



May 2013

Dock Talk is a publication of the Healey Lake Property Owners Association (HLPOA)

From the President

Dan MacLeod

I can say for sure that this winter has not left me wanting more. I am hoping everyone made it through the winter unscathed.

I want to make reference to the Healey Lake Property Owners' Semi-Annual and General meeting location this year. Thanks to Peter Hintze, these meetings will be held on the Sunday of the May long weekend - May 19, and the Sunday of the Labour Day weekend - Sept 1 at Mariners Cove Marina (where the store used to be). The meeting will start at 10:00 a.m. and coffee and doughnuts will be served. Please bring a folding chair.

The Healey Lake Lodge has been hosting these meetings and I would like to thank Roy and Lizanne for their time and effort over these many years.

This year's Regatta will be held at Lakeshore Chalets and Marina on Aug.3/13. Thank you to Peter and Susan Arnold for your generosity.

This is my last year as President; we are actively looking for a replacement. I can truthfully tell you I have enjoyed the time I have spent as your President. During this time, the HLPOA Executive put in new docks, launched the Healey Lake website and continued with the tradition of the Regatta and the bottle drive. Giving back, seeing projects through to completion while

working with a group of focused, determined and fun people gives you purpose.

We do not have a full project list this year. If there are any issues or concerns, please contact me. Tel: 416-723-1999;

Mark Your Calendar Now

Mariner's Cove Marina

Sunday May 19, '13 10 a.m.

- HLPOA Semi-Annual Meeting

Sunday September 1, '13 10 a.m.

- HLPOA General Meeting

Lakeshore Chalets & Marina

Saturday, August 3 '13 - Regatta



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Healey Lake Memories of Neil and Jean Pocock

During the summer of 1968 Neil and Jean Pocock from London, Ontario set out to find a family cottage near Moon River falls, where Neil and friends had enjoyed many annual fishing trips. They connected with a local named Howie who touted the attractions of Healey Lake and guided them to their future cottage (#330) a spot Howie claimed was some of "the finest land on Healey". Neil and Jean agreed, a deal was struck, and the island cottage became their family's summer home for the next 45 years.

Neil loved fishing in the morning, evening ... pretty much all of the time. When not fishing, Neil could be found reading in his hammock, enjoying shade under birch trees on their shoreline. Jean enjoyed the tranquility of Healey and spending time with her friend and neighbor Roseanne Kreps. She could be found supervising family swims on the sand beach, preparing afternoon picnics, watching hummingbirds, and driving her pink aluminum boat called "Jean's Machine".

Neil and Jean's passion for Healey was shared by their four children (Peter Pocock, Ann Pearce, Nancy Pocock, Douglas Pocock) and grandchildren (Douglas Pearce, Emily Bibona, Heather Hammond, Thomas Pocock and Julie Pocock). The cottage became a beacon for the extended family and friends to gather and was always surrounded by fun times and laughter.

Neil and Jean's love for Healey is survived and flourishes through four generations of family that continue to cottage on the lake.

NEIL POCOCK, AUGUST 2000

JEAN POCOCK, OCTOBER 2012

Cottage Watch Patrol

Susan Arnold

April 2013, first time that I am writing my report with snow outside and the lake still being frozen.

January was pretty crazy on Healey, with record snowfall and record temperatures shortly after the New Year had just begun, and then turning into days of rain by the end of the month. February was an excellent month for snow sports, and even March had great weekends for all kinds of social events within the lake community; we still rode excellent groomed trails on March 25. If you never come up in the winter, you are missing out on some beautiful scenery!

Our volunteers were out in full force all winter, and no serious damages were reported, which is good news. Please remember, these cottagers spare their own short time up here to help any neighbour - and our H.L.P.O.A. - the membership is a minimal amount and does big things. The cottage-watch is included (for members only), and assures that you won't find trouble waiting at your cottage when you return in Spring. We are proud to be part of such an amazing lake-community – a big

THANK YOU to all the volunteers, your help was very much appreciated.



**Whether you think you can
or you think you can't,
you're right.** Henry Ford

Councilor's Corner

Grant Walker

As I write this spring is still trying to get here; it has been awhile since it was this late. I have not had any complaints and by my own observations the township staff did a good job of looking after our roads and the transfer station over the winter months and believe me they have to deal with many difficult situations caused by the weather.

