



# The Buck Lake Association Inc.

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[www.bucklake.ca](http://www.bucklake.ca)

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

## *Buck Lake News – December 2016*

### **Announcing the Jim Manuel Volunteer Award**

Submitted by Crawford MacIntyre

There are quite a number of activities on our Lake that take place only because individuals step up to make them happen. These include membership on the BLA Board or on its committees, such as the hard-working Friends of the Lake. The Monday golf league, hosting get-togethers, the highly successful Boatilla event which raises funds for Camp Merrywood, barbecues, Winterfest, and murder mystery dinners, are all organized and run by volunteers from our Buck Lake community.

Of course, there are always a number of one-off events that demonstrate the willingness of Buck Lakers to reach out and communicate with each other and make living on the lake so rewarding and socially fulfilling. There is little doubt that volunteerism is alive and well at Buck Lake.

Your BLA board has decided to create a volunteer award to recognize individuals who have demonstrated those noble characteristics of selflessness and contribution to our community. This award will be dedicated to the late Jim Manuel who served as a director on the BLA Board when it took its first steps to create a Lake Plan.

Unfortunately, Jim passed away much too soon, but his life of constant service to others was characterized by passion and caring and a generosity of spirit, action and participation. After he and his wife, Margaret Fisher, moved to Buck Lake in 2004, we benefited through his membership on the Buck Lake Association when he became the chair of the Planning Committee and the coordinator of the Dock Talk program. I urge you to go to the Buck Lake Association website ([under The Jim Manuel Volunteer Award](#)) where you can see Jim's story and have a look at his volunteer activities throughout his life – a remarkable man.

Currently, the plan is to have the Jim Manuel Volunteer Award presented at the Buck Lake Association's annual general meeting, typically held in July. Our board will be inviting you to submit the names of folk to be considered for this award. To choose one person will not be an easy task, and like me, you can probably think of a few deserving people.

This article provides an opportunity to publicly acknowledge and thank all our volunteers (and they know who they are) and to invite those of you who wish to play a volunteer role to get in touch with any member of our Board to direct you to those areas that are of interest to you.

Thank you, and to all, the very best of this Christmas season.

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## Murder Mystery is Another Great Fund Raising Success

This year the Murder Mystery performed by [Partners In Crime](#) seemed almost too real as it mirrored political events south of the border.

In the play, “Candidate for Death”, Daniel Lowt, the local MP, has been caught soliciting the services of a female undercover police constable. Some of his fellow members of his party are not at all pleased with Mr. Lowt. The Prime Minister has called an election and they see this as an opportunity to push him aside. A benefit dinner for the party faithful is hastily reconvened as a general meeting, and the rebels openly challenge Daniel Lowt in a contest for the candidacy.

As part of the show, members of the audience, including several Buck Lakers, were given the opportunity to run against Daniel Lowt. Their brief speeches were met with howls of laughter as they promised to build a wall around Westport (and of course Westport would pay for it) and touted their lack of experience as their most valuable asset.



Of course, no Murder Mystery would be complete without a murder and we soon find out that one of the candidates has been killed. The audience again added to the entertainment with many wild theories as to the identity of the murderer and the motive for the crime.

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In addition to the Murder Mystery, there was a silent auction with over 40 items to bid on. The proceeds from the auction were shared between the Legion and Buck Lake, with the Legion's portion being used for renovations to their kitchen area. The Buck Lake portion from the silent auction, \$1560, will be donated to Boatilla fund in support of Camp Merrywood.

Thanks goes out to Donna Neumann of Buck Lake who conceived the idea last year and was instrumental in making it happen again this year. Additional thanks goes to Trish Purdon from the Westport Legion and all those who helped before, during and after the murder mystery.

And last, but certainly not least, thanks to all the donors who supported the silent auction. Below is a sampling of some of the wonderful items donated.



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## WOW – Buck Lake Sweatshirts!!

Submitted by Rob Sinclair

Hello Fellow Buck Lakers. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you once again to all who have purchased the BUCK LAKE toques over the past two years. With your help we contributed over \$1,500 to the Buck Lake Boatilla, which benefits Easter Seals Camp Merrywood!

