



# BAPTISTE LAKE ASSOCIATION

[www.baptistelake.org](http://www.baptistelake.org) • [info@baptistelake.org](mailto:info@baptistelake.org)

BOX 877, BANCROFT, ONTARIO K0L 1C0

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MARLIN HORST

I hope that all of you have had an enjoyable winter. As a water access only cottager I miss the lake during the winter and look forward to spring when we can again enjoy the beauty that is Baptiste Lake. As I write this note the ice is gone from the lake (exceptionally early) and I look forward to opening the cottage a few weeks earlier than normal.

Elsewhere in this Newsletter you can read about the steps that we are taking to implement the Lake Plan to ensure that Baptiste Lake may be enjoyed by generations to come. At this time I would like to remind everyone that this is a volunteer organization. The more people who volunteer their time the more successful we will be at our primary role, which is that of being stewards of this environment. It is not only in connection with the Lake Plan that volunteers

are encouraged. There are many things that the Association does which require the input and help from the Lake community. If you would like to volunteer in any way (no matter how small it may appear to you), please do not hesitate to contact me or any other member of the Board. We look forward to your input and help.

We continue to examine how we communicate with our

## BLA WELCOME BACK PARTY

On **Sunday, May 20th from 7 to 9 pm** the BLA welcomes all lake residents to our annual "Welcome Back Party" at **Birch Cliff Lodge**. **(PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN VENUE)**. A 'cottage meal' will be generously provided by Oliver and Bonacini Restaurants. **BYOB** in the dining hall only. Please come and enjoy the festivities.

members and subsequently we are in the process of building an e-mail list so that we can reach the most number of members as efficiently as possible. If you have not provided us with your e-mail address please send it along to [newsletter@baptistelake.org](mailto:newsletter@baptistelake.org) and we will be happy to add you to our list. Please be assured we do not provide this list to anyone else and use it only for the purposes of the Baptiste Lake Association. In addition we do not inundate your inbox with messages. As always the website will contain the latest news and we encourage you to visit the site often. If you have any suggestions on how we can improve the website please do not hesitate to contact me or any other member of the Board with any ideas.

Once again we have a number of social activities planned for the coming months. Please note that the traditional Spring Opening event will be held on Sunday May 20 from 7 – 9 at Birch Cliff Lodge. **WE WILL NOT BE HOLDING THE OPENING EVENT AT PONACKA THIS YEAR.** Please do not go to the camp expecting to see anyone (Don and Anne will likely be at Birch Cliff Lodge). We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Anne and Don for hosting the spring

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ...continued from page 1

event for many years. We would also like to thank Birch Cliff Lodge for their hospitality in hosting the event this year. Please come out and enjoy some games, good food and good times with friends and family. A wonderful evening has been planned.

In addition we will once again be hosting a Music Festival on July 21 at Baptiste Station Restaurant. A slightly revised format will be in place for this year. Please watch for further details as the summer progresses.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on August 11 from 10:00AM to Noon at Birch Cliff Lodge. Please come out and see what your organization is doing and have your say in how the organization goes forward in the future. We will once again be hosting our traditional Pig and Corn Roast on Labour Day weekend at Birch Cliff Lodge. Please watch for notices in connection with this as there may be some changes (yet to be determined at this point). We would like to encourage all of you to come out.

As with any year, a number of properties on the lake have sold and new lake residents (both permanent and seasonal) are beginning to enjoy Baptiste Lake. If someone new moves in close to you, take a moment to welcome them to the Lake. As existing residents, it is up to all of us to make newcomers feel at home. Who knows, you may end up making a lasting friendship.

Throughout this newsletter you will note a number of advertisers. We rely on the advertisements to ensure that each of you receives a copy of this newsletter. I would encourage you to make use of the services offered and if you do, please mention that you read their advertisement in the Baptiste Lake Association newsletter.

Finally if you are not a member I would encourage you to become a member. The cost is minimal (\$25 per year or 3 years for \$60). There are many benefits of membership in the Association beyond the social activities set out above. For a small amount of money you can help the Association act in the best interests of the Lake and its community to ensure that the Lake we all love will be here for our children and generations to come. I encourage you to look at the Mission Statement of the organization on the website and become a member (or renew your membership) to help in the meeting these objectives.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or any other member of the Board. This is your Association.

