
Lake Views
Greater Bobs & Crow Lakes Association Magazine



Fall/Winter 2015 Magazine

www.bobsandcrowlakes.ca

eMail: gbcla@ca.inter.net

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Photo by: Peter Muzik

“Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower”

Albert Camus



President's Message

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What a beautiful fall we've had on Bobs and Crow! The foliage, although late and brief was spectacular in colour and show. The temperatures were warm and the winds either extremely calm or raging. The sunsets and sunrises were exceptionally varied and moving. The waters were intermittently shimmering, on occasion filled with white caps and for a good measure sporadically calm and glass like.

We had a moon event, much sun, several severe wind storms, some beautiful driving rains and more than our share of trees falling. All this and no snow!

These moments were captured by our bevy of photographers in "cottage residence" around the lakes. If you are a "friend" on the GBCLA Facebook page you would have shared these wonderful "Kodak moments". Our intrepid lake photographers kayaked and hiked, sat on their lakeside porch or on their dock, motored by boat or car to capture something special. They were up at the crack of dawn and in some photographs late at night. We hope you appreciate the beauty captured and shared by these very talented people in this issue of Lake Views.

Your Association was most active this past spring and summer which continues into the early fall. We had the assistance of an Environmental Intern (Joshua Bowes) thanks to our friends at the **Bobs and Crow Lakes Foundation** and the **Rideau Valley Conservation Authority**. Joshua was involved in many of our summer successes and contributed in the long term planning for your Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes Association. Some of our 2015 successes include;

- Our Environmental Awareness Celebration in July was organized at the Crow Lake Pier. The event was well attended and provided Bobs and Crow Lakes participants with an opportunity to get together and share the love of our lakes. Information, directions to build tools and models to help protect our flora and fauna and a bar-b-que were all partaken.
- The GBCLA Annual General Meeting was held in late July. Our theme this year was "Safety while at the Cottage". The OPP Marine Division was featured and discussed water and boating safety around the lakes. Another guest, Dr. Paula Stewart (Medical Officer of Health) discussed health concerns to be aware of while at the cottage. Dr Stewart discussed blue green algae, ticks and Lyme disease, the evasive specie wild parsnip, radon gas and your cottage and carbon monoxide poisoning. The AGM also provided members with information on the new dam being built at Bolingbroke(Fall 2016); a quest by your Executive to better understand our fisheries and options to explore to sustain our fisheries; projects to address emergency access for first responders to our lakes; a collaborative effort (with our volunteers) to effectively place marker buoys around the lakes and replacing old approved signage on the water and at our boat ramps.



(President's Message cont'd)

- In August, Oak Shores hosted our Second Annual '**Nature Flotilla**'. Another excellent turnout Kayaked or canoed, boated, or walked to a number of stations to meet experts from across Ontario provide information on bats, turtles, beavers, protecting our shoreline, algae and aquatic plants, water clarity and testing.

Your Lake Association has been working in partnership with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR), Federation of Ontario Cottage Associations (FOCA), the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA), Ministry of Transportation, the Ontario Association of Anglers and Hunter, Lake Links, Frontenac Stewardship Council, Watersheds Canada, local Universities and our Townships (Tay, Central Frontenac, South Frontenac) on a number of Initiatives and research projects that include:

- An Algae bloom and Aquatic Plants study
- Demonstration projects that stress fisheries sustainability
- Tracking and Identifying Evasive Species (plants)
- Water Quality
- Mandatory Septic Inspections

Finally, your GBCLA has embarked on a new initiative to welcome back old members and to encourage the new cottage owners who have moved to Bobs and Crow Lakes to join the Greater Bobs and Crow lakes Association to be part of an organization that protects their water, fish, flora and fauna and encourages a safe and respectful environment for their cottage enjoyment.

We have discovered that approximately 30% of our members forget to renew their GBCLA membership each year. We have attempted reminder letters, email reminders and GBCLA E-Lert reminders. We have introduced Pay Pal to make paying your \$40. membership fee easier. I have been guilty of not renewing my GBCLA dues promptly. To assist you (and remind myself) all communication with you will now have your name and personal membership status on the bottom of the e-mail, GBCLA E-Lert and/or letter. This will be a reminder that you and your membership are important to the sustainability of our lakes.

