



Summertime, and the living is easy.
The fish are jumping and ...

George Gershwin



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Editor's Notes

By: Brian McAndrews

- i) Thanks once again to Tammy O'Neil, a Queen's University colleague, for the desk top publishing. Thanks also to students at Holy Cross Secondary School for labeling and stuffing envelopes.
- ii) The cover photo was taken by Mary Ann McAndrews. She caught our daughter Amy and Duke fishing from our dock on Crow Lake.
- iii) Thanks to all who sent me photos electronically and by regular mail. I invite readers to submit articles and photos for the fall/winter newsletter. I will need submissions by mid-November/00. Email makes my work much easier.
- iv) Be sure to copy onto your calendar the many summer happenings found on the Summer Events page in this newsletter.

May your summer be truly re-creational!



President's Remarks

By: Charlie Stewart

Spring is here and our thoughts turn to the lake and summer. For your association, the winter season has been a busy one. With each passing year the issues facing us have become more complex, and your association's involvement and influence has increased. In recent months, through the use of periodic emails, we have been able to keep many members and friends apprised of issues as they evolved.

Voting in the 2000 township election will be much easier for our nonresident members. Your association was successful in its campaign to persuade the South Frontenac Township Council to adopt mail-in voting for the forthcoming election. Through the efforts of Keith Ellison, Mayor Leonard, and Councilors Joyce Barr, Donna Brown, and Jack Barr, the Council approved this measure in December. We have pledged our support to the Township to work out the administrative details to make this a success.

Early this year area residents raised grave concern about the mining operation on New Road. The company has engaged in extensive exploratory operations that could have an environmental impact on fragile ecosystems. The rights of landowners and the township were unclear. Therefore, local residents

held several meetings with South Frontenac Township officials to review the situation and identify actions to protect our interests.

Although your association has not become directly involved, we are continuing to monitor this ongoing issue.

The OMYA calcite plant near Perth has been expanding its operation in recent years and, as a result, needs additional water. To meet this demand they have applied to the Ministry of the Environment to take additional water from wells and also from the Tay River. We are concerned about their requests because of the potential long-term impact on the Tay River water supply and our lakes. Today there is inadequate information regarding the long-term requirements of present and future users of Tay River water and the ability to meet those. It's possible that the demands of these users could result in inadequate flow to serve the Rideau Canal. If so, there could be pressure to increase the flow from our lakes. But today there is no comprehensive policy to ensure that does not occur. As a result we have conveyed to the MOE our opposition to the OMYA requests.

The Bedford District fire truck, for which so many worked to raise funds, should be delivered in

April. Through the combined efforts of everyone we raised more than \$50,000 to date. The truck will be on display at our annual general membership meeting.

There are many activities planned for the coming summer. (see Calendar of Events) One of these is the completion of the 911 rural addressing. The road signs need to be installed, and association members will be instrumental in completing that task. Don Jennings has scheduled a boating certification course and is hosting a cottage safety seminar during July. There will be a road rally around Bedford District byways and an old time dance and chicken barbeque. These latter events will help raise additional money to pay for the new fire truck. We will also continue our initiatives to improve the fisheries, our involvement in the Tay River Watershed study, and our water-testing program.

Through the combined efforts of everyone your association has continued to strengthen in its efforts on behalf of everyone who enjoys the unique beauty of our area. I look forward to seeing you at the annual general membership meeting on Sunday July 30th at the Bedford Community Centre.



A Message From South Frontenac Council

There are a number of points that we would like to cover in this letter that are important to your Association. However, before proceeding we want to stress the importance of Lake Associations such as yours, not only for your work in the past, but the importance that your organization will have in the future protection of our lakes. The Ministries of Natural Resources and Environment and Energy have downsized to a point that they are not providing the leadership that was so helpful in the past. The cost of operating municipal government has placed a "stop work order" on the hiring of additional employees to take on the type of efforts previously put forward by these Ministries. Therefore, the work in monitoring the lakes, if it is to be achieved, will be a continuous "work-in-progress" of the voluntary associations. The Clerk/Administrator is organizing a system whereby such monitoring data is stored properly, and is analyzed during appropriate time periods as long as the associations provide the township office with a copy of the data.

Many things have been happening in Bedford District over the past year.

Mining: Mining activity on the Murphy property is under the watch-

ful eye of Council and area residents who are working hard to keep abreast of the progress and intentions of the Mining Company. Council has been put into an awkward position of appearing to be passing the buck by not imposing strong restrictions on the mining industry that is looking to South Frontenac as a source of a variety of ores. The truth of the matter is that we simply do not have the legislation that would empower the township to act aggressively. We have made our concerns known to the province, and we continue to impress upon everyone that this part of Ontario is known as Cottage Country and it would be tragic if mining interests supercede the continual good health of our recreation industries. We assure you that Council will continue to monitor the mining operations, and we will continue in our attempt to gain the ear of Queen's Park to ensure that our environment is protected.

911: Road signs for Rural Addressing will continue this spring (when our Sergeant Major returns from the sunny south). What a great accomplishment this will be to have this very important emergency service completed. The 911 property signs were installed last year. At this very

moment, township staff are busy erecting the road and lane signs, in addition a corresponding map is being prepared. It is our sincere request to have you contact Dave Bass (376-3027 or 1-800-559-5862 - ext. 221) if there is a discrepancy in the number assigned to your property, or road/lane name. You will notice that there have been some road/lane name changes in Bedford District, but this was required to eliminate duplications.

