



DALHOUSIE LAKE ASSOCIATION INC.

Message from the President

After the winter that wouldn't go away I'm sure you are all looking forward to all that summer at the lake has to offer. When you talk about living on a lake people look at you wistfully which reminds me of all the beauty we are surrounded by. The sunsets and sunrises over the water, bonfires twinkling around the lake on a summer's evening, sun on the water sparkling like diamonds, the green of the trees along the shore in the spring, a loon popping up out of the water right in front of the dock. There is also the peaceful feeling you get when you hear a loon call or go for a ride in your canoe. Getting out on the water in any way you can makes you feel like you are on a 'mini vacation'. So, this summer do things 'just for the fun of it' so that when you pack up the cottage in the fall you will have great memories of your little piece of paradise to sustain you through another Canadian winter.

I am very excited that through our partnership with the Lanark County Stewardship Council, MVCA and the Centre for Sustainable Watersheds we have been successful in obtaining a grant from Fisheries and Oceans Canada to restore the two Walleye spawning beds at the head and foot of the lake and to improve the fish habitat. Also included in this grant is funds for a program called The Natural Edge Shoreline Naturalization. I have invited Barb King from the Sustainable Watersheds Association and Wendel Crosbie from the Fish and Game Club to our July 19th meeting to provide more information on both these projects. Funds will be available for the shoreline naturalization of up to ten properties. If you wish to have a free assessment of your shoreline, contact Allison at 613-264-1244 or by email at allison@watershed.ca. You can also sign up at the July 19th meeting after you have a chance to hear Barb King's presentation.

This year the association represented the interests of our members at the Lake Links, Lake Networking, the Lake Stewardship/Watershed Steering Committee and the Lake Association/OPP meetings. The main concern expressed at these meetings is water quality especially related to aquatic plants and algae. Mike Yee, biologist at the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, announced a new project has been initiated to do research on this problem. Partners in the project are Friends of the Tay, MVCA, Rideau Valley CA and Carleton University. Ten lakes will be researched this year and another ten next year. We will be notified if our lake is chosen. There is more nutrient loading from run off etc. when lakes are high but the good news is our lake is a good flushing lake so we do not have as much algae damage as other lakes. Our water testing also shows acceptable phosphate levels but the count is gradually increasing. We must not become complacent to this threat as nutrient loading is a threat to all lakes. For example, Muskrat Lake in Cobden in a very short period has become a lake that is unsafe to swim in or use the water from it due to nutrient pollution. That's why I feel very excited about our chance to take part in the lake shore naturalization program as plants filter run off.

The executive held the first planning session for the upcoming season and set up the following meetings:

July 19th – 10:00 am Information meeting at M.E.R.A. Hall

Barb King, executive director at the Centre for Sustainable Watersheds will be present to explain the Fish Spawning Restoration and Shore Line Restoration programs. Wendel Crosbie a representative of the Fish and Game Club will also be present to discuss the spawning bed restoration.

Gord Mountenay, Water Management Supervisor at the MVCA will do a presentation on the dam systems and water level controls on the Mississippi.

August 23rd – 10:00am Annual General meeting at M.E.R.A. Hall

An agenda for each meeting will be sent to you by email as well as posted on the website and bulletin board beside the boat launch at Dalhousie Lake Restaurant.

Our community event this summer will be an opportunity to take part in a garage sale on June 28th – 9:00am to 1:00pm. This is not a fundraiser for the association but we will promote the event in the EMC and put up signs to direct people to this area. If you wish to participate, you can have your own display or can join with your neighbours to have a larger display. Events like this invite people to see the beauty of our area and encourage them to visit the restaurant, golf course and stores. Please let me know by June 22nd if you plan to participate so we can put up the signs. You don't need a lot of items to participate, we just need participation.

Why join a lake association? Here are some reasons I feel are important for your consideration:

- *Your lake association acts as a liaison between the various agencies (Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority, Township of Lanark Highlands, Ministry of Natural Resources, etc.) and our members. We e-mail or phone our members with pertinent information concerning water levels, events, meetings, etc. If Dalhousie Lake does not have an association these agencies do not know who to contact and important information does not get communicated.*
- *We organize information meetings for members only with speakers who are knowledgeable on specific topics that members have told us they need to know more about.*
- *Your association believes in creating a "lake community" where you know your neighbours, therefore we try to organize a social event once a summer.*
- *The executive attends meetings to get ideas and learn about projects, e.g. Lake Management Plans, that we think our members might be interested in getting involved in.*
- *We attend council meetings if topics are being discussed pertaining to the Mississippi River Watershed, Dalhousie Lake in particular.*
- *The association is interested in preserving and improving the ecosystem of our lake through education, however the association is not a watchdog for other agencies. In the past the executive has arranged for environmental experts from Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority, the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Health to speak to all members about environmental concerns.*

- *You would find it valuable to visit the association website at dlai.ca or the bulletin board beside the boat launch at Sylvania Lodge for more information about the association.*

There is strength in numbers. My vision would be to have all residences become members to ensure a strong positive voice for Dalhousie Lake. Let's become an enthusiastic, informed lake community. Your membership gives you a voice.

If you have any questions about the association, please contact the director for your section.

Executive 2014

Section 1	Head of the Lake	Patricia Jones randpjones@xplornet.ca	Lake 613-278-0267 Home 613-278-0267
Section 2	North Shore Road	Jim Brown jamesabrown_8767@yahoo.ca	Lake 613-292-1236 Home 613-257-4245
Section 3	Sugar Bush Hill	Bruce Patrick (Vice President) bruce.patrick2@sympatico.ca	Lake 613-278-2650 Home 613-729-7031
Section 4	Purdon's Bay	Rick Dunn rickcathydunn@hotmail.com	Lake 613-278-1257 Home 613-278-1257
Section 5	Hall Shore Road Leslie Drive	Judy Hall (President) halljw@sympatico.ca	Lake 613-278-0647 Home 613-278-0647
Section 6	10 th Line	Diane Bennett dbennett@bell.net	Lake 613-278-2772 Home 613-278-2772
	At Large	Carol Thivierge (Secretary/Treasurer) yanny26@sympatico.ca	Lake 613-278-2295 Home 613-224-3020

I look forward to seeing many of you around the lake and wish you a safe and fun filled summer.

Judy Hall, President
Dalhousie Lake Association Inc.