
Lake Views
Greater Bobs & Crow Lakes Association Magazine



www.bobsandcrowlakes.ca

Spring/Summer 2013 Magazine

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Photo by: Mary Alps

*We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity
belonging to us.*

*When we see land as a community to which we belong,
we may begin to use it with love and respect.*

~Aldo Leopold, A Sand County Almanac



Editor's Notes

This year we experienced a real Canadian winter, and snow and freezing rain in mid-April is a testament to that! At the time of this writing it is still cold with temperatures near freezing. While spring is officially here it hasn't felt like it so far. I am looking forward to (and hoping) that we have seen the last of the snow, and warmer temperatures will prevail and stay with us. It is time to get the boat in the water.

While the snows and rain can be a nuisance they have helped our water levels. Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) issued low water conditions in mid-December due to a lack of rain. They stated that the water levels were at 74% of normal. However, in early March their media release stated that the water content in the snowpack posed a threat of spring flooding. Snow measurements taken by the RVCA water technicians showed that the snowpack was the second highest since they started to take measurements in 1974.

The good news is that there was no extensive flooding and we can expect the lake water levels to be at normal this year.

Change, our area is changing and I expect it will continue to change for better or worse. Camps around Crow Lake have changed hands or will operate in a different manner. See the article by Bernie Gelineau titled "A year of Transition: the passage of camp owners on Crow Lake".

There has also been a change in the fishery regulations for our lakes, specifically affecting walleye and bass. There are excellent articles in this magazine that detail the changes. All fishermen take note! We have been working hard to improve our walleye fishery, especially Gordon Thompson, our Director of Fisheries and Wildlife, so please take note of and adhere to the new regulations regarding walleye.

Looking forward to a warm and sunny summer so we can all enjoy the lakes!

Taro Alps

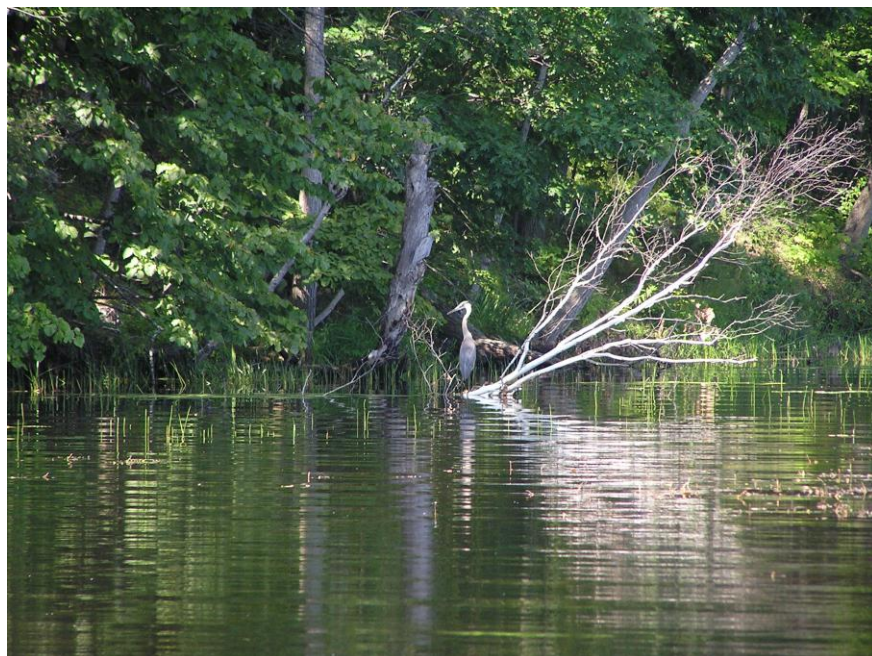


Photo by: Mary Alps



President's Message

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The Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes Association (GBCLA) is beginning a campaign to create a more inclusive membership base around our lakes. This effort to reach out and connect with everyone (our 1424 property owners, the great number of annual seasonal residents who frequent our commercial camps and our countless family members and visitors) who cherish their time at Bobs and Crow Lakes.

With your help we can begin to build a more informed and engaged waterfront community. A membership with the GBCLA is a valuable investment in the future of our waterfront. Each membership assists the GBCLA in monitoring our water quality, checking our fish stocks, developing our spawning beds, rehabilitating our shorelines, protecting and understanding our flora and fauna, making our lakes safer and having an input to a wide range of political and environmental issues. We keep you informed through our Magazine, Lake Views, on our Web site www.bobsandcrowlakes.ca, on Facebook and through GBCLA E-lets.

All this for \$30! And would you believe that as a GBCLA member you also have membership in FOCA. This means that you can access the many discounts and benefits available as a FOCA association member (well over \$60 in benefits per individual member). Discounts on insurance rates for your cottage, CAA Membership, Cottage Life Magazine, Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons Courses, One Stop Fire Products, Boats and Places Magazine, White Water Docks, free membership to the Canadian Canoe Museum and much more (for more details check out www.foca.on.ca). Yes you can actually make money by being a GBCLA member!

We ask you to engage your neighbours and encourage your visiting friends and family to become members of the GBCLA. Membership forms may be found at www.bobsandcrowlakes.ca.

A membership to GBCLA cost \$30

Your memories are priceless.

What a privilege!

I would like to 'shout out' to the scores of volunteers that create a safe, informative, satisfying and most pleasurable experience on Bobs & Crow Lakes. The dedicated persons who place and maintain our marker buoys to allow safe boating; the crews that have laboured over our creek rehabilitations to create new spawning beds; the gang that have faithfully maintained our announcement boards around the lakes to allow everyone the opportunity to be informed; the water testers who have collected water samples for years to give us a better understanding of our water quality; your neighbours who have distributed the Shoreline Survey binders around the lakes; the creative souls who make our Magazine and Web site a reality and to the dedicated GBCLA Board members who help coordinate these activities.

See you on the lakes!

Larry Arpaia,
President



Water Quality Testing Results – 2012

By Jeff Carabott

The Lake Partners Program has compiled the Lakes' testing data for 2012. Again, we thank the dedicated group of volunteers who conduct regular water quality testing at various key locations of our lakes, from May through September. Testing includes Secchi disk readings (for clarity) and total phosphorous (TP), the principle nutrient that makes lakes more fertile. The Lake Partner Annual Report may be downloaded by visiting their website at

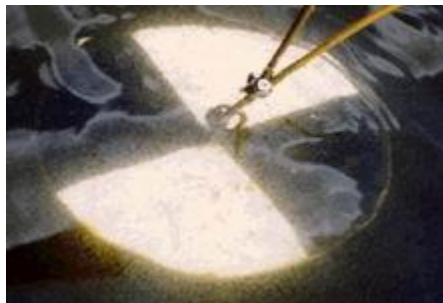
www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/local/lake_partner_program/index.htm

*******We are in need of a water quality tester for Mill Bay.*******

Only a few minutes of your time are required, twice a month, between May and September. If anyone is interested, please email Bonnie Carabott at jcarabott@sympatico.ca.

Secchi disk readings are interpreted as follows (the higher the reading, the clearer the water):

- Over 5.0m – oligotrophic lake condition (unenriched, with few nutrients)
- 3.0 to 4.9m – mesotrophic lake condition (moderately enriched, with some nutrients)
- Less than 2.9m – eutrophic lake condition (enriched, with higher levels of nutrients)



Secchi disk

Location	Avg. Secchi disk 2012 (m)	Avg. Secchi disk (m) 1996-2012
Buck Bay	5.1	4.3
East Basin	6.3	5.5
Crow Bay	5.2	4.4
Central Narrows	4.6	4.6
Green Bay	7.1	5.9
Long Bay	4.9	5.2
Mill Bay*	-	2.9
Mud Bay	5.6	5.2
Norris Bay	5.0	4.9
West Basin	5.2	4.6
Crow Lake	4.8	5.1

*Mill Bay average does not include 2006-2009, and 2011-2012. No data was collected during these periods.



Total Phosphorus (TP) readings are measured in micrograms per litre (ug/L), and are interpreted as follows (generally, the lower the reading, the clearer the water):

- 10 micrograms per litre or less – oligotrophic, few nutrients
- 10 – 20 micrograms per litre – mesotrophic, moderately enriched
- 20 micrograms per litre or more – eutrophic, enriched, higher levels of nutrients

Readings are taken in May or June.

