



# 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 – 2011 May**

Principal writer: Roy Mills

### President's Message

I attended the funeral of Larry McCormick today. He was our Member of Parliament from 1993 through 2004. Prior to that, he ran McCormick's Country Store in Camden East for over 25 years. Larry was, by all accounts, a nice guy - community minded, generous, thoughtful, always with a kind word. The attendees overflowed the church and almost filled the adjoining hall.

It was a very moving experience and reminded me of the importance of family, friends and community.

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ELSTON LEGEND BOATS TRIUMPH MERCURY

As you all know, we have a wonderful community here at Buck Lake. I consider myself blessed to be a part of it.

The season is ahead of us and your executive is planning a number of events to provide opportunities for us to continue to build this community.

I look forward to seeing you on several occasions this summer.

Tricia Waldron

### Board of Director's Report

The Board met on April 16<sup>th</sup> and a considered a full agenda. Crawford MacIntyre reported for the Nominations Committee and noted that due to term limits and early retirements, there will be a number of vacancies to fill for the next Board of Directors. The Committee plans to meet before the May Board meeting. All Directors were asked for the names of possible candidates for Board positions. Crawford also reported on behalf of Constitution and By-laws and requested that Notice of Motion be given to the membership regarding the Board decision to amend the By-laws to change the status of the **Friends of the Lake Committee** from ad hoc to a standing committee of the Board and that the proposed Terms of Reference be published in the next newsletter.

Secretary-Treasurer Cheryl Savery presented an April financial report and a proposed 2011 budget, which were discussed and approved by the Board. The **2011 Budget** is printed in this edition of the News and will be presented for approval at the AGM in July. Ralph Wirsig reported that 88 memberships had been renewed for 2011 and that revenue from advertisements in the News for 2011 was \$1050 to date.

Sandra Rider reported on planning for a number of events over the summer months. A detailed report is part of this edition of the News. The Board established the date of the Annual General Meeting to be **Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup> at Perth Road Public School**. More details will follow in future newsletters. Wayne Myles reported that the Friends of the Lake were progressing toward a detailed plan of activities for 2011 and would have a full report in May.

The Board will next meet on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

### Notice of Motion

At the Annual General Meeting on Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup>, the Board of Directors will propose an amendment to the By-laws of the BLA to establish the **Friends of the Lake** as a Standing Committee of the Board. The proposed Terms of Reference of the Committee are printed below.

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### **BUCK LAKE ASSOCIATION (BLA) FRIENDS OF THE LAKE STANDING COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

February 2, 2011

The primary purpose of Friends of the Lake Committee is to educate the residents of Buck Lake about its environs and promote the means by which the health and enjoyment of the lake can be maintained for present and future generations.

The Buck Lake Association (BLA) Friends of the Lake Standing Committee terms of reference are:

1. To take the lead in planning for the future of Buck Lake by developing and updating the BLA Lake Plan.
2. To perform a prominent administrative and leadership role in the implementation of the BLA Lake Plan goals and objectives.
3. To coordinate the collection and documentation of lake information to inform Buck Lakers about the lake and its environs through research, surveys, individual data collection and partnering with various government and non-governmental organizations.
4. To offer lake residents opportunities for taking action to sustain and improve the water quality and shoreline of the lake.
5. To educate the Buck Lake community regarding the BLA Lake Plan and its goals and objectives through displays, information sessions and workshops.
6. To advise on the advocacy role that the BLA should play with the Township and other governments whose mandates include management responsibilities over activities bearing on the health of the lake and of our community given the information gathered in the Lake Plan process.
7. To mobilize and recruit members of the BL community to assist in achieving the goals and objectives of the BLA Lake Plan.
8. To coordinate the volunteer lists and activities to ensure an effective and timely use of their work.

