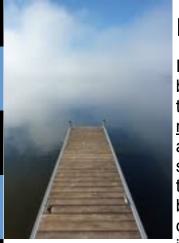


## SDRA NEWSLETTER



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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I can't honestly tell you when I first visited Skootamatta Lake but I believe it was about 55 years ago and because of this long association with the lake, I feel somewhat qualified to say that I've seen many changes to not only the immediate lake area but to the greater area of the Hwy 41 corridor and beyond. Many of my summers were spent growing up on Skootamatta Lake. My own children have had the same wonderful experience and now, like many of you, I reflect back on thousands of memories.....good memories full of frogs, fish, card games, water sports and gatherings of family and friends. During this reflection, I find it hard to single out the greatest or most significant change to Skootamatta Lake but I don't think I'm far off when I say that the words 'value' or 'economics' have redefined our lake community. In the late 60's or early 70's when so many of the current properties were developed you could purchase an acre shoreline lot for about \$30.00 per linear shoreline foot or less.

Not so today!

The cost of land has escalated dramatically. The desire of people to spend time in more remote wilderness areas to take advantage of the quality of life that these areas have to offer has increased as well and with this so have the personal and financial investments of those able to make lakes like Skootamatta Lake their principal or seasonal home. Needless to say, all of us want to protect our investments and the wilderness area that surrounds us.

Over the last several years the volunteer SDRA Board has been engaged in issues that have become larger in scope - issues that have the potential to influence change in both our economic and natural landscapes. Most recently, the SDRA was in negotiations with the Ministry of Natural Resources to protect, to the best of our ability, the shorelines and immediate areas around Skootamatta, Sheldrake and Pringle Lakes due to the logging plan. This was not an easy issue to deal with especially given the short response time lines provided.

Continued on Page 2

### **PASSAGES**

Our condolences to the following families who have lost a loved one.

The Ossenberg Family (Ursula)

The Stafford and St. Amand Families (Linda Kent)

The Stacey Family (McKay, Sears) (Fred Stacey)

The Sladics Family (Donna Marie)
Donna was wife to James and
mother of Sandra Lee and Greg.
Daughter of Esther and Cecil
Cornell. Step-daughter of John B.
Henniger.

The Anderson Family (Chuck)



"Those members that
assisted the Board by
completing and
returning our mailed
"Logging Survey" are
to be thanked for their
valued input"

Continued from Page 1...

I want to emphasize that our current negotiated logging plan is the 'best' plan that was available to us given the time lines, regulations and prescribed legislations.

Details of this plan will be available on our website, <a href="www.skootamatta.ca">www.skootamatta.ca</a>, when the plan is finalized by the MNR. Those members that assisted the Board by completing and returning our mailed 'Logging Survey' are to be thanked for their valued input. There was a 57% return rate.

My many years on the SDRA have allowed me to see the SDRA itself grow and evolve. Now more than ever before, the SDRA needs your continued input and support. It is very apparent that our lakeside communities will be facing increased economic and environmental pressures - pressures that are already firmly established in areas like Muskoka, Haliburton and the Great Lakes waterways. The SDRA Board has continued its efforts to strengthen the communication ties with our own local municipal government so that our "voice can be heard". Most of us do not participate in municipal elections and by default we are left with no voice on the council. If we want our investments, lakes and lifestyles to be protected then this will have to change. This 'change' will certainly involve a need to become less 'reactive' and more 'proactive' when dealing with issues such as logging and lakeside development.

In closing, I want to thank the many colleagues that I've had the pleasure of working with over the years. Their dedication and fondness for our lakes and surrounding areas has always been recognized and appreciated by me. Their personal contributions have made and will continue to make our lakes great places to enjoy.

I would encourage you to consider joining the SDRA Board or one of its committees as there is always work to be done. Whether it is contributing advice to an 'Official Plan', formulating a 'Lake Management Plan', hosting a Pot Luck or organizing a social event, your involvement would be welcomed! I hope you enjoy reading the newsletter and that you share the same sense of enthusiasm around cottaging or living on our lakes as I do!

Kent Farrow

### SKOOTAMATTA 2010 PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS!

This year's photo contest judge, Cynthia Shay, lives in Arden, and has visited Skootamatta. Having been on the lake, she has an idea of the kind of things members want to preserve in their pictures. This year's contest drew 35 excellent entries from 10 contestants. Congratulations to our winners and 'Thank You' to all who submitted their pictures!





"It captures the mystery and beauty of Skootamatta lake. The lake has such an energy in itself that many cottagers have had the chance to feel. This image, to me, reveals the very soul of the lake and all depths in the way the detail fades out in the fog."



"The way the sun is captured in the drops of water spraying off the soggy bodies is epic! All that have had the privilege to soak up the sun on a hot day can relate to the feeling this photo gives. I can imagine the photographer saying "1...2...3...jump!" This photo is fundamentally Skootamatta Lake and holds the sentiment of lake dwellers."







"The water rippling over the oar tells a story of peace and simplicity, often found on Skootamatta."

### LAKE EVENTS

### **JUNE**

Beach Clean up Day

Saturday, June 25, 11 a.m.

### **JULY**

Canada Day Boat Parade

Friday, July 1 Leaving from

Trails End at 11 a.m.

Picnic at Upper Beach afterwards

### Annual General Meeting & BBQ

Saturday, July 9 at 10:00 a.m.

Pineview Free Methodist Church

### **AUGUST**

FOSSP Explore

The Lake Event

Saturday, August 13, 10-12:30

Pot Luck at Ron Nowell's at 4:00 p.m.

### SEPTEMBER

**Fireworks** 

Saturday, September 3, By boat

or road to the causeway at dusk

Rain date Sunday, September 4

The 2011 SDRA Annual General Meeting
10:00 am Saturday 9th July 2011
Pineview Free Methodist Church
Hwy #41, Cloyne ON
(at the corner with Skootamatta Lake Rd.)
We will have clothing from our inventory for sale at the meeting.

Thanks to Northbrook FOODLAND

Proud sponsor of the SDRA AGM for over 17 years!

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS Jim Oborne

Members will be asked to approve the following changes, recommended by your Board of Directors, at the Annual General Meeting to be held in July. Please refer to the Constitution mailed last year or to the SDRA web site www.skootamatta.ca (and click on "About Skootamatta District Ratepayers" and "Charter").

The change in Article 4, Section 9, deletes any reimbursement payment for car mileage.

The change in **Article 6, Section 3** is to soften the language and reflect the fact that many Members forget to pay by the AGM and fees continue to be paid well past that date.

The new **Article 4, Section 11**, formally introduces the requirements for the SDRA to carry insurance and for the Corporation, and to indemnify Directors and Officers to the extent of its assets.

### Article 4, Section 9

Directors and Officers shall not receive any remuneration for their service but may be reimbursed for any 3rd party expenses for any return trip in excess of 100km, subject to Board approval (including by policy). A Director, when considering attendance at a Board meeting remote to his/her location, is expected to consider attendance by telephone, if available and significantly cheaper.

### Article 6

### Admission, Resignation, other Termination

### Section 3

The loss of voting and other privileges of a member shall take place when the annual dues are not paid within 30 days of the Annual General Meeting. Such privileges are automatically reinstated upon the payment of such dues by March 31st of the year following, and thereafter by normal application for membership, which condition may be waived by the Board.

### Article 4, Section 11

The SDRA will arrange for Directors and Officers, and General Liability, insurance coverage, and will maintain such for protection against legal action.

