



Shoreline News

Fall 2014

STEENBURG LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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President's Message

by Anthony Genovese

What if there was no summer 2015?

As the sun sets over the horizon and the planet gently shifts on its axis, we welcome the beautiful colours of autumn with a knowing expectation of the cold and long winter ahead.

This is a very calming time of year, and a great opportunity to reflect on the everlasting memories that are created at this lake. And it is also a time to think about what lies ahead.

As I close my eyes, I am optimistic that spring will come quickly and I am overcome with excitement. I find myself dreaming about the future.

What if that old dock was replaced with a new one, and had a new ski boat anchored to it?

What if that deck had a large table for dinner parties and those trees were thinned out to provide a better view of the lake?

What if there was a party with great food, live music and fireworks?

But dreams aren't always pleasant, and sometimes they bring stress.

What if their new boat creates a large wake that erodes the shoreline and makes it difficult for the family to enjoy the dock?

What if they removed those beautiful trees and replaced it with a deck full of noisy guests?

What if there was a big party every weekend with live music and fireworks?

When I open my eyes, it becomes apparent that one's dreams can be another's nightmare. And it is with this awareness that we should each find the best path for the future.

Live every day to the fullest. Respect your neighbours. Protect the environment. And may some of your dreams come true.



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Chris Kostiw - Life at the Cottage



Diane Mills - Landscape



Dave Anderson - Nature

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Purple Loosestrife

OFAH/OMNR Invading Species Awareness Program

Purple loosestrife is a wetland plant native to Europe and Asia that was brought to North America in the early 19th century. This highly invasive plant was likely introduced when its seeds were included in soil used as ballast in European sailing ships and discarded in North America. The plant was also spread by early settlers and is still used in flower gardens and occasionally sold in nurseries today.

Since it was brought to North America, purple loosestrife has become a serious invader of wetlands, roadsides and disturbed areas. The plant forms dense stands with thick mats of roots that can extend over vast areas. The stands reduce nutrients and space for native plants and degrade habitat for wildlife. Each plant can grow as many as 30 flowering stems that can produce up to 2.7 million seeds each year. The tiny seeds are easily spread by water, wind, wildlife and humans.

In 1992, the Canadian and United States governments approved the release of two European leaf-eating beetles, *Galerucella calmariensis* and *G. pusilla*. The beetles are natural enemies of purple loosestrife and feed primarily on the plant, although they occasionally eat other species of loosestrife. This biological control of purple loosestrife can reduce populations by up to 90 per cent and allow native plants to re-establish. The beetles were widely released in Ontario, and purple loosestrife populations at many of these sites have been significantly reduced.

Range

Purple loosestrife was first introduced to the Atlantic coast of North America. From there, it spread westward across the continent to Canadian provinces and U.S. states except Florida, Alaska and Hawaii. In Ontario, the plant has spread widely throughout the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin, and to scattered locations in the north around cities and towns such as Timmins, Geraldton, Sioux Lookout and Rainy River.



Impacts of Purple Loosestrife

- The plant forms dense stands with thick mats of roots that can spread over large areas, degrading habitat for many native birds, insects and other species.
- By crowding out native plants, it reduces biodiversity.
- Large stands of purple loosestrife can clog irrigation canals, degrade farm land and reduce the forage value of pastures.

How to Identify Purple Loosestrife

- One horizontal underground stem, known as a rhizome, can produce 30 to 50 erect stems. The stems are woody and square, and each one can form a plant up to 2.4 metres high and 1.5 metres wide.
- Individual flowers have five to seven pink-purple petals about 10 millimetres long, arranged on long flower spikes at the top of stems.
- Leaves are opposite or whorled and 3 to 10 centimetres long, with smooth edges.

Similar species that may be mistaken for purple loosestrife include fireweed (*Epilobium agustifolium*), blue vervain (*Verbena hastata*), blazing stars (*Liatris spp.*), native winged loosestrife (*Lythrum alatum*) and native swamp loosestrife (*Decodon verticillatus*).

What You Can Do

- Learn how to identify purple loosestrife and other invasive plants.
- The best time to remove purple loosestrife from your garden is in June, July and early August when it is in flower. Small areas can be dug by hand. Cutting the flower stalks before they go to seed ensures the seeds will not produce future plants.

- For more information on identifying and controlling purple loosestrife, see the brochure *Purple Loosestrife: What You Should Know, What You Can Do*. Go to www.invadingspecies.com and click on [publications](#) and [downloadable resources](#).
- To dispose of purple loosestrife, put the plants in plastic bags, seal them, and put the bags in the garbage. Do not put them in the compost or discard them in natural areas. Discarded flowers may produce seeds.
- Avoid using invasive plants in gardens and landscaping. Buy native or non-invasive plants from reputable retailers. See *Grow Me Instead: Beautiful Non-Invasive Plants for Your Garden*. Go to ontario.ca/invasive-species, click on [Here's a list of things you can do to help fight invasive species](#), and click on the title
- When hiking, prevent the spread of invasive plants by staying on trails and keeping pets on a leash.
- If you find purple loosestrife or other invasive species in the wild, please contact the Invading Species Hotline at 1-800-563-7711, or [report a sighting online](#).

Other Resources

- [Ontario Invasive Plant Council](#)
- [Invasive Species: A Threat to Ontario's Biodiversity](#)
- [Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs – Ontario Weeds](#)
- [Invasive Species Centre](#)
- OFAH/OMNR Invading Species Awareness Program. (2012). *Purple Loosestrife*.
- Retrieved from: <http://www.invadingspecies.com>

OPEN DAILY
Victoria Day
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14" Steenburg Lake Clock

www.oldhastingsgallery.ca

Memories of Bass Lake (cont.)

by Richard McCarthy

CHAPTER 10 - The Havelock Bank Robbery

In 1961, when I was 15 years old, I had invited my neighbour, where we lived in Toronto, to come to the cottage for the weekend. It so happened that that was the weekend of the sensational "Havelock Bank Robbery".

I have to give you a little background first. Most of you on the lake will have travelled the North Steenburg Lake Road all the way around the lake and on to "Murphy's Corner" as it seems to have been labeled now.

