

# The Laker

## *Morrison Lake News*

ISSUE 2

SUMMER

2009

*Welcome back to Morrison Lake, the heartland of Muskoka. We look forward to a sunny and warm summer season in 2009. The loons are back, the fish are jumping and the lake becons the swimmers.*

## Newsletter....

We need your feedback and input into this newsletter. Maybe you would like to write an article on your experiences on Morrison Lake, maybe a funny story or a family history on the lake. Perhaps you have a question or have something you wish to buy or sell. Once again with Issue #2 we will forward the newsletter to residents via email and by distributing hard copies, however as mentioned previously we would like to move to a paperless version as soon as possible. We can expedite the delivery of the newsletter by each resident sending their email address to: [morrisonlake@rogers.com](mailto:morrisonlake@rogers.com)

Should you be willing to provide input into the newsletter, please contact:

Paul Kelly at: [kellysp@sympatico.ca](mailto:kellysp@sympatico.ca) or at (705) 687-5605.

## Get In Touch

Provide your email address and get regular updates on Morrison Lake at: [www.morrisonlake.ca](http://www.morrisonlake.ca)

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### ***Pleasure Craft Operator Card Test:***

***Saturday July 25, 2009***

See details below

#### ***Regatta 2009:***

***Saturday August 1, 2009***

...see Volleyball info below

#### ***Golf Tournament:***

***Saturday August 15, 2009*** Call or e-mail to reserve your spot.

The Pajunens [pajunen@allstream.net](mailto:pajunen@allstream.net)

705 445 6487 or The Readings

[hreading@sympatico.ca](mailto:hreading@sympatico.ca) 705 687 8698

See details below.

#### ***Gravenhurst Farmers Market:***

Wednesdays 9am-2pm at the Wharf

<http://www.gravenhurstfarmersmarket.com/>

## LAKE WATCH

Morrison Lake Ratepayers Association Presidents: **Louise Pegg** - [dpegfamily@yahoo.com](mailto:dpegfamily@yahoo.com)  
& **Karen Fairbrass** - [marathonmom@sympatico.ca](mailto:marathonmom@sympatico.ca)

Treasurer: **Joanne Forth** - [joannef.43@gmail.com](mailto:joannef.43@gmail.com)

Morrison Lake Website: [www.morrisonlake.ca](http://www.morrisonlake.ca)

**Membership Fees \$25: Please send to...MLRA General Delivery, Kilworthy, Ont. P0E1G0**





# Morrison Lake Annual Golf Tournament August 15, 2009

Enjoy 9 Holes of golf at Evergreen Par 3 course, with dinner to follow at Silver Pines.

We have reserved the Muskoka Room,  
on beautiful Sparrow Lake for 7pm  
(only 12km from your cottage)

## MENU

Starter: Caesar Salad

Main: Choose between Rack of Back Ribs *or* Salmon Teriyaki  
served with baked potato

Desert: Apple Crisp

*Wine and coffee*

## Great list of prizes and raffle items

(barbeque, wine fridge, segwin, jewellery, solar dock lights, Italian dinner basket)

Sign up NOW for good food, good fun & time with good friends.

Upon registration we will ask for your meal selection  
and tee off times will be assigned to you.

**Golf & dinner \$50.00 Dinner only \$40.00 Golf only \$15.00**

Contact : The Pajunen: joanpajunen@rogers.com ... 705 687-8011  
or The Readings: hreading@sympatico.ca ... 705 687-8698

## PRIZES

- Barbeque Value \$299.00
  - Wine Fridge Value \$125.00
  - Patio umbrella light Value \$30.00
  - Martini drink wheel 6 martini flavours and shaker on wheel Value \$22.00
  - Two jar stainless steel blender Value \$35.00
  - Set of cheese plates Value \$28.00
  - Electric putting skill game Value \$29.95
  - 3 decorative copper wall molds Value \$30.00
  - Italian dinner basket (Ripasso wine, red & white wine vinegar, organic olive oil, imported pasta) Value \$45.00
  - Bottle of red wine in golf gift bag Value \$15.00
  - "Muskoka" coffee table picture books Editions 1 & 2 Value \$50.00
  - 8 X 10 white seashell picture frame Value \$10.00
  - Inlaid wood veneer photo album (holds 80 4 x 6 photos) Value \$25.00
  - Hose winder Value \$20.00
- ART**
- Ingrid Hunt signed numbered print Georgian Bay Value \$80.00
  - Signed C Holding print of Bermuda Value \$55.00
  - R Mannes print Loon Value \$45.00
- GOLFER PRIZES**
- Ladies large apron with garden tools (2) Value \$15.00
  - Ladies Small garden tools (4) Value \$9.00
  - Golf Balls

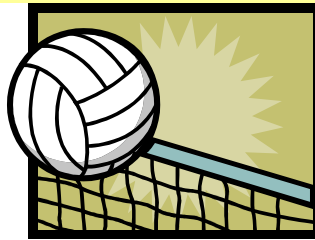


## Regatta 2009 Saturday August 1

- Volleyball
- Water Ski Competition
- Family Picnic- kids games
- Across the Lake Swim

Note: High School students please come out and volunteer at regatta and you will be able to obtain Community Service Hours through this volunteer work. Volunteer work could involve set up and distribution of regatta flyers, set up and clean up of regatta site and running kids' events.