Location	Avg. TP (ug/L) 2012	Avg. TP (ug/L) 2002-2012	Avg. TP (ug/L) Pre-2002
Buck Bay	8.4	10.1	9.0
East Basin	7.9	8.8	11.0
Crow Bay	6.6	9.8	7.0
Central Narrows	9.9	10.1	11.0
Green Bay	6.8	9.3	11.0
Long Bay	8.7	9.9	16.0
Mill Bay*	-	16.0	17.0
Mud Bay	6.0	8.2	8.0
Norris Bay	7.5	10.4	14.0
West Basin	9.3	13.1	10.0
Crow Lake	6.9	8.4	9.0

*Mill Bay average does not include 2008-2010, and 2012. No data was collected during these periods.



Photo by: Mary Alps



RVCA Water Quality & E-coli Testing

By: Jeff Carabott

The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) once again conducted water clarity and E.Coli bacteria testing in 2012, as part of their Watershed Watch program.

Overall, the results show that in 2012, nutrients are well below the standards of 20 micrograms/litre (µg/l) for total phosphorus (TP) and 500 µg/l for total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN). However, Buck Bay, Long Bay, Green Bay, Mill Bay, and the West Basin reported some samples that exceeded these standards in 2012.

Phosphorus and nitrogen are the contributing nutrients for plant (weeds) and algal growth, and when available in high concentrations, favorable conditions exist for their growth. Thus, areas with elevated nutrient concentrations may be prone to abundant aquatic plant growth and algae blooms. Algae blooms create a potential problem for fish and other aquatic species, because as algae dies off it sinks to the bottom and decomposes. This decomposition process requires oxygen, and can result in depleted dissolved oxygen levels in the water, limiting the available habitat for aquatic life.

Care should be taken to reduce nutrient concentrations to prevent the growth of excessive aquatic vegetation and algae blooms and prevent further oxygen depletion. ***Retaining natural shorelines, developing good buffers, keeping septic systems well maintained, and minimizing phosphate inputs (soaps, detergents, fertilizers) are all great ways to improve water quality and keep the lakes healthy for years to come.***

No E.coli bacteria issues were detected.

For more information, check the RVCA Watershed Watch website:

http://www.rvca.ca/programs/wwatch/watershed_watch.htm

Invasive Species Testing

By: Jeff Carabott

The RVCA, along with the Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters (OFAH) also conducted the invasive species sampling program (for zebra mussels and spiny water fleas) in Bobs and Crow Lakes in 2011 (test results for 2012 are not in yet). Great news, there were no signs of infestation in either lake!

On average, calcium levels were below 20mg/l, with only Green Bay having a calcium result (28.6 mg/l) higher than 20mg/l. Calcium levels above 20mg/l provide moderate to good growth for zebra mussels. Calcium levels are a function of the geology of the lake, rather than human influences.

Our lakes are one of fewer and fewer waterbodies that do not have established zebra mussel populations. Since monitoring for zebra mussels and spiny water flea began in 2003, veligers (larval mussel stage) have not been detected.

Care should be taken by property owners and recreational users that this status is preserved, and steps should be taken to enhance the lake:

- Boats, fishing gear, and other recreational equipment should always be cleaned and inspected before entering a different waterbody, to minimize the spread of invasive species. For more information please visit www.invadingspecies.com.

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BioBlitz - 2013

By Janice Walker

Mark your calendars now -- the Wildlife Committee of the GBCLA is happy to announce the dates of its *First Annual BioBlitz*. On **Friday, August 16th** and **Saturday, August 17th** BioBlitz 2013 will be held on the crown land between Crow Lake and Bobs Lake. This parcel of Canadian Shield crown land contains over 2,000 acres of pristine forest and wetlands... the ideal place to produce a habitat map of the plant and wildlife species in our neighbourhood.

The BioBlitz will offer a fun, educational and interactive way for our community to come together to learn about biodiversity, stewardship and natural heritage values. Expert-guided walks on topics such as *Butterflies and Dragonflies*, *Pond Life*, *Rock Talk*, *Amphibians*, *Reptiles and Small Mammals*, *Mosses and Lichens*, *Trees*, *Birding in the Morning* will be offered during the course of the two days. There will even be some evening events such as *Birding in the Evening*, *Nature's Symphony (night owls, etc.)* and *Flutterings at Night: Moths and Other Insects*. Experts from the Canadian Museum of Nature, the Toronto Zoo, as well as local community experts will lead walks and work in collaboration with both the Toronto Zoo and the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority to produce a habitat map of species occurrence.

Here's a sampling of what will be covered in one of the walks, *Flutterings at Night: Moths and Other Insects*: Another host of creatures come, quite literally to light at night. Diane Lepage and Fenja Brodo will set up sheets and black lights to attract these insects and also to entice people to stay later and marvel at the magnificent moths and others creatures that will land on their sheets. Diane will be recording and photographing the moths and Fenja will be recording and collecting Crane Flies.

Watch for more details and developments on the GBCLA website and at the Annual Meeting to be held on **Sunday, July 28th, 2013**.

Experimental Lake Program

By Larry Arpaia

Council works in coalition to help save the Experimental Lake Area program

A recent article in *iPolitics* revealed that the federal government is in negotiations with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) to sell off Canada's Experimental Lakes Area (ELA). The Council of Canadians has joined with the Coalition to Save ELA to denounce the secretive and undemocratic process under which the federal government may be selling a world-class freshwater research facility – paid for with Canadian taxpayers' dollars – to an industry-funded organization.

The ELA is a unique federal research program that studies the long-term impacts of global threats to freshwater lakes. Operating for more than 40 years, the ELA consists of 58 small lakes where scientists study the effects of water pollution, climate change and other threats. The Harper government has announced that it will cut the \$2 million annual budget to the ELA program in March 2013. There are concerns that the funding cancellation stems from information produced by the program that sheds light on the harmful impacts of tar sands development.

"In a world running out of clean water, the ELA must stay in public hands and it is the federal government's responsibility to oversee the protection of Canada's freshwater heritage," said Maude Barlow, who was at the Fort Garry Hotel in Winnipeg yesterday for a free public event in support of the ELA.

[Visit our website](#) for more information about the possible sale of the ELA.

[VIDEO: 'Stop the War on Science – Save the Experimental Lakes Area'](#)



http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_cjmlo8yBS4&feature=youtu.be&noredirect=1



Fisheries and Wildlife

By Gordon Thompson

As spring arrives albeit a little later than usual we have lots of water in the soil and the lakes this year which is a far better situation than last year. Having a normal winter benefits the animals and fish populations and keeps our trees and plants in good shape. Here is what is happening around the lakes.

Fisheries Walleye Rehabilitation Projects:

Our President is in negotiation with the Township of South Frontenac to get them to replace a culvert on Campsel Creek on Green Bay. We are prepared to contribute labor and loads of rock in an effort to help the walleye to start spawning again but we need the culvert changed first. We will keep everyone informed on this matter as it unfolds.

The MNR has announced a new program called Land Stewardship & Habitat Restoration Program (LSHRP). This program has a \$300,000 cap each year and funds can be used for projects that contribute to natural rehabilitation and biodiversity conservation. Campsel would be a good candidate for this funding if we can get a commitment to come to the table from South Frontenac by May 3, 2013, the final date for applying for funding for 2013. We also have some rock in inventory which we will use to top up some of our previous projects. This will be a busy summer for our volunteers.

Ice Fishing:

It was a good year for ice fishing this past winter. Huts went out in early January and stayed out until early March. Although we didn't hear about a lot of walleye caught pike and crappie were plentiful. Great ice conditions and good weather made for a great winter for snowmobilers, skiers and even the annual curling derby over by Fish Creek. It was good to see so many folks out enjoying our winter season.





Spring and Summer Fishing:

One of the things we learned from this past winter's fishing is that Crappie are absolutely great eating. These "slabs" as they are known are extremely easy to filet and provide a lot of meat for a relatively small fish. Try catching them with a small chartreuse, pink or white feathered jig in fairly shallow water around docks and shorelines as soon as the ice is out.

New fishing regulations are out for 2013 and they are fairly extensive and you must know them. Short version is that you can only keep Walleye that are between 15.7" and 19.7" and the limits are 4 per day for sports fishing license or 2 per day for a conservation license. In conjunction with our efforts to increase the spawning opportunities, these measures should help restore our Walleye populations in our lakes. On behalf of my grandchildren please report abusers to the MNR by calling 1-800-667-1940 (Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm) or visiting their website at www.mnr.gov.on.ca.

