



The Buck Lake Association Inc.

P.O. Box 1753, Stn Main, Kingston, ON K7L 5J6

www.bucklake.ca

email: info@bucklake.ca

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

Buck Lake News – 2012 April

President's Message

It seems that these notes, penned in haste at the eleventh hour, are connected by unintentional continuity. I spoke of the arrival of the dastardly Canada geese in the last column and joked that they were returning from fertilizing golf courses in places like Florida. Apparently, they also like to fertilize lawns on Buck Lake! And they don't scare easily. Anyway, for the first year since we moved here in 2006 we have a pair of nesting (breeding) Canada's living in the bay in front of our house. Worse still, they have hijacked the nesting site of our own unique loons who arrived only during the Easter Weekend, a good three weeks after the geese and some other returnees. I guess the loons didn't receive the memo about the early departure of the ice. They probably don't use Facebook!

I said our unique loons because we have observed over the past three or four years that they have been behaving very differently than most breeding pairs. From the outset, we have observed our pair each take responsibility for one of two chicks that hatched. (One year, a third egg was ignored and never did hatch.) Every year both chicks survived and were ready to leave in the fall. I am told that the most common model, and one that we observed our first year on the lake, is for the fitter of the normally two chicks to survive with the parents simply providing food for the chick who wants it most or who can get to it faster than his sibling.

Also new this year is that a pair of Common Mergansers has stayed on. We normally have several pairs of Common, Red-Breasted and Hooded arrive as the ice is breaking up but they leave shortly after. This year one pair decided to stay. These are those weird in between birds that look like a duck, quack like a duck, but fish like loons and nest in the boles of trees off the ground like squirrels. It will be interesting how they compete for fish with the loon population on the lake.

I spoke of the competition to guess when the ice would leave the lake. Well, the wife, Reine, actually won the \$195 which was hand delivered by the competition organizer Roscoe Trudel.

Unfortunately, there wasn't enough for a case of 24 as I had hoped.

Councilor John MacDougall, after reading my last column contacted me to say that there may be funding available to assist in production of our lake report. With his help we have applied for a modest grant from the County of Frontenac and are awaiting results. Thanks John for taking the time and making the effort to be engaged with the Buck Lake community; we appreciate your efforts immensely.

Speaking of our lake report, we are nearing the point where we hope to see copies of the work so far that can be perused at our Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held 7 July 2012 at Perth Road Public School. Besides the AGM, there are several other events slated for the near term and they are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. I encourage you to join the rest of us as you are



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able; our community is the sum total of we individuals and we are certainly better when we all participate. So, until next time, have a great summer.

Best wishes,
Peter Dawe

“Watch for the Buck Lake Plan – Coming Soon!”

In past newsletters it has been mentioned that the **Buck Lake Plan** was being reviewed and edited by the Buck Lake Association Board Members and the Friends of the Lake Committee.

You may also have read sections from the social history portion of the Lake Plan in recent newsletters and you may be wondering,

“What is Lake Planning? What is the purpose of a Lake Plan? What benefits will the Lake Plan provide our Buck Lake community? Good Questions!

We hope the following will help to answer some of these questions and, perhaps, inspire you to become an active member of your “Buck Lake Community”

Lynne Hendry: lynne.hendry@googlemail.com

What is Lake Planning? [1]

Lake planning is a strategic process that provides the opportunity to engage all people, governments and business operators in developing and implementing actions to maintain or improve the natural and social qualities of life on our lakes, rivers, and shoreline communities. Planning and management of our lakes and river systems has been on-going for many decades. However, until the recent revival of the lake plan community-based approach in 1999, these processes had been primarily conducted in a top-down manner by federal, provincial and municipal governments. Reasons for their involvement were usually geared towards specific resource uses. The main shift in this new community-based approach is that it puts the process into the hands of the community so that they may have a voice in the establishment of stewardship actions and government planning regulations at all levels. The process embraces the principles and stages of other planning processes for forest, parks, water, and resource management planning and for establishing municipal planning policies.

The Purpose of lake planning is to engage community members to identify and protect the unique characteristics of a specific shoreline community and to recommend land use policy and/or stewardship approaches to ensure long-term protection, sustainability, maintenance and restoration of natural, social, and physical features. It results in ‘consensus-based’ actions and extends the responsibility of implementation to all people in the community. A lake plan is not a legal document and should not be undertaken in reaction to a development proposal or used to regulate or police activities in the community. It has no legal standing such as provincial legislation or municipal by-laws. A lake plan is a long-term action plan, developed by the lake community, to protect the health and special features of a lake. A lake plan reflects community consensus about what is needed to protect the natural, physical, cultural and economic aspects of a lake and its watershed.

[1] Excerpted from FOCA and French Planning Services, Lake Planning Handbook for Community Groups (Peterborough: FOCA and French Planning Services, 2010).