*Summer Fun in the Sun*

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# BLA LAKE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

DAVID HAWKES, CHAIR

**I**mplementation of the Baptiste Lake Plan began last spring, and a number of studies are now completed in full, or have interim reports. Bob and Bryn Weese completed their impact analysis of fishing derbies on the environment and local economy. Byron Kellar completed his study on the issue of a public beach on Baptiste Lake. Wally McColl provided an interim report on creating a nautical map of the lake and placing markers near shoals. John Jared provided a progress report on water testing. Frank Hicks provided a report on water temperatures in the lake. Pauline Hawkes initiated a Shoreline Shrub planting program, in cooperation with the local Stewardship Council. Peter Oliver began a shoreline preservation and restoration program, focussed on informing lakeshore residents of the benefits of a natural shoreline. Penny Anderson is monitoring local development proposals that might have a negative impact on the streams feeding the Baptiste Lake watershed. Chris Chhatwal is leading a stream survey and assessment. Completed studies will be coming to the BLA Board of Directors for discussion and decision over the spring and summer.

Here are plans for 2012. Beginning this spring, Jim Verhoeven will be working on the rehabilitation of the trout fishery, in cooperation with the Ministry of Natural Resources. Adrian Hill will be reviewing the Lake Plan land use recommendations, and comparing them to the municipal and county official plans, to determine any necessary follow-up. Christopher and



Shannon Fabricus will be working with Natural Resources to develop a wetlands inventory and evaluation. We have submitted a grant proposal to Environment Canada, in cooperation with the Toronto Zoo, for three years of funding for this project and related lake plan projects,

including an inventory of rare species and species-at-risk, and public education on private stewardship initiatives. Plans for this year include aerial photographs of Baptiste wetlands. Bob Redford will be working with the municipality on a mandatory septic re-inspection program for Baptiste Lake. Hugh Stevens will be looking at what might be done to lessen light pollution on the lake this summer.

Volunteers are still required in order to launch the remaining elements of the Lake Plan, which are planned for next year. Results of the studies and reports noted above will be available at the Annual General Meeting and on the BLA website. If you want to pitch in, please contact me at [david.c.hawkes@bell.net](mailto:david.c.hawkes@bell.net), at the cottage at 613-332-4736, or in Ottawa at 613-216-2182. Our goal is to make Baptiste Lake the “Healthiest Lake in Ontario”!



# GREETINGS FROM HASTINGS HIGHLANDS

LORRAINE FELL

**M**ayor Emond has brought dynamic and exceptional leadership to the operation of HH for more than five years. He had a vision for the township; how it could grow and prosper; how reorganization of the Corporation would produce operating efficiencies to help stabilize taxes. He managed all this and much more, including the building of our new HH Town Center. Anyone who has attended a Council meeting (with space to sit now), taken part in activities in the gym, or the many new programs in our wonderful Library will appreciate how much this new building has done for growth in our community. This grand facility will continue to be a major attraction for local people and visitors to our area for years to come.

With his leadership at the County level, our Mayor has probably worked harder than any city Mayor to put HH on the map and gain recognition from the province. He accomplished far more than he set out to do. Now he is tired, feeling the need to get his life back—to spend more time with his wife and family.

On Mar. 7th Mayor Emond announced his resignation, effective Mar. 31st. To say he will be missed is an understatement. He became a friend and mentor to us all. His enthusiasm for ideas and planning for the future was catching: Personally, I have felt these years an exciting time to be on Council: His objectivity, always riveted on doing what was best for the township was so refreshing; to sit on Council with him became a very comfortable pew. He has raised the bar for Council members. Today, it is a demanding job with each member expected to pull their weight. As a Council, our greatest reward is in achieving worthwhile results. Ron has set the stage for us to carry on, as he says, “now, to stay the course.” Thus, we wish Ron every happiness and contentment in his well-deserved retirement.

Deputy Mayor Vivian Bloom is expected to be appointed as our new Mayor at the April meeting



Muskie Bay

of Council. We have every confidence in her ability to do a good job, continuing to move HH forward. A new Deputy Mayor will likely be appointed from Council, then a new Councillor will be chosen, in compliance with the Municipal Act. It will likely take a few months to have the new Council in place. We have all learned that working as a team gets the best results, and hopefully we will all be working together toward that goal.

With the excellent staff we have in place now, we are confident the new projects coming up for decisions will be realized: Very important to our future progress is a final choice for a Septage Disposal Site, plus the completion of our Secondary Plan for Bird's Creek. Both projects are interconnected and essential to the future growth and well-being of the township. We are aiming for project completion of the Septage site, and approval of the Secondary Plan by the end of this year.

This year we welcome two new businesses to Bird's Creek: “Makin' Waves,” a dry-land marine facility on Hwy. 62 N. opening in March, and “Greenview Environmental,” who will provide a variety of services this year from their brand new building on the Y Road. .

