



DALHOUSIE LAKE ASSOCIATION INC.

Message from the President

Welcome to summer on Dalhousie Lake. I hope you are anticipating summer at your cottage. The word 'cottage' evokes so many memories for people who spend their summers on a lake. Many of my memories revolve around our family cottage on the north shore and now our home on the south shore. I have spent every summer of my life on this lake and in that time I have seen many properties change hands or be passed on to the next generation. My observation is the one constant is how cottagers love to talk about their cottages, its history and summer fun on the lake. Even though some of us are permanent residents on the lake, when summer comes we are 'cottagers'.

As cottagers we deal with many challenges, leaking roofs, pumps that don't work, animal invasions etc. The list could go on but we always return every summer drawn by the peacefulness of living by the water and the beauty of nature.

Of course, as a lake association we are very concerned about preserving our cottage way of life and that means ensuring that future generations will also be able to come to Dalhousie Lake and build memories like we have. We should always think about the future with all the decisions we make about our properties. Last year, as you know, we had an infestation of blue-green algae on our lake as did many lakes in our area. This could be a warning sign that we must be vigilant in continuing to do the 'right thing' for future generations. Thank you to all who took part in the shoreline restoration program last year. Please think about having your septic tank pumped if it hasn't been done for a few years. Chemicals that you put on your property to control weeds or insects eventually make their way into the water so look for environmentally friendly products. Even small changes will help.

As an association we also like to build a sense of community. This year we will have our 2nd annual Dalhousie Lake Garage Sale on July 4th (rain date July 5th). Plan to participate if you have 'treasures' you would like to sell. Contact me at 613-278-0647 or halliw@sympatico.ca if you require more information. This is not a fundraiser for the association – all participants keep the proceeds.

We have two meetings planned for this summer:

- July 11th – 10:00am. Information meeting at M.E.R.A. There will be presentation by the Health Unit and Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority on Blue-Green Algae bloom - why it occurs, how to recognize it and what to do if you notice it. This is a very important meeting as sometimes blue-green algae becomes toxic and can be dangerous to humans and extremely dangerous to animals. We feel that this is such an important topic that we are asking you to invite your neighbours even if they are not members. If this bloom occurs again, we need to be able to contact as many people as we can quickly.

- Aug 22nd – 10:00am. Annual General meeting at M.E.R.A. At this meeting the slate of directors for next year will be elected and a financial report will be presented.

An agenda for each meeting will be sent to you by email as well as posted on the website (dlai.ca). It will also be placed on the bulletin board beside the boat launch at Dalhousie Lake Restaurant.

We are doing our membership drive a little differently this year as we are trying to cut costs since our expenses are continuing to grow. At the AGM last year, the membership voted to conduct the membership drive by email. Since you are receiving this by email you will not receive a membership package by mail as we have done in previous years. The members also voted to increase the membership fee from \$15 to \$20 in order to continue the frequency of water tests. Please make your cheque for \$20 payable to Dalhousie Lake Association Inc and send to the director of your section (see Executive 2015 list below) by July 15th. We need your support more than ever!

If your contact information (address, phone number etc.) has changed since last year, please send the updated information to halljw@sympatico.ca.

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, Lanark Leeds & Grenville Health Unit, 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.

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.

Executive 2015

Section	Director	Contact Info
1 Head of the Lake	Patricia Jones	2069 Sugarbush Hill Lane McDonald's Corners, On K0G 1M0 dalhousiejones@gmail.com 613-278-0267
2 North Shore Road	Jim Brown	8767 McCaffrey Trail Ashton, ON K0A 1B0 jamesabrown_8767@yahoo.ca Lake 613-292-1236 Home 613-257-4245
3 Sugar Bush Hill	Bruce Patrick (Vice President)	547 Fraser Ave. Ottawa ON K2A 2R3 bruce.patrick2@sympatico.ca Lake 613-278-2650 Home 613-729-7031
4 Purdon's Bay	Rick Dunn	537 Purdons Bay Rd McDonalds Corners, ON K0G 1M0 rickcathydunn@hotmail.com 613-278-1257
5 Hall Shore Road Leslie Drive	Judy Hall (President)	164 Hall Shore Road Mcdonald's Corners ON K0G 1M0 halljw@sympatico.ca 613-278-0647
6 10th Line	Diane Bennett	751 Meadowcrest Drive Mcdonald's Corners ON K0G 1M0 dbennett@bell.net 613-278-2772
At Large	Carol Thivierge (Secretary/Treasurer)	100 Medhurst Dr. Apt 105 Nepean, ON K2G 5W7 yanny26@sympatico.ca Lake 613-278-2295 Home 613-224-3020