



October 2011

Dock Talk is a publication of the Healey Lake Property Owners Association (HLPOA)

From the President

Dan MacLeod

Unfortunately, another summer cottage season is behind us. There were several enquiries regarding the Lake level being low and many cottagers were wondering if the dam was at fault. Fear not, the dam is performing well, the hot summer sun and lack of rain were the culprits of the water level dropping.

Accomplishments for this season were: a successful Regatta thanks and congratulations to the volunteers and the executive. This years Bottle drive was the BEST one ever. A large contingent of volunteers braved long hours in the hot sun to make this happen, not to mention the generous donations from our members.

To reiterate, when recognizing a medical emergency, call 911. If you see a fire, please call either one of the marinas or the Lodge; they live here and also know who is here to help.

There will be some changes in the new year, we are looking for a person to fill the position of Secretary, the job description is listed on this page and can be seen online on our website. Jim Gilchrist is leaving the position of Treasurer. He will be missed and I want to acknowledge his years of service for the Association.

The position of Treasurer has been filled by Dave Duggan. I want to pledge our support to Dave and all the best in his new position. Dave will bring experience to this position and also be responsible for the website.

Take care and have a safe and happy winter season, and as always, if there are any questions or concerns regarding your Lake or the Association, please contact me.

E-mail: danjohnmac@rogers.com



HLPOA Secretary

- Host executive meetings at their cottage (generally 4-5 per year & currently held on Sunday morning).
- Advise members of the executive of the date and time of executive meetings.
- Record minutes at executive meetings and distribute minutes as agreed upon.
- Record minutes at the annual and semi-annual meetings and distribute as agreed upon.
- Equipment: requires a laptop or willingness to take notes by hand.

Interested! Contact Dan MacLeod

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Overcoming Challenges ... HLPOA Website

Dave Duggan

The HLPOA website has had some struggles this summer with respect to the webcam. Unlike many other webcams in the area, this one was wireless which allowed us to put the webcam on the water's edge for an up-close view of the lake, including a detailed view of the winter freeze and thaw.

We ran into problems as a result of the combination of the wireless connection and the sometimes sporadic Internet connection that is available in the area. After many hours, unsuccessfully trying to fix the problem, we decided to go back to a 'wired' option.

Our camera, now up and running is now connected via a very long computer (150 foot) cable which should withstand the cold winter conditions that are approaching. New pictures are provided every 15 minutes. A big thank you to Charlie Smith for hosting the camera (and our many intrusions) and Matt Bryant, our website programmer, who does all of the hard work behind the scenes from London, Ontario.



Our website now looks a little different. We have done a small 'facelift' to the site that will allow us to change many items more easily. The change should help to reduce or eliminate the 'junk' that has been finding its way onto the Guestbook. The updated site is now live so be sure to visit it soon.

We have added a tab for the **Volunteer of the Year Award**, and we continue to try to improve the functionality of the website. Appropriate new items will continue to be added as suggested.

OOPS! In the last issue we gave credit to Barb Jones for all the regatta pictures used in the August issue of Dock Talk. However, Barb was not our only roving photographer. Thanks also goes to Bev Kyro.

Stay connected!

Councillor's Corner

Grant Walker, Ward 6

Of concern in the Township

There is a change in what people are seeking when they come into cottage country. Today they have very different ideas, outlooks and values than did the old "pioneer" types that settled in the Township.

People today are looking for a wilderness experience with all the urban conveniences and do not necessarily understand how fragile this area is and how difficult, if not impossible it is to save water and forest once it starts to decline.

The Township is planning to work with property owners' associations to educate and encourage good practices to keep this prized and precious area safe.

Next year the Township should have a conference focused on this problem at Deer Horn [Lodge]. We encourage everyone to support their association's participation.

Prevent false 911 calls

False 911 calls from cell phones are growing and putting a strain on the system as each call must be followed up and the phone is a moving target.

Please secure your phone so you do not accidentally activate a 911 call. We don't want anyone to suffer because of accidental calls.





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Great Blue Heron

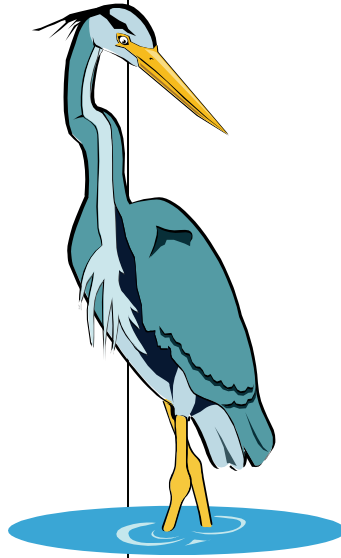
Nancy Gilchrist

Well once again our wonderful summer has come to a close but I would be remiss if I didn't write something for the newsletter about one of the feathered friends found on our lake. In this issue I have chosen to write about the **Great Blue Heron** who you will see in different parts of our lake fishing in the swampy areas or flying high above the lake squawking loudly if you have disturbed him.