*Continued page 5*

We are in the process of amending zoning bylaw 35-2004: Included is the placement of docks no closer than 9.8' from the side Lot line. This will mostly apply only to the location of new dock structures, and enforced upon complaints.

2012 is the 4th year for phased in Assessments. New Assessments for the next 4 years will be mailed out from MPAC this fall. All departments in HH but one did well last year, coming in under budget—which produced an overall surplus in operations. A new budget for 2012 is forthcoming, pending the County levy figures, and a few others. Unlike some other townships, HH remains financially sound with a stable tax base. We do not contemplate raising taxes, beyond the present phased in Assessments.

Gregg Roberts and I remain your Herschel reps. Feel free to contact us for information or to address your concerns.



## BANCROFT SUMMER THEATRE 2012 SEASON

**B**ancroft Summer Theatre presents its 2012 season playbill at the Bancroft Village Playhouse. The season starts with *Steel Magnolias* by Robert Harling. Truvy's beauty shop is an oasis in an otherwise challenging life for six women who come together for a lot more reasons than hair. Heart felt and heart warming the wonderful writing of Robert Harling takes us right into the core of these women as they cope with their lives, share their secrets and ultimately realize what friendships are really for. This popular comedy will run at 8 pm, Tuesdays to Saturdays from July 10 to the 28th. A matinee show will take place at 2 pm on Saturday July 21. Tickets are \$20. A Blackfly Summer Theatre production.

*Continued on page 18*



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## BLANDING'S TURTLE: WHY EVERY TURTLE MATTERS

BY GRAHAM CAMERON

Perhaps the most interesting aspect of turtle biology is that turtles do not seem to die of “old age”, referred to as “negligible senescence”. Blanding’s Turtle is known to live more than 70 years and conservative estimates for Snapping Turtle longevity are in excess of 100 years. Biologically, the importance of this is that there is no loss of reproductive potential as turtles get older. In fact, in some species such as the Painted Turtle, the oldest and largest turtles in a population lay the largest, most numerous eggs and are the most consistent in nesting activity from year to year. In Blanding’s Turtles, the older turtles (20+) survive more often each year than younger turtles.

Once a turtle reaches sexual maturity and a large size, it is much less vulnerable to predation from animals such as racoons, herons, and mink. However, roads and the vehicles that travel on them have become a new “predator” that turtles have not adapted to. Turtles are slow moving, so they spend more time on the road while crossing than most other animals. They are also attracted to road shoulders and gravel roads because these features seem like a great place to lay eggs. Sunny, warm, well-drained, loose gravel and sand is the perfect place to lay eggs. This is why all but one of Ontario’s eight native species of turtle is considered to be at risk. Any increase in normal annual mortality of adults will send the local



Blandings Turtle 2012 by Travis Cameron

population into decline, and unlike rabbits, coyotes and deer, turtles are not able to increase reproduction to offset increased declines in adults.

Turtles have what can be called a “long-lived life history”. They are slow to reach sexual maturity; Ontario’s Blanding’s Turtle cannot produce young until they are approximately 20 years old. With all the threats the turtle is exposed to, it can make it difficult for a turtle to reach this crucial age. Even if they are able to reproduce, nesting success is very low. Nesting attempts can be thwarted by disturbance, and eggs are frequently dug up and consumed by predators just moments after being buried. Incubation periods in Central

*Continued page 7*

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Blanding's Turtle *Continued from page 6*

Ontario can often be too cool and too wet. If eggs do escape predation and survive the incubation period, hatchlings can become trapped inside the nesting cavity and die. If they emerge from the nest successfully, there are many predators that would eat a hatchling turtle and there are many obstacles between it and a suitable wetland or other hibernation site.

### Gaining knowledge in turtle ecology

It is important that we understand how Blanding's Turtles use habitat differently than other species of turtle so we can protect them from harm. Studies have documented this species using a wide range of wetland habitats during any one active season. They make long treks between wetlands as well, often utilizing small streams or valleys, but sometimes scaling significant obstacles such as large hills, dense forest and rock outcrops. MNR is seeking to better understand how Blanding's Turtle use habitat and at what time Blanding's Turtles can be found in different types of habitats. To accomplish this, up to 25 turtles will be affixed with radio signal transmitters as well as miniature GPS units in Bancroft District. This will allow us to document very precisely the locations the turtle can be found at as well as at what time. The intended result of the project is to identify times and places where activities such as logging and use of heavy

machinery could be conducted with low potential to harm Blanding's Turtle.

