

CAPTAIN OTTY'S LOG

Newsletter of the Otty Lake Association

JUNE 1997

circulate : ~~CHIEF~~ ^{JUL}
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OTTY LAKE ASSOCIATION
SATURDAY JULY 12 1997

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
PERTH LIBRARY 9 AM

To encourage the provision of better answers, OLA Members are invited to use the back page to submit questions to be discussed at the AGM. Mail them to the Secretary or give them to any member of the Board, preferably a week or more before the AGM. This of course does not preclude questions raised at the AGM.

OTTY LAKE PLACE NAMES II

More about the Captain *Dave Code*

Otty Lake, as we know, was named after a British naval captain. But who was he? In a history of the Royal Navy we find that during the Napoleonic Wars, a minor battle was fought in waters off the Spanish coast at Malaga, and that "among the officers who especially distinguished themselves ... (was Lieutenant) Allen Otty."

Later, Allen Otty turns up with the rank of Commander in command of a frigate in the West Indies. Then as previously reported in the newsletter, he accompanied Lieutenant-Colonel Cockburn (Deputy Quartermaster General, when, in March 1816, they journeyed to what became Perth. (*The Royal Navy - A History*, Vol. V of VII, 1900. By Wm Laird Clowes).

Trillium Point *Ann Podedworny*

The projection of land off Mile Point is called Trillium Point. It was named by Mrs J S Benson of Perth in 1970 because of the masses of trilliums originally found there. Her two daughters and their families (Mrs Robert Begg (Hap) and myself) have cottages on Trillium Point.

From the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names files

The Three Sisters - Islands named before 1900
The townships were established in 1798, Lanark County in 1825.
Burgess Twp - named for Bishop Burgess of Salisbury
Elmsley Twp - named for William E Elmsley, Chief Justice of Upper Canada (died 1805)
Port Elmsley - early name was Barbados; Pike's Falls 1816-1873
The name **Little Otty** was in use since 1900

Refer To: <i>Charles</i>		
JUN 26 1997		
Reply	Date	Initials

WATERFRONT PROJECTS

No permit required for: *floating docks, typical cottage-type raised post docks, floating rafts.* Anything larger must be reviewed and may or may not need a permit.

Weed removal: Check with MNR before undertaking extensive weed removal. MNR recommends strongly that weed removal be done by hand, no work carried out before June 30 and any cut material removed from the site.

Filling and dredging (such as beach sand deposition or property extension) are site specific and usually require a permit. Certain types of erosion protection works may not need a permit but it is best to contact MNR.

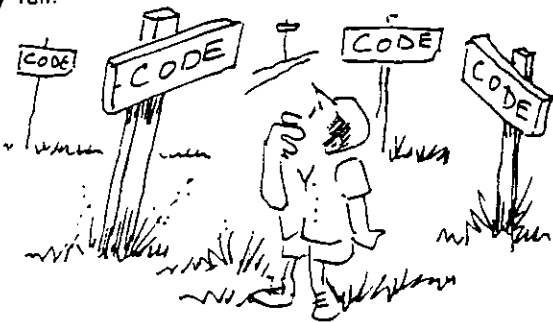
PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Lorne Gold

We hope you have enjoyed the new features in our Newsletter under its new name CAPTAIN OTTY'S LOG. Many thanks to its editor for opening up many opportunities to contribute. He needs the help of everyone to make the LOG an enduring record of the activities, interests and history of our lake community.

In the process of amalgamation, North Burgess, Sherbrooke and Bathurst have reached agreement and the Minister's signature to make it official is expected soon. North Elmsley & Drummond have not reached that stage; we will keep you informed.

The property identification program is now almost complete for North Elmsley. Sign posts are being put in place in North Burgess but some roads have still to be named. The work in North Burgess should be completed by fall.



One of the activities of the Planning Advisory Committee for North Burgess, which includes representatives from the lake associations in the township, was to draft a site plan control by-law, which Council has passed very recently. Public discussion on the by-law has been delayed until after the current amalgamation is finished. The intent of the by-law is to protect and enhance the long term environmental health and economic welfare of North Burgess Township. OLA will be encouraging North Elmsley Council to take similar action.