Fire Department: The Bedford District Fire Department has ordered a new fire pumper truck to be delivered shortly, this will be a very welcomed addition to our fleet. Thanks to all members of the association and general public who worked so hard last year on fund-raisers to raise approximately \$50,000 towards this purchase. Ongoing fundraisers are being planned; the Recreation Committee (there is only 5 including us) is organizing a 50's/60's Dance at the North Frontenac Community Arena in Picadilly on Saturday, June 17th. We are planning for a large crowd and have many activities planned that night, including the sale of tickets for a raffle that will be drawn later in the summer. Any volunteers would be greatly appreciated for



such things as a shift at the bar, taking tickets at the door, selling raffle tickets, contests, etc. In addition, Fire Recruitment and Training is proceeding on schedule, providing Bedford with an outstanding crew of fire fighters. The township decided early in the amalgamation process to keep fire fighting at the local level (separate Fire Department for each of the four Districts). Because of our large geographic area it was obvious that a central Fire Department would fail to understand the unique needs of each of the Districts.

Tay River Watershed Study: OMYA (Canada) Inc.'s application for a permit to take more water from our reservoir (Crow & Bob's Lake) has been met head on with a vengeance (named Joyce). Councillor Joyce Barr sits on the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and Anne Levac of the Clerk's Department sits on the study committee. The recent dry spells and the use of the Tay River Watershed water resources by the Rideau Canal, Golf Course(s) and other auxiliary needs, must be analyzed carefully if the watershed is to remain healthy. Most importantly, the potential for detrimental damage to the ecosystem caused by rapid run off of the water supply to serve superficial needs downstream cannot be justified or tolerated. We can assure you that Council will be making a thorough analysis of the conclusions and recommendations once the Tay River Watershed Report is completed and submitted for

review. All members of Council are anxious to protect the environment throughout all of South Frontenac.

Roads: South Frontenac has purchased a new Grader, which has been assigned to Bedford District, it will be used throughout the Municipality as the demand arises. As well, you will see road construction improvements no matter where you travel in Bedford District.

Planning: The new Official Plan is approaching its final draft stage and the Planning Committee continues to work diligently on the new Zoning By-Law. Soon we will have one complete Plan and Zoning for South Frontenac. Yeah! Our life will get a little easier.

Election 2000: Last, but certainly not least, we were successful in obtaining mail-in-votes so let's make the most of it. Further information will be provided with your next tax notice.

We are slowly moving along to become One Township and all of us have overcome many hurdles and there will be a few more along the way. It has been a privilege and challenge to represent the ratepayers of Bedford District.

Please feel free to contact any one of us should any of the points raised require further clarification, or if there are additional subjects that you would like our comments on.

Sincerely,

Councillor Joyce Barr
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fax: (613) 273-5929

Deputy Mayor Donna Brown
tel: (613) 375-6627
fax: (613) 375-6334

Mayor Phil Leonard
tel: (613) 377-6504
fax: (613) 376-6058
tel: (613) 376-6112 ext 327
tel: (800) 559-5862 ext 1
email: phil.leonard@sympatico.ca

Dear Association Members,

It is with great sadness that we note the passing this winter of a special man known to many in this Association. Bob Reeves died on the evening of January 15th at his home on Burrige Lake. Bob's greatest legacy is in the many beautiful homes within the area that he either completely built or renovated. Bob was loved and respected by many and will be missed by all who knew him.

A Memorial service was held on May 6th, 2000.

Susan O'Brien-Mctaggart



Boating Certification Summer, 2000

By: Don Jennings

As of the present, anyone 17 years of age or younger (born after March 31, 1983) is required by law to have a boating certification card if they are operating a boat with a motor. Failure in this regard is equivalent to driving a car without a license and, aside from the possibility of being charged by the police, has serious implications for insurance coverage in the event of an accident.

The GB&CLA will sponsor another Boating Certification Course in early summer. The experience has been that youngsters need to be 11 years old or more to handle the material to be learned in the Pro Boat Manual of the Canadian Power and Sail Squadron. As well, the younger age group may need the help of an adult to learn the information in order to pass the multiple-choice examination for the certification card.

Thus, in registering an individual for the summer course offered below, we require a commitment of parents to help. Indeed, this is an opportunity for the course to be a family project including adults.



Boat Certification Course - July 8, 2000

Sponsored by GB&CLA

A member of the Canadian Power and Sail Squadron, Kingston Branch will give the course. Applicants must be 11 years of age or older. Parental permission and commitment to help in preliminary study of the manual is required for those 15 years and younger. Families are encouraged to take the course together and to study the manual together prior to the course. Parents are required to be present by 4:00 PM, or earlier, to pick up youngsters on the day of the course. **For:** Open to all, as well as members of the GB&CLA. The course will require a minimum of 15 applicants to be given. The maximum number of attendees is set at 30 individuals. Priorities for places will

be based on receipt of cheques and postmarks. If the course is canceled because of inadequate demand, or if an application falls beyond the maximum allowable number, cheques will be returned. In the event of too many applicants, an opportunity to participate in a subsequent course may also be provided as an option, if that can be arranged.

When: Saturday, July 8th, 2000.

Where: Former Bedford Municipal Hall (Westport Road)

Time: To start at 9:00 AM and last until about 5:00 PM. Applicants are advised to bring a lunch. Coffee and soft drinks will be available.

Description: The course is based on the Boat Pro Manual of the Canadian Power and Sail Squadron

which can be purchased (see insert). Applicants will be given the course, provided with a certificate of attending the course (for insurance purposes), provided with an exam, and a temporary operator's license issued upon successful completion of the exam (card to follow). Careful study of the Manual is required prior to the Course. The course will provide emphasis and reinforcement to the material in the manual for examination purposes, but preliminary study will be essential to pass the exam. **Proof of Identity:** The Canadian Coast Guard requires that there be proof of identity at the examination. Have a S.I.N. card, birth certificate, automobile license or other identifying document available at the time of the exam.



Bobs and Crow Lakes Water Level Report

Winter / Spring 2000

By: Joe Slater

Many of you will recall the normal winter water level for Bobs Lake (161.38m.) was reached in late September last year—about three weeks ahead of schedule. However, heavy rains during November raised the level and Parks Canada adjusted the logs at the dam to maintain a stable winter water level about 4-5 cm above the winter target. The ice cover on both Bobs and Crow Lakes did not completely form until the third week of January. Ice thickness ranged from 15 to 25 cms and was very solid black ice as there was very little snow at the time of and following freeze-up. The ice cover left the lakes during the last week of March, which was very early.