### What can you do to help?

In May and June, and again in late August or September, turtles are likely to be found crossing the road in search of mates, nesting locations or other suitable habitat. If you see a turtle on the road please help it across in the direction it was heading. Be sure it is safe for you to do so, and pick the turtle up by the back quarter of its shell, or use a shovel or bucket to scoop under the turtle and move it off of the road. The turtle may be older than you are, and will have many years ahead of it still to reflect back on the time it was helped across the road.

Blanding's Turtle is protected under Ontario's Endangered Species Act, 2007. If you see a turtle on the road, dead or alive, it is extremely helpful to report the observation to the Bancroft District Species at Risk Biologist. Observations should be submitted with as much detail as possible. Please record the exact location, using a GPS if possible, take a photograph, and be sure to record the time and date.

Please send all observations to:  
[graham.cameron@ontario.ca](mailto:graham.cameron@ontario.ca)  
or call 613 332-3940 x 219.

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## LOVE YOUR WETLANDS

**W**etlands are natural areas where water and land meet and include marshes, swamps, bogs and fens. Wetlands provide food, habitat and shelter for 600 species of wildlife in Ontario and can be found throughout the Canadian landscape from our northern boreal forests to the southernmost tip of Ontario. They help to balance, clean and maintain our water supplies. Our wetland habitats support an amazing array of insects, animals and plants. Despite the myriad benefits that wetlands provide for waterfowl, wildlife and people, as much as 70% of Canada's original wetlands have disappeared as a result of urban development, drainage and land conversion to other uses. Wetlands are among the most diverse ecosystems in the world.

In summary:

Wetlands:

- Help filter our water ensuring cleaner, safer drinking water for our communities and act like giant sponges trapping water to reduce floods and ease drought



Hay Bay Foggy Morning

- Help to replenish our groundwater supply
- Help store carbon thereby reducing the impact on our atmosphere
- Reduce soil erosion by slowing runoff from storms and spring thaws
- Provide nursery areas, habitat, shade and protection for fish and wildlife
- Soak up runoff, absorb pollutants and block sediment



Lily Pads and Arrowhead Lilies by Catherine Konopelky



Mergansers by Shelley Pickard

# BAPTISTE LAKE MUSIC FESTIVAL 2012



The planning has begun for the 2012 Baptiste Lake Music Festival. George and Susan Poulton have once again generously offered up the lawn at Country Fare for the event.

It will be held Saturday July 21st from noon until 8pm and promises to be fantastic day of local musical talent ranging from Country, Blues, Contemporary Rock and Bluegrass. Other activities will include the artists' village, face

painting, silent auction, a 50/50 draw and other great activities; fun for the whole family.

The artists are being lined up as this goes to print and with the local talent available, it promises to be another exciting event.

Looking forward to seeing you all out there! Let's all hope for great weather!

## BLA Events for 2012

**Opening 'Welcome Back' Event...Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 • 7-9 pm at Birch Cliff Lodge (byob...dining room only)**

**Baptiste Lake Music Festival...Saturday, July 21 • 12-8 pm at Country Fare**

**BLA Annual General Meeting ...Saturday, August 11 • 10 am -12 at Birch Cliff Lodge**

**BLA Pig Roast... Saturday, September 1 • 5 to 7 pm at Birch Cliff Lodge**

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## 14 SHORT CHECKLIST ITEMS SO 'YOU' CAN HELP PROTECT BAPTISTE LAKE

SUBMITTED BY  
 CHRIS CHHATWAL

- Create a buffer zone of 100 feet or more along your shoreline to protect it from erosion, run-off, Canada Geese etc. Better still, get rid of the lawn. Plant native species along the shoreline.
- Avoid using pesticides, herbicides or fertilizers as they all end up in the water eventually.
- Avoid clear cutting your property if building and build back at least 100 feet.
- Trim trees rather than cutting them down completely, if a better view of the lake is desired.
- Avoid bathing in the lake with soaps...even eco-friendly ones.
- Use eco-friendly soaps and cleaners in your home or cottage...vinegar and baking soda work well.
- Maintain your septic system and pump it out every 2- 3 years at least. Never put anything down the septic except human waste and toilet tissue (esp. javex, paints, and cooking fats) as these will stop the normal biodegrading of the usual contents. There is no necessity to instill commercial additives that are reported to speed up decomposition. Avoid overloading your septic with excessive water.
- Maintain your boat motors and avoid spills of fuel, antifreeze, paint, paint thinner etc. on land or water.
- Try to keep your boat wake down as it causes shoreline erosion.
- Enhance biodiversity on your property by leaving rock piles, fallen tree limbs and brush piles untouched so they can function as wildlife habitat. If a tree falls in the lake on your shoreline, leave it there as it is good fish habitat.