The SDRA further provides indemnification to its Directors and Officers, in case of potential liability due to legal action against any, or all, of such named parties to the extent of its assets. This indemnity requires both, that the named parties have acted in accordance with the legal expectations related to their position and, that the SDRA insurance policies are in place to defend the named parties from all legal costs, settlements and judgements.•

SDRA EXECUTIV	/E 2010-2011	SDRA COMMITTEES 2010-2011
Kent Farrow President	Jim Oborne Vice President	OFFICER'S COMMITTEE Chair: Jim Oborne Director/Officer Members: Kent Farrow,
Hermann Balon Treasurer	Bill Garnish Secretary	Bill Garnish, Hermann Balon, Debbie Awde (Acting Secretary)
Gary Evans Director & Webmaster	Debbie Awde Director & Newsletter	COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE Chair: Derek Mendham Vice-Chairs: Bill Garnish, Jim Oborne Director Members: Debbie Awde,
Paul Lindsay Director	Editor	Malcolm Stewart, Hermann Balon, Gary Evans
Derek Mendham Director-Sheldrake Lake Representative	Gwynneth Morais <i>Director</i>	MEMBERSHIP SERVICES COMMITTEE Chair: Kent Farrow Vice-Chairs: Gord McCulloch, Paul Lindsay Director Members: Jim Oborne, Gwynneth Morais, Hermann Balon
Gord McCulloch Director	Malcolm Stewart  Director	STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE Chair: Gord Birnie
Rosemary Teed Director-Lake Steward	Gord Birnie <i>Director</i>	Vice-Chair: Rosemary Teed Director Members: Bill Garnish, Malcolm Stewart, Gord McCulloch, Gary Evans, Gwynneth Morais, Paul Lindsay

### 2010-11 Treasurer'\$ Report HERMANN BALON **APRIL 11, 2011**

1/2/2/102	
Paid Membership (183 members in 2010)	9,103.88
Advertising Revenue	470.00
Ramp Fees Collected	281.65
Clothing Cash Sales	3,233.00
Interest earned	1.48
Plant Sale and AH Donation to FOSSP	623.00

Legal Retainer (returned to SDRA)2 1,500.00 Cash Float moved to Bank Account 5.35 15,218.36

Total 2010-11 Revenue

FX	PF	N.S	:FS

**REVENUE** 

Logging Survey		306.17
Newsletter <sup>1</sup>		1,816.22
Lake Management Plan		2,925.26
Welcome Brochure		58.76
AGM Expenses		174.01
Clothing Items		2,854.94
Maintenance		730.00
Member Events		186.45
Contests		43.86
Administration		531.17
Community Donation (Mazinaw Swim Program)		500.00
Legal retainer refund to Sheldrake Lake Assn <sup>2</sup>		750.00
Insurance <sup>3</sup>		1,765.80
	Total 2010-11 Expenses	12,642.64

Excess 2010-11 Revenue over Expenses	2,575.72
Balance carried forward	11.105.96
Net Balance	13,681.68

### Notes:

- 1) This report is prepared on a 'cash in and cash out' basis. As such, timing of deposits may distort the linking of costs and revenue for specific entries (e.g., the newsletter costs are actually offset by advertising received; however some of that advertising revenue was deposited in prior fiscal year).
- 2) We recovered the legal retainer from the lawyer and deposited the \$1500 split 50:50 between SDRA and Sheldrake Lake Assn. as per original funds deposited with the lawyer.
- 3) The insurance cost this year was significantly higher. A full review of our coverage was made and the new policy provides greater and broader coverage. It ends up less expensive on a per \$million basis; and now covers any Member carrying out SDRA work, whether a director or not, as well as SDRA activities not covered previously.

### Junior Rangers Return to Skootamatta! Kent Farrow

Once again the Junior Forest Rangers were asked to assist in cleaning up Skootamatta Lake's crown land beaches and campsites and once again they wasted no time in answering the call. This past summer eight dedicated Junior Rangers under the watchful eye of their supervisor Shawn and assisted by SDRA members Pat & Jane Falby, Jim Oborne and yours truly, proceeded to secure four boatloads of abandoned equipment, materials and garbage. Having participated with the Rangers for the second consecutive year, I again witnessed their appreciation in being able to get out and around Skootamatta Lake and to contribute in keeping 'our' lake clean and safe for all to use and enjoy. The condition that many of our public wilderness beaches and campsites are left in after their seasonal use continues to be a concern and despite the posting of signs reminding visitors to clean up after themselves, it looks as though the Jr. Rangers may be called upon annually to fill this clean up role.



The Junior Ranger Team: Zack, Nicholas, Matt,
Oliver, Adam, Ryan, Shawn, David, Robbie, Jane & Captain Falby

# S.D.R.A. Website www.skootamatta.ca Gary Evans, webmaster@skootamatta.ca

Our website continues to be the primary method for keeping members informed about the Association throughout the year. Over 80% of our current members have internet access, making the website the most efficient way to distribute information to the majority of our membership. (For issues of particular importance to members, personal e-mail and hardcopy mailings are sometimes used, in addition to news posted on the website).

**skootamatta.ca** has now been in continuous operation for almost five years, (an eternity in cyberspace), and has experienced minimal downtime. To support use over dial-up telephone lines, (until recently, the only option for most local users), the site is specifically designed with a minimum of graphics and gadgets on the main pages, (much different from most commercial websites), but it seems to get the job done. We've heard from other area lake associations that their members get information from skootamatta.ca regularly too.

If you've never explored the website, you may not be aware of the amount of information that is accessible from the 'drop down' menu boxes across the top of most pages. They provide 'one click' access to many other informative and interesting places. For example:

- <u>ABOUT\Skootamatta District Ratepayers\friends and supporters</u> -> lists businesses and others, (past and present), who have supported the SDRA though newsletter advertising or 'in kind' contributions
- EVENTS\on the lakes -> important happenings right in the neighbourhood
- <u>ARCHIVES\news items</u> -> everything that's been 'front page news' on skootamatta.ca over the years, (unfortunately no guarantees that embedded links will still be valid)
- <u>LINKS\governments\Addington Highlands</u> -> the township website

In addition to the many menu items, you can also use the 'Search Skoot' box to quickly search the entire website for specific words or phrases. And we can't forget the GALLERY\events\ section that now includes all entries in our annual Photo Contests. (Yes! We're already looking for 2011 entries, although all pictures we receive through the year are automatically entered in the annual contest). The website is also interactive! You can use the !Submit Stuff! link to upload a message, along with pictures or other files that you want to send to the Association. No address or stamp required!

I'd like to personally thank all members for supporting **skootamatta.ca**. News, inquiries and comments or suggestions are always welcome.

### EARLY HISTORY OF "THE LANDING" ON SKOOTAMATTA (LOON) LAKE

Bob Blatchford (Edited by David and Jim Oborne)

"The Landing" and the Trail's End area, now part of land leased by the SDRA, and land owned by the Trimbles, from the top of the hill to the current dock and boat ramp, was of singular importance to the Lake residents from about 1920 to 1955. Prior to this period, as the closest point by trail to the Lake from the old Addington Road, it was used as the launch point for loggers, hunters and fishermen from the 2nd half of the 1800s and for area residents for enjoyment for the little leisure time available to them.