Bass Season has changed as well. Increased populations of Bass have permitted the season opener to be moved to the 3rd Saturday in June and it stays open later until the 15th of December. This is a great lake system for bass and again keep some to eat. The quality of our fish is excellent and it's good for you.

For further details check out the articles; Zone 18 New Walleye & Bass Regulations and Southern Ontario Bass both put out by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

We are always looking for volunteers for our projects so if you are interested in cleaning

creeks of debris, throwing rock or doing surveys drop me a line at gandkthompson@rogers.com and we will put you on the list. This will be my last year as Director of Fisheries so if anyone out there wants to take over and take the job to the next level please let me or Larry Arpaia know.

Have a safe and happy summer!

Protecting our Forested Property

By Larry Arpaia

It is important for landowners with forested property to understand the benefits of maintaining and managing biological diversity. In a recent talk at the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority by ecologist Dr Paul Keddy it was noted that it is beneficial to a wide range of plants, animals and insects to let a tree that falls in the woods just lie there. A general rule is to leave eight fallen trees per acre, the bigger the tree the better!

The benefits of this "woody debris" and "coarse meaty debris" (animal carcasses) contributes to making for a healthy forest. Increased public awareness that dead trees and carcasses in our woods are an essential part of nature, a good thing, not something to be offended by as they will be cleaned up by nature itself.

For further information on our forests and the 'Managed Forest Program' check out www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en, www.oforest.ca or www.eomf.on.ca. If you would like read about Dr. Keddy's research visit his web site at www.drpaulkeddy.com.



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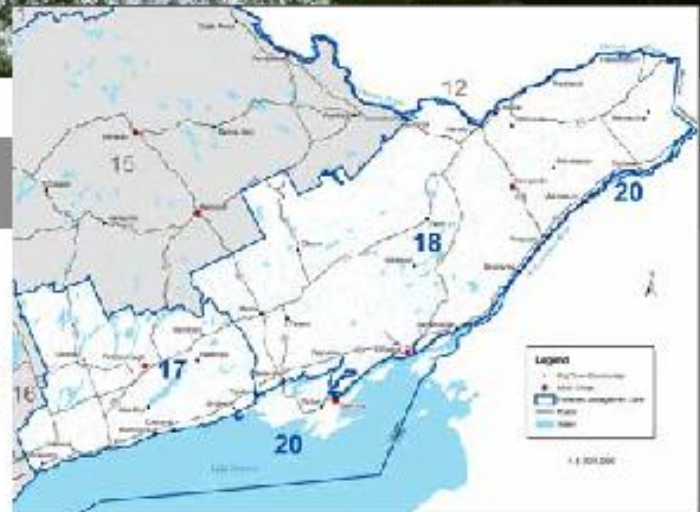


Changes to Bass Seasons in Southern Ontario (Zones 17, 18 and 20)

NEW for 2013 – Bass season for Zones 17, 18 and 20 – 3rd Saturday in June – December 15

Bass Regulation Change - Summary

Bass populations in southern Ontario have responded favourably to a trend toward a warmer climate. The early arrival of spring warming means that bass are spawning earlier, and longer growing seasons increase the growth and survival of bass, particularly in their first year. Starting in 2013, bass seasons are being opened one week earlier in Zones 17, 18 and 20 while still protecting bass during the parental care period.



Fisheries Management Zones 17, 18 and 20 where the extended bass seasons are being implemented.



Bass in Southern Ontario

The rivers, lakes and streams of Ontario are home to both largemouth and smallmouth bass. Bass populations in many parts of southern Ontario have benefited from an increased catch-and-release ethic among anglers, changes in aquatic ecosystems and changes to climate.

In southern Ontario, air temperatures in spring, summer and fall have generally increased since the 1970s. This has resulted in a longer ice-free period for inland lakes and the Great Lakes. Since bass spawning is linked to spring water temperatures, earlier spawning has been observed. When combined with warmer fall temperatures, earlier spawning results in a longer "growing season" for bass. This is particularly important for bass in their first year as more bass are able to reach the critical size for first-year survival. The result has been stronger and more consistent year-classes in much of the bass range in Ontario. Climate projections for southern Ontario suggest that the warming trends will continue, which should provide favourable conditions for bass.

Bass seasons in southern Ontario are closed during the spawning period to protect nesting bass during the critical parental care period. Even if bass caught by anglers are released immediately, they leave the eggs or fry unguarded and vulnerable to predation. A brief absence can be critical as there are a number of species in southern Ontario that may feed on the unguarded eggs or fry. A key consideration in determining seasons is the need to protect the largest bass, which spawn earlier and contribute more to bass populations than smaller bass. The decision to open the season earlier will protect the majority of bass during the period of parental care.

In cool years, when spawning is delayed, some bass may still be guarding their nests and young when the bass season opens. However, the effect of an earlier



season on bass populations is expected to be limited. The largest bass, which contribute most to population levels, spawn earliest and are more likely to have completed their spawning activities in most locations. Also, cool years often mean that young bass hatch later and may not have enough time to reach the critical size for over-winter survival.

In addition to opening bass seasons earlier, the ministry is extending the bass season by two weeks in Zones 18 and 20. This change will provide some early-winter angling opportunities while also ensuring a consistent closing date of December 15 for all three zones.

In managing Ontario's fisheries, the ministry seeks to balance the sustainability of the resource with the socio-economic benefits derived from them. Extension of the bass season means more opportunities for recreational anglers and the possibility of enhanced economic activity.

Contact us

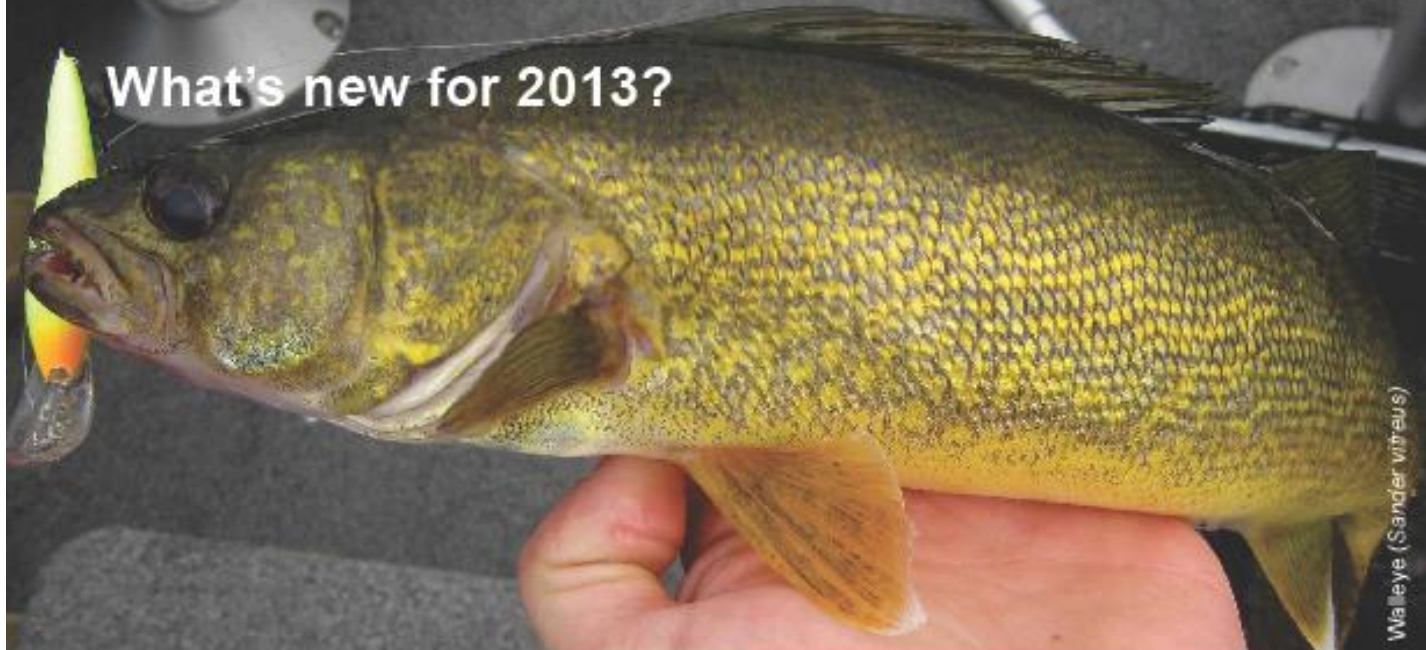
If you have questions or comments about fisheries management in Ontario, contact the Natural Resources Information Centre at:

1-800-667-1940
or
mnr.nric.mnr@ontario.ca



Fisheries Management Zone 18 (Eastern Ontario)

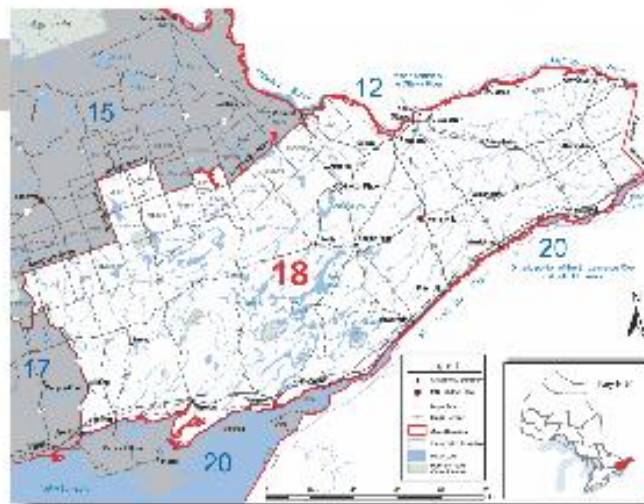
What's new for 2013?

Walleye (*Sander vitreus*)

Be aware of changes to walleye and bass regulations in 2013 for Fisheries Management Zone 18. Anglers are reminded to check the 2013 Fishing Regulations Summary (available January 1, 2013) to become familiar with the regulation changes before going fishing.

New Regulations for 2013

The Ministry of Natural Resources, with the support of the Fisheries Management Zone 18 Advisory Council, has developed new regulations for walleye and bass in Fisheries Management Zone 18. A number of regulatory options were presented to the public for comment in the spring of 2012. Based on the comments received, recommendations from the Advisory Council and the best available science, the ministry has developed new fishing regulations for Zone 18 which will be put into effect for 2013. These changes are intended to improve fish populations while providing increased angling and associated recreational and economic opportunities in Zone 18.



Fisheries Management Zone 18 is the most easterly fisheries management zone in the province. It includes all or parts of the Crowe, Mississippi, Napanee, Cataraqui, Rideau, Salmon, South Nation and Raisin River watersheds.

ontario.ca/zonecouncils



Changes to Walleye Regulations

Sportfishing licence holders have a limit of 4 walleye, conservation licence holders have a limit of 2. Walleye must be between 40-50 cm (15.7 and 19.7 in.)

Fisheries assessments conducted by the ministry support the observations of anglers that local walleye fisheries have declined. The ministry has identified management actions to reverse the decline and rebuild existing, self-sustaining walleye populations to maintain and enhance the benefits to the public.

In 2013, a new slot limit regulation for walleye is being implemented across all of Zone 18. Existing size-based regulations have been replaced by the new zone-wide regulation.

In addition to the new size-based regulations, changes have been made to help standardize the sanctuary dates in FMZ 18. Sanctuaries are areas where fishing is prohibited to protect fish during vulnerable time periods. Sanctuary close dates of March 1 to the Friday before the 2nd Saturday in May will now apply to Crotch Lake and the Mississippi River (at Innisville only).



Changes to Bass Season

Extended spring and fall seasons for bass with the season open from the 3rd Saturday in June until December 15

Earlier bass spawning has been observed, and has been linked to changes in climate. Given that observed patterns in climate are expected to continue, MNR and the fisheries advisory council supported adjusting the bass season opening date to a week earlier. This change is also being implemented in FMZ 17 and 20 (Lake Ontario). Additional bass angling opportunities will provide increased benefits without compromising the quality of existing angling opportunities.

Existing bass sanctuary dates have been adjusted to align with the changes to the bass open season.



Contact Us

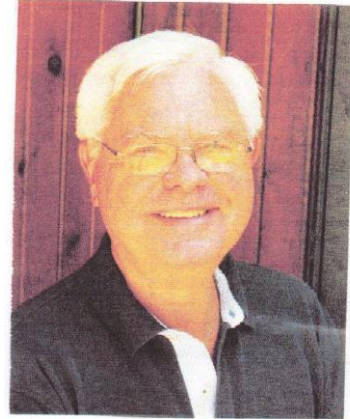
For more information, contact the Natural Resources Information Centre at 1-800-867-1940.

ontario.ca/zonecouncils



Spring 2013 Newsletter ... Councilor Connecting with Bobs and Crow Lake Association

With spring upon us and the expectation of another great summer on our lakes, I take this opportunity to update you on some of the significant issues South Frontenac Township has dealt with over the past several months.



2013 Budget: Council set the operating budget (Dec 2012) keeping in mind your expectations and the fiscal realities. With less provincial funding; the ever rising cost of contract policing and the cost sharing arrangement with City of Kingston for maintenance of Hwy #38 is under review to name a few – council will spend time this year reviewing and setting priorities so that we can respond to the challenge of less funding from other sources.

Waste Management: You will recall the township held several town-hall meetings last fall on the future of waste management in SFT. As a consequence, the township will introduce many new management practices at all SFT sites starting this spring. I am happy to report that Bedford site will remain open until it has reached capacity with improvements to security, new hours of operation and management practices and transforming our solid waste to avoid duplicating services to protect the environment. All this will be detailed on the township website in due course.

Household Hazardous Waste Depot – Keeley Road site will safely dispose of your old paint, used oil, batteries, solvents – discarded electronic equipment and TVs. See SFT website for dates and times.

Communications: 2013 will see a major focus on developing our capital asset plan to position us to be able to access future funding opportunities, revamping our website to enhance communications with you. I continue to push council on continuing to improve upon and seek ways to have more public input e.g. Town-hall meetings on major public issues.

SFT Planned Road Construction 2013:

- Resurfacing and paved shoulders on Perth Rd north from Perth Rd Village
- Completion of Infrastructure Renewal in Battersea & Perth Rd Villages
- James Wilson and Petworth Rd Box Culvert Replacement

Private Lanes Improvement Grant (PLIG): The Township's PLIG has been increased from 40K to 60K per year beginning 2013. This popular program can fund up to 50% of the cost of a private lane improvement. Lane or community associations can apply for a grant through the SFT public works manager – certain conditions apply and based on first come first served applications.

Bedford Community Hall Improvements: Council committed over 90K dollar investment into improving Bedford Hall facilities – including installation of central air conditioning and new heating system; flooring and electrical improvements, security, painting with some exterior improvements such as signage and lighting. These much needed and overdue improvements will enhance security, health and safety for all users. I expect these improvements will be completed in time for the GBCLA AGM this coming summer. Bedford Recipients of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal: We all should say 'congratulations' to our good neighbours and friends – Taro Alps; Sandy Cameron and Diana Hughes who were awarded the Queen's DJM for their significant service and contribution to our community. In a letter from Governor General of Canada Johnson said, 'In granting you this honour, I thank you for your dedicated service to your peers, to your community and to Canada.' His Worship Mayor Gary Davison presented the medals to the recipients at a special ceremony December 12, 2012. Susan O'Brien Mactaggart also was awarded a DJM at a separate ceremony in Perth from MP Scott Reid at an earlier date. To all, I add my own 'well deserved'.



May I take this opportunity to express my sincere best wishes for a happy and safe summer and, to thank the leaders and all members of BCLA for your continued interest and individual efforts in helping to preserve our natural environment in this beautiful district of South Frontenac.

It's been a privilege to represent all of you during this past year as your elected representative on council. I believe our recent successes have shown as we continue to 'communicate and work effectively together' we can and, have made a real difference.

To contact me: marktinlin@gmail.com or

Township website: www.township.southfrontenac.on.ca 613-376-3027 or 1-800-559-5862

Sincerely,

Mark Tinlin, SFT Councillor
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Shoreline Rehabilitation Opportunity

By Larry Arpaia

Does your shoreline have a serious or potentially serious erosion problem? Are you concerned about the 4 ½ foot swings each year in our high water and low water levels? Are you interested in making the most of your shoreline property while living in balance with our lakes' fragile ecosystem?

As part of the Tay Valley Watershed, shorelines on Bobs and Crow Lakes are eligible for a shoreline consultation and you may qualify for shoreline rehabilitation of your property at no cost. This opportunity is only available through 2013.