Bullfrog by Shelley Pickard



Dog Bay Channel

- Avoid importing sand to make a beach on your shoreline. If there is an imported beach already there, let it grow in.
- Build a low impact dock when the need arises. (i.e. floater, cantilevered, pipe)
- Reduce, reuse and recycle. Avoid littering. We have 2 landfills that accept many types of recycling. Be careful when composting. Avoid meat, cheese and fat and fruit waste as it will attract animals. Place vegetable, coffee/tea waste in tightly -lidded composters away from the lake.
- Protect all wetlands

# BAPTISTE LAKE ASSOCIATION – ON THE WEB

Most of you are aware of the Baptiste-Lake-Association website [www.baptistelake.org](http://www.baptistelake.org) but we now are spreading out and can be found on a few other sites, such as:

**Facebook:**

“Like” us and share your comments, photos and stories on our Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Baptiste-Lake-Association/146248555462272>.

**Linkedin:**

Recently formed is a group on LinkedIn called Baptiste Lake Cottager and Residents [http://www.linkedin.com/groups?home=&gid=4278241&trk=anet\\_u\\_g\\_hm](http://www.linkedin.com/groups?home=&gid=4278241&trk=anet_u_g_hm) (thank you Christopher Fabricius!) Find it and join in on our discussions there.

**PayPal:**

We are now able to accept your membership on the web via PayPal. You will find a link on the Baptiste-Lake-Association website - [www.baptistelake.org/1member.asp](http://www.baptistelake.org/1member.asp)



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Evening sessions held in conjunction with Bancroft Field Naturalist Club meetings  
~ Summer sessions are family-friendly ~

April 16th	7 to 8:00 pm	Planning for Tree Planting	Riverstone Retirement Residence
May 21st	7 to 8:00 pm	A Garden for Your Birds	Riverstone Retirement Residence
June 18th	7 to 8:00 pm	Turtle Talk	Riverstone Retirement Residence
July 17th	10 am to Noon	Reptile Touch & Learn	North Hastings Children's Services
August 7th	10 am to Noon	Nature Scavenger Hunt	Silent Lake Prov. Park
September 17th	7 to 8:00 pm	Our Local 'Jewel' Lake Trout	Riverstone Retirement Residence
October 15th	7 to 8:00 pm	The Truth about Trapping	Riverstone Retirement Residence

For more information contact:  
Bancroft Area Stewardship Council  
(613) 332-3940 x 260 OR [jennifer.card@ontario.ca](mailto:jennifer.card@ontario.ca)

Brought to you by:




*Continued page 18*

## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Do you want to have fun, meet people and help the Baptiste Lake community? The BLA is looking for your talents. Involvements range from a few hours of "done in a day" volunteering, to joining a committee, or being elected to the Board of Directors. Whatever your time available, we can include you in a variety of activities.

Here are some examples of roles we are looking to fill

- block captains for the membership committee - (contacting your neighbours about becoming BLA members)
- working on lake plan implementation with David Hawkes
- website designer, writer, editor
- social event planning (May event, AGM, Corn roast, music festival)

Please indicate your area of interest to **Susan Latremoille** ([susan.latremoille@sympatico.ca](mailto:susan.latremoille@sympatico.ca))

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# THE BOAT



BLA's classic wooden boat, *Entre Amis*, a 26ft Skiff Craft, donated as a fund raiser by Diann Kuder, is for sale this spring. Attractively priced at \$6500, members will receive a 20% discount. For information on the background and description of *Entre Amis* see the BLA News Letter Fall 2011, Page 18 and also on the BLA Website; Classic Wooden Boat: <http://baptistelake.org>.

Prospective buyers may contact Wally McColl at telephone (613) 332-5364; email: [Wallace.McColl@bancroftmail.com](mailto:Wallace.McColl@bancroftmail.com). Details on specifications, maintenance and service records are available. *Entre Amis* may be viewed for a limited time at Birch Cliff Lodge.

The BLA is also listing *Entre Amis* on the Lady Ben Classic Wooden Boats Website: [www.ladyben.com](http://www.ladyben.com), hosted in Barrie Ontario. This website is noted for listing beautiful examples of wooden boats from famous manufacturers and Skiff Craft boats maintain a prominent position. For interesting details on the craftsmanship of Skiff Craft boat building, maintenance and restoration services, see their website at: [www.skiffcraft.com](http://www.skiffcraft.com).