"Old Timers" would always have called it "Murphys' Corners", as that's where Mart Murphy and his brothers had their lumber mill on the south-west corner of the intersection, and it is my understanding that 4 different townships intersect at those 4 corners. A bit more information, and then I'll get back to my story. If you take a quick left and then a quick right to carry on along the "Steenburg Lake Road", you would travel past Dickie Lake (the Bowes & Cocks Shawano development), then Thanet Lake, and then you would have to take the Ridge Road to Wollaston Lake and then left on 620 to Coe Hill. Years ago, if you didn't turn right on the Ridge Road but went straight, there used to be a very rough road that went through to another road upon which you could head in a southerly direction towards Havelock. Another thing you might find interesting is that if you

continue straight up that hill instead of turning right on the Ridge Road, you will find the Moore Farm on the right hand side of the road, owned by the family (after which the Moore Headland and Moore's Landing has been named).

Now, back to the story. Several enterprising bank robbers decided to rob the Havelock branch of the Toronto Dominion Bank. They had determined the day of the week when one of the large businesses in the Havelock area was paying their employees. They knew that a large amount of cash would have to be at the bank. They robbed the bank and headed north from Havelock in a get-a-way car and had another car stashed along the way so that they could do a switch of vehicles and continue their escape. Many things went wrong for the robbers including getting stuck, being eaten by black flies and mosquitoes, having to deal with the OPP, and having to confront the very brave residents of our area. Somehow, they made it through to the area of our lake, and broke into the Hiles cottage at the end of Austin's Bay (which is now the home of Kent and Sheryl Anderson). Bert and Doreen Hiles were from Belleville, where Doreen was the nurse/receptionist for my Uncle Richard (Dick) Potter who owned the cottage where Robert and Peggy Delaney are today. I remember Curtis Fitzgibbon along with other locals in our area knocking on the door where the Pollards now live. They were all carrying rifles, and warned us to stay in the cottage and not to let anyone in, as they felt that they had surrounded one of the robbers, and that he was within the area of a few cottages along our shoreline.

I remember my friend Billy Russell going home that weekend and saying it had been the most exciting time of his life. They never found the approximate \$230,000 that had been stolen. I also remember that there were way more berry pickers the following spring, all hoping to find the stolen money.

CHAPTER 11 - Hot Dog!

Uncle Dick and Aunt Enid (the Potters, who lived where the Delaneys now live) were good friends of the Wellers at 973 Steenburg Lake Road North. Carol Weller and her family are still enjoying Steenburg Lake. When the Wellers arrived at the cottage from their home in the USA, they would bring big white hotdogs up for my aunt and uncle, and I can recall how good they were when BBQ'd on the big stone BBQ at the front of what is now the Delaney's home.



CHAPTER 12 - The Eldorado Cheese Factory

Back in the 50's, the Eldorado Cheese Factory really made cheese. Men and women in white clothing, white aprons and white hats walked around huge vats of cheese curd being churned with large metal mixers. If you stopped there on the way to the lake to purchase cheese, they'd take you into a large cold room where they stored and aged the cheese. When you told them that you wanted a certain quantity of new, medium or old, they would take a big wheel of cheese down off of the shelf and cut it with a wire with 2 wooden handles. The cheese was wrapped in a brown paper that would slightly discolour with the oil from the cheese as you carried it in the car to the cottage. If children in the car wanted some curd, they'd put some in a bag for you at no cost. As the years went by and costs had to be controlled, artificial or dried ingredients must have been used to make the cheese, as it gradually lost its wonderful taste. Cheese production ceased many years ago, and the store continued as a good place to stop and get an ice cream cone and possibly a plastic wrapped package of cheese that had been made somewhere else.

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CHAPTER 13 - The Junior Bass Lake Association

When we were being raised on the lake in the 50's and 60's there weren't as many cottages and as a result of that, most of the young people got to know each other. Our lake is wonderful the way it is now, but there are so many young people at the lake now that there are many sub-groups. Some of my favourite memories include:

1. PJ Marshall flying down the lake in his aluminum boat to visit us at our cottage where the Pollards are now.
2. Gloria Pinder, and the song G-L-O-R-I-A that came out at that time.
3. Nancy Bick who lived at 756 Steenburg Lake Road South where I believe the Bigellis live now.
4. The late Kathy Bingham who water skied with us lots who lived at 754 Steenburg Lake Road South where I believe Jessie Ray lives now.
5. Dianne Burke, Rick and Bud Burke's sister. I remember how my brother John, his friend and I had to carefully plan how we would fall water skiing right in front of their cottage so we could meet them.
6. Mrs. Burke, giving her a piggy back ride through the woods in the dark to the cottage next door.
7. The MacLaughlin/Cassan cottage now owned by Lynn & Glen Rusaw at 486 Steenburg Lake Road South with its big red metal water slide that wooden toboggans came flying down and skimmed way out on top of the water
8. Wayne Candy, my next door neighbour, and I swimming across our bay to join John Daley, Joe Cooper and friends at an evening campfire.
9. Bob MacLaughlin, Lynn Rusaw's brother, being made the President of the Jr. Steenburg Lake Association, with our initial project to build a dance floor on "Snake Island", now called Picket Island.
10. Berry picking with Doris Powers and Betty Burton (nee Johncox) on Moore's Landing, and probably eating more berries than I picked.
11. Having dances in the boathouse and Susan Walsh dancing with me. At the beginning of every season, visiting Walsh's Island and getting a hug from Mrs. Walsh.
12. Sailing in the Steenburg Lake Regatta with Betty Burton crewing and coming 1st.

Membership Report

by Marlene Pollard

I am happy to report that we have 172 paid members in our association. A few more memberships will still be coming in during the fall months. A total of 19 used our pay pal service. Every year the number is increasing.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our canvassers. They are as follows, John Harnett, Margot Withey, Wendy Butler, Pat/Heather Stallaert, Dave Anderson, Elaine/John McCarthy, Christina Candy, Carolyn Dobson, Wendy Rudd, Dave McDonald, Jim/Susan Bridger, Joanne Boyce, Ashley Cameron, Irene/Ed Horne, Cathy Wilson and Eileen Walsh. Again, thank you.

We have some new members to welcome to the lake. They are as follows, Sue Empson, Tim and Carol Philips, Arvin and Leticia Mabalay, Sheila and Phil Conroy, Terry and Chris Kostiw, Dave and Sandi Bigelli and John Bush. If I have missed anyone I apologize and please let me know. I see there are a few cottages up for sale this fall. Hopefully we will be able to welcome new owners in the spring.

There were no 50 years member certificates given out this AGM. If there are any members coming up to this mark next year please let me know and we will recognize them at the 2015 AGM.

Also, I would like to thank the road cleanup crews who took part in the cleanup. On the South road were Alasdair McDonald, Hamish McDonald and Dave McDonald. On the North road were Ian and Pat Fraser, Dawn and Kevin Newman and Ron Pollard.

