

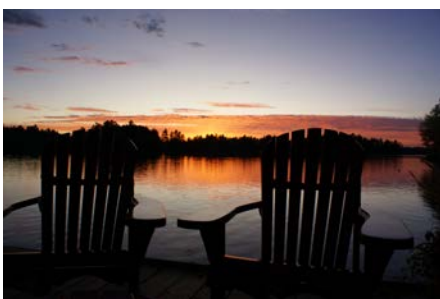


Get In Touch

Once again we present the Morrison Lake Newsletter for 2014. As in the past, there will be three editions: Spring, Summer and Fall which will be provided via email and on the lake website. This newsletter is for the residents of Morrison Lake, their family and friends. Your contributions to these newsletters are very important. As in the past you might like to write an article about your experiences on Morrison Lake, maybe a funny story or a family history on the lake, maybe you have a question or maybe you have something you wish to buy or sell.

Should you be willing to provide input into the newsletter, please contact Paul Kelly at: kellysp@sympatico.ca or at (705) 687-5605.

Provide your email address and get regular updates on Morrison Lake at: ourlake@morrisonlake.ca



LAKE WATCH

Morrison Lake Website: www.morrisonlake.ca

Membership Fees \$25: Please send to...(NEW) MLRA, 1164 South Morrison Lake Rd, Kilworthy, Ont. P0E 1G0

Morrison Lake Rate Payers Association EXECUTIVE 2013-2014

President: Gord Kobe
gordkobe@hotmail.com

Vice President: James Doyle
jamesdoyle@rogers.blackberry.net

Vice President: Karen Fairbrass
marathonmom@sympatico.ca

Treasurer: Joanne Baker-Forth
joannef.43@gmail.com

Secretaries: Chelsea Doyle
cdoyle@rgenta.com

KatharineForth...
Kat_f@hotmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Morrison Lake Residents

Meeting:

Sunday May 18, 2014 – 1pm - North Morrison Lake Road Landing.

Regatta 2014: Aug.2-3

Jenny Fairbrass will be co-coordinating the schedule, however please advise her of your willingness to assist and run various events.
jenny_fairbrass@hotmail.ca.

2014 Golf Tournament & Dinner:

Saturday August 16th, 2014 (Pending availability of a coordinator)

ASSOCIATION DUES

All residents/cottagers of Morrison Lake are requested to join the Morrison Lake Rate Payers' Association.

Your \$25 dues can be paid at the Regatta or by mail to:

(NEW) ***MLRA 1164 South Morrison Lake Rd. Ontario, POE 1G0.***

Cheques should be made payable to:
Morrison Lake Rate Payers' Association

Your dues contribute toward the website, the newsletter, insurance and this regatta!!!



REGATTA 2014

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Regatta is an event that brings the lake together.

It requires lots of volunteers in order for it to happen.

We're mostly in need of people to host events on the Saturday afternoon, so generally activities for the kids. We already have a lot of equipment but need people just to organize and host these activities (such as hula hoop, limbo, water balloon toss, dry land skiing, scavenger hunt, fish pond, etc.). And we are kind of desperate for volunteers so any help would be greatly appreciated!

If you are able to help in anyway, or are looking for more information they could send me an email at jenny_fairbrass@hotmail.ca.

Jenny Fairbrass

New Regatta 2014 idea...

BOOK SALE - Please save your great reads for the Regatta 2014.
"Love your books - Love selling them."
Joanne Baker-Forth

Treasurer's Report:

As of May1/14 there was \$9,301.82 in the bank.

We are still happy to accept dues for 2014 by mail. Unfortunately we are unable to start accepting dues by e-transfer at this point.

Joanne Baker-Forth
Treasurer

Morrison Lake Ratepayers Association

President's Message – Gord Kobe

It's that time of year folks when the cottages are opened up and another season on the lake begins. I know the countdown will be started for many. Eyeing up the calendar every day for that long weekend start!