Arrangements have been made to continue our program to measure fecal counts at 32 stations on the lake. We will also be collaborating with the Ministry of the Environment on measuring Secchi Disc and phosphorus levels during the summer. The measurements began on June 16.

Because of the transfer of greater responsibility to the townships for managing lake shore development, and the withdrawal of support for this work by MOE and MNR, the Board feels that our association must make an even greater investment in monitoring water quality and encouraging lake friendly practices by all property owners. Accordingly, at the Annual Meeting, the Board will ask for an increase in OLA annual fees from \$10 to \$15. This is a small amount to pay to help protect the value of our properties.

OTTY LAKE SHORELINES II

Amy Pokorny

Shrubs for Eroding Banks

I have discovered catalogues that specialize in providing and describing shrubs for problem areas, such as dry or wet areas, eroding slopes or very cold zones. There's a page of information about hedges that produce fruit edible for birds or humans: *Rugosa* rose hips, hawthorns, blueberry honeysuckle (*Lonicera caerulea*, 1m high), Saskatoons, etc. Another page, labelled "Mother Earth Plants", lists four shrubs specifically for steep banks and slopes. Dogwood varieties, *Aroniaberri* (1m) suitable for interplanting with Coralberry (*Symphoricarpus orbiculatus* 1m) and Sea Berry (*Hippophae* 3 m). The last accepts sand or clay, doesn't need watering or spraying for insects or disease. Also, it will spread down a slope or stay put on a lawn. The soft, silvery foliage hides the thorny branches which make an impenetrable hedge or boundary. Humans use the berries as a Vitamin C tonic and birds love the berries straight. It withstands cold winds.

There are ten edible ground covers, fruit trees, nut trees and ornamental grasses listed. However, before purchasing, make very sure that these wonderful things are as winter-tough as Otty's windy zone 5 requires. Niagara nurseries seem to offer items less hardy than the following:

Windmill Point Farm & Nursery (from which the above are available), 2103 boul. Perrot N.D. Ile Perrot, QU J7V 8P4 (514) 453-9757.

Gottard Nurseries, Dalkeith ON RR#3 K0B 1E0 (613) 874.2304
But check first with local nurseries.

ONTARIO MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Lanark and Leeds Counties Office

ADDRESS: PO Bag 2002, Concession Rd
Kemptonville K0G 1J0

PHONE: 613.258-8204

FAX: 613.258-3920

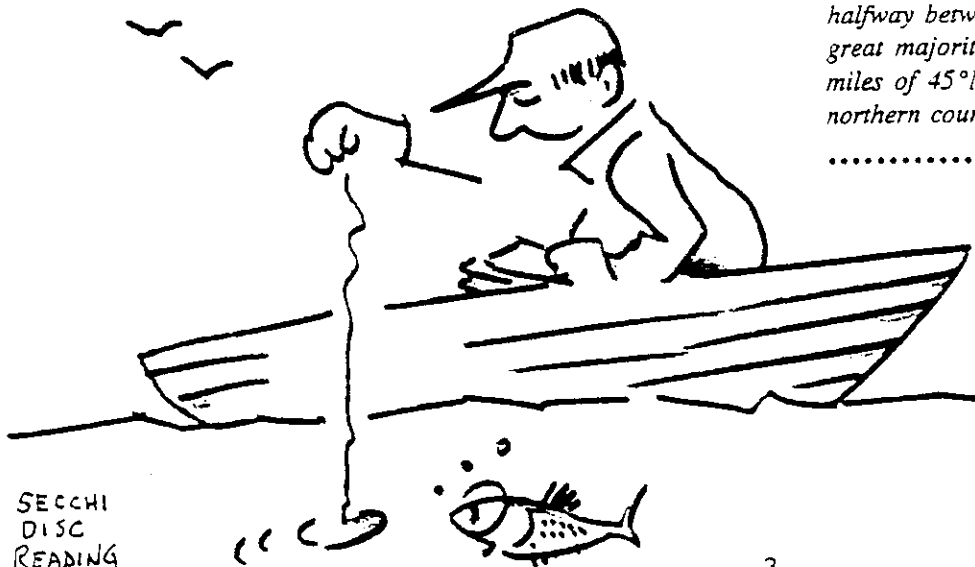
Lanark Stewardship Coordinator

Jeff Ward, PO Box 37, Sunset Blvd, Perth
K7H 3E2 Tel: 613.267-4200 Ext 153
OR 1-800-267-9284

