

# Shoreline News

Steenburg Lake Community Association

October 2004

## Mission Statement

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

### Fall 2004: President's Message

#### Your SLCA Board

Dave Golem -  
President

Steve Brown-  
Social

Marlene  
Pollard-  
Membership

Garry  
Goodfellow  
Municipal  
Affairs

Glenda  
Opsahl-  
Treasurer

Rick Burke-  
Lake  
Stewardship

Kim Kerr and  
Barb Lavallee-  
Secretaries and  
Editors

Over ten years ago, a study of water quality in all the local lakes determined that Steenburg Lake, along with several others, was at that time at its maximum capacity to absorb, and pass through, the contaminants introduced by human inhabitation.

At the fall meeting, the Executive of SLCA made the decision to begin testing samples of water from the lake, commencing in the early spring, 2005. Water purity is one of the most important factors in keeping the lake a beautiful, living, ecosystem, attractive as a recreational resource for our future. Once we have test results, however, our future depends on what we do next.

It is not good enough for us only to try to maintain the existing quality of the lake, because we already know that existing pressures will cause the lake to deteriorate over time.

Ten years ago there were a very few permanent residents on the lake. Today there are quite a few. In ten years time there will be more.

Ten years ago most seasonal residents came to the lake only in July and August, usually for only two or three weeks, and on some other weekends when the weather was warm. The highways have improved, so today many more people come to the lake on weekends throughout the summer, and sometimes in the spring and fall and winter. In ten years, it is very likely that the "person days" at the lake, per year, will increase further. People bring their cars, boats, seadoos, ATVs, and themselves. Each of these elements adds a little more pollution to the environment.

So what can we do to preserve the lake? We cannot reduce the number of owners on the lake. Who would agree to tear down his cottage and donate the land to the Conservation Authority? So we must work with the numbers we have, but if we simply try to keep things the same, the lake probably will deteriorate.

So logically, the question we must face is: "How do we constantly *improve* on the things we are doing so we don't destroy our lake?"

Although I can think of some things we should do, I don't pretend to have all the answers. We all need to put on our "thinking caps", and to keep this question keenly in our awareness as we make plans for the future, and live our lives in the present.

Despite the fact that many owners have installed newer systems, there are still many septic systems on the lake which are not up to standard. As the number of visits increases, the pressure on those old systems does too. Can we, as concerned lake residents, agree on a program to phase out these old facilities over a reasonable span of time?

More motors, and more powerful motors, constantly add to the oil and gasoline being spilled into the lake.

Petroleum products cannot be assimilated by the lake. Can we, as concerned residents, make some hard decisions about allowable horsepower, or numbers of allowable recreational vehicles, or in some other way, reduce the escalating influence of machines on this *natural* resource?

Without pitting neighbour against neighbour, can we come up with a system of controls to deal with the few individuals who still ignore the common sense rules about reconfiguring shorelines, dumping pollutants in the lake or on the land, or building structures that blot out the natural vegetation along the shore? Can we create an attitude of concern that constantly urges everyone to learn about, and use, environmentally friendly products at the lake?

It is not good enough to do what we did in the past, and it is not good enough to keep on doing what we are doing today. Either we do things better, or we will lose the lake as we know it.

There is your challenge. Will you meet it? Let us have your thoughts.

Dave Golem

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT SEPTEMBER 2004

I hope everyone had a great summer. The weather wasn't the best and in fact rumour has it that it was the wettest in 40 years. I would like to report that out of a possible 192 members there are to this date 163 paid members plus 7 members who have been on the lake more than 50 years bringing membership to a total of 170 members. I will be sending out letters to some of the cottagers who were missed. Many new people this summer!!!! I would like to take this opportunity to welcome them to the lake. The new members are:

Pat and Heather Stallaert from Whitby cottage #50  
Todd and Sandra Stewart from Cayuga cottage #91  
Barb and Howard (Dee) Fitchett from Oshawa cottage #106  
Gary and Lynn Butler from Oshawa cottage #115  
The Turner Family from Peterborough Cottage 195 Big Bob Island  
Joe and Kim Kerr from Courtice cottage #30.1  
Joe and Valarie Burke from Pickering cottage #44  
Andrew and Michelle Barton from Ajax cottage #45  
Paul and Susan LaRose from Georgetown cottage #113  
James and Patricia Riches from Pickering cottage 35.1  
Robert and Mary Cudahy from Pickering cottage #9

All the above cottage #'s are the association numbers and not the 911 #'s. The reason being that we have to refer to the association numbers because we dealing with 2 townships and their 911 numbering system. This is why I reproduced the lake map with the 911 #'s.