Between February and April each year, the PC-Rideau Canal (RCO) chairs periodic meetings with the water management office and regional authorities (RVCA, CRCA, MNR and Granite Power Corporation) to assess the autumn rainfall, winter snow pack and related data. This helps to plan the spring management actions required to control the water levels and flow of the Rideau canal system. For the first time the association represented by Joe Slater was invited to attend these planning sessions.

The authorities reported that while the snow levels in the area were at or slightly below normal, the snow water content was generally below normal. Consequently when the freshet began in the last week of February, water discharges from the lakes were carefully controlled to permit them to return to their maximum navigational or reservoir level as the potential runoff was deemed to be minimal at this time. The dam operators have taken steps to ensure any drawdowns do not affect incubating trout and to keep flows up for walleye and pike spawning. The pike should be spawning in the first week of April and the walleye as soon as the water reaches 6 to 8 degrees and sufficient flows exist on the spawning beds. The operators have been very conservative in operations with the priority being to get Big Rideau Lake to its maximum navigation level. In late March elevation 123.95 m. was reached on that lake, some 5 cm above its summer level and minimum outflows were being maintained. Both Wolfe and Upper Rideau Lakes were closed to raise their water levels. Bobs Lake had its outflow reduced at that time, to raise its level of 162.70 m. At the end of the first week of April, the lake still was some

5 cm below last year's maximum level but still had 20 cm to go to reach its normal summer level, and was still rising. However by mid-April all lakes were full. In anticipation that this year may be another hot and dry one, the operators have raised the lakes to some 10 cm above their normal summer levels and are monitoring them closely.

As an observer at the water management meetings, I indicated the Association wished to learn of the regulation decisions being made, possibly by a public news release, following each meeting. The release could be disseminated through the local press, radio, TV or e-mails to the area lake associations, tourist operators, township councils and other interested parties. The RCO considered this request and have decided to issue a weekly e-mail water level bulletin to the area lake associations for the major lakes in the Rideau Canal system. They intend to commence issuing it at the end of April. It will include the daily mean water level readings for the past 7 days and will include the following lakes: Bobs, Christie, Big Rideau, Wolfe, Upper Rideau, Newboro, Opinicon, Sand, Cranberry and Colonel By. In addition to the level readings, whenever war-



ranted, the bulletin will include a narrative discussing such things as water management changes and fisheries items. It will be a one-page bulletin released weekly for most of the year. I thanked the RCO for examining this issue and agreeing to take this step. This information will be posted on the website used by our

Association.

The Parks Canada Rideau Canal Office officials have been interested in working closely with our Association. Arrangements were made for me to compile a complete historical database for Bobs Lake elevations. This will comprise over 100 years of data. At present I am extract-

ing the data from microfiche files and entering it into my computer for conversion into a common metric database. Hopefully by this time next year we will have completed this task.

If you have comments on the water levels, you may contact Joe by e-mail at: slater@kingston.net, or by phone at 613-279-1167.

When The Ice Goes Out of the Lake

By: Lloyd Jones

The first concrete indicator that winter is gone and spring has really arrived is the day the ice goes out. It is an event for those of us who watch the lake a lot. People around the lakes have been known to run a lottery guessing the exact date or betting on what would happen first - the disappearance of the ice or some other lingering or impending occurrence, usually of a humorous nature. When the ice goes, the image of winter goes with it.

According to our cottage records, the ice leaves the lake in the period of April 3 -25, (usually later than earlier). If the ice has ever gone out in March, no one can recall it. This year was unusual - Crow Lake did not entirely freeze over until January 20th. Maybe it would go out in March - anyone like to bet? By March 15th, conditions favoured an early departure: there was no snow

on the lake or shoreline to insulate the ice from the sun; and the days were unusually warm, creating warm water runoff, which weakens the ice. The final requirement for an early departure is a lot of warm rain which floats up the ice letting it rattle around the lake, forcing many cracks and causing more melting. The warm rainwater melts the ice on both top and bottom. By March 24, warm rains started.

Several days before the ice goes, it loses its hard surface and turns white. As a final indicator of imminent departure, it turns a blackish-blue, exposing its many old cracks and its early freezing patterns, and finally just before departure it turns black. If there is a strong wind, the ice can go out in a day, sometimes with an incredible and damaging force on the receiving shore. If the wind shifts, so does the ice

threat. The sounds of the moving ice are unique - the large pieces grind together and the tiny pieces tinkle like crystal. If it is calm, the black ice seems suddenly to sink and vanish. A string of cold nights and cloudy days, which often happens in spring, can prolong its departure. On her island in 1914, Laura Lee Davidson lamented this long drawn out period and began to wonder if it would ever end.

On March 25, 2000, the ice turned dark blue and pushed up on the north shore - by March 30, the ice was thin and black, and finally on March 31, only a small patch of ice was floating about. This was a record - the departure of the ice in March. Now to collect my bets!



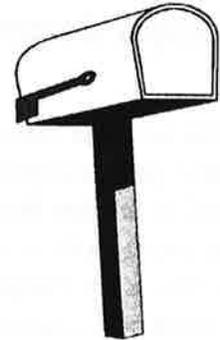
Mail-In Voting

By Keith Ellison

December 21, 1999 was a momentous date. The Council for the Township of South Frontenac voted by a vote of 6 to 2, with 1 absentee, to initiate mail-in voting for the next civic election, November 2000. As a result of the concerted efforts of a number of cottagers from Bobs and Crow Lakes, in particular, Dean Stairs, Stu McCormick, Paul Davidson and Bernie Gelineau, along with the continued support from the mayor, Phil Leonard, and the Bedford District councilors, Joyce Barr and Donna Brown, we have obtained the opportunity to

exercise our franchises with much greater ease. In the March 2000 newsletter, from the township, the mayor notes that, further information will be provided by the Clerk's Department. As I write this report, I am not aware when the township will be prepared to enumerate those people not already on the voters list from the last election. Hopefully, more information will be available by the time of our next AGM in July 2000. Make sure that all people of voting age in your family are registered before you close up your cottage this coming fall. The Township

of North Frontenac obtained this procedure for the last election in 1997 and the turn out via mail from the seasonal residents was GREAT. Let us hope that all goes well this fall for South Frontenac and as the expression states, "I don't care who you vote for, just make sure you vote".