Have a good winter and see you all in the spring!



Lake Stewardship Report

by Don Mills

My name is Don Mills and I agreed to join the Steenburg Lake Community Association Executive, as Lake Steward, at the Annual General Meeting in August. Diane and I moved to Steenburg Lake, from London, in the spring of 2010 and we currently live, full-time, off the North Road near Adam's Bay.



According to the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) a Lake Steward is- "A designated individual who acts as a liaison between cottagers and lake/cottage associations, and community stewardship partners such as the Ministry of Natural Resources; this individual helps spread the word about environment-related issues, and motivates others to become involved in habitat restoration projects and other community initiatives".

Until he stepped down this year Dave Langman has held this role for several years. He deserves a big "Thank you" for the way he has championed for our lake, represented us and carried out this role.

Two important jobs the Lake Steward has are to participate in water-quality monitoring programs and in the Ontario Invading Species Awareness Program. The Lake Partner water-quality monitoring program began in 1996 and since 2002 has been coordinated by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment from the Dorset Environmental Science Centre. Each year more than 600 volunteers monitor total phosphorus levels and water clarity in almost 500 inland lakes in Ontario. By measuring total phosphorous and water clarity, it is possible to detect long-term changes in the water quality of individual lakes. Such changes are often due to the impacts of shoreline development, climate change and other stresses. Total phosphorous levels in Steenburg Lake have remained below 10ug/L since 2002. These are levels that are low enough that we should not experience algae blooms. Water clarity has remained consistent around 15 feet over the same period. This is all good news.

Invasive species are one of the greatest threats to the health of our lake. In 1992 the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters partnered with the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources to establish the Invading Species Awareness Program. The objective was to address the threat that invasive species such as zebra mussels pose to Ontario waterways. Invading Species Watch, a volunteer-based lake monitoring program, is part of this effort. FOCA is a strong supporter and has created the Lake Association Aquatic Invasive Species Monitoring Program to encourage associations like ours to do the necessary sampling and supply essential data on an annual basis. We have done that in the past and will continue in the future.

In the fall of 2010 a water test revealed that zebra mussel larvae might be present in Steenburg Lake. This obviously raised concern and in the fall of 2012 Dave submitted additional water samples for analysis. The results, as have more recent tests, failed to identify any evidence of zebra mussels. This is also good news.

We have been well-served by Dave in the past as he collected and submitted the water samples. Hopefully I can continue to do that with the same enthusiasm. We have been given a beautiful lake by those who were here before us. Our challenge in the future is to keep it that way.

The Social Corner

by Donna Cochrane

Summer Events

June 28th- Canada Day was again celebrated on the lake at the Cochrane Boat Launch. It was a perfect evening with 30-35 boats on the lake (depending on who was counting). The shoreline was full with cottagers and mosquitoes. All had a great feed with French fries and blood. The Limerick Fire Department was also on hand this year. With all collected donations we have purchased a 10" propane ice auger for the Fire Department. This auger will be donated to the Fire Department on behalf of the SLCA. The auger will assist with fires during the winter months.

July 12th-The Regatta held at the beach was well attended. The weather was perfect and the smell of the hamburgers and hotdogs brought smiles to everyone. I would like to thank Eric Huygens for the barbecue and to Anthony Genovese for getting the food. Once again Dave and Margaret Anderson did a fantastic job of providing lots of fun and enjoyment in the water.

Results of the races are as follows:

Kayak	9 & under	1 st Jeremy C.	
		2 nd Aaron C.	
		3 rd Thomas S.	
	10-13	1 st Hilton Knox	
		2 nd Kaitlyn S.	
		3 rd Ben Anderson	
	14-17	1 st Ashley Cameron	
		2 nd Laura Anderson	
		3 rd Adrienne Amento	
18 & older	1 st Alana Waddell		
Swimming	9 & under	1 st Maisie Anderson	
		2 nd Jeremy C.	
		3 rd Aaron C.	
	10-12	1 st Ben Anderson	
		2 nd Kaitlyn S.	
		3 rd Cailyn B.	
	13-15	1 st Brendan Cameron	
		2 nd Robert C.	
		3 rd Brendan B.	
	16-18	1 st Gabriel C.	
		2 nd Adrienne Amento	
		3 rd Ashley Cameron	
	Canoe 2 person	9 & under	1 st Jeremy C. & Aaron C.
			2 nd Ben & Maisie Anderson
			3 rd Ashley Cameron & Adrienne Amento
10-13		1 st Cailyn B. & Kaitley S.	
14-17		1 st Josh & Nate Anderson	
		3 rd Brendon Cameron & Robert Conauer	



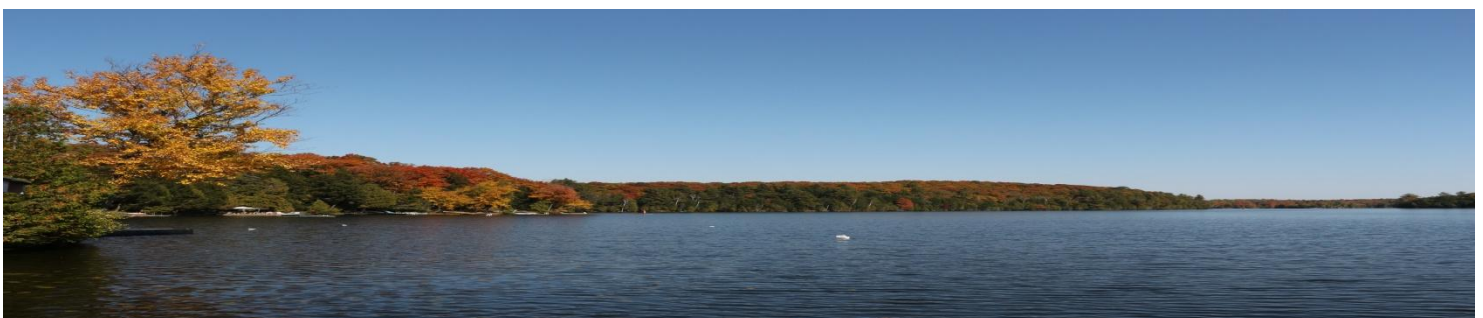
This year Dave and Margaret added a 4 person team canoe relay race. This provided lots of excitement as team members hopped or fell out of the canoe to race to the finish. No medals were awarded for this race as it was just for fun. Thanks again Dave and Margaret for a job well done.

