

SPRING 2010

Newsletter

www.gulllakecottagers.com



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As my parting message to you as GLCA president, I would like to share a story with you about my life so far on Gull Lake. In the summer of 1993 I was fortunate enough to meet some friends while working together one summer in Toronto, who invited me to Gull Lake. Being oh so young and still in University, I had no idea of what would transpire, but my path had begun. I remember that summer, as it was my first introduction to "cottage life" on Gull. There were constant trips up to the lake in the back seat of a pickup truck, to enjoy boating and waterskiing and bon fires with great guitar music.

People from all walks of life came together to share in the enjoyment of the water and sun, there was a certain magic that brought us together. I specifically remember this one time when this young guy showed up at the dock in a sleek looking boat, looking full of himself, and basking in the glory of the recently purchased J-craft, with all the guys jockeying for position to share in the male hormonal rite of passage a new boat brought.

When summer was over and we all headed back to University for another long winter, it wasn't long after that I met Jon. Jon as it turned out was that cocky young man in the boat I saw on Gull that summer, never mind that our paths crossed in Peterborough (another story altogether). So once again my path lead me to Gull. I'll never forget the first May trip to Gull, as my quote was to the effect "you didn't tell me there'd be bugs!" My first black fly season!

The days became months became years and Jon and I fell into a routine trip of leaving the city at 5:30PM on a Friday to trek as fast as one could north..east...north...east... always taking new routes and exploring ways to beat

the traffic. Always squeezing out every last drop of sun on the Sunday night and then returning back to the City for another quick week of work.

Another routine for us was always to spend time driving that sleek j-craft around the lake, and meeting people along the way. Jon has always had the most amazing matter of fact way of walking up to people and starting up a conversation. There have always been docks to stop at around the lake to shout a friendly hello, share a beer and a story or two about a boat or some gossip.

As we became older and somewhat more responsible, Jon took his cue from Aunt Ruth to join the GLCA as Emergency Service Director... which had something to do with a water pump and Sunday morning meetings with Bloody Mary's. I remember the early years of the AGM, when maybe we'd be lucky to have 25 people show up for some church-like sandwiches of tuna and egg, but It was not long before Jon realized that change was needed. With the introduction of some booze and catered food and a new title of "Social Director" – the crowds surged to what they are today. Serving his full term of 6 years, it was time to pass on the reins and with a little nudge from Aunt Ruth again... she somehow convinced me to be responsible for the Newsletter – as she needed a way out. While working on the newsletter for many years, more responsibilities followed when my fellow board members honored me with the position of President. I had to laugh when I realized here I was, the leader of this great lake association and yet Jon and I were not married, I did not grow up on this lake, and still had yet to see a tax bill. What I did know is that I loved being on Gull Lake.

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Now fast forward to last year, 16 years after my introduction to Gull, life was getting busier; Jon's work kept him in the city on more weekends than not (real estate) and we knew that we were getting a bit old to keep asking if we could invite friends up. So drastically we thought let's get a boat, and not just any boat... but a big boat... one for Lake Ontario. We set off to the Boat Show to hop aboard and see what size would mimic a cottage on the lake. (future reference 35' is about right). We interviewed Yacht clubs and short listed a few to further investigate. Then it all came down to timing. We had joined a club and were frantically searching for "the boat". With the deals in the US – we had short listed some bargains and were about to make the move.... When fate intervened.

When Shakespeare said "beware the Ides of March" he wasn't kidding. March 15th, was the day that changed our life, a cottage not two over from Jon's family cottage came on the market. Now being in real estate we are aware that yes, this happens all the time, but this was special. For the entire 16 years that Jon and I had been traveling up to Gull, this cottage property had been abandoned by its previous owners and left to our wondering imagination. Many times over the years we walked this property with the ambition and dream of what could become of such a lot if we could only own it. In our youth it seems so out of reach and even on that day in March when the listing came up we knew it was a steep price to pay, but then we realized we weren't paying for just a lot, we were setting up our future legacy on Gull. So yes we took the leap and placed our bid, and were successful as on May 10th 2010 we became property owners on Gull Lake. My first trip into Minden this year will be to the land registry office to complete some research. You see this property is also special in that prior to the current owners the lot was owned two other times, and we think the first was by Jon's great grandfather, who purchased the lot back in the 1930's as part of his family legacy. So as we adventure into another chapter of our life on Gull, I leave you as your Gull Lake Cottagers Association President, but join you on paper as a full fledged Gull Lake Cottager – with a place to eventually design and build upon for our future Gull Lake Directors!

Have a great summer and see you on the lake... and yes we still have that J-craft!

