

# SDRANGUSLETTER 2012

# Inside this issue:

**Remembering Bill Garnish** 

**The History of Loon Lake** 

**1st Annual Lake Festival!** 

Fire on the lake!

**The Lost Highway** 

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### Jim Oborne

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It is my pleasure to be the third Oborne to serve as President of the lake association. The first was my grandfather, in 1928, (with the predecessor organization, The Greater Loon Lake Fishing Club, a share corporation), until his death in 1947; then my father at various times in the '50s to '70s; and now me. Hopefully future generations, (and there are many more of us now), will also be able to serve, at least on the Board.

I came to Skootamatta Lake around 65 years ago, and it has always been a big part of my life ... now even more so. Up until 1954, when the roads started ringing the lake, you had no choice but to travel by boat - in our case - a big 17' Nova Scotia clapboard sea-going vessel. If the 2 ½ HP Johnson wouldn't start, you rowed back and forth to the Landing. David, Lynn and I were fortunate that we had a tough and fearless mother who stayed at the lake for the full summer. Sometimes, she would have to put rocks in the back of the above boat so that the motor's prop would reach the water. Dad would come up on weekends and his holidays from work in Toronto. I recall David and myself, as small boys, lugging pails of water and blocks of ice up the hill to the cottage. Flannelette sheets, after hand washing in the scrub tub, were rinsed by biting on one end and swimming around in the lake - unimaginable today!

I remember too, the log booms pulled by small boats to the sawmill, north of the Landing, and how lonely it was at times with so few cottages. Summer companions included older boys like Bob Stevens and John Mathew and a few the same age; Robin Williams, Buck Schwenger and 'Thumper and Bumper', (the 'nephews' of Ray Chaffee from Detroit).

Girls came along later; Julie and Patti Bradford and Gail O'Higgins and her cousin, Joan Stevens - with whom we learned to water ski.

My grandchildren are now 5th generation, and while they spend time at the lake, it is not as much as I did at their age, nor, regrettably, as much as I do now.

So – to business and the events of the year past. Listed in point form, for easy reading and in no particular order:

- The name of Big Island was officially changed, (supported by the SDRA), to Bible Island, in recognition of the long standing 'occupation' and war service by various members of the family.
- The web site, managed by Gary Evans, has seen expanded usage as a result of its content and archival capability and now we have "Paul's Pops", an e-mail news events and interactive communication service managed by Paul Lindsay.
- Both the Annual Meeting on July 7th, and particularly the new Lake Festival Day on July 28th, have been designed to be more interesting/ entertaining/fun. Please come out to both.
- 4. The dock at the Landing has new solar powered night lights and repairs to the buffer boards are in process. In addition, Nancy Kallina is leading an effort to repair the Sheldrake Bay boat launch, to be financed by residents on the bay.

5. Some logging for the 2012-22 Cutting Plan will commence this fall, but the greater impact will not start until 2017. The SDRA is committed to monitoring MLFI operations and seeks your help in reporting any activity that you deem to be an infraction of the MNR approved Plan. Please report any flora and fauna that may need to be protected from forestry operations.

- 6. The History Project, a joint venture with the Cloyne Museum, is underway, with about half of the lake cottages having received kits. As the separate article in this newsletter states, we need more volunteer canvassers and submissions.
- 7. We are working on the update of the Official Plan with the Township's consultant. Malcolm Stewart, who has taken the role of Lake Steward, is preparing a draft of the SDRA Lake Management Plan that will be central to our submission.
- 8. We need some volunteers for our Board committees and, if you are willing, volunteer as a Director. This is vital to the continuing strength and resources of the SDRA.
- 9. We lost Bill Garnish's strong back. Sad and untimely but we have gained Lynn's unbridled recommitment.
- 10. Please read the Newsletter closely. It is your window on your lake association activities.

Finally I want to thank the Board and other volunteers, whose efforts on your behalf have accomplished so many things in the past year, and made my job an easy one. You are being well-served!

Jim Oborne

Jim Oborne  President Vice President Vice President Nancy Kallina Debbie Awde Treasurer Secretary & Newsletter Editor Gary Evans Paul Lindsay Director & Webmaster Gord Birnie Director Director Director Gord Birnie Director Direc	SDRA EXECU	TIVE 2011-2012	SDRA COMMITTEES 2011-2012
Gwynneth Morais, Paul Lindsay	President Nancy Kallina Treasurer Gary Evans Director & Webmaster Gord Birnie Director Derek Mendham Director-Sheldrake	Vice President  Debbie Awde  Secretary & Newsletter Editor  Paul Lindsay  Director  Gwynneth Morais  Director  Gord Birnie  Director  Malcolm Stewart	Chair: Lynn Garnish Director/Officer Members: Jim Oborne, Nancy Kallina, Debbie Awde COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE Chair: Jim Oborne Vice-Chair: Lynn Garnish Director Members: Derek Mendham, Gord Birnie, Gary Evans MEMBERSHIP SERVICES COMMITTEE Chair: Debbie Awde Vice-Chair: Paul Lindsay Director Members: Nancy Kallina, Lynn Garnish, Jim Oborne, Gwynneth Morais, Malcolm Stewart, Gary Evans STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE Chair: Malcolm Stewart Vice-Chair: Derek Mendham Director Members: Jim Oborne, Gord Birnie, Gary Evans,

#### SDRA loses Long-serving Board Member: Bill "Willy" Garnish 1948-2011

On a glorious Thanksgiving Sunday in 2011 the SDRA lost its long-serving board member Bill Garnish to Brain Cancer. Bill had been battling this disease since July of 2010. After a gruelling six months of treatment Bill was declared tumour free and began the healing process at his beloved cottage on Skootamatta Lake. Sadly in early August of 2011, a new tumour developed that proved too aggressive for even this most valiant fighter.



No matter the outcome, Bill's final wish was to enjoy a full summer at Skoot and he managed to do this with the support and dedication of his Skootamatta "family".

During his final summer, the passion and love Bill had for his Skootamatta home was not dampened by cancer; in fact, Bill continued to be an active member of the Board and also the SDRA's liaison on the AHEAD Committee (Addington Highlands Economic Development).

Bill began his love affair with Skootamatta in 1960 when his parents bought their property in the upper end of the lake, and over the years, as Bill's own family grew, his sons also started their own Skootamatta memories. Bill had a reputation for loving "speed" in any way, shape or form and earned the nickname "Power Turn King" for his amazing abilities with a boat tiller handle.

Bill joined the SDRA, along with his wife Lynn in 1995 and served in many capacities as President, Director and Township Liaison. During the years that Bill was not a Board member he was still involved in assisting with various initiatives spearheaded by the association.

In addition, Bill took on many "tasks" for the SDRA that were second nature to him: he marked rocks, maintained the Fire Pump on an annual basis, raked and cleaned the upper beach every spring and ensured we had a presence in the Township. Bill was always the "go-to" guy and a dedicated member of the SDRA Board.

Recently, a member of the SDRA wrote "I am going to miss Bill Garnish's insight and dedication." That comment sums up how we all feel about Bill's passing and hope we all remember the dedication and selfless energy that he brought to the SDRA.

#### The Willy Garnish Classic Swim: Saturday, August 11th, 2012-9:00a.m. Rain date-August 12th

For the last two years, a group of us have been swimming for fitness and fun. Last year, we finalized our season by swimming from the Kissman dock at the bottom of the Narrows to Bible Island and back. This year, we are going to dedicate our swim to **Willy Garnish** who lost his battle with brain cancer in October.

There will be a donation bucket on the Kissman dock. Come and cheer us on, visit with friends and make a donation that will go to The Oddette Cancer Centre in honour of Willy. If you are unable to attend, early donations will be accepted at the AGM.

There will be no tax receipts. Willy wanted us to keep the swim simple and fun. One of his final comments to us, was that he hoped that the money raised will bring a cure for cancer.

Other swimmers and spotters are welcome to join us.

Questions can be directed to Darien Kissman 613- 336-2760 darien.kissman@yahoo.com

#### **BABY ANNOUNCEMENTS!**

The Scanlon family from Sheldrake Bay welcomed Stella Kathleen on September 27, 2011. Stella joins brother Mason. Proud parents Chris and Melanie Scanlon and proud grandparents Mike and Connie Scanlon. The Scanlon's bought Marion McWilliams cottage in October, 2003.

Ken and Andrea Winslow from Deer Ridge Road would like to announce the arrival of a baby sister, Elyse Michelle for Sydney and Kaycea on March 2, 2012. Elyse weighed in at 8lbs. 4 oz. Proud grandparents are Ron and Helen Winslow.

Albert Jasuwan and his wife Torrie had a little girl named Tiernan Leigh Friday, March 16 weighing 6 lbs.5oz. Proud grandparents are Cecelia and Prasert Jasuwan

Congratulations to the Willoughby/Kerstens/Schram family celebrating their 50th year of cottaging on Skootamatta Lake



#### **Passages**

Barbara Elmhirst a regular visitor to Skootamatta passed away March 18, 2012 due to lung cancer at the age of 79.

Her son Brett Hughes and family have a cottage on Skoot and Barb made many friends on the lake.

Barb would make the trek from Burlington all the way to cottage until it got to the point where she would stop at Brett's house and catch a ride the rest of the way. Barb did not want to miss any opportunity to spend time at the cottage.

There will be a small celebration of her life for all her friends on the lake the near future.

John Pauzers passed away on March 2, 2012 at age 85. John was a long time resident on Sheldrake Bay.





#### **JUNE**

#### Beach Clean up Day

Saturday, June 23 11 a.m.
Upper Beach/Bible Island Beach

#### **JULY**

#### Canada Day Boat Parade

Sunday, July 1 leaving from Jacques Bay at 11:00 a.m. Picnic at Upper Beach after!

# SDRA Annual General Meeting And Open House

Saturday, July 7 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Pineview Free Methodist Church
Hwy #41, Cloyne ON
(At the corner of Skootamatta
Lake Road)

#### JULY continued

#### 1st Annual Skootamatta

#### Lake Festival

Saturday, July 28 10:00 a.m.