The ATV situation has not yet been resolved and the more I looked into it and talked about it, the more different opinions I got. I have had information from the police, manufacturers, ATV Associations and many owners from ward six and the rest of the township. I believe that municipalities that allow the use are only allowing one up machines and not multiple rider machines. Personally I enjoy using my machine on back roads and some trails but do not venture on the Healey Lake Road because there are no shoulders and at times a heavy volume of fast traffic. I hope to get to some kind of resolution soon but it is difficult because there is no appetite in the rest of the Township to really clean up the mess handed down by the province.

Phosphorus testing should be done this year in addition to our regular testing. I reported last year that this year the Township would be starting a water sensitivity program in our ward five like the one in Muskoka. I'm happy to report that ward six will be included.

Again I remind you that Shell Oil has funds for associations to do water/lake studies. This is a great way to understand what we are doing to our lakes and what we should be doing to minimize the stresses. But remember money may be available but volunteers are needed - your executive can not do it all and I can tell you that volunteering is not only satisfying and rewarding, its a great way to make new friends.

Our Reeve with the help of council continues to work with the hospital to improve services for the huge influx of seasonal residents every summer. I have heard many positive comments from people about the improvements last summer.

In the next few weeks the buds will be coming out (I HOPE). If you are interested in volunteering to do forest monitoring, contact me and I will put you in touch with others as well as the person from the company the Township hires for advise and services to keep our forests healthy. Remember without good water and healthy, woodlands what have we got?

Thank you and may you and yours have a healthy happy 2013 season.

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The Common Loon

Nancy Gilchrist

Once again the ice has left the lake and our wildlife that left for the winter months is returning. One particular favourite of mine is the Common Loon. A fun fact about the loon is they were named "Loon" because of their clumsy awkward appearance when walking on land; totally opposite when in the water. "Loon" is derivative from a Scandinavian word meaning "clumsy".

The males will arrive first to Healey Lake and the females will follow shortly after. The male will once again search out their breading ground and have it established so when the female arrives they build the nest together. Breeding of the loon begins around the age of two or three years. The female will lay two olive - brown coloured eggs at the beginning of June and the eggs are incubated for 28 days before they hatch.

The first noise the loon makes is actually inside the egg. They will make a peep while still inside the egg. They tend to build their nest in a sheltered area near water's edge which allows them to come and go. If threatened, loons may attack or challenge their predators. They rush at the "threat" if human and will rise out of the water flapping their wings and thrashing; if another animal threatens, they will attempt to impale it with their bill.

The nesting time is a very important time since the eggs need to be protected.

Cottagers, if they are aware of where the loon is nesting should stay clear. Only one brood is raised in a season, but if the first set of eggs is taken, another set is



laid within three or four weeks; sometimes even a third set is laid if the first two have been disturbed, but this would not be likely to happen unless the first set was laid very early.

When the young are hatched they are covered at birth with soft, thick, short down and in a day or two the mother will lead them to water. The young will remain on the parents' backs while still small as they do not have the stamina to keep up with their parents. They are also not able to dive which makes them more vulnerable to predators and boat traffic.

The sounds of the loons all have different messages. The hoot is used as a contact call as birds approach one another. The tremolo is a distress call and is used to urge loons to move to safety. If you happen to hear the yodel, it is used in territorial disputes and it states to loons close by that "this is our territory". The other call you may be familiar with is the "wail" which indicates a willingness to interact and is used by loons to reestablish contact between loons when they have been separated.

cont'd page 5

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Common Loon

cont'd

If you happen to hear the yodel, it is used in territorial disputes and it states to loons close by that "this is our territory". The other call you may be familiar with is the "wail" which indicates a willingness to interact and is used by loons to reestablish contact between loons when they have been separated.

This summer while out in your boats please steer clear of these beautiful species. We all look forward to the return of the loon each year to Healey Lake and watch in anticipation to see if once again we will be lucky enough to have chicks. If you have guests use your cottage or your boats please tell them the same. Each year I complete the Canadian Lakes Loon Survey for Healey Lake. If you see anything unusual, or can tell me if you have loon chicks in your bay I would appreciate a phone call so I can report this at year end. Please call me at 705-375-2324. Have a wonderful summer!!

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Membership ...

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Sharon Tosswill

Oh boy, another season is about to start. Thank you so much to those who have sent in their renewals. If you know of a new cottager and wish to pass the name on, we will be sure to welcome them with a welcome package. Hope everyone has a great summer coming up. Many thanks to Peter Watkinson of Royal LePage for sponsoring his new members for the first year.