Between 1890 and 1920, the Lake was used by some of the area's first tourists, who would have stayed at the Bon Echo Inn on the Mazinaw and the Wickware Hotel in Cloyne. They came via wagon to a dock where they could rent boats, canoes and skiffs from the Meeks family.

Alfred Ross ("Tiny") Oborne was one of those tourists, who fell in love with the Lake, and started the development of the first 30 or so cottages on the Lake from 1922 to 1929 that became the "Loon Lake Colony"- the east and south side of the Lower Lake, including Stevens Point (6 cottages), the west side of Oborne Point (about 15 cottages), Big Island (2 cottages), both sides of the south entrance to The Narrows (2 cottages) and Blueberry Point (5 cottages), which extends from Wolfe Creek to the Narrows.

At this time, a new dock was built and maintained by Charlie Spencer, financed by the cottagers. Many times it had to be rebuilt due to ice damage in the spring. Finally, the SDRA, around 1960, was able to convince the Provincial Government to build a permanent log and cement dock and boat ramp, still in use and maintained by the SDRA members (and other lake visitors). Alongside the dock were several boathouse slots in a long building owned by the Meeks, who also continued to be in the boat rental business and these slots were used to store cottager boats. From the mid '30s to the mid '50s, some cottagers would write to Elburn and Dorothy Meeks, indicating their arrival time so that their boat and cottage would be ready for their arrival for the season. Most cottagers parked their cars at The Landing, and if in close proximity, could use a coded 'honk' for a pick up by family members.

Continued on Page 10



Ed Landon, first Store owner from the 1920's to 1938

During this early cottage period, the first store/ home was established at the top of the hill, and was owned until 1938 by Ed Landon. He was an entertainer from London, Eng.-a ventriloquist and magician, who did coin tricks and could 'throw' his voice several feet. Ed also rowed some cottagers and guests to their camp. (Harry Oborne made pocket money by using his

father's inboard as a taxi as I did later in the '40s.) Cottagers were able to purchase milk, eggs, bread, butter, tin goods, soft drinks, ice (and ice cream) and candies from the Landon Store. Martha Meeks, however, remained the 'seller of choice' for eggs, vegetables and chickens (even into the early '50s), and many cottagers would also go to Cloyne on foot-they were 'walkers' in those days. There also was a well for pure and cold drinking water by the Store.

One winter Ed slipped off his porch and hurt his back quite badly. Andrew Meeks checked in on him a few days later and Ed, still in great pain, asked if he would apply some Sloan's Liniment to his back. Andrew had more experience with horses but slapped a handful of the powerful stuff on Ed's bare back.

Unfortunately, some of the liquid flowed down between his 'lower cheeks'

Unfortunately, some of the liquid flowed down between his 'lower cheeks'. His howling could be heard for miles.

Next to the store was a horseshoe pit (used in later years for SDRA competitions). The store was purchased by Robert and Bertha Fennell in 1938, who built cabins to rent, and then bought by Harold Maybee around 1950.

On July 1,1927, the Festubert Post Office opened on little Mike's Island between Oborne Island and The Landing, in a small cabin occupied and operated by Mike Schwager for the convenience of the Colony. Mike was also foreman for the construction of several of the first cottages, under the supervision of 'Tiny' Oborne, including the massive stone Skootamatta Lodge, owned by the Pearsons and now the Halperins, and later he became caretaker at Bon Echo. The Post Office was closed in September of 1927 after only one season of use (for sanitary reasons) and the Post Office was relocated to another building on the mainland by the dock and was operated by the Yanch family as the Royal Oak Post Office.



The Store and the second owners from 1938 to c. 1950 - Robert and Bertha Fennell

Mike's small cabin became the current Cabin #6 at Trail's End on the hill at The Landing but the cement foundation and base of his fireplace remain on the little island today-still called Mike's Island. The Post Offices, and their boat access, were very important to the Colony. Later, the Royal Oak Post Office was closed and the building was hauled up hill by horses in the Winter and became Royal Oak Cottage, owned by Zella Wood-Roy, the grandmother of Kent Farrow. Also at the top of the hill was a red Fire Ranger cabin-also as a fire station lookout- originally manned by Jim Marrisett, and then by Andrew and Harry Meeks, which contained firefighting equipment. Adjacent to the Fire Station was a hunting cabin owned by Sid Ballard (father of Harold who later owned the Leafs). Sid bought about 5 acres of land, which extended towards Loon Lake Lodge, from "Tiny" Oborne.

The importance of The Landing area, which was central to all cottagers' life for over 3 decades, gradually went into decline as roads and hydro extended throughout much of the Lower mainland Lake area-and cottagers became 2 car families, and their ice houses, the servicing of which provided good winter employment, were replaced with electric refrigerators. The Store and Post Office have disappeared, but The Landing dock and boat ramp continue in use, landmarks in the first 35 years of Lake cottage settlement history.

## Teddy 'Ted' Snider by Kent Farrow

I've wanted to write an article about Ted Snider for the last several years if, for no other reason, than to express thanks for everything that he has done for the thousands of customers that have walked through the doors of Snider's Service Centre and Snider's Restaurant. I had the pleasure of sitting down with Ted in the restaurant on a quiet Sunday morning this past April to get a snapshot of his life and to just.....chat.

Over the years, Ted has seen many changes concerning businesses that have provided an array of services to local residents, cottagers, campers, truckers or just travellers using Highway 41 in the Skootamatta Lake area. Without these businesses the quality of life that many of us seek on Skootamatta Lake would be radically different.

One of the pillars of our commercial service community over the years has been Teddy 'Ted' Snider. Ted was born on the 100 acre Head Farm on the Head Road on November 8, 1928. Ted has one sister who currently lives in Newmarket. I was interested to learn that Ted attended School House #2 on the Old Addington Road - the same school that my grandmother attended in the very early 1900's. This white clapboard one room school house still stands on the east side of the lower Skootamatta Lake Road (Old Addington Road) close to the Hughes Landing Road junction. Life for the Snider family changed dramatically in 1942 when Ted's father died. Instead of attending high school in nearby Flinton, Ted, at 13 years of age, went to work to help support the family.

The forest industry was booming in those days and Ted found work with 'Sawyer & Stoll' in the small lumbering town of Massonoga located near Stoll Lake northwest of Mazinaw Lake. Ted recalls 1200 logs a day being sawed at the mill.

On October 9, 1948 Ted was married to Verna in Cloyne. They have now been married 62 years. As the lumbering industry declined, Ted took a job with Ontario Hydro living like a gypsy, as he travelled all around the province doing an assortment of things but primarily driving trucks for this company. It was this job that introduced him to the trade of auto mechanics. It was also during this time period with Ontario Hydro that Ted's oldest son Jim was born. In 1954 Ted returned to Kaladar where he was employed at Shaw's Garage. Here he began his apprenticeship in auto mechanics. Shortly afterwards, Ted and Verna moved to the 'Big City' of Toronto where Ted and a business partner opened and operated a garage in the east end. It was in Toronto that Ted completed his apprenticeship and became a licensed mechanic. Toronto was also the birthplace of his two additional sons, Arnold and Tim.

In 1973 Ted, motivated by a desire to start his own business, moved his family to Cloyne permanently. It didn't take Ted long to get the shovel in the ground on a lot across from the family home. A new garage and restaurant were built that same year.