## AREA COMMUNITY EVENTS 2012

- May 20<sup>th</sup> ...Artifest at the Art Gallery
- May 23<sup>rd</sup> ...Annual Plant Sale Club 580 ( 5-7pm)
- May 26<sup>th</sup> ...Maynooth Framers' Market at the Community Centre (8-12 am)Every Saturday until October
- May 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> ...North Hastings Choir Spring Concert at the Village Playhouse
- June 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> ...Bancroft Home and Cottage Show at the Bancroft Curling Club
- June 12<sup>th</sup> ...TIFF film (The Artist) at the Village Playhouse (4 and 7 pm)
- July / August...check the Village Playhouse for their productions for July and August
- July 1<sup>st</sup>...Canada Day Celebrations... Millennium Park, Bancroft
- July 8<sup>th</sup> ...Bancroft Flying Club's Annual Pancake Breakfast at the Flying Club
- July 13<sup>th</sup> ... Annual Pig and Lamb Roast...Bancroft Curling Club
- August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> ...Rockhound Gemboree...Bancroft Arena and Curling Club
- August 4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> ...Art in Millennium Park
- September 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> ...Annual Maynooth Loggers Game and Fall Fair...Loggers Fields
- Sept 2<sup>nd</sup> ...Mud Dawg Run...Loggers Fields in Maynooth
- Sept 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> ...North Hastings Quilt Show...Bancroft Curling Club
- Sept 15<sup>th</sup> ...York River Festival...Village Playhouse (8pm)



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# MINING ACT: ONTARIO

## NOTES FROM THE FOCA FILES

“Over the years, FOCA member associations have made us aware of the difficulties they and their members have experienced in working under the terms of the old Mining Act. The major concerns which our members expressed relate to the following issues:

- Claim staking and exploration on private residential property where the land owner only owns the surface rights while the crown continues to hold the mining rights.
- Exploration activities that have seriously damaged the environment on crown land which is regularly used for recreation and tourism related activities, and related and considerable off-site impacts of this activity.
- The exemption of exploration and mine development activities from full environmental assessments to identify the full range of economic, environmental, social and health impacts of proposed development prior to commencing activities on the land.
- The fact that municipalities and municipal official plans have no jurisdiction over developments, including mining, on crown lands within their territory.
- The apparent lack of public input or an appeal process for decisions made by the Ministry. “

-----  
“With the proclamation of the Act in 2009, private property in southern Ontario (south of the French River) where the owners only held

surface rights with the mining rights still being held by the crown, were withdrawn from being available for mining claim staking. Unfortunately this does not apply if the land was already under a mining claim and such lands will only be withdrawn if the existing claims expire in the future.”

New Regulations implemented on January 1, 2011:

- Private landowners in northern Ontario can apply for withdrawal of Crown mineral rights for their property so no claim staking or exploration will take place on their land; and
- Surface rights holders can apply for exemptions from Mining Land Tax under certain circumstances, such as when the land is not being used for mining.
- New Regulations to be implemented by summer 2011 include:
- The introduction of a paper staking system in southern Ontario with a transition to an online staking system province wide by 2013.

By 2012 it is anticipated that regulations covering a new Plan and Permit system for all early exploration activities will be introduced. This will be a major change and will provide a more transparent, regulated process for exploration activities.

\*Exploration Plans will be available public documents and will detail the less intrusive exploration activities.

*Continued on page 15*



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submitted by DIANA GURLEY

### Show Schedule May - December 2012

**May** - May 2 - May 27

“Invitation 2012” - 30th Annual

Juried Exhibition Awards Presentation

Opening Reception Fri. May 4, 7:30 pm

Sponsor: TBA

**Sunday - May 20**

Artists' Street Festival and Sale

Flint Avenue in front of the Gallery

**June** - Wed. May 30 - Sat. June 30

“By the Way...”

a collection of oil paintings by Susan Dunlop

Opening Reception Fri. Jun 1, 7:30 pm

Sponsor: Bancroft Bed & Breakfast

**July** - Wed. July 4 to Sun. July 29

“Seasons of Light”