The great blue heron can live both around salt and freshwater environments. They inhabit sheltered, shallow bays and inlets, swamps, shores of lakes and rivers. They are blue gray in colour with a black stripe above each eye extending to the back of the neck as a plume. Their bill is long, large and yellowish and the legs are long and grayish with reddish thighs. They have a deep, raspy call that sounds like 'frank'. As well as the frank call you may hear herons clucking, snapping their beaks or mooing like a calf.

The Great Blue Heron is the largest heron in North America. It is between 1.3 metres and 1.4 metres tall and the biggest herons are taller than many Grade 3 students. The sexes are much alike (in colour and plumage) unlike other birds, however the males are slightly bigger than the female. Their wingspread can be as large as 1.8 metres and they weigh between 2 kilograms and 3.5 kilograms.

During the breeding season their colour is more vibrant. Great blue herons nest together in colonies, otherwise known as a 'heronry' and are very sensitive to the effects of human disturbances. Their nesting sites are usually areas away from human activity. They often nest in the tops of trees, rock ledges and as well on the ground and are called "rookeries". Although Great Blue Herons are common and widespread, disturbance during a breeding season may lead to nest failure or colony abandonment.



The female great blue heron lays 3 to 7 eggs on a shallow platform made of sticks and twigs and lined with soft material that can be 1.2 meters in diameter. Both male and female will take turns incubating the eggs. Both parents will also regurgitate food for their young. The eggs hatch in about a month and the chicks will first start flying when they are about two months old although they will continue to return to the nest and are fed by the adults for another few weeks. They are not known to be very good house-keepers and their nests often end up cluttered with droppings, leftover food and even dead chicks. Pair

bonds only last for the nesting season and adults will form new bonds each year. They usually nest in the same spot from year to year. They may even use the same nest year after year. About 70% of their young die in the first year of life. Herons that survive and live in the wild can survive until at least 23 years of age.

The variable diet allows them to exploit a variety of habitats. This adaptability also enables them to winter farther north than most herons. They eat fish, frogs, snakes, small mammals, land insects, other birds and some plants.

When herons catch mice, they swallow them whole. They can digest the bones, but not the fur. That gets spit up in pellets, similar to the pellets that owls produce. The heron can be seen throughout the southern and central regions of Ontario year round. Rarely will the heron winter in the province but it is not unheard of.

The Great Blue fishes both by day and night in two different methods. They are solitary or small group foragers. Their feeding habit is known as "stand and wait". They either stand motionless or walk slowly and fish. If they catch a small fish it will immediately swallow it however if the fish is too large it will take it to shore and kill it by beating it into the ground or jab it continuously with its sharp beak. Then it will pick it

Great Blue Heron cont'd page 6

Great Blue Heron cont'd from page 5

apart by biting off bits and pieces. Sometimes herons overestimate their capacity. They have been known to choke to death on large fish.

When they are in flight they can fly between 30 and 46 kilometres per hour with slow wing beats. Most commonly, this bird is mistaken for a Crane, and this feature will help to avoid that mistake. In flight, the neck of a Crane is extended straight out ahead of them. This differs from the heron as they take off their long neck becomes curved backward into their shoulders, forming an S-shape, where it stays until they land.

Though not formally listed in the Species At Risk Act, protection of great blue heron habitat is critical to the survival of this majestic bird in Ontario. So if you are aware of the birds nesting sites watch from afar. These are beautiful birds and we want to keep enjoying their beauty on Healey Lake for years to come.



Have a wonderful winter everyone and see you in 2012.

Cottage Watch Patrol

Susan & Peter Arnold

It's that time of year again! Most people are or have closed up the cottage for the season, and only 'hardy cottagers' return for our winter fun.

As you are aware, your membership fee includes a routine check of your property by volunteers from our lake. We are very grateful for all the volunteers we had over the years, and it would be nice to reduce the load on some patrollers if we could get a few more volunteers. Please help your cottage community!

This is the time where we can protect your property as well as your neighbours. Damage from snow loads, fallen trees or break-ins can occur when you are not aware of it. It will only take a bit of your time to patrol a few properties that will be designated to you, just for January-March.

If you can help, please contact us at Lakeshore Marina, 705-375-5289 or e-mail info@lakeshoremarina.com.

Thanks and have a safe and happy season!

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Keeping Our Forest Healthy

Did you know?

White pine blister rust is the most destructive disease of white pine. It is a disease that can attack white pines of any age or size.



Source: BioForest Technologies Inc.
Pests of the White Pine
http://www.bioforest.ca/UploadedFiles/files/pests_of_white_pine_june_05.pdf

Membership Update

Sharon Tosswill

Hello to everyone. I am pleased to let you know we have **227** members this year. If you know of a cottage that changed hands, please let me know so the new owners can be welcomed to the lake.