Start at Trails End

#### **AUGUST**

#### Willy Garnish Classic Swim

Saturday, August 11 9:00 a.m.

#### Pot Luck Ron Nowell's

August 11 4:00 p.m.

#### FOSSP Explore The Lake Event

Saturday, August 18 10-12:30

#### **SEPTEMBER**

#### **Fireworks**

Saturday, September 1, by boat or road to the causeway at dusk Rain date Sunday, September 2

### 2011-12 Treasurer's Report Prepared by Nancy Kallina Skootamatta District Ratepayers Association

Operating Statement for year ending March 31

	Notes:	2012	2011
Revenue:			
Memberships	1	9,000	9,104
Advertising	2	1,760	470
Boat ramp		594	282
Merchandise sales	3	496	3,233
FOSSP (plant sales)		225	623
Interest		2	1
Other	4	-	755
Total Revenue		12,077	14,468
Expenses:			
Member Communication		2,925	2,181
Member Events		738	360
Administration	5	688	1,076
Committee work		653	2,925
Lot and launch maintenance	6	1,515	730
Insurance		1,820	1,766
New equipment		-	-
Sales merchandise	3	-	2,855
Total expenses		8,338	11,894
Net Revenue over Expenses		3,739	2,575
Opening Cash (excluding Fireworks Fund)		13,688	11,113
Closing Cash (excluding Fireworks Fund)		17,427	13,688
Fireworks fund	7	370	625
Closing Cash (including Fireworks Fund)		17,797	14,313

#### Notes:

- 1) 180 paid memberships received during year.
- 2) Significant increase in newsletter advertising efforts during fiscal year.
- 3) Discontinued direct merchandise sales after June 2011.
- 4) During fiscal 2011, a legal retainer was returned and applied to revenue.
- 5) Lower meeting costs as winter board meetings held as conference calls.
- 6) Costs associated with building 2 kiosks and dock/ramp repairs.
- 7) In year firework contributions lower than cost of firework show. Therefore, portion of Firework reserve used to fund in year event.

#### Junior Rangers Clean-up Lynn Garnish

For the last several years Skootamatta Lake residents have been privileged enough to have the assistance of the Junior Rangers to help clean our beaches/campsites. Although we cannot control camping or use of these public places, by keeping them clear of debris it sends a clear message to the users.

Our contact at the Junior Rangers, Aaron Wilson has left his post for another project. We have, however, been assured by his replacement that the same working relationship will continue.

Unfortunately, we are unable to firm up a date in time for publication of our newsletter.

We kindly ask if you are willing to assist with this workday (Late July) we would love to have your name and contact information so we can advise you when it will take place. This junior ranger clean up is a separate activity from our annual beach clean up in June.

Please contact: lynnvgarnish@gmail.com



## Paul's Pops



Paul Lindsay, a Board Director and lake resident has been sending email updates to those members who have provided a current email address. Many have sent positive feedback regarding the email content and we plan to continue this practice to keep members current of events and issues. If you would like <u>not</u> to receive these emails, please simply reply to the update and we will remove your address from the distribution list.

If you have not been receiving these updates and would like to, please give us your current email address with your membership renewal or send your email address to <a href="mailto:info@skootamatta.ca">info@skootamatta.ca</a> to be added to the Membership list.

Also, in order to receive the annual newsletter and other SDRA information, please also keep us informed of your mailing address by forwarding changes <a href="mailto:info@skootamatta.ca">info@skootamatta.ca</a> or through the membership renewal form.

# SKOOTAMATTA 2011 PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS!

Results, as selected by our judge (and professional photographer) Cynthia Shay. Congratulations to all our entrants - who sent in more than 50 entries!



### 1st Place!



'Skootamatta Sunset' - Jason Field

"I chose this for #1 because of the reaction it caused when I first saw it. I sat back in my chair and let out a deep breath, involuntarily. This photo stirs a strong emotion! Kinda eerie and definitely beautiful!"

2nd Placel



'Girls' Swim' - Dave Collins

"I love this photo! Fundamentally summer on Skoot! Great angle and great expressions."

3rd Place!

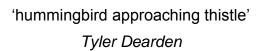


'Fetch' - Dave Collins

"Such an amazing action shot! The ears flopping up is priceless! The water spray is captured beautifully."

### SKOOTAMATTA 2011 PHOTO CONTEST HONOURABLE MENTIONS!







'Fall sunrise'

Tyler Dearden



'magnetic diaper'

Jeff McBee

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



Cyberspace has always been a volatile place and as more and more of the world's population acquire internet access, the web is expanding in ways that are constantly changing - in completely unpredictable ways. The growth of interactive, (and very personal), 'social media' applications e.g. Facebook, Twitter and blogging has forever changed the traditional 'one way' paradigm of delivering information – whether in printed media or electronic form. No, there is, (at least not yet), a SDRA Facebook page or Twitter feed, (although Florence Awde has created a "Dogs of Skootamatta' Facebook page where you can check out Sidney and other canine friends).

Our website remains a major means of publicizing SDRA news and activities, however we are now also using email to remind members about specific issues and events. Those of you who have provided an email address will have already received several "Paul's Pop's" messages, (thanks to Director Paul Lindsay). The <a href="mailto:info@skootamatta.ca">info@skootamatta.ca</a> email address is also being investigated as an alternate means for direct communication with the Board, (in addition to the !Submit Stuff! upload link already on the website). For an organization as small as ours, having multiple methods of electronic communication is no small accomplishment! (in addition to this great annual newsletter).

As always, we encourage members to share their thoughts and knowledge with the Board by ANY means. Accurate and timely information is an essential requirement for any effective organization and with 80% of our members having internet access, we CAN stay well-informed.

# **Annual General Meeting**

#### Members, we heard you ...



We are changing the format of our AGM!

Where: Pineview Free Methodist Church

Hwy 41, Cloyne (at the corner with Skootamatta Lake Rd.

When: Saturday, July 7, 2012

Starting time: 9:30 a.m.

Agenda: 9:30 - 10:00 Meet and greet with coffee and donuts

10:00 - 10:30 Formal statutory business, Treasurer's report,

election of Directors etc.

10:30 - 11:30 Question and answer period

11:30 Hot dog BBQ \*

During the meeting, various information booths will be set up for you to circulate at your interest.

While the booth topics are still being established, some preliminary ideas are:

- FOSSP (Friends of Skootamatta, Sheldrake and Pringle) information, activities and programs
- Friends of Bon Echo Park programs, membership and information
- SDRA membership information and membership payment, SDRA clothing from our inventory
- Lake Festival information and volunteer sign up. See the historic swim trophies from the past
- Lake Stewardship -reports and water testing results
- Town Council representative
- Cloyne Museum

#### \*Special thanks to Northbrook Foodland

- proud sponsor of the SDRA AGM for over 18 years!

#### **ISOBEL (MEEKS) WOOD**

#### Extraordinary Entrepreneur and Job Creator By James G. Oborne,

While our families have interacted since 1920 at Loon Lake, (now Skootamatta), due to the Meeks' proximity to the Lake, and ourselves being cottagers, I had not talked to Isobel for over 50 years until the last week in August, 2011. However, I had followed her business career both as a customer and as a venture capitalist interested in success stories. While I live in Winnipeg, I have gone to the Lake since 1947 for holidays and now for 3 months of the 5 between mid- May and mid-October. When I called Isobel 'out of the blue' and met with her, I said I wanted to write her story in the technical language of my world. Her achievements are remarkable, more so given the lack of opportunity for advanced education and business skill development. She may be the most remarkable woman born in this area since Flora Macdonald Denison, suffragist, columnist and spiritualist of Bon Echo fame, born on the Skootamatta River in 1867. In the summer, Isobel may be Addington Highland's largest non-government employer.

Addington Highlands, extending over 50 miles north of Kaladar and Hwy #7, 100 'crow' miles west of Ottawa, is the rugged, remote and most northern Township in Lennox and Addington County, (arguably so different from the other L&A townships that one wonders why they are grouped together). A logging area for close to 200 years, it has had one of the highest unemployment rates in Ontario for over a century, as logging, by 1900, had exhausted the 'old growth' forest. It is suffering from a diminished and centralized school system, although it now has a modern high school in Cloyne, (built long after Isobel's school-days). The area lacks a large employer base - except for the various levels and agencies of government. The continuing exodus of young people is now being offset somewhat by an influx of retirement-aged people looking for a full time residence in the scenic community of lakes, rocks and forests. For many of the long-time resident families, it has been a hardscrabble existence where you had to be tough to survive. You likely went to work as soon as it was legally possible to leave school, and while you never got rich, you supported your community, those less fortunate in times of hardship, and had pride in your accomplishments and in those of others in the area.

Dennison Meeks, born in 1826, came to Ontario in the early 1840s from New York State, and moved again to homestead 1½ miles north of the Cloyne area on the Addington Road in 1858, lured, like others, by cheap land to clear and farm, and logging jobs. However, the soil was poor for other than subsistence farming and the sale of vegetables and other products to the logging camps. The Meeks had to be tough for a long time and many Meeks continue to live in and around these original land grants. They and other pioneer families that have stayed, despite the temptation to go elsewhere for better education and job opportunities, ARE the core of this community and the stamp of its identity. The words 'toughness' and 'perseverance' are redefined by these people.

From the heart of this environment came Isobel Meeks, (married name Wood), an extraordinary woman who has transformed the wholesaling and retailing of blueberries in her 40 years in the business. Her successive pattern of innovation over the years rivals that of any Harvard MBA business leader, and her work ethic, in a different environment and with greater opportunity for higher education, likely would have led her to being the CEO of a significant enterprise. In her 40 years in the blueberry business she has provided

OVER 1000 DIRECT PART TIME AND SEASONAL JOBS; hut employees, bakers, drivers, chip wagon servers, maintenance workers and many more indirect jobs. Who else can match this record in Addington Highlands? These jobs have provided extra income to residents, summer employment for students, and entry level work skills necessary to go on and obtain better-paying future jobs. She currently has 3 students from Loyalist College in Bancroft working with her for this summer as part of their education in a business course. (Loyalist College is a long term partner of hers). At an age when most people have long retired, Isobel, with some additional administrative help, continues to be clearly in control of her operations down to the smallest detail; purchasing, distribution, managing inventory and all aspects of her workforce, bookkeeping and government filings.