It is our responsibility and in our own best interests for Otty Lake residents to be alert to environmental hazards or violations of the building and land use rules and regulations, and to report them to an Area Counsellor or to the MNR office (see above). An example last spring was a manifestly improper reconstruction of lake shoreline. A deer carcass discovered in the lake is a common problem but a carcass found on land is the property owner's responsibility.

HATS OFF TO THE M.O.E

This spring, on Otty Lake, someone's oil tank sprang a leak while the owners were absent. An alert neighbour spotted the oil slick on the ice and on the water and notified the Ministry of Environment. MOE representatives appeared promptly, took immediate action to contain the slick and arranged with the owners to fix the problem. Thanks to MOE.



MEMBERSHIP

Dick Atkinson

The labels for this mailing were made some time ago as I have been on vacation. Please don't be concerned if your label was not updated for fees sent in during the past month. The labels for the fall newsletter were printed just prior to the mailing and will be up-to-date.

This year at the **Annual General Meeting (July 12)**, the membership table will be set up in the lower half of the Perth Library. You will be able to check your fee status, address and telephone number details on your way to the meeting. Large maps will be available for those who 'ordered' them. A map update was forwarded with all changes up to April 30. You may still send changes with your fees or give them to your Counsellor for next year's map. Map information is extracted from the mailing label database and is forwarded once a year to Eddie Edmundson for a map update in May. In some cases, the map name is different from the person who receives the newsletter or pays the fees. I would be glad to answer questions at the AGM.

The Counsellors will drop off an **Information Package** to each resident some time during the summer, and a Lake and Area map will be included for members. Please call me at 267-4587 if you want more information or have questions.

Thanks for your support of the OLA. If your mailing label shows 1996 or before, would you please send your fees per the box at the end of the newsletter.

..... **Canada - a mid-latitude country**

The 45th parallel runs through the town of Lanark and so Otty Lake is only 10 miles (16 km) south of being just halfway between the Equator and the North Pole. The great majority of Canadians live within a few hundred miles of 45°N latitude and yet we consider ourselves a northern country.

FEATHERS II

Cathy Kari



The cry of the loon

On May 24, we finally got the boat in the water. Though chilly, we went for a boat ride and spotted a pair of loon near the entrance to Little Otty, where last year we had watched a family with three young. Though we never saw them riding on their parents' backs, we watched them grow and become more proficient at diving (they began just putting their faces in the water, rather like I remember our daughter not so many years ago). We also missed their maiden takeoff and first flight, which I have been assured is well worth watching since takeoff does not come easily even to adults.

The loons on Otty Lake are Common Loons, sometime referred to as Northern Divers. They nest on aquatic vegetation either floating or at the water's edge, making the nest very susceptible to swamping by boats' wakes. They will nest on appropriately placed artificial platforms. Usually two olive-green or olive-brown eggs are laid and only one brood will be raised each summer. Loons are monogamous and both look after the young, and if threatened, often use an attractive display to lure off intruders. The beautiful yodel heard at night is a territorial call.

Loons are remarkable swimmers, having been recorded at depths of 600 feet in the Great Lakes. They are long, slender and streamlined, have fairly heavy bones similar to penguins, and their powerful legs with webbed feet are attached far to the back of the body. This is optimal for swimming and diving but it means that on land they are very awkward. Loons have difficulty taking off and require a fair distance to run and flap before becoming airborne. If forced to land in a small body of water, they may not be able to take off.

For everyone, loons are welcome additions to Otty Lake. Witness the various road names - Loons Way, Loony Bin - and ask virtually anyone what comes to mind when thinking relaxing times at Otty Lake and they will usually mention loon sightings and their cries on warm summer evenings.