**Prize donations are greatly appreciated. Volunteers are needed to make this Regatta a success. To assist with activities or donations please contact Karen Fairbrass at: [marathonmom@sympatico.ca](mailto:marathonmom@sympatico.ca)**



## VOLLEYBALL

Saturday August 1<sup>st</sup>  
(round robin) / Sunday August 2<sup>nd</sup> (playoffs).

4 on 4 with one lady on the court at all times.

Location: 1051 / 1067 North Morrison Lake Road.  
Registration at 1051 North Morrison Lake Road.

Time: 12:45 pm registration - Saturday. 1 pm Sunday

## Pleasure Craft Operator Card Test

Do you have your card yet?  
Interested in taking the test?  
**Drive A Boat Canada**  
will be available to test  
Morrison Lake residents at  
9:00a.m. at the Kelly's on  
Saturday July 25, 2009 at  
1051 Evanswood Drive.  
Please call or email Paul by  
July 19th to reserve a spot as  
space is limited.  
687-5605 or  
[kellysp@sympatico.ca](mailto:kellysp@sympatico.ca).

**Cost: \$60 upon passing the test & payable to Drive A Boat Canada.**

Craft Operator Card is good for life.  
**By September 15, 2009 everyone must have an Operator Card.**



## COMMON SENSE AND GOOD NEIGHBOUR SUGGESTIONS:

Although the items mentioned below seem like common sense, some visitors, renters and a few cottagers seem to be oblivious to basic lake etiquette concepts.

### Swimming and General Water Activities:

Please tell your children to refrain from screaming. It is annoying and disconcerting to your neighbors. Worse- if they are continually screaming, no one can tell when there is an actual emergency. Voices can be heard for great distances over water, please respect your lake and be aware of foul language and late night banter while on the water.

### Boating:

Huge waves can wreak havoc on docks, boats, loon nests and shoreline erosion. Please be observant and adjust your speed to minimize the size of wake your boat generates. All boats are requested to follow the 10km/h rule within 30 meters of shore, (except when pulling out a skier, boarder, tube) in which you must try to access open water at 90 degrees from shore as best as possible.

### Tubing:

Tubing is fun for all and most enjoy it. Tubing can be done in calm or choppy water, why not respect the few times our lake is calm and try to give this time to the skiers and wake skaters who need calm water. This is usually before 10am and after 6pm. The back channel area is also not a safe area to tube given its narrow width and lack of control in a tube.

### Wakeboarding:

The bigger the wake the better right? Please remember the 30m law from shore. You are liable by law for any damage your wake creates to vessels, docks or shorelines.

### Fishing:

Please respect people's privacy and property and refrain from approaching docks and shorelines when folks are trying to enjoy it.

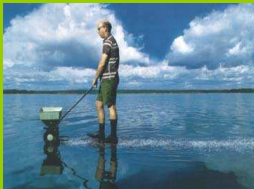
### Outside Lights:

Many Morrison Lake residents enjoy the night sky. High intensity and misdirected outdoor lights obliterate the night sky. Please help to reduce light pollution. The OPP advises cottagers to use motion timers for security and remind us that inconsiderate lights can get you charged with disturbing the peace. Give the environment and your neighbors a break, turn off the lights.

Thank you and play safe on beautiful Morrison Lake!

Submitted.

## The Environment



From: State of the Lakes in the District Municipality of Muskoka, Bracebridge

Clean, clear lakes start with each one of us caring for the water right around our property. Lifestyle makes the difference with Phosphorous and our lake.

Low Phosphorus Lifestyle	High Phosphorus Lifestyle
Human Waste <b>535 G</b>	Human Waste <b>535G</b>
No Dishwasher <b>0 G</b>	Dishwasher using powdered detergent once a day <b>650 G</b>
No Fertilizer <b>0 G</b>	Lawn fertilized once a year using 10% each nitrogen, potassium and phosphorus <b>1960 G</b>
Trees not cut down <b>20 G</b>	Lot cleared of trees <b>30 G</b>
Use of phosphate -free household products <b>20 G</b>	Uses Household products containing phosphates regularly <b>180 G</b>
<b>Total phosphorous 575 G</b>	<b>Total phosphorous 3355 G</b>

### Notes from the Muskoka Lake Associations' Meeting on April 25, 2009 From Lola Bratty

The discussion focused on:

#### **Ward Representation in Gravenhurst:**

Background: this was made part of the 2007-10 Council strategic plan and has been before council several times. At the most recent vote the majority on council decided on no change.