What a terrific summer we had at the lake. Some of us will now get to enjoy the winter season on the lake. Hope everyone has a wonderful winter and see you in the spring.

Sharon Tosswill, Membership Secretary
Home Tel: 905-275-6834
Cottage Tel: 705-375-1357

Celebrating 50 Years ... on the Northwest Bay

Lynda Reid & Barb Martin

On Saturday September 3rd, 23 neighbours from 6 cottages gathered on Gord and Tel Martin's deck for a pot luck supper to celebrate 50 years on Healey Lake.

In 1961 the crown opened 12 properties on the north west bay of the lake. Clearing of most of the properties began in the summer of 1961 and construction the following year.

Of the original owners Van and Pat Robson, Gord and Tel Martin and Lillie Sainio were present. Lloyd and Lynda Reid have carried on since the passing of his parents, Harvey and Dorothy Reid. Frank and Julie Mifsud were celebrating 25 years on the bay. The party was joined by relative newcomers, Dawn and Marty O'Leary. Their cottage sits on one of three lots opened recently at the end of the bay.

An interesting mix of generations with ages ranging from 18 months to 85 years came to celebrate with the original owners. Over the years, many parents, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren have enjoyed summer activities on this bay. Many at the party remembered the days before telephone and electricity. We all enjoyed renewing friendships and remembering the past 50 years.

Healey Lake Golf Tournament

Peter Hintze

2011 Healey Lake Golf Tournament was held on September 17th at Muskoka Woodlands (nice local 9 hole course). Again this year we had dinner and prizes right after golf. The weather was great! A perfect hot day for September. The bus was available for those who chose to use it.

and the winners are ...

- Low gross for men - John Hynes
- Low net for men - Grant Stummer
- Closest to the pin - Leo Hintze
- Longest drive - John Hynes





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West Parry Sound Health Centre (WPSHC) An Update

Did you know?


The West Parry Sound Health Centre cares for a community that fluctuates from 20,000 to 121,000 seasonally.



The WPSHC Foundation is currently addressing top and medium priorities needs that have been identified by the medical staff. Approximately \$1.9 million will be required to meet these needs which include :

- \$200,000 **Unit Dose Machine for the Pharmacy,**
- \$150,00 to replace the **C-Arm for Surgery**— relying currently on a borrowed one from Huntsville. (The C-Arm provides images of highest precision directly in OR),
- \$316,694 to replace **3 anesthetic machines for Surgery,**
- 2 new \$13,325 **Anatomical Pathology Verification Systems** (they reduce sample misidentification in the Lab)
- the local installation of **Electronic Health Records (EHR).**—an integrated digital system that will save time and lives by providing quick access to crucial patient information.

Contact: www.wpshc.com Tel: 705 746 -4540




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MP1110 (02/2008)

Getting The Lowdown on Bubblers

Question: Is approval for a bubbler system required under the Navigable Waters Protection Act

A bubbler is a system of pipelines on the bed that injects air or water into the water column. It creates turbulent waters around the boat or dock preventing the formation of thick ice. Pipelines resting on the bed of the water or suspended in the water column may need approval.

Fans can also prevent ice freezing in much the same way. Fans are suspended in the water column and circulate the natural water. Temporary fans suspended in the water do not require approval in the winter. Placing a bubbler in the water year round requires checking with the ministry office identified below

A Navigable Waters Protection Act (NWPA) approval may be required for the bubbler system itself, but the Act does not apply to the opening created during the winter season (e.g. frozen water when navigation is not possible). .

Source: <http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/oep-nwpp-faqs-202.htm#c3>

Question: What are the legal responsibilities regarding the opening created by a bubbler system.

The action of safeguarding the ice and the hole that is created is a criminal code responsibility. It falls under the Criminal Code Section 263 - *Offences Against the Person* : “*Duty to safeguard opening in ice*”. There are no specifications as to how people are to do this. They must use their own judgment as to what is adequate in their particular situation. Contact your local OPP office and discuss what is required to safeguard the opening.

Duty to safeguard opening in ice

263. (1) Every one who makes or causes to be made an opening in ice that is open to or frequented by the public is under a legal duty to guard it in a manner that is adequate to prevent persons from falling in by accident and is adequate to warn them that the opening exists.

Excavation on land

(2) Every one who leaves an excavation on land that he owns or of which he has charge or supervision is under a legal duty to guard it in a manner that is adequate to prevent persons from falling in by accident and is adequate to warn them that the excavation exists.

Offences

- (3) Every one who fails to perform a duty imposed by subsection (1) or (2) is guilty of
- (a) manslaughter, if the death of any person results there from;
 - (b) an offence under section 269, if bodily harm to any person results there from; or
 - (c) an offence punishable on summary conviction.