Sharon Tosswill, Membership Secretary

**2565 Proudfoot St. Mississauga,
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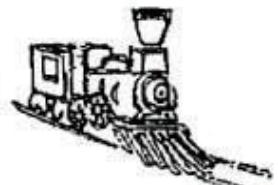
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Boating Reminders

PCO Cards and Licences

Bill Kreps

Pleasure Craft Operator Cards

Since 15 Sept. 2009, anyone who operates a motorized pleasure craft must carry proof of competency on board at all times .

The original Pleasure Craft Operator Card must be carried on board.

Youth under 16 years may not operate a personal watercraft (PWC) under any circumstances.

Youth less than 16 years of age may not operate boats with motors over certain horsepower limits unless someone 16 years of age or older is in the boat and directly supervising them.

Youth **under 12 years of age**, with no supervision, may operate a boat with up to 10 hp.

Youth **ages 12 to 16**, with no supervision, may operate a boat with up to 40 horse power.

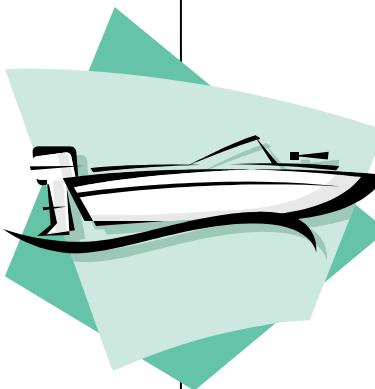
LICENSING

This includes a Pleasure Craft that is equipped permanently or temporarily with a motor of 10 h.p. or with more than one motor, the aggregate power of which is 10 horse power or more.

You will need to license dinghies or tenders you carry aboard if the motor(s) is 10 horse power or more.

It is permissible to carry a copy of the original license on board.

The vessel license number must be displayed on each side of the bow and as far forward as practical and where it can easily be seen above the waterline.



Pleasure Craft Licenses ARE FREE and can be obtained by applying to the Pleasure Craft Licensing Centre. They are valid for a period of 10 years. For an application form **contact the National Boating Safety Line at 1-800-267-6687** or visit <http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/debs-obs-news-menu-3215.htm>

Mail the application form, proof of vessel ownership; and a signed copy of a valid piece of government issued identification to the Pleasure Craft Licensing Centre.

You must update your license by applying to the Pleasure Craft Licensing Centre if there are changes in your name, address, or particulars of your pleasure craft during this period.

A pleasure craft may be operated without a license until the day the owner receives the license, up to a maximum of 90 days from the day of the initial transfer of ownership. The existing license and a copy of the transfer documents must be kept on board.

It is the responsibility of the **NEW OWNER** to transfer the license and ensure paper work is updated. **NOT THE SELLER.**

Bill Kreps is accredited by Transport Canada as a Boating Safety Course Instructor.

Healey Lake Cottage Tel: 705-375-2899.
Residence Phone: 519-323-4574.
E-mail: wiliam.kreps@sympatico.ca

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Winter Statistics from 'our end'

Susan Arnold

As with everything else in the world, our lake community is split into 'summer-cottagers' versus 'winter-enthusiasts', and then there are these lucky cottagers that love both seasons the same and have fun all year round - congratulations]

Yes, some people might have the itch to get into the boat for the first time and find it depressing to see the lake frozen in April, but please think of the whole winter industry as well, the ski resorts, the snowmobile clubs, what a wonderful year they had. The Alps and Rockies look amazing on TV, but you can find some magic in your own cottage country as well.

You may love the swimsuit better than the layers of clothes, but let me assure you: Healey Lake transforms into a winter wonderland that you can only find in fairy-tales. Snow-loaded trees and branches glittering in the sun, animal tracks around your property, and accessibility of huge areas in our neighbourhood that you would never find or experience through the dense bush. There are bonfires and warm drinks shared over stories, no mosquitoes or black flies, the most scenic trails through untouched lakes and forests for nature-lovers on skis or snowmobiles, no roaring motor sounds ruining the tranquility you came for, and a clear night sky that can't get any better. Cottage Country really has 4 seasons to offer.