Anna Kutishcheva - painter

Opening Reception Fri. July 6, 7:30 pm

Sponsor: Gertrude Sorenson

**August** - Wed. Aug. 1 to Sun. Aug. 26

“Views & Visions III” by Diana Gurley

Opening Reception Fri. Aug. 3, 7:30 pm

Sponsor: Stephanie Henderson

in memory of Robert Henderson



Paul Ives Carving

**September** - Wed. Aug. 29 to Sun. Sept. 23

“In My Mother's Time - a Bay Boy Remembers”

by Alfred Villeneuve

Opening Reception Fri. Aug 31, 7:30 pm

Sponsor: Ross and Olwen Terrien

**October** - Wed. Sept. 26 to Sun. Oct. 28

“A Reminder of Summer” by Jenny Gordon

Opening Reception Fri. Sept. 28, 7:30 pm

Sponsor: SurNet Bartlett Insurance

**November** - Wed. Oct. 31 to Sat. Nov. 24

“Early Christmas at the Gallery”

plus photos by Gail Burstyn

Opening Reception Fri. Nov 2, 7:30 pm

Sponsors: Pat Cooke

In Memory of Paul David Cooke

**December** - Wed. Nov. 28 to Sat. Dec. 22

“Hidden Treasures in Our Community”

Art work on loan from art collectors in our area

Opening Reception Fri. Nov. 30, 7:30 pm

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\* Exploration Permits will be required for mechanized exploration activities including any use of explosives, and the permit process is expected to include an Environmental Bill of Rights (EBR) posting and opportunity for public input, as well as mechanisms to ensure consultation of First Nations and Métis groups, and surface rights holders



## Keeping the 'Family' in the Family Cottage

2012 FOCA Cottage Succession seminar series:

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Visit [www.foca.on.ca/Cottage-Succession](http://www.foca.on.ca/Cottage-Succession) for dates, locations and registration details as they become available.



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## CUTTING YOUR GRASS THIS WEEKEND?



Toad by Shelley Pickard

“Winterize your lawn”, the big sign outside the garden store commanded.

I’ve fed it, watered it, mowed it, raked it, and watched a lot of it die. Now I’m supposed to winterize it? I hope it’s not too late.

Grass lawns are puzzling. We constantly battle dandelions, Queen Anne’s lace, thistle, violets, chicory, and clover that thrive naturally, so we can grow grass that must be nursed through an annual four-step chemical dependency.

Imagine the conversation Mother Nature might have had with brother West Wind

*“West Wind, you know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there in the Midwest? What happened to the dandelions, violets, thistle and stuff that were started eons ago? It was a perfect, no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought, and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long-lasting blossoms attracted butterflies, honey bees, and flocks of songbirds. I expected to see a vast garden of colors by now. But all I see are these green rectangles.”*

*“It’s the tribes that settled there, Mother Nature. The Suburbanites. They started calling your flowers ‘weeds’ and went to great extent to kill them and replace them with grass.”*

*“Grass? But it’s so boring. It’s not colorful. It doesn’t attract butterflies, birds, and bees; only grubs and sod worms. It’s temperamental with temperatures. Do these Suburbanites really want all that grass growing there?”*

*“Apparently so. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They begin each spring by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.”*

*“The spring rains and cool weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make the Suburbanites happy.”*

*Continued on page 17*

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## Cutting Your Lawn ..Continued from page 16

*“Apparently not. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it – sometimes twice a week.”*

*“They cut it? Do they then bale it like hay?”*

*“Not exactly. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.”*

*“They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?”*

*“No madam, just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.”*

*“Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?”*

*“Yes!”*

*“These Suburbanites must be relieved in the summer when we cut back on the rain and turn up the heat. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.”*

*“You aren’t going to believe this. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.”*

*“What nonsense! At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the autumn, they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture*

*in the soil and protect the trees and bushes. Plus, as they rot, the leaves form compost to enhance the soil. It’s a natural circle of life.”*

*“You better sit down for this one! The Suburbanites have drawn a new circle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and have them hauled away.”*

*“No! What do they do to protect the shrub and tree roots in the winter and keep the soil moist and loose?”*

*“After throwing away your leaves, they go out and buy something they call ‘mulch’. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.”*

*“And where do they get this mulch?”*

*“They cut down trees and grind them up.”*

*“Enough! I don’t want to think about this anymore. Brother West wind, you’re in charge of entertainment. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?”*

*“Dumb and Dumber... it’s a real silly movie about...”*

*“Never mind, I think I just heard the whole story.”*

### **Hazardous Waste Days for 2012**

Multi-Municipal Hazardous Household Waste collection dates for 2012 are:

May 12, June 16, July 7, Aug. 11 and Sept. 22.

The collection site will be located at:

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Bancroft Summer Theatre *Continued from page 5*

The season's second show will be Early August by Kate Lynch. This fast paced comedy takes the audience into the dressing room of a cast fully immersed in a production. Things however are not going smoothly as the entire cast suffers from various afflictions related to heart and home. Someone has to put things right if the show is to go on. Thankfully, a crafty stage manager steps in to keep it all together. This production will run at 8 pm, Tuesdays to Saturdays from August 7 until the 25th with a matinee show at 2 pm on Saturday, August 18. Tickets are \$20. A Blackfly Summer Theatre production.

