



# The Buck Lake Association Inc.

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"To enhance people's enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations"

## Buck Lake News – 2009 May

Principal writer: Roy Mills

### President's Message

The deer population has been reduced substantially, thanks to the wolves, coyotes and two hard winters in a row (especially the big March snowstorm in 2008). The upside is the profusion of wildflowers we have this spring. Having escaped Bambi's spring snacking, the trilliums are back with their snowy tricorns thick on the ground. I have never seen so many Dutchman's breeches, nor



spring beauties, Mayflowers, wood violets (both purple and yellow), dog tooth violets, and others I have yet to identify. A walk in the woods right now has got to be about as good as it gets. Now if Mother Nature could just do something about those black flies!



Duncan G. Sinclair, President, BLA

### Board of Director's Report

The Board last met on Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup> 2009 and a summary of discussion and decisions follows:

- Members are given notice of the Annual General Meeting of the BLA to be held on Saturday July 4<sup>th</sup> 2009 at Perth Road Public School commencing at 8:30 a.m. The June newsletter will include a detailed agenda and copies of reports to be presented at the AGM. Please make plans to attend and participate in the work of your Association.

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- Director Ralph Wirsig reported that 101 memberships had been renewed for 2009 and that many renewals were for a two-year term. Members may recall that some years ago, multi-year memberships were offered but in the recent past we did not offer this option. Ralph has established an updated database which allows us to more accurately track membership information and income. We are pleased to offer this choice to members again. See the website at [www.bucklake.ca](http://www.bucklake.ca) and follow the membership link or see us at the AGM to renew or add your membership to the BLA. A special thanks to the majority of our members for their prompt action in renewing their membership. The Board appreciates your continuing support.

**Gord McDiarmid**  
**Barrister, Solicitor,**  
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 (and a happy year-round resident on  
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- Director Maxine Lemieux reported on plans for the Spring Pot Luck and the

Summer BBQ/Picnic for 2009. Margaret Fisher has invited BLA members of gather at her home on Kingfisher Lane on the evening of June 11<sup>th</sup> and the Summer BBQ/Picnic is planned for Harris Park in the Village on Saturday August 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will have a detailed notice regarding the Picnic in the July Newsletter. Please see the Notices and Reminders heading of the Newsletter for details on the Pot Luck.

- We reported in the April Newsletter that we were in consultation with the Township regarding traffic and parking issues at the Causeway/Boat Launch. We did recently meet with the Public Works Manager, Mark Segsworth on sight and expressed our concerns and suggestions for improvement. Mark reported that there are no current plans for significant upgrades to this section of the Perth Road and that the parking question would be studied over the peak periods of the spring and summer in search of solutions. We emphasized our concern regarding parking at the immediate Boat Launch area and the congestion this created on busy weekends. We agreed to be in on-going consultation regarding this and other issues of interest to the BLA.

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- As reported to members, the BLA purchased “**No Wake Please**” signs last fall and we still have a few available for placement. If you are located in an area of the lake where speed and wake are issues and you would be prepared to post a sign, let us know. Contact Roy Mills at [millsras@kingston.net](mailto:millsras@kingston.net) .
- The next meeting of the Board is called for Saturday June 13<sup>th</sup>. If members have items or issues for the attention of the Board, please contact our President Duncan Sinclair at [sinclair@post.queensu.ca](mailto:sinclair@post.queensu.ca).

### Friends of the Lake

Our plans are in full swing for delivery of the lake planning survey for the weekend of June 27-28. Volunteers will be out in their boats throughout the weekend, hand delivering the surveys to as many folks on the lake as we can possibly reach. We'll attach the survey to your dock and you can mail or email it in, bring to the AGM or drop it off at one of the drop-boxes around the lake (locations will be on the form). The questionnaire should take about 10 minutes to complete and it will give us a good idea of what the important concerns are to a cross-section of Buck Lakers. If you would like to help deliver surveys on this weekend, please contact Wayne Myles at [wayne.myles@queensu.ca](mailto:wayne.myles@queensu.ca).

Barbra Rose Perry  
RMT

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Reg Genge, of Ontario Lake Assessments, who is working on our water quality report, will be presenting some preliminary findings at the AGM on July fourth (instead of at the educational session). This talk will be of great interest to anyone who has wondered how our water quality has changed over the years. Also at the AGM the Friends of the Lake committee will be selling 18”x 24” topographical maps of Buck Lake, including features such as streams, islands, buildings, crown land, surrounding watershed and local landmarks. The map will cost \$15 and you can reserve one by emailing Barb Perry at [barbperry@sympatico.ca](mailto:barbperry@sympatico.ca). We've seen a sample and they are beautiful!