Our second part of this initiative is concerning new folk to Bobs and Crow. We are putting together a "Welcome Package" for new all families on the lakes. If you know of someone who is new to the lakes, on your road or in your special part of the lake please contact me at 613 279 3210 or at larryarpaia@gmail.com.

I look forward to seeing the brave souls who enjoy Bobs and Crow in the winter. To those hearty outdoor enthusiasts I look forward to seeing you on the lakes.

Larry Arpaia



Photo by: Judy Reinford



Photo by: Peter Muzik



Photo by: Adam Correia



The Crow Lake Flag Mystery

By **Bernie Gelineau**

The appearance of a Canadian flag every year over Crow Lake has been a mystery to many over the years. It involves a flag give away by a Federal Heritage Minister and the resourcefulness of some Crow Lake men.

Steve Jones son of Lloyd and Barb Jones tells how this tradition began and continues to this day.



Crow Lake Flag hill

In Patterson's Bay on Crow Lake is a shore line known to locals as the high rocks or the cliff's. This spot is very popular for years on a hot summer day for swimming and cliff jumping.

High on top of the hill above sits a Canadian flag that started to appear in 1998. It doesn't survive the winter and usually by January or February it's just rags.

This flag came to be over a discussion among friends a little effort and all donated recyclable materials

Archie Reynolds had sent away for a flag when MP Sheila Copps offered free flags to all Canadians. The flag was 36 X 72 so it was larger than most.

He received the flag and had it for years as Archie had no flag pole and he never got around to obtaining a flag pole and the flag just collected dust in a dresser drawer.

The flag pole that now resides on flag hill came from Dave Reynolds as it was his old TV antenna and the cement was from Edith Jones basement (My late grandmother) who with her husband Edmund built the Oaks cottages on Crow Lake.

When my grandmother passed away and my Dad

and I were clearing out her house, we found 4 bags of sakrete cement in her basement .It appears that Edith at 86 and was still planning to do more building. All who knew her would not be surprised at this!

But,,this usual find sparked the discussion that led to "The Flag" , The pole, my personal desire to see a flag on the highest hill surrounding Crow Lake.

So in the summer of 1998 , I hauled the cement up to the hill top and got the water from the swamp behind (called the green swamp and known for the amount of Heron's that nest there) I poured the base one weekend and returned the next to raise the pole/Flag.

Flag hill is government property so why not have a Canadian flag flying on it for all to enjoy.

Steve Jones



Pictured under the flag we have Heather Van Ness and her son Dylan ((9) from Warsaw, Indiana and her niece Kaitlyn (6) from Baldwinsville , N.Y.

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Frequently Asked Questions

THE QUESTION

What are the causes of high radon gas levels?

THE ANSWER

The radioactive decay of uranium in soil is the primary cause of high radon levels, followed by uranium's decay in water. In some instances, building materials give off radon, but this is less common and contributes to lower levels than those of the gas found in soil.

Radon is an odorless, colorless, tasteless gas that contributes to health problems of those contained in homes/cottages and other building structures where it is present at higher than normal levels. It is a leading cause of lung cancer in the Canada. There are tests for radon that can be administered either with do-it-yourself home kits or through a professional tester. Minor home renovations can be made to reduce the levels that seep into the home/cottage.

Some of the symptoms of radon gas exposure include a persistent cough that does not improve, coughing up blood, hoarseness, difficulty breathing, and wheezing. Resembling lung cancer, chest pains and recurring bronchitis or pneumonia are other signs of radon exposure.

If you are breathing in too much radon, you won't feel sick or have any symptoms right away. Testing your home is the only way to know if there's a radon problem. About 1 out of every 15 homes in North America has a level of radon that needs to be reduced. If the radon level in your home is high, you can take steps to fix it. Testing your home for radon is easy and doesn't cost very much. You can test for radon yourself or hire a professional to do it for you.

