

Shoreline News

Steenburg Lake Community Association

November 2001

Mission Statement

New

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. 🌲

Your SLCA Board

Loy Rosati-
President

Chris Langman-
Social

Barb Rockwell-
Membership

Ian Fraser-
Security

Ken Waddell-
Treasurer

Rick Burke- Lake
Stewardship

Wendy Rudd and
Kim Cranfield-
Secretaries and
Editors

President's Report Fall 2001

"IMAGINE ALL THE PEOPLE, LIVING LIFE IN PEACE."

Tragically this fall, peace seems a scarce commodity in a world that seems bent on a straight-line path of self-destruction. Hopefully, at some point in time, saner minds will triumph and we will live as one.

As the leaves change to vibrant reds, oranges and yellows, owners are closing up for the year. I would like to review a long list of topics that we should all consider over the winter in order to maintain our lake next spring.

FIRE

This year was a severe drought year and the fire hazard was from high to extreme to an outright ban for most of the season. However, fires were still seen during the evening hours. An out of control fire, in such tinder conditions, is not the financial or legal responsibility that anyone would want, just for a tradition or a few marshmallows. Please keep abreast of fire conditions and heed them. The SLCA has made a donation to the Limerick and Tudor/Cashel fire departments for operating and to cover the cost of signs on both North and South Roads for next year. These warnings are for everyone's protection.

Match Box Story

Around mid July on the south road, in the area between Zylka and Boswell properties, approximately 35 to 40 match boxes were found by the edge of the road. The matches had been lit, thrown to the ground and left. Luckily, the matches caused no further problems but could have in this severe drought condition. The matchboxes were from all over the world, including the U.S., and Europe. Anyone missing a collection like this may know who took and lit them. If so, please explain to these persons of the hazardous outcome these actions could have caused.

Recycling

In the next few months, I will be approaching both Limerick and Tudor/Cashel Townships about the issue of recycling hazardous wastes (paint, oil, etc.) as well as recycling of household waste in Tudor/Cashel. Check out the Spring Newsletter for a reminder of the Dump Hours.

In this issue:

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2. Loon update
3. Membership and Financial Report
4. SLCA Birthplace is gone

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President's Report Fall 2001 - Cont'd

Loons and Wildlife

We are blessed with an abundance of wild life on the lake such as the Merganser duck family and the loon family with two babies. Please be cautious while operating watercraft, give them a wide berth and keep your eyes ahead while driving so as not to jeopardize the well being of the brood (per our Provincial laws, have at least one spotter in the boat while towing).

Shoreline Education

The time has come to look at what we individually do that affects the lake. This includes our individual shoreline. The best care of the shoreline is to leave it alone. The law states that nothing can be done to the shoreline without the proper permits. Application of foreign material is prohibited including beach sand, concrete walls or grass. Please try to refrain from these practices. In future newsletters, we will be supplying information to help educate property owners on the appropriate way to maintain your shoreline to the best advantage of the life of the lake.

Annual Meeting and Dinner

As usual, we had a great response to the Annual Dinner. (Thanks Social Committee!) Not so, however, for the Meeting. We did not have a quorum (percentage of members) so motions and actions could not be passed. We got around this by doing some business at the dinner. I would ask that at least one member of your party attend the meeting, allowing us to do the business for which we have been voted and to keep yourself abreast of the issues. Then, the rest of your group can join you for the dinner!!!

Water Operators License

We will be offering dates next summer to write the Water Operators License test at Steenburg Lake (possibly at McGeachie Conservation Area or Limerick Rec. Centre). Read up on your manuals and get ready to write next summer! More info will be available in the Spring Newsletter (approx. cost \$15 - \$30).

Have a Safe Winter Season. Do not hesitate to call at 613-474-2348 or e-mail at bjrockwell@hotmail.com with any concerns or comments. 🏠

Loy Rosati, Pres.



RE/MAX®

Bonnie McLean-Dyas resides on North Steenburg Lake Road at Murphy's Corner's, and is a 10-year area resident.

