



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 – April 2007

Board of Directors' Report

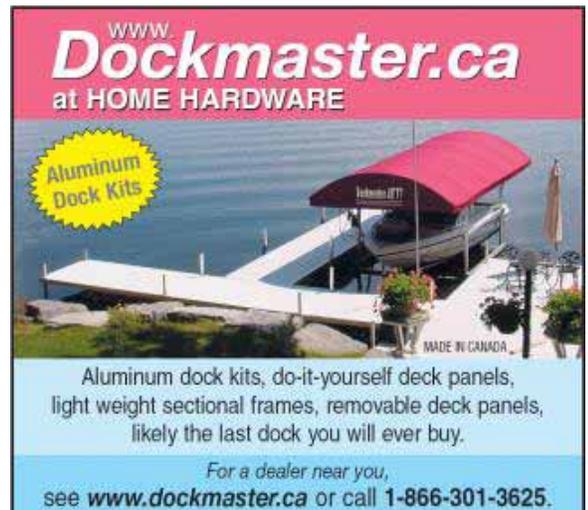
Our Board last met on March 24th and reviewed a number of issues upcoming for summer 2007. Due to the fact that we have been successful in building our membership up to 150, we discussed ways to better serve current members and attract new members, especially those people new to the lake. Our Outreach and Communications Committees have been charged with the challenge of preparing an outreach plan which could include an information brochure, a special newsletter edition and/or a visitation plan. Some type of membership identification plaque for mailbox or dock was also discussed. Communicating and interacting with our membership is our first priority and we will continue to plan activities such as the Spring Pitch-In, Summer BBQ, Boater Certification Courses and more. Some early planning work has also begun on the Buck Lake History project. We will have more details in a future newsletter but we are interested in any and all contributions. Contact us through the email address at info@bucklake.ca.

Tentative dates have been set for three upcoming events:

- Pitch-In 2007 – Saturday April 28th (details below)
- Annual General Meeting – Saturday July 7th @ Perth Road United Church Hall
- Summer BBQ – Saturday August 18th @ Harris Park

The Board meets next on May 12th and newsletters will be published monthly throughout the summer and fall. The Communications Committee reported that newsletter and website advertisement revenue for 2007 based on current commitments will be \$700. We continue to have interest in additional advertisements as well. This revenue more than covers the annual cost of our newsletter.

The Nomination Committee of the Board is currently at work preparing a slate of nominees for at least six (6) Director vacancies for the 2007-2008 Board. If you are approached, please consider a term on the BLA Board. If you are interested in becoming a Board member, please send a message to the email address above. It may save some twisted arms!



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[In Memoriam](#)

We are saddened to hear of the passing of two long time Buck Lakers over the winter. **Jake Zegers** of Portville, NY passed away in November and **Catherine Smith** of Norman Lane in December. These long-time loyal members will be missed on the lake and our most respectful regards and sympathy are extended to family and their many friends on the lake.

If you are aware of other bereavements or illnesses that would be of interest to our readers please forward to info@bucklake.ca.

[Earth Week Pitch-In Project at Buck Lake](#)

Once again this year, the BLA will participate in the South Frontenac Natural Environment Committee Pitch-In Campaign. During the week of **April 23rd to 28th** we encourage all Buck Lakers to be part of the effort to keep our roadsides and environment clean and beautiful. Special yellow garbage bags that require no bag tag for pick-up by the Township are available at **Perth Road Convenience Store** or **Northway Hardware**. Individuals may choose the area and the time for clean up during the week or they may wish to meet friends and neighbours at the Culvert/Boat Launch, **Saturday April 28th at 9:00 a.m.** to make it a group effort. Steve Wowk Sr. and Director Marilyn O'Connor are coordinating this effort and will have a quantity of bags available on Saturday morning. It may be a bother, but much of the winter garbage along the roads is recyclable. If you choose to sort, it could be a savings to the landfill. Remember that those beer bottles and cans, wine and liquor bottles are worth money now so make some extra money for that trip to the Beer Store next time. Place the yellow bags out with your regular garbage on the assigned day for pick-up. If you have questions, contact Steve Wowk at (613) 353-1496 or email at wowks@Triboard.on.ca. Let's see lots of those pretty yellow bags along the Perth Road April 30th!

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[Spring Cleaning](#)

We are cleaning out the newsletter file of items that have piled up over the last few months:

- Constable Don Davies of the **South Frontenac OPP Detachment** contacted us in February to make us aware of their focus on the prevention of property/break and enter crime. The good news is that between 2003 and 2006 reported property crimes in our area were reduced from 200 to 50. An impressive statistic but only possible because residents have been proactive. Report suspicious events, make your property as secure as possible and get involved with your neighbours in **Buck Lake Community Watch**, a collective

effort to watch out for each other. (Visit www.bucklake.ca to link with the Community Watch organization.) The police work much better with us as a team. They have a large rural area to patrol and need our on-going help and support to be affective. Constable Davies can be reached at the South Frontenac Detachment-Break and Enter Unit, (613) 372-1932 ext. 3245. There may be a future opportunity to have Constable Davies meet with members of the BLA to discuss the particular security needs of cottagers.