For further information check out: www.cbc.ca/news/world/high-radon-levels-found-in-health-canada-tests-across-country-1.2662610

New Dam at Bolingbroke

Parks Canada announced in June 2015 that the dam at Bolingbroke would be replaced at a cost of \$3.2 million in the fall (September) of 2016. The Bolingbroke Dam, originally built in 1827 will stay intact until after the new dam is built and operational. The new dam will be built approximately 50 m downriver from the current dam site and will take about two months to be constructed. All preliminary studies have been completed, design work and site plans finalized and an announcement of the contractor chosen is imminent.

It is expected that the old dam will be dismantled in the winter of 2017. Bobs and Crow Lakes will see no water level changes prior to or during the construction of the new dam or dismantling of the old dam.

The new dam will continue to be operated by and monitored by Parks Canada. With a "new" operational weather station at Bolingbroke (Have you noticed we can get weather conditions from Bolingbroke on the Weather Network (online?) the 'rule curve' will continue to dictate that 1.6 cm of water per day will leave our watershed down the Tay River to the Rideau Canal. The water will be leaving Bobs and Crow Lakes from approximately July 1 to Oct 10 each year (100 days per year) as dictated by the Parks Canada Water Management Plan developed in 1984.



Heather Irving

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Beware the Wild Parsnip

Wild Parsnip has become a major health problem over the past two years causing serious rashes, burns and/or blisters to the skin. Given the prolific spread of the growth of wild parsnip (also known as poison parsnip) and the health risks to people, strategic management of the invasive species needs to be developed by those who will have contact with it.

Have you noticed the weed proliferating along roadways, in agricultural fields or near railway embankments? The spread of this invasive species has been most prominent in Eastern Ontario most recently but was introduced to North America hundreds of years ago. The wild parsnip spreads rapidly by reducing native vegetation resulting in the reduction of biodiversity.



The sap of the leaves may cause temporary or permanent blindness if it gets into one's eyes. The chemical of the sap (called furocainains) will cause severe skin inflation, within 24 hours after exposure to light.

What You Can Do

- Learn how to identify wild parsnip and other invasive plants.
- Stay on trails and away from areas known to have wild parsnip or other invasive species.
- Inspect, clean and remove mud, seeds and plant parts from clothing, pets (including horses), vehicles (including bicycles) and equipment such as mowers and tools. Before travelling to new areas, clean vehicles and equipment in a place

where plant seeds or parts aren't likely to spread, such as in a driveway or at a car wash. It's very important to carefully wash any sap from clothing, equipment and pets.

- Avoid disturbing soil and removing plants from natural areas; they may be rare native plants or even invasive plants.
- If you think you have wild parsnip on your property or if you see it in your community, please call the Invading Species Hotline at 1-800-563-7711, or [report your sighting online](#). You will be asked to send in photos for identification. **DO NOT** touch, cut or collect parts of the plant for identification purposes.

For more information on wild parsnip check out: www.invadingspecies.com/invaders/plants-terrestrial/wild-parsnip/

GBCLA Web Site

To find out more about your GBCLA; to view past issues of your GBCLA Magazine *Lake Views*; to connect with your GBCLA *Facebook* Page; to pay your GBCLA Membership fees using **PayPal**: Please visit the GBCLA web Site:

www.GreaterBobsandCrowLakesAssociation.ca

or write to us at:

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Carbon Monoxide Safety

Each year carbon monoxide poisoning in Ontario homes/cottages results in thousands of people requiring a medical treatment. Carbon monoxide poisoning has been referred to as the "silent killer".

Many households have an average of 4-6 fuel burning appliances that produce carbon monoxide. These appliances include:

- Furnace
- Water Heater
- Fireplace
- Stove
- Dryer
- Barbeque
- Portable Generator
- Space Heater

Is your home/cottage Carbon monoxide Safe? It is currently the law in the Province of Ontario that if you have one of the above devices you must have a Carbon monoxide Monitor in your home /cottage.

Visit: www.COSafety.ca



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Photo by: Peter Muzik



Marine Safety

By Dick Johnston

Buoys

As mentioned in the spring newsletter an activity I wanted to focus on related to the buoy inventory and the ability to deploy new or replacement buoys as required. Through the efforts of volunteers every situation where a buoy was reported missing was resolved. To streamline the process a portion of the inventory has been relocated to the northern part of Bobs Lake (Long Bay).