#### PATTERN OF INNOVATION AND TRANSFORMATION



#### **#1 Ownership of the Blueberry Huts**

This area has long been known for it's blueberries - picked by farm families for home consumption and/or sold to the travelling public from a stand along the highway, (or even out of the trunk of the picker's car). Gradually, permanent huts appeared, individually owned, many on farm laneways within 20 miles of the intersection of Highways #7 and #41. Isobel built her own hut and entered the retail business. However, she later decided that if she built more huts, maintained ownership, and placed them on the highways, (by leasing land from a farmer and perhaps employing a member of the farm family), she could bring chainstore efficiencies, expense discipline and quality control to blueberry hut retailing. At her business peak, she had her huts from Sharbot Lake to Madoc along #7 and from Kaladar to Bon Echo on #41 north. This was a radical concept and soon she had a dominant position in the marketplace.

#### #2 Blueberry Supply Chain

At one point before she entered the hut chain venture, Isobel was a driver for a blueberry buyer who sourced his berries in Quebec and wholesaled them to markets in Ontario. After his death, Isobel continued the business, with her own drivers, as she rolled out her multiple hut concept. While Addington Highlands produced wonderful, wild berries in good growing years, (my mother had us pick at Skootamatta Lake when I was a kid), some years were not that good, and the local, independent pickers followed their own schedule. The inconsistent aspects of supply, problematic to her expanding requirements, were solved by using berries sourced from elsewhere - as far away as the U.S., Quebec and BC- with her drivers traveling to markets up to 4 hours away. Demand quickly exceeded local capacity. However, true to her roots in the Township, Isobel has always bought any locally-picked berries that were brought to her in good condition-and continues to do so. While she now has fewer huts than at her business peak, her need for berries remains significant, as she wholesales to the huts owned by others, as well as to markets in towns in Eastern Ontario. In addition, her Chip Stand and Pie Factory continue to have a large need for blueberries.

This is a complex business requiring accurate forecasting of retail and wholesale demand, in order to provide suppliers with a reliable estimate of her needs. Wastage, from the berries' limited 'shelf life' is also a constant enemy of profitability.

Continued ...

#### Continued from Page 13



#### #3 Isobel's Chip Wagon

While other retail food establishments have come and gone over the years, Isobel's Chip Wagon at Northbrook is one of the most successful food operations from Kaladar to Denbigh - and I suspect her 'return-on-assets' is higher than any. Her food is widely recognized as excellent-tasting. While primarily a 'fast food' outlet for hamburger, chicken burger, fish, sausage and fries, she also sells ice cream and bakery products, including her famous blueberry pies and muffins from one end of the 'wagon'. In the summer, it is obvious that the gas station on the same property is experiencing a greater volume, (due to the Chip Wagon), than a similar station at Kaladar, on the very busy intersection of #7 and #41. Isobel's reaction to this comment is very gracious: "We both benefit from each other's business." The Chip Wagon is an extraordinarily successful business in AH, with a small capital cost. Though it remains mobile, it would be missed by many customers, employees and others, if it was relocated or ceased operations.

#### **#4 Northbrook Pie Factory**

Baked goods have been a feature of the huts for a long time-often made by the farm family working at the hut, Isobel's and others. Quality control/consistency of products depended on individual operators. Blueberries themselves are just another commodity, and have low margins and a limited 'shelf life'. Isobel had her own baked goods and was doing some wholesaling to hotels and other outlets, but wasn't capturing much of the margin. In a flash of brilliance, she thought that if she had her own factory for baked goods, she could both produce a consistent, high quality product and capture the greater retail margins instead of wholesale, for little incremental cost. One summer, the Pie Factory in Northbrook produced 12,000 pies. Operating with two shifts a day, it can produce 52 pies at a time, or 100-300 pies for the night shift depending upon the estimated demand for the next day (higher on the week end). One of her employees has been with her for 27 years and my observation is that her employees both respect and like her-a testament to her management skills. Due to her focus and insistence on quality in all aspects of her production process, Isobel's baked goods and jams are in great demand and command prices that guarantee a good profit.

#### CONCLUSION

This amazing entrepreneur business woman is 'past due' for recognition. She is 'home grown' and proud of it, without the advantages in growing up and working in the larger urban centres of southern Ontario. Her innovations are not imitations of others-they have been created and implemented by her alone. Many business people go through life and never discover or invent one new concept that changes an industry- or even their company. Isobel has produced four transforming innovations, for the benefit of her employees, her suppliers, competitors, the AH and L&A community and, certainly for herself. Her business has survived while many others in this community have perished. She works hard, has a close attention to detail and costs in a very diverse, complex, interlinked operation, and has earned the respect to which she is entitled.



#### A Year In The Life of a First Time SDRA Director

by Nancy Kallina, Treasurer

#### A Little About Me:

I have been coming up to the lake since before I was born - you see my mother was pregnant with me when my parents bought their property. In my childhood we seemed to make the trip up to the lake every weekend the entire year. I am sure that was not the case, but my childhood memories are dominated with packing the car, whining "are we there yet," and then springing out of the car when we arrived. The smell of the fresh trees was always inviting. Spring was spent making maple syrup and picking blackflies out of our bloody hair, summers spent catching frogs and jumping from rafts, autumn playing in leaves and preparing firewood, and winter

enjoying Christmas, cross country skiing and snowmobiling. Every season was filled with different adventures.

I remember the winding and hilly road when Dad had to "pull over quick!" to calm my upset stomach. The same road where drivers stopped to talk to their neighbours as they passed - everyone at minimum raised their hand to say hello.

In 1998 when a neighbour's cottage came up for sale, I decided to make my first real estate purchase. Still single and without a car of my own I cobbled together enough money for a down-payment and purchased my own piece of paradise. My mother and newly retired father worked tirelessly to stabilize the old cottage. It wasn't until 5 years later that I would marry and start a family to share this special place.

After the birth of my second son in 2008 while attending the AGM and hearing the pleas for new Board members, I turned to my husband and said "maybe I should join as the Treasurer". He turned to me with amazement and said "are you crazy?!" He was right, we were exhausted. Two years later I made the plunge and volunteered to be Treasurer.

#### Why I Volunteered:

To be honest, I was a passive member up to the point of joining the Board, spending most of my time at my own cottage or visiting the few good friends I had made over the years. I knew only a couple of the previous volunteers and rarely attended any of the events. However, I was always aware and in favour of the Association and knew the SDRA was needed to protect the lake and be available to respond to threats if necessary. I remember fondly the swim races starting at the Hughes Marina to the Trails End Marina [to those new to the lake, there was in fact two marinas on the lake at one point], and participating myself in the children's swim.

I remember the horseshoe tournaments, corn roasts and children's day that so many people attended. Recently, I felt that some of the fun of the lake was missing compared to the old days and I wanted my children to have the same fantastic experiences I did as a child. I want the lake to be healthy and for there to be an Association ready to respond to threats. I had some free time, love for the lake and experience to bring to the table – so I raised my hand.

Continued ...

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#### What I Have Learned:

While I may have a few more grey hairs, my first year on the Board has been enjoyable and I have an enlarged perspective on matters concerning the lake. Some of my lessons are:

- Members' opinions are starkly varied this shouldn't surprise me as we come from different backgrounds but even when I expect opinions to be unified on an issue I hear diverse views;
- ♦ The Association does a lot more than I thought keeping abreast of the municipal proceedings and conflicting organizations interests regarding the land surrounding the lakes takes time and skill to interpret. Also, time is incurred to complete statutory filings, minutes, and event organization. Finally, it never occurred to me of even the existence of standard lake maintenance such as fire pump upkeep, lake water sampling, and rock marking. I must have thought there was a rock marking fairy!;
- ◆ The reasons for joining (or not joining) the Association for each property owner are different I recall having heated arguments with my father about why he did not support the Association as he felt "they" were trying to keep outsiders off the lake. Yet I had a similar yet opposite discussion with a former member who felt the Association was letting too many outsiders on the lake. Same debate, different perspective, same outcome;
- The lake is bigger and more interesting than I imagined most of us travel the same route and stay within the boundaries of our property. Yet this year I learned the names and locations of a number of roads around the lake. I learned that a significant number of properties are boat access and that there are spectacular sunsets in the Upper Lake; and,
- ◆ The lake is getting younger again there was a time when you needed to wait your turn to waterski to avoid the numerous other boats doing the same, but over the past 20 years things have become much quieter. However, the activity level on the lake is increasing as former children have had children and new owners with families have arrived on the lake.

#### **Closing Thoughts:**

The Association can only be as effective as the efforts of its members. I urge those that feel that their thoughts are not represented or that the Association is not active enough in a certain area to volunteer their time. Before I joined the Board, I felt this way on two fronts. Firstly from my perspective, there seemed to be less representation for Sheldrake Bay concerns, and secondly, I wanted to bring back the fun activities to the lake. I have tried to connect with other property owners and worked hard with other Board members to introduce the Lake Festival. These two areas plus the health of the lake are of primary concern to me but I encourage others to participate such that their concerns can also be addressed. There are a variety of tasks and committees, and all need additional help. Please review the Volunteer request listing and consider how you can participate.

Over the past year I have had the pleasure of working with a group of people with a variety of opinions and skills but who share their affection for the Lake. At the beginning of my term I had the pleasure of meeting Bill Garnish who sadly passed away this year. My regret is that I didn't join the Board two years sooner so I could have met him earlier as I felt an instant affection for him. His thoughtful approach, knowledgeable history and concern for all things Skootamatta was evident. Even though I only met him a few times, I felt strongly that his soul was simply kind.