But we can't take loons for granted on Otty Lake any more. Quoting from *The Birder's Handbook*:

"Unfortunately, declines in Common Loon populations have been precipitous. The rising popularity of boating is thought to be responsible for a

dramatic increase in predation on eggs as loons are inadvertently frightened off their nests by the frequent passing of boats. In the Northeastern United States, loon populations were reduced to between 35 and 75 percent of previous totals between 1965 and 1985."

And the latest news is that loons are headed for the endangered list, quoting from the Ottawa Citizen, April 17, 1997:

"The common loon, the timber wolf and the Atlantic cod - probably Canada's most famous bird, mammal and fish - are candidates for this year's Endangered Species List ... the loon, which graces folk tales and dollar coins, is suffering from mercury pollution from coal burning electrical plants, from lead fishing sinkers that it swallows, and from jet-skis that swamp its nests and kill its chicks."

We need to protect loons and other wildlife on Otty Lake. Don't use lead sinkers, keep a watch for loons when boating (the young cannot avoid boats very well), keep away from shore and drive a very low speed when within 100 feet of shore. Even in a canoe, keep a good distance, especially from loon families. Admire them through binoculars. Explain and emphasize these guidelines to those in charge of your boats, especially the younger members of your family.



LOON WATCH

The Association urgently needs someone to collect information on our loons this summer, and to prepare a report in the fall for the National Loons Survey. You will not be alone in this task. There are several individuals around the lake who keep track of loon activity and are happy to provide information. Let a Board member know if you can help in this way, or call Lorne Gold (267-7657 or 613-733-2449 (Ottawa)).

President Lorne Gold VACANT Past President,
Vice President Secretary-Treasurer Rhoda
Atkinson Directors: Dick Atkinson Membership
Tom Foulkes Land Use (Lorne Gold) Environment &
Health Eddie Edmundson Services (Keith Fraser)
Communic'ns & Education Dave Code Nominations
Directors at Large: Dave Code, Bob Ferguson,
Wally Robins, Bill Schriever, Bernice Wanless

Otty Lake Association Counsellors (as of June 1997)

Frank Charette	1A 264-8472\230-8061
John Aitken	1B 267-5745\521-8543
Stan Mitchell	2 267-6333
Paul Fleming	3A 267-2244\416.283-7539
Randie Fawcett	3B 264-1976
Hilda Bailey	4A 267\7720\267-6940
Bernice Wanless	4B 267-4690
Mary Gaffney	5A 264-0451
Joyce McAusland	5B 267-3129
Bob Ferguson	5C 267-6395\828-9610
Al Siddall	6A 267-6730
Rob Trower	6B 267-7746
David Oliver	6C 264-8612
Glen Bishop	7A 267-1494
Bruce Brignal	7B 264-8584\592-5827
Jamie Mannion	8A 267-7171
Bill Nichols	8B 267-2808
Mayme Mahoney	8C 264-8066\705.939-1201
Wendy Hassard	9A 267-3127\416.223-8027
Herb Robertson	9B 416.367-2065
Willie Newsome	10 267-7518\824.5159
John Almond	11 828-8291
Jocelyn Gordon	BW 264-8702

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

I suppose that Otty Lake residents have enough to think about during the winter which likely accounts for the lack of response to invitations to contribute to this Newsletter. But this issue will arrive just when our wonderful summer months are in full swing. We'd like notes on the settlement of Otty Lake from the old-timers. We'd like comments on the bird and animal life. Do residents recall when much of the land near the lake was in pasture? Can anyone tell us the history of the mica mines? Has anyone a list of the fish species in Otty Lake? Next issue is mid-November, but write up your contributions while lazing on the dock this summer.