If you are thinking of Buying, Selling or Relocating, call Bonnie for a **FREE** (no obligation) market evaluation of your property. Call 1 877 670 SOLD (7653) or (613) 474 2257

Did anyone else notice there were fewer frogs this year? I think the ponds must have dried up before they got out of the tadpole stage. I wonder if we will see a decline next year too?



Since we're neighbours... let's be friends

Rentals - If you plan on renting next summer, please take some time to let your neighbours know as well as brief your renters on the courtesies and responsibilities of renting your cottage.

Noise - Noise travels far near water. Please be respectful of your neighbours and mindful of the time when you are entertaining.

Dogs - Every attempt should be made to keep your dog on your own property, but when they stray, please be sure to pick up after your animals.

Loon Update:

Once again we were fortunate enough to have the successful hatching of two baby loons on Steenburg Lake. They hatched on July 3rd & 4th. Both were doing well at the end of the summer and this information has been forwarded to Long Point for the Canadian Lakes Loon Survey by Anita Waddell 🏠

Membership Report – Barb Rockwell

What a terrific summer season (although definitely too dry!) and what a season for new owners around Steenburg Lake. The Steenburg Lake Community Association and fellow members would like to extend a warm **WELCOME** to these new owners/members and wish them many happy years on our beautiful lake.

#2	Eileen Hudson of Gilmour	93	David and Patti Doherty of Burlington
5	Bruce and Gail Woodbeck of Stirling	98	Anthony and Christine Genovese of Toronto
8	Don and Maureen Evans of Guelph	105	Dave and Carol Matthews of Scarborough
#11.	Harry and Sue Voskamp of Brighton	114	Paul and Deb Rayment of Whitby
1			
13	Gord and Betty Simpson of Eldorado	136	David and Liz Barkley and Susan Pike of Toronto and Scarborough
20	Dwayne and Carla Pinder of Apsley	155	Joe and Jane Cameron of Scarborough
23	Robert and Peggy Delaney of Pickering	188	Jim and Linda Anderson of Pickering
32	Jim Alexander and Tia Wirth of Tillsonburg	201	Bob and Val Peverley of Peterborough.
78	Richard and Susan Forsythe of Bowmanville		
91	Tom and Eleanor Corner of Brampton		

WOW!!

We are in desperate need of a few new canvassers. It takes just a few hours each season and is a great way to meet fellow cottagers. The following areas are in need:


Area #12 Cottage #123-136

Area #13 Cottage #137-150

Please call Barb, next spring at 613-474-2348.

If you missed your canvasser, you may have already received a letter reminding you of your dues. Please don't delay and send off the cheque to:

SLCA, c/o B. Rockwell, Box 325, R. R. #2, Gilmour, ON K0L 1W0

Have a great winter. 

Steenburg Lake Community Association – Interim Financial Statement September 8/00 – September 7/01 by Ken Waddell, Treasurer

Balance forward		12,264.92
Income:		
Memberships (107 x \$25)	3,700.00	
Interest (GIC & Bank acct)	599.53	
Advertising income	60.00	
		<u>4,359.53</u>
		16,624.45
Expenses:		
Photocopies & postage	415.60	
Insurance	432.00	
Rock markers	200.00	
Donations	80.00	
AGM prizes	100.00	
Beach BBQ & Rock Bass Derby	355.32	
Bank charges	2.50	
Annual Meeting (Bar/Dinner)	27.25	
		<u>1,612.67</u>
Balance		15,011.78
Reconciliation		
Bank Account (Sept. 7/01)	2,511.78	
GIC Investments	<u>12,500.00</u>	
Balance	15,011.78	

S.L.C.A. BIRTHPLACE IS GONE!!