I encourage our members to consider what each can contribute to the Association as we have much to gain by a healthy, strong and active membership. ※

#### FIRE ON TOPPER LAKE! By Sara Young and Alan Smith

Relaxing at the cottage on Monday, August 29th after a busy weekend, we went to investigate when we smelled and could see smoke over the lake. Spotting burning trees opposite approximately 1531 Hughes Landing Road, we called 911. Several fire trucks arrived quickly. The teams went into action putting pumps into Topper Lake, dousing the flames for hours and cutting down trees to make sure they were out.

What caused the fire? Some campers at Topper Lake (see the photo of the campsite) failed to completely put out their campfire. The wind was blowing the flames toward the road, and the fire would have jumped across and been amongst the cottages on Skootamatta if it wasn't for our wonderful fire department. The following day I took pictures of some of the burnt trees while Casey and Joanna came back to ensure there were no flare-ups (see photos). On behalf of us all, thanks again to our fantastic fire department and its volunteers. You're the best!

P.S.- Remember, if you smell fire that seems out of place, go take a look. It took us a while to find this one. 🌣



Campsite and campfire

#### FIRE PUMP LOCATIONS:

There are two regularly maintained fire pumps located on the lake, one on Ron Nowell's property and the other at the west side of Blake's Island (boat house) with fire pump identification signal.

These pumps are available for all to use in the case of an emergency. A fire pump use demonstration will occur at the Pot Luck at Ron Nowell's on August 11.



Casey and Joanna, Firefighters



The day after the fire—Al with the burnt trees

#### A. Douglas Alkenbrack - Memories of a Local MP by Nancy Kallina

The winter of 1978 was unusual, quite cold but with little snow. As a result the lake froze over to create a wonderful enormous skating rink. While out for a skate, my mother met another woman who she likely would not have met otherwise - the ice seemed to bridge the gap between cottages. They realized they both had young daughters, so Katherine was begrudgingly dragged out to meet me. After a few awkward moments we found our connection and have been friends ever since.

When I met the Alkenbrack/Grennell family, I learned the joys of an extended family. Tables were full of food, people would pop in and out, and conversations would start at one cottage and finish in another, generosity was overflowing. So much was always happening, but I and all my family were always welcomed as if we were part of their family. I started to refer to members by their family names, Aunt Myrtle, Big Paul, Auntie Anne, Dougie. The Matriarch and Patriarch were no doubt Doug Senior and Nan. I learned that Doug Sr. was once the local MP but I was too young to know the significance. It seemed hard to imagine that he was a politician as he seemed quiet, reflective, and honest; nothing like the politicians I saw on television. His relaxed face had a slight grin. I remember him travelling from cottage to cottage ensuring each fireplace had sufficient wood. I remember him on Canada Day, not making an announcement but starting to sing with a strong voice the first line of *Oh Canada* as we then joined in.

He was also a published poet and over the many years after he passed away, his poems would be recited, at weddings, at birthday celebrations, on Canada Day. I always found them to be calming and a beautiful continuation of his presence at a place he dearly cared about, read by the people he cared for most. We have included an excerpt of his poem "The Village on the Skoot" for your enjoyment. (The entire poem plus two others will be posted on our website). As Doug Sr. would be 100 years old this year, I felt it appropriate to ask his family to include a few memories of their father their grandfather for us to enjoy.  $\mbox{$\frac{1}{2}$}$ 

#### Memories from a Daughter By Eleanor Grennell

This June 2nd, 2012 will mark 100 years since Douglas Alkenbrack's birth. He was born in Rydalbank in northern Ontario near Saulte St. Marie. His father Claude left Southern Ontario to work with his brother Roy in a lumber camp near Rydalbank Ontario. His mother was Flora McKinnon who Claude met while living and working in Rydalbank. The two brothers Roy and Claude married McKinnon sisters. Claude returned to Flinton with Flora and baby Douglas where they lived for several years before moving to the Napanee area. They had five sons, Douglas, Bruce, Wes, Morrrison and Wallace. All the brothers lived most of their lives in Napanee. Douglas and Bruce joined their Uncle R. W. Kimmerly in the lumber business in Napanee. Wes joined the business after he served in WW II in 1947.

Douglas became very active in municipal politics first serving as a Napanee councillor in 1952 then deputy reeve and elected Mayor of Napanee in 1955. He then ran as a conservative candidate in the 1962 federal election and was elected as the Federal Member of Parliament for the riding of Prince Edward Lennox on June 18, 1962. The riding included the area south from Napanee up as north as Eganville and included the area surrounding Skootamatta Lake and his brief childhood home of Flinton. He was re-elected in 1963 and 1965. He was re-elected in 1968, 1972 and 1974 to represent the riding of Frontenac, Lennox and Addington. He retired from Politics in 1979 after many long and successful years serving the people in his riding. He was well admired by many people in his community.

In early September of 1969 my father, my husband Herbert, my grandfather Claude decided to take a drive north from Napanee. When they arrived at Cloyne, Claude suggested a left turn to drive in the old logging road that goes through to Skootamatta and Sheldrake lakes. At this point in time the road twisted and turned around the rocks and hills and was very narrow. Claude's idea was that he would show his Uncle's property his Uncle had used, through a quick claim deed. There had been an old homestead where he raised beef cattle back in the late 1800's. Claude had spent time there when he was a boy. The homestead was situated near the landing between Sheldrake and Skootamatta lakes. They identified the spot where the old house had stood after finding the remnants of the root cellar. It sat on a rise looking down at the stream that flows out of Sheldrake Lake into Skootamatta. The old ranch was run by Robert W. Kimmerly, Claude's Uncle who subsequently opened a General Store in Flinton. Douglas's poem "Village on the Skoot" is written about his boyhood days spent at his Great Uncle and Aunt's store in Flinton.

They drove on east for a short distance up the road and down a steep hill following Skootamatta Lake. They discovered a "for Sale" sign at the roadside and decided to have a look at the property for sale. They found the owner of the cottage in residence. He introduced himself as Gordon Lac from Toronto. He told the asking price for the cottage and property including a 12-foot aluminum boat and motor was \$11,000. The lake view from the cottage was spectacular looking out towards the island in the centre of the Sheldrake Bay and to the point on the east towards the wide expanse of the lake. Doug and Herb talked it over and felt they could buy the property jointly. They put together an offer and within a few days were the proud owners.

To the east was a cottage then owned by an Oshawa man named Valdemars Vientnieks. He died in a car accident in 1975 and as a result we were offered first option to buy the property from his mother. We bought this second cottage and it is now owned by my brother and sister-in-law Doug and Shelley Alkenbrack who build a second building on the property years later. We now call the properties our family compound and the land and the cottages have been the glue that has brought such closeness in our family.

Our family was large and one of those characters much larger than life was also my cousin Paul, "Big Paul" as we affectionately called him, not to be confused with my son known in his childhood as "Little Paul." Paul had a loud laugh, rolling belly and was adored by all the kids. He would take them for rides in this old wreck of a vehicle he called the "Dune Buggy." Paul is also no longer with us but his memories are shared alongside my father's.

We think of our father and grandfather Doug often and fondly, as he was such an integral part of our family cottage experience. Our mother Nan shared his love for the cottage and the two of them would pack the car full of food and treats before leaving for the cottage for a weekend or a summer retreat. Mother, who is still with us at 92, was a wonderful cook and we all enjoyed the great meals and delicious "best ever" pies she made. There would often be eighteen of us for a sit down dinner. Dad usually washed the dishes. He will continue to live on in spirit and we all remember all the great lessons he has passed on to us. This year will be 43 years for our family to have been cottaging on the lake. Our families share so many happy memories and have made so many close friends who I am sure share very similar experience.

#### Memories of a Granddaughter By Jennifer Alkenbrack Robertson

My grandfather loved Skootamatta. "The Camp," as he affectionately called it, was his favorite place to be when he wasn't in Ottawa or on the campaign trail! When we were kids, Grandpa would always precede us to the cottage to "get things set up." He was self-appointed caretaker. We would arrive to a cheery shout from him as we pulled into the driveway, a warm fire already heating the cottage, and a massive hockey rink shoveled off on the lake. He was the one who planted the geraniums despite the hideous May blackflies, got the docks in, cleaned the windows, and readied the cottages in our family compound for the rest of us to arrive for Canada Day and the kickoff to summer. Courtesy of Grandpa, there were usually lots of treats around too, such as squeaky curd, fresh butter tarts, "Road Pies" (my grandmother IS the best pie maker around but Grandpa still arrived with at least two purchased pies) and all kinds of treasures he picked up on his way up to "the camp." The drive from Napanee to Cloyne must have taken him hours, as he stopped to talk to everyone he knew along the way! After years of representing L&A County in Ottawa, he was such a people person.

While at the cottage, Grandpa never sat down. He wandered from cottage to cottage in his tartan tam, checking everything out day and night, always lending a hand with whatever task needed to be done. Even when my cousin Katherine's boyfriend Bernie was setting up his dockside proposal (think flowers and candles), Grandpa was right there to assist! He liked to keep tabs on what everyone was up to, where we were going and how we were getting there. He would wander around late at night with a flashlight checking on the kids sleeping in the tent, the adults enjoying the bonfire, and was known to chase the odd raccoon away from its' late night snack' in the garbage cans. He taught us the importance of always having a bailer in the boat and a pail by a fire pit, the advantages of waiting out a bad lightning storm in a car (he was often the first one out there, having been struck by lightning as a kid) and the reasoning in putting extra logs on the woodstove at night, even if the temperature upstairs in the loft was already 90 degrees!

Years ago, when my father embarked on the construction of a log cabin, it was Grandpa who bought the logs and helped him hammer in just about every spike in the place. Though he is gone, and has been for some time, Grandpa is always with us at the Skoot. I notice him in the first red leaves of fall, hear him in the pair of loons calling and swimming off the dock, and see him in the rising full moon just peeking over the top of the island in Sheldrake Bay. We will continue to celebrate his life and his love whenever we are together at the Skoot. 🌣



#### 

Kimmerly's General Store, known as "The Old Reliable" Flinton, Ontario



I remember the grand old general store, With the little bell hung above the door That tinkled, when customers came, And its white pine walls, and the shelves piled high With goods that the back-woods came to buy, Of every need and name.