A chart was presented showing the current wards and population distribution – see the petition form – and the appropriate sections of the Municipal Act were distributed. The act says that if 1% (130) electors presented a petition asking council to divide or re-divide the wards or to dissolve the existing wards Council must pass a by-law in accordance with the petition within 30 days. If council fails to act the OMB can be asked to change the wards. A copy of the act was provided to attendees. All agreed that the current distribution of wards and voters is unfair. Attendees agreed to seek signatures on the petition from their membership and others. This will be done over the summer. **Lola will collect the petition forms from the associations by July 21.** The signed petition forms will be presented to the mayor and council at the next meeting with the request that the wards be redefined to provide for a better balance of population and representation.

#### **(SEE BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PETITION)**

#### **Taxes:**

Spending in Gravenhurst is up 3.6%, the district taxes will be increased by 4.4%, development charges do not recover infrastructure costs incurred to provide for growth. Hence taxes and debt will rise. It was agreed that there is not much to be done this year except on development charges along with providing information to membership.

#### **Planning:**

There are several issues here: the development of the new zoning by-law; the handling of exemption requests, the enforcement by the buildings department inspectors.

It was agreed that the perspective of the town staff needs changing, from assuming exemptions are the acceptable norm to looking at the cumulative impact of changes on the 'commons', i.e. on the health and character of the lakes. It was felt that exemptions should be just that – exemption not the norm.

Several actions were proposed – the Associations will again stress stewardship to their members via workshops, newsletters etc.

**Lola will draft a letter to go to the mayor and Planning Department requesting staged consultations during the development of the zoning by-law**

**Lola will generate a preliminary list of items we want changed or improved in the zoning by-law**, e.g. definition of a kitchen, redevelopment restrictions, enclosing of decks and the resultant creep towards the lakes. All Associations are asked to think about applications on which they have commented in the past few years and bring to her attention any areas where they have concerns or see the need for change.

#### **Community vision and sustainability:**

The changes over the past few years in town are not necessarily seen as desirable from the point of view of their impact on the character of the town. Development is not the issue as much as its character. We need to have a shared vision for the town that provides for its health and economic development and for its sustainability. It was agreed that we could encourage this process to be undertaken. There are others who have part of the responsibility, for example the Heritage and Environmental Advisory committees and other Associations. The GGRA will provide leadership too.

Lola will draft a letter to go to them and to the mayor urging a visioning process to achieve something that all citizens can buy into and ensure that heritage, environment, character and the economy are addressed. Her draft will be circulated for comment.

#### **Environment Advisory Committee:**

2 members of the EAC joined us. They will be having a meeting with association representatives on September 26 to obtain input regarding lake priorities pertinent to the environment. You will hear further.

#### **Stewardship and Water Quality:**

Lola is prepared to put together a presentation on water quality using the staff and data from the District, the MLA and MOE relevant to each lake and on understanding the impacts of phosphorus and bacterial problems. Please let her know if you would like this for your association AGM or other meetings. The earlier the better as there are lots of other lakes competing for the weekends.

# LOCAL NEWS

Morrison Lake residents are located in Ward 2 – Muskoka / Wood and our Ward 2 Councillor is:  
**Lou Guerriero**  
 Phone: (705) 687-7332  
[lou.guerriero@sunnylake.ca](mailto:lou.guerriero@sunnylake.ca)

It is interesting to note the population of Ward 2 and the number of Councillors representing the largest population of all Wards within the Town of Gravenhurst. As you will note even though Ward 2 has a population 3 to 4 times greater than all other wards there is only one councillor. Through the petition below there is now an opportunity to advise Town Council that the residents of Ward 2 believe there should be more councillors to represent issues within this Ward. Lola Bratty will bring forward the signed petitions to Town Council on July 21, 2009.  
 If you would like to sign this petition please contact Paul Kelly at 687-5605.  
 Note: Check out the new Town Of Gravenhurst website <http://www.gravenhurst.ca/>. You will find a **Ward Map** under “**Maps**” on the left side of the Home page & a list of **Rate Payer Association websites** under the “**Residents**” button.



## WARD REPRESENTATION IN GRAVENHURST PETITION



The current distribution of wards and electors is highly inequitable. (See chart below) We the undersigned electors of Gravenhurst petition the Gravenhurst Council to pass a by-law re-dividing the ward boundaries and number of councillors to achieve a better balance of population and representation in accord with section 223 of the Municipal Act, 2001.

Ward	Population	% population	Assessment	% assessment	# councillors
1	2,754	21%	355,148,440	15	2
2	5,993	46%	1,322,432,373	58	1
3	3,397	26%	491,544,176	21	1
4	937	7%	130,389,433	6	1

Name(printed)	Signature	Address – Municipal In Gravenhurst	Phone # (optional)	Email (optional)

**NOTE: ROAD RESURFACING – Southwood Road & South Morrison Lake Road....**  
**The final surface coating required for the above road repairs done last year will be applied in early August 2009 according to Dave Saunders, Manager of Public Works, Gravenhurst.**