Continued on Page 13

## Teddy 'Ted' Snider by Kent Farrow

In the spring of 1974, Snider's Service Centre opened its doors for the first time—pumping Gulf gas, servicing any vehicle that moved and offering meals such as liver and onions followed by slices of blueberry and coconut cream pie as big as some of the tires being sold in the garage! For years, Verna ran the restaurant while Ted and the boys ran the garage. In the first three months that the service center was open, it pumped over 95,000 gallons of gas and was establishing itself as a very popular commercial operation. In 1989, Gulf was purchased by Petro Canada and a new working relationship began.

Ted has witnessed many things as a business owner. He recalls one funny story involving two 'City Guys' stranded on Highway 41 on a -20 degree winter night. It seems that they were returning to Toronto after taking photographs for a wedding up near Pembroke. It was about 2:00 am and Ted got a call from the OPP asking if he could take some gas out to a stranded vehicle. He agreed, hopped into the truck with a can of gas and ventured out to find the stranded vehicle. He was greeted by two young 'City Guys' – one in a dress suit and one in coveralls-both shivering and turning a light shade of blue! It seems that they were expecting Highway 41 to be like the 401 with lots of lights and open service stations. Ted chuckled, supplied them with gas, smiled as he always does, said "G'day" and got them on their way!

In 1995, Ted heard that the province was trying to transfer the maintenance of Highway 41 to the local municipality so he began compiling a list of commercial users of the highway. Ted phoned Queen's Park and asked to speak to the Minister of Transportation but ended up leaving a message with the Deputy Minister's office. Ted was surprised when the Deputy Minister phoned him back and asked if they could meet. He agreed and the two of them met at 7:30 a.m. the next day. Ted showed him the extensive list and the Deputy Minister was impressed by the considerable amount of commercial traffic using the highway. Ted was told to phone the municipal office and tell the clerk that the province of Ontario would be retaining the maintenance of Highway 41.

Ted was forced to make a very tough decision in 2007. He decided to close down the gas pumps, end his relationship with Petro Canada and focus on the mechanical side of the business. He was well aware of the implications that his decision would have on the business but also knew that he could not continue his working relationship with Petro Canada.

Today the garage and restaurant remain open and you can still find Ted either at the front desk or entertaining inside the restaurant. He is always ready for a discussion and he always asks how you and your family are doing. He is there to help you if he can. The business has changed and is now for sale. I miss the deer heads and the mounted fish on the wall but I can still enjoy Ted's friendly hospitality and genuine concern for life in the area. He has kept count and is proud of the fact that he has employed 194 different people over the years. He is also proud of the fact that the Snider family has looked after our vehicles and appetites for the past 36 years.

The next time you see Ted, you might want to thank him for the service he has provided and the friendship he has shown to those of us on Skootamatta Lake and in the surrounding area. In my books, he's a great guy! Thanks Ted! G'day!

### NAME CHANGE- "BIG ISLAND" TO "BIBLE ISLAND" Notice to SDRA Members of Request for Change

Last fall a proposal was sent to the proper department of the Ministry of Natural Resources for having the name of Big Island renamed to Bible Island. At the present time the M.N.R. is backlogged with requests and the proposal has not been up for review as yet. When I contacted the M.N.R. I was told that possibly in July the request would be investigated.

The reason for the proposal was that we (the Bible family) felt that the renaming of the island would be an appropriate legacy to my grandfather, father and uncle who had come to Skootamatta (Loon) Lake since the early twenties when it was first opened. At the present time there are 5th generation Bibles coming to the cottages on the island, and they will continue to do so for future generations we are certain.

One of the criteria for renaming of geographic site was that a family member gave their life in service of their country during a wartime conflict. Blake Island was renamed several years ago since it met the above qualification. However, when I contacted the gentleman at the M.N.R. and explained the fact that my grandfather served in World War I and was wounded, my father served in World War II and was wounded, my uncle served in World War II, and my mother worked for Sir William Stephenson (Churchill's "Man called Intrepid") during the war, he told me that he thought that I might have a solid case for having the island renamed in their honour. So I submitted the proposal with the full support of the Skootamatta District Ratepayers Association Board of Directors and the Intrepid Society and I am currently waiting for a reply.

I will keep everyone advised as to the progress of the proposal, and I am hopeful that eventually it will be passed.

Mike Bible



The Intrepid Society Incorporated, 1684 Loudoun Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3S 1A4 CANADA

10 July 2010

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

In May 1943, an extraordinarily patriotic and brave woman, left her family in Toronto (her husband was serving overseas at the time), to join Churchill's famous Spymaster, William Stephenson (later Sir William) in the covert activities directed out of his New York office. So secret were her activities that her husband was unaware that she had joined SWS's spy group. Mail was re-directed from Toronto to her, if in a secure location, or held in NYC, and to her husband in Europe. This fascinating secret in their relationship lasted until she returned from her activities on behalf of the Allied effort in May 1945.

The family of a Director of the Intrepid Society, which is devoted to the perpetuation of the memory of Sir William's achievements, has had a relationship, on Skootamatta Lake north of Kaladar, Ontario, with the Bible family since the '20s. It has been made known to the Intrepid Society by this Director that the Bible family would like to effect a name change for the island upon which they have had a cottage since about 1930. "Big Island" is the name of this island which is not that big-an obviously generic name representing nothing of moment. "Bible Island" would be a credit to this extraordinary woman and would be welcomed by the other lake residents. I believe a letter from the Lake association will attest to that fact.

While re-naming is quite common in memory of soldiers who fell in action, it apparently is more difficult for those who provided comparable service but, who by good luck or skill, managed to survive the War. The Intrepid Society strongly urges you to make an exception in honour of this woman, now deceased, whose activities still must remain secret-if only by choice of herself, her family, the Intrepid Society and consistent with Sir William's passion for secrecy.

Yours Truly

Col. Gary Solar,
President and CEO, The Intrepid Society

### Letter from the Lake Steward 2011

Rosemary Teed



We invite you to join us in this year's **Explore the Lake and Celebrate Event which will be held Saturday August 13th followed by all the fun of the Annual Potluck Supper**. We need your help in assessing our shoreline and everyone is welcome. We can all become amateur scientists for a fun day that makes a difference in the future of our lakes.

As Margaret Mead once said "A small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

There appears to be little evidence that our concerns for the environment are taken seriously by any local, provincial or federal politicians or by community business leaders. Generally they seem to ignore the fact that many of us consider natural resources to hold "natural capital" value for their aesthetic beauty and cultural impact, not just their "harvest value". In much of the MNR documentation we see statements that include words such as: healthier and more diverse environment, ecological integrity, and biodiversity sustainability, yet we constantly see examples where plans are inadequate, regulations not in place nor enforced and MNR goals and objectives not always aligned with the public view of managing our environment. If the very Ministry that we look toward for environmental protection and advanced thinking on maintaining and sustaining natural habitats does not actively attempt to engage the population from all its various sectors of influence, then in our own small way we must attempt to do so ourselves. We have been told that Skootamatta is the last lake in the Quinte watershed with relatively clean water. Do we want to maintain and improve our lake or let it go the way of other lakes in the watershed?

Last summer we held our first Explore the Lake and Celebrate event that engaged many Skootamatta Lake dwellers in taking a closer look at our shoreline and completing some inventory work. The shoreline, called a "living edge", is where land and water meet, and is the richest, most productive area on earth.) Folks who turned out had fun and were inspired by what they found. John Coulter was the organizer of this event and has taken a great deal of time in compiling the data participants submitted. This data is all part of the Lake Management Plan as we take stock of just what we have growing or living on the shores of Skootamatta in terms of vegetation and animal habitat. In Ontario we have a long list of endangered, extinct and threatened species, plant and animal. Our local lake environment is no different. Where once we heard the cry of a whip-or-will, saw the blue flash of a cerulean warbler or listened to the pounding of a red-headed woodpecker, the occasions we now sight these species are extremely rare to non-existent. We would like to see them thrive again. Is this possible? We think so, but it takes some effort and dedication to accomplish comebacks. That is where we need your help and that of everyone on the lake.