The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority's Shoreline Naturalization Program will conduct a free consultation and plan development concerning any shoreline that has an erosion problem. As well for 2013 through this shoreline naturalization program your property may be eligible for shoreline rehabilitation (which would include plants and materials) at no cost. Check it out by contacting Meaghan McDonald at 613 692 3571 x1192 or meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca



A YEAR OF TRANSITION: The Passage of Camp Owners on Crow Lake

By Bernie Gelineau

The year 2012-13 saw a dramatic change in the fortunes of the owners of the 6 commercial camps on Crow Lake. We either saw their passing or changes in ownership.

The term “camp” rather than lodge or cottage was how early visitors to our lakes portrayed their visit to the Canadian “wilderness”. In addition to Canadians many of these early visitors came from New York, Pennsylvania or Ohio. Often they patronized one of the camps; fell in love with Crow Lake and ended up purchasing a camp.

This article outlines a brief summary of these camp owners. In some cases a background of their lives is provided by members of the family.

1. **Bell's Camp:** Don Bell from Ohio took over the camp from his mother who ran it after the death of her husband. Don continued to run the camp for many years until his death at the camp in November of 2012. Don was 89. The family has provided a biography of Don's life at Crow Lake.
2. **Bellevue:** Many old timers would remember it as Ab Carter's Camp. It has gone through many owners, and recently I learned it was purchased by a Montreal couple who call it “Bellevue”.
3. **Brown's Lodge:** Previously called **Stinson's** it was run by Ken & Vera Stinson. Ken passed away on Jan 4th at the age of 95. A year ago Ken & Vera handed the lodge over to their daughter Donna and son-in-law Earl Brown. Donna has graciously provided a brief bio of Ken's life at the lake.
4. **King's Camp:** The camp was started many years ago by Norm & Audrey King. Bob Gillam and his wife Dawn operated the camp in recent years when they decided to sell it. In 2008 a group of 5 from Pennsylvania led by “Big” Joe Galinas decided to buy it. Joe died before taking over the camp. His son “Little” Joe

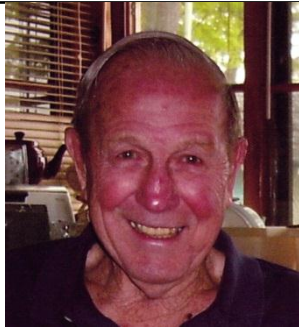
took over but died in 2011, and was followed by Kevin Dupont another owner manager in 2012. Both of the past managers were in their 50's. Last fall the Camp looked quite deserted as there was no one to manage it. At the time of this article I learned that the Camp is still owned by the Pennsylvania group and they plan to open this year.

5. **The Oaks:** Since 2000 Marion & Ludwig Ratzinger have operated the Oaks. Ludwig came to Canada from Germany and worked as a pastry chef at the Chateau Laurier. Wanting to move on and the fact that his wife worked in Perth Ludwig and Marion purchased the Oaks and moved to Crow Lake with his young family. Coming from Europe he feels we under appreciate our fresh water. Ludwig, who served as a director of GB&CLA, stressed that we should do what we can to protect it. He also said he will miss the sense of community and the many associations of which he has been part. He plans to continue his chocolate making and will be busy building a straw bale house in the Maberley area. Interestingly the house will be using passive energy as an energy source. We wish Ludwig and Marion good fortune in their future endeavours.
6. **Welsh's Camp:** Catherine “Kay” Welsh died on December 25, 2012 at the age of 93. From New York State she took over the operation of the camp from her husband. Her daughter, Kathy Welch Martin has graciously provided a bio of Kay's life at the lake.



Photo by: Ludwig Ratzinger

The Oaks Cottages



Don Bell

Don died on 9/9/12 at the age of 89 leaving behind his second wife of 26 years, Jewell. His first wife, Jean, passed away in 1986.

Don had two sons, Donn (Sue) and Robert (Denise); three grandchildren, Sandra, Shelly, and Samantha (Robert), and six great grandchildren, Mackenzie, Matthew and Maddalynn (Sandra), Isabella and Lucas (Shelly), and Cayce (Samantha).

Don and Jean acquired Bell's Cottages in 1978 after the death of Don's mother, Vera Bell. Vera and Robert (Frank) Bell purchased the property in the 1950's. I haven't been able to locate the actual year. So the cottages had been in the Bell family for approximately 60 years. Bell's Cottages served as a fishing and vacation camp for 100's of families during the years. The one thing almost everyone commented on was the weekly fish fry during the summer. All campers brought a dish while either my grandfather or dad cooked the fish. It was a great time for everyone to enjoy the camp any and talk.

(Thanks to daughter-in-law Denise for passing this on)



Catherine 'Kay' Welch

Welch's Cottages at Crow Lake by: Kathy Welch Martin

My parents came to Crow Lake in 1958 with their five young children for a two week vacation (to

see if the kids would like it well enough to spend the rest of our summers there). Well, the rest is history. From 1959 to the present Welch's Cottages has been run as a family summer cottage business.

After my Father, Art's, retirement in 1976, he and my Mother, Kay, became legal residents of Canada. While they continued to run the cottage business in the summers they also became active members of the Crow Lake Community and their church community of St. James Major in Sharbot Lake. They helped paint the school, attended events there, were active in fund raising for both the school at Crow Lake and the Church in Sharbot Lake. My Dad, fished, hunted, went scuba diving and was friends with many people in the area. If someone needed help with anything he would be there to offer a hand. They both had a huge garden at the lake and my Mother for years canned and prepared vegetables from the garden. She was active with the food bank for a long time, was involved with the women's groups at the Church and at the school.

The "Lake" as we all so lovingly call it has been a focal point for most of us over the years. I married a Canadian, my Sister got her degree from Queen's and one of my brothers lives in Perth. I think we all consider ourselves as much Canadians as we do Americans (which is where we grew up in the winters).

Anyone in Crow Lake and even Sharbot Lake will have memories of Welch's Cottages at Crow Lake. Kay and Art left a legacy of kindness, community spirit, family and a legion of friends and acquaintances that we all treasure and remember.

In today's world it just doesn't get any better than that. Oh, except maybe for the long loon calls in the night to remind you that you are someplace special.





Ken Stinson & wife Vera on their 70th Anniversary

My Dad passed away Jan. 4th, 2013 in his 95th year. My Mom is still living and is in her 97th year.

They purchased "Lakeview Lodge" in the spring of 1967 - a funny story really. My Mom, myself (in grade 12 at the time) a sister-in-law and little nephew were trying to find a cottage for sale on Bobs Lake. We got lost (famous story for most of Bedford back roads) and ended up at the camp. It certainly didn't look much like a camp that day. It had been neglected for a while and there was a For Sale sign on the "Lodge" itself. My Mom thought, wow, this is a big cottage, probably enough room for the whole family to come at once. They had a family of 7 children, 5 boys who were all married at the time and my sister and I were just finishing high school. They had no intentions of running a business but after they purchased and moved in the two Americans they purchased from approached them and said if they wanted to run the "Lodge" they would send them all the business they needed. As my sister & I were now moving away from home to College and work, my Mom said, sure why not - it will give me something to do. My Dad was still working at Alcan in Kingston at the time and was 49 years old and my Mom was 51.

After they purchased they went down to the 1000 Island area somewhere and obtained a license to operate as a campground under the name "Lakeview Lodge" which was the name previously used. They operated from 1967 - 1987 and their main business was the "Lodge". There were 8 bedrooms and fishermen came to stay in the Lodge. Mom would prepare breakfast; make sandwiches for their lunch when they left

for the day to fish and served supper/dinner at night. Eventually they fixed up the cottages to rent and they rented boats/motors as well. My Dad would clean a lot of the fish for the tourists and of course he was an avid fisherman himself. After about 12 years they gave up the lodging and meals as there were too many new rules & regulations and I'm sure my Mom was getting a little tired by then as well. They only had about 4 trailers at the time they sold 20 years later to Earl & me. I believe my parents will be remembered for many years by all the folks on Crow and Bobs Lake as "thee" place to drop into if you need any kind of assistance - summer or winter -- or just for a nice friendly visit and a warm toddy or cup of tea for your soul. We are proud to say we now have 4 generation families coming to the camp and many adults who remember good times provided by Mom & Dad when they were making their childhood memories here on Crow & Bobs Lake.

We took the "Lodge" part out of the name as it was no longer being used for this purpose. We developed the trailer park and so called it Brown's Lakeview Cottages & Campground and operated the business for 24 years. Last year we are happy to say our oldest daughter Angela and her husband Dana Neumann took over the camp to begin a 3rd generation and they are operating under the same name, at least for the time being.

