



November 2014

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

President's Message

Hoping this last and final version of Dock Talk finds you all well and ready for the winter. At our annual meeting the Association agreed to have an engineer look at the dam and give us an assessment, and I was able to contact the MNR to get assistance. I learned that there is a 5 year and 10 year inspection plan available conducted by professional engineers. Our dams were inspected by Mr. David P. Johnson of Bracebridge, Ontario. The report is that both dams are showing only minor wear on the top. There are no present worries about either dam, but there was a recommendation to clear all trash and debris at all times. We will get a small work crew together in the spring to do an early clean up.



My guess is that we will see a milder winter with less snow but since there's already accumulation at the lake, it's anybody's guess. That's all for now, Reg



Regatta: Honouring our Past: Celebrating our Future

BY Angie Reichenbach

On Saturday morning of the Thanksgiving weekend a small band of planners arrived at my cottage on King's Island. We met to discuss the plan for Regatta 2015 and what a plan it is! This new group is made up of cottagers who grew up on the lake as well as brand new cottagers who just bought last year. This combination is exciting and we can't wait for you to join us on Regatta weekend 2015 to see what we have planned for you.

The most exciting is the agreed vision that we will honour the work of past organizers while infusing Regatta withCont'd on page 2....

WINTER IS HERE ON HEALEY LAKE!



Old Man Winter decided to pay an early visit to the lake this year, with

accumulations at eight inches by November 16th! There's so much snow in fact, that the first snowmobilers were spotted this weekend in Mactier! "If this keeps up we'll have to pull the Stanley before December" said Charlie Smith about the snow. Here's hoping for a great snowmobiling season to come!



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Regatta Continued

BY Angie Reichenbach

new events and activities. You can look forward to a day much like Regattas of the past, but with the addition of new activities for young ones, teenagers and us more 'mature' folk (and I use that term lightly!).

New to Regatta 2015 will be:

- a veggie or lighter option for food (chicken or veg wrap or something like that)
 - afternoon tournaments for teenagers/families (volleyball, horseshoes or something like that)
 - DJ for afternoon music
 - Book Swap/Sale
-and much more!

Look on the website in the near future for a Regatta Survey. We will be asking you questions to help us further plan with you and your family in mind. After all, Regatta is for all of us!

If you would like to get involved in helping man a station, table or small event please contact me at areichenbach05@gmail.com.

We will be able to put you on duty for an hour or two so that you can help but also enjoy the activities you are interested in. We have more than enough organizers but we would like some more hands on deck for the actual day.

If you also have a business or know someone who would like to donate items to our Auction or Raffle please feel free to let me know and I will pass you on to our fabulous volunteer in that area. We are always looking for good stuff for these two events.

All in all Regatta is well under way and we can't wait!

Mark Your Calendar Now

HLPOA Semi-Annual Meeting	May 17 '15
Bottle Drive	July 4 '15
Regatta	Aug. 8 '15
Healey Lake Annual Meeting	Sept. 6 '15
Archipelago Official Plan Review E-mail: chenderson@the.archipelago.on.ca	In progress



HLPOA Open Positions & Volunteers Needed

We currently have a few of open positions in need:

1. **Accounting Clerk:** This position prepares cheque payments to vendors, maintains copies of invoices for audit purposes and deposits cheques. Many thanks to Tammy Ross who managed this role for many years.

2. **Treasurer:** This position oversees the bank accounts, on an annual basis prepares financial statements for the association and ensures appropriate financial controls are in place. Dave Duggan has held this position as well as that of our website guru for the past several years. If you are a Chartered Accountant or tax consultant and are able to spare some time to assist please do step forward. Many thanks to Dave Duggan who will continue to support our website and web cams we all know and love in the new year. Thanks Dave!



If you are able to lend a hand to either please use the Contact Us tab on the website to make inquiries.

3. **Cottage Watch:** Peter Arnold is in need of two volunteers to assist with Cottage Watch this winter—must have a snowmobile. If you can help out with this important service please contact Peter at lakeshoremarina.vianet.ca

4. **Regatta Day Volunteers:** Needed to operate tables and events on the actual day of the regatta. If you can spare an hour or two on that day to make this coming Regatta the best yet, please email Angie at areichenbach05@gmail.com

5. **Regatta Auction Contributions:** Donated items are needed for the auction and raffle. If you or somebody you know would like to donate items please contact Angie to get connected to our volunteer organizer for these events.