- A couple of years ago, one of our American cottagers, Margaret Edens from Texas, emailed us and asked if we knew who was the earliest confirmed swimmer of the season and could we report it in the newsletter. We thought that we would issue the challenge again for 2007. Here's how it works: contestants are asked to send a digital photograph along with a witness testimonial of their first Buck Lake swim of at least 30 ft./10 m to Ralph Wirsig at kwirsig@kos.net. Ralph will adjudicate the **Early Bird Swim Contest** and report the results in a subsequent newsletter. We will also post the winning picture on the website.

- The South Frontenac Natural Environment Committee sponsors a number of public presentations each winter on a wide range of environmental issues. We neglected to announce these presentations in our recent newsletters but wish to make partial amends by announcing the last of the series. On **Wednesday April 18th** at the Township Hall in Sydenham, Mr. Don Hall will make a presentation on the UNESCO designated **“Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve”** of which Buck Lake is part. The presentation begins at 7:00 p.m.

- Most if not all Buck Lakers have noticed the impressive new **heritage signage** as they pass through Perth Road Village. A group of very committed people have worked to raise the funds to make this project a reality. They have begun Phase II which will add heritage signage to other areas of our community such as Wilmer, Buck Lake and Missouri. Raffle tickets are on sale for a great array of prizes such as a half-day sail for you and 19 of your closest friends on Lake Ontario aboard the brigantine St. Lawrence II or dinner for two at Chez Piggy. Tickets are on sale at Perth Road Convenience Store, Petro-Pro in Glenburnie and throughout the summer at community events. The draw will be made on August 18th. Check out the website at www.prvh.piczo.com for more information.

- In past Newsletters, we have reported developments regarding the **“current value assessment”** debate. The recent Ontario Budget seems to have addressed the issue to some extent, by suggesting that re-assessment would only take place every five years and

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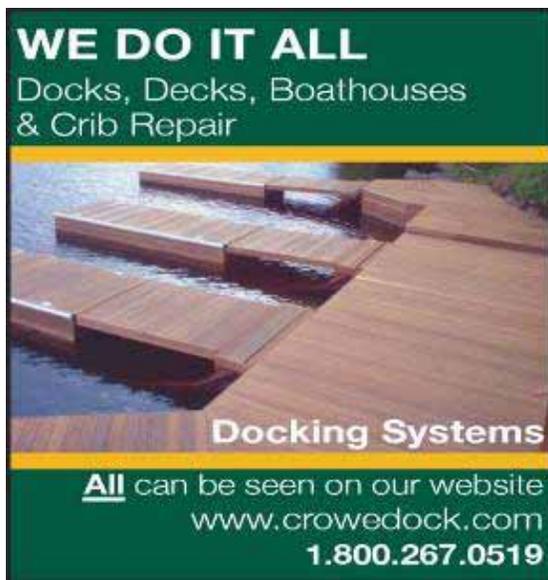
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any increase in assessment would be phased into our tax bills over a five-year period. If for some reason current value assessment should decrease; the taxes would be reduced in full in the next taxation year. Stay tuned...we somehow don't think the issue will go away that fast.

- Someone recently sent us an interesting newspaper article on the question of the family cottage and how to plan for the smooth and financially prudent transition of the property to the next generation. We won't quote the article except to advise anyone in that position to access professional advice and to check the article "**Don't fool with the Taxman when Transferring the Cottage**" by contacting its author, Tim Chestnick, at tchestnick@waterstreet.ca.

For those who have not yet made their first 2007 trek to the cottage, a brief **weather report** from the lake...It sucks! Spring doesn't seem to want to break through. We have a few hours of sunshine followed by three days of rain and wet snow. The lake ice has almost melted but it will take some sun and a good stiff breeze to clean out the rest. We are looking forward to warm, sunny days and the return of our summer friends for another great season at the lake. We have at least one loon sighting so the signs are good! We have at least one loon sighting so the signs are good! And the ospreys are back too.

LATE FLASH: Most of the ice went out of Buck Lake overnight Apr 16/17.



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[Thank-You](#)

We would like to recognize and thank our loyal advertisers who have all returned for another year of the Buck Lake News. Please support these businesses in any way you can to thank them for their support of our newsletter and the BLA.

A special thanks is also extended to former BLA Directors Richard Linley and Ralph Wirsig who continue to be critical parts of our communications team as webmaster and membership database manager respectively. Their efforts are a tremendous support to the BLA.

Editorial comment: As usual the main contributor to gathering and reporting the news in this news letter is Roy Mills whose dedication and effort are much appreciated.

Newsletter items are always welcome whether news or comment. Please contact us at info@bucklake.ca Our next edition is planned for mid-May.