### Letter from the Lake Steward 2011 continued

Rosemary Teed



As you all know by now logging operations will come extremely close to our shorelines. We have attempted to push back the reserve area near the shore with some slight success. What we have been unable to do thus far is push the reserve back far enough to positively impact surrounding wetlands that will be damaged and eroded during the logging process. These actions all affect biodiversity, which is basically the range of organisms present in a particular ecological community or system. Despite the efforts of some residents to identify nesting areas, turtle habitat, feeding territories and otter dens the execution of the logging program can create damage that is unrecoverable. Given this fact we must, as land owners and residents of this community, undertake to protect and nourish as much as possible the natural environment and animal habitat within our own properties. We have ways and means of doing so and we have existing organizations and groups that are all about helping us make it happen. The following are a few we have highlighted. Take some time and visit their websites. There is a great deal of information about actions and activities that we as landowners can undertake.

**Wildlife Habitat Canada:** <a href="http://www.whc.org">http://www.whc.org</a> Since 1984, Wildlife Habitat Canada (WHC) has helped deliver habitat conservation projects on all land and seascapes and within every province and territory in Canada.

### Ontario Nature Federation of Ontario Naturalists: <a href="http://www.ontarionature.org">http://www.ontarionature.org</a>

Ontario Nature Federation protects wild species and wild spaces through conservation, education and public engagement. Their goals are to **protect** and **restore** nature in Ontario

### Ontario Stewardship: http://www.ontariostewardship.org

The Lennox and Addington Community Stewardship Council is a community based volunteer organization which exists to: Promote responsible land care and stewardship of the natural environment. (Last year they provided us with native species plants which we sold at the AGM to raise money for the Lake Management Plan and to encourage all of us to plant.)

**Ontario Streams:** <a href="http://www.ontariostreams.on.ca">http://www.ontariostreams.on.ca</a> Established in 1995, Ontario Streams is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to the conservation and rehabilitation of streams and wetlands, through education and community involvement

**Loon Watch:** <u>www.bsc-eoc.org</u> Anyone who has listened to their wild call echoing across a tranquil northern lake can appreciate how the Common Loon has become a much-loved wilderness symbol.

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### Letter from the Lake Steward 2011 continued

Rosemary Teed



**Nature Watch**: <a href="http://www.naturewatch.ca">http://www.naturewatch.ca</a> Nature Watch is a series of ecological monitoring programs that encourage you to become a citizen scientist. It includes Frog Watch, Worm Watch and Plant Watch all great programs to engage children.

<u>www.wetkit.net</u> A Web-based tool kit designed to streamline access to practical tools that can help Canadians better understand and manage wetlands

### What can I do About Biodiversity?

**Local communities** play a key role since they are the true "managers" of the ecosystems in which we live and, thus, have a major impact on them. Many projects have been successfully developed in recent years involving the participation of local communities in the sustainable management of biodiversity, often with the valuable assistance of groups and organizations such as those listed above. Finally, the ultimate decision-maker for biodiversity is the **individual citizen**.

The small choices that we as individuals make add up to a large impact because it is personal consumption that drives development, which in turn uses and pollutes nature. By carefully choosing the products we buy and the government policies that we support, the general public can begin to steer the world towards sustainable development and environmentally conscious harvesting. Governments, companies, and others have a responsibility to lead and inform the public, but finally it is individual choices, made billions of times a day, that count the most."

Please mark Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup> on your Summer Calendars as a special day for the lake, and come explore with us! -🌣

# Explore the Lake Event



### **FOSSP**

### Lakeside Activity for Sheldrake, Pringle and Skootamatta

Saturday, August 13th 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

A day on the Lake....investigating. Bring your camera, sunscreen, kids,

boat for transportation and your curiosity!

Watch for information!

On www.skootamatta.ca

Call 613-336-0058 or e-mail

FOSSP@skootamatta.ca for more information

# Skoot Kid's Corner By Florence Awde

Hi! My name is Florence Awde, I am 10 years old, and I am a new cottager here at Skootamatta Lake. Last year I moved into a small cozy cottage and love it every time we go up. As a kid, I love seeing different animals as long as there is not a spider or snake!



I remember last summer when I woke up in the morning and there were two deer right outside our cottage! Since I was the first one up I went to tell my sisters and my mom. "Savannah, Charlotte, Mom look outside there are two deer!" I said excitedly. "Really?" my mom said, jumping out of bed with my sisters not far behind. Their first reaction was amazement of the deer. Sadly when I went to wake them up only one deer was left but my sisters were happy just to see one. Too bad my dad was out buying wood. We were all excited to see these beautiful animals so close to our cottage at the lake!

So far in our cottage experience we have seen turtles laying their eggs, snapping turtles in the water, two deer, a bunch of spiders and insects, and a whole whack of baby bees in the water where I got stung twice in 5 minutes. Plus our neighbour saw a moose!

If you are a "Skoot kid" and have an interesting story to share, please contact anyone on the SDRA Board of Directors to have your story in the next newsletter in Spring 2012!

### Fun Fact

When bees are born in the water they are panicking trying to escape, so don't go near them because they will sting you!

Rosemary Teed, Gord McCulloch

What is the Partnership Water Testing Program?

FOCA has partnered for many years with the Ministry of the Environment on volunteer waterquality monitoring programs.

The goal of the Lake Partner Program is to better understand and protect the quality of Ontario's inland lakes by involving citizens in a volunteer-based water quality monitoring program.

The Lake Partner Program is a province-wide, volunteer-based, water-quality monitoring program. Volunteers collect total phosphorus samples and make monthly water clarity observations on their lakes. This information allows the early detection of changes in the nutrient status and/or the water clarity of the lake due to the impacts of shoreline development, climate change and other stresses.

Our water testing program for Lakes Skootamatta, Sheldrake and Pringle is accomplished by dedicated volunteers, Gord McCulloch, Derek Mendham and Bob Hasler respectively. Regardless of the weather or conditions these hardy folk launch boats and take to the water very early in the season to meet the guidelines of testing for phosphorus shortly after the ice is gone. Without dedicated residents like these gentlemen and the volunteers from our lakes that have gone before them we would not be currently participating in this very important program.

We have been limited by the Lake Partner program to 3 test sites per year and one Secchi disk site per year. The Skootamatta phosphorus results were taken very early (April) in 2010. (The ministry recommends taking the samples as soon as possible after the ice goes out.) Early testing may result in lower readings so we need to be cognizant that our test results may not be as positive as displayed in the chart below. Sheldrake and Pringle Lakes were also tested in 2010. Phosphorus readings are presented in µg/l (Micro grams/Litre) and Secchi readings are in metres.