This year, to keep the tradition going and by popular request, we have our very own Buck Lake sweatshirts for sale! There are hoodies (S-XXL), crew necks (S-XL) and even some youth ones (XS-L). Twenty percent of all sales will go to the Buck Lake Boatilla Camp Merrywood campaign. Please email me at [robsinclair@cogeco.ca](mailto:robsinclair@cogeco.ca) if you would like to purchase some. If you need them by Christmas, don't delay, as shipping can get slow at time of the year.

- Dark Grey Hooded Sweatshirt \$45 small to XXL
- Deep Red Crew Neck Sweatshirt \$40 small to XL
- Blue Youth Sweatshirt \$30 XS to Large

All sweatshirts are 50/50 cotton/poly and preshrunk

Thanks and happy holidays!



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## Below the Surface of Buck Lake

Submitted by Jo Anne Hopkins

- A cave with a spring that feeds the lake with fresh water
- Fresh water sponges that glow in the dark at night
- Cray fish the size of dinner plates
- A secret location full of baby Trout
- Hundreds of years of junk

The above quotes represent some of the findings of Luis Bumbala who spearheads the organization known as Buck Lake Divers.

Luis Bumbala has been a PADI diving instructor since 1986 and an advocate of preserving our Marine environment. He has been at the pointy end of internationally recognized organizations such as DeepQuest, and PADI Aware programs. As the owner of three dive stores in Ottawa and the St. Lawrence, he has made a name for himself in the retail scuba industry. With over 1000 students certified in all levels of underwater training and institutions he is recognized as a Scuba Veteran now.

Now retiring to Buck Lake, but living in Ottawa, Luis is happy working with youth and Buck Lakers that want to explore our marine world. All funds raised will go back into building the club and raising the capital for possible marine projects in our own liquid habitat. Possible projects may include: fish restocking; kids underwater and marine awareness; aquatic clean up; and a Buck Lake education program for a healthy marine/liquid environment.

We take nothing but pictures, leave nothing but fish and enjoy the underwater world we all love from the surface.

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This group has also been working on a multimedia slide show and movie to provide insight regarding the underwater world of Buck Lake. We really hope to share his production at a movie night on the lake.

Luis states that to date he has worked with over 20 kids diving and they enjoy the lake most of all. He educates his clients on the importance of fresh water habitats and how few we have remaining.

To date, his group has removed 35 gallon pails of steel line and monofilament from Buck Lake and filled four buckets with lures. His program has been approved by PADI international, which is a partner of UNEXCO Dive Sites worldwide, and it funds projects to preserve reefs and underwater habitats. Project Aware, which Luis also teaches, has approved his program as an underwater educator. They also have CHEO coming to do a dream of a lifetime dive for two twelve-year-old children with cancer.



The Buck Lake Divers are recognized as a youth group by the Ottawa boys and girls club. All of the money they raise promotes and grows their teaching and diving thereby helping to preserve our delicate fish and providing a safe environment to teach underwater.

It is wonderful to have this level of underwater interest and expertise right here on our own lake.

To learn more about the Buck Lake Divers, check out their website at: [www.bucklakedivers.com](http://www.bucklakedivers.com)

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## Township News – Zoning By-Law

Submitted by Greg Fisher

In our June newsletter, we discussed the changes being made to the South Frontenac Comprehensive Zoning By-Law and the potential implications this could have for Buck Lake residents. Since that time a concerned group of citizens has formed a committee (SF Waterfront Coalition), and launched an Ontario Municipal Board (“OMB”) appeal to challenge the by-law change. The OMB appeal is currently scheduled to be heard on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 (for more information visit the SF Waterfront Coalition Facebook page).

In late November, the SF Waterfront Coalition made a presentation to the South Frontenac Township Committee of the Whole outlining the groups concerns and asking to work with Council to resolve the issues.