Healey Lake has different regions from east to west, and some year-round residents make their own statistics, I am sure. The lake never freezes or opens at the same time, depending on the wind, the bays and the run-off being different at opposite ends of our lake. With Easter being so early this year, and the lake opening unusually early last year, it feels like we are totally OFF in 2013, one full month after the boats were driving on the lake in 2012 already.

BUT, we are not really that different than the average of the last 20 years on Healey, maybe the global warming doesn't control our lake yet - doesn't that make you feel better??



When did the ice goes out!

Year 2000 &																Year 1900 &								
13	12	11	10	09	08	07	06	05	04	03	02	01	00	99	98	97	96	95	94	93				
M/D																								
4- 23	3- 22	4- 16	3- 25	4- 18	4- 20	4-2	4- 15	4- 15	4- 17	4- 20	4- 17	4- 17	3- 31	??	4- 7	4- 28	4- 28	??	?	?	4- 22			

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Forest Health Update

Fall 2012

Gypsy moth pheromone traps (Figure 5) were deployed by *BioForest* in areas where insect damage has occurred in the past.

Good numbers of moths were captured at all of the five locations where traps were set out. Near the village of Skerryvore, an average of 256 moths per trap were captured; at two spots off the Healey Lake Road, 334 and 143 moths per trap were collected; and, similarly, at two locations off the Blackstone/Crane Lake Road, 356 and 285 moths per trap were recorded.

While pheromone traps are not practical for controlling insect populations, they are a very useful tool for tracking the spread of existing populations or finding insects in new areas. In addition to the pheromone traps that *BioForest* hangs, a network of



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volunteers from across the Township annually hang pheromone traps on their properties. *BioForest* will be paying particular attention to what appears to be a growing population of gypsy moth and will be using all data from pheromone trap catches in support of that monitoring effort.

To review the full report go to the *BioForest Inc.* web site and click on **Township of the Archipelago Forest Health Update – Fall 2012**

To volunteer for the pheromone trap programme contact:

BioForest Technologies Inc.

Phone: 705-942-5824

Toll Free: 1-888-236-7378

Email: bforest@bioforest.ca

Website: www.bioforest.ca



Pheromone Trap

gypsy moth catch from
pheromone trap

Photo credit: Bill Biggs, BioForest Technician

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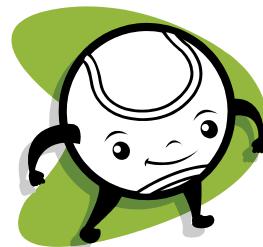
Healey Lake Tennis Club ... Let's Get It Done!

John Creen

It's time to fire up the drive to save the Healey Lake Tennis Club again. As mentioned last year we have many generous donors that have committed approximately 80% of our goal of raising \$25,000 to repair, resurface and make the courts operational.

Final quotes aren't in yet but ballpark numbers are encouraging. Let's get this done and have the use of this facility for the season. If you are able to help us out or have questions or concerns with respect to this undertaking, please call or email me.

If we are unable to get it done, all donations will be 100% reimbursed. Please make cheques payable to Healey Lake Tennis Club. Look forward to hearing from you. Thanks!
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FOCA Highlights

Annual General Meeting - March 2 '13
www.foca.on.ca

The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) is a non-profit, voluntary organization with a mission of protecting thriving and sustainable waterfronts across Ontario. FOCA represents 500 Ontario Cottagers' Associations including HLPOA. Representatives from ninety-one voting associations attended this meeting. Each association has a single vote.

At the March 2013 meeting, the following changes were passed:

Revised Association Membership Fees

Fees are determined through a base fee plus a fee per association member. Effective immediately

- base fee will rise from \$75. to \$125 per association,
- per member fee will rise from \$2.75 to \$3.25,
- total association fee not to exceed \$3000. per year

It is important to note that FOCA has not raised fees for 6 years. There is concern that with government cutbacks, there will be less opportunity to jointly carry out projects that have in the past provided revenue. Along with membership fees other sources of revenue include merchandise sales and advertising.

Membership Categories & Voting Privileges

It is expected that a new *Ontario Not For Profit Corporations Act* will be declared this year although just when the government will do this remains unclear. This could affect categories of membership and voting privileges within the non-profit sector so the membership supported a number of housekeeping changes to FOCA's bylaws. in anticipation of the new Act.

(Ed. FOCA carries out important work on behalf of waterfront property owners and provides a wealth of benefits and resources. Be sure to visit the website.)



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