

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 – 2012 September

President's Message

Here we are in September again wondering where the summer went. We had a much longer summer this year I think you would agree with unseasonably warm weather in April and May. The result was we were able to start swimming very early and are still enjoying 22 C water temperatures. With the recent rain the water level isn't bad.

I had an opportunity to do some lake trout fishing recently and even managed to catch my first two. Both were on the smaller side – 30-35 cm – but made for a full meal for the two of us. Perhaps it is late in the season and the fish are feeling poorly because they were rather pale and lacked taste. As someone who was born and raised in Newfoundland I caught and ate many trout from the same salmon family as our lake trout. They were invariably quite tasty, even in winter when food and sun were lacking. The two I caught were at the 20-30 m meter level where oxygen is scarce and food scarcer one would think. Next season I will try earlier in the year when they should be higher in the water column and in better condition. I'll report back then. The Buck Lake Rider Cup golf tournament was played 9 September and was a huge success. This year's event, the 13th, was organized by Sandra Rider, Marilyn O'Connor, Gord McLellan and Boyd Barr who managed to track down some great prizes that were raffled off. Any excess proceeds will go to a local charity and will be announced. As he does every year, Boyd Barr, the same Boyd Barr mentioned in the local news of late as being the guy who designed and built Smugglers Glen in Gananoque where top golf pros on the Canadian Tour played a tournament recently, distributed the skill prizes and Janet Barr helped Marilyn and Sandra with selling tickets and linking prizes with winners. All that went exceptionally well. To top everything off, the meal was superb, probably the best roast beef I have enjoyed in such a venue in a very long time. Boyd reminded everyone that the rules for next year will change slightly; only folks who pay in advance will have assured places. Apparently some people cancelled at the last minute and there were thus fewer golfers than could have been accommodated.

The new board of directors for the BLA has been installed and is now in operation. I would like to thank Donna Neumann, John Richards and Ross Beardall for stepping up. I can tell you from experience that the job of serving our community is not onerous and can even be rewarding as those who have already done it will testify. I would really like to hear from anyone who thinks he or she might want to help. I am certain that, like me, you will enjoy the challenge.

Best wishes,
Peter Dawe



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Rider Cup 2012

More Boatilla Pictures

More Boatilla pictures have been added to the website. Follow this link to pictures of the 2012 Boatilla:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/113068383477993245024/Boatill2012?authkey=Gv1sRgCM2K3vC3vqb31AE>

Thank you all for your Boatilla pictures.

August 18th was a great day for the BBQ and Picnic. It was neither too hot nor too cold and it did not rain. Who could ask for a better day? 66 adults and 22 children came out for this event including a couple from the village. Music and food were great. Thank you to the Social Committee for another great job.

Alas, there are no pictures at present to include in the newsletter. Perhaps we can pay more attention to this next year.



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London 1948 Games of the XIV Olympiad

Norman Lane, a long time cottager, on Bobby's Garden Lane on the North Branch of Buck Lake is a Bronze medal holder from the 1948 London Games of the XIV Olympiad. Although the 2012 games have come and gone his story lives on.

Now 92 and a retired McMaster University Math Professor Norman Lane is proud to have represented Canada in London in 1948. He competed in the 10,000 meter "C-1" canoe race at Henley-on-Thames, a village about 60 kilometers west of London.

The 1948 Games were the first to be shown on home television. These Games were marked by the first participation of Communist countries and the first boycotts. Many countries, including Burma, Ceylon, Colombia, Guatemala, Lebanon, Panama, Puerto Rico, Syria and Venezuela, were represented for the first time. On the other hand, there were no athletes from Japan, Germany or the USSR.

Canada won only three medals at the 1948 Olympic Games placing Canada 22nd. Canoeists Douglas Bennett won silver in the C-1 1000m and Norman Lane won bronze in the C-1 10,000m. The women's 4x100m relay team of Viola Myers, Nancy Mackay, Diane Foster, and Pat Jones gave Canada its second bronze medal.

If you notice a tall elderly gentleman looking amazingly fit in a canoe on the North Branch, it might be Norman Lane because he still likes to pick up a paddle at his cottage.



The Great Blue Heron

Courtesy Stephen Roughton.



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Lake Planning, water quality, fish studies (Lynne Hendry)

We come to the lake to get away from the responsibilities of city life, to rest and relax and enjoy clean air, fresh water and a variety of animal species. These are the very reasons that our lake plan is so important to the Buck Lake Community.

The chart shown on the following pages is from the MNR fish summary report. It shows how our fish populations are doing and areas of concern that we should be paying attention to.

Our lake plan talks about the water quality and studies show that there has been no significant change to Buck Lake's water quality in the last thirty years. Our responsibility is to make sure there is no significant change for the next thirty years.

It does not matter if you enjoy the experience of landing your first trout or are thrilled at the sight of a Large Mouth Bass protecting her nest, our continued enjoyment of the lake depends on the community coming together to preserve what we value?