First AGM of the Millennium

By Sharon Tomeo

Mark the following on your calendar - Sunday July 30, 2000. The Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes annual general meeting (AGM) will be held on July 30, 2000 at the Bedford Community Center beginning with refreshments at 12:30 and business agenda at 1:00. As usual there will be informational booths set up prior to the meeting. Most importantly, we would like to hear from you topics you would like more in-

formation about either via booth setups prior to the meeting or via speakers at the AGM. Please feel free to contact any Association Officer or Board Member with your suggestions. Their names and addresses are listed in the newsletter. See you July 30, 2000!

BOOK CLUB

Anyone interested in joining a book club at the lake please contact Anna Chadwick at 613-273-6428, email: cnigel@rideau.net



Turtlehead, the Wildflower

By: Lloyd Jones

A wildflower which is making a recovery around the lakes is the Turtlehead. The name comes from the shape of the flower which someone thought was reptilian in appearance, thereby unjustly labeling its attractive features. The flower is an inch or more in length and white with a soft pink-purple centre. The flower blossoms in pairs up a spiked seed cone at the top of the plant over late summer to mid autumn. The stems are smooth and up to 4 feet in height; four long, notched leaves sur-

round the flowers, and pairs of leaves grow at intervals along the stem.

The Turtlehead grows along

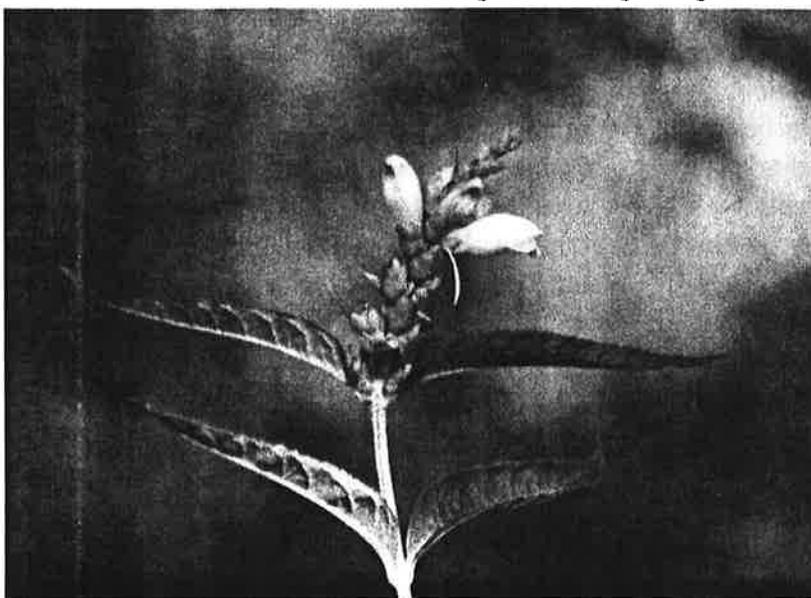


Photo by: Lloyd Jones

swamps and slow moving water in a narrow zone above the high water line. It is often surrounded by tall grass or small shrubs which protects and supports its long stem. The reduction in the number of cattle to tramp it down has led to an increase in the numbers of plants now growing.

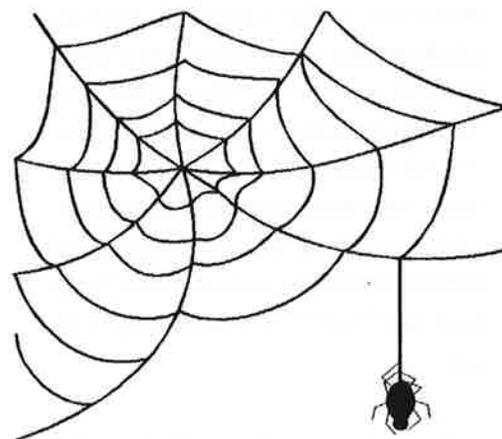
The Turtlehead is a perennial which flowers in its second year. It needs moisture to germinate so grows only where the conditions suit it. Look for it in late summer. It is not easily forgotten.

Land O'Lakes News Web

By: Lloyd Jones

Throughout the year, cottagers and area residents can get news and information about the local region from the Land O' Lakes News Web at the following address: <http://www.inkingston.com/lolnw>. This website is operated by David Brison, a long time Bobs Lake cottage owner.

The site carries a wide range of "news, feature length articles and commentary." Each week, the website is updated and the old items are archived for easy access - so bookmark this address.





The Tay River Watershed Plan Status

By: Joe Slater

The Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) and the Watershed Plan Executive Committee continued work on the watershed planning exercise for the Tay River watershed. The purpose of the plan is to identify goals to maintain or improve the health of the Tay River basin, to make recommendations on how the natural resources can be protected and to develop strategies to improve environmental health with the help and input from the community.

The work is proceeding at a slower pace than originally scheduled, in part due to staff changes at the RVCA but more importantly due to the time spent by the Executive Committee addressing the OMYA water taking permit application and its possible impact on the Tay River.

At the end of January, about 90 interested people attended an information exchange meeting to hear the status of the watershed plan and to offer their expertise. The issues addressed in the watershed plan include surface and groundwater quality and quantity; water levels and dam operations; wildlife and fisheries habitats; land use and development impacts; tourism, recreation and navigation; property rights and values; wetlands, corridors and linkages and historical and heritage values.