This was the topic of a recent article in Frontenac News. The article outlines the issues involved and the current status. A copy of the article can be seen at <http://www.frontenacnews.ca/south-frontenac-news/item/11032-grandfathered-property-rights-threatened-in-south-frontenac>

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Sunday 9:00am-5:00pm

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## Township News – Buck Lake Boat Ramp Open House

Submitted by Greg Fisher

We previously reviewed matters discussed at an open house held in August related to an assessment of the Perth Road at Buck Lake boat ramp. While there have not yet been any detailed recommendations brought forward for consideration, a document has been issued which details the issues that will be taken into consideration as the study team moves forward in developing Alternative Design Concepts. Comments were divided into five broad categories:

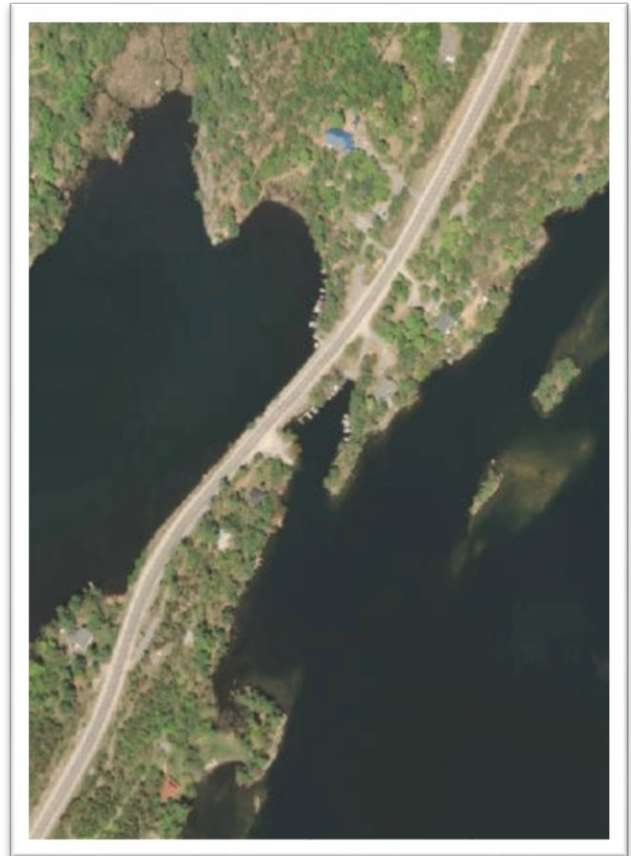
- parking,
- the boat ramp,
- safety,
- the culvert, and
- other issues

A copy of this document is attached at the end of this newsletter.

Should you have any questions concerning the issues outlined in the document, you should discuss these with our council representatives. Contact information can be found on the [South Frontenac website](#).

### Upcoming Events:

**Tuesday Lunches at Perth Road Hall:**  
Every Tuesday starting at noon. Soup, sandwiches, coffee and dessert all for just \$5.00. All Welcome



In order to promote the spirit of Buck Lake, we invite your comments and suggestions for newsletter articles or announcements. Mail to: [Buck Lake Information](#)

Renew your Buck Lake Association membership on line. A receipt will be emailed to you to confirm your payment. A service provided by FOCA: <http://foca.on.ca/product/buck-lake-association/>

