



LKO SPRING NEWSLETTER

**LAKE KASHAGAWIGAMOG
ORGANIZATION**

APRIL 15 2008

President's Message

Stan Peck

Due to our record snowfall this winter, we will probably have to wait a little longer to start enjoying Spring at the Lake.

The LKO membership fee has remained at \$25.00 for several years now in spite of inflation pressure and suggestions that we increase the fee to \$30.00. Rather than do this, we have decided to give members the opportunity to designate extra money to up to three preferred causes (see the renewal form). Hopefully, most members will respond to this approach and we can defer raising the basic membership fee.

In thinking back over the last several years I was proud of what LKO members and the Board have accomplished:

- The Regatta has two years of success behind it and plans are to repeat again in 2008.
- Through the support of Gord Eardley and Graham Parkinson, many improvements have been made to LKO's website with more to come.
- LKO has been able to add a sandwich social event after the AGM.
- LKO actively represents members interest:
 - Still through COMHRA –a group of local associations
FOCA – Ontario cottage associations
 - Now also through WRAFT / CAPTR – on taxation issues
CEWF – on Haliburton area water levels
- LKO has continued to work with the Minden Hills and Dysart Councils to ensure that members interests are considered as new developments are being reviewed at the municipal and County levels
- LKO has continued its enhanced water quality testing by LKO Lake Stewards (now Susan and Steve Rivett) with the financial support of our Corporate Sponsors

Looking to the future, LKO members are meeting with Canning and Soyers to assess the merits of jointly developing a Lake Plan. This is looking more attractive with the tools that FOCA and the Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council are planning to create in the next 18 months or so.

LKO members, such as on the LKO Board and the Regatta Committee, are a very capable, motivated group who I have enjoyed working with and who have helped make this all happen.

So, after four years as your President, I think it is a good time for me to step down. I know that any one of your Board members is capable of taking over as your President. We are lucky to have such a wonderful Lake and it has been an honour to represent you, the members.

**CORPORATE SPONSORS OF THE LKO ENHANCED WATER QUALITY TESTING PROGRAM FOR 2006**

BONNIE VIEW INN
BRYSON'S MARINE
CHANDLER POINT OWNERS ASSOCIATION
CHATEAU WOODLANDS LAKESIDE COMMUNITY CLUB
DELTA PINESTONE RESORT
ECOETHIC
HALIMAR LODGE

KASHAGA LODGE
SILVER BEACH CAMPING AND TRAILER PARK
SPRUCE NARROWS
WIGAMOG INN RESORT
WILLIAM'S LANDING
WILLOW BEACH COTTAGES
There is also one Associate Member

LKO Annual General Meeting 2008

LKO's Annual General Meeting is again being held at the **Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion** at the **Haliburton Highlands Secondary School**. The date is Saturday June 21, 2008. Speakers will include our two Reeves, Jim McMahon for Minden Hills and Murray Fearrey for Dysart et al.

After the meeting, LKO members will again have the opportunity to mingle and chat over a lunch of sandwiches, cookies and pop.

So please mark your calendars for **Saturday June 21, 2008** from **10am to 1pm** to attend the meeting and enjoy the food.

Membership Update**Lynn Childs**

Our membership in 2007 reached 268. Sixteen new families and 2 new corporate sponsors joined our organization for the first time. In 2008, LKO expects the Northern Eagle Campers Association to join LKO getting us to 14 Corporate Sponsors. Welcome to LKO! In this mailing is your renewal form for 2008. It is important that you make any corrections to the information on this renewal form, especially your email address as we will be emailing future newsletters to you. We value the input of every member and would appreciate hearing your concerns and/or suggestions at any time during the year. Board members can be reached by telephone and email or you can attach comments to the renewal form. We are always looking for members who would like to become more involved with LKO. Assistance with the Annual Meeting and the Regatta is always welcomed. Remember we continue to rely on YOU, as an LKO member, to encourage your neighbours to join our lake association. We thank all of you for your continued support!