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Stay connected!

www.healeylake.org

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING WINTER FIRE PUMPS

Please Note: All fire pumps have been removed from the lake for winter service. Due to theft of pumps and equipment last winter, they will be placed in storage for the winter season with two exceptions:



1. Mariners Cove
 2. Charlie Smith's at #139 on the main channel.
- See map on page 11.

Included in the fire boxes at these two locations are a pump, hose and ice auger for use by property owners on the lake in event of fire. The balance of fire pumps will be returned to their locations in the spring.

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Get Ready for Winter Fun!!

Healey Lake is a vibrant and active community—not only in the summer but all year round! If you have never tried winter cottaging, this may be your year! Here's a few non-Association events you may want to put on your radar this winter:

Family Day or Snowmobile Trip Anyone?

Peter Hintze is looking for interested cottagers who have snowmobiles and would like to arrange an overnight trip to a local resort the weekend of March 8th. Alternatively Peter will be looking to host a winter family fun day. Interested in either and/or able to volunteer—drop Peter a note at your convenience at info@marinerscove.ca!

Trail Permits Now on Sale

Speaking of trail riding—all snowmobilers using OFSC trails must have trail permits. All proceeds go to maintain local trails. Our local association—the Six Star Snow Riders—were simply outstanding last year! We had the best trails in the area by far! Save up to \$50 if you buy your permit before December 1st! To get your trail permit online or locally in Mac-tier please visit: <http://sixstarsnowriders.ca/Home.php>

Annual Family Day Weekend Wine and Cheese

Greg Partchenko and Joy Marshman will be hosting their annual outdoor wine and cheese gala again this winter. Mark your calendar for February 15th, to be held on the lake beside Pine Bay. Everyone is welcome. Bring along a treat to share around and get to know your winter neighbours!

Swampless Party 2015 :-)

For many years the first weekend of March Break has been the date for the annual Swamp Party—hosted by the Cherepa family for all to attend. Due to the dam break this fall, the swamp is no more. Stay tuned for alternative events this year!

Ice Rink—Skating or Shinny Anyone?

Contact Chris Moore at CSMoore@hotmail.ca if you are interested in setting up an ice rink this winter on the lake.



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Fifty Years of Memories On The Rock

By Lindsey Dragone



Take a conversation with a neighbour over a back fence, add a teenager's drafting class assignment, a sense of adventure and some building know-how, and you've got a Healey Lake cottage.

In May, 1964 two teenage brothers set out from the old Earl's Marina to scout for a cottage property. Their neighbour in Toronto, Eddie Nash, had heard that the Department of Lands and Forests was releasing building lots on Healey Lake. Eddie had purchased two and encouraged his neighbour, Dominic Cigagna, to do the same. Dominic and his wife, Giaconda, were too busy to make the trip, so their sons, John and Remo borrowed a wooden rowboat and strapped it to the roof of a VW, armed with \$500 cash and instructions to find a lot with a good view. And so began the adventure that was to become not just a cottage, but a place where, for the next fifty years, three families would make special memories. They called their place "The Rock".

On that cold spring day in 1964 the brothers arrived at a quiet, clear lake, dotted with just a handful of cottages. They purchased a high lot (now known as #108) with a panoramic view, facing north/west to capture afternoon sun and long summer sunsets. The southern peninsula, west from Kapikog Bay, consisted of rock and sparse vegetation, with few trees. This was as a result, they were told, of a forest fire years



During the winter of 1965, sixteen year-old son John drew up cottage plans in his grade 12 drafting class, and building began in May, 1965. The builders consisted of the family, plus a brother-in-law and occasionally a friend. Supplies were shipped by a raft rented from Earl's Marina and the trip down the lake took about 2-1/2 hours. Arriving at the site, all materials were carried up, up, up to the top of the rock, making the family question the value of that panoramic view! Building progressed throughout an extremely hot, buggy summer. The family camped out most nights, but when the bugs were particularly murderous, a neighbour provided a sleeping cabin on the island across. The traditional Healey Lake generosity has deep roots! Cold, clear drinking water was drawn from the middle of the lake on a jug lowered about 40 feet down to the bottom, and no one ever got sick.



