



<http://www.foxlakeassociation.org/>

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi Everyone,

Even though we've had a very wet spring and the water levels have fluctuated considerably fortunately we haven't yet seen the type of significant flooding that occurred over previous springs. Hopefully after all this wet weather we'll get some dry sunny weeks as the calendar turns to summer. So, as we wait for that, I wanted to bring all the members up-to-date on the Association's planned events and a few items of note.

Coming up on July 15th is the Association's Annual General Meeting. In addition, the Association will be running the Annual Fox Lake Regatta which will take place over the August long weekend on Saturday the 5th this year. Finally, we will be holding our annual Corn Roast on the Saturday of the Labour Day weekend and will couple that with our Fox Lake Association fund raising auction as we did last year. As usual, corn will be provided and we'll have a BBQ available for folks to use in a BYOF (bring-your-own-food) format for hot dogs and burgers.

Later in the Newsletter specific details for all of these events are outlined. Everyone on the Lake is welcome at these events and they hopefully provide all with an opportunity to get together, get reacquainted and have some fun.

In addition, the Association will continue its work on monitoring water quality this summer and will carry on with our annual benthic monitoring activity in conjunction with the Ministry of Natural Resources. This is outlined in the Lake Steward Report from David White.

Also, a couple of quick reminders as boating season begins. The last date for a boat launch at Camp Winnebago is June 24th as camp activity ramps up after that date. The fee is still \$25. Also, continue to be sensitive to the 'No Wake' signs for the Buck River and the Foxtail.

And finally, it is with deep sadness that we note the passing of Harold Hadley. Harold was a long time cottager on the lake and a great supporter of the Association's work over decades. All the lake residents have benefitted from his dedication to the preservation of our natural lake environment and his financial contributions in support of that. He will be greatly missed. A memorial service for Harold is

planned for Thursday, August 17th at Christ Church Ilfracombe near Buck Lake. More information will be available on the website later in the summer.

I am looking forward to getting together with many of you at the events planned for this summer and I wish everyone a very pleasant (and sunny) season.

Tom Gillette
President, Fox Lake Association

PLANNING AHEAD: 2017 SUMMER EVENTS

Please put the following dates in your summer calendar. Again this year we are combining the Corn Roast and annual Auction over the Labour Day weekend.

- Annual General Meeting Saturday, July 15, 2017 (Hosted by Jim Watson, 550 East Fox Lake Road). Doors open at 9:30 am. Meeting starts at 10:00 am. Chairs limited so please bring your own.
- Regatta – August 5th (Shepley Beach)
- Corn Roast and Auction – September 2nd (Sandy McLennan's – 100 Rachel's Lane)

OMB DECISION RECAP

In November we notified everyone that the OMB, after a prolonged process, had approved the severance and re-zoning request to create three new lots along the Buck River in the north end. The Association was very disappointed by that decision but a positive outcome of the review process was that the by-law developed for the new lots provides some environmental safeguards for that sensitive area along the river by prohibiting docks into the river, protecting the shoreline vegetation and putting restrictions on the building envelopes. I want to thank everyone who supported the Association through this process with financial donations or by attending the hearings. It was much appreciated.

LAKE PLAN UPDATE

Through Judy Maxwell's efforts we continue to stay close to the Town of Huntsville's activity to finalize their new Official Plan so we can integrate the key points of our Lake Plan into it. The Town of Huntsville has revised its deadlines for completing the changes to the Official Plan and as a consequence we have not seen much progress in the past twelve months. We suspect the Town may be waiting to see what the District Official Plan will look like before completing their plan.

We are also considering a change in the text of the Planning Justification Report approved at the 2015 Annual Meeting with respect to the future monitoring of the health of Fox Lake, to take into account the Town's more conservative approach to land use regulation and data collection. At this point, the Town has not set an explicit deadline for completing the Official Plan revisions. Future newsletters will keep you informed.

If you have not yet paid your dues or want to become a member please send your cheques (\$40) made out to Fox Lake Association to

Jim McMahon, Treasurer FLA, 3900 Yonge Street, Suite 1008, Toronto, ON M4N 3A6.

OR

NEW!! You can now do an email money transfer for quick and easy payment! Email your dues to j.mcmahon@sympatico.ca; please make sure to include which property you are paying for in the email body.



Fox Lake in Bloom, photos by Ellen Fox



LAKE STEWARD REPORT

Interested in the volatile water levels in the lake this spring? Please check out the MNR&F lake level gauge that provides real-time details. It can be accessed at any time at the link below. The link is also posted on the Fox Lake Association webpage. Graphs of water level and temperature can be displayed for the past day, past week and past month.