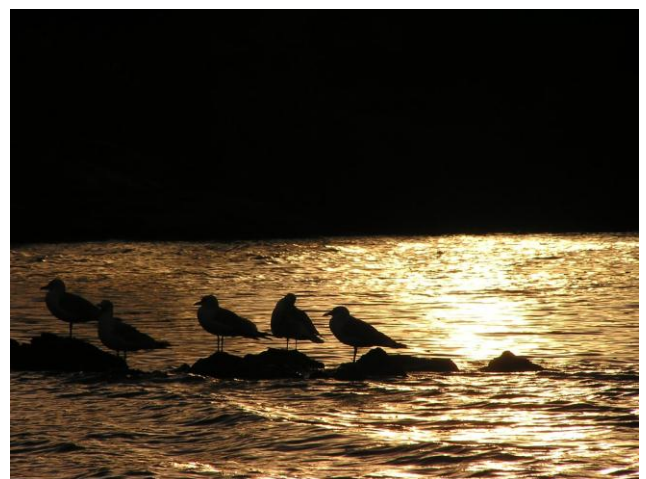


Photo by: Mary Alps



Emergency Water Pumps – Closing Report

By Martin Yates

Emergency Water Pumps Project

Our emergency water pumps program is now complete, and it's now time to write a closing report. The program ran for three years, and a total of seven pump systems, owned by groups of neighbours or by Lane Associations were placed at various locations around the lakes.

The pumps are owned by the different groups, and, through the generosity of the Bobs and Crow Lakes Foundation we were able to provide funding to assist with their purchase.

We can now feel a little more comfortable in knowing that the emergency pumps are there. They can be used in a preventative manner as well, wetting down the surrounding area if a bonfire is planned, or even for uses such as watering the garden or washing down boats, docks, and so on.

One of the conditions for providing the grants was that the pumps would be made available to neighbours of the groups in the case of an emergency. To meet that condition, I have listed below the location of each pump, the name of the pump keeper during the summer months, and the name of the group leader. If your home or cottage is near one of these locations, make sure to note the pump holder's contact details. You may need to get hold of that person quickly!

The pumps are located at:

Green Bay - South - Green Bay Road.

Summer Pump Keeper: Susan O'Brien

Mactaggart 613-273-5236

Alternative contact: Rudy Ladds 613-273-4090
cell: 613-483-0927

Group Leader: Susan O'Brien Mactaggart

Green Bay North - Sunset Shores North End

Summer Pump Keeper: Norm Mole 613-375-8321

Alternative contact - Paul Davidson 613-375-6362

Group Leader: Norm Mole

Central Narrows - Burns Lane

Summer Pump Keeper: Taro Alps 613-273-8495

Group Leader: Sandy Cameron. 613-374-1539

Central Narrows - De Witt Lane.

Summer Pump Keeper: Lynn McIntyre 613-264-0326

Group Leader: Bill Brink 613-273-2695

East Basin - Lewis Bay Group

Summer Pump Keeper: Ervin Lewis, Lewis Farm. 613-279-2127

Group Leader: Mark Cooke 613-279-2764 Cell 613-795-3220

Mud Bay - Mica Point Road.

Summer Pump Keeper: Jean and Derek Cooke. 613-279-1217

Group leader: Wayne Kirkham, 613-279-2256

Norris Bay - Bobs Lake Lane 21.

Summer Pump Keeper: Bob Cottingham, 613-273-5788

Alternate Contact - Russ and Pat Hough 613-273-3781

Group Leader: Bob Cottingham.

I would like to thank the following people who made this project possible:

The seven groups who were prepared to invest in their own and their neighbours' safety.

Susan O'Brien Mactaggart and the Bobs and Crow Lakes Foundation for granting the funds.

Larry McNinch for training the groups in the use of their new equipment.

Steve Bell of AJ Stone for helping configure the systems and for enabling us to purchase the equipment at an advantageous price.

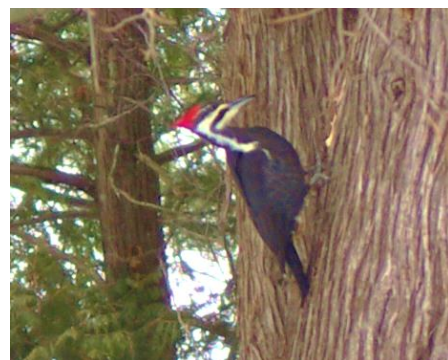


Photo by: Mary Alps



Algonquin Land Claim

By Larry Arpaia

The Government of Canada (Canada), the Provincial Government of Ontario (Ontario) and Algonquins of Ontario (AOO) released to the general public in December 2012 a document on the negotiated land claim discussions between these parties referred to as The Preliminary Draft Agreement-in-Principle (AIP).

Meetings to “learn more about and provide comments to the Algonquin Land Claim Negotiations” were scheduled across Eastern Ontario during the first three weeks of March 2013.

The Algonquins first petitioned the British Crown concerning land back in 1772 and discussions concerning land claims were had in the early 1800's. The Government of Canada initiated land claim discussions in the early 1900's with little satisfaction or fairness. Canada and Ontario have been meeting with the AOO for the past 20 years in these current negotiations. The parties have defined negotiations as the first step towards reaching a modern day treaty that would be protected under the Constitution Act (1982).

The AIP would provide a foundation for a first agreement that would clarify and define the rights of the AOO as they relate to land, water and natural resources and the obligations of Canada, Ontario and the AOO.

The land claim package determined (www.ontario.ca/algonquinlandclaim) by Canada, Ontario and the AOO includes 200 parcels of land ranging in size from a few acres to over 30,000 acres. These lands total 117,500 acres of

Crown Lands, Provincial Park Lands and Public Lands from the St. Lawrence River to the Ottawa River and into the northern part of Eastern Ontario.

The proposed land selections were chosen by the negotiating parties for one of four purposes:

- Historical/Spiritual designation of land
- Future Institutional Residential Industrial Development
- Economic Development, Resources, Industrial Development
- Community Recreation, and Environmental Protection

The negotiators tell us that the AIP is a step leading towards an agreement, not a binding contract. The following issues have been vetted by the Negotiators in public meetings and will be addressed in the next steps as part of the AIP: Conservation issues will take priority The rights of hunt clubs and fishing camps on negotiated lands have been addressed Access across right-of-ways over transferred lands and navigable waters will be protected Harvest Management Plans and Fish Management Plans have been agreed to for Provincial Parks (to be jointly operated by the AOO & Ontario)

A webcast addressing these issues was conducted on Monday, April 15th, 2013 via a link at www.algonquinlandclaim.ca. You may revisit this webcast at your convenience. The webcast is a joint presentation of FOCA, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) and the Canadian Sportfishing Industry Association (CSIA).

From a meeting I attended with AIP Key Negotiators on March 7, 2013 in Perth Ontario I have made the following observations concerning the future process.

- Community Meetings were held to introduce the AIP to the public. This two week community consultation is being considered by the Negotiators as the “completion of their current review process”
- From the Review Process the Negotiators will adopt changes to the content and the Negotiators will then develop a Final Draft
- The Final Draft AIP will be submitted to AOO voters for ratification
- Upon ratification the Final Draft AIP will be submitted to the Governments of Ontario and Canada for approval
- Upon Approval, Negotiations begin for a Final Agreement
- The Final Agreement, or Treaty, would then be approved by the AOO voters
- The Legislature of Ontario will be asked to approve the Treaty
- After Ontario has approved the Government of Canada will approve the Treaty
- The Treaty will be ratified.



The negotiators have stated that if all goes well that such an agreement “may be ready for implementation in 3-4 years”. It is my opinion that this prognostication is overly optimistic. Legal challenges, disagreements and contentious issues could be and in all likelihood will be unfolding over the next decade plus.

The lands that have been identified around Bobs & Crow Lakes include the Crown Land south of Badour Farms between Bobs Lake and Crow Lakes, and the Crown Land portion of Badour Island. These lands have been identified by Chief Doreen Davis as lands of “historical and spiritual” nature to the Algonquins. Yet in speaking to Ontario Negotiators it was noted that such lands may be used as “trading pieces” by the First Nations. It is not the current intention of the Algonquin First Nations, according to Chief Davis, to “trade” spiritual lands yet this is an example of mis- or perhaps dis-communication.

