manufacturer's built-in cavitation plate. As the boat comes on plane, the boat's bow rises and the motor cavitation plate tilts up as well. Water is forced against the bottom of the fin creating an upward force on the back of the boat that both lifts the back of the boat out of the water and rotates the front of the boat down towards the lake. The net result is to create forces that theoretically will allow the boat to plane out faster. The effect of the fin is magnified in small boats with low power motors that are not equipped with power trim and tilt. In the event that your boat does not have the power to get up on plane, or you enjoy running at a slow cruise where your bow rise is large and you can't adjust the trim-tilt to compensate, then a hydrofoil might be just the ticket to get your boat up out of the hole and on plane, for a more enjoyable ride. In most modern

boats, there is enough power and a trim-tilt adjustment system to not need a hydrofoil. The draw-back of the fin is it really isn't needed after the boat is up on plane, and actually creates extra drag that slows the top speed of the boat.

Conclusion: If your Johnson is too small and you can't get it (your boat) up (on plane), go to your local accessory shop and bolt on a fin. You'll be guaranteed satisfaction.



## Respect The Roads

Thanksgiving weekend at Steenburg Lake has been a social event for the Cotie family for many years. This year, as in the past, many of us chose to walk off the excess food and drink. The beautiful weather added to the enjoyment.

Anticipating the need for some roadside cleanup we took garbage bags with us both Saturday and Sunday. We travelled North Steenburg Lake Road from the public beach to 500 meters past Maple Landing over the course of the two days.

What we did not anticipate was the overwhelming quantity of debris on the roadside, the obvious result of human indifference to the environment and to their fellow man.

We took eight large bags of refuse to landfill and returned dozens of liquor and beer bottles. We also recycled three large blue box containers of cans, bottles and cardboard.

Instead of railing about the ignorance of the species to which we all belong, I simply request that everyone treat the roadside with respect. Please place all garbage in proper containers, wherever and whenever you drive. And pass it on.

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**On Average, only 1 cottage out of 3 listed actually sells in Kawarthas & Bancroft.**

Cottage Sales	*2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
Steenburg Lake	2	4	10	3	4	7
Failed to Sell	?	5	9	7	6	2

As a former intensive care nurse, I am not a stranger to hard work! I have a soft touch & also a **tested ability** to work well under pressure, analyze data, and respond with an action plan while supporting individuals and families ability to make **informed decisions**. I bring numerous skills to Real Estate, and am a **strong advocate** for my clients best interests, **never compromising ethics or compassion**.

Keeping up to date on market analysis, **trends in marketing & social media** and coming up with unique ideas are just some of the strengths I bring to the table.

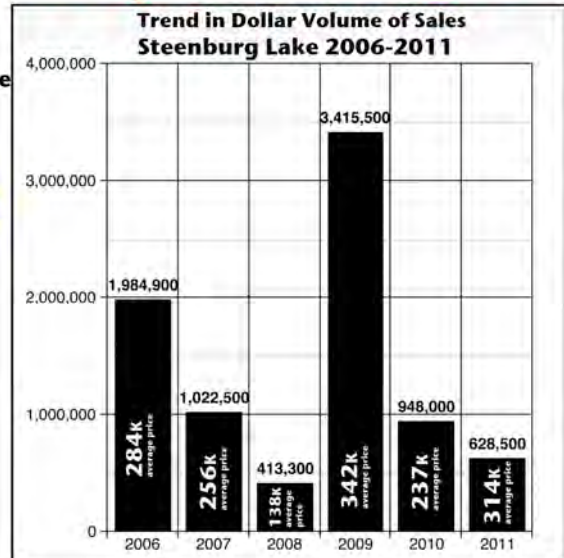
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## Why be average?



\* 2011 sales as of May 16, 2011

Introducing a new Information and Resource Site for Steenburg Lake sponsored by Carol

# [www.SteenburgLakeOntario.Info](http://www.SteenburgLakeOntario.Info)



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**REGISTERED DESIGNER  
ROGER G. PORTER**

