



# OTTY LAKE ASSOCIATION

## FALL 1995 NEWSLETTER

EDITOR: Susan Code 613-267-2595  
613-267-1399

PRESIDENT: Lorne Gold 613-733-2449  
613-267-7657

### The View from the Bay

Well, now that the leaves have gone, my view from the bay extends all the way down the lake. No more can I hide from the world behind a verdant screen, but then, the world can't hide from me either. It's a good thing then, for both of us, that the jet skis are gone too!

### Land Use - Get Involved

- David E. Code & Tom Folkes  
Land Use Committee

As you already know, N. Burgess has a new Official Plan and Zoning By-law for the orderly control of development in the Township. Council has convened many meetings - with lake associations, with the Ministries of Natural Resources, Health, Environment, with Parks Canada, the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and with individual concerned citizens - all in relation to certain proposed changes in the By-law adopted last November (94-24).

The resulting proposal by Council will include these key provisions:

- . Sewage systems on all lots must continue to have at least 100' setback from shore;
- . Setback requirements for buildings will be 50' for "lots of record"; for all other new lots, the setback from shore will be a minimum 100' (this does not apply to docks, pump house or stairs);
- . The new 175' minimum waterfront size (for

new lots) will not take effect immediately; during a grace period of nine months, newly created lots need have only 150' frontage. The 175' minimum will take effect grace period has expired.

. Minimum area for a new lot will remain at one acre.

Last year there was some controversy and confusion over the issue of existing buildings that would not comply with today's rules. Many of us who live on Otty Lake are in non-complying uses. That is to say, our house or cottage is closer to the shore than the 50' or 100' required by today's By-laws, depending upon the Zone. In fact, this applies to perhaps 85% of the structures in the Township.

But neither the Council nor any other agency will require us to move. We have a **RIGHT** to continue in these uses, and to keep them in repair, provided we do not change the nature of the use **OR** the size of the building.

The matter of demolition of old cottages is perhaps less clear in the By-laws, although the intention seems to be that demolishing a building makes it like a new lot. It should therefore be subject to the setback rules that apply to new lots. This is one of the topics your Executive will be pursuing with Council.

The September meeting of the N. Burgess Council proposed the creation of an Advisory

Council, to examine applications for zoning changes and/or other land use and property standards issues, and to make recommendations. Lake representatives and permanent residents will meet with township councillors to share knowledge and views on lake development. Members are reminded that the power to make laws and other decisions rests with the township council, not the associations.

A public hearing to formalize the Zoning By-law proposals was held on Saturday, October 21 at 10am in the township hall at Stanleyville. Stay tuned for further news.

Your executive is looking forward to an increasingly harmonious relationship, which should be in the best interests of all. Soon, we hope to work out some similar arrangements with N.Elmsley.

#### Report from the President - by Lorne Gold

Two important activities of the OLA Executive are to monitor water quality and encourage lake-shore residents to minimize the impact of their activities on the lake environment. Although by-laws have improved the situation greatly, we still have to rely on people to voluntarily follow environmentally friendly practices. Unfortunately, this has not been enough. There has been a continual decrease in water quality since we started measurements in the 1970s.

In the spring, we and other N.Burgess lake associations applied for a joint Environmental Youth Corps grant to carry out a more detailed analysis of the sewage disposal survey done, in Otty Lake's case, in 1993, and of our water quality measurements. We were unsuccessful, but will continue to look for other funding opportunities so as to continue giving you important, detailed reports on what is happening to our lake.

At the beginning of this summer, N.Burgess Council announced possible revisions to

by-laws concerning lake frontage and setbacks for new buildings. Objections to these changes were made by the Ministries of Environment and Natural Resources, Parks Canada and the RVCA, who considered that these would increase our impact on the lake. Most buildings on the lake are within 100 metres of the shore and will remain there well into the future. Your Executive will continue to encourage property owners to follow good land use practices so as to prevent the continued decrease in the quality of our lake water. We cannot live as we do in the city; we cannot use the lake as our sewer system without it being affected.