It's definitely one of the best feelings heading up to the lake to open up after months away. All things forgotten over the long winter months come back as soon as you turn the key and step through the door. Then the opening weekend work begins. Water pumps primed, cleaning inside and out, docks and boats, family and friends and the barbecue cleaned out and fired up.

For those who have not been up to the lake it was an extremely hard winter. There is more than the normal amount of tree branches down, so this spring's clean up may be a shocker for some. Bring the work gloves and hopefully some spare labour.

The lake levels were also fairly high this spring so the odd cottager may be missing some items that may have drifted off. If you happen to find any articles drifted into your shore make sure to have them set out on display so they are easier to find and retrieve. I have seen very little debris this year so hopefully it's not an issue for anyone.

So to all, let the adventures of yet another cottage season begin. I know I'm personally looking forward to seeing many friends return to reunite and catch up.

Have a happy, safe and fun filled summer on Morrison Lake.

Gord.

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS WANTED For Regatta 2014

Donations to the Silent Auction at the Regatta are once again greatly appreciated.

Please contact:

Geraldine Debes at:
geraldinedebes@sympatico.ca

MORRISON LAKE GOLF & DINNER DAY

We are in need of volunteers to organize the golf day this year.

- Previously held at Lake St. George Golf Club
- Possible date: August 16, 2014
- Nine holes and dinner

If you are interested in organizing please contact Paul Kelly at kellysp@sympatico.ca.



A new meaning to Ice Wine....courtesy of John and Donna Gordon as the ice disappeared on April 29th in front of their home.

Morrison Lake Residents Meeting
Sunday May 18, 2014– 1pm –
North Morrison Lake Road Landing.

1. Welcome and Introductions (Gord Kobe)
2. Declaration of any items to be added to agenda
3. Approval of minutes from the meeting of September, 2013
4. Treasurer’s Report (Joanne Forth)
5. Secretary’s Report (Karen Fairbrass)
6. Directorships (Gord Kobe)
7. Revised Constitution (Gord Kobe)

8. STANDING ITEMS
 - a. Dues collection & online banking options (Joanne & Geraldine)
 - b. Regatta 2014 (Jenny Fairbrass)
 - c. Golf & Dinner Event (Paul Kelly)
 - d. Water quality report (Gord Kobe)

9. OLD BUSINESS

10. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Lantern Bay Resort

Morrison Lake Ratepayers Association
Fall General Meeting 2013

MEETING: Morrison Lake Ratepayers Association
DATE: Sunday, September 1, 2013 @ 1:00-2:30pm
PLACE: North Morrison Lake Road Landing
RECORDER: Chelsea Doyle

Issue	Action	Person Responsible
Welcome	-Gord Kobe introduced the executive. Noted that there would be shuffling of the exec at the end of the meeting. Thanked Daren Boydell for his role of President, Daren resigned.	Gord Kobe Daren Boydell
Declaration of any items to be added to Agenda	-Joanne Forth requested the addresses of families who’s deceased loved ones had donations made to the South Muskoka Memorial Hospital. -Several people spoke up about water safety -Paul Kelly will look into arranging CPR training session on the lake for lake members.	Joanne Forth