Pitch-In



Pitch-In started April 23 and runs to April 30, 2012 in South Frontenac however Buck Lakers started early. Bags were distributed on April 21st, but due to the inclement weather most people opted to wait for a nicer day to actually pick up of litter. Wayne Myles' efforts can be seen in the photo to the left. Thanks to all the volunteers who came out to help.

There are still a few sections of Perth Road that need cleaning. If you would like to volunteer, contact cheryl.savery@gmail.com to get a supply of yellow bags.

	WAYNE GORDON SALES/MARKETING
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MNR Fish Summary

The following are the highlights taken from the MNR Summary of fish in Buck Lake up to 2007. The full report can be found at

<http://www.bucklake.ca/misc/MNRBuckLakeFishSummary.pdf>

GAME FISH:

Lake Trout: Density, size, age distribution, and growth compares favourably with most other local lakes where trout are found. In some years, low dissolved oxygen in the hypolimnion (deeper cold water zone) in late summer and fall reaches a critical level for trout especially in the North Basin. This results in poor recruitment and / or a decrease in the population. In general though, the population is stable with an estimated maximum population of 2000 fish and able to sustain a fishery where approximately 400 fish averaging 4 lbs. can be harvested each year. Because of the low oxygen factor, the lake has reached its maximum capacity for shoreline development. This is mainly due to runoff from disrupted shorelines which adds to the sediment and organic matter which enters the lake. This is the primary cause of oxygen depletion by a process called eutrophication.

Splake: (lake trout - speckled trout cross) 6 stockings of approximately 4000 fingerlings each, mostly in the North Basin, were done from 1984 to 1989. Probably none still exist.

Northern Pike: There is a good population of generally larger, faster growing, and healthier fish compared with other local lakes.

Large and Small Mouth Bass: Good numbers, but smaller and slower growing fish than in other lakes. This is believed to be mainly the result of high angling pressure.

PAN FISH:

Black Crappie: Good numbers but generally smaller fish, probably for the same reason as bass are smaller. They are especially heavily fished through the ice.

Yellow Perch: Good healthy population.

Sunfish (Blue - Gills and Pumpkinseed): Plentiful.

Rock Bass: Plentiful

Bullheads (Yellow and Brown): A higher number of larger fish compared to other lakes.

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FORAGE FISH:

Lake Herring or Cisco: These are the main food for trout and are plentiful and healthy averaging 12 to 14 inches in length.

Minnows: There are several species. The most common and important food for bass, pike and crappies are the common shiner, golden shiner, and blunt-nose minnow.

Small members of the Perch Family: Log Perch - Darters are common.

White Suckers: Plentiful

White Fish: Few and seldom caught by anglers but were caught by M.N.R. nettings in 1992 (1) and 1997 (2), so presumably a small population exists.

Fish Stocking in Buck Lake: Other than the Splake mentioned previously, there have been several stockings of Lake Trout and Bass on and off from 1935 until 1989.

Walleye: 4 stockings of almost 200,000 each time. These were last netted in 1960 - so obviously didn't survive.

Muskellunge: 5000 were stocked in 1965, but apparently did not survive.

Guatemala Stove Project Benefit Dance

The Guatemala Stove Project is pleased to present an awesome evening of dancing and musical entertainment featuring the amazing talents of **Heatwave, a Kingston Band featuring Motown music, and includes two members of our Buck Lake community, Barb Wilson and Gord McDiarmid.** The dance is to be held at **ZORBA'S**, 1474 Bath Road, on Saturday May 26, 2012. Doors open at 7:30 and the dance is at 8PM. While dancing and enjoying great music you will be contributing to the fundraising for the Guatemalan Stove Project, an organization that builds mason stoves for native people of rural Guatemala.

Founded in 1999, the Guatemala Stove Project is a Perth based non-profit charity that builds masonry cook stoves for Mayan families in the impoverished communities in the western highlands of Guatemala. Over 4000 stoves have been built to date. These efficient stoves dramatically reduce fuel consumption and properly ventilate harmful smoke out of the homes. A person's life expectancy may be increased as much as 15 years as many smoke - related risks including respiratory disease and eye problems are alleviated.

This is a licensed event, 19+ID required, minors must be accompanied by an adult.

Advance tickets \$20 are available from Miriam Adams/Laurie Preston, 613 353-7791, Barbra Rose Perry/ Gord McDiarmid 353- 6912, at Perth Road Store or at Tara's and Brian's Record Options in Kingston. Tickets will be \$25 at the door.

