

# Kapikog Lake Newsletter



JULY 2013

Kapikog Lake Cottagers Association

Box 167, MacTier, Ontario P0C 1H0



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT - SUMMER 2013

Welcome back to Kapikog Lake everyone! Hope your summer will be full of great activities, good companionships, great weather and many cherished moments that create lifetime memories. Practice safe behaviour in whatever endeavour you care to participate, carry the proper documentation for your activity and ensure that your equipment is top notch and in good working order. The OPP has already been on the lake this spring to ensure compliance with the laws concerning safe boating and they also have had what appears to be more of a presence on the roadways in the area.

Winter hung on for a long time compared to the previous two years. The ice didn't leave the lake until April 23rd, a full month later than in 2012, it is however a memory and a exciting open water season is in full swing. The Association kicked off the 2013 season with our annual wine and cheese at H&H Restaurant and Resort. The day was great and the session was well attended. Dues for 2013 were collected from those in attendance. For those of you who could not attend and have not already paid the \$40.00 annual dues, this can still be done by sending your cheque made out the Kapikog Lake Cottagers Association to P.O. Box 176, Mactier Ontario PoC 1Ho.

The first annual Kapikog Kurling Bonspiel award was given to a surprised Carol Dickie and Rainer

Cuma with felicitations from all those in attendance and many questions were asked about their curling prowess and style. As well a petition was initiated requesting that our municipal council enact a bylaw legalizing the use of ATVs on the municipality's road system. This issue was brought up at our last annual meeting; as it stands now anyone who operates an ATV on the roads is doing so illegally. The Healey Lake Association is also involved with this issue. Our Ward 6 Councillor Grant Walker has suggested that we approach this issue for our ward only as there does not appear to be an appetite for this legalization in other parts of the municipality. The matter will be addressed at the July 19th council meeting and we will be part of a deputation requesting legalization of ATV use on the municipal road system and presenting the petition.

Over the course of the year two new families have joined our Lake's community: the Brenners and the Atkinsons. Please help me in welcoming them to Kapikog Lake. We hope their time spent here will be enjoyable and rewarding.

Water quality monitoring headed up by Al Moore is again taking place this year. We hope to get four samples in during this summer. The monitoring of the lake's water quality gives us trend through time data on total coliform counts, clarity and temperature. The tests are not designed to monitor the water for drinking suitability. I would like to remind

*(Continued on page 2)*

### Remember these dates!

**Annual General Meeting...Saturday August 17th 2013...10:00am**

Next year ..... get a headstart on summer at the

**Wine and Cheese Party...Sunday May 18th 2014...2:00pm**

### Inside Tracks

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people that the lake water is a shared resource that we need to protect so do not use the lake as your bath tub, use the proper facility for this to ensure that the waste water goes through your septic system. The results of the monitoring program can be viewed on The Archipelago's website.

The wildlife of the area offers us much enjoyment; birds, mammals, amphibians and reptiles are often encountered by many of us in our travels round and about the lake. Respect these creatures in their natural habitat and be aware of our impact on their environment. If hiking through the bush or paddling the waterways around the lake you may encounter deer, foxes, racoons, rabbits, black bear and many others. View them with care, take lots of photos but remember these are wild animals and may pose a danger to you in certain situations. Black bears with cubs are a common sighting this spring ; if you see them, keep your distance and keep your cool. To avoid having the bear becoming a regular visitor to your property and then possibly a nuisance or a danger to you, keep your garbage properly stored, your barbecue clean and avoid anything that may invite repeat visits. Generally speaking, bears are on hunt for food to gain as much body mass as possible before their hibernation so they can survive the winter, so if you do not have any goodies for them the only encounter that you will have is seeing them pass by. But if you create a situation where they can repeatedly find food, they will become a regular visitor, a nuisance and maybe a danger to you, try to avoid this for the bear's sake as well as your own peace of mind.

We are situated in a lovely wild relatively undisturbed section of Ontario. Things may appear to be much the same from one year to the next, but subtle natural changes are constantly occurring which may escape to our eyes. Natural forest succession has changed the vegetative landscape of the area: White birch and trembling aspen have virtually disappeared from the lake shore; open spaces that once supported blueberries have grown over and now support white pine and other trees. Human incursion has also had its effect on the landscape. When the lake was first developed for cottage lots subdivisions there were no roads and no hydro corridors. The dam was built to maintain water levels and inundated some low lying areas, drowning some standing timber. All these dead snags have now for the most part disappeared. These habitat changes have an effect on wildlife species which

through the successive changes may immigrate or emigrate from the area. This results in a wide variety of flora and fauna present in the area for us to behold and enjoy! Get out there, explore the ridges, the valleys and waterways of this magnificent landscape, but remember to tread lightly and leave only footprints behind.