N.Burgess Council is considering setting up a small advisory committee consisting of Council members, representatives from the lake associations and permanent lake residents to discuss how our the quality of our lakes can be maintained in the future. This is a good opportunity for everyone to become familiar with what is happening on our lakes. If this turns out to be a good experience, we will suggest that N.Elmsley set up a similar committee.

#### Comings and Goings

On September 16th, after a lengthy illness, a life-long resident of Otty Lake passed away. Ron Wilson (aka 'Rip' Stone) was a familiar sight on the lake, whether sailing in his Laser or out for a tour with family and visitors in his cedar strip. There wasn't an inch of this lake he didn't know. We extend our sincere sympathies to his wife, Dorothy, sister, Dorrie, and his children and grandchildren.

#### Bulletin Board

Taken from dock at the end of July, a white, single, fibreglass kayak - White River Runner 2. If anyone has information, please contact Mary Jane Bowie at either 267-1470 or 234-3033 (Ottawa).

#### Thank You!

A special thanks goes out to all our Area

Counsellors, and Co-Ordinator of Area Counsellors, for keeping in touch with lake residents. They are key to maintaining communication links between the membership and the executive.

Also, we would like to thank Norm Hull for marking the shoals with buoys and making the lake safer for all of us.

We truly appreciate these volunteer efforts on behalf of the OLA.

#### **Questionnaire Summary**

- by Bob Ferguson

Last spring, the OLA asked you for feedback on our activities. To date, we have received more than 100 replies to our questionnaire - an excellent return for which we thank you.

The vast majority who replied were happy with the way the OLA Executive is working. The comments included: "thank you," "excellent work," "admire energy," "accountable."

Regarding issues the OLA should address in the near future, you suggested: water pollution, proper shoal markers, unsanctioned use of islands, high taxes, property by-laws, construction guidelines, clean-up of old septic systems, better boat launch site, boating manners, effect of washing machines and dish washers on water quality, control of over building on lake, emergency vehicles and road numbering system, noise control, check on proper land use, shore line issues, be more active in township politics, water safety, fish poaching, fish stocking, garbage pick-up.

Regarding noise: The majority of respondents felt that we didn't have a problem. However, many said that jet-skis and some late night parties were disturbing. There was a concern noted on drinking and boating.

Regarding boat speed: Half of the replies said there was no problem, but many were

concerned about jet-skis, boats going too close to shore, water-skiing in bays, irresponsible drivers, loons and wondering if the high-powered boats were too big.

A questionnaire allows other comments to come to the attention of the Executive. Some of these were:

- . Can we prevent over-development?
- . Do all townships charge extra for garbage pick-up?
- . Can we control the weight and class of boat allowed on the lake?
- . Is there an agency who can answer questions on cliffs and rocky shorelines?
- . Can dishwashers and washers be "legally" discharged into the lake?

The Executive would like to thank those who volunteered their time and services. You will be contacted. We also want to thank those who took the time to respond and encourage all members to write or phone any time they have a concern.

#### **Water Sampling - W.R. Schriever**

The water sampling program continued in the traditional way, again with the help of Dawson Girdwood. Samples were collected at the usual 32 stations around the perimeter of the lake, for faecal coliform readings, and two mid-lake stations for Secchi disk, chlorophyll and phosphorous readings. Five of the six series of 1995 results are available (faecal coliform only), so that by extrapolation, we can determine the number of times the faecal coliform readings equalled or exceeded the value ten for the year. Unfortunately, it is a disturbingly high figure - 47. Compare the following averages:

. mid '70s	-	10
. mid '80s	-	21
. mid '90s	-	45

This, I think, indicates the increase in septic tank leakages into the lake. The Secchi disk and chlorophyll readings on the other hand have, surprisingly, not changed significantly over the years.

### Washing with Beads - No Soap

- Nancy Kenyon

Some members of the OLA have been doing their laundry with special ceramic beads, instead of soap, to reduce pollutants in the ground. They have found them quite satisfactory. A set of beads is quite expensive, but they do pay off in the long run as they last for about 1,600 washes. A set can be purchased individually and may be available locally, but there is a significant discount if people get together and order ten sets at once. If anyone wishes to try out the ceramic beads, Ruth-Ann Mott (267-4089) or Nancy Kenyon (264-0389) can lend a set. Please note that neither of us has a financial interest in this product; we only wish to spread the word!