For 2016, in addition to the ongoing activities, we would like to replace all of the older tall PVC buoys with the standard yellow ones. This will go a long way to eliminate confusion regarding the various types of buoys on the lake and ensure the GB&CLA buoys are easily recognized by boaters, who know they represent a hazard.

Volunteers

After over 10 years of looking after the marking of hazards on Green Bay, Peter Smallman-Tew is retiring. On behalf of the boaters that have benefited from his efforts, The Greater Bobs and Crow Lake Association would like to offer Peter a well-deserved 'Thank You'. If anyone would like to volunteer to take over looking after the buoys for Green Bay please contact me.

Also, we are looking for a volunteer to assist with marking some hazards in and around Mill Bay. If you are interested please contact me.

Emergency Access to the Lake

In our spring newsletter I mentioned that Joshua Bowes would be visiting a variety of sites around the lake gathering information on potential emergency access points. I would like to thank the owner(s) of the sites for allowing us access to their properties and facilities. Having access to a representative number of sites around the lakes has been very beneficial to this project. To date Josh has visited 18 different locations. Initially we were going to visit each in June, July, August and September. Based on what we were observing with the decreasing water level we added a mid- October measurement since many cottagers still access their residences until Thanksgiving. A draft report has now been produced.

On September 4, 2015 there was a fire on an uninhabited island near the Central Narrows, the same area as a fire last year. After gathering information relating to the response from some of the cottagers involved, I contacted the two chiefs of the fire departments involved (Central and South Frontenac) as well as the Kingston 911 Dispatch organization. I received a very detailed and informative explanation on to how the 911 system works and how the different fire departments are deployed. They offered valuable suggestions and recommendation which we will factor in prior to finalizing the recommended access points. The larger undertaking will be to review with them the final draft report relating to access, road association involvement and access to private property.

While the initial scope of the report is focused on Spring, Summer and Fall access The GB&CL Board members discussed the issue of Winter access and have agreed that we will look at this in the next phase.

Following are some examples of our findings and recommendations:

- Access in the spring is usually better than access in the fall, weather dependent.
- Some access roads and ramps should be maintained or repaired to accommodate larger emergency vehicles.
- The Fire Departments provide the approved access list to the 911 dispatch organizations. These are the only ones the 911 dispatchers may use.
- Unnamed or renamed islands create a location challenge.
- Written permission is required for access to private facilities.
- Owners should keep a list of their civic address, telephone number and a location description in a convenient location. It was noted that in an emergency situation individuals have sometimes provided their home address and telephone number rather than their cottage location. Having this list handy is useful as guest or renters may not know the exact location.

Annual General Meeting

Sean McCaffery from the Ontario Provincial Police's Snowmobile, ATV, Marine Vessel and Enforcement (S.A.V.E.) team attended this year's



AGM. Sean brought with him one of the boats the OPP use to patrol the various waterways throughout the area. Prior to the meeting he answered many questions regarding safety equipment requirements, new registration legislation, and areas of concern regarding enforcement. During the meeting Sean took additional questions highlighting their team's area of operation, ongoing safety issues and trends with respect to enforcement. One of the areas of discussion related to lifejackets and PFDs, the different types, sizing, fit and maintenance.

In the Fall 2015 issue of Cottage Life there is an article that emphasise the importance of wearing a lifejackets or PFD. Only 50 of the 276 boaters who died over the last decade were wearing lifejackets or PFDs. "Sadly, many of the victims may have otherwise survived their ordeal had they chosen to wear this important life-saving equipment," says the OPP.

Ticks and Lyme Disease

Lyme Disease and the ticks responsible for its spread are now established in the area north of the St. Lawrence River according to the Public Health Agency of Canada. This fact means that the residents of Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes are at risk. Now is the time to "get tick smart". Become aware of what a tick looks like, make your environment less favourable for ticks, understand what you can do to prevent tick bites and learn how to remove a tick.

Ticks prefer to live in humid, wooded areas. They are active spring, summer and fall. Symptoms of the disease may include fever, headache, fatigue, muscle and joint pain. These may disappear within 10 days but if left untreated Lyme Disease can progress and affect the nervous system, joints and the heart.

