



January 2011



From the President

Special points of interest:

- Ontario's New Mining Act
- Property Tax Update
- Help us to save Money
- Executive Notes
- Fundraising
- Contact Information

As I sit and write, the snow is falling on frozen Cordova Lake. We've had many inches of very heavy snow, wonderful for a walk, not so great to shovel. It's that time of year, very quiet and really quite beautiful up here for those of you who have not had the privilege of spending winter time at the cottage. We do enjoy the peace and quiet of winter but long for the wonderful summer days when the hub of activity returns. Living here at this time of year is like being on an island when everyone leaves for the mainland and only a few die-hards stay behind.

There are a few additions to our newsletter this time around. As most of you are aware we've have had to come up with new ideas for fundraising as our regatta has been put on hold (hopefully, only temporarily). Last summer we had a 50/50 draw and raised over \$2400.00 with half of that going to the lucky winner Pat Humphrey and the other half to the CLCA.

Our first go at advertising will raise just over \$700.00 in revenue for this newsletter and hopefully even more for our summer edition. Ideas on how we can raise funds are more than welcome. Please feel free to send us an email outlining your suggestions. I'd like to wish everyone all the best in 2011.

Take care and see you in the spring.

Joanne Butkevics



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www.cordovalake.ca

We are trying to make the Cordova Lake website as useful to you as possible. To this end, we are compiling a list of tradespeople and businesses which have been recommended to us. The entries to date have been placed on the website. We assume no liability for these services but feel that you may find the contact information to be helpful. Should you know of someone whose name or business should or should not be added to our list, please forward the information to Melanie.

To facilitate communication we would ask that you use one of the following three methods to contact the CLCA.

Mail:

RR1, Site 5, Comp. 63

Havelock, ON K0L 1Z0

Phone: 613-472-6166

Email:

melaniejmacleod@gmail.com

***Please note that this is a new email address.**

Property Taxation Update



According to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporations's (MPAC) 2008 Annual Report, the accuracy of their assessments, as measured by the Assessment-to-Sale Ratio (ASR), is well within the performance standards prepared by the International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO). This being said, it is more difficult to accurately assess unique, rural properties especially in areas with few or no comparative sales. For this reason, rural waterfront properties pose a unique challenge which is well-served by ensuring MPAC has your property valuation right.

In early 2010, WRAFT (Waterfront Ratepayers After Fair Taxation) circulated information to all members in an effort to help concerned property owners ensure their property was assessed at the proper value. Under the new four-year averaging system of property assessment, homeowners can still appeal a given year's property assessment up until March 31. This information about how to proceed if you are incorrectly assessed is available on the Property Tax program pages of the FOCA website, or at www.wraft.com.



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High Speed Internet

We are pleased to report that the tower is up and that a number of people have been connected! Your secretary is hoping to join their ranks shortly!

If you wish to have this service and have not yet signed up for it, please contact Nexicom directly or phone Dave (705-775-1144) at Cottage Country Books in Havelock.

Road Safety

We owe a debt of thanks to those unknown people who wrote to the HBM council asking that a yellow line be painted down the middle of Vansickle Road in order that it might be safer. Thanks, too, go to Angie Racey who was persistent with phone calls to HBM. She also phoned other municipalities to compare pricing for the materials and she even went out for a drive with HBM staff to ensure that the line was painted as it should be. The job was finished just prior to the election.

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Towards Implementing Ontario's New Mining Act

FOCA was pleased last Fall when Bill 173, an Act to Amend Ontario's Mining Act, passed Third Reading in the legislature and received Royal Assent. This modernization to the mineral development process in Ontario allows for updated and improved regulations and policies which will be phased in over the next three to five years.

FOCA is aware that their member associations have had many issues with the Mining Act including:

- Claim staking and exploration on private residential property where the land owner only owns the surface rights while the Crown continues to hold the mining rights.

- Exploration activities that have seriously damaged the environment on Crown land which is regularly

used for recreation and tourism related activities, and related off-site impacts of exploration.

- The exemption of exploration and mine development activities from full environmental assessments to identify the full range of economic, environmental, social and health impacts of proposed development prior to commencing activities on the land.

- The fact that municipalities and municipal official plans have no jurisdiction over developments, including mining, on Crown lands within their territory.

- The continued lack of appeal for certain decisions made by the Ministry.

When fully implemented the new

Act has the potential for addressing several areas of concern. A primary focus of the process is on developing mechanisms for consultation with First Nations as required by the Supreme Court of Canada.

One notable change which took effect immediately on the Act being proclaimed in Fall 2009 was the withdrawal of Crown-held mining rights from staking in Southern Ontario (south of the French River), where only the surface rights are privately held. Existing mining claims and leases are respected, however should those mining claims or leases revert back to the Crown, those mining rights will be automatically withdrawn.