7555

'Twas a wondrous place for a boy to be, With its air of plenty, and bonhomie, I can see the pine floor sag With barrels of salt, and vinegar sour, And biscuits, brown sugar, and country flour With a reindeer on the bag.

High over my head 'neath the timbers bare, Bright kettles of tin and of agate ware On hooks from the ceiling swing, And with lustrous shades of mother-of-pearl That were shon each day by the hired girl, Two rows of oil lamps hung.

There were wash-tubs, scrub-boards and shiny pails, And harness and brindles and martingales, And sleigh-bells of musical sound, While there at the touch of my finger tips A circled selection of buggy-whips Turned jauntily round and round.

There were redolent chests of good green tea That were lined with lead, and I always will see Their strange, exotic brand, The beautiful Japanese dancing girl, Her flowery kimono all awhirl And a bamboo fan in her hand.

What cordial odours a boy could imbide! A blend of aromas I ne'er can describe Of spices, harness and soap, Of coffee and candy, tobaccos and teas, Good-natured butter and sharp-tempered cheese, Bananas, oranges and rope.

There were dash-board lanterns and barrel churns, And wallpaper festooned with waving ferns, Horse-collars and lantern globes.
There was iron-stone china all packed in straw, And lumbermen's jumpers of mackinaw, Foot-warmers and buffalo robes.

On a special stand in a prominent place A magnet of elegance, fragrance and grace, In the mould of a Grecian urn, Stood the coffee mill with its bright red wheels Like a pair of great fire engine reels That I always loved to turn.

Written: A. Douglas Alkenbrack
\* Colloquial abbreviation of Skootamatta River
(this is an excerpt, all 20 verses are available on the website)

#### MY CONVERSATION WITH MRS. MOOSE by Jim Sladics

MAY 25, 2011

Henniger Road

We have a large cast iron pot in our back yard in which I plant Porchulacas flowers. I started to plant and I just happened to turn my head to the right and there was a cow moose watching me.



I kept planting away and then I started to talk to her. "Hi There Mrs. Moose, did you have a good winter in the park? My goodness do you ever look good. You are in great shape! I admire your two hind quarters; they could make some great roasts along with mashed potato during the hunting season. You should make sure you are not around here in the fall moose hunt because you might be drawn in the lottery for a cow tag and the hunters will wind up with a rump roast. Now, if you get in to my garden, I will be forced to put my foot print on your butt!"

I continued planting and talking to her. She was inquisitive and her ears were moving back and forth. I chatted and planted away for another 8 minutes and I ran out of things to say, so she decided she had enough of my lecture. She turned around and wandered down the path to the hydro line that crosses from Wolf Creek, turned left and headed away.

I measured the distance from me to her which was 25 feet.

Two days later, at about 8 a.m. I looked out my kitchen window and there were 2 moose calves hanging around the flower pot and my jeep wagon. I had a camera ready this time and was able to take some pictures while they sauntered away. They stopped and looked back at me twice. Now I have the evidence because no one believed me!! \*



#### **Bible Island Update**



After more than a year and a half passing through various government agencies, the renaming of 'Big Island' to 'Bible Island' is now official. This may not mean a lot to the beaver, deer and vultures that likely predate first settlement by the family, but congratulations to Mike and the entire extended Bible clan.

While creating or changing an 'official' geographical place name is obviously neither quick nor easy, having names around the lake associated with families that have a long tradition in the area adds a very worthwhile sense of history.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

#### By Bob Blatchford/David Oborne Edited by Jim Oborne



We welcome your thoughts and contributions as we continue to assemble the history of our lake.

- 1. The first permanent cottage was build by Alfred Ross (Tiny) Oborne on July 1, 1922. Today the 5 <sup>th</sup> generation still enjoys time at Skootamatta in the original compound.
- 2. Until the mid 1950's, the lake was known as Loon Lake. As there were many lakes in Canada with the same name, to prevent further confusion, the government renamed our lake Skootamatta. Skootamatta was named using an Ojibwa word meaning "star spilling lake" although another source suggests it means "burnt shoreline". The lake encompasses 3015 acres, has a perimeter of 49 kilometres, and has a maximum depth of 99' and mean depth of 23'. Fed by artesian wells, the lake eventually drains into Lake Ontario. Another tribal translation, the one we prefer is "Land of Shooting Stars".
- 3. Mike Schwager (Mike's Island) had the local post office on Loon Lake for only 3 months in 1927. It was called Festubert named after a famous WWI battle where some of Tiny Oborne's school mates at St. Andrew's fought as Officers in the 48<sup>th</sup> Highland Regiment. It served 22 cottages. People would boat up to the cabin and receive their mail in slots on a cabinet. Thereafter, mail service was transferred to the mainland run by the Yanch family.
- 4. Residents and area cottagers did most of their shopping at the general store in Cloyne owned by the Wheelers, then Harvey and Rachael Spencer in the 1920's & 30s. (now Grands). Supplied weekly in Tweed, The store also offered credit between paycheques, drugs, lumber, paint, equipment, clothes, boots, and gas. Many items were offered in bulk eggs by the case, bacon by the slab, beef by the side and potatoes by the bushel. Tomatoes cost 10 cents/tin and dry beans were 25 cents for 10 pounds.
- 5. Highway 7 was completed in 1933, and highway 41 in 1935. Both were government make work projects during the Depression.
- 6. Rutland Lodge (Taits) was the first fishing lodge on the Lake. Built in mid 1920, it employed many area residents.
- 7. The original Lake Association was incorporated as a provincial company in 1928. Done so to get discounts on fishing and hunting equipment the Greater Loon Lake Fishing Club had a board of 8 chaired by Tiny Oborne, and 33 chartered, shareholder members.
- 8. The last lumber operation on the lake, east of the creek and north of the Landing, the Wilson Lumber Co., closed doors in 1949. The property was bought and developed by the Lazell and Moir families in the 1950s.
- 9. There were two properties with telephones in the 1920s ... Bon Echo Resort and Pearson's Skootamatta Lodge.
- 10. The Bon Echo Provincial Park, donated by Merrill Denison, was officially opened in 1965.
- 11. In 1935, a movie was made at Bon Echo starring Shirley Temple called "Susannah of the Mounties" based upon a juvenile book series created by Merrill Denison's wife, Muriel.
- 12. Around 1976, a Canadian Tele Films movie was made at Skootamatta Lodge called "The Far Shore". Apparently, it stunk. 点



#### The LOST HIGHWAY

www.thelosthighway.ca

Submitted by Lynn Garnish

Sixty years ago travellers filled the motels, restaurants, and gas stations along Highway 7 between Kaladar and Perth. Now weeds grow high around rotting cars and the buildings of once-prosperous businesses are collapsing. Highway 7 had been the main road between Toronto and Ottawa, but just like the interstate highway killed America's Route 66, the construction of nearby four-lane highways siphoned Highway 7's traffic and razed its businesses. *The Lost Highway* is a documentary that chronicles a year in the life of the roadway. It tells a range of stories—from old-timers hanging on to what little remains to tenacious entrepreneurs and artists carving out a future. The film paints an intimate portrait of an impoverished region poised on the verge of transformation.

At its peak, the King's Highway 7, commonly known as Highway 7, stretched 694.6 km across the province of Ontario from Sarnia in the west to Ottawa, the nation's capital, in the east. Today Highway 7 is 156 km shorter (a result of 1997 provincial government decommissioning) and its western terminus is no longer Sarnia but Elginfield, near London. Even so, Highway 7 remains one of Ontario's longest highways, and from Sunderland eastward forms the Trans Canada Highway through the eastern part of the province.

Highway 7 came into being in 1920 when the road between Sarnia and Guelph was designated a provincial highway. It was extended to Peterborough in the early twenties, and then farther eastward, to Perth, during the Great Depression. An unemployment relief project engaged thousands of men from across the province to build the brand new east-west corridor across Central and Eastern Ontario. By 1932 it was complete.

Government incentives during the 1930s ensured the establishment of services along this new stretch of Highway 7. Gas stations, restaurants, and motels began to pop up along the side of the road in the remote eastern region, and did brisk business. But it wasn't all good news, as towns like Arden and Maberly, bypassed by the highway, saw a sudden decline in commerce.

A similar fate befell highway businesses between Kaladar and Perth decades later, as a new, high-speed highway to the south siphoned much of Highway 7's traffic volume. But it wasn't just four-lane Highway 401 that caused problems—Highway 416, near Ottawa, also hastened 7's demise. Not only did fewer cars now travel the route, but modern vehicles went farther and faster on less gas. Stopping at local businesses became an option, not a necessity.

Today Howard Gibbs struggles to keep the gas station his father built in 1935 alive. It's the last Depression-era service station along the stretch still in operation. Meanwhile, citizens of Arden have begun to revitalize their town, and others are turning ramshackle properties along the highway into modern homes and businesses. After years of stagnation, the region is once again on the verge of transformation.

Toronto-based filmmaking duo **Derreck Roemer** and **Neil Graham** have worked together for over 20 years producing everything from super-8 art films to feature length documentaries.

In late 2000 the pair formed their first production company and began the Gladstone Hotel project — a film six years in the making. Last Call at the Gladstone Hotel premiered in 2007 to critical acclaim and sold out screenings at the Hot Docs International Film Festival in Toronto, then played festivals worldwide before television broadcast in Canada and Israel. The film garnered Roemer and Graham a 2008 Gemini Award for Best Direction in a Documentary Series, as part of TVOntario's documentary anthology series The View From Here. In 2009 the pair formed Insurgent Projects, an independent production company that creates everything from short videos for the web to one-off documentaries for theatrical release and TV broadcast.