The weather cooperated beautifully. Incredibly, from early June to September that year, no rain fell during the build, which consisted of twelve consecutive weekends; eight to raise the cottage, and four more to close it in for winter. Remarkable progress considering no power



tools were used! Interior finishes were completed the following year. Giaconda turned her attention to the sparse landscape, and she and son John transplanted about forty saplings of pine and

oak from the bush to the cottage property. Electricity arrived around 1972 and the gas lamps and propane appliances were changed to electric, and exterior lights from cottage to lakefront were added, as were a boat-house and hillside lift. The family grew and so did the trees.



Fifty Years of Memories On The Rock Cont'd

By Lindsey Dragone



The Cigagna family made many friends on the lake, including the Nash, Meinke, Schuler and Rossit families, as well as Henry Frank and Charlie Smith. Eventually the cottage was sold, but it remained a fond memory to the family who started it all. Fast forward nearly fifty years from that cold spring day in 1964, when present owners, Nick and Lindsey Dragone

issued an invitation to the Cigagnas to return. Giaconda and son John leapt at the chance to re-visit this special place. They were struck dumb



on arrival at the size of the trees. Giaconda, a very spry ninety-one years young, climbed the stairs to the top of the rock with ease, as her son and his hosts

puffed along behind her. Briefly the memories and emotions overcame them, but soon their stories poured out and entertained their hosts for a wonderful afternoon. As she



stood on the dock gazing around her, Giaconda told us that, although the family built another cottage, it was never the same, and The Rock on Healey Lake remained a special place in her heart. As it is in ours.

Lindsey Dragone #108, The Rock

Congratulations to Grant Walker Ward 6



A Water-based Community

Congratulations to Grant Walker who was re-elected as our Councilor for Ward 6 with 180 of 200 votes. WE look forward to hearing updates from Grant in our next edition.

As a side note—voter turnout in this municipal election was very low. 200 votes is but a fraction of the number of property owners in this ward. The Archipelago township makes it very easy for all property owners to register and vote, and we are very privileged to live in a country where the democratic process is available to us.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

By Sharon Tosswill

Just a wee note to say “hope everyone had a great summer” and here’s to the winter season coming up. This year we have 217 members. There are some new cottagers not accounted for yet but I will get to meet you in the spring.

A reminder that Membership fees for this coming year are being adjusted to reflect our changing community. Membership fees are used to cover a variety of services including dam maintenance, government dock upkeep, installation of lighting and upkeep of the fire pumps. Members also benefit from winter Cottage Watch services, community events, and of course... the Dock Talk at least 4 times annually.

New annual fees starting next year are **\$40 per cottage household**.

Sharon



ICE SMARTS: SAFETY FIRST

Stephanie Joiner

As tempting as it is to get back to the lake quickly after the freeze, cottagers are encouraged to take extreme caution when venturing out onto the lake for the first time following ice in. In addition to floaters suits and ice picks, this quiz provided courtesy of Vacation Ontario helps to set the record straight on ice safety and dispels many myths we have heard over the years. Winter cottaging on Healey can be fun and enjoyable for the whole family—provided everyone plays it safe.

When you live or cottage on the lake, you will want to pay extra attention to whether the ice is safe before you venture onto it. Take the following ice safety quiz to help prepare you and your family.

True or False? Large amounts of snow actually make the ice safer. The answer is false. Snow insulation makes ice freeze slower. It also can add extra weight that the ice may not be able to support.

True or False? Ice freezes uniformly. The answer is false. Ice can vary in strength and thickness. The amount of ice you have on one part of the lake may not be the same thickness 10 feet away.

True or False? If you fall through the ice, take off your heavy clothes. The answer is false. Heavy clothes actually can insulate you and provide flotation if you fall through.

True or False? Ice Freezes Uniformly. The answer is false. Ice can vary in strength and thickness. The amount of ice you have on one part of the lake may not be the same thickness 10 feet away.