Details of the July 16<sup>th</sup> educational workshop will follow in next month's Newsletter. We're looking for a turtle expert – if you know of anyone, let us know. Contact Liz at [lizw\\_@hotmail.com](mailto:lizw_@hotmail.com)

### Those Lovely Loons

One can't be on or near Buck Lake for more than a few minutes without being aware of our majestic loons. They add a critical identity to the lake and our enjoyment of it. **Bird Studies Canada** is conducting the Canadian Lakes Loon Survey and is asking for volunteers to help with the project. The Common Loon is the most numerous of the four species that breed in Canada and the majority of the world's population breed in our lakes. The Loon Study has been collecting data since 1981 and reports that although overall populations of the Common Loon are stable in Canada, the reproductive rates in

Eastern Canada are consistently lower due to water quality ( lower pH levels, Type E Botulism etc.) , shoreline development, water level fluctuations and increased numbers of watercraft. If you would like more information on the Canadian Loon Survey or would like to be part of the project, go to

[www.birdscanada.org](http://www.birdscanada.org) or contact Bird Studies Canada at P.O. Box 160, Port Rowan, ON, N0E 1M0.

On the Loon theme, the Frontenac Stewardship Council is sponsoring a Loon Workshop in Sharbot Lake on Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup>. The location will be the Oso Township Hall in the heart of

Sharbot Lake Village and at the Anglican Church Meeting Room, just across the parking lot. The program begins at 9:00 a.m. and wraps up at 3:45 p.m. There will be speakers, resources and displays of nesting platforms etc. One of the keynote speakers is Kathy Jones from the Canadian Loon Survey. It sounds like an excellent opportunity to learn and network on an interesting and important part of our lake.



### Notices and Reminders

- If you have been following developments on the amendments to Ontario's 141 year-old Mining Act, check out the FOCA website at [www.foca.on.ca](http://www.foca.on.ca) . FOCA has represented on the Ministers Mining Act Advisory Committee throughout the process of review and amendment. A recent article in the Globe and Mail gives an example of the impact of the current Act on cottage country in Ontario. Go to [www.globeandmail.com](http://www.globeandmail.com) and search "Between a rock and a hard place" by Allan Britnell, May 15<sup>th</sup> 2009.
- RONA stores in Ontario are offering a recycling program that may be of interest to members. They will accept unneeded paint (latex and oil-based), old batteries and florescent bulbs at their stores. Toxic waste disposal is a problem in South Frontenac so this service is a real plus. Get your neighbours involved and pack up a load. The Princess Street store in Kingston provides the service. Take the items to the Paint Department and you will see a bin for your items. Check it out!
- June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> is the date of the Annual Ottawa-Kingston Bike Rally. This year an estimated 1800 cyclists could participate creating quite challenging traffic conditions along the Perth Road. Perth Road Crafters and Firefighters are providing a rest area at Harris Park in the Village. Please be aware of the Rally and take precautions on the highway as needed.
- June 11<sup>th</sup> 2009 – The Annual Spring Pot Luck Picnic will be held once again at the home of Margaret Fisher, 1018 Kingfisher Lane/South Branch (near the beginning of the 7000 bloc on Perth Road). Please gather between 5:30 and 6:00 p.m. and bring a salad, entrée or dessert. Members are asked to bring their

choice of beverage and a lawn chair. The evening is completely social and a chance to renew old and make new friendships on the lake.

- June 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday Night Fish Fry at Perth Road United Church (5:00 –7:00 p.m.)
- July 4<sup>th</sup> – Buck Lake Association Annual General Meeting at Perth Road P.S. 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
- July 4<sup>th</sup> – Buck Lake Annual Boatilla for Easter Seals – More details in the June Newsletter.
- July 5 Sunday from 12pm to 3 pm open house at Queen’s Biological Station (QBS). This family event is a great opportunity to learn about wildlife in the area and see what the scientists at QUBS are up to. There will be displays, demonstrations, presentations and tours. Researchers will be on hand to answer any questions. Snacks and Refreshments will be provided, Go to <http://www.queensu.ca/biology/qubs/events.html> for directions to the facility.

### **And Finally...**

We are a community of busy people. There are many parts of our lives in addition to the work of the BLA. Our Directors devote the time to advocate for the good of the lake and encourage others to join in the stewardship of this unique environment. As we approach the Annual General Meeting in July, we ask all members to join in the dialogue in any way they can. The Friends of the Lake are embarking on a Lake Plan project in the next few weeks which will begin with a survey of members. Please give your input and get involved if you can. We sincerely request the suggestions and comments of everyone in making a positive impact on the life of the lake.

As always, the Buck Lake News would welcome comment and content. If you have an article or information which would be of interest to our members please forward it through our email box at [info@bucklake.ca](mailto:info@bucklake.ca) or contact Roy Mills at [millras@kingston.net](mailto:millras@kingston.net).

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