A FEW GOOD RULES

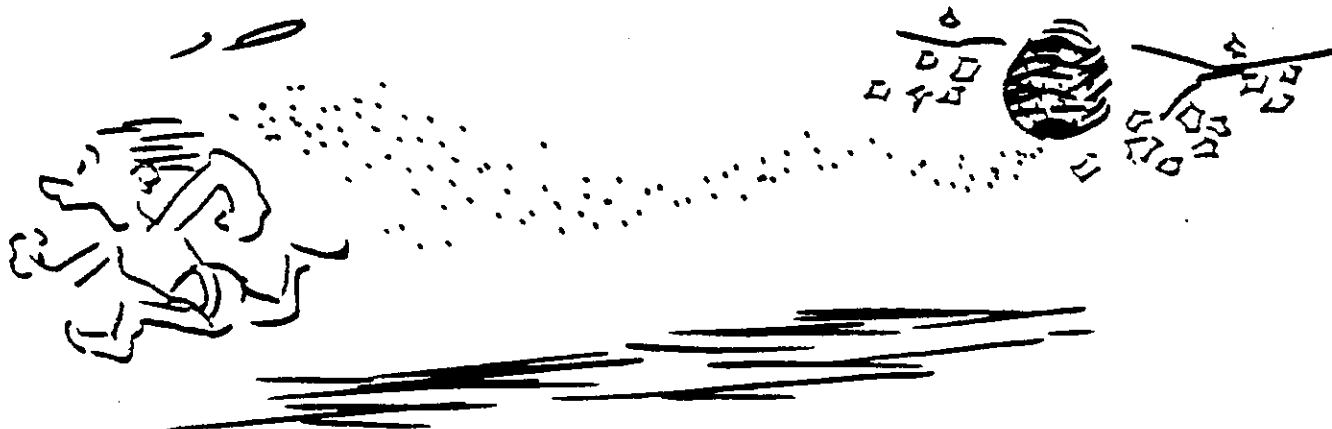
* We apply NO fertilizer within 100 feet (30m) of the shore

* We slow our boat or personal watercraft to 10kph within 100 feet (30m) of the shore

* Before repairing or erecting a building, we check with the Township for the building rules, and get a permit of necessary

* We ask ourselves: IS MY SEPTIC SYSTEM SAFE? When was it last inspected? Is it at least 100 feet from the lake? Was it pumped out within the last four years?

* We stay away from the bass spawning beds and avoid disturbing the fish and eggs until the end of June



THE CAPTAIN'S LOG

Please send contributions & comments to
Keith Fraser, 571 Fraser Ave, Ottawa K2A 2R3
 (613) 728-3950 Otty Lake 267.6911
 FAX (613) 744-0947 Attention: Karen
 email 103721-1103@compuserve.com

Circulation, printing and mailing
Dick Atkinson, Charlie Olver

READ THE TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER CAREFULLY

PHONE THE OLA SECRETARY OR USE THIS PAGE
 TO LIST ANY QUESTIONS YOU WOULD LIKE
 ANSWERED OR SUGGEST TOPICS TO BE
 DISCUSSED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
 JULY 12 3 AM AT THE PERTH LIBRARY



Add the white crowned sparrow to the Otty Lake bird list,
 seen by Cathy Kari.

The canoe reported found in the fall newsletter is still
 unclaimed. Call 1-613-726-0596. Last chance.

SPLASHES

If trees could scream, would we be so cavalier
 about cutting them? ... Some days you're the
 statue, some days you're the pigeon ...
 Applying computer technology is simply finding
 the right wrench to pound in the correct screw
 ... If you tied buttered toast to the back of a cat
 and dropped it from a height, what would
 happen? ... Did you ever notice when you blow
 in a dog's face he gets mad at you? But when
 you take him in the car, he sticks his head out
 the window ... great summer so far - haven't
 seen a tent caterpillar.



Otty Lake Association. 1997 Fees \$ 10.00 Please mail to: Otty Lake Association
 20 Mancil Drive, Nepean, Ont. K2J 2J5

☐ Mailing Label OK, or

☐ Name on Map is OK, or

☐ Please change to:

☐ Please change to:

Name.....

Name.....

Address.....

Name of neighbours on either side...

City.....Prov/State.....Code.....

Please ensure that I have your current telephone
 numbers.....

Other.....