True or False? If you fall through the ice, take off your heavy clothes. The answer is false. Heavy clothes actually can insulate you and provide flotation if you fall through.

True or False? If you fall through the ice, do not swim toward the direction you fell in. The answer is false. If you fall through, you should swim towards the direction you fell in, the ice is stronger there.

True or False? If you fall through the ice and manage to get back out, stand up and walk to the shore. The answer is false. You should lay down, keeping your weight spread and roll away from the hole.

True or False? Ice that forms over flowing water is not as dangerous. The answer is false. Ice over flowing water currents is actually more dangerous. So you need to be extra careful near bridges and streams.

True or False? It is February, so the ice is safe. The answer is false. The truth is the temperature is the best indicator, not the calendar.

True or False? If my truck or car goes through the ice, it is better to wait till it sinks before getting out. The answer is false. It is better to get out immediately.

True or False? Driving on the ice is just as safe at night as it is in the daytime. The answer is false. Driving at night reduces visibility and you need to see if there are open holes ahead. Drive slower at night.

The fact is ice is never 100% safe. When you venture out this year, make sure you have a plan to help you and your family survive an incident such as breaking through the ice.

For more winter vacation information visit: <http://www.winter-vacations-ontario.com/ice-fishing-safety.html>

AROUND THE LAKE

By *Stephanie Joiner*

stephanie.joiner133@gmail.com

Washout on Healey Lake Road



Cottagers who visited the lake the last weekend in October got quite a surprise when heavy rain storms

washed out Healey Lake Road



and left them stranded until Mon-



day afternoon with no way to return to the city (such a problem!). Here's a few pictures of the damage for those who have not yet seen them. This last picture is of the

road into Mactier—also flooded from the storm. Temporary repairs have



been completed on Healey Lake Road.

There's Got to Be A Way Out of Here!



While Healey Lake Road between Earl's Road and the marina's was washed out, passage out via Earl's road was still very doable. Not to miss an important appointment Peter Arnold and

his father found a creative way out with the help of Charlie Smith and the Barrett Construction barge. All aboard!



Healey Laker is among Profit/Chatelaine's Top Female Entrepreneurs in 2014!



Congratulations to our very own Carole Dunkley, who along with her partner Sherri Lynn Terri, co-owners of Document Imaging Partners, were recognized as one of the top female entrepreneurs in

Canada this year! The annual W100 ranking of Canada's Top Female Entrepreneurs recognizes women who have become business leaders in their respective fields, ranking Canada's Top Female Entrepreneurs on a composite score based on the size, growth rate and profitability of their businesses. **Congratulations Carole!**

Healey Lakers Pitch In at Aspen Valley

Thanksgiving weekend was a special one this year for Healey Lakers who joined to help deconstruct and move animal cages for Aspen Valley to assist in the repair of the Coyote pen which was badly damaged due to heavy rain fall . Orga-



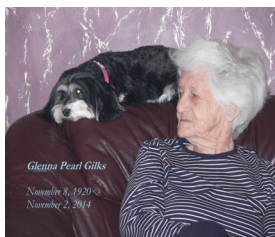
nized by Joy Marshman, volunteers included Greg Partchenko, Dan MacLeod, Peter Morley and Stephanie Joiner. In addition to the physical support, many Association members stepped forward to donate

funds, food, surgical gloves and other goods to support the shelter, Aspen Valley is a sanctuary which takes in, rehabilitates and aims to return healed animals to their natural environment. They are a not-for-profit operation run entirely by volunteers and donations. The sanctuary is open to visitors on long weekends throughout spring summer and fall. For more information on Aspen Valley please visit www.aspenvalley.ca



In Memoriam

Glenna Gilks, of Cummer Lodge Toronto, passed away in her sleep Sunday Nov.2/14 in her 93rd year. Glenna was predeceased by her husband of 62 years, Norris Armand Gilks.



Glenna Pearl Gilks
November 8, 1921 -
November 2, 2014

Survived by sons Armand and Eric of Toronto and daughter Norine of Stratford, ON. Grandmother to Lorraine and Christopher Gilks of Toronto. Great grandmother of Hannah Gilks and Nathaniel Saltzman.