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Summary of comments and discussion from Open House  
Buck Lake  
Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Comment	Response
<b>Main issues: parking, boat ramp, safety, culvert</b>	
<b>Parking</b>	The number of parking spaces required will be assessed. Locations for parking will be considered, both new locations and modifying existing locations.
Want to maintain parking	
Move Parking back away from driveway	
Who owns the public parking lot	
Who built the public parking lot	
Private parking at Wilburts Lane, when full, park on the road	
Parking acts as a traffic calming measure	
What is level of need for parking? Required capacity?	
How many islanders need parking? Need to own a piece of land on mainland	
Campers in Frontenac Provincial Park park also? 6 camping spots	
Need more parking for islanders	
Is private parking available?	
Parking in ditch area eastside to the north of Barrette Lane (same as small lot)	
Allow parking on south side of the road	
Allowing parking on the east side of the road south of the corner south of the culvert would calm speeds	
<b>Boat Ramp</b>	<p>The design of the boat ramp will take into account the requests listed.</p> <p>The Municipality cannot prevent boaters from accessing the public boat launch or public lakes.</p> <p>Alternate locations for a boat ramp will be considered including locations not directly adjacent to Perth Road.</p>
An ideal boat ramp should: Not be on a major road, have parking available, have a turn-around loop, have a long ramp, be less windy, have less current	
It is hard to get boats in and out at the beginning and end of the season.	
Many don't want to boat ramp upgraded for fear of it becoming too busy	
Current is problematic for snowmobiles (the ice doesn't stay thick)	
Structure is abrupt/Grade is too severe	
Goes deep too fast	
Could use flexible concrete	
Widen the area	
Provide a turn-around	
Port-a-potty	
Can a new boat ramp area be created?	
Can we state that the objective is not to improve the boat ramp to such a degree that boat traffic is increased?	
Decontamination station	
Not everyone can manoeuvre the boat launch.	
If we don't monitor and limit usage we are liable	
There should be a usage fee (like Devil Lake)	

Comment	Response
Use a student to monitor access	
We should limit boat access, only for residents and not visitors	
It is more dangerous getting out of the boat ramp than backing in	
Is private property available for purchase? Identify adjacent property owners to possibly acquire extra land	
Purchase the Scofield Camp and relocate the boat ramp there	
Add a bypass around the ramp	
New location for the boat ramp at the end of the lake? Maybe on Hidden Valley Road	
Require history of ramp	
Remove the rock on the ramp	
Gravel is washing out	
In need of immediate repair (ie. Potholes)	
There is garbage in the area of the ramp. Add recycling bins	
Should be open to use by everyone	
<b>Safety</b>	<p>Speed, erosion and sightlines are issues that will be reviewed as part of this study.</p> <p>Pedestrians, cyclists and motor vehicles are all to be considered as road users when alternative solutions are developed.</p>
Getting out of the driveway in the NW quadrant (Barrett's Lane)	
Unable to see	
Add reflective mirrors on the bend	
Skew of the road	
Speed is an issue	
Need OPP Presence	
Community speed zone	
Increase fines for the duration of the zone	
Traffic light could be added to allow people out of the boat ramp	
Traffic cameras should be installed (ie. Red light). Is this possible/legal? Check with the City of Kingston	
Rumble strips (support for both adding and removing due to noise)	
The north side needs 2 rumble strips and another is needed closer to the bend in the road	
Driver feedback signs	
Guiderail is eroding	
Erosion repair is needed along causeway section of road	
Temporary speed humps	
Divert trucks	
More speed warning signs (maybe beside rumble strips)	
Line painting	
Reflective strips	
Expand lanes/widen the road	
Add a crosswalk	
There are driveways along the corridor so the parked cars block their view	
Straightening roads creates an increase in speed	
Flashing light	
Cycling along this route should be accommodated	

Comment	Response
<b>Culvert</b>	If culvert is to be replaced, it should accommodate boats and allow good water flow
Culvert eroding and retaining wall collapsing at 7840 – contact information for resident forwarded to the Township	
What is the age of the culvert?	
Replace the CSP with a box to increase the flow	
Make box culvert larger and extend it for bigger boats to use (currently only a 6' pontoon boat will fit, would like to fit 8' boats)	
Make sure flow is maintained	
Road closed to replace culvert?	
<b>Other Issues</b>	Information could be provided at the boat launch regarding invasive species. Impacts to traffic flow (boat and road traffic) will be considered when staging improvement works. Regulations regarding natural environment will be taken into account when planning the improvements.
What are the provincial rules for the size of boats and their wakes	
Concerned about zebra mussels	
May need to educate visitors on invasive species	
Whose responsibility is this (invasive species)? MNRF? CRCA?	
Buck Lake is a native trout lake	
It is a public lake that should be privatized	
Flow should be maintained for health of lakes	
What does the Township own? Where are unopened road allowances	
Conservation Authority needs to be involved	
Bailey Bridge overpass	
Road work will impact marina area	
Bypass through traffic with a causeway further into the lake	
Boats on the lake are too big	