To receive occasional updates on the production, visit the website <a href="www.thelosthighway.ca">www.thelosthighway.ca</a> and join their mailing list. For media inquiries or questions about the production, email outreach@thelosthighway.ca.

#### 90<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY-THE LOON LAKE COLONY- JULY 1, 1922

By Bob Blatchford and David Oborne, Edited by Jim Oborne



On July 1, 2012, we at Skootamatta Lake (nee Loon Lake) will celebrate two anniversaries.... 145 years of the founding of the Canadian Confederation (Canada Day) and the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the building of the first permanent cottage on the lake at Oborne Island-and the Oborne Family will celebrate the 97<sup>th</sup> birthday of the last living person that was there at that founding by his father-J. Ross Oborne..

Born in Montreal in 1889, Alfred Ross (Tiny) Oborne was an inventor, an investor and manufacturer's agent who in his business travelled extensively in the U.S., Europe, and Russia. He was a graduate of St. Andrew's college, and as a young man loved adventure, fishing and hunting. His father, James Oborne, was a senior executive of The Canadian Pacific Railway. As such, Tiny had a free pass anywhere the CPR went. As of 1884, it went to Kaladar, and around that time, the railroad started promoting resort vacations to improve their business .... St. Andrews by the sea, Banff Springs Hotel and ... Bon Echo Resort.

Travelling by rail to Kaladar, and then by horse drawn carriage, stopping overnight in Northbrook, Tiny or ARO eventually made his way to the Inn around 1910 – 1911. A side trip to fish brought him to Loon Lake. Travel during World War 1 could then be done by car. During the period between 1915 – 1919, he cemented his vision to establish a summer settlement on Loon Lake.

With the able assistance of the Bey and Schwager Brothers, Tiny completed his cottage on Oborne Point (then an island) for occupancy on July 1, 1922. Built with cedar, birch and pine, windows from Walter Oborne (a distant cousin, cement floors. It had a dining room and a kitchen and living room as it stands today. There were 2 bedrooms along with a boathouse, storage shed, outdoor toilet, woodshed and ice house. He called it Sunset Lodge.

Recognizing that he was on to a good thing, and being a promoter at heart, he realized he needed to encourage others to also build. Though business and relationships developed on his many visits to Bon Echo, he developed a list of friends who brought a variety of skills to this new community. Land could be purchased for as little as \$5 per acre (maximum of 5 acres per name). From 1919 – 1923 Tiny bought many parcels of land and registered them, on an interim basis, in the names of over 30 friends and acquaintances, his wife and two kids and even in the name of his secretary-until final registration was completed.

A sampling of the initial landowners encouraged to come to Loon Lake where Andrew Stevens ((Simpsons Hardware – Toronto), Carl Schwenger (Toronto Hydro), George Pearson (Electronics in Chicago), Walter Oborne (Toronto Contractor), Dr. Ralph Williams (Ingersol), Tom Masson (Aikenheads Toronto), Frank Seddon (Electric Toronto), Art Ingram (Funeral Business, Toronto), Fred Stroud (Toronto Hydro), E.J. Harrington (Doors Toronto), E. Jacobs (Metal Windows), Harry Gibbs, Norman Mathew, Ray Chaffee (Detroit), Sprague Moore (Father of the Lone Ranger), Chris Rutland, R.H. Clark, Sid Ballard (Father of Maple Leafs Harold), and others.

Travel to the lake in the nineteen twenties was very difficult, a real journey. Highways 7 and 41 were not completed until 1933 & 1935 respectively. While automobiles were now used (first recorded auto was a Cadillac owned by Merrill Dennison's father in 1911), the roads were bumpy. Each car carried at least 2 spare tires and patches for flats. The distance from Toronto was 175 miles, often taking the whole day. From Belleville, you travel north through Tweed, Bridgewater (Actinolite), Flinton then turning at the Addington Road through Cloyne. Then you travelled along the Skootamatta and Jacques Bay road to Trails End where the road stopped. The final journey to your cottage was by boat. Ed Landon, who owned the store at the top of the hill, rowed people until motor boats arrived in the mid 1920s.

Continued ...

#### Continued from Page 23

Many local families were involved in the construction and maintenance of the early cottages. The early cottage builders included Bill and Mike Schwager, the Bey Brothers (Charlie and Pete, who worked at Bon Echo), Jim Meeks and others. Andrew Meeks built the ice houses with Leo and Elburn Meeks Sr. filling them every winter. Mike Schwager specialized in making the fireplaces and beds. Charlie Bey made cedar and birch furniture. All lumber came from the mill in Cloyne (behind the museum). Materials were put on a 30°x30° barge at the landing, then pulled over to the property being built by a metal boat with 2 ½ HP motor. All materials came from Cloyne by wagon along the Addington Road.

Life at the cottage in the 1920s & 1930s was substantially different than today (we did not get hydro until 1953). Most people bought their staples at Wheelers store in Cloyne (now Grand`s). One could buy everything from eggs, bacon, and potatoes to nails, axes, hammers and saws, as well as clothing. Andrew and Martha Meeks raised chickens and vegetables. Joe Reid ran the local blacksmith shop in Cloyne (now Nowell's). He made fireplace screens, grates and tools while his wife made rag rugs for cottages.

Wilfred Lessard also collected the local taxes on the lake by canoe. The Meeks family, run by Archie, owned many boathouses at the Landing which stored motor boats (Boston whalers) in the mid 1920s as well as renting skiffs and boats to fisherman and hunters.

Up until 1953 when Hydro arrived, cottage life was rustic and basic. You were lucky to have running water via a hand pump. Wood stoves were your oven and heat in the early mornings. Most people had ice houses and ice boxes. Leo and Elburn Meeks Sr. cut the ice on the lake and using a horse drawn sleigh, took the blocks to the cottage ice house each winter. They spread sawdust on the ice to help it survive the summer heat. The ice box in the cottage was zinc lined and made of oak. The ice was put on the top level, food inside. There was a tray on the bottom to collect water. The ice had to be replaced every 2 days. Light was supplied via coal oil coleman lanterns as well as very large hurricane lanterns and flashlights. These hurricanes were vital and they provided a beacon for motor boats at night guiding them to your property (a hazardous journey in fog and rain, especially around Mike's Island and Oborne Point). Cleaning sheets, towels, and clothes was done with yellow sunlight soap on a washboard down by the lake, and then dried on clotheslines. Hot water was boiled in a kettle on the woodstove.

During the day, people did chores .... cooking, baking, cleaning, carrying water, filling the ice box and wood container: constant building and repairs, hauling rocks, wood cutting and splitting, lots of swimming, some fishing. In the evenings, some congregated at the Landing or Schwengers on the weekend to sing, dance and tell stories. Many stayed at home relaxing after a hard day playing records on wind-up phonographs, or playing games like snakes and ladders, crazy 8s, crib, gin rummy, old maid, hearts, fish etc. Bed early, rise early. No TV, computer, phone ... not bad but pretty remote.

People in the early days of the '20s went to the lake to get away from their jobs and city life. Just like today. While their daily and weekend activities were different then in July and August, some things remain the same 90 years later:

- .. the lake is still beautiful and clean
- ..we still go their to get away from the city but now can do it for weekends
- ..many still have wood stoves
- ..there are still chores and building activities
- ..kids today still enjoy the lake as much as their grandparents did, as kids

So Happy 90<sup>th</sup> all cottagers at Skootamatta Lake on July 1, 2012. May we enjoy the pristine beauty of our lake for many generations to come. 🌣

#### HISTORY PROJECT UPDATE - Jim Oborne

#### WE HAVE 'LIFT-OFF', HOUSTON!

After several years of contemplation and now thanks to all of our canvassers in the Summer of 2011 and those of you who have made submissions, the History Project has commenced. The SDRA Board is fully behind this joint venture with the Cloyne and District Historical Society, which will archive all family and property submissions (once the Museum has completed its planned expansion). Information kits have been prepared for delivery to residents on all three lakes - subject to the availability of canvassers.

Kits have been distributed to members and non-members as follows:

- Sheldrake Bay
- 2. Most of Hughes Landing Road- both sides of the Causeway and to other cottages using this road for access
- 3. Oborne Point Road and Loon's Nest Road
- 4. The (Trail's End) Landing area to the former Loon Lake Lodge (now Coté)
- 5. North Shore Road and Pearson Pond Road
- 6. Schwenger 'colony' at the end of the Upper lake
- 7. Bible Island and Masson Island (now Stewart)
- 8. Several kits distributed on Sheldrake Lake

Areas not covered due to lack of canvassers - deferred to Spring 2012 and further recruiting:

- 1. Henniger Road
- 2. The Narrows
- 3. Jacques Bay
- 4. Blake Island and the water access properties on the north shore of the Upper Lake (Lynn Garnish has agreed to canvass)
- 5. Pringle Lake
- 6. Remainder of Sheldrake Lake (Derek Mendham has agreed to contact all residents)

To date about forty forms have been received and are currently being held by me and my brother, (over 20% of total kits delivered with returns from about 35% of those receiving them). I received commitments for many more to be completed as a 'winter project' - including most of the Board and volunteers. Some of the returned forms are pretty 'skimpy' and follow-up is required. Others have produced tremendous info and stories - fascinating reading, (and will get good 'book profile' for their family). We have some great pictures and many forms indicate that more pictures are available. Families should consider their submission as a 'living' document to be expanded to as new information or stories are developed.

If you or your area have not been canvassed and you would like a kit, please contact me at <a href="mailto:joborne@mymts.net">joborne@mymts.net</a> with information on how to contact you and I will ensure that you receive one.

We need more canvassers to complete this Project, particularly for those areas above that have still not been canvassed at all. We'd also like to encourage as many of last year's volunteer canvassers as possible - and more - to make call backs to get additional submissions.

#### PLEASE VOLUNTEER

For the 2012 season, we hope to complete both the first canvass of the remaining areas and call backs for the areas done last summer - subject to the number of volunteers available.