**Buck Lake Association**  
**Proposed Budget for 2011**

<b>Budget</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Membership Revenue	\$4,000.00
Deferred Revenue from 2010	
Advertising	\$1,000.00
Lake Planning	\$3,000.00
Map Sales	\$200.00
Social & Outreach	\$500.00
Courses / Events	\$500.00
Other	\$100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,300.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Insurance	\$1,100.00
Affiliate Memberships	\$800.00
Publications	\$400.00
Administration Fees	\$200.00
Conference & Seminars	\$250.00
Courses / Events	\$1,000.00
Social & Outreach	\$1,000.00
Buck Lake Heritage Project	\$300.00
Community Project	\$1,000.00
Lake Plan Activities	\$5,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,050.00</b>
<b>Excess of Revenue over Expenses</b>	<b>-\$1,750.00</b>

## Community Liaison/Social Committee

### 2011 Calendar of Events:

- Thursday June 16<sup>th</sup> – Pot Luck Dinner at the home of Margaret Fisher, 1018 Kingfisher Lane. Gather at 5:30 and eat at 6:00...bring a main dish, salad, dessert or appetizer, your beverage of choice and your lawn chairs. Coffee and tea will be available. Everyone is welcome! A great way to meet old and new Buck Lakers and make connections for the summer.
- Saturday July 2<sup>nd</sup> – Dock Sale (a lake garage sale) 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. For those who wish to participate, put your treasures out on the dock and mark your sale by putting some balloons up. We will promote the sale in upcoming newsletters. We are expecting lots of activity on the lake that weekend so the concept might really catch on...and a great way to meet your lake neighbours.

- Saturday July 2<sup>nd</sup> – Annual Buck Lake Boatilla - "Send a Kid to Camp". More details in the June News.

#### Ron's Home & Cottage Services

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The poster for the Classic Theatre Festival features a red background. At the top, the logo 'CTF' is inside a decorative frame, with 'Classic Theatre Festival' written below it in a serif font. Underneath, it says 'Ottawa Valley's Professional Summer Theatre'. On the left, there is an illustration of a black cat with glowing yellow eyes sitting in front of a large, full moon. Below this is the text 'Bell, Book and Candle July 8 to 31, 2011'. In the center, it says 'New venue! Mason Theatre 13 Victoria Street, Perth Wheelchair accessible'. On the right, there is an illustration of a red, ornate four-poster carriage. Below this is the text 'The Fourposter Aug. 5 to 28, 2011'. At the bottom, it provides the phone number '1-877-283-1283 or www.classictheatre.ca' and the phrase 'Ask about our Early Bird Discounts!'.

- Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup> – Annual General Meeting of the BLA at Perth Road Public School. Coffee and Conversation at 8:30 a.m. – Meeting at 9:00 a.m.
- Thursday July 21<sup>st</sup> – Education Night at Perth Road United Church Hall in the Village starting at 6:30 p.m. The speaker will be Mark Convoy from Queen's University and the topic will be "The Wildlife of Buck Lake" – Sponsored by the Friends of the Lake.
- Saturday August 20<sup>th</sup> – Annual Buck Lake Association Picnic and BBQ at Harris Park in Perth Road Village...details to follow.
- Sunday September 11<sup>th</sup> – Buck Lake Rider Cup Golf Tournament at Rideau Lakes Golf Club in Westport.

**Beaver Troubles** (Credits to EMC and Grayden McClurg):



**Beaver Troubles?**

BY ONYEE LEUNG, CHRISTOPHER MONK AND REBECCA BRUNT  
Permission granted by EMC editor, thank you.

EMC Lifestyle - Once classified as a fish due to its scaly tail, the beaver is in fact Canada's most iconic rodent, being the national symbol and having a place on our nickel. However, with their increasing abundance, rural interactions with beavers are becoming more common and beavers do not necessarily leave a good first impression! "Busy" beavers have been known to cause severe property damage by cutting down trees, blocking culverts and drain pipes, and causing serious floods. Although there are short-term issues associated with local beavers, their long-term contributions to the environment make them a worth-while neighbour when managed effectively.