For your information and for assistance in reading and interpreting the following chart we provide the following:

Total phosphorus concentrations are ideally used to interpret nutrient status since phosphorus is the element that controls the growth of algae in most Ontario lakes. Increases in phosphorus will decrease water clarity by stimulating algal growth. In extreme cases, algal blooms will affect the aesthetics of the lake and/or cause taste and odour problems in the water. Many limnologists (scientists who study our lakes and other bodies of fresh water, including their physical and biological features) place lakes into three broad categories with respect to nutrient status. Lakes with less than 10  $\mu$ g/LTP are considered oligotrophic. These are diluted, unproductive lakes that rarely experience nuisance algal blooms. Lakes with TP between 10 and 20  $\mu$ g/L are termed mesotrophic and are in the middle with respect to trophic status. These lakes show a broad range of characteristics and can be clear and unproductive at the bottom end of the scale or susceptible to moderate algal blooms at concentrations near 20  $\mu$ g/L. Lakes over 20  $\mu$ g/L are classed as eutrophic and may exhibit persistent, nuisance algal blooms.

Rosemary Teed, Gord McCulloch

Eutrophication can be human-caused or natural. Untreated sewage effluent and agricultural runoff carrying fertilizers are examples of human-caused eutrophication. However, it also occurs naturally in situations where nutrients accumulate or where they flow into systems on an ephemeral basis. (Logging activities that interfere with streams running into lakes can result in higher phosphorous readings as well as changes to our shorelines that erode the natural plant life barrier that protects the lake from run-off from shore to water.) Eutrophication generally promotes excessive plant growth and decay, favouring simple algae and plankton over other more complicated plants, and causes a severe reduction in water quality.

Enhanced growth of aquatic vegetation or phytoplankton and algal blooms disrupts normal functioning of the ecosystem, causing a variety of problems such as a lack of oxygen needed for fish and shellfish to survive. The water becomes cloudy, typically coloured a shade of green, yellow, brown, or red. Eutrophication also decreases the value of rivers, lakes, and estuaries for recreation, fishing, hunting, and aesthetic enjoyment. Health problems can occur where eutrophic conditions interfere with drinking water treatment. Human activities can accelerate the rate at which nutrients enter ecosystems. Runoff from agriculture and development, pollution from septic systems and sewers, and other human-related activities increase the flow of both inorganic nutrients and organic substances into ecosystems.

Elevated levels of atmospheric compounds of nitrogen can increase nitrogen availability. Phosphorus is often regarded as the main culprit in cases of eutrophication in lakes subjected to "point source" pollution from sewage beds or run-off. The concentration of algae and the trophic state of lakes correspond well to phosphorus levels in water. Studies conducted in the Experimental Lakes Area in Ontario have shown a relationship between the addition of phosphorus and the rate of eutrophication. Humankind has increased the rate of phosphorus cycling on Earth by four times; mainly due to agricultural fertilizer production and application (lawns and gardens as well as field crops are the culprits). Between 1950 and 1995, an estimated 600,000,000 tonnes of phosphorus were applied to Earth's surface, primarily on croplands and lawns.

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Rosemary Teed, Gord McCulloch

Site #Skootamatt	Location	Year	Sample # 1	Sample # 2	Average
a					
1.	Upper Basin	2010	10.0	11.4	10.7 Trend Up
		2009	8.3	10.2	9.25
		2008	7.9	10.0	8.95
2.	Lower Basin	2010	8.6	8.8	8.7 Trend Up
		2009	8.6	8.0	8.3
		2008	7.8	7.5	7.65
3.	Upper Lake	2010	7.6	7.0	7.3 Trend Down
		2009	7.9	9.5	8.7
		2010	8.8	7.2	8.0

The overall yearly averages are: 2010 - 8.9, 2009 - 8.75, 2008 - 8.2 with the overall trend demonstrating that the levels of Phosphorus are increasing. The level is not high, but the trend is not favorable. Secondly, the three year average, by location appears to demonstrate lower density of cottages and homes have an impact (for example, less potential for sewage infiltration, fewer shoreline disruptions, fewer lawns and gardens abutting the shore). A suspicion we can clearly identify now as supported by fact. Many residents are noting the increase of "weeds" in the lower lake which indicates higher levels of nutrient run-off and phosphorous. The numbers support this resident observation.

Upper Basin - 9.63, Lower Basin - 8.32, Upper Lake - 8.0.

The above numbers represent the averages of three years readings for each of our 3 test locations. The Upper Lake has lower readings than the Lower Lake. The highest phosphorus is closest to the highest concentration of residences and the lowest flow of water.

The clarity average numbers for the last 3 years are 2010 - 3.6, 2009 - 4.2, 2008 - 4.2, all numbers are provided in meters.

Sheldrake readings for phosphorus taken in Jun were 10.8 and 10.0 for an average of 10.4. Pringle Lake had readings in May of 8.6 and 8.4. Pringle's average of 8.5 is close to Lake Skootamatta numbers.

For further information on results and a comparison of other lakes throughout Ontario go to www.foca.on.ca/lake-partner

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Rosemary Teed, Gord McCulloch

This year we plan to undertake independent water testing as we did in 2008, with a company called Caducean, located in Kingston. This enables us to add information to our testing history beyond the service provided by the Partnership Program. During the summer volunteers will test Pringle, Sheldrake and Skootamatta for a number of factors including e-coli. Using the same GPS coordinates that we have used in past we will begin to establish our historical trend beyond the three test sites the Partnership testing limits.

We will share our results on the SDRA website once we have them. We note, at this time, that the Partnership Testing program test for clarity and phosphorous only and no other contaminants. From the Lake Management Plan survey we know that the water quality of our lakes is uppermost in the minds of the majority of our members. This complementary and potentially actionable program will serve to provide continuing data on the state of our 3 lakes.

If you have further questions on our testing program please contact Rosemary Teed or Gord McCulloch.

Please remember that all water from the lake requires purification treatment for consumption.



BEACH CLEAN UP DAY WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 25TH AT 11:00 A.M.

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN GARBAGE BAG AND RAKE!

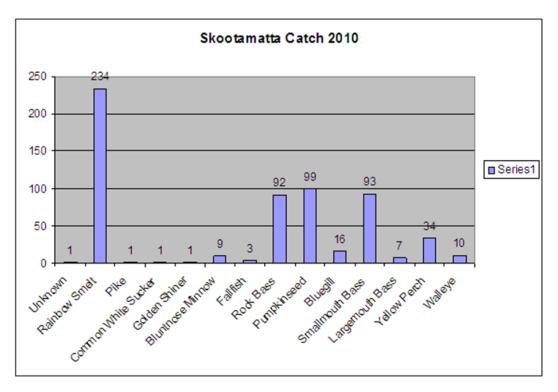
# BROAD-SCALE MONITORING PROGRAM REGARDING FISHERY IN SKOOTAMATTA Bob Hasler

In early August, 2010, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources carried out the first part of its Broad-scale Monitoring Program for the Lake. Over several days, fish were netted and samples were taken to be analyzed by MNR biologists.

The intent of the Program is to conduct sampling and analysis on a five year cycle at selected lakes in Ontario with the objective of identifying such things as the adequacy of fish habitat, diversity of the fish community, abundance of sport fish, their age distribution, size growth, sex, maturity, fecundity and contaminants in the fish, as well as the presence of any invasive species. The resulting data will be reported and put in a database which will be available both to MNR personnel and the public. The data will subsequently be used to identify problems or potential problems and to develop objectives, strategy and actions to deal with management of the fishery. Since data will be collected every five years, it will be possible to identify and, if necessary, address any trends. On an overall basis, the information will be helpful in allocating funding to fishery management zones across the Province.