Approval of previous minutes	<p>-The minutes from the meetings of Sept 2012 and May 2013 were passed around for approval. 1st: John Kelly 2nd: Blair Foley</p>	Chelsea Doyle
Treasurer's Report	<p>-Gord Kobe explained that sand cost more than initially estimated. This was due in part to buying sand for the Doyle beach – who's hosted the Across the Lake Swim for several years. Gord explained that he has paid for the sand and asks for approval to have this covered by the association. 1st: James Doyle 2nd: John Kelly -Joanne read aloud the report for the year. It was a very successful year due largely to success at the Regatta- though Joanne was still waiting on final numbers.</p>	Joanne Forth
Secretary's Report	<p>-Kat Forth was not in attendance; Chelsea gave a brief review of the Regatta and urged more volunteers to come forward to keep the momentum of success up for 2014.</p>	Chelsea Doyle
<p>Standing Items: Bank Account Dues Regatta Water Report</p>	<p>-Joanne and Geraldine introduced the idea of a non-profit BMO Account so that members could send in dues online. The accounts branch would be in Bracebridge. Motioned for approval. 1st: Blair Foley 2nd: Grant Viebrock -Geraldine declared all dues for Balfour Woods were paid up to 2013.</p> <p>-Regatta was discussed, overall successful weekend -The success of the Morrison Lake t-shirts was brought up, as well as the silent auction. -Better financial system/ recordings were urged for next year to keep things organized for bookkeeping purposes.</p> <p>-Bob Bruce reported the water quality (8.7) and clarity (2.3) are normal and within good range. -Deb Cole brought up the issue of infections from the beginning of the summer, which she believed was due to water quality. -Bruce explained that unfortunately, this was the cyclical nature of the water and there was nothing to do about it besides trying to keep the lake healthy. Morrison Lake and Muldrew are a part of the Severn Water Shed, so Bracebridge water issues would not affect us. -Sandy LeMoine asked about the increasing amount of weeds. -Zack asked if water levels were associated with these issues. -Daren addressed water levels and maintained that there are no issues to be concerned about.</p>	Daren Boydell, Joanne Forth, Geraldine Debes, Bob Bruce
<p>Old Business: Winterizing Fire Pumps Bell Light Tower</p>	<p>-Blair is interested in winterizing pumps with Ralf. It was clarified that pumps were located: Southside pump, Buschke's, Proctors, Boorman's. Pumps cost approximately \$1700 all in with shelter. -Grant suggested selling clothes to raise money for a new pump.</p>	Ralf Buschke, Gord Kobe

Chelsea asks group if having and maintaining the fire pumps is top spending priority for everyone. No one objects, most members claim yes.
 -Blair agrees to have newest pump on his property as it would fill in the gap, and he is a permanent resident of the lake.

-Gord explains that the Bell Light Tower is there to stay; it is a federal issue not municipal. His call resulted in a dimmer light at least. Smaller tower would not work, so that is not an option.

<p>Items to be added: Addresses Water safety</p>	<p>-Addresses of Ann Doyle and Steve Kelly</p> <p>-Water safety was discussed; many members were very upset with the speed of seadoo riders and the total disregard for the safety of others on the water/waterlines. -Gord stated that if members gave him the names/boat descriptions, he would personally address the individuals. He also stated that if residents were concerned the OPP could be called to address it as well. Although we don't want to see the OPP on the lake, it might be necessary that their presence is felt. For now, he asked everyone be respectful on the water to ensure safety and to keep the OPP off the lake.</p>	<p>Joanne Forth Gord Kobe</p>
<p>Directorship</p>	<p>-Joanne read letter to clarify directorship roles and tell distinction between directors and officers -She requested to be given the director vote she was refused from last meeting. -She requested to write out new by-laws, or review the ones that exist. -Grant Viebrock and Doug Pegg discussed different systems. -Gord said he would look for old by-laws, as did Paul Kelly. -Further, Joanne proposed to abolish director positions. -Joanne and Paul volunteered to review/edit/re-write by-laws and have them ready for review by meeting in May -Grant said that for now, positions should remain vacant until by-laws are determined. -Doug proposed to rescind all 'directorship' movements. 1st: Louise Pegg 2nd: Grant Viebrock -It was determined that Joanne will be reinstated and insured as director if director position remains.</p>	<p>Joanne Forth</p>
<p>Elections</p>	<p>-Gord nominated as President by James Doyle; elected. Will remain for minimum of 2 years. -Louise Pegg nominated Karen Fairbrass as VP 2nd: Doug Pegg -John Kelly nominated James as VP 2nd: Zack McGillvray -Proposal to have two VP's, all in favour. Joanne Forth will remain as treasurer for the following year. Chelsea Doyle and Kat Forth will remain as secretaries.</p>	