### Wetlands not Wastelands

- RVCA

Wetlands have been seen as wastelands in the past. But the truth is that swamps, marshes, bogs and fens are fragile and important parts of our ecosystem.

Wetlands are an important cleaning zone for water. The aquatic plants that thrive here remove nitrogen and phosphorus from fertilizers, manure, eroded top soil, domestic sewage and industrial discharge that pollute our waterways. A simple cattail, in three weeks growth, can remove up to 90% of nitrogen and phosphorus in raw sewage. Wetlands are sometimes called the 'kidneys' of the natural world.

More than 200 species of birds, mammals, fish, plants and herptiles live in the moist soils of wetlands. About 90% of life in a lake or river occurs in the moist, fringe wetlands known as the 'ribbon of life.'

127 million hectares of Canada is covered by wetlands (25% of the world's total wetland area), but unfortunately this number is declining. More than 75% of S. Ontario's original wetlands have already been lost.

E. Ontario's wetlands are also in danger, all because of development. In the Rideau Valley alone, there are 78 sensitive and threatened wetlands that need protection.

It is time that people, not governments started taking care of these valuable natural areas.

### Annual Sailing Regatta

On Labour Day Sunday, five sailboats participated in this annual event from Dave Code's dock. The wind wasn't the best, but Craig Robertson in his Laser managed to capture the highly coveted trophy once again. Congratulations, Craig!

### New Mailing Label

Please check your envelope for the new label. The year of your fee payment and your Area identification are now on the label. The year "1995" means that your 1995 fees are paid. (1996 means you are paid ahead for next year). Showing receipt of payment on the label saves an enormous amount of work during mailings, saves the expense of receipts and I hope is more convenient for you.

If the label shows 1994, this means that your 1995 fees have not yet been received. Would you please send a \$ 10.00 check for your 1995 fee?, to The Otty Lake Association, 20 Macil Drive, Nepean, Ontario, K2J 2J5. If you would like to save writing another check for 1996, please send \$20 to cover both years. If you have any questions, contact your Area Counsellor or drop a note to Dick Atkinson at the above address.

### List of Lake Residents

- Dick Atkinson, Membership

The name & Address list has been converted from manual sheets to a computer list. This list will generate labels, make maplists and keep track of fees. It would be appreciated if you would check your label and let your Area Counsellor or myself know if corrections are required.

# OTTY LAKE ASSOCIATION

## President

Lorne Gold 733-2449  
 1903 Illinois Ave 267-7657  
 Ottawa K1H 6W5

## Past President

Judy Burns 267-1834  
 RR#3 267-3063  
 Perth K7H 3C5

## Vice President

Eddie Edmundson 264-0395  
 RR#3  
 Perth K7H 3C5

## Secretary

Susan Henry 225-0986  
 38 Parmalea Cres 267-3903  
 Nepean K2E 7J2

## Treasurer

Rhoda Atkinson 825-5619  
 20 Mancil Drive 267-4587  
 Nepean K2J 2J5

*for*

## Science

Bill Schriever 746-8040  
 26 Davidson Cres 267-7594  
 Ottawa K1J 6M2

## Co-Ordinator of Area Councillors

( Combined with  
 Membership for 1995)

## Newsletter

Susan Code 267-2595  
 3 - 2 Bolton Street 267-1399  
 Perth K7H 2W1

## Land Use/Legal

David Code 722-0339  
 465 Hillcrest 267-5053  
 Ottawa K2A 2M7

Tom Foulkes 820-4796  
 40 Aleutian Road 267-6251  
 Nepean K2H 7C8

## 1995 Executive list

95 08 31

### Membership

Dick Atkinson	825-5619
20 Mancil Drive	267-4587
Nepean K2J 2J5	

### Conservation

Hugh Henderson	267-4935
26 Wilson St N	
Perth K7H 2M9	

### FOCA

Robert Arseneau	416-690-8036
Louise Arseneau	
81 Bellhaven Road,	
Toronto M4L 3J7	