FOCA will continue to work on behalf of its members for a mining and exploration system in Ontario that integrates more effectively with broad community interests, and the long-term health of our waterfronts. For more information, please visit the mining pages at www.foca.on.ca.

FOCA cautiously supports the revisions to the Act which appear to strengthen the rights of private property owners and which signal greater attention to environmental issues. However, they recognize that the real impact of the proposed changes will not be known until the new regulations are finalized.



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If you move or change your email address, please send your new contact information to Melanie. See cover page for specifics.

Hogue Cottage for Sale: Entire Structure

Price \$2,500.
 Details: A local building contractor confirmed they can move the cottage in 3 sections to be placed on desired lot. The cost of moving will be the purchasers responsibility.

Cottage has 3 bedrooms, kitchen, dining/living room and 2 bathrooms complete with toilet/sink/shower. The master bedroom has ensuite bathroom.

Cottage was built on piers and is a very sound structure.

For further details contact Sean Hogue:
 Phone: 905 655 5035

email: sean.hogue@distance.com



Don't Invite Bears to the Cottage!

Most problems between black bears and humans occur when bears are attracted by the smell of and rewarded with an easy meal. When bears pick up a scent with their keen noses, they will investigate it - even at your

cottage property. If bears are rewarded with feasts of bird food, garbage or pet food, they will return as long as the food source continues to be available. It takes all cottagers working together to eliminate these attractants and to stop bear problems. Here are some tips to help avoid these unwanted visitors.

What cottagers can do:

Fill bird feeders only through the winter months.

Never purposely feed bears (or other wildlife) or try to approach them.

Store garbage in a bear-resistant container, secure shed or garage. Do not store garbage in plywood boxes, old freezers or vehicles.

Do not stockpile garbage, take it to the dump frequently.

Never leave garbage behind. Take it to the dump or to your home.

Keep meat scraps in the freezer until garbage day.

Do not leave pet food outdoors. Feed pets indoors, not outside or in screened in areas or porches.

Remove grease and food residue from barbecue grills, including the grease cup underneath, after each use.

Do not put meat, fish or sweet food (including fruit) in your composter.

Pick all ripe fruit off trees, and remove vegetables and fallen fruit from the ground.

Encourage your neighbours to practice good Bear Wise habits.

If you rent your cottage, tell your tenants the importance of being Bear Wise.

You are responsible for your own personal safety. Take precautions when you are in the outdoors. Visit ontario.ca/bearwise to learn more.

TO REPORT BEAR PROBLEMS: contact the Bear Reporting Line at: **1-866-514-2327** (TTY) 705 945-7641

In a life-threatening emergency, call your local police or 911.



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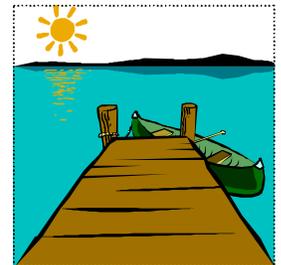
55 Bridge St. East
Campbellford, ON K0L 1L0

Free Well Check-ups!

Peterborough Green-Up is pleased to announce that once again it is able to provide the Well Aware program.

Cottagers and rural homeowners in the Peterborough, Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton regions are being offered a chance to have a free, confidential and non-regulatory well check-up conducted by a certified guide.

[Click here](#) for more information on this program or call Peterborough Green-Up at 705-745-3238 x208.



If you have email but are still receiving your newsletter via snail mail you may be able to help us to save money. With the cost of postage stamps (constantly on the rise), paper, ink, envelopes, labels etc. we can incur quite an expense. During the last two years we have developed a database of over 65% of people on the lake who are pleased to receive their newsletter by email. We would really like to be able to increase this number substantially and **would appreciate you sending your email address to Melanie**. Not only will you get your newsletter in a timely fashion but we will also be able to send you other pertinent information. We promise, however, not to bother you unnecessarily and we promise to keep your information confidential.

In Memorium

We extend our deepest condolences to the following families on our lake who have recently lost loved ones.

Mrs. Herbert Becht passed away in July 2010 as did **R. Borrow**. Both families have cottages on Fire Route 59.



Remembering Jim Ainley...June 3, 1945-September 22, 2010

My late husband, Tom, and I met Jim and Ruth in 1989 - they'd bought in July and we in August. Tom and Jim bonded - they were like brothers and every time I saw Jim he always commented on Tom. He missed him.

The first summer at the Cordova Lake we held a "Humphrey Fun Fest" to introduce our new neighbours - to family and friends ... a "meet and greet", games, pot luck and the idea was a big hit -I carried on the tradition until 2002. Jim always cooked a big turkey and Ruth's *Grand Mamier Fruit Dip* was to die for- excellent! Jim loved a good time and having the "Fun Fest" was always a huge success.