Also I would like to thank all my canvassers who went out in the rain and fought off the bugs to collect the memberships. Again THANK YOU and looking forward to working with you again next year. They are:

Peggy Moffat, Ian Fraser, Judie Hughes, Lee Burton, Peter Belsey, Irene Horne, Elaine McCarthy, Sue Jarson, John O'Rourke, Ken Waddell, Barb Rockwell, Joanne Boyce, Joe Cameron, Amy Truscott, Garry Goodfellow and Eileen Walsh.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season and see you all in the spring.

Marlene Pollard

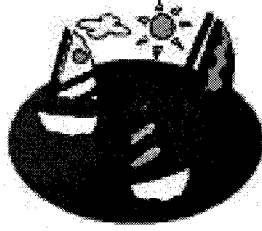
Did you know that Cottagers can get their name on the Voters list by  
calling 1-866-296-6722?

Steenburg Lake Cottage Association  
 Financial Report  
 August 31, 2004

	2004	2003
<b>Assets:</b>		
Bank BNS #62422 002 00957 88	\$ 2,556.64	\$ 3,772.35
GIC - 1 Yr Cashable	2,045.12	870.00
GIC	12,300.00	12,000.00
Interest Receivable	0.00	0.00
Total Assets	<u>\$ 16,901.76</u>	<u>\$ 16,642.35</u>
	=====	=====
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	16,642.35	16,395.65
Excess, Current Year	<u>259.41</u>	<u>246.70</u>
Net Assets, End of Year	<u>\$ 16,901.76</u>	<u>\$ 16,642.35</u>
	=====	=====
 <b>INCOME:</b>		
Membership Fees	3,778.00	3,295.00
Interest Income	<u>686.96</u>	<u>22.44</u>
Total Income	4,464.96	3,317.44
 <b>EXPENSES:</b>		
AGM, Barbeque, Meetings	845.86	1,021.36
POCA Dues & Expenses	386.87	0.00
Insurance	1,431.00	896.40
Newsletter, Postage/Supplies	557.30	232.70
Members Handbook	562.23	0.00
Bank Charges	1.25	2.50
Rock Markers, Fishing Derby	371.04	264.61
Decals	0.00	632.50
Sign Maintenance	0.00	20.67
Donations	<u>50.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Expenses	<u>4,205.55</u>	<u>3,070.74</u>
Excess for period	<u>\$ 259.41</u>	<u>\$ 246.70</u>
	=====	=====

## Do's and Don'ts For Steenburg Lake

So that all people who come to Steenburg Lake can enjoy the lake and its surroundings, there are some simple rules that should be followed:



1. Be courteous of your neighbour.
2. Don't play loud or offensive music, especially late at night. Remember sound travels over the water.
3. If you are planning a project at your cottage, check with the Township Building Department. If you are planning to work in and near the water, check with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and Ministry of Environment before starting.
4. Follow safe boating practices and make sure your boat is equipped with the necessary equipment.
5. There are several areas that should be especially watched when boating as these are very shallow areas and rocky:
  - A) Small island Lot 194 on the Buoy Map\* page. It is shallow all around this island for quite a distance so when boating past it, stay far out. Also on one side of this island towards the two big islands, there are two buoys with smaller bottles in between. **DO NOT GO BETWEEN THESE BUOYS.** It is not a channel. Go on either side of the buoys.
  - B) On the north side of island Lot 194, there is a narrow channel from the point at lot 20 to a small narrow strip of land. This channel is very shallow and rocky. Boats should slow down when going through this channel and it is recommended that skiing or other water sports not be done because of the shallowness of this area. This is for your safety. Many props have been ruined in this shallow water.
  - C) There are also areas where the buoys are quite close to the shore such as at lot 146 and lot 25. **DO NOT GO BETWEEN THE BUOY AND THE SHORE.** Stay to the outside.
6. Don't pollute the lake and please watch your septic system
7. If you decide to take a long swim across the lake or away from shore, please have a boat follow you. It is not easy to spot a swimmer, especially in an area where you don't expect them - like the middle of the lake. Please be responsible and follow safety rules