August 3rd- AGM. We had an excellent turn out for the meeting. We have added a few new members to the SLCA executive. Welcome aboard Ken Deboo in Municipal Affairs, Don Mills as Lake Steward, Melissa Stallaert as our Newsletter Editor and Peter Waywell who will take over the lake markers.

August 9th-The Fun Run was held on one of our better weather days of the summer. There was an excellent turnout of runners and walkers. Wendy Butler did a great job of organizing this event and had lots of helpers the day of the race. Thank you Wendy.



Our summer has come and gone. We are now watching our trees turn and the leaves fall. It is time to close up your cottage and for those who still come up during the winter months don't forget about the Family Day Weekend celebration in February. Watch the website for more info on this event. Have a great winter and see you all in the spring.



Financial Report - August 31, 2014

by Dave McDonald

	2014	2013	2012
Assets:			
Bank Account	\$ 5,726	\$ 5,960	\$ 5,256
PayPal	121	301	12
GIC - 1 Yr 0.15% Cashable Nov 7 2012	-	-	2,504
GIC - 2 Yr 2.00% Oct 8 2012	-	-	3,105
GIC - 2.5 Yr 2.45% Nov 29 2013	-	13,959	13,625
GIC - 2.5 Yr 1.80% Mar 15 2014	-	5,253	5,160
GIC - 2.5 Yr 2.05% Apr 9 2015	3,233	3,168	-
GIC - 2.5 Yr 2.00% May 7 2015	2,589	2,538	-
GIC - 1 Yr 0.50% Oct 16 2014 (Cashable)	4,014	-	-
GIC - 5 Yr 2.30% Laddered Dec 3 2018	7,144	-	-
GIC - 5 Yr 0.75% Dec 3 2018 Cdn Equity	7,080	-	-
GIC - 5 Yr 2.30% Laddered Mar 15 2019	5,356	-	-
Prepaid Insurance Sep/14-May/15	1,158	1,062	1,065
Inventory T-Shirts/Hoodies	684	1,046	1,008
Total Assets	\$ 37,106	\$ 33,287	\$ 31,736
Net Assets represented by:			
Reserve for Future Expenditures	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
General Fund, Unrestricted	13,287	11,736	9,045
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	33,287	31,736	29,045
Excess (Loss), Current Year	3,819	1,552	2,691
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 37,106	\$ 33,287	\$ 31,736
INCOME:			
Membership Fees	\$ 6,075	\$ 4,300	\$ 5,010
Advertising Income	1,200	1,275	900
Fundraising Income, Maps	-	20	30
Fundraising Income, Merchandise	2,720	1,940	2,355
Fundraising Income, Fun Run	345	350	390
Fundraising Sponsor/Donation	-	-	10
Interest Income	499	526	487
Total Income	\$ 10,839	\$ 8,411	\$ 9,182
EXPENSES:			
Fundraising Costs, Merchandise	\$ 1,535	\$ 1,738	\$ 1,454
Fun Run Expenses	473	648	717
AGM, Regatta, Movie Night	523	361	660
FOCA Dues & Expenses	687	596	567
Insurance	1,534	1,423	1,385
Newsletter Expenses	1,305	1,126	1,011
Members Handout	224	149	137
Bank, Paypal & Admin Charges	109	82	77
Rock Markers, Fishing Derby	390	291	250
Sign Maintenance	-	5	109
Donations/Gifts/Memberships	133	150	25
Web/Webcams	109	99	98
Water Testing	-	191	0
Total Expenses	\$ 7,021	\$ 6,859	\$ 6,491
Excess (Deficit) for period	\$ 3,819	\$ 1,552	\$ 2,691



The increase in Net Income for 2013-2014 is primarily due to timing issues: delays in collection of membership fees for 2012-2013, as well as merchandising income deposited in 2013-2014 but earned in the prior year.

The Cottage Bookshelf

Review by Pat Stallaert

If you're like me, maybe you enjoy a good read while up at the cottage, for those buggy nights or rainy days... Well, if this past summer wasn't much of a summer, it certainly provided plenty of opportunity to kick back with a good book. Lately, and particularly while at the cottage, I've taken an interest in books about the history of this area. "**The Trail of Broken Hearts**" by local Bancroft author Paul Kirby, is one such book I'd like to recommend.

One in a series of short paperback books entitled, A History of Hastings County, I picked it up at The Old Hastings Gallery in Ormsby. I'd heard about the book while it was still being written, and again when The Moose FM mentioned a book signing at The Old Hastings Gallery. Unfortunately, I couldn't make it to The Gallery the day of the book signing, but I'm glad they still had it and many other great books in stock when I did make it up.

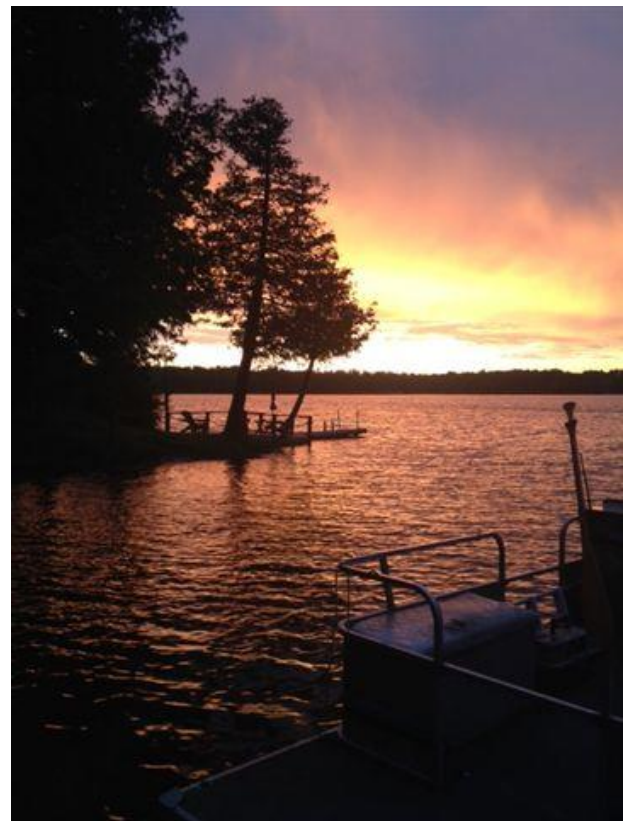
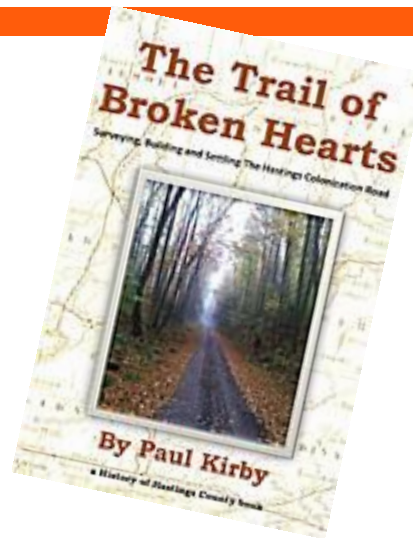
The book tells the story of the Hastings Colonization Road that the then government of Upper Canada (later Ontario) established, along with several other north-south as well as east-west roads, to help open up the frontiers for settlement. This ambitious undertaking started in February 1851 and involved the surveying of what is known today as the Old Hastings Road. It started from the north-east corner of the Township of Lake and was to follow a line north-west 45° until it intersected with the north branch of the Madawaska River. Along with surveying the path of the road, the crew was also instructed to mark out lots and concession on either side of the road to enable further subdivision and colonization.