The Good Times - there are far too many to count but Jim loved to play cards and he enjoyed Trivial Pursuit. We had him over for dinner this particular night, along with the Baileys, and we played "Trivial" but because Tom and Mike were so good at it Joan and I insisted Jim was on "our team" - we named him "Jean". What a laugh and a good memory! Another was when the spouses were in the city Jim invited me and Murray Axford over for dinner - Jim was a great cook. Murray made a chocolate pie (he phoned Doris for the recipe) and I brought the wine (something wrong with this picture LOL). What a great evening and wonderful memory.

Jim loved cottage life and Cordova Lake - the fishing, sitting around the camp fires, having great neighbours and family come to visit. Jim and Ruth sold in 2002, after Tom had passed, but he enjoyed coming up in the summer for a holiday staying at the Axford's cottage. He also came up each year for the Boy's Fishing Weekend in September that my sons held in their Dad's memory. He won the fishing contest in 2003. One always knew when Jim was 'on the lake' by his voice and laughter. Jim came up this year (September 10-12) for the Boy's Fishing Weekend and what a wonderful memory for his son-in-law, Bryan Kennett, for my sons and their friends - he had a great time! Jim, without a doubt, was the most optimistic, upbeat, positive person I knew -larger than life and so full of laughter.

Ruth - what can I say ... she was Jim's soul-mate, the light of his life! She enjoyed fishing as much as he did but she enjoyed the quiet times ... like reading, floating in the lake and sunbathing. After leaving the lake, Jim and Ruth moved to the little Village of Hampton and actually Murray and Doris Axford live only a few blocks away from them. Jim and Ruth enjoyed the community and again, great neighbours and new friends.

Jim - you were a good friend to all, you will be sorely missed and to me - you were my dear friend and brother. God Bless!

Pat Humphrey

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The Newsletter Needs You!

I am sure that each of you has a special talent. Can you write, draw, take pictures? Do you monitor the coming and going of the ice? Do you have news to share of a special reunion, a fun family event or the passing of a cottage neighbor?

We're looking for material on these and any of the following topics:

History of people on the lake

Environmental projects, ideas, stories, reports

Creative writing, poetry, crafts

Entertaining: food, recipes, party ideas

Memories: personal accounts and events

Regatta Memories

Reading, brain teasers, games, activities

If you can help, we would love to have you contribute to the next newsletter. All you have to do is contact Melanie (see cover page) and arrange to send in your 'column' or information.





Saving Water is Easy.... Here's how it works.

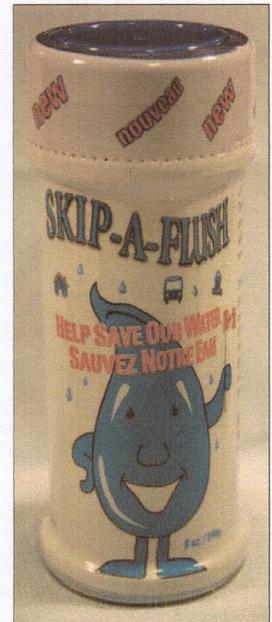
This is how easy it is to start saving water by using Skipaflush.

- Sprinkle "Skipaflush" into the toilet before you tinkle
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Skip-A-Flush was developed to help save our natural aquatic environment by preventing fresh water waste & unnecessary sewage

By an overwhelming margin Canadians consider fresh water to be the most important natural resource to Canada's future.

We not only see water as critical to our future and a part of their identity, we also see Canada's abundance of fresh water as a matter of sovereignty.

Let's not waste this opportunity & wait until it is too late and too expensive to fix.

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Election Update

We were pleased that so many cottagers chose to exercise their mandate in the recent elections. Traditionally the turnout of cottagers for elections has been disappointingly low. However, we are led to understand that over 40% of cottagers voted by mail in these elections. This was an unprecedented success and has sent a clear message to those who won the election that waterfront property owners are a force with which to be reckoned.



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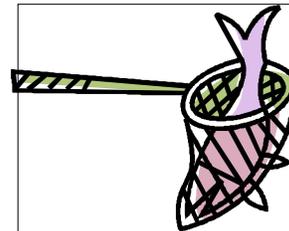


The Ontario Water Conservation Alliance welcomes the passing of Bill 72, the Water Opportunities and Water Conservation Act. In addition to the significant ecological implications of wise water use, there are enormous economic benefits from a strong commitment to water conservation and green infrastructure. Ontario can take

advantage of this by spurring market demand for new water recycling technologies, green landscaping, and land use planning. The critical implementation phase now begins.

To learn more, visit
www.conserveourwater.ca.

Send Us Your Fish Tales



We would appreciate you sharing any photos or anecdotes about fishing on Cordova

Lake. Please send your stories to Melanie and they will be printed in an upcoming newsletter.