Lynn Preston, RVCA Ottawa, explained that due to limited budgets it was essential for the RVCA, MNR and Parks Canada experts and their consultants and volunteers to obtain input from the public on current and historical trends along the watershed. Shaun Thompson, MNR, Kemptville, defined the values they were seeking pertaining to information on different features, natural or cultural or historical throughout the watershed. Kerry McGonegal, a water management officer with Parks Canada's Rideau Canal Office in Smiths Falls, described the operational complexities of the Rideau Canal and explained some of the management strategies for the system. Bruce Reid, a water management co-ordinator with RVCA, gave an overview of the conservation authority's role in the watershed.

Following these presentations, these experts and others were available at various tables to hear from those in attendance wishing to share their knowledge and information to further the watershed plan development. The GBCLA association has been able to provide historical data from our water testing and information from our survey conducted several years ago. The Association has also provided details on the wetland studies carried out last summer. By early June, the information gathered

at the meeting and in other studies will be compiled into an action plan with a set of recommendations. This discussion document will recommend how water resources can be protected and enhanced in relation to changing land uses. It will be available for comment throughout the summer period. There will likely be at least another year of analysis and review before the final recommendations are presented.

The date for the next Tay River Watershed Plan Round Table meeting is expected to be in mid or late June. The main business item will be the review of the draft technical report and discussion plan carried out by consultants during the winter and spring of this year.

The leaders are still looking for volunteers to help with the study. Anyone who wants to assist in this endeavour may contact the RVCA at 1-800-267-3504/ ext. 109, or either of the Co-chairs, Mike Mosher at 267-4762 or Dave Taylor at 264-0094. Further information on the Tay River Watershed Plan is available through their website at www.twpbbs.com.

Anyone wishing discuss details of this study is invited to contact Joe Slater either by phone (613-279-1167) or by e-mail (slater@kingston.net).

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

By Diane Stevens

Welcome to our new members, and thanks to all who have already renewed for the year July 1, 2000 – June 30, 2001. We do appreciate receiving your comments – water levels and fishing are the most mentioned. You will see from articles in this Newsletter we have been very active over the winter and spring to mitigate a possible threat to both of these concerns. If you want to keep in touch with ongoing news by e-Mail, circle “Yes” below.

If your membership expires on June 30, 2000 (please check your mailing label) then we’d appreciate receiving your renewal by mail, or at the Annual General Meeting on Sunday, 30 July, 2000. But please, if you miss the AGM, don’t forget to send your dues soon after – it makes my life so much easier!

As most of you know, we had a very successful fundraising last year for the new Bedford Pumper Truck, but we’re only part way there, and we’ll be trying to raise more this summer. However, if there is anyone who would like to donate to the fund please send me a cheque made out to “The Township of South Frontenac – Bedford Pumper Truck” and I will forward it to the Township. The Township does provide tax receipts (and the Association gets the credit for raising the money!).

04/00

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Name:	Enclosed is \$30 in Dues:
Date:	Donation:
Winter Address:	For:
.....	Total:
Winter Telephone:	
e-Mail:	Please remit funds to:
Send e-Mail Notes: Yes / No	The Greater Bobs & Crow Lakes Association
	c/o Diane Stevens
Summer Address:	R.R. #2, Godfrey
.....	Ontario KOH 1To
Summer Telephone:	
Township: Conc./Lot:	Enclosed for Pumper Truck:
	(Cheque Payable to Township of South
	Frontenac – Bedford Pumper Truck)

Cottage Location (circle appropriate location):

Big Bob	Mud Bay	Crow Bay	Norris Bay
Central Narrows	Bobs Lake East Basin	Long Bay	Crow Lake
Green Bay	Mill Bay	Buck Bay	

Your Special Interest/Top Priority:.....

Comments/Concerns/Ideas:

Sightings: what/where and when:



Application for Boating Certification Course - July 8th

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) Submit application so it is received by June 16th.
- 2) Fill out the application form, include a cheque payable to the GB&CLA, and send them to the address at the bottom of the form.
- 3) Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope to receive confirmation of acceptance to the course.

Print information and if necessary, copy the form for additional applicants

Registration fee to the Power and Sail Squadron is \$25.00 per applicant.

Name	Age* if < 16 yrs	Address	Phone or Email	Fee

*, if 15 year of age or younger requires parental approval as signed below

Boat Pro Manuals @ \$10.00 / manual X manuals =\$

TOTAL _____

I hereby give _____ permission to attend the boating course. I will be present by 4:00 PM at the latest to pick up this applicant.

Signature of parent: _____

I will pick up the Boat Pro Manual(s) at

- Kilpatrick Store (East of Bolingbrooke) _____
- Buck Bay Cantina and Marina _____
- Crow Lake Store _____
- Burridge General Store _____
- McGowan Store (Godfrey at Westport Road) _____

Return form and cheque to:

Donald B. Jennings
 153 Falkirk Terrace
 Kingston, Ontario K7M 4C3
 Phone: home (613) 389-1136 or cottage (613) 279-2863
 Email: jennings@post.queensu.ca



Saving Young Trees and Shrubs

By: Lloyd Jones

A commercial product named "Scoot" which is intended to discourage animals from eating the tops and branches of small trees and shrubs, is now on the market. During the winter of 1998, rabbits trimmed off all parts of some newly planted ash saplings and shrubs which showed above the snow line. In the fall of 1999, I painted the same trees with Scoot; after a nibble or two by rabbits, they left the trees alone

and none were damaged further. Apparently, once painted with Scoot, the taste of the bark is no longer appealing and it does not harm the animal.

Scoot resembles soft butter and sticks to much of the plant for 6 months. It is white in colour allowing its presence to be monitored. One plastic jar contains enough to paint several trees. Scoot is available at hardware stores.

A question remains whether it

discourages beaver from cutting down larger trees. I hope to test it this summer by painting a tree which a beaver has begun to cut down. Obviously, the painting season for beaver would be from spring to fall. I will report further on whether Scoot is the silver bullet for discouraging beaver from eating a favourite cottage tree.