\*TO VIEW BOUY MAP GO TO [www.steenburglakeassoc.ca](http://www.steenburglakeassoc.ca)

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## 2005 SUMMER ACTIVITIES ON STEENBURG LAKE

### ROAD CLEANUP AND BEACH BBQ/REGATTA

*Saturday, July 16, 2005* (Rain Date July 23)

*Cleanup* 9:30 a.m.

Meet at the Beach for North Road

Meet at the first fork for South Road

Hey Kids – Add to your community service hours. We will provide a letter for your school.

*BBQ and Regatta* 11:00 a.m.

At the Beach

Bring canoes, paddleboats, life jackets and your appetite for  
food and fun!!

### STEENBURG LAKE ANNUAL MEETING

*Sunday, July 31 2005*

*10:00 a.m. at the Limerick Centre*

coffee, tea, juice and muffins to follow

**FREE**

with a Non-perishable Food Item for the Bancroft Food Bank  
or a Donation to the Limerick Centre Kitchen Fund

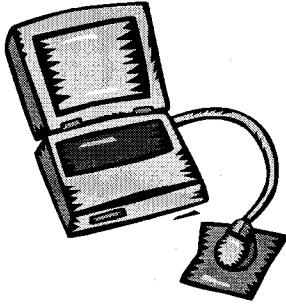
***Get Back to the Lake for a Restful Afternoon of Surf and Sun***

**Remember:** Operators of power-driven pleasure craft must obtain and carry proof of competency on board at all times. This is the law. It applies to all operators of powerboats, personal watercraft and motorized sailing craft that are used for recreational purposes within Canada.

All Operators born after April 1, 1983 September 15, 1999

All operators of craft less than 4 m in length including PWCs September 15, 2002

All operators September 15, 2009



Check out our new website at  
[www.steenburglakeassoc.ca](http://www.steenburglakeassoc.ca)  
 It is still under development so contact Susan Nevins  
 at [steenburglake@aol.com](mailto:steenburglake@aol.com) with your suggestions.



*On behalf of the members of the SLCA a gift basket of goodies was sent to the home of Tom Quinn wishing him well following his recent accident. Our thoughts are with you and your family, Tom, and we look forward to seeing you back at the lake.*

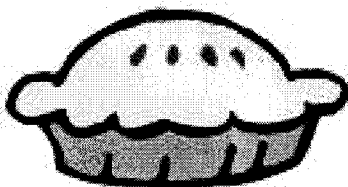
With the upcoming holidays many of you will be cooking large meals and wondering what to do with all the leftovers. The following is a good suggestion that our families have enjoyed in the past.

### Leftover Pie

Stuffing	cooked vegetables
Cranberry sauce	mashed potatoes
Cooked turkey	gravy (optional)

Press enough stuffing into a 9 inch pie plate to form the base. Layer cut up turkey, cranberry sauce and vegetables and top with a smooth layer of mashed potatoes.

Place in oven at 400 degrees for approx. 15-20 minutes. Slice and drizzle with warm gravy if desired. Enjoy!



Both Barb and I are looking forward to serving as secretary and newsletter editors for the SLCA. This is something new for both of us, but with some help from the committee, Kim and Wendy hopefully our first attempt is up to par!

My husband Joe and I, and our three kids are from Courtice. After coming to visit Barb and Kevin on the lake (Kevin is my brother) we got the "bug" and we were happy to have found our dream cottage, also on Steenburg! We are excited to be your new neighbours as of May 7<sup>th</sup> this year and look forward to meeting as many of you as we can.

Kim Kerr

With the addition of our third daughter we quickly outgrew our first cottage and searched for over a year until finding one that filled all our needs (including a shorter drive from our home in Brooklin). My husband Kevin and I have truly enjoyed our first full year on Steenburg Lake and look forward to many more!

Barb Lavallee