Lake Plan Survey



The Lake Plan Committee was delighted with the excellent response to the survey sent out in July, as fifty-nine people responded. This represents over 24% of the lake. They were gratified that so many people took the time to carefully consider what is important to them. Although many of the questions had answers in common and reflected much that is status quo, it did give the group a sense of the direction they need to go next. Further information will be distributed in the next newsletter when people are in more of a cottage frame of mind.

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Executive Notes



During these last few months we have become aware that the CLCA has experienced some operational inconsistencies which must be addressed.

We find that our constitution, last revised in 2006 and amended in 2010, does not reflect some of the practicalities of our current situation. As a result of this, we would like to strike a committee to examine any changes which should be made to the constitution. If you would like to be a member of the constitution committee, please contact Joanne to let her know. The committee will meet throughout the winter months in order that changes may be brought forth to be voted upon at the **Annual General Meeting to take place on July 10, 2011.** Signs will be placed at the ends of the roads in advance of the meeting to let you know the location.

The lake association, like every other

large group, seems to be in a constant state of flux as people strive for efficiency and fairness. Our road reps are a good case in point.

In the past, the four representatives of the roads operated independently. A number of years ago, for a short period of time, they tried to work together and amalgamated their finances. Unfortunately this did not work well as the needs of each road are quite different so the gentlemen reverted back to the initial working model. We recently (AGM July 11, 2010) added the road reps to the CLCA executive so that when we were incorporated they could be legally protected. We have since found out that an incorporated association may only have one set of financial books. If each road rep is to maintain financial and organizational autonomy he may not be a member of the lake executive. However, we greatly

value the contributions of each road rep. and wish to have them remain as an advisory body to the lake executive. This item will become an addendum to our current constitution and, as such, will be voted upon by the membership at the next annual general meeting.

As a result of incorporation, we are mandated by law to have a financial professional audit our financial records. We know that there are qualified people on the lake who may be willing to volunteer their time to do this for us. If you can help us out with this, please let us know. Unfortunately, this means that we may no longer use the services of the two gentlemen who have so kindly given of their time and talents to ensure the accuracy of our finances. We sincerely thank Tony Callam and Gord Hogue for their years of service as auditors to the CLCA.

President:	Joanne Butkevics	613-472-1819	jmb@orderline.com
*Vice President:	Carolyn Callam	613-472-3962	carolyn_callam@hotmail.com
*Treasurer:	Maureen Carlson	613-472-2463	acarlson3ca@yahoo.ca
Secretary/Newsletter:	Melanie MacLeod	613-472-6166	melaniejmacleod@gmail.com
* Away from lake for winter.			

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Please help, if you can!



If you know that a cottage near you has sold, it would be much appreciated if you would either contact Melanie with the name, email address and / or phone number of the new owner or, conversely, please give Melanie's contact information to them. It is otherwise very difficult for us to be able to make contact with new people at the lake and we do want to be able to send out the

newsletters and keep them up-to-date with Cordova Lake events.

Fundraising



We are cognizant that we must be good stewards of the money given to us through the payment of dues. To keep the fees low yet allow us to fulfill our financial obligations we have embarked on some new initiatives, one of which is the advertising you see in this newsletter. Your executive constantly strives to be worthy of your trust and to do the best job we possibly can for the benefit of all users of the lake. We appreciate members' feedback and encourage each person to become involved in the countless opportunities which present themselves.

Some cottagers have made suggestions that the CLCA might hold a boat rally, a golf tournament or an ice fishing competition, etc. At this time, the executive have many projects on the go and regret that they cannot take the lead on anything else. However, if individual cottagers wish to organize these events and donate the monies raised to the association we would be delighted. If you can help, please let us know.

Safe and Legal Snowmobiling

Part of enjoying a safe winter out on your sled includes knowing how to properly operate your machine and what the rules are. According to the OPP and the Ontario Federation of Snowmobilers Clubs (OFSC), a compliant snowmobiler must always have the following on their person or sled:

- valid driver's licence (or if under age 16, a Snow Vehicle Operator's Licence)
- proof of snowmobile ownership
- sled registration (including properly placed registration numbers and validation sticker on sled)
- proof of sled insurance (pink slip)
- approved snowmobile helmet (for each rider)



Contact Information



Dave Tilley	Lake Steward	tilleygomma@sympatico.ca	705-741-3583
Gord Bertrand	FR54/Ellis Rd.	thebertrands@yahoo.ca	613-472-0604
Don McGregor	FR18/FHRA	FHRADon@hotmail.com	613-472-3335
Rick Gubb	South End	richardg@gdisales.net	416-540-7075
Mike Bailey	FR57	No email address	613-472-0176
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