Wildlife Abundant

By: Mark Tinlin

One warm May weekend in 1999 a friend and I were travelling along Burns Road, near Robin Hood Cottage lane when we had the wonderful pleasure of sighting 5 large adult wild turkeys working a meadow.

Last Thanksgiving holiday weekend (Oct 11/99) on our return trip to Ottawa from our cottage on Bobs Lake The Narrows I made a "very" brief stop at the Burns Road dump. It was dark around 7 pm but I had a flashlight. I walked to the edge of the dump and directed my light to the area below where I thought I had heard some unusual sounds. My light quickly found the source of strange sounds. Standing in the middle of the dump was a very

large black bear enjoying the menu of the day.

As you might image, my visit was very brief indeed. I didn't take time to investigate if he/she had a family. I returned to my vehicle more quickly than I emerged and told my wife Beverly of my experience. She declined my offer to show her that

creature. Like other residences in the area we often see deer, fox, grouse, and variety of birds throughout the year. But the above two sightings were quite a rewarding experience.

From these and other sightings, I would conclude that wildlife is abundant and diverse in the Bobs Lake area.



Photo by: Brian Usher



Summer Events

- June 3-4** *Westport Antiques Show - Westport Arena*
- June 10-11** *Rideau Lakes Cycle Tour (Ottawa to Kingston)*
- June 17** *50's/60's Dance - North Frontenac Arena*
- July 5** *GBCLA Crime Prevention and Cottage Watch Workshop - Bedford Hall* - 7:00 PM*
- July 8** *GBCLA Boating Operators Certification Course - Bedford Hall**
- July 15** *Dance at the Westport Legion, sponsored by the Friends of Westport Library. 8:30 - 11:30
Music by The Swing Bridge Quartet. Tickets \$10 from Murphy's Barber Shop*
- July 22** *GBCLA Bedford District Car Rally - Bedford Hall**
- July 30** *GBCLA Annual Meeting - 12:30, Bedford Hall**
- August 12-13** *Westcraft 2000, Craft Festival in Westport*
- August 25-27** *Rideau Valley Art Festival - Westport Arena*
- October 6-9** *Fall Colours Tours in Westport and Perth*

**Bedford Hall is the old Bedford Municipal Office, Westport Rd.*



SFNEAC - Update

By: Diane Stevens

The South Frontenac Natural Environment Action Committee has had another busy winter. Over 600 bird boxes (Bluebird and Wood Duck) were constructed, many of which were made by enthusiastic school children in the Township, along with Guide and Scout groups, as well as our Committee members and other volunteers. After a terrific seminar on Bats presented in February by Matt Saunders of Seeleys Bay (we had a Brown Bat flying around in the Sydenham Council Chamber!), we are also going into the bat box business. So, if there is anyone who would like one or more of any of these boxes (free), let me know and we can arrange it. Our Chair-

man, Larry York of Loughborough, has been a wizard at obtaining funding and supplies for these and other endeavours - so much so that he has recently received an environmental award.

We will be distributing the tree saplings at the beginning of May - this year we sold about 30,000 throughout the Township at 35 cents for conifers and 70 cents for hardwoods and bushes. Last year the quality of these 3-4 year old saplings was excellent. If you missed out again this year, look for our notices in the Fall, in area newspapers, shops and at the Bedford dumps, or send me an e-mail so I can let you have the information for the 2001 pro-

gram when it is available.

We are also having a Spring Fever Clean Up Day throughout the Township on May 13th. We will be relying upon permanent residents and early arrivals from the warmer climes to volunteer for this. I realize that this notice is too late this year, but let me know if you would be available in future years to help with this project. If we can get some contact names throughout the Township it will make organization easier next time. We're only looking for volunteers to clean-up the general litter and to let us know if there is anything too big to handle.



'Morning Mist' Crow Lake

Photo by Brian Usher



Dancing with Bears

By: Lloyd Jones

Early each morning I walked out the cottage road and down the asphalt road for two and a half miles. I left just after the mosquitos had nearly given up for the night and before the deer flies had time to warm up. The morning of my first encounter, I was walking by a forested area looking at whatever wildlife presented itself, when suddenly a crashing noise close behind me caused me to jump off the road. I thought I was about to be hit by a car - although the sound of oncoming cars could be heard for a couple of miles that time in the morning. When I turned, there was nothing there. I reasoned that it must have been a deer, or maybe a bear that crossed just behind me and had panicked when it saw how close we were. Pleased that a car had not run me down, the encounter was left in my mind as a curious event.

Two weeks later I learned that a bear was the likely source of the noise. I had just left the cottage road and started down a long hill when a large Black Bear appeared in the middle of the road at the bottom of the hill. We both stopped and stared at each other. The distance was great enough that the bear presented no threat (I had lots of time to run) and

it finally ambled off. When I reached the point where it had crossed, I could hear it nearby at the edge of a swamp pulling down a rotten tree - probably in search of grubs or ants. I thought it was unusual to meet a bear on the road where I had never seen one before and was unlikely to see another.



A few weeks later, I had just about reached the same place on my way home when I noticed what appeared to be the back of a black Labrador dog in the ditch by the road. A tree on the road shoulder shielded it from me and I walked on. Suddenly it arrived in the centre of the road

about 100 feet away - a mature Black Bear weighing perhaps 600 pounds! We both stopped and stared. I muttered something to myself that expressed my dislike of the situation - it continued to stare. I heard no cars approaching to intervene and I knew without looking that there was nothing nearby I could use for defence. I did notice that no cubs were following it. The bear was a magnificent beast with its black hair glistening in the morning sun and I might have continued to admire it if it had not been so big and so close!

Finally I decided that if I was to get by, I was going to have to force the issue. I leaped high in the air, waving my arms and making myself as big as I could. I soared! I found no difficulty leaping higher than I had ever before. I yelled as loud as I could, and the bear fled in terror over the bank and out of sight - an action similar to my backup plan!