**Steenburg Lake Community Association  
Financial Report  
August 31, 2011**

	2011	2010	2009	
<b>Assets:</b>				
Bank Account	5,768	6,324	4,925	
PayPal	28	87	144	Payments to PayPal transferred to Bank
GIC - 1 Yr 0.2% Cashable	0	1,006	2,055	
GIC - 2 Yr 2,00% Oct 8 2012	3,054	0	0	
GIC - 2 Yr 1,75% Sep 14 2011	5,084	5,084	4,261	
GIC - 2.5 Yr 2,45% Nov 29 2013	13,270	12,877	12,372	
Prepaid Insurance Sep\11-May\12	1,030	1,030	1,014	
Inventory T-Shirts\Hoodies	812	400	405	
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>29,045</b>	<b>26,808</b>	<b>25,176</b>	Total of what we own, primarily cash
<b>Net Assets represented by:</b>				
Reserve for Future Expenditures General Fund, Unrestricted	20,000	12,000	12,000	For specific use determined by SLCA Can be used for general activities
	6,808	13,176	10,558	
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	26,808	25,176	22,558	
Excess (Loss), Current Year	2,237	1,632	2,618	Profit or loss for each year (see below)
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>29,045</b>	<b>26,808</b>	<b>25,176</b>	Accumulated income, all years
<b>INCOME:</b>				
Membership Fees	4,730	5,160	4,750	Fees at \$30 per cottage
Advertising Income	1,650	1,444	768	
Fundraising Income, Maps	10	30	0	
Fundraising Income, Merchandise	3,441	1,768	1,870	Overall Merchandise Profit       \$     893
Fundraising Income, Fun Run	475	495	385	
Fundraising Income, CDs	0	0	10	
Interest Income	537	602	689	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>10,843</b>	<b>9,499</b>	<b>8,472</b>	Total income for each year
<b>EXPENSES:</b>				
Fundraising Costs, Merchandise	2,547	1,204	1,479	
Fundraising Costs, Fun Run	537	585	475	
AGM, Regatta, Movie Night	1,122	755	640	
FOCA Dues & Expenses	545	575	575	
Insurance	1,377	1,361	1,327	
Newsletter Expenses	1,322	905	586	
Members Handout	146	616	167	
Bank, Paypal & Admin Charges	136	27	18	
Rock Markers, Fishing Derby	360	250	250	
Sign Maintenance	0	1,068	0	
Donations\Gifts\Memberships	452	0	30	
Web\Webcams	61	378	257	
Water Testing	0	143	50	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>8,606</b>	<b>7,867</b>	<b>5,854</b>	Total expenses for each year
<b>Excess (Deficit) for period</b>	<b>2,236</b>	<b>1,632</b>	<b>2,618</b>	

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**BROKER**



# Limerick Township's Takes Steps to Protect Steenburg Lake Through New ByLaw.

By Dave Langman

This article reviews relevant sections of the new Limerick Township Zoning Bylaw that is in the process of being updated to conform with the Hastings County Zoning regulations. A public meeting on December 6<sup>th</sup> 2011 is scheduled to inform the public and hear representation from the public regarding the proposed Zoning Bylaw. The Bylaw affects Limerick Township and therefore the northern ½ of Steenburg Lake including Powers and Crystal Islands.

## New Building Construction - Shore Zone Provision

5.9.1 No cottage, garage, boathouse or bunkie can be erected within 30.0 meters of the high water mark of Steenburg Lake. This applies to new construction.

## Modification to Cottages that are already within 30 m of Steenburg Lake Shore.

5.10.1 Existing non-conforming structures are permitted to be used (grandfathered) so long as they are not substantially altered. So, if your cottage is close to the shore, you don't have to move it. However, if you have plans to add on to your cottage, increase its height, or demolish and replace the cottage on the old footprint, clause 5.12 appears to prevent this. If you are planning to substantially alter your cottage after the bylaw has been passed, then it appears that you will have to demolish the cottage and move it back to the 30.0 meter minimum setback set out in 5.9.

The clause also states you will need approval in writing from the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority and possibly other agencies before you

can apply for a building permit from Limerick Township on your lot.

## Natural Vegetative Strip

Clause 8.3ci, 9.3ci and 10.3ci state "**a natural vegetative buffer strip 15 metres (49.2 feet) in width shall be maintained**".

There is nothing in the definitions section of the proposed bylaw that defines what a *Natural Vegetative Strip* is. Below is an excerpt from a 2003 District of Muskoka document that describes the buffer in question. Limerick Township will have to develop their own interpretation and guidelines for residents.

## What should a buffer look like?

**Source: Shoreline Vegetative Buffers, District of Muskoka 2003.**

A shoreline vegetative buffer should generally be a broad corridor of undisturbed vegetation adjacent to a lake, river, stream or other surface water. In a lake-based recreational environment such as Muskoka, it is unrealistic to believe that no clearing or vegetation removal will occur in this area. It is, therefore, important to develop a buffer model that substantially maintains the function of the buffer while recognizing the need for water access and views.

A three-zone shoreline buffer has been proposed by jurisdictions such as in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. This approach provides a framework through which water quality, habitat and other objectives can be accomplished.

Zone 1: this zone begins at the lake edge and is the area that provides streambank stabilization and habitat for both aquatic and terrestrial organisms. Primary function of this zone includes provision of shade and input to the lake or river of detritus and large woody debris from mature forest vegetation. Vegetation in this zone also helps reduce flood effects, stabilizes the bank, and removes some sediments and nutrients. Vegetation should be composed of native trees and shrubs of a density that permits understory growth. This zone should be a 'no touch' zone, however, limited shoreline access may

be provided. Access paths should be constructed to minimize erosion, soil compaction and disturbance to habitat. The width of this zone should be at least 10 metres (Fischer and Fischenich 2000).