Cheers,

Siobhan Carmichael



TREASURER'S REPORT

I am happy to report that our finances are in good order. Last year's statements are currently at the accountant's, but it is safe to say that our income covered our expenses. While this looks good on paper, in reality we have not been increasing our contingency fund for emergency or exceptional expenses, and with the advent of the HST, our costs will inevitably increase. Our highest expenses are still insurance, accounting fees, the AGM, professional memberships, the regatta, water testing and newsletters. We can't do much to lower our insurance and accounting fees, as these are necessities if we want to have an Association. It is important to be part of the Federation of Cottagers' Associations, as it has strong influence on the government, and this year a new association of Haliburton Cottagers has been formed to fight for issues that pertain to our area specifically. Water testing is necessary to ensure the lake stays healthy. The AGM is a major social event of the year, and our food/drink expenses help to insure you will attend! The regatta is, of course, our number one activity of the year. In reality, our income on the day would likely cover our expenses, except that we donate the raffle sales income to the Minden Hospital Auxiliary.

One area where we can reduce costs is the newsletters. An average mailing costs nearly \$1000. This year we have introduced an option wherein you can receive your newsletter by e-mail, at no additional cost, or have it sent by regular post, at a cost of \$10 per year. Due to an error in keying, associates have only been charged \$5, but--be warned!--next year it will be \$10! A few of you are still fortunate enough to live in a world without e-mail; we are sorry to say that this means you must pay the extra \$10.

Our other option, of course, is to increase revenues. We don't want to have to increase fees, so, please, buy more merchandise! Encourage your neighbours to become Association members!

Eat more food at the Regatta!
Help keep those dues down.



Hello members of the GLCA:

I hope you're enjoying the fine spring weather we've been having. It's wonderful to see the leaves on the trees approximately 3 weeks ahead of schedule. We're due for a warm summer so here's hoping that 2010 will be a good one. Here's my news...I've moved to Gull Lake permanently and am very happy to be in one place and I'm looking forward to getting even more involved in the community.

It's been a busy winter in Minden Hills. The construction of the new water tower (and accompanying road work) is well underway. One of the unintended consequences of the Economic Stimulus program is higher prices for goods and services. Ontario has only 2 water tower suppliers and there are many municipalities placing orders. Costs increased by over \$1 million dollars between the Fall of 2008 when the Economic Stimulus program was announced and the Winter of 2009 when we placed our order. The municipal share of this project (1/3) will be funded by the users of the water system so that doesn't affect taxpayers in Ward 2.

Residential taxes will increase, on average, 4.5% in 2010. Your actual increase will depend on your assessment increase. For the fourth time, I have voted "no" to the annual budget. The reason for this is because I think we are spending too much money for a municipality our size and we are not doing enough to find ways to cut costs. For example, employee benefits are forecasted to increase 25% this year. The previous Council added features to the benefits package in 2006 without really understanding the financial impact. Benefits costs have increased 36% since 2007. We need to review the benefits program in Minden Hills and identify options. We cannot simply accept that there is nothing we can do other than transfer the higher costs to taxpayers. Taxes in Minden Hills have increased by over one million dollars since 2006 (32%) with no real change in services. This is unsustainable for permanent and seasonal residents alike.

The Province of Ontario will conduct Municipal Elections on October 25, 2010. I am running for Reeve and have put together a team of 4 who share a common vision for Minden Hills and are going to campaign together. Ken Redpath, a Moore Lake cottager for over 50 years will be running for Councilor, Ward 2. Larry Clarke, a Director with the Haliburton Chamber of Commerce, will be running for Councilor-At-Large. Brigitte Gall, an active member of the arts community, will be running for Councilor in Ward 1. Our first "meet and greet" will take place on Saturday, May 29th at the Lions Club in Minden (Bobcaygeon Road just before Rachel's Bakery) from 10 am until noon. We hope you can stop by. To receive a copy of the campaign brochure, please contact me at barbara.reid@sympatico.ca.

Thank you to the many people who have contacted me this year – it has been my pleasure to provide assistance. I wish all of you a safe and happy summer.

Barbara Reid
Councillor – Ward 2 Township of Minden Hills

It's Election time again!

Who is Eligible to Vote in the Township of Minden Hills Municipal Election?

You may be if:

You are a Canadian Citizen **

**After July 31st – MPAC will be sending out enumeration forms - you must fill these out and return them to MPAC in order to get on the Voters List!!

At Least 18 years of Age

A resident of Minden hills or a non-resident owner or tenant of land in the Township of Minden Hills

Are not prohibited from voting

What are you voting for:

1. Reeve
2. Deputy Reeve
3. Councillor at Large
4. Ward 2 Councillor for Lutterworth Township

When will we know who is running?