Although my dance with the bears occurred two years ago, I have not seen another since. There is a place on the road, however, where I pay particular attention to what is in the ditch.



Electronic Communications

By: Charlie Stewart

Do you have a computer? Do you use email? Then subscribe to our email updates. Many issues facing the association are time-sensitive. Therefore we have started sending periodic emails to alert people of these. Thus we were able highlight a meeting on the New Road mining issues and the OMYA applications to draw water from the Tay River. Today the emails are sent to almost 100 people. I encourage you to get on distribution for these updates. Send me an email at cstewart@rideau.net, or cstewart@erols.com and I'll add your name to our list.

There are also numerous Web sites of interest to people in our area. They include ones on the Rideau Canal issues and activities, Westport information and Sharbot Lake area issues. Sunset Shores has also established a Web site for its residents. I encourage you to visit the following sites and to add them to the list of those that you periodically review.

Land O'Lakes NewsWeb at: www.inkingston.com/lolnw/
Rideau Valley Conservation Agency Homepage at www.rideauvalley.on.ca/
Rideau Region Information Site at

www.rideau-info.com/

Bathurst Burgess Sherbrooke Township at

www.twpbbs.com/

Westport and Rideau Lakes Chamber of Commerce at

westportrideaulakes.on.ca/

Sunset Shores Peninsula Association at

http://post.queensu.ca/~prd/sunset_shores_peninsula_association.htm

We would like to establish a Web site for the Greater Bobs & Crow Lakes Association. To do so we need someone to design and manage the site. If you are interested, please send me an email.





FOCA Spring Seminar

By: Keith Ellison

The spring FOCA seminar is devoted entirely to guest speakers. It is held on the same weekend as the Cottage Life Show in the same building. As usual there was some very interesting information, as well as, some alarming facts presented to the gathering. Are you aware that no person under the age of 16 is permitted to operate a Personal Water Craft (PWC), seadoo, etc., even with a person 16 or older sitting behind the young operator? The drinking and boating enforcement will be in full force this summer. Be aware of the new regulations.

Numerous studies have documented that two-stroke engines spew up to 30% of the gas and oil directly into the environment, causing 97% more water pollution and 95% more air pollution than the cleaner burning four-stroke models. There are approximately three million pleasure craft in Canada, most with two-stroke engines. The Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) considers them to be "the most important source of a persistent form of pollution that has devastating effects on the aquatic environment". DFO estimates that two-stroke outboards discharge up to one billion litres of hydrocarbons

and oil into North American waters each year - 15 times more than the Exxon Valdez spill. According to the U.S. EPA, operating a 70 horsepower two-stroke motor for one hour results in the same amount of hydrocarbon pollution as driving 8,000 km in a modern car.

In January 2000, the Ministry of the Environment announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Marine Spark Ignition Engine Exhaust Emission Standards between Environment Canada and the Canadian Marine Manufacturers Association (CMMA). Unfortunately, this policy allows the unlimited sale of conventional two-stroke motors for now. Cottagers represent about 75% of the market and users of marine engines. We have a major interest in maintaining and enhancing the environmental health of Canada's water and air resources. If you are considering the purchase of a new motor, seriously consider the four-stroke engines and their less harmful effect on our water and air. For more information on clean air issues, visit Environment Canada's Green Lane at, www.ec.gc.ca. As well, watch for articles in the April/May 2000 edition of FOCA news in Cottage Life magazine.

The taking of surface and ground water is becoming a concern. The Ministry of Environment (MOE), in conjunction with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, various conservation authorities and other stakeholder, is presently reviewing its policies and procedures with regard to water taking. It is hoped that this process will result in stricter controls as well as better safeguards for our water resources. More information can be found on the websites of the Council of Canadians at www.canadians.org and the Canadian and the Canadian Environmental Law Association (Water Watch) at www.web.net~cela. If you want to check what's happening to the water in your area, log onto the MOE Environmental Registry website at www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/ebr/welcome.html. A search for 34 AND County name will list all permit applications to take more the 50,000 litres of water a day in your county. You can further refine your search with AND keyword (such as golf or bottle or spring or river).



The Greater Bobs & Crow Lakes Association wants you!

By: Charlie Stewart

Your association is successful because of the dedication of many volunteers. We all lead busy lives and want to relax when we visit to the lake. But we need your help in the many ongoing initiatives. Volunteering also provides a great opportunity to meet people from around the lake.

There are projects to fit everyone's interest and available time.

Each year there is a turnover of directors. We need people to replace them and to help in various projects. In addition we would like to split some portfolios. For example, one director is responsible for both boating and cottage safety areas. Some of our needs include:

- Area directors to represent property owners in your portion of the lake
- Directors for various portfolios in-

cluding cottage or water safety and to maintain contact with other area associations

- Individuals to take water samples or to help with the car rally and the annual meeting
- A Web site manager.

Please contact one of the current directors if you can assist.

Special Session on Crime Prevention & Community Watch

By: Don Jennings

There has been a great deal of break and enter and theft around our immediate community over the fall and winter. On Wednesday, July 5th, at 7:00 pm the OPP will present a seminar at the former Bedford Municipal Hall on preventive measures to deter criminal activity. As well, attendees will be brought up to date on the development of the Community Watch Program, which was initiated around the lake community in the fall of '99. Police alerts of criminal activity are currently received by Fax, scanned and transmitted by

email to over 30 individuals around the lakes. If you are interested in adding your email address to the distribution list contact Don Jennings at jennings@post.queensu.ca.

As many of you will know, there has been a restructuring of the OPP policing in our area. The Sharbot Lake detachment now has its headquarters in Perth with the Lanark detachment, rather than with the South Frontenac detachment at Kingston. We expect that a representative of the Lanark detachment will be present to interact with Con-

stable Dan Marshall of the South Frontenac office in this presentation. This will also be an excellent opportunity to ask questions about how the two detachments plan to cooperate in the policing of our lakes which cross both of their jurisdictions.