As I write this piece, summer has just begun and indeed it has set in with hot humid temperatures unlike the cool dreary spring. Temperatures for the first few days of the summer were in the high 20's with humidity mounting each afternoon. During the night of June 24/25 we were treated to a few hours of spectacular lightening, thunder and rain, not an uncommon occurrence in the area! What it brings with all its magnificent display of energy is the possibility of a lightning strike that could cause fire. This brings me to remind you of our fire pump locations and their availability for your use. The pumps were serviced this spring by Steve Randall and you should know how to use them in case of a fire emergency Try them out, and make us aware if you want to use them and of any problems you encounter with them. Replace the gasoline that you used and let us know of your experience. You should have working smoke detectors in your cottage and if you have not replaced the batteries since last year I would encourage you to do so. You should also have a fire emergency escape plan for your cottage and be aware of your nearest neighbour who may be available to assist in case of an emergency. Remember our municipality does not have a fire service and we have to rely on each other. In case of a forest fire MNR should be contacted 1-888-863-3473.

During the summer there are many activities occurring throughout the area: farmers markets, music festivals, theatre presentations, sailing or kayaking opportunities, sight seeing by plane or boat and many others. A copy of Fun in the Sun is a great guide to summer activities in the Parry Sound area. Make some of these part of your summer experience and enjoy, but remember to do them all safely. Our annual meeting is set for August 17th at 10:00am at H&H parking lot, hope to see you there!

Have a safe enjoyable summer!

**Gerry Haarmeyer**  
**Association President**  
 705-375-5618    [gjsoutdoors@surenet.net](mailto:gjsoutdoors@surenet.net)

**Councillor's Report**



As I write this, spring was a little late and summer is still trying to get here. I have not had any complaints and by my own observations the township staff did a good job of looking after our roads and the transfer station over the winter months and believe me they have to deal with many difficult situations caused by the weather.

The ATV situation has not yet been resolved, the more I looked into it and talked about it the more different opinions I got. I have had information from the police, manufacturers, ATV Associations and many owners from ward six and the rest of the township. I believe that municipalities that allow the use are only allowing one-up machines and not multiple rider machines. Personally I enjoy using my ATV on back roads and some trails but do not venture on the Healey Lake Road because there are no shoulders and at times a heavy volume of fast traffic. I hope to get to some kind of resolution soon but it is difficult because there is no appetite in the rest of the township to really clean up the mess handed down by the province.

Phosphorus testing of the lake's water should be done this year in addition to our regular testing for bacteria. I reported last year that this year the township would be starting a water sensitivity program like the one in Muskoka in our ward five. I'm

happy to report that ward six will be included. Again I remind you that Shell Oil has funds for associations to do water/lake studies. This is a great way to understand what we are doing to our lakes and what we should be doing to minimize the stresses. But remember money may be available but volunteers are needed. Your executive can not do it all and I can tell you that volunteering is not only satisfying and rewarding its a great way to make new friends.

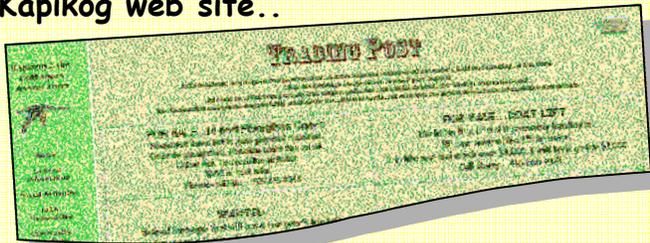
There is also an opportunity to do some forest monitoring in association with the company employed by the Township for advice and services to keep our forests healthy. If you are interested in volunteering, contact me ([grant@olresources.ca](mailto:grant@olresources.ca)) and I will put you in touch with others as well as the person from the company. Remember, without good water and healthy woodlands what have we got?

Our Reeve, with the help of council, continues to work with the hospital to improve services for the huge influx of seasonal residents every summer. I have heard many positive comments from people about the improvements last summer.

Thank you and may you and yours have a healthy, happy 2013 season

**Grant Walker Councillor Ward 6**  
Call: 705-720-2244 or Email: [grant@olresources.ca](mailto:grant@olresources.ca)

**Want to buy, sell, trade or (thinking green) just give away something that still has a useful life? Try the Trading Post on the Kapikog web site..**



**Ads are free for residents.**

**Just check the rules then use the email link on the corner of the web page to send us the 'words and music'. We will format and post your ad promptly.**

**Township of the Archipelago Report  
2012 Water Quality Results**

**Kapikog Lake** bacterial levels have returned and remain at historic levels over those found in 2009. None of the locations were above the municipal standard which shows a minor improvement.

TC (Total coliform) levels continue to be elevated as in previous years. Water quality conditions on Kapikog Lake remain suitable for recreational uses.

# CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP & FUN DAY 2013

"My how you've grown!" has been a frequently heard observation at the Harsant Family's cottage home during the annual fun day for kids. Friends and neighbours around The Lake are most grateful for their keen interest and generosity which has transformed an afternoon-party-for-the-grandkids-idea into a real fun day, looked forward to by both parents and children.