NEW GRAVENHURST BYLAWS

During the past several months the town of Gravenhurst has passed some very significant bylaws. Below are the bylaws and the website links: (to access press Ctrl & click)

Dark Sky Bylaw:

https://icreate5.esolutionsgroup.ca/230886_Gravenhurst/en/yourtownhall/resources/dark_sky_bylaw.pdf

Site Alteration Bylaw:

https://icreate5.esolutionsgroup.ca/230886_Gravenhurst/en/yourtownhall/resources/Site_Alteration_Bylaw.pdf

Tree Preservation Bylaw:

https://icreate5.esolutionsgroup.ca/230886_Gravenhurst/en/yourtownhall/resources/Tree_Preservation_By-law.pdf

ATV Use Bylaw:

https://icreate5.esolutionsgroup.ca/230886_Gravenhurst/en/yourtownhall/resources/ATV_By-law.pdf

MUNICIPAL ELECTION INFORMATION

OCTOBER 27th, 2014

Gravenhurst Town Council Information

LINK:

<http://www.gravenhurst.ca/en/yourtownhall/municipalelection.asp>

CPR Certification Course

Learn CPR, about choking and AED (Automated External Defibrillation) – on adults and children / infants.

You will receive certification from Toronto EMS.

DATE: Saturday June 14, 2014

ARRIVAL TIME: 01:00pm; The course starts at **1:00pm SHARP** and runs until about 5:00pm. The course is four hours with an extra 45 minutes for people who need certification on children and babies.

AGE: Anyone over 12 years of age

REGISTRATION DUE: by June 1st; to register please call Sue or Paul Kelly @ 705-687-5605

INSTRUCTOR: Margaret Bryce – a certified instructor with Toronto EMS and Heart & Stroke Foundation

COST: \$15.00 / person which covers the material – please bring exact amount or a cheque; Margaret is providing her services free of charge

WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW: Wear comfortable clothing because you will be down on the floor; there is a multiple choice test at the end

REFRESHMENTS: Coffee, tea, or juice provided on arrival and snack break.

LOCATION: At the home of Sue and Paul Kelly: By Land - 1051 Evanswood Drive; By Boat – SE corner of the lake, with the red Muskoka chairs on the dock, Canadian flag, right beside the “satellite happy face”

LIMIT of 14 people – first come, first serve

LANTERN BAY RESORT - UPDATE

May 10, 2014 – Submitted by Richard Bennett

In the fall of 2013, The Lantern, within a period of two days clear-cut about 4 or 5 acres of property including a swath that runs diagonally from S. Morrison Lake Rd. just south of Cove Road to Morrison Creek and then connects up with another swath that they cut on the west side of the creek. They then installed Hydro poles and were in the process of installing Hydro lines. Those of us who were still around in the fall were shocked to see the destruction that occurred with very expensive and efficient machinery that clear-cut this area within 48 hours.

After doing some investigation, we learned that the property was still owned by the Olsens who have a house farther down S. Morrison Lake Rd. on the west side nearer to the Lantern. It was learned that they had entered into an agreement with the Lantern which was to sever two parcels from their property (they basically own the lands on the west side of S. Morrison Lake Rd. from Lorenzo Road to the private road that is just south of Cove Road.) The arrangement that they made with the Lantern apparently permitted the Lantern to start construction of these Hydro lines prior to the severance being granted.

I sought an opportunity to make submissions to Town Council about this issue, but staff suggested that it was inappropriate and premature since there was no severance application being considered. In the dead of winter, they proceeded with their application.

Since we are landowners within the 60 m mandatory radius of notice we received notice that the severance application was to be going before the Committee of Adjustments on January 15. Had we not received this notice, it is highly unlikely anyone would have seen the notice posted on a tree behind a snow bank. I arranged a meeting with residents who were around at that time and prepared a petition which was circulated, signed by many and submitted to the town staff.

We then mobilized a group who attended at the meeting on a snowy night, some of us coming from the GTA to attend and made a well-organized presentation with a number of us speaking on different topics.