Check the Minden Hills website – for ongoing updates - all candidates must be declared by Sept 10, 2010.

www.minden hills.ca/election.html

How do we find out about who the Candidates are?

GLCA will be hosting an all Candidates meeting later in the summer and will invite you to meet the potential candidates and hear them speak.

How can I get more info:

Contact:

Cheryl McCarroll, Clerk

Phone: (705) 286-1260 ext. 214

e-mail: cmccarroll@minden hills.ca

7 Milne Street, Minden, ON, K0M 2K0



IMPORTANT DATES:

**Sept. 10th - Nomination Day -
(9:00 AM - 2:00PM)**

Sept. 27th - Voter Kits mailed out

**Oct. 16th - Last Day to return
ballots by mail**

**Oct. 25th - VOTING DAY -
10AM - 8PM**

TREE AND SHRUB PLANTING PROGRAM 2010!



The Tree Planting Program is back, and bigger than ever. This year, landowners pay only 50% on their tree order, courtesy of Patient News Publishing! Patient News is a publishing company based in Haliburton who specializes in the dentistry field, and is dedicated to being an environmentally responsible company. In a continual effort to reduce their environmental footprint, Patient News is planting 4200 trees! For those who are not familiar with it, the Tree Planting Program is provided by the Haliburton Stewardship Council, in partnership with the Bancroft Area stewardship Council, and is intended for landowners in Haliburton who are interested in restoring or enhancing their woodlots and shorelines with trees and shrubs native to Haliburton's seed zone.

If you are interested in planting trees on your property, and would like more information about the planting process and site preparation, please visit the web site for forms and more info.

www.ontariostewardship.org/councils/haliburton/

Workshops are hosted by Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Trees Ontario, Ontario Forestry Association (OFA), and local partners. For any groups or organizations that are interested in applying on behalf of multiple landowners, each planting site must have its own application and photos of the planting site. To discuss further options on how your group can carry out such an endeavour, please contact us via E-mail: hhsc.intern@gmail.com, or phone: (705)286-5205

Membership Report

In 2009, we had **238** Primary members, **46** Associate members and 1 Corporate member. As of mid-April, approximately 70% have renewed. Many people wait till the AGM to renew; if you know some of them, please encourage them to renew immediately. In particular, they will not receive the May newsletter (the one you are reading right now) if they have not paid their dues. If they have lost their forms, they are available via our website.

www.GullLakeCottagers.com

Some people are still confused about what constitutes a Primary and an Associate membership. Basically, you need one Primary membership per cottage, a cottage being defined as a building with full living facilities (i.e., not just a bunkie). This Primary membership then covers one family unit in the cottage. As far as family units go, we don't care if you're married or not, same sex or not, you and your significant other are covered, as are your dependent children. However, once your children create a new family unit using the same cottage, they each need to become Associate members. In turn, this covers their partners and dependent children. If they build/buy a second cottage, they need to enroll as Primary members. If you're not sure what applies to you, please contact us and we'll try to figure it out for you!



**IT'S BACK -
THE GLCA PHONE DIRECTORY
WILL BE READY THIS MAY FOR
PICKUP AT THE AGM
AVAILABLE FREE TO PRIMARY
MEMBERS, \$ 10 TO
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.**

Insect Bite Remedy...



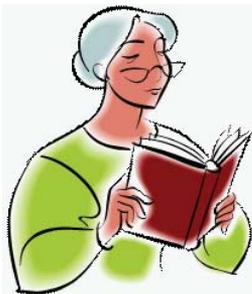
There are two really good ways of dealing with this very miserable problem. The first one is to take a baking soda bath. Fill up the bathtub with warm water and add 2 cups of baking soda.

Stir it around with your hand until the baking soda dissolves. Soak for at least 30 minutes. This will help draw out toxins from the bits and will help neutralize the itching. It will also help soothe the skin from the bites.

The other excellent treatment is an oatmeal bath. Follow the same procedure as for the baking soda bath, except add 1 cup of powdered milk to the bath as well. Again, soak for about 30 minutes. This bath especially has extra benefit of leaving your skin very soft and conditioned.

Spending the summer on Gull ... why not volunteer...

Hyland Crest Long-Term Care Home in Minden requires volunteers for a palliative care team. This involves sitting with patients who are terminally ill. No nursing care is involved. The volunteer may talk to the patient or read to them, play music on the radio



or CD, or just sit quietly in the room. Many of the residents do not have family who stay locally, or if they do, then the family members often need a spell off from the stress of providing care to their relative. This is where volunteers come in, to offer their

continuing support. There are no fees charged for this service. Training and refresher courses are available throughout the year as needs are determined. The time involved is not excessive and is arranged to suit the caregiver. Anyone interested should contact Nancy at Hyland Crest 705-286-2140 or Corinne at 705-489-3330.