The accompanying pictures, including the inset reminder, illustrate the group's enthusiasm. The photographer couldn't get near the cookie and cake platter! Susan writes:

*"We were pleased to host Fun Day again this year, our fifth and final year for this activity. It has been great fun and the parents and children have enjoyed the event along with us. On behalf of Ed, Mark, Jennifer, Luke, Logan and myself, thanks for the great experience."*

*This year we drew Petroglyphs on canvas. We played volleyball with huge balls. The big water balloon toss and squirt guns are always a hit. There were numerous other games and lots of food to enjoy.*

*All the best to the children who participated and do drop in to our cottage for less formal activities.*

Susan Harsant



Yep! Same guy. Luke made a birdhouse in '09

Editor's Note:  
How wonderful it is to be able to live in a community like this with people like this.  
Thank you, Harsants!




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Protecting Your Environment



**A Brief History of Our Municipality**

The following article is reproduced from the Township’s website for the interest of our newer residents.

The Township of The Archipelago was created in 1980 as a result of the amalgamation of the geographic Townships of Harrison, Shawanaga, Cowper and Conger. It includes the recreational inland lakes of Healey, Kapikog, Crane, Blackstone and Three Legged in the south and Rock Island, Naiscoot and Wilson Lakes in the north. The Archipelago incorporates several thousand islands of the 30,000 Islands of Georgian Bay, north and south of Parry Sound, spanning 74 kilometres of the eastern shore of Georgian Bay. The coastline of Georgian Bay comprises part of the Great Lakes Heritage Coast and has been designated a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

The lands and waters that comprise the Archipelago have a rich and interesting history. People were first attracted to the rugged beauty of the area in the early 19th century. Today, there are just over 4,000 parcels of land in the Township spread throughout a total acreage of roughly 146,000 acres. Approximately 90 percent of the Township’s residences are seasonal in nature. The historic communities of Pointe au Baril in the north and Woods Bay in the south Archipelago provide services to area visitors and both full-time and seasonal residents.

The Massasauga and Sturgeon Bay Provincial Parks are located within the Township’s boundaries. As well, the Province has established a number of Conservation Reserves and two Nature Reserves within the Township’s limits. Approximately 90% of the land located within the Township is Crown land held by the Province of Ontario.

Residents of the Township and visitors alike continue to be attracted to Georgian Bay and the inland lakes of the Township for their natural beauty and recreational potential. It is the Township’s goal to preserve the unique and high quality of this natural environment.



**The Auction 1966  
50th Anniversary**

**There are still many among us who remember Saturday October 15th 1966 as a cold and rainy afternoon spent shivering on the shore of a small, strange, scraggy-bushed lake.**

**Your Cottagers Association would be delighted to have suggestions for any celebratory activity to plan for the summer of 2016.**

**Please speak to or email any of the executive.**

**As a beginning, a prize will be presented this year for the best photograph by a member which could be titled “The Golden Tree”. Above is an example, but let your imagination roam. Limit of three entries per person. Deadline is October 15th this year. Email JPG image(s), preferably not compressed, to [jsh.kapikog@gmail.com](mailto:jsh.kapikog@gmail.com) Judgement by impartial panel. Finalists’ entries will be printed in the November newsletter issue.**

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### For Those Interested in the Shooting Sports

Parry Sound Anglers and Hunters and the Parry Sound Pistol Club host a variety of shooting days each week and guests are welcome.

Every Sunday from 9:00am and every Tuesday evening from 6:00pm, Parry Sound Anglers and Hunters host a trap shoot.

The Pistol Club hosts a club shoot every Sunday starting at 10:00am.

I will be conducting a One Stop Canadian Firearm Safety and Hunter Education Course August 30 to



September 1 at the Parry Sound Anglers and Hunters Club Property on Brooks Road.

If you are interested in attending any of these events, contact Gerry Haarmeyer at 705-375-5618.

Also, the Parry Sound Anglers and Hunters' Gun Show will be held at the Bobby Orr Community Centre in Parry Sound on Saturday August 24th from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Entry fee is \$6.00 per person.



**PETER WATKINSON**  
BROKER



21 HIGH STREET, UNIT 5 MACTIER, ON P0C 1H0

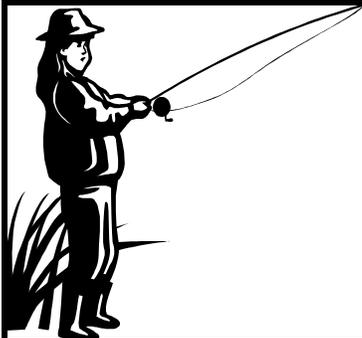
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The Loons and the Cottagers are back  
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### Fishing Calendar - Kapikog Lake 2013

- Bass, Large and Smallmouth**    June 22 to November 30
- Northern Pike**    January 1 to March 31 & May 18 to December 31
- Yellow Perch**    All year
- Crappie**    All year
- Sunfish**    All year

For catch limits and other species in Zone 15 consult the 2013 Recreational Fishing Regulations Summary

Note: The angler is responsible for knowing the law. Consult the regulations before venturing out on the water to try your luck. Available printed from MNR or at [www.ontario.ca/fishing](http://www.ontario.ca/fishing).



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