Basically, there were two severance applications. One was to sever off the “swampland” between the Olsens’ house and the lands where the Hydro line was being constructed and the second to sever off the lands around the Hydro line.

Staff had recommended a deferral of the “swampland severance” given that there really was no alternative since there is a requirement that if there is a severance within 120 m of environmentally protected land, it must go to an environmental assessment before that the committee of adjustments can deal with a severance application. However, with the “Hydro lands severance”, staff recommended approval, claiming initially that it was not within 120 m of the environmentally protected lands and even when I challenged them on this and they admitted to one of the council members that in fact it was within that radius, they tried to justify their recommendation to approve the severance on the basis of a “loophole” that the severance was not really creating a new building lot as the lands already owned by the Lantern, which abut Morrison Creek could be utilized as a building lot.

LANTERN BAY RESORT - UPDATE

May 10, 2014 – Submitted by Richard Bennett

In the end, because of this legal argument, and I would suggest because of the political reality of having so many of us there in opposition, the Committee of Adjustments required that there be an environmental assessment done before considering that severance. This means that the Hydro line severance is “on hold” until the environmental assessment is done. In response to my request, however, the Committee indicated that they had no jurisdiction to issue a stop work order. While we won a victory in this battle, it is far from a victory in “the war”.

There are a number of things that are disturbing about this. After digging into it, we learned that in 2010, the Lantern had applied for a bylaw amendment to allow them to significantly increase the number of trailers/cottages in their resort. The net result was that after passing a bylaw and the filing of an OMB appeal, the Town and the Lantern settled on approval of 173 cottages/trailers in the park. That is about two times the number that existed previously in that resort. What is deeply disturbing about this is that the Town did not see any need to notify anyone in the area, such as those of us who live on S. Morrison Lake Rd., or our cottage Association.

As well, it is deeply disturbing that the Lantern, presumably motivated by monetary concerns only, has little or no concern about the environment or the impact that their expansion has on the road, those of us who live in the area, the creek, the Severn and the sociological or environmental impact on the area or anything else for that matter. Unless stopped, it is obvious that the Lantern will continue to expand, sell trailers (many of which are short term rentals) and put trailer or boat storage on the severed lands or anywhere else it suits them.

Is also deeply concerning that the elected politicians who represent our area and to sit on and at the head of Council appear to have more loyalty to the Lantern than they do to the other residents. Fortunately, a councillor who sits on the Committee but represents another Ward was willing to support us.

It is, in my opinion, essential if we collectively are concerned about the impact of this indiscriminate expansion that we make our voices known on a political level, especially in an election year.

Currently there are 145 trailers/cottages approved and the area to the west of the Creek has been clear-cut, so that more trailers will likely be moved in this spring. While the bylaw permits 173, they still need site plan approval for the other 28. The Hydro line is the source of their energization for this as currently there is not enough capacity in the Hydro lines to supply them, and many of the recently installed units are serviced by generators. Once that Hydro line goes in, they will have the capacity to continue with their indiscriminate and building and much of it will occur without our knowledge.

If we care about the impact that this will have, it is essential that we mobilize to prevent it.

BUY/SELL/RENT/ADVERTIZE

GENERATOR FOR SALE:



We have a propane powered generator for sale it has been used once. It is 6000W, and is 13HP and has an electric cart. Anew one costs \$949nplus HST. This one is for sale for \$750. Please contact John Gordon at: ri7010.gov1213@gmail.com or at (705) 687-0649.

WANTING TO RENT:

Morrison Lake Islanders looking for a mainland winterized cottage to rent starting sometime in October 2014 to May, 2015. Pet friendly, non smokers, responsible, two adults with grown children visiting. Minimum two bedroom. Please contact Marta @ (705) 795-4322. Rental cost?

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MUSKOKA LAKE ASSOCIATION



Peep, Quack, and Trill: What's all the Fuss About?