We are also examining a revised approach to the History Project that would attempt to complete 'area' booklets, (as identified above), prior to the contemplation of a book covering all areas of the lakes. This would empower Directors and others to choose how and when they work on getting significant submissions for individual areas. For example, much work and commentary has already been completed on the people and properties of the original Loon Lake Colony from 1922 to roughly 1950 -when there were less than 50 cottages on Skootamatta Lake. (see separate "90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary" article...). This is a 'bite-sized' piece of lake history that could be self-published as a booklet - probably by Summer 2013 and might encourage further submissions by showing that the Project is viable and worthwhile for all.

Again, thanks to the efforts of the History Committee and hard work by volunteer canvassers, the launch has been successful. However, canvassers, please hold fast. Follow–up work will be required. We will attempt to do as much as we can by e-mail and print efforts, but phoning and further cottage visits are likely going to be the primary determinants of overall success - and book quality, (if we make that decision).

Well done, all. 99111







# 1st Annual Skootamatta Lake Festival!!

#### We are pleased to announce our first annual Lake Festival!

Date: Saturday, July 28th Place: Trails End Grounds

(RAIN DATE July 29th)



10:00 am - 11:00 am Registration & Set up

• 11:00 am - 1:00 pm Swim races

11:30 am - 2:00 pm Kayak races

11:00 am - 1:30 pm Children fun games and youth ladder golf

▶ 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Barbecue lunch

• 1:30 pm - 2:00 pm Horseshoe registration

2:00 pm start
 Horseshoe tournament

Children's poster contest with judging to be held at Ron Nowell's Pot Luck on August 11!

#### **Details:**

While the details are still being developed, the developing plans are as follows:

#### **Swim Races:**

Child (age 12 and younger) approx. distance 1 km Youth (age 13 – 17) approx. distance 2 km Adult (age 18 to 59) approx. distance 4 km Senior (age 60 +) approx. distance 2 km

#### Ladder Golf:

Fun toss game similar to horseshoes but played with different equipment. Register with a partner or come as a single and meet a new friend.



Child (age 12 and younger) approx. distance 2 km Youth Course (age 13 – 17) approx. distance 4 km Adult Course (age 18 to 59) approx. distance 6 km Senior Course (age 60 +) approx. distance 4 km

#### Horseshoes:

No explanation required. Register with a partner or come as a single.

#### Barbeque:

Nominal charge of \$1.00 to cover condiments and supplies. Food generously donated by Country Traditions.





# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Many hands make light work – isn't that the saying? Well we have lots to do and too few hands to get things done. There are jobs around the lake, work on Committee projects, and assistance required to make the lake festival an event to remember. The success of the Association is dependent on the involvement of our great members. Putting up a hand can be intimidating as one may not know exactly what one is getting involved in, so below are the specific jobs and tasks that need to get completed. Please help!

#### **Lake Festival**

Task	Total #
	Required
first aid, CPR	2 adults
photographer for swim and kayak races	1 youth or adult
photographer for ladder golf and horseshoes	1 youth or adult
photographer kids event	1 youth or adult
BBQ cook and helper	3 adults
horseshoe/ ladder coordinator helper (including pre-prep)	3 adults
kids games	4 adults and 8 youths
garbage collectors and clean up	2 adults and 2 youths
set up	4 adults and 4 youths
clean up	4 adults and 4 youths

#### **Lake Related Tasks**

Task	Total #
fire pump inspections, check and refill gas tanks	2 adults
rock marking	2 adults
beach site clean-up accompanied by the junior rangers	4 adults and 4 youth
grass cutting of trails end site - paid opportunity!	1 – 2 youth
fireworks – pull ropes across road to close	2 adults
water collection for annual testing purpose	2 adults

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

#### **SDRA Committee Activities**

Interested in helping with some Board Committees but not ready to make the commitment necessary to become a Director?

We also have opportunities in this area to serve on an SDRA Committee.

Task	Total # Required
History Project	30 adults or youth
Canvassers – to participate and distribute material.	
The Friends of Skootamatta, Sheldrake and Pringle ("FOSSP") - to assist with	10 adults or youth
Lake Management Plan and Township Official Plan process.	
<b>Newsletter Editor</b> - to collect input, contact advertisers, assemble the newslet-	1 adult or youth
ter for review, and produce/distribute to members.	

# Donations Needed!

We have a varied membership with access to a variety of products and services. To help the SDRA keep their costs down and to put on an expansive festival we are requesting the following items for use for the event.

#### Lake Festival

Item	Number
party sized cotton candy machine, snow cone or popcorn maker	1 each
horseshoe set	3
ladder golf sets	3
kids bouncy castle	1 or 2
helium balloon equipment	1
portable tables	4
portable music system	1
generator	2
poster design and printing	



#### **EXPLORE THE LAKE DAY 2012**

Saturday, August 18, 2012

This year we will be exploring the area south of the causeway, the last area to be explored - so don't miss it! This is a great way to learn about the wildlife habitats along the Skootamatta shores while improving your canoe/kayak skills and meeting some new friends.

Look for posters around the lake and sign up at the Annual General Meeting! Email: johnandjudyskoot@hotmail.com for more information about this event!



# A New Vet in Town!



Dr. Faye Whyte from the Richmond Veterinary Clinic based in Napanee has opened a satellite clinic in the new community building between Northbrook and Cloyne - at 12497A Highway 41, Unit 2. The clinic will take clients by appointment, 613-336-1608. If the office is closed, the phone will be redirected to their full service clinic in Napanee. Currently the clinic hours are Tue. 1 pm to 4 pm and Thu. 9 am to 12 pm. They will assess the demand to determine if additional hours are required.

At this location they are able to offer appointments for wellness/illness exams, vaccines, lab sample collection and nail trims. They are also able to offer the transfer of patients to their Napanee location for surgical procedures & further diagnostic work-ups.



Parents and grandparents – Looking for a place to entertain your children? Visit the Land O'Lakes Petting Farm, a rescue and educational site, for a truly enjoyable experience.

Open 7 days a week. \$20 per family, or \$5 per person (Grandparents and children under 2 free) includes tour and animal feeding. Admission price goes towards vet care and to sustain the animals.

Come to meet Charlie the friendly llama and Daisy the barking pig.

New this year is Eeyore the donkey and Cloud the miniature horse.

A pleasant place to spend quality time.

1228 Road 506 Cloyne, Ontario, K0H 1K0 Phone: 613-336-0330

Email: landolakespettingfarm@omniglobe.ca



**BON ECHO PARK** 

Hosted by Friends of Bon Echo Check website weekly for calendar of upcoming events.

www.BonEchoFriends.ca

#### SUMMER ACTIVITIES AT BON ECHO PARK

The Friends of Bon Echo Park provide programs and events to preserve the natural and cultural heritage of the Park. Events are free and guests are welcome. There is a minimal Park vehicle entry fee so fill up your car and enjoy the many benefits this beautiful Park has to offer.

In July and August: <u>Lagoon BBQ</u> every Saturday and Sunday (12 – 2pm). There are daily children's programs and other events.

The following special events are confirmed for the summer of 2012.

- Sat. Jun 30: Sciensational Sssnakes!! 11:00am and 1:00pm at the Amphitheatre
- Sat. July 7: Ardoch Traditional Teachings 7:00pm at the Campfire clearing
- July 27,28, 29: 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Bon Echo Art Exhibition and Sale. Great art, live entertainment, food, children's activities, Sciensational Sssnakes!! Check website for schedule.
- Thu. Aug 9: David Archibald 7:00pm Very popular singer, entertainer. Great family fare.
- **Wed. Aug 22: Terence Dickinson** 8:30pm Celebrated astronomer. Followed by telescope viewing (weather permitting)

#### FLINTON COUNTRY BLUEGRASS JAMBOREE

August 3, 4, 5, 2012





Township Recreation Centre 72 Edward Street, Flinton, ON.

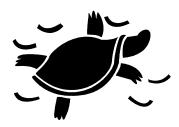
**Daily Admission at Gate:** 

Fri. - \$10. Sat. - \$20. Sun. - \$10.

Full weekend pass: \$35 if purchased in advance

Please visit: <a href="https://www.flintonrecreationclub.ca">www.flintonrecreationclub.ca</a> for more information Bring your own lawn chair. Rain or Shine!

### Lake Steward's Report – 2011/12 by Malcolm Stewart, Lake Steward



#### Water levels and beavers

Skootamatta Lake underwent some 'ups and downs' during 2011! Year round resident and SDRA Director, Paul Lindsay observed that there seemed to be more ice movement in the spring than in previous years. Strong south and west winds piled the ice up and caused some damage, especially on the North Shore and Trails End Landing. Heavy rainfall in May followed by an unusually dry summer led to abnormally low water levels during the summer and fall, which other lakes in the area also experienced. Adding to the problem, the logs in the Skootamatta dam were removed too soon and not put back in before much of the 'surplus' water had drained out. The SDRA and Quinte Conservation Authority will be monitoring this more closely in 2012 to avoid a repeat.

In November, it was reported that there appeared to be an unusually high number of beavers in and around Skootamatta Lake and that they were cutting down or damaging many trees mainly on the East shore of the Lower Lake. Addington Highlands Township has a long-standing arrangement with the Frontenac – Addington Trappers Association to remove nuisance beavers and under this arrangement, some 31 beavers were trapped and removed from the Lake this past fall and winter. One concern is that drier conditions in the 'swampy' areas of the Lake that traditionally provide winter habitat for beavers may have forced them out into deeper water (another reason for delaying spring log removal until warranted).

AH Clerk, Jack Pauhl suggests that If you have trees vulnerable to beavers on your property, wrap the lower trunks (first two feet or so) with tin or steel mesh etc. to discourage the beavers. Another popular solution is to paint the lower trunks with a mixture of latex paint and coarse sand.

If your beaver problems are beyond your control, Mr. Coleman Boomhour, a long time trapper in the area may be able to help. You can reach Mr. Boomhour at 613-336-8443.