Do you know someone new to Kashagawigamog or not a member of LKO?

Show them this newsletter, tell them about our website and encourage them to join by contacting **Lynn Childs** at kidsplay@hotmail.com or have them go to the website and press the "become a member" button to obtain a membership form and instructions

**Lake Planning Initiative****Rob Davis**

As mentioned at the latest FOCA Fall and Spring Seminars, FOCA and the Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council are working together to develop a set of tools over the next 18 months to make it easier and less costly for cottage associations to develop lake plans.

A lake plan identifies the issues that are important to the lake residents and communicates these issues to the local municipalities through the Lake Plan document. Examples of issues that lake plans have addressed include: water quality, sustainability, lake trout status, social issues, land development, land use, water use, water levels, mapping, access, history, etc.

The Lake Plan document is both an action document and a source document that the local municipality can reference and include into the planning process. Soyers, Canning and Kash have initiated meetings to assess the merits of starting on a joint lake plan.

FOCA and the Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council will be holding a '**Lake Planning Program Stakeholder's Meeting**' on **Saturday April 19, 2008** from **10am – 1pm** at the Haliburton Fish Hatchery to kick off this initiative.

Development Update**John Matthews****Silver Beach**

- The owners have indicated that 7 units have been sold in the single family / townhouse condominium project.
- Site servicing will commence in 2008.
- Building construction will focus on the single family units and one block of townhouses.

Champlain Shores

Your board understands that this property is still for sale and there appears to be some interest. The Township of Dysart has received a request to extend the bylaw for the temporary sales office on the property.

Clees on the Rocks Lane/Cathedral Forest Trail

This development property has been dormant for a few years but there is speculation of an ownership change.

Pinestone Resorts

With the arrival of new owners in the past year, there is a possibility that there could be additional development occurring on this property. Stay tuned.



UPDATE FROM THE COALITION FOR EQUITABLE WATER FLOW (CEWF) HALIBURTON SECTOR, TSW – APRIL 1st, 2008 Bill Switzer

The CEWF is a coalition of lake organizations formed to provide input to a study by the Federal Government relating to the source and use of water in the Trent Severn Waterway (TSW). Lake Kashagawigamog is one of the lakes that the Trent system draws on for its water supply.

To date, the CEWF has not received any news as to the study conducted by the Federal Panel on the Future of the TSW. Originally, it was to be submitted to the Minister of Environment Canada by December 31st, 2007. This was delayed until March 31st due to the volume of submissions received either in person or in writing from various members of the public. Nevertheless, the CEWF Advisory Committee has been busy over the winter months trying to keep abreast of various issues that may affect the water levels in our lakes.

On December 21st, 2007 approval was granted to Royal Paving/Beamish Construction to construct an asphalt plant at the Bark Lake site near Contau Lake. The approval was for a period of 5 years.

On March 20th, Canada's Environment Minister, John Baird announced that an interim license has been granted to the Trent Rapids Power Corporation to construct a new eight-megawatt hydroelectric power generating station between Locks 22 and 23. The CEWF believes that this is yet another example of "putting the cart before the horse" on the future of the TSW. The CEWF has written the Hon. Minister expressing our dismay at the issuance of this permit prior to receiving the recommendations of the very Panel he himself appointed to study the future of the TSW. Detailed information is available at

www.trentrapidspowercorp.ca

You may have heard about the staking of claims on 4000 acres of land between Gooderham and Tory Hill where preliminary test drilling is currently underway. This may lead to the development of an open pit uranium mine. Since we have no knowledge of how or if such an operation will affect the lake levels and/or water quality in the lakes, the issue is presently outside the mandate of the CEWF. However, it COULD have very serious consequences for many of our member property owners. We ask that you contact Roger Young at roger.young@sympatico.ca if you wish further information. Roger recently wrote a very informative letter to the Editor of County Voice about open pit mining (see CEWF Update on www.lko.on.ca).