In 1856, the government took out ads in Europe, the United States and the rest of Canada advising of free land grants to anyone who could clear and cultivate the prescribed minimum area and build an acceptable dwelling on the land within the first five years. The ads extolled the virtues of the pristine and fertile lands. Immigrants from all around, but predominantly from Ireland (which at the time was suffering from the great potato famine), Scotland, England and other parts of Canada, flocked to the area for the promise of a brighter future. Little did they know of the harshness of the dense forests and swamps, barren rock outcroppings, and the long bitter winters.

The book tells of the settlements of Millbridge, Glanmire, Thanet, Murphy's Corners, Umfraville, L'Amable, York River (now Bancroft) Herschel, Monteagle and Doyle's Corners, and of the lives of many of their early settlers. There are accounts of early churches, mills, post offices, and schools, and it is well illustrated with old photos and maps. It even tells the story of the first two murders in North Hastings, and the countless first-hand accounts of what life was like in those difficult times. It's fascinating to learn how the many towns and roads in the area got their names.

Though not likely to ever make it on Oprah's best seller list, it's a delightful read, and short enough that even a weekend visitor might enjoy, without taking away too much time from all the other fun activities: A definite candidate for your cottage bookshelf!

The Cottage Bookshelf is a new feature of your Shoreline News. Feel free to submit your own reviews and recommendations to Newsletter@steenburglake.com. Otherwise, be prepared for more from yours truly. Don't say I didn't warn you!



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Cottage Cookbook

by Melissa Stallaert

Fall is here and with it comes the cooler weather. This time of year it's great to sit down with a bowl of something warm and hearty. Soups and stews are perfect for this! This meal is great to make ahead and just reheat up at the lake and is sure to be a crowd pleaser. Serve with warm rolls or crusty bread such as a French loaf or sourdough. This recipe has been a Stallaert family favourite for years!

Rutabaga Ragout

Ingredients:

- 2 medium onions – chopped
- 1 stalk celery – chopped
- 2 tbsp butter
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 lb boneless pork butt – cubed (we often use tenderloin)
- 1 can (540 ml) apple juice (we usually use as much as 900 ml)
- ½ tsp dried basil leaves
- ½ tsp salt
- ¾ tsp pepper
- 1 bay leaf
- 3 cups rutabaga – cubed
- 2 carrots – sliced
- 1 large potato – cubed
- 1 cup frozen peas or corn (we use corn!)
- 2 tbsp flour (adjust if more apple juice used)
- ¾ cup water

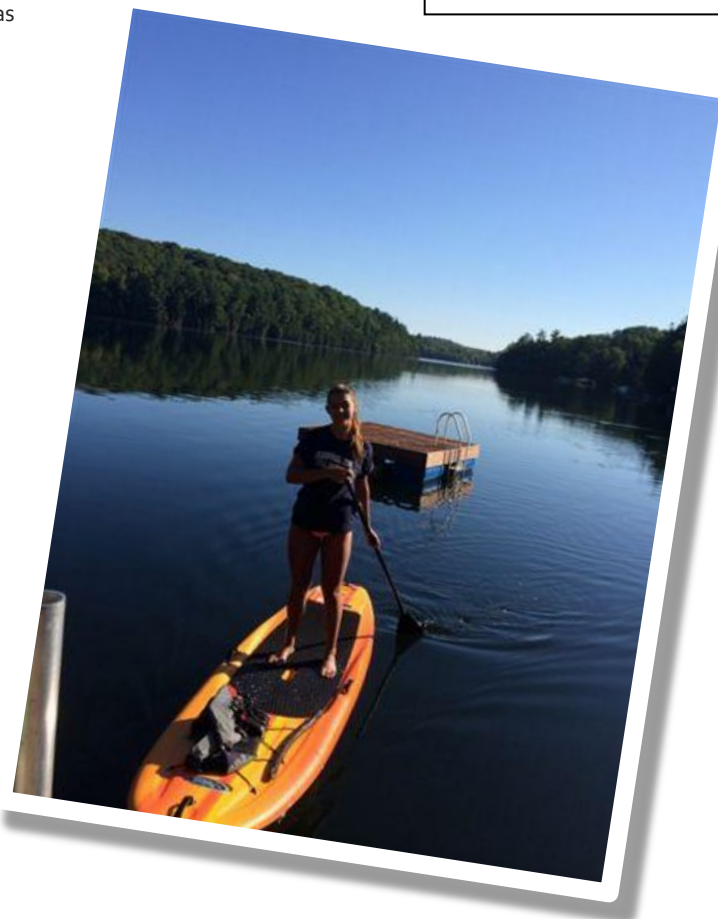
Directions:

In a large skillet or Dutch oven, sauté onion and celery in butter- oil mixture over medium heat for 5 minutes. Add pork and brown. Stir in apple juice, basil, salt, pepper, and bay leaf. Simmer, covered 15 minutes. Add rutabaga, carrots and potato. Simmer 15 minutes. Stir in frozen peas or corn, return to boil and simmer 5 minutes. Shake flour and water in jar with tight fitting lid. Stir into ragout. Cook stirring until thickened. Makes 4 servings (but we usually double or triple the recipe as leftovers make great lunches). Enjoy!