No, it's not some new band or the name of a Three Stooges tribute group; those are the sounds of the frogs and toads that make their home in this area. Of the 13 species of frogs and toads found in Ontario, 8 of them are commonly found in cottage country.

An easy way to find out what frogs and toads you have around your property is to pull up a chair and listen. Of course, you can always grab the kids or grandkids and go searching, but listening for the calls can be a relaxing and enjoyable way to learn more about wildlife at the cottage.

The best time to listen to frogs and toads calling is in the evening just around sunset.

Glenn Cunningham is an Ecologist and Amphibian Expert at RiverStone Environmental Solutions and has completed research on how road noise can change frog and toad calls.

(1) Wood Frog

Those lucky enough to make it to the cottage just after the snow has melted will be treated to the quack-like call of the wood frog. *Did you know that wood frogs freeze into solid frog-sickles in the winter and thaw out unharmed in the spring?*

(2) Spring Peeper

The high-pitched "peeps" of the Spring Peeper begin soon after Wood Frogs and can be heard calling well into the beginning of summer. *Did you know that the call of a Spring Peeper can be heard from over 1 km away?*

(3) American Toad

The high pitched trilling call of an American Toad is a common sound on spring evenings. *Did you know that the two large "warts" on an American Toad are special glands that make the toads taste terrible to potential predators?*

(4) Gray Treefrog

In late spring and early summer the flute-like trill of the Gray Treefrog can be mistaken for a bird song. *Did you know that Gray Treefrogs are able to change their colour to better blend into their environment?*

(5) Northern Leopard Frog

The snore like call of the Northern Leopard Frog can be best heard in June. *Did you know that Northern Leopard Frogs move 3 km (0.6 miles) to reach their breeding ponds?*

(6) Mink Frog

Mink Frogs distinct call of three or more quick short croaks or quacks, can be heard just before dawn in June and July. *Did you know that Mink Frogs are named because they have a musky smell, similar to mink oil, that they emit when handled?*

(7) Green Frog

The loud "ghunk!" followed by three fast quieter "ghunk-ghunk-ghunk" from the Green Frog is one of the true signs summer has arrived. *Did you know that the large circles behind a Green Frog's eyes are eardrums?*

(8) American Bullfrog

The deep "jug-o-rum" of the American Bullfrogs is a sure sign of the lazy days of summer. *Did you know that the American Bullfrog can grow up to 20 cm long and weigh over 2 lbs?*

Hear the calls of these eight species at www.rsenviro.ca



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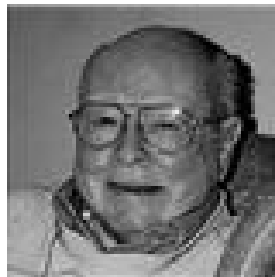
1-310 Taylor Road
Brambridge, ON P1L 1K1
Phone: 705.645.9887
www.rsenviro.ca



IN MEMORIUM...

Since the fall General Meeting we have once again lost two more Morrison Lake Pioneers:

Bill Doyle – Sunday February 23, 2014
(Predeceased by his wife Ann in 2012)



Paul Roche - Thursday April 17, 2014
(Brother of Ann Doyle & Brother in law of Bill)

As in the past, deceased Morrison Lake residents will have donations made in their honor to the South Muskoka Memorial Hospital.

Please advise an Executive member if there are other residents that have passed away during this past year. They will be recognized in the Summer Newsletter.

Bill Doyle would appreciate this one...

For the golfers out there.....

Three old men went into the pro shop after playing 18 holes of golf.

The pro asked, "Did you guys have a good game today?"

The first old guy said, "I had the most riders ever. I had five."

The second old guy said, "I had 7 riders, the same as last time."

The last old man said, "I beat my old record. I had 12 riders today."



After they went into the locker room, another golfer who had heard the old guys talking about their game went to the pro and said, "I've been playing golf for a long time and thought I knew all the terminology of the game, but what's a rider?"

The pro said, "A rider is when you hit the ball far enough to actually get in the golf cart and ride to it."

Memories of REGATTA 2013