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The beaver is an ingenious ecosystem engineer that shapes the unique rural environment that Canadians take pride in, and its ability to beneficially modify its ecosystem renders this species one of the largest contributors to Canada's aquatic environments. In addition, beavers ensure productive ecosystem functioning, which creates and upholds the natural beauty and species diversity of Southern Ontario. This species ensures the integrity of aquatic habitats through the enhanced growth of aquatic vegetation, which prevents erosion and acts as a buffer in the face of contamination, restoring pristine conditions. Beaver damming also shapes the species diversity in the surrounding area by providing ideal habitats for a variety of charismatic bird, mammal and fish species. Not only are these animals captivating, but they also provide recreation for birdwatchers, fishers and hunters alike. One of the main concerns is their sensitivity to human interference and

as such, habitat degradation has become a major player in beaver mortality. With increases in human population size comes the inevitable strain on freshwater resources and the disappearance of wetlands, especially in the Kingston region. This will have both short and long-term effects that will ripple through the Canadian wilderness and encompass numerous other species. By now you have hopefully become convinced that the beaver is not just another of Canada's irksome rodents. But, you may still have some skepticism about how to coexist with these devious dam builders. You may be wondering, "what are my options for ending my beaver woes? Should I turn to trapping, or maybe even shooting?" The answer to the latter question is no, there are many solutions to beaver management that do not involve lethal actions.

To deal with beavers that are destroying personal property, an effective strategy is to protect trees using rigid welded wire fencing with 4-inch mesh and a height of at least 36 inches. No repellents are legal in Canada, but homemade substitutes can be used including textual repellents like outdoor latex paint mixed with coarse sand. In situations in which beaver relocation is the preferred strategy, the beaver baffler may be the tool of choice. This is a long-term solution that will leave beavers unable to control water levels at their dam, discouraging them and eventually causing abandonment. If property flooding is your main concern, the Clemsen Beaver Pond Leveler would be an effective solution. This allows you to manipulate the water level of a beaver pond without disturbing the beaver habitat. For more information on humane and cost effective ways to deal with beavers as well as specific instructions on how to build the devices listed above, please visit our blog at <http://www.thecottagersguidetobeavers.blogspot.com>.

## Early Bird Swimmers

For a number of years, we have published early swimming news at the lake. Here is a challenge from Andrea MacIntyre and David Rogers from the South Branch...Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup> at about 2:00 p.m. Can anyone beat that one?



## Buck Lake Boatilla

Well. Good Day Buck Lakers.

On April 10<sup>th</sup> I watched with great pride and emotion as Ron Matthey and Duncan Sinclair presented a cheque at the Easter Seals Telethon on behalf of Buck Lake. The cheque was in the amount of **\$13,680**. That's correct – thirteen thousand, six hundred and eighty dollars to send children with physical disabilities to Camp Merrywood. Bravo Buck Lakers!

I would like to give Buck Lake newcomers a brief history of the event. Six years ago it was decided that Buck Lake was a fantastic place to live and/or cottage, trailer, camp or just visit. We could swim, boat, fish, hike, watch the sun rise and set – all those great things but we thought of underprivileged children who couldn't readily do those things because of physical handicaps. We decided to raise \$2000 to Send a Kid to Camp, to enjoy for 10 days what we take for granted on Buck Lake all year long. It became our mantra. Flying by the seat of our pants, a Boatilla was organized. Boats met at the culvert, some decorated, and we paraded for a while and stopped at Christmas Bay. With waves and wind disrupting

everything, Ron presented a cheque in the unbelievable amount of \$3500 to Easter Seals while aboard Rick Smith's pontoon boat – a dangerous maneuver even in calm waters! (Sorry Rick.)

The following year, Randy Ruttan invited us to use the Hidden Valley Trailer Park to celebrate the cheque presentation.

Since then, the event has grown and over \$50,000 has been raised by the Buck Lake community to send children to Camp Merrywood. Yes, that's correct – **FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS**. Now that is something to be proud of!

This year, the **Buck Lake Boatilla** is **Saturday, July 2, 2011**. Again we will meet at the culvert and parade the lake, ending at Hidden Valley Campground for a Barbecue.

**PLEASE JOIN US.** Join us at the culvert – join us when you see us pass by – join us at Hidden Valley Campground. Come by motorboat, canoe, kayak, ATV, car or on foot. Everyone is welcome. Come and participate in this great event. Meet fellow Buck Lakers. Meet the children you are helping. Enjoy a burger or dog. Have some fun.