And for something entirely different, be sure to attend a performance by hypnotist Casey St. James. This acclaimed hypnotist will amaze and amuse you long after the curtain closes. Three shows only will be offered. Tuesday July 31, Friday August 30 and Saturday August 31. Tickets are \$25 and proceeds will go to the Bancroft Community Cupboard.

Dinner theatre packages will once again return this season. This package includes dinner at St. Pauls Church, next to the Playhouse and cost only \$32. Packages for Steel Magnolias are available on July 12 and 26th. Packages for Early August will take place on Aug. 9 and 23. Dinner will be served at 6 pm. Tickets must be reserved 7 days in advance.

Ticket sales begin May 1 by phone. Call 1-877-322-4682 to reserve your seats. The Bancroft Village Playhouse box office located at 5 Hastings St. will be open on Wednesday June 5th. Box office hours are Wednesday to Saturday, 2 to 6 pm. Box office will be open until 7:30 pm on performance nights.

More info at [www.bancroftvillageplayhouse.ca](http://www.bancroftvillageplayhouse.ca)

Baptiste Lake Association on the Web *Continued from page 11*

**Email Notifications**

We are now sending out notifications of upcoming events and items of interest via email. If you haven't received anything from us lately then please send us an email at [newsletter@baptistelake.org](mailto:newsletter@baptistelake.org) and ask to be put on our list.

Also, please make sure you add us to your contact list so our emails aren't accidentally mistaken as spam!

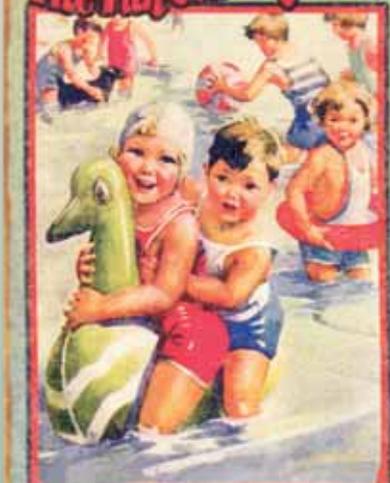


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Shelley Pickard <i>Membership/Website</i>	1022 Flagship Drive, Mississauga On L4Y 2J7 911:15 Mc Allister Road	<a href="mailto:Shelley.pickard@rogers.com">Shelley.pickard@rogers.com</a>	905-848-1973 613-332-5256

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**Silver Springs Cottage Resort** Open all year. We have 9 winterized cottages with various sized accommodation. Located on Elephant Lake.(just 5 Km to Algonquin park). Store, boat and motor rental, docking, sandy beach. **705-448-2617**. [www.silverspringcottages.com](http://www.silverspringcottages.com). Come as a tourist - leave as a friend!

**Tanya Ferguson, RMT - Offering registered** massage therapy by appointment only. **613.334.8126**.

**Upholstery Dry Clean Services -** Environmentally certified. Child and pet safe. All upholstered and leather furniture including area rugs, vehicles and boats. On site service. Call Peter Griffin for quotation. **613-332-8399**. [petee70@yahoo.com](mailto:petee70@yahoo.com) <http://upholsterydrycleanservices.yolasite.com>

**West Bay House – Relax Here.** Spacious two storey lofts, 2 and 3 bedroom cabins. House for 12. Sandy beach, volleyball, boating, hiking and fishing. Seasonal, monthly or weekly rentals available. [elizabeth@westbayhouse.com](mailto:elizabeth@westbayhouse.com) **416.239.5618** or **613.332.3435** (summer) [www.westbayhouse.com](http://www.westbayhouse.com)



### BLA Membership - PayPal Now Available!

Membership fees collected are used to cover expenses necessary to support our goals. We offer family memberships on a one year or three year term. Cost for one year is \$25 / three years \$60.00. Please note that memberships expire on our fiscal year end, March 31st. Please tear out this form and send it in with a cheque made out to "Baptiste Lake Association", Box 877, Bancroft, ON K0L 1C0 or submit your online payment via PayPal - please see the link on our website: [www.baptistelake.org](http://www.baptistelake.org) for details.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, Province/State \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
911 Lake Address \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_ Waterfront? Yes / No Water Access Only? Yes / No

\_\_\_\_ please check here if you have any objection to the Baptiste Lake Association including your name in our Newsletters and/or on our Website