In Skootamatta, last August, gill netting was employed at different locations to capture the fish. Both small mesh (for small fish) and large mesh nets were used. A summary of the total catch is shown below.

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# BROAD-SCALE MONITORING PROGRAM REGARDING FISHERY IN SKOOTAMATTA CONTINUED, Bob Hasler

We are told by MNR that analysis of the samples has not been completed at this point. MNR has been requested to advise us once it becomes available. In particular, results have been requested regarding:

- The health of the fish caught and, in general, the health of the overall fishery for the different species (in particular, any species at risk)
- Any invasive species detected and an assessment of the impact on the fishery
- Any contaminants detected in the lake and how their concentrations compare with acceptable norms. For example, I noticed in reports from earlier decades that Hg levels in walleye were as high as 1.80ppm but there was nothing to indicate whether this level of mercury was something to be concerned about.
- Any information on spawning and nesting sites and whether there is an indication of the extent to which the different species are reproducing natural
- Whether the lake should be a candidate for stocking of any species
- Aquatic characteristics, such as pH and alk. levels, and how these might impact the fishery
- Any other perceived threats to the quality of the fishery, such as overfishing, loss of shoreline habitat, vegetation, development.

Any significant information received from MNR will be made available to SDRA members.

Given the smallness of the sample of some species (e.g. 1 pike, 1 sucker, 10 walleye), one wonders whether meaningful conclusions can be drawn as to their abundance, size, etc.

Nevertheless, the Broad-scale Monitoring concept seems reasonable as a longer term approach. 🌣

### Help Wanted

### **VOLUNTEER WORK**

We require many volunteers each year to fulfill the mandate of the SDRA and most years these jobs fall on the Directors, who also have other SDRA duties to perform. We would like to recruit individuals willing to help with some tasks, such as:

- Assist with fireworks on Labour Day weekend (road closure)
- Rock marking
- Looking after our two fire pumps
- Beach and campsite clean-ups

### SDRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

If you are looking to become more involved and are interested in becoming a Director of the SDRA, we have positions available for a two year term. Contact Jim Oborne (613-336-8782) or email joborne@mts.net for details.

Interested in helping the association, but not ready to make the commitment necessary to become a Director? We also have opportunities in this area to serve on a Committee.

### **COMMITTEE ROLES**

We have several committees looking for volunteers:

- **Newsletter Editor** to collect input, contact advertisers assembles the newsletter for review and produce/distribute to members.
- ◆ The Friends of Skootamatta, Sheldrake and Pringle (FOSSP) is working on our Lake Management Plan, an important tool that will help us protect and improve the environment around our lakes.
- History Committee is collecting historical information and documentation about the lakes and pulling it together into a manageable accessible form.
- Official Plan Committee Addington Highlands Township is in the process of reviewing and updating its Official Plan (as per provincial legislation) and we believe it is important for our association to participate as the plan has a significant impact on our lakes and environment.
- Multi-lake Coalition We have been attempting to form alliances with other lakes in the same geographic area (not necessarily in the same political area) that have common issues with us in attempt to increase our overall influence in the political arena

Some/all these jobs may appear to be significant, most are shared with a few volunteers to distribute workload and create a social environment, while getting the work done. If you are interested please contact Jim Oborne as noted above, or speak to any of the current Executive at the AGM.

### SWIM PROGRAM

The Mazinaw Lake Swim Program was started in 1972 by a group of concerned parents after the drowning deaths of two local area youths. With participation of children from Kaladar to Denbigh, it grew to be one of the largest outdoor waterfront programs in Eastern Ontario. The mandate of the program has been to offer Red Cross Swimming Lessons, including transportation, at a cost affordable to all. To keep registration fees low the program has relied on donations and fundraising to subsidize bussing and lessons.

The Swim Program was originally held at Marble Lake but moved to Bon Echo Provincial Park in the late eighties after the washroom facilities at the public beach on Marble Lake were removed. Enrolment has varied from one hundred to as high as two hundred children. In recent years, attendance has averaged 125 children with a mixture of permanent residents and cottagers. Last summer we hired eight instructors to help run the program. \*



Lessons this year are going to be held at:

### **BON ECHO PROVINCIAL PARK**

JULY 4<sup>th</sup> TO JULY 29<sup>th</sup>

10:00 - 11:00 Cloyne and North

11:00 – 12:00 Northbrook, Harlowe and 506

12:00 - 1:00 Flinton and Kaladar

Cost including transportation: \$65.00

All are welcome

For more information contact: Pat Cuddy

613-336-2201

### CANADA DAY PICNIC

B.Y.O.P. Bring your own picnic to the Upper Beach after the 10th Annual Canada Day Boat Parade! Meet your neighbours, make new friends and celebrate Canada Day!!Bring your lawn chairs, volleyballs, etc...

ALL WELCOME.





# SDRA July 2011

	WERS ASSO					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	For lake and SDRA information visit www.skootamatta.ca	For Township information visit www.addingtonhighlands.ca		*	A Canada Day Boat Parade leaving from Trails End at 11:00 a.m.— Picnic at Upper Beach after parade	2 Ontario Family Fishing Week starts (No fishing permits needed) www.mnr.gov.on.ca
S	4	5	9	7	8	9 SDRA AGM 10:00 a.m. Pineview Free Methodist Church—Cloyne
10 Ontario Family Fishing week ends	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 16th Annual Bon Echo Art Exhibition and sale 11tW a.m. to 5tW p.m.	23  16th Annual Bon Echo Art Exhibition and sale 1000 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
24/31  16th Annual Bon Echo Art  Exhibition and Sale (24th)  10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	25	26	27	28	29 Country Bluegrass Jamboree Township Recreation Centre Hinton July 29-31	3() For more information www.flintonrecreationclub.ca

# **Cottage Safety Numbers**

Emergency Police, Fire and Ambulance 911
Civic (911) Address

In the Township of Addington Highlands

Non-Emergency Police 1-888-310-1122

(Theft, Vandalism, Break/Enter, Fender Bender) Kingston General Hospital 613-548-3232

L&A County Hospital, Napanee 613-354-3301

Telehealth 1-866-797-0000

Poison Control 1-800-268-9017

Fire Conditions (local) 613-336-1851

Hydro One 1-800-434-1235

Bear Help Line 1-866-514-2327

Emergency Veterinarian Napanee 613-354-2330



# SDRA AUGUST 2011

1						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		2	3	4	S Cloyne Showcase, NAEC, Cloyne LOsOba.m.—5:00 p.m.	6 Cloyne Showcase, NAEC, Cloyne LOvO a.m.—5:00 p.m.
7 Cloyne Showcase, NAEC, Cloyne 10:004:00	<b>∞</b>	6	10	11	12	Explore the Lake event 10-12-30 Pot Luck, Ron Nowell's 4:00 p.m.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	22
28	59	30	31		# # P	Saturday, September 3 Fireworks (Rain date Sunday) Come to the causeway at dusk!
TOWNSHIP INFORMATION	MATION	KAI ADAR DIM	AR DIMPHOLIBS (Summer/Winter)		Canining The Man HOUSE (Mid Now Theorem	Thouleasing

Township Office Phone 613-336-2286

Jack Pauhl, Clerk email jpauhl@mazinaw.on.ca Fax 613-336-2847

613-336-2286 Building Inspector

# KALADAR DUMP HOURS (Summer/Winter)

Saturday Monday Wednesday Friday

If Monday is a holiday the Kaladar Dump is closed but re-opens the next regularly scheduled day.