Feel free to submit your favourite cottage recipes to:

Newsletter@steenburglake.com

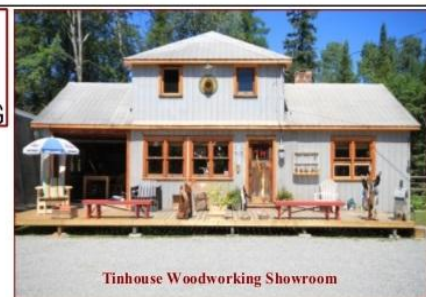


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Municipal Affairs Report

by Ken Deboo

Hello, my name for those of you on the lake who don't know me, is Ken Deboo. I was recently chosen to replace Dave Golem, as Municipal Affairs liaison. My wife Cathy and I have owned a cottage on the lake for 9 years and have recently moved up here to become full time residents.

Dave has recently moved away from our little slice of heaven up here in God's country. He will be commuting from his new home, in order to complete his tenure as Reeve until a new reeve is elected.

I think that I will have some rather large shoes to fill, as Dave, being Reeve of our township, did a fine job of communicating the goings-on of the community with us on the Lake.

Speaking of elections, there are numerous candidates running for Limerick and Tudor councilors and reeve positions for the next 4 years.

A new resident of our lake, Susan Empson, has entered her name to run for Limerick councilor. It would be nice to have someone from our lake in town council who we hope, would take our lake/community concerns to heart.

I firmly believe that it is time for new and younger people in both Limerick and Tudor councils. In my opinion, there has been far too much "old boy's club" mentality representing the townships, especially Tudor.

Election Day is October 27th. Please vote. If you are not sure that you are entitled to vote in Limerick/Tudor go to "www.voterlookup.ca" "Anyone who owns or rents property in Limerick or Tudor is allowed to vote in the upcoming municipal election.

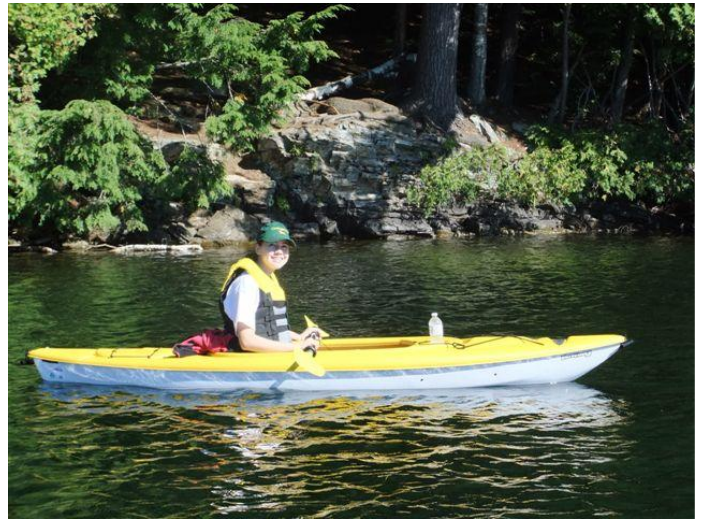
Roads- Kudos to Jason Post (Limerick roads superintendent), and all the bridge construction workers, who completed the re-work of the new North Road bridge, 2 weeks early.

Although it was quite an inconvenience for those on the North Road, the 2 1/2 weeks that the road was closed was necessary because the bridge was really dilapidated and was ready to collapse at any moment.

I have been told that Limerick Township will be next, looking to repave Hwy 620 from Hwy 62 to Ormsby. Also on the list, is a repave of the North Road, depending on funding and grants available from the province. We're hoping some of this future grant money may be able to be used on improving South Road maintenance as well.

Limerick Community Centre is in the process of being re-insulated and new walls installed in order to keep up with the ever increasing heating costs. We recently attended a community supper at the Centre put on by "The Friends of Limerick Club" in order to help support this endeavour. I highly recommend attending any future suppers as the home cooked meal that was served was outstanding. Check out the Limerick website for future dates (www.township.limerick.on.ca).

Please enjoy the beautiful fall scenery while it lasts. The "white stuff" will be along soon.



So What Do You Get for \$30?

by Pat Stallaert

I've been a canvasser for the lake association for four years now. It's a lot of fun, and it's been a great way to meet some of my neighbours and get to know them better. Marlene, our Membership Director, has it all figured out for us each summer with a handy and easy to follow canvassing kit. Pretty well most of my neighbours have been long time residents of the lake and members of the SLCA. They realize all the work and planning their lake association puts in, but occasionally I meet someone who's not yet a member, or who hasn't been a member in many years. I never fail to ask whether they would like to join, as I realize that for \$30, it's really great value for your money.

Occasionally, I'm asked, "What do you get for your \$30?", so I just thought I'd try to round up an answer to that question:

I'll start with the obvious one, and the one most non-members are already aware of... There's all the great social events like The Canada Day Fireworks, the Annual Beach Regatta and BBQ, the 5 km Fun Run, and in recent years, the Family Day Celebrations and Ice Fishing Derby in February. Though it's true that we sometimes ask for a small additional contribution to offset some of the more expensive events such as the fireworks, you only have to attend one of these events, like the Beach Regatta and barbeque with your family or friends, to more than make up your \$30.

"But what if I'm not into the whole social scene?"

Well then there are the many services your lake association performs for you, that many of our members and non-members enjoy and

possibly lose sight of, such as: the placement and maintenance of rock markers in the lake, the roadside clean-ups that the SLCA organizes and our volunteers perform, the very helpful and informative website complete with 3 web cams, a local members forum for exchanging ideas and asking questions or sharing news, archives of all our minutes of meetings as well as past newsletters, photos, an email redirection and notification service and more.

Then there are these beautiful newsletters that are either mailed or emailed to you twice a year, chock full of useful, informative, and (we hope) entertaining information.

Still not convinced?

Well then there is all the hard work and lobbying your SLCA Executives, Directors and volunteers do on your behalf, all year round. Whether it's trying to get improvements made to our local roads, or participating at local municipal meetings, or lobbying your local townships to delay road closures until after the busy summer months, or working with local authorities such as the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority to ensure the best possible protection of our lake and water levels, and to help guard the McGeachie Conservation area and historic cottage from possible commercial exploitation, we do it all. And if you think your taxes are too high, you're absolutely right, but know that your SLCA are always monitoring and always challenging your local municipalities on where the money goes and whether it is being spent wisely.