Source: Caroline Deary

Navigable Waters Protection Officer
Transport Canada

28 Waubeek Street ,Parry Sound, ON, P2A 1B9

Telephone: 705-774-9095 E-mail: caroline.deary@tc.gc.ca



Peter Hintze, Mariners Cove Marina has very kindly provided his insight related to safeguards and bubblers. Peter indicates that the area must be identified at all times by a red light and as well a sign must be posted that can be seen from all approaches .

Always confirm with our local OPP detachment regarding what is required in our area.

**Danger
Thin Ice
Open Water**

The Last Word

Nancy Simpson rn.simpson@sympatico.ca

As always I start out thinking that I don't have enough content for an issue of *Dock Talk* and then end up having to squeeze things in. Presented as we do in a booklet format, *Dock Talk* requires that the number of pages be a multiple of four so we do not end up with blank pages and a lot of waste.

I am seldom asked to write on a specific topic but Barb Jones suggested that it was time for an article on bubblers. I like research and bubblers required just that. I want to thank Caroline Deary with Transport Canada for helping me wade through the fine print associated with the requirements and legalities related to bubblers.

Having worked in health care for a lot of years, I am always interested in what is going on at the West Parry Sound Health Center and the challenges faced in servicing a community that fluctuates with seasonal residents and tourists. When you are considering your end of the year financial donations, you may want to consider how fortunate we are to have this facility in our back yard.

While the summer season for my family got off to a somewhat rocky start, the fact that we spent a good part of the summer at the lake was a real bonus and one for which we are very thankful. Even though our son Rob and son-in-law Daryl were shingling our new boat house in rain and sleet showers, the building is pretty well finished with the exception of the final inspection. Already the building is full.

Despite a great summer, close-up time for me is always filled with a mixture of emotion. Memories, the happy and sad come rushing back. I remember the year that my Mom & Dad waved to their friend on their last trip down the lake for that season. In a matter of days they would learn that this friend, who in the midst of cleaning his boat gave a hearty wave had passed away. That friend was Les Horton and I never leave the lake for the final trip of the season or pass what was his and Isabelle's cottage without thinking about how blessed we are to have each day and this sanctuary called Healey Lake.

And in part, Les was responsible for us knowing that Healey Lake existed. We also marked the passing this summer of long time friend and Healey Laker -Gladys Johnson. The Johnson family and now as well the Bennett family have been our friends and neighbours from our first days at Healey Lake—back when two 5 h.p. motors and two 10 foot wooden boats built from kits seemed like a big deal.

My thanks to our advertisers and to John King who recruits and coordinates all the advertisements and a special thank you to all who have contributed to the 2011 issues of *Dock Talk*.

Early as it seems, I wish you and your family the blessing and joy of the Christmas Season.

Until the next time. *Nancy*

Tis the season ...

Christmas Breakfast (more popular at our house than the turkey) **Source: Make It Now, Bake It Later**

Make it the day before and it bakes happily while you open your gifts Christmas morning!


- 7 slices white bread (regular, not thin sliced)
- 2 pkgs (4 oz. each) shredded cheddar cheese
- 6 eggs
- 3 cups of milk
- ½ tsp salt
- ¼ tsp pepper
- 1 tsp. dry mustard
- 3 strips of bacon, cut in half.

Trim crusts from bread. Crumble bread. Mix bread and cheese and spread in bottom of 7 ½ " x 12" greased flat baking dish.

1. Beat eggs and milk together and stir in salt, pepper and mustard. Pour this over bread-cheese.
2. Lay bacon on top.
3. Refrigerate over night.
4. Bake uncovered the next morning at 350° for 50 - 55 minutes.
5. Remove from oven after guests sit down; otherwise it tends to sink - may not look as glamorous but tastes every bit as good.

A hint or two ...

I pre cook the bacon a little bit and use more bacon than this recipe calls for. Choose the dish carefully—one that can go from fridge to oven; otherwise let it warm up before putting it in a hot oven.



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Golf Tournament cont'd from p. 7

Thanks also to the following who donated prizes which helped to make it an exciting day:

- Laurie Timms
- Dan Macleod
- Eric Collier
- St.Onge Recreation (Joe Racco)
- Bob Byrne
- Mariners Cove
- Adams Golf (Brian Beatty)
- Bayview Chev Olds (Jim Porter)
- Six Point Plastics (Grant Stummer)



And also to Muskoka Woodlands for a job well done, ensuring that the sun was shining and everything went smoothly. A big thank you as well to Hammond Bus Lines.

- 2012 Golf Tournament is tentatively scheduled for Sept.15th.

Your 2011 Golf Tournament coordinators were Peter Hintze, Grant Stummer and John Hynes. Thanks again to all who attended, donated, and helped out to make this event a great success.



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