The Algonquins have become the forgotten people of the land. Negotiators claim that the land claim assets are to benefit everyone in the First Nations Community and not individuals. The Negotiators appear to be very comfortable in having answers yet somehow have difficulty in asking questions.

That said, I share with you the web sites of the Key Negotiators so that you may understand the perspective that all the Negotiating parties have taken.

Algonquins of Ontario:

www.tanakiwin.com

e-mail: algonquins@nrco.net

Telephone: 613 735 3759

Algonquin Land Claim (cont'd)

Government of Ontario:

www.ontario.ca/algonquinlandclaim.ca

e-mail: alcinfo@ontario.ca

Telephone: 613 732 8081

Government of Canada:

www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca

e-mail: Revendication-Algonquins-OntarioClaim@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca

Telephone: 1 800 567 9604

Spring in Canada, Maple Syrup

By Susan O'Brien Mactaggart

One of the earliest signs of spring in the country are sap buckets on the maple trees. Early this March there was an exceptional day with a vivid blue sky, not a cloud and the warmth of the sun penetrated everything. It felt wonderful, simply wonderful and one thought spring had really arrived. I had received a call to alert me that the first harvest of sap would be boiling down at the Thompson Farm down the road that day so, off I went. On arrival I found Rowson Thompson and Sam Barr tending the first batch of sap already boiling vigorously in the pans.

There is nothing more picturesque than a sugar shack. As one approached the shack you could see the steam from the evaporating pans wafting out the open doors. Several tidy piles of wood to feed the hot fire were stacked nearby. On such a beautiful day it was truly a Canadian scene for a Krieghoff painting. The boiling down process is indeed a slow one but for those watching, testing and tasting it is a wonderful time to visit and enjoy the day. As other neighbours stopped in too, it became a truly social occasion.

Here are a few facts about making maple syrup that might interest you.

- 1) The maple syrup season can span 3 months – February, March and April.
- 2) You need warm sunny days and cold nights for the ideal conditions for the sap to flow or “run”.
- 3) The best (sweetest) sap comes early in the season.
- 4) It takes approximately 10 gallons of sap to make 1 quart of syrup. Now you can appreciate the retail cost.
- 5) There are 6 types of maple trees but the sugar maple (that can grow to 100 feet) is the best producer of sap.
- 6) A sugar maple tree should be about 10 to 12 inches in diameter before being tapped and tapping does not permanently damage the tree. However, tapping before a tree has reached this size could stunt further growth and potentially kill the tree.
- 7) As sap deteriorates quickly it should ideally be boiled down the same day it is gathered.



Spring in Canada cont'd

- 8) The boiling down takes time and the pans must be carefully watched. The heat of the fire is critical and it must be stoked regularly. Sap can also be boiled beyond the point of syrup to produce maple sugar and candy.
- 9) When the maple tree buds start to swell the harvest is over as this sap, although still running, does not make quality syrup.
- 10) From the collecting, to boiling down, to filtering, to bottling in sterilized containers, the production of maple syrup is a labour intensive process. Labours of love really as the results are simply superb.

It was a wonderful day but at the time of writing this article cold weather has hit us again and tapping is on hold until we get warmer days. Hurry Spring, we need you!

Questions & Answers

Q: How do I keep skunks, raccoons and crows from digging through my trash at the cottage?

A: The best thing is to remove the garbage. Garbage is a very alluring food source for skunks and other wildlife, like raccoons and crows. And once skunks and other animals know this food source is available, they will keep coming back for more!

Keep your garbage in bins with tight-fitting lock-down lids. If possible keep these bins in a garage/shed until the morning of pickup. If this isn't possible, you can build a sturdy container (that seals tightly) to store your garbage bins in.

Q: How many calories/hour does one burn while hiking in nature?

A: You can burn a whopping 438 calories huffing and puffing in the great outdoors! One study found that when people got out into the fresh air and enjoyed green spaces during exercise, 60 per cent of them started to feel more confident in the first five minutes of their workout. And that confidence lasted the entire duration of their hike.

Try a hike around Meisel Woods Conservation Area this spring/summer for a euphoric adventure.

IMPORTANT REMINDER TO COTTAGE OWNERS

If you rent your cottage out for any period of time, make sure you have all the emergency contact numbers and clear instructions on how to reach your cottage in any emergency.

Names and phone numbers of your neighbours, your civic address number and a route description to your location could save a life. It is wise to have this information in a prominent place at any time.

Renters should also be advised of boating operator's license requirements, safe boating regulations and be given a copy of our lake map showing the shoals and narrow channels.

Community Corner

For Sale

Fourteen (14) foot **handmade 'Kijik' cedar strip** canoe with **cherry** gunwales and **oak** thwarts. Twelve (12) years old in **very good** condition. Cost \$2,200.00. Will sell for **\$950.00** or **partial trade** for a very gently used fiberglass or aluminum canoe.

To set up a viewing appointment please call Peter Thorp-Levitt (Round Island) at: [613-821-9485](tel:613-821-9485).





The Bobs & Crow Lakes Foundation hosts The Third Frolic



THE FRONTENAC FROLIC
Saturday August 3rd, 2013
9:30 am to 2:30 pm
Bedford Hall, 1381 Westport
Road
Just 20 minutes west of
Westport
10 minutes east of Godfrey



Plan a great day for all the family this summer. Mark August 3rd on your calendar for the now famous **The Frontenac Frolic**.

Come and find amazing treasures at the large flea market. Place a bid on many outstanding silent auction items.

Books and CDs and DVDs at ridiculous prices. Purchase homemade pies, tarts and more from the baking tables.

Let the children line up for the pony rides and the petting zoo from West Winds Ranch near Westport. Lots of food and drinks will be available. Also, don't miss the famous COW FLOP BINGO. Starting at 11:00 a.m., a Holstein cow from the Barr Farm near Burridge will be led onto the field. The winning ticket numbers will be determined by where the cow "flops" on the bingo grid. First prize - \$1800, Second prize - \$900, Third Prize - \$500. Tickets will be available soon. For more information go to www.bobs-and-crow-lakes.org or call 613 273-5236.

Your Foundation is a registered charity that raises monies to fund the many projects to preserve and enhance the quality of the environment around the greater Bobs and Crow Lakes area. Come and be part of the fun, meet your neighbours, make new friends, play the "Cow Flop Bingo" and have a fun filled summer day with your family and your weekend house guests. Door prizes too and more!!!

HOW YOU CAN HELP TO MAKE THIS DAY A SUCCESS

To make this day a success we need your help! As part of your spring cleaning can you collect items from your city homes and cottages to donate to the rummage sale/flea market? All items must be in good condition and in working order. No appliances, TVs, children's car seats or cribs or clothes will be accepted. Any items left after the sale will go to charity.

Books, CD's and DVDs and games also welcomed. **Rummage sale/flea market items can be delivered to the Bedford Hall on Friday, August 2nd.** However, if that is not convenient earlier arrangements can be made to deliver your items to a specific location or have them picked up by calling (613) 273-5236 or (613) 374-1539.

Look for more information about this event soon.

Mark August 3rd on your calendar NOW!!!!



THE BOBS & CROW LAKES FOUNDATION WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR HELP FOR THE FRONTENAC FROLIC

Again this year, we'll be holding an excellent **silent auction** as part of the fund raising activities at the **Frontenac Frolic** on August 3rd, 2013.

We would like to expand this part of the Frolic if possible. Do any of you on the lakes have a contact to businesses or individuals to request items or services that would be popular for this auction? Items must be in mint condition and services applicable to country living.

The donor can receive a tax receipt for the value of the donation. If you have a contact willing to contribute, please ask the donor to give you a statement as to the value of the gift and the Foundation would then issue the receipt directly to the donor. This is a very significant way you could help in the fund raising process that supports the projects on and around our lakes.

If you can help please contact the Foundation at obmact@rideau.net or 613 273-5236 and arrangements will be made to receive your donation.

Although it may seem early, August will be here, almost in the blink of an eye. So, we'd ask you to think of your contacts and help us obtain the items as early as possible. Your help would be greatly appreciated.



Rain Barrels for Sale

Have you thought about a rain barrel for your cottage?