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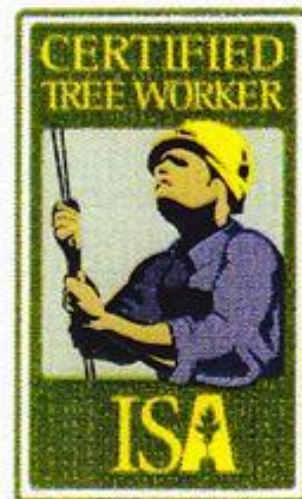
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Your \$30 (Continued...)

But wait, there's more... your SLCA membership allows us to be members of, and have a say in, the Federation of Ontario Cottager Associations (FOCA). This is a large, province-wide lobby and advocacy group that deals with waterfront property owners issues and concerns at the provincial level, and makes huge amounts of valuable information available and research possible.

On a more local note, your SLCA tests and reports annually on the quality of the water in our lake, whether it's phosphorous levels, clarity tests, or zebra mussel tests, we do it all. We are constantly on the lookout for invasive species and threats like blue-green algae blooms and when something happens to threaten our lake, we take appropriate action and notify the right authorities immediately.

"Well I don't know..."

OK, realize too, that your SLCA carefully manages, invests and reports on nearly \$40,000 in assets which your membership has helped to build up over more than half a century. This is an impressive war chest that many lake associations are quite envious of. And if you don't think there are any future threats to our lake from such forces as large commercial property developers, guess again!

And did I mention that every year, your SLCA makes contributions to local causes that benefit our community? Whether it's donations to your local fire department for new equipment or purchases of products or gift vouchers that help support our local businesses, we do it all!

So the next time one of those pesky SLCA canvassers (like me) come around to ask you if you'd like to join the Steenburg Lake Community Association, instead of asking "Why should I?"... Ask yourself instead, "Why wouldn't I!"



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Update on McGeachie, CVCA and Other Things that Should Really Concern All of Us

by Pat Stallaert

Earlier this year, we reported on events and proposals that were being tossed around at the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority (CVCA). Basically, the CVCA, like most conservation authorities is cash strapped, and with most of its infrastructure (read dams and flood control systems) aging and needing repair, it was looking for radical new ways to cut costs. The Board of Directors came up with an ill considered plan to transfer all the operational aspects of the CVCA to the neighbouring Quinte Conservation Authority (QCA). Eventually, the Board came to its senses (and we think the QCA lost interest in the idea), and they abandoned the idea.

But this doesn't mean that the CVCA is out of the woods financially. The ten member townships are still concerned with the risks these deteriorating dams and weirs pose, as well as the increasing levies they pay to operate the CVCA.

Your SLCA has been monitoring the situation at the CVCA, and has had numerous discussions and meetings with them. We are concerned that the CVCA may one day look to dispose of the McGeachie Conservation Area on Steenburg Lake, or the historical Conley-Drinkwater cottage which the McGeachie entrusted the CVCA to protect and preserve for future generations to enjoy back in 1994. Of course our greatest fear would be seeing this large parcel of sensitive woodland, marshes and waterways, fall prey to another large commercial developer.

With this in mind, interested parties introduced CVCA management to officials from the Hastings Prince Edward Land Trust (HPELT) in the hopes that the two might find a way to guarantee the protection of these lands in perpetuity. Those of you who attended our AGM already know that our guest speaker was Mr. Ken Murray, president of the HPELT. Ken gave a brief presentation on their organization and how they were established to protect valuable heritage sites like McGeachie.

Following this presentation, a motion to establish a reserve budget of up to \$2,500 to help facilitate the transfer of the property from the CVCA to the HPELT was passed by the SLCA membership. Also, we learned that a long time friend and anonymous supporter of the McGeachie Conservation Area, pledged to match up to \$10,000 in donations from the SLCA or any member of the public, who also donated to help protect the property into the future.

Since the AGM in August, we've learned that the Board of the CVCA are open to the possibility of transferring the land to the HPELT, and have struck a special advisory committee to investigate the possibility and options for ensuring the long term protection of these lands. Our own David Golem was appointed a member of that committee, so we hope to be kept abreast of the developments on this issue.

Though it is not yet clear how the CVCA will proceed with regards to ownership of the McGeachie Trails and adjacent cottage, you can be certain that your SLCA executive will be a strong and outspoken voice for the protection of these valuable assets.

In the meantime, it would be a perfect time for each of you to contact your newly elected councilors and reeves in both townships, to impress upon them how important it is that they do everything in their powers to protect these lands and the environment from future development. Do it quickly while these politicians are still fresh, and haven't forgotten who they serve and why they were elected. Make sure the future members of the Board of the CVCA also know that you expect them to do what is best to protect and preserve these jewels in our community.



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www.steenburglake.com/Merchandise.html

The Future is Clear...

by Ken Deboo

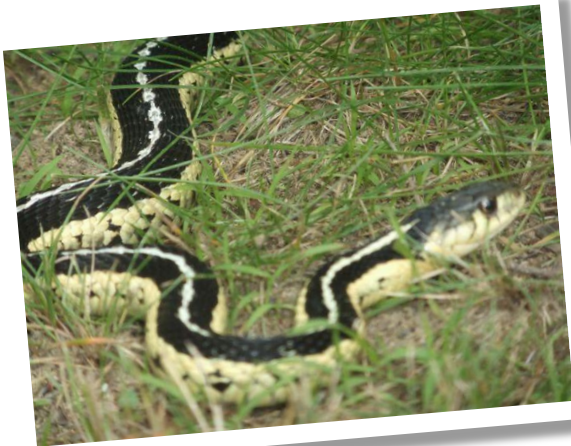
To those of our members who reside in or have properties in Limerick Township, please be advised that major changes are taking place with regards to the townships waste site. The township has decided to convert the waste transfer site back to an actual waste disposal site. The experiment of shipping solid waste out of the township has proven no longer financially viable. As of January 1, 2015, waste will only be accepted in clear bags to ensure that recyclable items are diverted from landfill. Black plastic bags will no longer be accepted.

Residents of Tudor-Cashel will confirm that that township's two waste sites have only accepted household waste in clear bags since March of 2011. Both townships have extensive recycling programs in place and we urge anyone who visits these sites to take full advantage of these programs. Waste management is a large component of our tax bills and a direct impact on the environment. It therefore behooves all of us to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle whenever possible.

And while on the subject of waste, a friendly reminder goes out to all cottagers along the South Road, to please refrain from piling leaves and brush within 10 feet of the roadway. Besides being unsightly, the snow plow operator tries to keep the road as wide as possible in winter and this requires room to push the snow back.



"Hello, I'm the city tax appraiser and it has come to our attention that you have added a bird house to your yard."