### MAPLE

(Vacant)

### Directors

- David Olver 526-5090  
 9 Boone Cres 264-8772  
 Nepean K1V 9M5
- Bernice Wanless 267-4690  
 RR#5  
 Perth K7H 3C7
- Walter Robbins 523-0471  
 20 Rosegarden Cres  
 Ottawa K1T 3A8
- Bob Waldeck 267-2143  
 RR#5  
 Perth K7H 3C7
- Kevin Nichols 596-2240  
 13 Stonehedge Park 267-2640  
 Nepean K2H 8Z3
- Rex Boyd 744-5279  
 738 Ludgate Court 267-2701  
 Ottawa K1J 8K9
- Bob Ferguson 828-9610  
 15 Dickson Street 267-6395  
 Nepean K2H 7H6

### Consultants

Rex Boyd - Map	744-5279
	267-2701
Norm Hull - Markers	267-1341

# OTTY LAKE - AREA COUNSELLORS

1995 10 23

<u>Area</u>	<u>Counsellor</u>	<u>Contact Number</u>	<u>Residents Served</u>
1A	Frank Charrette	594-3323	
1B	John Aitken	267-5745. 521-8543	fm Shortt to Caloia fm Carlson to Lau
2	Stan Mitchell	267-6333	all of Area 2
3A	Paul Fleming	267-2244. 416-283-7539	fm Fleming to Curnow
3B	Randie Fawcett	264-1976	fm Faucette to Bisson + 3 Islands
4A	Hilda Bailey	267-7720. 267-6940	fm Mast to Campbell
4B	Bernice Wanless	267-4690	fm Carmichael to Harris
5A	Mary Gaffney	264-0451	fm McBeath to Hart
5B	Joyce McAusland	267-3129	fm Pennett to O'Brien
5C	Bob Ferguson	267-6395. 828-9610	fm Anderson to Butterworth
6A	Patty St Dennis	264-0956. 283-8036	fm Henderson to Ferguson + Durant
6B	Rob Trower	267-7746	fm Abbott to Anderson
6C	David Oliver	264-8612	fm Bothwell to Badcock
7A	the Hay Family	267-2826. 831-0940	fm Kerr to Girdwood
7B	Bruce Brignal	264-8584. 592-5827	fm Parks to Nuthall
8A	John Boyd	264-8565	fm Darou to Brown
8B	Bill Nichols	267-2808	fm Wright to McLeish
8C	Mayme Mahoney	264-8066. 705-939-1201	fm O'Connor to Wilson
MG	Joan Abbott	267-5777	Contact for Maple Glen
9A	Wendy Hassard	267-2127. 416-223-8027	fm Camp Shomria to Kenyon
9B	Herb Robertson	416-367-2065	fm Code to Hill
BW	Ed Sherwin	267-4062	Contact for Burgess Wood
10	Willie Newsome	267-7518. 824-5159	fm Trombley to Lampman
11	John Almond	828-8291	McLaren Lake
Membership: Dick Atkinson 267-4587. 825-5619		Address and telephone number list	

The OTTY LAKE ASSOCIATION is an advocate for the quality of the lake environment and for the quality of the residents' lifestyle by promoting the proper and reasonable application of the regulations set down by the many agencies that control your property, such as the County, Township, Ministries of Environment and Health, OMB, Fisheries, Police and Fire. Support of the Otty Lake Association is in your own best interests.

Please contact your Area Counsellor or a member of the Executive if you have any suggestions, concerns or questions.

Would you please ensure that your address and telephone number information is current by advising your Counsellor or Membership of any changes or errors in your listing. Mailing labels will contain your Area Number and the most recent year that OLA Fees have been paid. All listed residents will receive the spring OTTY LAKE NEWSLETTER that advises of the Annual General Meeting. Paid-up members will receive the fall and winter (and special) newsletters.