Yes, it's true, what was then called The Bass Lake Community Association had its beginnings in the mid-Fifties when Keith Little, Warren Lloyd and Val Carswell met with Ron Mathieson beside the fireplace in his log cabin high on the hill at Hunter's Point. These families, soon supported by many others, had become concerned with some of the conditions on the lake and were convinced that they needed to create a "voice" to be heard by Limerick and Tudor Township Councils as well as Municipal Affairs at the provincial level. Over the years the Association was able to lobby for such services as a dump, improved roads, fish stocking and much more. On their own behalf they also held an annual meeting, took on water testing, buoy placing and developed recreational activities such as a regatta. One of the Association's greatest achievements was to hold off over-development at the trailer camp and later the Headlands. Hard to believe that none of this would have happened without the dedicated executives and supporting members of the past almost fifty years that followed that meeting in the cabin. And now we hear that the cabin is no more!

It is just a year now since the present members of the Mathieson family came to the difficult decision to sell the Hunter's Point property which also included the original cottage down at the point. For them, writing a goodbye note for the newsletter will provide some closure to all those many Mathieson "Bass Lake" (we just can't change that name!) years. Violet (now 92) can claim to be the first Bass Lake summer as well as the last. In 1915 Dr. Will Mathieson (a Toronto dentist), his wife Dr. Lily Mathieson (a physician), Violet and her younger sister Mary made that first trip by train, wagon and boat to spend the whole summer. The small original cottage (built in a few days by Mr. Norton) was augmented by a large tent and as many provisions as possible had been brought in with the "campers" since there would be no transportation but a rowboat and canoe and "shank's mare" to Weller's store out at the railway. Fishing was both a pastime and a necessity. This became the annual routine with son Ronald becoming part of it in 1917...and a lifelong Bass Lake addict. Also, Dr. Lily's mother Mrs. Elizabeth Boyington was frequently a part of the group during her lifetime.

The cabin did not become part of the "compound" until the late thirties when teenager Ronald was given \$100 by his friend Mr. Wood. This allowed him to fulfill a dream and buy a cabin (twelve-inch hand-hewn hand-sawn logs) he had seen for sale at the Ridge, then have it taken apart and moved by wagon to its resting place on the hill. The "skeleton" building weathered the war years with a cedar shake shingled roof to protect it until, after the war, the owner could gradually have it chinked, a fireplace installed and the inside finishing done over the next ten years or so as finances allowed. After marrying in 1951, Ron and his wife Mary took the final step, moved the accumulation of the years out of the cabin, and themselves moved in. There followed many busy and happy years entertaining friends and relatives, and to accommodate them and the arrival of son William in 1961, the adding of bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom and screened verandah to the back. Memories to fill a book!

Perhaps the most astonishing last bit of news we have had is that the cabin has been reincarnated over at Wollaston Lake! We hope those sturdy old pioneer logs provide the new owners with just as many happy years as the Mathiesons had. We also send out best wishes to our friends still enjoying Bass Lake summers and, finally...long may the Steenburg Lake Community Association thrive!

Violet, Marv, Will, Heather, Vicki and Jackie Mathieson

Some thoughts from Wendy....

When I sat down to write this editorial I tried to make some notes first, all I could remember about the summer was the heat. We were lucky enough to have our holidays during the 3 hottest weeks. We were in the Lake everyday, all of us including our 2-month old son. We had a great time at the annual dinner and it had nothing to do with our oldest son winning the Rock Bass derby. Now his tackle box is bigger than everyone else's put together. The water was also really low this year. I think we gained more island but at times it was difficult to get out of the boat. And I won't mention the rocks in the lake, which were a lot closer to the surface than usual.

Well, we won't be up again until Easter. I hope the mice haven't rented out our outhouse as we forgot to put away the toilet paper with which they have been building, but if they are happy there maybe they won't move into the cottage. See you all next year.

From Kim;

The letter to the ^{left}right has been graciously forwarded to us from the Mathieson family for reasons explained in the letter.

We hope you enjoy it as much as we did.

We invite you to share your memories of Steenburg Lake with us and the members of the Associations. Please e-mail your submissions to kim.d.cranfield@aexp.com

The best of the holiday season to you and happy snowmobiling.

Kim