For more information on tics and Lyme Disease check out

www.kflapublichealth.ca or
www.publichealth.gc.ca

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REGENCY VERMONT SECURITY FIREPLACE HAMPTON DODD-FIRE



Photos by: Gerry Holt



FOCA Benefits

The Greater Bobs & Crow Lakes Association's contribution to FOCA would make a difference. As a non-profit, voluntary organization, FOCA relies on the support of its members to achieve their mission:

"To protect thriving and sustainable waterfronts across Ontario."

What are the Benefits that you as a GBCLA member are eligible as a member of FOCA?

Advocacy & Government Relations:

FOCA is the only province-wide voice for Ontario cottagers and waterfront property owners. We keep you up to date on changes in legislation and other timely news. FOCA advocates at the federal, provincial and regional levels on priorities that affect waterfront property owners. Make sure that you and all of your members receive the FOCA Elert to learn about updates on topics that matter. Signup for Elerts online at:

www.foca.on.ca

FOCA Programs & Resources:

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Monitoring Program – information and tools to help you identify and monitor invasive species on your lake or river.

Cottage Succession Seminar Series (Keeping the "Family" in the Family Cottage) – this series presents legal and financial planning considerations to help you prepare to leave the cottage to the next generation. Get the conversation started now, while you have the most options.

Lake Partner program – become a FOCA Lake Steward and monitor phosphorus levels and water clarity in your lake – for free.

Visit the FOCA website at www.foca.on.ca to access cottager-specific answers to your questions. Use the search feature to find information about particular topics.

Use FOCA's news and information from our FOCA Elerts, Newsletters and other print publications on your website and in your newsletters. We only ask that you reference FOCA. Road and lake associations can access administrative resources including the FOCA Roads Specialist and help with online payment

processing for your association dues and the FOCA toolkit!

FOCA Insurance Programs - Access a FOCA discount!

CottageFirst: Cottage, home, and auto insurance specially designed for FOCA members.

Qualifying cottage owners (all members of FOCA member associations) are eligible for posted discounts on their insurance, and qualify for even higher discounts with combined or multiple policies. Contact 1-844-CADE-1ST or visit www.cottagefirst.com for a no-obligation quote.

Road or Directors' Liability Insurance: FOCA's popular liability insurance program provides coverage options applicable to Lake Associations, Road Associations, Land Ownership Associations or Trusts, as well as coverage options for Directors and Officers.

Contact 416-234-9980 or visit www.cadeinsurance.com/foca

Special Pricing & Discount Product Offers: (access codes issued to members)

- Superior Propane– FOCA members pay no installation fee and can access a preferred fixed price offer (for existing propane customers; some restrictions may apply).
- Xplornet – save up to \$99! FOCA members pay no activation fees. Limited time offer; conditions apply.
- Cottage Life Magazine - big discounts on renewals or new subscriptions: 1 year, plus 2 free issues for only \$24.00. Plus, FOCA gives you discounts on Cottage Life show entry.
- Canadian Power & Sail Squadrons – FOCA supporters get \$10 off Pleasure Craft Operator Cards.
- Boats & Places Magazine – FOCA discounts on magazine subscriptions or DVD purchases online at www.store.lifestyleintegrated.com
- Canadian Canoe Museum - All FOCA supporters can redeem a free 1-year Individual Membership to the Canoe Museum.

FOCA will be initiating a new feature beginning this year! Webinars are available on-line to members Check out some of the webinars available such as -Cottage Succession Planning and An Environmental Bill of Rights Discussion. Check out: www.foca.on.ca



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 \$.....

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**Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes Association
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Name: _____

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Magazine by Email: 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):

Big Bobs (Main/West Basin)

Crow Bay

Central Narrows

Long Bay

Green Bay

Buck Bay

Mud Bay Basin

Norris Bay

Bobs Lake East Basin

Crow Lake

Mill Bay

Island Property

Annual membership dues are **\$40.00**. Corporate membership is **\$75**.

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 Dianne Toniolo

31 Acorn Lane

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Membership enquiries: di.toniolo@gmail.com

To pay by **PayPal** visit our website at www.bobsandcrowlakes.ca