In February, Paul Lindsay declared, "The winter here has been absolutely amazing. Temperatures have been very mild with [plenty of] snow"... an indication that the cottage season may get off to a good start this year!

#### 2011 Water testing

An ongoing SDRA responsibility is to monitor water levels in the Lakes as well as nutrient levels (phosphorus, nitrates), E. coli and water clarity. To do this SDRA participates in the Lake Partners Pro-



gram, which coordinates testing in several area lakes, and has contracted with Caducean Environmental Laboratories in Kingston, to provide independent analysis of our water samples.

In 2011, Ken Hook, Rosemary and John Teed, and Malcolm Stewart took samples in late September. Results for 2011 and 2009, the last year testing was done, are shown in Table 1.

#### Continued from Page 31

Table 1 Skootamatta Lake Water Test Results, 2009 and 2011

Parameter	Parameter Phosphorus Nitrogen			ogen	E coli	
Units	mį	g/L	mg/L		cfs/100mL	
MDL	0.	01	0.0	01	1	
	2009	2011	2009	2011	2009	2011
Sites						
1. Upper Lk. Landing	<0.01	<0.1	0.3	0.3	*	*
2. Jacques Bay	<0.01	<0.1	0.3	0.3	1	49
3. Mouth of Narrows	0.01	<0.1	0.5	0.3	*	*
4. Sheldrake Bay	<0.01	<0.1	0.4	0.3	<1	18
5. Nowell Bay	<0.01	<0.1	0.4	0.2	*	*
6. East Shore	<0.01	<0.1	0.3	0.4	*	*
7. Oborne Back Bay	0.01	<0.1	0.4	0.3	*	1
8. Loon Lake Lodge	<0.01	<0.1	0.4	0.3	2	16
9. Wolf Creek	0.01	<0.1	0.5	0.2	*	*
10. North Shore	*	*	*	*	*	28

<sup>\*</sup> Not tested

The phosphorus and nitrogen results are well below levels that would cause concern.

The apparent increase in E. coli levels were discussed with the Caducean Lab Manager, Richard Lecompte, who explained that the test detects all types of E. coli only some of which are pathogenic. He also explained that seasonal factors such as higher than average precipitation in the spring and consequent run-off from the surrounding watershed; higher than average temperatures; atypical low water levels during the summer and fall (all of which were experienced in 2011) as well as wildlife activity, including the presence of birds and other animals near sampling sites and bird migration in early fall, can contribute to higher E. coli counts. He stated that the levels found in our samples were "insignificant". Note that three sites were added for E. coli testing in 2011, and will be included in future years.

Matt Doyle, the Pubic Health Inspector for Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington was also contacted for comment. He noted that the Public Health threshold before considering whether to close a beach is 100 counts per 100 ml. He also stated that our levels were not cause for concern.

Nonetheless, the importance of sampling the water in future, not only at the same GPS locations but also in the same time frame, to obtain meaningful comparisons over time has been underscored.

## Community Donation



Each year, if feasible, the SDRA provides a financial contribution to the community on behalf of its members. In 2011, the contribution was provided to the Mazinaw Lake Swim Program for the excellent work it does to teach children to swim and to stay safe around water. This year after thorough discussion, the Board determined that to invest into the education of the children and youth was a fruitful investment into the health of the community. Therefore, a donation was made to the **North Addington Education Centre** towards their literacy program.



### **Annual Pot Luck**



Come one come all to our annual pot luck event generously held at Ron and Esther's home!

When: August 11, 2012

Where: 1191 Hughes Landing Rd., Nowell's

Starting time: 4:00 p.m.

Show off your favourite dish and be prepared to hand out the recipe!

This event is open to all lake residents and we encourage everyone to come!

Activities for children will be available! Fire Pump Demonstration! Children's Lake Festival Poster Contest!

After the feast comes a bon fire with an Open Mike! So bring your instrument and your best tune. Also, bring your own chair!



The SDRA would like to formally thank Ron and Esther for opening their property to lake residents each year. Their kindness is greatly appreciated.



# FIREWORKS!!



## **Come and Enjoy our Annual Tradition!**

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1,

By boat or road to the causeway at dusk.

Rain date Sunday, September 2.

Note: The 2011 fireworks event was a spectacular show and enjoyed by the most spectators in our history. However, contributions collected during the year were lower than in the past and did not cover the cost of the event. We were required to utilize half of our firework fund reserve and if similar contributions are received this year, our reserve would be depleted. We will be unable to continue this yearly event without contributions from those who attend. We encourage our members who enjoy the event to contribute and for members to gently suggest to others to do the same. For those who did contribute, our sincere thanks for helping to continue this end of summer highlight at the Lake!



# Perseid Meteor Shower!!



#### Did you know? ....

The maximum of the Perseid activity in 2012 is expected during the night on <u>August 12<sup>th</sup> 2012</u>. The Perseids is the name of a prolific meteor shower. The shower is visible from mid July each year, with the peak in activity being between August 9 and 14, depending on the particular location of the stream. During the peak, the rate of meteors reaches 60 or more per hour.

The Perseid Meteor shower is quite visible at Skootamatta Lake.

Get outside and enjoy the free show!

# Skoot Kid's Corner

By Florence Awde

Hey it's Florence again,

Last summer I had the pleasure of owning two boats! One of them was really fast, and the other one was really slow, so we called the slow one "the putt putt". That was our fishing boat. My dad and my sisters and I would wake up bright and early in the morning and get a pop tart, our fishing rods and our camera to take a picture of the neat fish we would catch. Then we would head off. The first time we went we would catch a couple of sunfish. But once we had the hang of it we caught all types of fish like small mouth and largemouth bass. My favourite memory of fishing was when me and my dad were fishing and I was just talking to my dad when I felt a huge tug on my rod. I started to pull and when I looked down I saw a gigantic largemouth bass! As me and my dad fought to pull it up we finally got it. If you have any fishing memories then feel free to submit them to the SDRA board or to Paul's Pops. Also don't forget to check out our Dogs of Skootamatta page on Facebook!

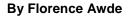
#### Fun Fact

On Skootamatta Lake Largemouth and Smallmouth bass can be found quite easily. Check out the fishing maps for the Lake we bought ours at Grand's General Store!











Do you have a special Canine pal in your family? Do you have some great stories and pictures of your dog at the Cottage?

Visit "Dogs of Skootamatta" on Facebook and share your cottage pictures and stories with your friends!!







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Enjoy Summer 2012 at Skootamatta!

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#### Bon Echo Provincial Park

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- Art Exhibition and Sale July 27, 28, 29, 2012
- Interpretive boat tours of Mazinaw Lake & Mazinaw Rock - Information 613-336-9863
- Panoramic view from the top of the Cliff
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http://BonEchoFriends.ca 613-336-0830



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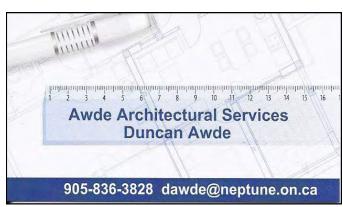


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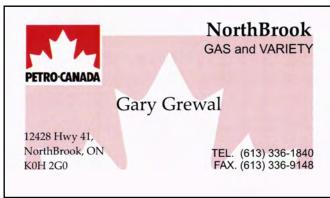


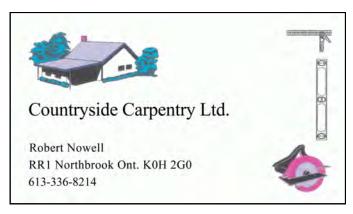


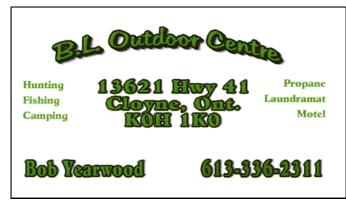
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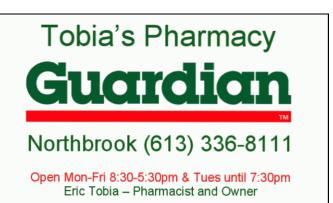












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# July 2012

#### SDRA SUMMER CALENDAR



For lake and SDRA information visit www.skootamatta.ca

<del>-  </del>
6 SDRA AGM 9:30 a.m. Pineview Free Methodist Church—Cloyne
Ardoch Traditional Teachings Bon Echo Park 7:00 p.m. At the campfire clearing
3 14
0 21
7 < 28
1st Annual Skootamatta Lake Festival Trails End 10:00 a.m.
1

#### **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

# August 2012

#### SDRA SUMMER CALENDAR



For township information visit www.addingtonhighlands.ca

Sun		Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	Country Bluegrass Jamboree Township Recreation Centre August 3, 4, 5 www.flintonrecreationclub.ca	4
	5	Civic Holiday 6	7	8	David Archibald Bon Echo Park 7 p.m.	10	Willy Garnish Classic Swim 9:00 a.m. (Rain Date Aug. 12) Kissman Dock bottom of Narrows Pot Luck Ron Nowell's 1191 Hughes Landing Rd 4:00 p.m.
Perseid Meteor Shower	12	13	14	15	16	17	FOSSP Explore the Lake Event 10-12:30
	19	20	21	Astronomer Terence Dickinson Bon Echo Park 8:30 p.m.	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	Saturday, September 1 FIREWORKS! (Rain date September 2) Come to the causeway at dusk!

#### TOWNSHIP INFORMATION

Township Office Phone 613-336-2286 Fax 613-336-2847 Jack Pauhl, Clerk email jpauhl@mazinaw.on.ca Building Inspector 613-336-2286 KALADAR DUMP HOURS (Summer/Winter)
Monday Wednesday Friday Saturday
8-12 12-5 8-12 8-5
If Monday is a holiday the Kaladar Dump is closed but re-opens the next regularly scheduled day.

#### **CLOYNE DUMP HOURS** (May 15 to Oct 1)

Sunday Monday Wednesday Friday Saturday 10-6 10-5 9-1 9-1 12-5 If Monday is a holiday, the dump is closed Sunday & open Monday from 10-6.