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A steering Committee representing both branches of Buck Lake meets several times a year. This year, the committee is comprised of Ron Matthey (Chair). Pat Hagerty, Duncan Sinclair, Crawford MacIntyre from the North Branch and Saundry Rider, Sandy Payne, Liz Graham-Trudel (Treasurer) and myself (Secretary) from the South Branch.

All the food is donated by local merchants and cooked by volunteers to your satisfaction. **EVERY SINGLE PENNY COLLECTED GOES TO CAMP MERRYWOOD.**

Hoping to see you July 2<sup>nd</sup>,

Ross (Roscoe) Trudel

## [Around the Lake](#)

- Katherine and John Leverette from Narrows Lane report a break-in at their home sometime between April 13<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. A number of items were stolen including TV/DVD, liquor etc. They wish to thank good neighbours, Grayden and Ross for their support and to alert all lake residents to their concerns.
- A few years ago a small group of Buck Lakers decided to get together on Monday mornings for a round of golf. Over the years the group has grown to over 50 participants from around the lake. From May until September you will find them on Monday mornings at either Rideau Lakes or Evergreen golf courses in Westport. The group meets at one of courses around 9 a.m. plays nine holes of golf and then enjoys a sociable lunch together in the clubhouse. Some folks play weekly and others may only play a few times during the season. Everyone is welcome. If you are interested in joining in or just want more information, contact [bucklakegolf@gmail.com](mailto:bucklakegolf@gmail.com).
- High water and wind has created much havoc around the lake this spring. Many docks were damaged by the spring ice and some just got blown away. Many trees fell victim to the high winds in late April. If you haven't visited the cottage yet this year, you may be well advised to bring your

chain saw. Edward and Janice Shea (South Branch @ Shea Lane) are missing part of their dock. If you find it floating near your property, contact them at [edwardshea@kos.net](mailto:edwardshea@kos.net).



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- Every year new people arrive at the lake either as seasonal or permanent residents. Please take the opportunity to greet new neighbours and promote the work of your Buck Lake Association. Our Community Liaison Committee would be pleased to contact new folks and share information about the BLA and the lake community. Tell new people about the website, which is a wealth of information about the BLA and the lake.

- Spring cleaning may be late this year due to the fact that spring is late but remember a great way to add and subtract from your collection of "stuff" is to come to the **Giant Yard Sale at Perth Road United Church Hall on Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup> beginning at 9:00 a.m.** Donations are gladly accepted on Friday evening or first thing on Saturday. Larger items could even be picked-up by calling Dave Kuhn at (613) 353-1690. Home baking and great deals on good "stuff" ...see you on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

- The shoal markers should be in place over the next few weeks. The red inflatable markers used last year on a trial basis, will be slowly replaced with a more sturdy hazard marker buoy (yellow) recommended by FOCA. The water is so high at present that most known shoals are well

covered but deadheads and other floating debris are a danger. Be on the watch when boating in early season...wear a life jacket at all times. The water is still very cold and there aren't many boats in the water to lend assistance if needed. The high water means that the Culvert clearance is much less than in the summer or fall and floating and sunken debris can get caught in the Culvert...be observant and safe on the lake.

- The South Frontenac Natural Environment Committee is presenting a talk on bats by Matt Saunders at the Trinity United Church Fellowship Hall (5569 Hwy 38, Verona) on Saturday, May 28 at 1:00pm. In addition, there will be a demonstration of bat house building, as well a very limited number of bat house kits for sale at \$10/ea. (Matt makes the kits himself.)

Also, Matt always tries to bring at least one bat with him to every event he addresses. Matt has been a guest speaker a few times at the Cat. Cons. Area and has been very popular, especially with the kids.

## Passages...

Two members of our Buck Lake community passed away in March. We wish to note their passing and send our sincere regards to their families and friends.

- Peg McLean passed on March 15<sup>th</sup> at Providence Manor in Kingston. Peg and her family were cottagers on the North Branch for many years and will be missed by many friends on the lake.
- Mike Rawes of Frye Lane (North Branch) passed away on March 16<sup>th</sup> at KGH in his 66<sup>th</sup> year. Mile was a member of the Buck Lake golfers group and will be missed on the tee and clubhouse.