<https://www.hobolink.com/p/95af30544f59bfc203432f8860449a54>

In 2016 we monitored Fox Lake for the usual parameters. Water samples were taken in early May and sent to MoE&CC in Dorset to determine spring Total Phosphorus and Calcium. Total Phosphorus averaged 10.1 micrograms/L and Calcium was 1.6 milligrams/L. The TP is on the low side from the historic average. The good news is that Calcium has rebounded from the very low level in 2015 of 1.24. The Secchi depth (water clarity) averaged 2.8 meters for the year. This was an all-time high for Fox Lake. The reading for Buck Lake was 2.0, slightly higher than their average. Vernon was 2.2, again slightly higher than their average. There have been some very high readings for Lake Vernon, however, they were single readings, and, as a result may be questionable.

Ice-in occurred on December 9th and the ice went out on April 16th about average for the lake.

The July 2016 water samples for invading species (spiny water flea and zebra mussels) were both negative when analyzed by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters.

Results for the 2016 Benthic Monitoring are posted on the FLA site along with an interpretation guide and simplified graphs comparing Fox Lake to Muskoka averages. This year the session is scheduled for **Friday August 18th**. As always, we will need volunteers to chase and capture the critters from the sample pails – think of it as a live video game. More details will be available at the AGM.

David White, Lake Steward

In Memoriam for Harold Hadley

The Fox Lake Community lost a long time valued friend and cottager, Harold Hadley, on January 19, 2017 at the age of 85 at Hilton Head Island in the USA. He is survived by his second wife, Claudia Kennedy, his three children, Linda, Blair and Scott, eight grandchildren and one great-grandson.

In the mid 1950's, Harold met and married Yvonne Smith. Yvonne was the daughter of Ed and Peggy Smith who, along with a group of teachers, friends and family of Jack Spanner, bought lots on the east shore of Fox Lake in the mid 1930's. There they helped each other to build summer cottages and established a close knit community. Today, many of those original cottage owners' properties remain in active use by their descendants.

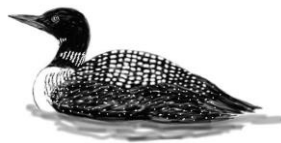
In the 1960's, Harold and Yvonne built their own cottage beside Ed and Peggy's cabin for their growing family. Later on, they replaced the first cottage with a large, beautiful cottage which they named Vonelly. Following Yvonne's passing, Harold married Claudia Kennedy and spent the next 15 years enjoying his time at Fox Lake and at Hilton Head. After Harold began living in Hilton Head full time the family properties were sold.

Harold's tremendous contribution, from both his dedication to the preservation of our natural lake environment and his financial contributions in support of that, will always be remembered by the Fox Lake Community. In 1993, a proposal to develop the north shore was presented to the Town of Huntsville. A group called the "Concerned Fox Lake Property Owners" committee was formed to represent our then Cottagers Association. The group included Harold, Peter Hubbard, Chris Stainton, Susan Finbow and Reg Perkin. Harold and Yvonne retained the law firm of Stikeman Elliott and paid for their services to assist the cottagers association. They negotiated with the developer on behalf of the Fox Lake Cottagers Association and succeeded in obtaining a legal agreement with the developer in 1995, reducing the total number of lots to 19 waterfront lots, limiting the clearance of vegetation to 20% within 30 metres of the high water mark. The Association eventually raised \$1000 in contributions from its members to repay the Hadleys but we know that this represented a mere fraction of their real costs. Harold was also actively involved in the incorporation of the Fox Lake Association and the first Chairman of the Association.

On a different note, I really got to know Harold more personally during my and his latter years at Fox Lake from the late '90's onward when my husband, Gord and I lived year round at the lake. Harold was a gracious and generous host, a fascinating conversationalist, and in possession of a brilliant mind.

Harold, you will be missed by many. Thank you for your contributions to our community. Rest in peace.

*Elaine Jackson, former longtime resident of Fox Lake
with assistance from my dear brother, Reg Perkin*



This newsletter is published and funded by the Fox Lake Association Inc. It is distributed to all Fox Lake residents or their information and pleasure. If you have enjoyed reading it, please consider supporting the Association by becoming a member if you have not already done so.

If you do not pay your annual dues of \$40/yr per family at our Annual General Meeting, you can mail a cheque payable to Fox Lake Association Inc. to: Jim McMahon, Treasurer, 1008-3900 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON. M4N 3A6.

In order to keep our membership records current, please include your name, home and Fox Lake address, phone number(s) and your email address (so the Association can communicate information to you cost-effectively).