In the past few years we have experienced drought conditions that have seen us tapping out our water systems trying to keep our properties green and safe. We have had our building permits delayed and the use of rain barrels suggested curbing runoff into our lakes. The benefits of rain barrels:

- Conserve water by collecting, storing and distributing clean water at no cost
- Reduce erosion and sediment loading in local streams by reducing runoff from your property
- Promote infiltration of water into the ground to replenish ground water supply
- Save your well

Currently an initiative to raise some funds and promote water conservation throughout the Rideau Watershed is jointly being organized by the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, the Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation, Westport in Bloom and Foley Mountain. You can purchase your rain barrel fully equipped with leaf and mosquito filter, overflow adapter, 1.2 m of overflow hose and a spigot that attaches to a garden hose all for \$55 per barrel (all inclusive).

If you are interested in purchasing a rain barrel at a great price contacts are listed below.

www.rainbarrel.ca

www.rainbarrell.ca/westportinbloom

email: michelle.patton@rvca.ca

email: Westport.in.bloom@gmail.com

Phone: 613-273-6079

A 'Rain Barrel event' to pick up your purchase will be held in Westport on June 15. See the following poster for details.

Every new rain barrel increases our resilience to climate change and is a small stitch in the environmental protection fabric of our lakes.





ABC Hall Springs Forward!!

By Martin Yates, President, ABC Association

There's a new higher level of energy at the ABC Hall in Bolingbroke these days!

Last September the ABC Club, the not-for-profit group who owns and operates the hall, became the "Althorpe Bolingbroke Community Association." The change of name reflects our objective of becoming an association that draws its energy from our community and is dedicated to serving all its members. We want the ABC Hall to be a place where everyone can come, feel welcome, and find something of interest to participate in.

In particular we would like all summer residents and cottagers to feel at home at the Hall and welcome you to come to our events. We also want your ideas! What would you participate in that we don't already do? And what would you be able to help with?

Since the September launch, Association members have been very busy putting together a program of events to try to meet the expressed needs of members of the community, with the result that we have a lot more going on.

Returning events for 2013 include the popular weekly Tuesday evening Euchre night, weekly Monday morning Exercise class, the monthly community pot luck and music Jams, and monthly diners club and Bolingbroke Seniors meetings. Also returning are the Tuesday morning YOGA classes with Helen (spring), and Tanya (summer).

Last fall and over the winter the Hall hosted cooking classes, a women's group, and a regular children's religious afternoon.

New regular events this year include a Cafe evening on the first Friday of each month and, just started, a games afternoon every Thursday. Since they started in November the Cafes have been very popular, with talented musicians entertaining the audience in a relaxed club atmosphere and with delicious crepes and speciality teas and coffees available from the kitchen.

The games afternoon is completely open – Bring your own game and join in! So far we've played 500, Scrabble, Crokinole, Backgammon,

Dominoes, and Tri-ominoes, but we'll try anything! We're also looking for Bridge players...

Mark your calendars for some special events this summer. There's a community garage sale on June 29th (Do you have any treasures to pass on to new owners?), a Fish Fry supper on July 13th, A Contra dance on August 24th, a dinner-dance on September 14th and an Oktoberfest celebration on October 5th.

You can find Information on what's happening and details and contacts for all events in the Association's monthly newsletter. It's posted on the Farren Lake Association's web site at http://www.farrenlake.ca/ABC_CLUB.HTM If you would like to receive your own copy, please email me at myates@kingston.net or phone 273-7505.

News about events at the ABC Hall is also posted on Karen Prytula's "Maberly Mews" blog at <http://maberlymews.blogspot.ca/>

The Hall is available for rent, too – It's a great location for meetings and parties. Joyce Fleming at rayjoyce@rideau.net or 273-4832 handles the bookings.

While it's too soon for us to fully gauge how well the changes are working, we're very encouraged so far and we hope you'll support our community Association and help make it a success for you and for our community!



The ABC Hall



Whip-Poor-Will, Whip-Poor-Will

By Susan O'Brien Mactaggart

How many of you have heard this haunting sound as the evening shadows grow longer and twilight evaporates into night? A haunting sound it is or maybe an invasive sound depending on where the Whip-poor-will has landed. Years ago I remember an evening when one landed on the roof of the cottage and he sang his heart out for more than an hour. It was so loud that conversation stopped and everyone started to count the number of "whip-poor-wills". His aria went on and on and over the hundred count before he flew off. Who knows maybe he knew he had an audience.

Whip-poor-will birds have always been part of every evening on our lakes, but sadly it has been ages since I have heard one. The tragedy is that the populations of this wonderful species have declined dramatically and they do not know why. The Whip-poor-will are now listed as a threatened and endangered species in Eastern Ontario.

This bird is nocturnal and is most active in the early evening and morning hours when it is hunting for food. Our topography around the lakes is the perfect habitat for these birds. They do not make nests as such but lay their eggs in carefully chosen sites of dried leaves. Their camouflage is amazing, not unlike a partridge, so even when they are in full song they are hard to spot. As their nests are on the ground, predators are a problem for these birds, namely cats (feral or house) and raccoons.

I am sure the Wildlife Committee for the Association would be glad to hear of any sightings on the lakes. For anyone interested go to www.ontariowhip-poor-will project for more information on documenting sightings for a formal count. Let us hope we never completely lose this unique song bird that has been a special part of an evening on our lakes.



Will Bobs Lake be the Next Wine Region in Ontario?

By Bill St. Arnaud



Sharp-eyed cottagers may have started to notice that a number of vineyards are popping up in our region. There are now several small, up-and-coming vineyards around Ottawa and a handful in the Perth area. These vineyards are distinctly different from the more familiar, grape-growing regions of Prince Edward County or the Niagara region.

Grape growing in Eastern Ontario has had its challenges however with climate change, use of wind machines in vineyards and a new hybrid vine, appropriately named Frontenac Rouge and Frontenac Gris, vineyards can now survive our harsh winters. As well, some additional hardy hybrids are coming onto the market from the Cornell Agricultural Research Center in Ithaca, NY which should further improve the quality and variety of wines from Eastern Ontario. Frontenac hybrids have a high level of malic acid so they are usually blended with other wines.

It should come as no surprise that you won't be able to buy these local wines at your LCBO. However many of the local vineyards have tastings or sell directly to consumers a small number of bottles from their estates.

Bobs Lake is in roughly the same latitude as the great wine-growing regions of southern [France](http://www.france.com). Given the unique sandy soils, rich in limestone in some parts of the region, Bobs Lake could be a future *terroir* as the region's average temperature is expected to increase by 2-4C in the next 20 years.

For more information on cold climate grape growing and vineyards in our area please see: www.grapeseek.org



The Bobs and Crow Lakes Foundation

OUR LAKES OUR VOICE

FOUNDATION GIFT FORM

The Bobs & Crow Lakes Foundation needs your continued support. Through your donations you can be personally involved in the work for the area of the lakes and see the benefits of your contributions. Tax receipts, applicable for both Canada and the United States, can be issued for your donations.

A gift to the Foundation is also an excellent way to recognize birthdays and special occasions or acknowledge the memory of someone special to your family.

Yes, I would like to make a donation to the Bobs & Crow Lakes Foundation to support the work for our lakes.

Enclosed please find my cheque, made out to the "Bobs & Crow Lakes Foundation" for the amount of \$.....

Mail your donation to:

**Alexander Cameron
Treasurer, B&CL Foundation
P.O. Box 482
Verona, Ont. KOH 2WO**

A tax receipt will be issued for amounts of \$25.00 or more.

The Foundation thanks you for your gift, a gift that will help to make a difference in the support of our beautiful area. Together we can do so much.



**Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes Association
Membership Application / Renewal Form**

Date: _____

Name: _____

eMail: _____

Magazine by e-mail: Yes / No

Mailing Address:

Summer Address (911 number):

Winter telephone: _____

Summer telephone: _____

Township (Please circle appropriate) Central Frontenac, South Frontenac or Tay Valley

Cottage Location (select appropriate location):

☐ West Basin (Big Bobs)

☐ Crow Bay

☐ Central Narrows

☐ Long Bay

☐ Green Bay

☐ Buck Bay

☐ Mud Bay Basin

☐ Norris Bay

☐ East Basin

☐ Crow Lake

☐ Mill Bay

Annual membership dues are **\$30.00**.

If you wish to donate additional funds please indicate amount \$_____. If this donation is to be used for a specific purpose let us know. _____

Please make cheques payable to Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes Association. Membership form and cheques may be given to any Lake Association Board member, or mailed to:

Greater Bobs & Crow Lakes Association
c/o Edie MacNinch
26 Rutherford Cres.
Kanata, ON K2K 1N2

Membership enquiries: emacninch@sympatico.ca

For further information or to volunteer please visit our website at www.bobsandcrowlakes.ca