Fisheries

By: Mel Fleming

More Fisheries work continues; the work never seems to be finished, however, the remaining work is probably going to be easier with less construction and more maintenance.

The Bobs and Crow Lakes Fishery Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Gerry Mulder, formerly Kingston Area Supervisor, hit a bit of a snag since Gerry has moved to the Kemptville Area. The next meeting has been scheduled for May 3 and plans include participation by Regional Fisheries Biologist Dave Bell and the Peterborough District Information Officer, J.J. Beechie of the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). Incidentally, Bonnie Williams from the Peterborough office, is Acting Area Supervisor during Gerry's absence.

We await news about a number of Community Fisheries Involvement Program (CFIP) submissions we prepared for consideration by the MNR. These include a continuation of the re-habilitation of the channel between Crow and Bobs Lakes and a Shoreline Stabilization Project at the Crow Lake Village Creek.

Last fall, a netting program for lake trout in Crow Lake was unsuccessful due to the unavailability of

MNR resources. However, MNR is now planning a Spring Littoral Index Netting (SLIN) program for this spring. This project will catch lake trout by the teeth for examination, and then they will be returned to the lake.

A new Bass Fishing Brochure was completed and will be delivered to most cottages, homes and resorts again this spring. Others will be available at Association signs around the lakes. The brochure identifies the penalties to both the bass fishery and to illegal bass anglers as a result of out-of-season fishing for bass. Thanks to the MNR and specifically to Ross Cholmondeley for their assistance.

Steve Reynolds and I carried out a Walleye Spawning Area Assessment this spring. Significant changes in weather patterns, temperatures, precipitation, and water levels, affected our observations and the walleye activities resulting in difficulties in the assessment. There's some good news and some other results I will report to the MNR, and to you in the fall/winter edition of the Newsletter. Thanks to Bernie Gelineau and Mike Reynolds for assisting in this exercise. Insufficient water levels initially caused walleye spawning problems in

McEwen's, Village, and Scott's Creeks. Some of these were partly overcome by higher levels later in our assessment. Ross Cholmondeley and Rick Topping's (MNR) advice and support is really appreciated.

An examination of the falls at Scott's Creek Bridge area identified some serious roadway problems. These involved the roadway itself washing out, a driveway washout, and washout bringing stones and other garbage down to the falls and then to the Creek and to the rehabilitated walleye spawning area. I reported the washouts to Phil Leonard, our mayor, and he helped resolve the problems almost immediately. Additional work will be carried out as soon as possible.

As you are probably aware, the OMYA plant, west of Perth, has submitted a request from the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) to build a pumping station to withdraw 4.5 million litres of water per day from the Tay River. I sent two letters to MOE indicating objections to the OMYA petition on behalf of the Fisheries portfolio. Many others objected to the petition, as well, for various reasons. I was asked by some members of the Tay River Watershed Plan executive to docu-



ment some of the problems to the fishery, wetlands, mammals and insects, etc. resulting from low water levels. I did so. Basically, an increase in the drawdown of even one-centimeter will add detrimental effects on lake trout spawning. Very few others were initially offering objections on behalf of Bobs and Crow Lakes, the primary source of the Tay River water.

Last summer, Ross Cholmondeley had arranged for the MOE to assess the relative oxygen content of Crow Lake and Green Bay. Crow Lake was assessed as excellent and Green Bay as good. Optimum levels include 6 parts per million (ppm) at temperatures below 10 degrees C. Usable levels include 4 ppm at temperatures below 15.5 degrees C. Green Bay, from depths of 8 m to 19 m was classified as usable, and from 10m to 17 m was classified as optimum. Crow Lake, from depths of 7.5 m to 33 m was classified as usable, and from 8 m to 28 m was classified as optimum. Ross has arranged for oxygen measurements to be taken again in late summer or early fall.

10,000 lake trout fingerlings have already been stocked into Crow Lake and 25,000 lake trout fingerlings will be stocked into Green Bay before you read this report. I have received reports of 4, 5, and 6-pound lake trout being caught in Green Bay, suggesting that the stocking program is succeeding. Anyone catching lake trout in Green Bay, or Crow Lake for that matter,

is requested to report the catch to me with the following information: weight, size, fin clips and date caught. This information will be summarized for the MNR. I can be reached by calling my cottage (613 279-2871), my home in Perth (613 267-2516) or by email at "mfleming@superaje.com".

Another possible Fishery saving approach is to establish walleye

and bass sanctuaries at various locations. Anyone with ideas where this can be satisfactorily accomplished is asked to contact me. This approach will be discussed at the next Fishery Advisory Committee.

Anyone wishing to take on some responsibility for Fishery activities on behalf of the Association is requested to contact the Association or me directly.



Photo by Mel Fleming of his grandson, Ryan Croteau with a largemouth bass caught in Crow Lake, Summer '99.



South Frontenac Official Plan Update

By: Susan O'Brien-Mactaggart

On March 28, 2000 the Planning Advisory Committee and Council met to review each section of the new Official Plan for the Township. There were some further changes discussed at this meeting.

The Official Plan draft is now with the Planners to include these changes. Once this is completed, the document will be available for public review. The date for this meeting is yet to be announced. Please watch

newspapers and Association communication for the date.

Fund Raising Events for the Bedford Pumper Fire Truck

By: Susan O'Brien-Mactaggart

i) Saturday, June 17, 2000

9:00pm to 1:00am

50's/60's dance featuring:

"The Fabulous Comets"

North Frontenac Arena

Buffet Lunch served at 11:00pm

Organized by the Recreation Committee, Bedford District

ii) July 22, 2000

The GB&CLA will organize a Car Rally in the afternoon to be followed by a Chicken B.B.Q. at 5:00pm Bedford District Hall

Watch for more information on both events. Please support these events.

Your volunteer help is also appreciated.