Strawberry Spinach Salad

Ingredients:

1/2 cup white sugar
2 tablespoons sesame seeds
1/2 teaspoon sesame oil
1 tablespoon poppy seeds
1 1/2 teaspoons dried minced onion 1/4 teaspoon paprika
1/2 cup vegetable oil
1/2 cup balsamic vinegar
2 bunches fresh spinach - chopped, washed and dried
1 pint strawberries, halved

Directions:

1. Whisk together the sugar, sesame seeds, sesame oil, poppy seeds, dried onion, paprika, oil and vinegar. Refrigerate until chilled.
2. In a salad bowl, combine the spinach and strawberries. Drizzle with dressing, toss lightly and serve.

Weather Lore Sayings

To celebrate this spring's crazy weather, here are some weather sayings you may not have heard of and one you most definitely have:

1. If it thunders on All Fool's Day, it brings good crops of corn and hay.
2. A cold May and a windy April, a full barn.
3. The louder the frog, the more the rain.
4. If the oak is out before the ash then we are in for a splash, But if the ash is out before the oak we are in for a soak.
5. March'll search ye, April try ye; May'll tell, whether live or die ye.
6. Rain before seven, fine before eleven.
7. Sounds traveling far and wide, A rainy day will betide.
8. A cow with its tail to the west, makes weather the best; A cow with its tail to the east, makes weather the least.



GULL LAKE REGATTA

Saturday July 31st 2010

FOOD BOOTH Opens at 11:00am

CHILDREN'S RACES – (under 12) Starts at 11:00am

WATERFRONT EVENTS Starts at 12:00 Noon

SWIMMING

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Boys and girls swim 8 & under | 2. Boys 9 & 10 |
| 3. Girls 9 & 10 | 4. Boys 12 & under freestyle (T) |
| 5. Girls 12 & under freestyle (T) | 6. Boys 16 & under freestyle (B) |
| 7. Girls 16 & under freestyle (B) | |



CANOEING

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 8. Boys crab 12 & under (T) | 9. Girls crab 12 & under (T) |
| 10. Boys single 12 & under (T) | 11. Girls single 12 & under (T) |
| 12. Boys crab 16 & under (B) | 13. Mixed double 12 & under (T) |
| 14. Girls crab 16 & under (B) | 15. Mixed in & out 12 & under (T) |
| 16. Grandparent & grandchild open* | 17. Parent & child open |
| 18. Boys single 16 & under (B) | 19. Girls single 16 & under (B) |
| 20. Boys gunwhale 16 & under (B) | 21. Mixed double 16 & under (B) |
| 22. Girls gunwhale 16 & under (B) | 23. Mixed in & out 16 & under (B) |
| 24. Men's single 17 & over (M) | 25. Womens single 17 & over (M) |
| 26. Men's double 17 & over (M) | 27. Women's double 17 & over (M) |
| 28. Mixed double 17 & over (M) | 29. Mixed war canoe open** |
| 30. Mixed Terrain *** | |

Notes: *For parent & child and grandparent & grandchild open canoe races, the child and grandchild must be at least 8 years old. ** Mixed War : must have a min. of (1) female per team ***Mixed Terrain; Limited to teams of 3 persons per team. Only one member of a team may be under 17 years of age (minimum 1 female per team). The first runs, the second swims and the third paddles!

(T) Treadgold Trophy events + (B) Bedlington Cup events + (M) Minto Cup events





Fish Friendly Dock Structures

Choose a dock design that best suits your needs. Work done in and around water may require an approval or a permit. Fisheries and Oceans Canada has produced "Operational Statements" which provide advice on activities that include Dock Construction and aquatic weed removal. There is often no need for Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) to review the project provided the conditions and measures in the Operational Statements are followed. You can also contact your local Conservation Authority or local office of the MNR when planning to install a dock. They can direct your inquiry and let you know what steps you need to consider prior to beginning any construction on the shoreline.

Floating Dock

- Simply designed and easy to build
- Causes minimal direct disruption of lake bed
- Minimal shading of aquatic plants
- Free flow of water underneath
- Least environmental impact

Pipe Dock

- Little contact with lake bed
- Minimal shading of aquatic plants
- Adjustable to water fluctuations
- Free flow of water underneath
- Minimal environmental impact

Crib Dock

- Imported rubble and rock in crib bed
- Covers large area of submerged ground, smothering everything beneath
- May provide structure in otherwise sterile lake bed environments

Permanent Pile Dock

- Requires professional installation
- Minimal contact with lake bed
- Free flow of water underneath

Work done in or around the water (including building a beach, dredging, constructing a pond, removing sunken logs, building a dock, or controlling aquatic plants) must not result in the harmful alteration, disruption, or destruction of fish habitat and it is important to plan your project with these things in mind.