As waterfront property owners, we need to be aware of and try to minimize the negative impact that these projects will have on our water levels.

Regatta and BBQ for 2008

Over 150 people attended and enjoyed last year's Regatta and BBQ held at the **Bonnie View Inn**. Credit for this successful event goes primarily to the Regatta Committee, the many volunteers, our Regatta Sponsors and luck with the weather. Your Regatta Committee is planning to repeat this success in 2008. The date will be **Saturday July 26, 2008**. The new location will be announced in the next newsletter.

So please mark your calendars for the Saturday before the Civic Holiday weekend - **Saturday July 26, 2008 from 2pm to 5pm** - followed by the **BBQ beginning at 5pm**.



FOCA 2007 Fall Seminar

Some highlights:

- FOCA, in conjunction with the Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council will be developing a set of tools over the next 18 months to make it easier and less costly for cottage associations to develop lake plans. As result, Canning, Soyers and Kash are meeting to decide on possibly starting a joint lake plan.
- Bob Maynard of Atrens-Counsel updated FOCA members on our insurance coverage. Bob's involvement has been a very positive influence on this insurance program.
- Ernie Hills of EMO promoted personal preparedness for emergencies. He recommends having supplies at hand to last 72 hours, keeping your gas tank at least half full, etc.
- Sargeant Bob McNealy of the OPP talked about water safety
- Cottage Taxation – the WRAFT/CAPTR organizations looked for guidance on the priority approach that they should take now that the provincial election is over. e.g., continue to recommend a 5% per year cap on assessments increases.

Key Actions to Prevent Septic System Failure

1. Use "Septic Smart" cleaning products, which are biodegradable, phosphate & chlorine free.
2. Use the right biological additive to maintain your septic system.
The best, fastest working formulas contain both enzymes and bacteria.
3. Conserve water - use common sense.
4. Divert water softener/iron filter backwash to sump drain.
5. Keep trees and shrubs at least 10 ft. from your tile bed
6. Install an effluent filter in your septic tank to protect your tile bed.
7. Never drive, operate heavy equipment or park on your tile bed area.
8. Educate your family about the proper use of the septic system.
9. Have your tank pumped and/or inspected regularly.
i.e. Every 3-5 years

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FOCA 2007 Spring Seminar

Some highlights:

- Environmental Defense is an advocacy group that makes the environment its priority. The executive director, Dr. Rick Smith, spoke about the ongoing situation at Big Bay Point on Lake Simcoe. The developer won a recent decision at the OMB but is now seeking compensation for costs incurred at the OMB where a ratepayers group and its lawyers opposed the development. The outcome of this decision could have great implications for any citizens' group who participates at an OMB hearing. Check out www.environmentaldefence.ca for further information on this issue.
- A director on the Board of the Peninsula Lake Association in Huntsville described the efforts of the Association to oppose the establishment of a granite quarry near the lake. After several years of working together with lawyers, planners and the Township of Lake of Bays the association was successful at the OMB when the proposal of the applicant was denied. The director attributed their success to having a lake plan, achieving charitable status (they raised over \$300,000) and working cooperatively with the municipal levels of government. Their website is www.penlake.ca.
- A panel including James Douglas and Sabina Filipscue from MMAH, Denis Orendt of OOWA and Jamie Saunders of the Rideau Lakes Conservation Association discussed some proposed changes to the septic re-inspection process. As a result of Walkerton, source water protection is being enhanced. Vulnerable areas will be defined and for these areas mandatory re-inspection will be required. Comments on the proposed changes are due by May 1, 2008. See www.ontario.ca/buildingcode for details. Other web-sites: www.oowa.org
- Samantha Brown reviewed the Lake Planning Initiative being sponsored by FOCA and the Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council. See www.foca.on.ca under 'Lake Planning Initiative' and the article by Rob Davis in this newsletter.

LKO on the WEB

Remember, for all the latest developments on the lake and surrounding area please continue to check the web site regularly at

WWW.lko.on.ca