Glenna and Norris lived for many years in retirement at Healey Lake Mactier, Ontario in their beloved island home. They were active members of the HLPOA and life members of the Association. Healey Lake was where their heart was for many years. Cremation will take place and her ashes scattered there as wished.

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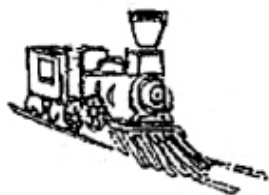
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Have a social event, or happening to share? Send your pictures and a few words to stephanie.joiner133@gmail.com for the winter issue!

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Wild Turkeys

By Nancy Gilchrist



As you are driving around Healey Lake have you seen the brood's of wild turkeys in the woods close to the roadways. The other week

on Fox Back road there had to be about 20 of them just off to the side of the road as we were driving to the Government dock at Back Bay.

Wild turkeys are native to Ontario but due to hunting and habitat loss they became extinct in the province in the early 1900's. In the 80's, the Ministry of Natural Resource and the National Wild Turkey Federation reintroduced this species and it is one of the most successful projects as now there are approximately 48,000 wild turkeys in Ontario.

The male turkey is substantially larger than the female and his feathers have areas of red, purple, green, copper, bronze and gold. Females (hens) are like most other female bird species and their feathers are duller overall in shades of brown and gray. Turkeys have 5000 to 6000 feathers. The adult male (also referred to as a "tom") usually weighs twice as much as the female. The male can weigh anywhere from 5 to 11kg (11 to 24 lbs) while the female only 2.5 to 5.4 kg (5.5 – 11.9lbs). Wild turkeys, unlike domestic turkeys are good flyers. If in open woodland they can fly beneath the canopy and then perch on lower branches.

Turkeys make many vocalizations such as: gobble, cluck, yelp, purr, whine, cackle and kee-kees. In the spring time male turkeys will "gobble" to "announce their presence" to females and other competing turkeys. The gobble can be quite loud and carry for up to a mile. Hens yelp to let the "gobblers" know their location.

Turkeys eat acorns, nuts, seeds, berries, roots and insects. They will sometimes eat small lizards and snakes. Early morning and late afternoon are their desired times for eating.

Male turkeys will mate with as many hens as they can. They will puff out their feathers and drag their wings to impress the female. This is called "strutting".