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MNR Buck Lake Fish Species Report Card 2010

Fish Species	Indicator/Benchmark	Comments
Lake trout	Density	Medium density compared with other local lake trout lakes
	Number fish per net-hour	Medium numbers compared with other local lake trout lakes
	Lengths	Good size distribution; mean length similar to other sustainable local lake trout lakes
	Ages	Good age distribution from age-3 to age-8; mean age similar to other sustainable local lake trout lakes; annual mortality lower than 10 years ago and now similar to other sustainable local lake trout lakes
	Growth	Average compared to other local lake trout lakes
	South Basin Late Summer Habitat	Average to poor recruitment to the fishery in some years due reduced dissolved oxygen concentrations in the hypolimnion
	North Basin Late Summer Habitat	Very little recruitment to the fishery occurs in North Basin due to low dissolved oxygen in hypolimnion
Largemouth bass	Relative abundance	Second most abundant species behind sunfish but medium abundance compared with other local lakes
	Number fish per net	High abundance compared with other local lakes
	Lengths	Small mean length; fewest % of keeper fish compared with other local lakes
	Ages	Good age distribution from age-2 to age-6 with few fish age-7 or older which might indicate high fishing pressure on these older fish; average annual mortality compared with other local lakes
	Growth	Slowest growing fish compared with five (5) other local lakes
Northern pike	Number fish per net & relative abundance	Low abundance and low numbers but similar to all other local lakes sampled
	Growth & Condition	Significantly faster growth and better condition than other local lakes sampled for fish larger than 70 cm and older than age-4

Black crappie	Relative abundance	Medium abundance compared to other Buck Lake species; medium abundance compared to other local lakes sampled
	Number of fish per net	Medium number compared to other Buck Lake species; medium number compared to other local lakes sampled
	Lengths	Smallest mean length of all local lakes sampled that contain this species; low abundance of 'keepers' even lower than Col By, a lake commercially fished for this species
	Ages	No fish older than age-5 present suggesting high angling pressure on this species
	Growth	Growth is significantly reduced beyond age-2 suggesting fish mature at this age, younger than other local lakes sampled; high angling pressure on older fish can cause fish to mature earlier to offset the mortality

Note: Green shading indicates low concern with this indicator at this time; orange shading indicates medium concern with this indicator and; red shading indicates high concern.

Water Quality Temperature & Oxygen (MNR fish species report card)

The most critical water quality conditions for lake trout develop during late summer. At this time of the year, water temperatures and dissolved oxygen conditions combine to restrict the portion of the lake containing suitable water quality for lake trout. Most lake trout lakes are temperature stratified from June through October. Lakes warm from the surface (epilimnion) downward and lose oxygen from the bottom (hypolimnion) upward. This oxygen depletion in the deep waters is known as "hypolimnetic oxygen depletion". An adequate supply of dissolved oxygen is essential to meet metabolic demands and to carry out the daily life and support activities of lake trout. Lake trout require water temperatures of 15.5°C or cooler and dissolved oxygen concentrations of 4 mg/L or greater for survival. The zone or habitat within a lake usable to lake trout can be delineated by the portion of the lake possessing water temperatures less 15.5°C and oxygen concentrations greater than 4 mg/L. Lake trout have been documented to move up into the warmer, shallower layers at night to feed but do so under extreme stress and cannot remain at these temperatures for any extended period of time. **The optimal, stress-free zone for lake trout possesses temperatures 10°C or cooler and dissolved oxygen concentrations of 6 mgL-1 or greater.**

Exert from the Buck Lake Water Quality study				
DATE	DEPTH METERS	D.O MG/L	D.O %SAT	TEMP C
JULY 1979	10.0	5.0	45	10.9
JULY 1979	8.0	5.52	54	14.70
AUG 1979	10.0	3.3	29	9.2
AUG1879	8.0	4.07	40	14.90
JULY 1987	10.0	5.9	54	11.7
JULY 1987	8.0	7.4	74	15.70
AUG 1987	10.0	4.2	38	11.0
AUG 1987	8.5	5.10	49	14.10
JULY 1998	10.0	8.8	NA	9.3
JULY 1998	8.0	8.1	NA	16.0
AUG 1998	10.0	6.7	NA	15.0
AUG 1998	8.0	7.8	NA	22.0

D.O= DISOLVED OXYGEN

Road Committee Suggestion

This may be a good idea where organized road committees may wish to earn some money for their road or neighbourhood.

Friday, September 28 - 8:30am - 1pm - Victoria College, University of Toronto

Ontario's Feed-in Tariff (FIT) Organizing Renewable Energy Community Power Projects

Program for renewable energy is a potential source of funds for community groups as well as a way to address the climate change challenge. Join the Climate Change Lawyer's Network to learn more about how community groups can participate in the FIT Program. The session is relevant to any community group with an interest in participating in a renewable power project, and particularly those groups which own or control roof space suitable for renewable energy installations. The speakers will provide information on the key elements of successful projects, how to obtain project funding (including the Community Energy Partnership Program), how to contract out the building and maintenance of the project, and many more practical tools. For a full agenda, please visit <http://climatechangelawyers.ca/>

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