Come out and have a great time with your Buck Lake/ Perth Road community neighbours while supporting a truly wonderful worthwhile cause. For more information please contact [Miriam Adams](mailto:Miriam.Adams). For more information regarding the Guatemala Stove Project please see their website. <http://www.guatemalastoveproject.org/>

The following is a paid ad:

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	1117	Villa 9200 – 110 V	\$1299.00	\$1467.87
	1123	Villa 9210 – 12 V	\$1299.00	\$1467.87
	1011	Privy 500	\$118.99	\$134.45
	1012	Insulated Seat 300	\$21.99	\$24.84

Free Shipping to Buck Lake. Both Kath and Wess have cottages on Buck Lake!

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The Buck Lake Boatilla

The following report comes from a civics project by a 14-year-old student.

In July 2005, is when this all started. The Buck Lake residents decided they wanted to give back and to do so they raised money to send children with physical disabilities to Camp Merrywood. One hundred percent of the money raised goes to Camp Merrywood, and the total to date is over 65,000 dollars. Camp Merrywood is a camp where each child can enjoy the things that a child without disabilities can. They can go on a boat, go swimming and many other things. There is one councilor per two children and the whole camp is modified for the wheelchairs and other disabilities. For example there is no stairs and all the mirrors are slanted so people in wheelchairs can see themselves.



This group stands for everyone being equal and that no child should feel left out. The message people may get from this is, even if you have a disability, you should be able to enjoy childhood things that every other child can. 2011 was the seventh annual event. This event isn't just about helping the children go to camp but it offers the parents get a break for 10 days while their child is at camp. The parents have to do 24/7 care with children who have these disabilities and by allowing these kids to go to camp it allows the parents to relax a bit for 10 days.

This event is important to the local community because it shows that a small community such as theirs can make a huge difference in a child's life. This event has helped many kids go to camp and has helped many parents send their kids to a camp where they can have fun and be safe. The community gives back by donating money. Local merchants donate the food so all proceeds go to Camp Merrywood.

This event happens once a year, at the beginning of July. There is no experience needed to volunteer. However, volunteering can change the way you look at your life. It will show you

how different these families' lives are. It shows you how lucky you have your life compared to other people. It shows you that even if these kids have disabilities, they always have a smile on their face compared to how some people always find negative in their situation. These children's lives are far from perfect yet they enjoy every moment of it and never just let life walk on by. Volunteering in this event can make you a young productive functioning citizen and student. These are some ways how:

- This event helps you become a believer by showing you a different perspective of life and makes you believe in a better world for everyone.
- It also helps you become a good communicator because it gives you the opportunity to communicate with many different people, and the children who have disabilities.
- It will also make you as lifelong learner. You will learn what these families go through each and every day.
- You will also be a community contributor by helping your community and families send kids to camp.
- Lastly you will be a caring family member. You show that you care about other families like they were your own and help them with their children.

Coming Events

April 23 to April 30 - Pitch-In

June 1 - Potluck at Margret Fisher's
5:30 socialize 6:30 delicious potluck dinner

June 30 - Boatilla - "Send a Kid to Camp"

July 7 - AGM 9:00A.M. Perth Road School

July 19 - Education Night - "Ticks"

August 18 - Annual Picnic

September 9 - Rider Cup Golf Tournament

Ron's Home & Cottage Services

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Keeping Your Property Secure

It is important for property owners to take a few extra minutes to consider the tasks they can complete to keep their properties as secure as possible when they open up their cottages for the year. Here are a few tips that may help:

- Take items of value home. If this is not possible, place them out of view or lock them in a secure room or cabinet. If valuable items are not visible through a window and are locked up, they are less likely to be taken.

- Do not leave food or liquor in your cottage. In many break-in incidents, liquor is one of the common items taken. If you decide to leave it in your cottage — once again, store it out of sight.
- Make sure that all doors and windows are locked and secured when you leave. Do some extra work by installing theft prevention devices on your sliding patio doors and windows. Even a stick in the track to prevent the sliding door or window from opening will work in a pinch.
- Close all your curtains and blinds so that thieves cannot see inside your cottage. If you don't have curtains, use a blanket or sheet to cover the windows. If they can't see in, they may not try to get inside, especially if you have made your property secure from the outside.
- Do not leave boats, ATVs or other vehicles out in the open and unsecured. If you can, bring them home or lock them up in a garage — and remove the keys. If you must leave them outside, lock them to a tree or some permanent structure. Install transom locks on your outboard motors.
- Lock up your gas cans or take your unused fuel home. It reduces the risk of a fire on your property.
- Tell your neighbours when you are not going to be at the cottage — especially if you have permanent residents living close by. They can be your eyes and ears when you are not there.

Gord McDiarmid

Barrister, Solicitor,

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Bragging Rights

The following information was received from John and Margie Valberg:

“The earliest anyone had ever been swimming at our place was April 20 way back in the 1980's. My son (wanting to get his name in the headlines) went for a dip last weekend on March 31st. Yikes! That one is going to be tough to beat.”

Newsletter comments and suggestions email:

info@bucklake.ca