Zone 2: This zone extends inland from Zone 1 for a minimum of 3 metres up to several hundred metres, depending on the objective, lake type, soil type, slope or topography, and land use. The objective of this zone is to provide a managed forest area with vegetation composition and character similar to natural forests in the area. Limited and well-constructed paths that do not significantly increase overland flow to the lake may be permitted in some situations. (Fischer and Fischenich 2000). The primary function of Zone 2 is to remove sediment, nutrients and other pollutants from surface and groundwater. This zone, in combination with Zone 1, also provides most of the enhanced habitat benefits, and allows for recreation and aesthetic benefits.

Zone 3: This zone typically contains grass or herbaceous filter strips and provides the greatest water quality benefits by slowing runoff, infiltrating water, and filtering sediment and its associated chemicals. The minimum recommended width of Zone 3 is 5 metres. The primary concern in this zone is initial protection of the lake from overland flow of non-point source pollutants such as herbicides and pesticides applied to lawns and timber stands. Properly designed grassy and herbaceous buffer strips may also provide quality habitat for several upland wildlife species. (Fischer and Fischenich 2000)

# EVENTS & SOCIAL REPORT

BY CAROLYN DOBSON



## **Road Clean Up, July 11, 2011**

Taking care of our cottage environment is our responsibility. Many thanks to following cottagers who assisted with the clean up this year...

### **South Road Clean up Crew**

Alasdair, Hamish and Dave McDonald, Alana, Anita and Ken Wadell, Ashley, Alana and Brendan Cameron and Bill Landon

### **North Road Clean Up Crew**

Ann and Jim Brown, Dave Golem, Ron and Marlene Pollard, Terry Cattani, Diane and Don Mills.

Please accept our apologies if you helped out and you were not mentioned. We appreciate your time and efforts in keeping the lake and environment clean. If you would like your name mentioned in the newsletter in the future, or if you are a student and want to get some volunteer hours, please call Carolyn Dobson at 613-474-1032 or [carolyndobson@rogers.com](mailto:carolyndobson@rogers.com).

## **Regatta, July 9, 2011**

What a fantastic day we had!!! Many thanks to all those who came out for some fun in the sun!! The canoe races were back by popular demand and lots of silly antics made the event fun to watch and cheer as well as participate. The Social Committee decided it was time to shake things up and replaced the paddleboats with kayaks this year and it worked out great! There was lots of participation from all age groups. Maybe the water was too cold for Steenburg swimmers because participation was down in a few of the categories for the swimming events. Perhaps the Social Committee will take a look at other options for next year.

This event would not be possible without the help of our Social Committee members...many thanks to Wendy Butler, Amanda Burke, Chris Langman, Erika Langman, Tom Little, Dean Dobson and Jimmy Nevins.

Many thanks to Dean Dobson for securing Marc Angelo Foods for use of the barbecue. The barbecue came fully loaded with kabobs and the drinks and hamburgs and hot dogs were donated by the Steenburg Lake Cottage Association. And of course, many, many thanks to our president Anthony Genovese for cooking up a storm with the help of Dave Golem and Rick Burke.

**THE WINNERS OF ALL OF THE EVENTS ARE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE.**

## **Fun Run, August 13, 2011**

WOW...are we Steenburg Lakers a fit bunch or what???? With over 100 registered, the Fun Run continues to be a huge success!!! 5km of up and down terrain doesn't scare our cottagers away.

Congratulations to 1<sup>st</sup> place male – Thomas Withey with a time of 20:30  
Congratulations to our 1<sup>st</sup> place female – Renata Jacwi-Zurakowsky with a time of 24:50.

Many thanks to my volunteers: Wendy Butler, Dean Butler, Rick Burke, Amanda Burke, Jimmy Nevins, and Tom & Sharyn Little.

**THE WINNERS OF ALL OF THE EVENTS ARE POSTED ON OUR WEBSITE.**

## **T-Shirt Sales**

Many thanks to Dean Butler for attending all of the events with tshirts, hats, mugs, etc. ready for sale. If you wish to order please go online and see what's new at [www.steenburglake.com](http://www.steenburglake.com).

**And Finally.....** I have enjoyed bringing all of these activities to you and your families at Steenburg Lake, however, after 6 years, this will be my last Regatta in July of 2012. Please consider being a part of your lake and getting involved. Please contact me if you want to get involved in next year's Regatta, AGM or Fun Run. Elections for the new Social position on the Executive will take place at the Annual General Meeting in August, 2012. See you on the lake!! Have safe and active winter!!!

## **2012 Events - Save the Date!**

### **Regatta & Barbecue:**

**Saturday, July 14th 2012, 11 a.m. @ the Beach**

### **Road Clean Up:**

**Sunday, July 15th 2011, 9:30a.m. - 11a.m.**

### **Lakeside Movie Night:**

**Saturday, August 4, 2012 @ Dusk**

### **Annual General Meeting & Barbecue: Limerick Community Centre**

**Sunday August 5th 2012, 10a.m.**

### **Fun Run:**

**Saturday, August 11th, 2012 9:30a.m.**

### **“Have-A-Dock” Jamboree, Dockside Concert:**

**Saturday Aug 11th 2012, 7:00p.m.**



# Fall 2011 Photo Wall