To ensure the protection of fish habitat, contact your local Conservation Authority, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and Fisheries and Oceans Canada. If your lot fronts onto the Trent Severn Waterway or any of its associated lakes, please contact Parks Canada.

"Watch Your Wake!"

Here are some important reminders the next time you are out on the lake:

- 10 km/h within 30 metres of the shoreline is the law!
- Always avoid waterfowl nests and other sensitive wildlife habitat.
- Always follow safe refueling guidelines to avoid polluting water.
- Consider using non-lead fishing tackle.
- Obey posted speed limits and "No Wake" zones and know your boat's wake-free speed.
- Remember that operating your boat on plane creates a smaller wake than when 'plowing' through the water at lower speeds.

The impact of our recreational activities on lake ecosystems can be small or large depending on the choices we make. By limiting the negative effects of our actions and choosing low impact recreation activities, lake users will enjoy a better relationship with their human and wildlife neighbors.



EVENTS:

GLCA - AGM - Sunday May 23rd. - 1:00 PM

Join us at Kilcoo Camp at 1:00 PM for our annual General Meeting. Find out what's happening this summer on Gull Lake. Vote in your new Board of Directors, and meet your friends.

Election Candidates - Meet & Greet -- Saturday May 29th -

Come out and Meet your candidates at the Lions Club in Minden (Bobcaygeon Road just before Rachel's Bakery) from 10 am until noon.

Canada Day Events - Minden Thursday July 1 -

Celebrate Canada Day in Minden with the whole family. Don't forget to enter the Crazy River Race and watch the fire works!

Gull Lake Sailing Regatta Saturday July 24th - 1:00 PM

Calling all sailors - now's your chance to compete in the annual Sailing Regatta for the Duncan Trophy. Race time is 1:00 PM start in and around Gull Rock. Rain date is Sunday.

Gull Lake Regatta - 11:00 AM Saturday July 31st - U of T Survey Camp

Bring out the whole family for this fun day of Kids races, swimming and canoeing competitions, hot dogs, GLCA Merchandise and more!

HALIBURTON COUNTY FARMERS' MARKET - Friday Afternoons - Starting June 18 - 1:00 - 5:00

BUY LOCAL! BUY FRESH! Healthy for you, your environment, and your community. Located beside the restaurant, That Place in Carnarvon near intersection of hwy's 35 and 118. Contact Market Manager Angela McGreevy at 705 457 9843 or angelamcgreevy@rocketmail.com

FOR SALE:

Strato F2 sailboard fiberglass mast, two sails, lifejacket and harness, excellent condition, not used the last several years.

\$550.00

cottage 705-286-2980;

city 905-727-0865.

Ron Mockford, Sandy Bay Road.



Landfill hours of Operation

Scotch Line -

Summer Hours - May 1 to September 30 -
9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily, 9:00 a.m. to
9:00 p.m. Sundays and Holidays.

Little Gull -

Summer Hours - May 1 to September 30 -
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Wednesdays, 1:00 to
5:00 p.m. Saturdays, 12:00 noon to 8:00
p.m. Sundays and 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.
Holiday Mondays.

Iron Mine -

Summer Hours - May 1 to September 30 -
1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays,
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Thursdays, 12:00
noon to 8:00 p.m. Sundays and 12:00 noon
to 6:00 p.m. Holiday Mondays.

WHEN ARE THE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAYS?

Household Hazardous Waste Days for 2010 will be held at
the : **Scotch Line Landfill Site**
from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on
May 22nd, July 3rd, July 31st, September 4th and October
9th

ACCEPTABLE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE MATERIALS

Latex and Oil Paints, Finishing Products, e.g. varnish,
glues, etc.; Used Motor Oil; Auto and Household Batteries;
Propane Tanks and Cylinders; Cleaners, e.g. bleach, oven
cleaner, etc.; Aerosol Cans; Solvents, e.g. varsol, paint
thinners, etc.; Pesticides and Herbicides; Pool and Photo-
graphic Chemicals

UNACCEPTABLE WASTE CLASSES

Industrial Waste; Needles/Sharps; PCB's; Radioactives;
Pathological

**LANDFILL USER IDENTIFICATION CARDS MUST
BE SHOWN**