# CLOYNE DUMP HOURS (Mid-May-Thanksgiving)

Saturday Wednesday Friday Monday Sunday 10-8 If Monday is a holiday, the dump is closed Sunday & open Monday from 10-6.

### HISTORY PROJECT James G. Oborne

The Board of the SDRA, in a Joint Venture with the Cloyne and District Historical Society (CDHS), has agreed to carry out a

History Project for Skootamatta, Sheldrake and Pringle Lakes. This is an ambitious undertaking that will require broad participation to be successful. Ultimately, it is hoped that sufficient data will have been collected to support a Book Project with content related to as many of the roughly 400 cottage families on the three lakes as possible. The questions below may assist you in reaching a similar conclusion.



### DID YOU KNOW?

The following are some of my family's knowledge of Lake history and experience:

- 1. That Clayton Moore- the Lone Ranger- from Chicago, whose parents were friends of the Pearsons, spent several summers on Skootamatta as a youngster?
- 2. That until the early '20s, people got to this area by stagecoach from the train station at Kaladar, and when the road became driveable, travel still took most of a day from Toronto and a few tire repairs?
- 3. That logging took place in the mid 1800s, that logs were conveyed on a track from Mazinaw, over the escarpment to Pringle, to Wolfe Creek and Skootamatta, and down the Skootamatta River to Belleville? Logs also floated from the Mississippi River (at the base of the Mazinaw) to join the Ottawa River about 20 miles from the city.
- 4. That a sawmill operated north of the Landing until the '50s and that log booms were towed from the Sheldrake Bay and Upper Lake areas for cutting until the sawmill closed?
- 5. That until the early '50s, a 2 ½ HP Johnson was the common motor for boats-except for George Pearson who had a 25 HP motor that you could hear coming from miles away?
- 6. That cottages had no power, no running water, no appliances, wood stoves, scrub tubs, coal oil lamps, card games-and that life was still pretty good?
- 7. That in 1954, a boat of an Air Force Search and Rescue team, heading for the AF training camp in the Upper Lake, swamped in the Lower Lake during a storm due to being overloaded with beer-saved by my mother, Bette Oborne, who received an AF commendation?
- That the cement light standards at the Cloyne baseball diamond were provided by Chuck Schwenger around 1955?
- 9. That Jay Ingram of CBC fame and cousin of Paul Lindsay, spent summers at the Lake at his grandfather's cabin?
- 10. That Pringle Lake used to be called Duck Lake, and no one seems to know why it was changed?
- 11. That a fire that burned about 20 acres on Sheldrake in about 1954 was caused by a current SDRA Director age 12 (who also made \$20 fighting it)?

### WHY ARE WE DOING THIS PROJECT?

We have a rich history, individually and collectively, that is worthy of preservation. Our history should be important to all of us and to our 'unborn heirs' that we hope will continue our families' involvement on our lakes. By remembering and celebrating our past, the future becomes more important to us and for the maintenance of the extraordinary environment that we are blessed in having.

My father, J. Ross Oborne, will be 96 on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Except for the War Years, he has been coming to Skootamatta (Loon) Lake for 88 years and now the only one left of the original Loon Lake Colony in the '20s. We have his stories from the past (and 8 albums of pictures mostly from 1920-29) but he is no longer able to convey further or answer questions about that period. The richness of our personal history, that he experienced before we were around, is now trapped. You must not allow this to happen in your family. You owe it to those who are carrying on after you, no matter what your age. If you haven't started to record your memories -START NOW.

Whether we reach 'book readiness' or not, you, and hopefully the Cloyne Museum, will have a permanent archive of YOUR history.

### HISTORY PROJECT Continued James G. Oborne

### WHO NEEDS TO GET INVOLVED?

Obviously-YOU, ME, YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR NEIGHBOURS. We need everybody, or at least as many as possible. The Cloyne Museum, with its planned expansion, will have the capacity to permanently archive our history material.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

We need as much information as you are able to provide-now, and as your history continues to be created-such as:

- 1. Your 911 address and your tax bill reference co-ordinates, and contact numbers (and e-mail)
- 2. How long has your family owned the cottage and why here and not somewhere else?
- 3. Who were the previous owners, if any, and basic information about them?
- 4. What are your family names, and of other friends and relatives who spent time at the Lake and stories about all of them?
- 5. Who owns the cottage to your left and right (from lake view) and info about them and the history of those cottages?
- 6. Early experiences, property development, changes you have experienced on the Lake, pictures that reflect all of this but most importantly, interesting STORIES about your family and neighbours

### **HOW DO WE GET STARTED?**

Naturally, this will become a major effort for you and those working on collecting this information and the consolidation and maintenance of such. We do NOT have all of this worked out but here are a few 'thought starters':

- 1. The area development took place by both decade and location-largely determined by road development and MNR land releases-the Lower Skootamatta (Loon) Lake in the '20s and some sporadic building expanding such, and in other parts, from the '30s and '40s. The Landing area, Jacques Bay, the east side of The Narrows, the North and West shores of the Lower Lake, and around the Old Dam and Sheldrake Bay, the east side of Oborne Point (the Back Bay), Sheldrake and Pringle Lakes, the Upper Lake and the Schwenger development near the far end.
- 2. The above can be 'bite-sized pieces' with their own leaders and team to carry out the data collection-and the collective memory stimulation process. The job is no smaller-just the efforts of the dozens and dozens of people can be focused more sharply. The 'toll collectors' on the private roads can be a key resource. A reactivated membership effort will seek out those cottagers that are not Members and attempt to stimulate participation in this Project.
- 3. It is possible that it may be advisable to publish the History in parts (Vol. I, II etc.) to deal with the decades and areas in 1. Above as ready.
- 4. We have offers to 'scan' pictures for return but, ANY MATERIAL COLLECTED, IN PRINT AND PICS, WILL BE FOR THE EXCLUSIVE, DISCRETIONARY, AND JOINT, USE OF THE SDRA AND THE CDHS.
- 5. A Form will be provided containing the basic info referred to above, but submit as many pages as you are able to generate and continue to do so, thereby adding to your file (and ours).

### **CONCLUSION**

This is not a 'make work' proposal. Attempts have failed previously, in part for lack of resources (people) and support (people again). We are now serious and have the beginning of a plan. Other lakes have been successful, resulting in a book publication and I fully believe that we are able to also achieve a publication of our history on and around the lake!

We need your support and participation both as a submitter and as a collector. Please volunteer now, or when asked.

Please contact me to volunteer, or to provide comments and suggestions (613-336-8782) or preferably at <a href="mailto:joborne@mts.net">joborne@mts.net</a> James G. Oborne

Chair, SDRA History Committee

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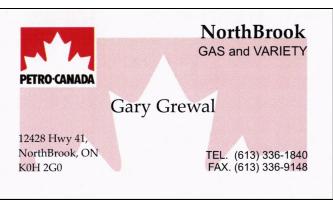
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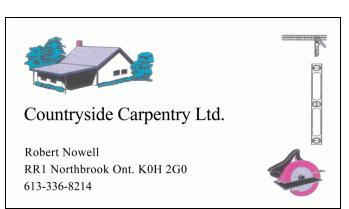
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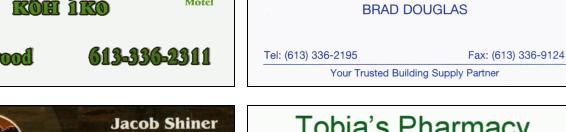




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