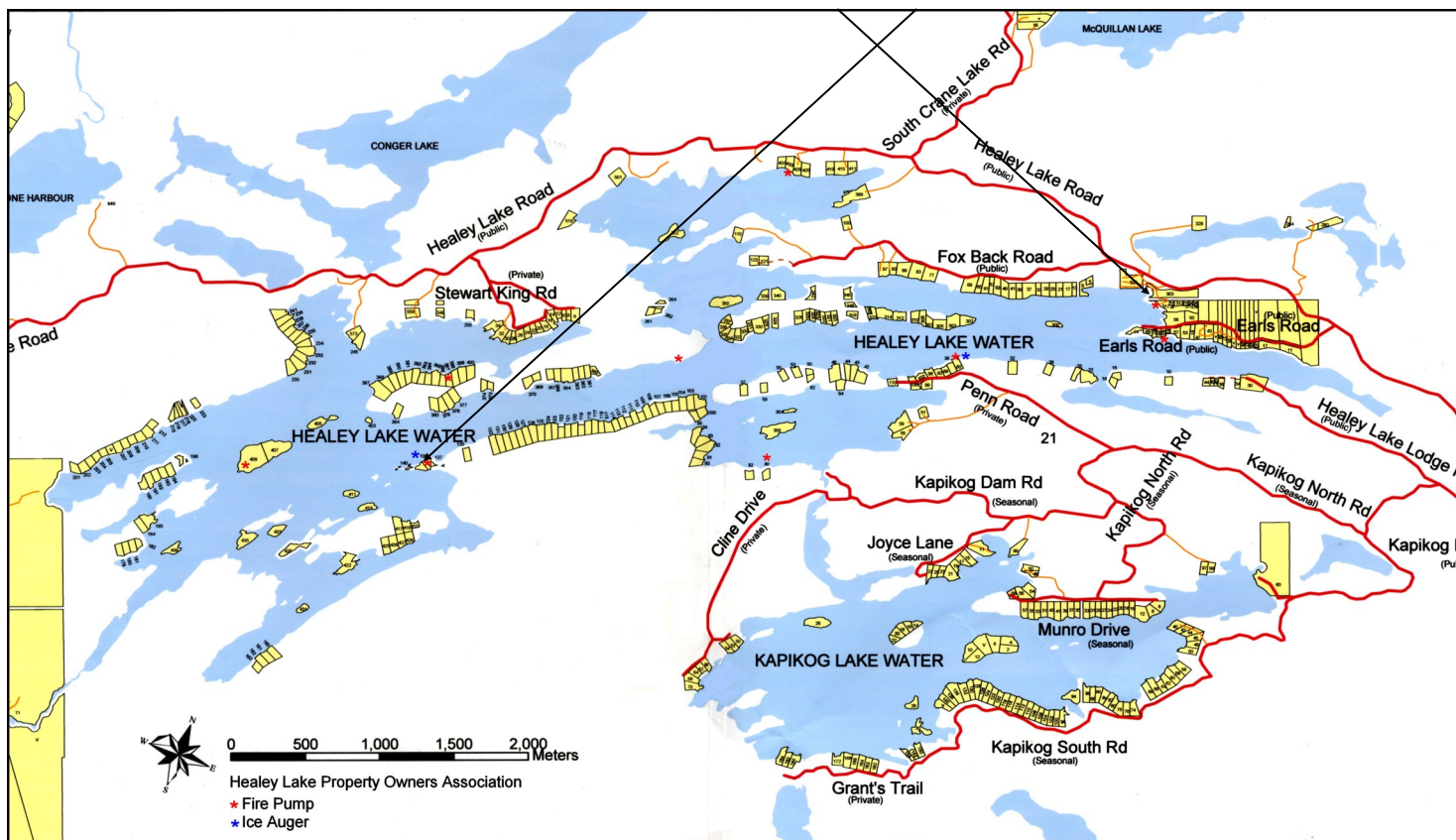
The colour of their head and neck are red, blue and white, however the colour of their head will change depending on their mood. For instance when a turkey's head and neck is solid white it indicates that he is "most excited". Courting begins in the month of March and April. When mating is finished the female will search for a nest site and lay a clutch of 10 to 14 eggs, usually one per day. They will hatch about 28 days later.



Predators of the wild turkey are coyotes, black bears, fox, and larger domestic dogs. Predators of eggs and nestlings are raccoons, skunks, fox, rodents, snakes and other larger birds. Turkeys will try and fight off predators and have occasionally

Healey Lake

Fire Pump Locations for Winter are noted below: One at Mariner's Cove Marina – around the corner from the main door on the Lake side. The other one will remain at Charlie Smith's. Both will contain pumps, hoses and ice augers. If you need to use a pump for emergency purposes, please notify Charlie Smith so we can be sure the pump lines are cleared to avoid freezing at healey.laker@yahoo.ca.



The Last Word

By Stephanie Joiner

It's hard to believe that another cottage season has come and gone. As I sit here writing this it is snowing outside and I'm reminded that as every season ends another begins. This year will mark the second time we run a winter edition of Dock Talk to capture the life and times of Healey Lakers who make the lake their home away from home throughout the winter season. For now though, we wait patiently for the freeze to come : the annual transformation that brings us back to the lake once again to enjoy family and friends.

For the many folks who live at the lake year round, this time of year is often the bleakest, with the cold weather and vacant shores. We look forward to seeing everyone again soon and hope the freeze comes quickly for those who must cross the lake to get into town.

A big thank you in this issue to Lindsay Dragone for her article detailing the construction of their cottage, and to Nancy Gilchrist for her article on wild turkeys. We saw several this fall at the lake. Many thanks also to Angie Reichenbach for her contribution on the Regatta. It's shaping up to be a great event.

Until we meet again on the lake, best wishes to all for a safe and happy new year! Stephanie Joiner



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