Cottage Closing Tips

How many of these top 10 tips from FOCA did you already know?

1. Leave no valuables at the cottage – electronics, personal items, tools etc. – unless you're prepared to lose them.
2. Sporting goods – fishing rods & equipment, water skis, toys etc – if they're not secured (locked up, hidden or both) don't expect them to be there next spring.
3. If you are leaving vehicles, make sure they're winterized, secure and disabled – for snow machines, remove track and hide keys, ensure boats are covered and locked, outboard motors locked and slightly disassembled. ATVs disabled – leave nothing on trailers unless it is locked or disabled. Remember – "Lock it or Lose it!"
4. Secure your cottage windows and doors – close window curtains or blinds and put up shutters to protect interior from marauders (animals and human).
5. Pack up and take home all alcohol.
6. Do not leave firearms or weapons at the cottage.
7. Marking your personal items can make it difficult for thieves to resell stolen goods, and will make it easier for your items to be identified and returned if found. Record the serial numbers of anything of value left behind.
8. Make a list of the property you are leaving at the cottage, and also a list of the property that will return to your cottage on your first or next trip there.
9. Identify who is your **cottage property key holder** for alarms, thefts, weather damage or animal problems.
10. Know your local [OPP Detachment](#) (1-888-310-1122) that patrols your cottage community.

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Even more cottage closing tips:

- from the [Electrical Safety Authority](#)
- from [Hydro One](#)



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Would it still be Cottage Country WITHOUT Loons?

FOCA Media Release - Ontario September 18, 2014



Two reports released in mid September 2014 remind us that big changes are coming to Ontario's lakes and rivers.

First: Audubon's **Birds and Climate Change Report** suggests that within this century, "the call of the loon may disappear" from its traditional territory as a result of global warming. The bald eagle is on the list, and the Baltimore Oriole. In fact, Audubon's models suggest that 314 bird species of 588 studied will lose more than 50 percent of their current climatic range by 2080 due to habitat disruption brought on by climate change.

Second: The World Meteorological Organization's (WMO) annual **Greenhouse Gas Bulletin** indicates that greenhouse gas concentrations rose 34 percent since 1990. The WMO is UN's authoritative voice on the state of Earth's atmosphere, the climate it produces and the ultimate distribution of water resources. "We know without any doubt that our climate is changing and our weather is becoming more extreme due to human activities such as the burning of fossil fuels," said WMO Secretary-General Michel Jarraud. "The laws of physics are non-negotiable."

Climate change will affect our land and water resources, our economy and ultimately our way of life. **The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) cautions that these profound shifts will impact our waterfront communities, and indeed everyone in Ontario, where our existence is inextricably linked to our watery legacy.**

As freshwater expert Bob Sandford warned FOCA members recently: "If you have a house on a lake or river in Canada, you are going to have a ringside seat to observe and measure these changes, which we are only beginning to anticipate and do not yet fully understand." Sandford is the EPCOR Chair of the Canadian Partnership Initiative in support of United Nations "Water for Life" Decade.

We have already seen the impacts of these shifts in climate, precipitation and extreme weather events that overwhelm our infrastructure and that can wreak havoc on our economy. Each of us knows someone who has experienced these new realities. The Insurance Bureau of Canada reported that severe weather caused a record amount of property damage in Canada in 2013. Unpredictable is the new normal.



What does all of this change mean for Ontario's freshwater lakes and rivers?

In Ontario, we can expect to experience lower lake levels, shorter periods of winter ice, invasions of more and different non-native species, and dramatic changes to the conditions that support our fish and wildlife. Higher water temperatures may accelerate the accumulation of mercury and other contaminants in the food chain and ultimately fish, and may contribute to more toxic algal blooms.

So - what can we do?

It is incumbent on all of us to reduce our contribution to the global problem of heat-trapping greenhouse gas emissions, as a major and first step.

As individual citizens we can help by increasing energy efficiency at every opportunity, reducing energy consumption including the number of miles driven, by avoiding waste, and by recycling.

Lawmakers have to anticipate and plan for the impacts of climate change to reduce future damage. These adaptations may include shifts in fisheries management and farming activities, changes in building codes and public health management, and making preparations for extreme events.

We need to minimize human pressures on the global and local environment to reduce the vulnerability of ecosystems. Prudent actions include reducing air pollution, protecting the quality of water supplies and aquatic habitat, minimizing urban sprawl, reducing habitat destruction and fragmentation, restoring critical habitats, and preventing the spread of invasive non-native species.

These actions should be taken now. In addition to preventing or minimizing environmental impacts, acting now will result in collateral benefits that include cost savings, cleaner air and water, improved habitat and recreation, and enhanced quality of life for all of us. I hope that we take steps today so that, in the future, our grandkids and their children will still hear loons on the lakes of this Province.

Terry Rees is the Executive Director of the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA), and is based in Peterborough, Ontario. FOCA has represented the interests of Ontario's waterfronts for over 50 years, and is one of the largest landowner membership organizations in the Province. www.foca.on.ca

Contact: Terry Rees
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Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations
#201 - 159 King St, Peterborough Ontario K9J 2R8

Related Links:

Audubon www.audubon.org/#WMO
www.wmo.int/pages/mediacentre/press_releases/pr_1002_en.html

Sandford foca.on.ca/foca-2013-fall-meeting/IBC

www.abc.ca/en/Media_Centre/News_Releases/2014/January/Canada_in_undated_by_severe_weather_in_2013.asp

Continued...

Photo Contest Winners



Shawn Nevins - Child under 11



Jay Defoa - Action



Laura Anderson - Teens

Giving Back

by Donna Cochrane

On October 7th, the SLCA presented a new propane powered ice auger to the Limerick Fire Department. Marlene Pollard, Membership Director, was on hand to make the presentation to these brave volunteers. This auger will be used to help reach water in winter when responding to fires at properties near a lake or other body of water.

The money was collected during the 2013 and 2014 Canada Day fireworks at the Cochrane's. Five dollars of each family's \$25 donations was targeted to this cause.

A special thank you also goes out to Sandra of **Chris' Bait Shop** in Marmora for providing a very favourable price on the auger.

Following the presentation ceremony, the members of the Fire Department were treated to a wonderful home-made fish and chips dinner.

This is just another example of your SLCA giving back to the community, and how your generous donations at events, help to make our community stronger. As appreciative as our Fire Fighters are for this donation, let's hope they never have to use this new equipment on our lake.





Around the Lake...

