



September 2014

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

## HLPOA ... volunteers at work

**Reg Heal** as the new President prepares to chair the HLPOA annual meeting which took place on the Sunday of Labour Day week-end. The meeting was held at Mariner's Cove Marina. Reg has already been busy along with Dave Latter,



transporting and cashing in the tins and bottles from the August 23 bottle drive. He is preparing to service the fire pumps before several of them are stored for the winter. Those attending the meeting supported Reg's recommendation to have a professional engineer assess the status of the dam.

### Vacancies Filled

A tip of the hat to

**Dion Burke** for volunteering to look after courtesy lights on the Lake. Contact Dion at: [dionburkebarbur@aol.com](mailto:dionburkebarbur@aol.com)



**Stephanie Joiner** for volunteering as Vice President & Dock Talk. Contact Stephanie at: [stephanie.joiner133@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.joiner133@gmail.com)

### Mark Your Calendar Now

Healey Lake Golf Tournament	Sept. 20 '14
Municipal Election	Oct. 27 '14
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: <a href="mailto:chenderson@the.archipelago.on.ca">chenderson@the.archipelago.on.ca</a>	In progress

### In this issue

HLPOA Volunteers At Work	1-2
A Wild Goose Chase	3
HLPOA Executive	3
Flying Squirrels	4
Councillor's Corner	5
Around The Lake	6-8
Membership Update	8
In Memoriam	9
2014 Annual Meeting Update	9
Healey Lake Map	10
The Last Word	10
A blast from our past ... Three-way Effort Fixes The Dam	11

## A Wild Goose Chase

**Bob Bennett**

### HLPOA executive meeting at Reg's home

L - R Charlie Smith,  
Fire Safety  
Grant Walker, Ward 6  
Councillor  
Reg Heal, President



L-R  
Debbie Latter,  
Secretary  
Sharon Tosswill,  
Membership  
Stephanie Joiner,  
Vice President

### Fire Safety



Charlie Smith (L) & Bob Barrett check the fire pump located at Mariner's Cove Marina



**Angie Reichenbach**, Coordinator, Regatta reports that a number of people have volunteered and planning is already underway for 2015 regatta.

**Ken Fleming** has taken water samples three times so far this year. Ken does this as part of the Lake Partnership Program. Ken reports that the water quality remains good. Lab results provided by the province are available on the website of the Archipelago.

[www.thearchipelago.on.ca](http://www.thearchipelago.on.ca)

My daughter and I own a cottage on Healey Lake in Muskoka that was built by my father-in-law almost 60 years ago.

Ian, a kind and generous friend, offered to help me open the cottage this spring and we agreed to do so on Friday, believing, for some strange reason, that Environment Canada's weather forecast of fine weather might actually prove to be accurate. It didn't, so we had to complete the outside work between early afternoon rain showers and an evening thunder storm that threatened "severity" for more than an hour and then materialized only in an anemic, half-hearted sort of way.

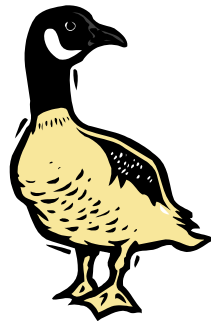
After making the dock and the water system operational, we turned our attention to a number of inside tasks, with which we were busily engaged when we heard a goose honking loudly and almost incessantly, which is not normal goose behaviour. We stopped what we were doing and went to the window to see if we could see the goose whose errant behaviour drew our attention.

Ian saw the goose first, about 300 metres away, swimming to the west, in the middle of the lake. Then he noticed something with a black head and snout, swimming 10 or so metres behind, obviously giving chase. This seemed very odd because the water temperature was barely above freezing. We quickly found the binoculars and a closer inspection revealed that the black thing in the water was a dog, which from a distance we were sure was a black labrador. The owner of said dog was nowhere to be seen. Never having witnessed anything like this, our eyes remained glued to the goose and dog drama unfolding in front of our eyes.



After watching for a few minutes, it became obvious the goose was in no danger and that in fact she seemed to be having a grand time as she swam in huge circles, leading the dog first west,

then south, then east. Back and forth, around in circles, away from shore and towards shore; whichever way the goose led, the dog followed.



Occasionally the goose would allow the dog to "catch up" to within two or three metres, at which point the dog would get really excited and put on a burst of speed, with head extended high above the water. With the added exertion, we could hear the dog puffing and we started to worry that the dog would become exhausted and drown. The thought crossed our minds: "Is the goose trying to drown this dog"?

From time to time the goose's "mate" joined in the fun and frolic. Now the dog had to decide "Should I chase A or B?" This quandary seemed to cause the dog great concern: as a result the dog changed direction frequently, first chasing A, then B, then A again. After watching for close to fifteen minutes, during the third "burst of speed" episode, we decided we had better get in the boat and see what we could do to prevent the dog from exhausting itself and drowning. As we were starting the motor, we noticed a boat from a cottage on the far shore set out in the direction of the dog, however, not knowing for sure what the people in this boat were about to do, we kept going. The other boat did approach the dog very closely, but neither of the people in this boat made any attempt to try to coax or lift the dog into their boat. Then, in very short order, they reversed direction and returned to their dock. We followed this boat and, on landing at their dock, found the people in this boat to be a young mother and her 3 or 4 year old seemingly shy and quiet, daughter.

Shortly after we landed at their dock, with the goose now gone, the dog started to swim for home, and didn't seem to have slowed down one iota. The mother told us the dog was a black labrador named Rosie; that she was three years old and that she was her daughter's dog. She also told us that Rosie loves to chase water fowl, especially loons, and that no matter what she or her husband say or do, Rosie will not change her ways.

Otherwise, Rosie is a wonderfully warm and loving dog. We said our good-byes and headed for home.

Previously, when the words "a wild goose chase" were uttered, a myriad of images coursed through my mind; all with the goose making every effort to escape almost certain doom. Now there will be only one image: a wild goose and a black labrador swimming in ice cold water, the goose leading, the dog in determined pursuit, and the goose, that is in no danger whatsoever, is savouring every moment of the "chase".



## HLPOA Executive

President	Reg Heal rheal@vianet.ca
Vice President	Stephanie Joiner stephanie.joiner133@gmail.com
Treasurer	Dave Duggan DaveDuggan@ECNG.com
Secretary	Debbie Latter debbie.latter@gmail.com
Water Testing	Ken Fleming kenfleming@live.com
Fire Safety	Charlie Smith healey.laker@yahoo.ca Bob Barrett bob@barrettmechanical.com
Lights	Dion Burke dionburkebarbur@aol.com
Advertising	Chris Moore CSMoore@hotmail.com
Regatta	Angie Reichenbach areichenbach05@gmail.com
Cottage Watch	Peter Arnold lakeshoremarina@vianet.ca
Membership Welcome Kits	Sharon Tosswill sharon_tosswill@hotmail.com
Archivist & Auditor	Dave Pols
Councillor	Grant Walker grant@olresources.ca
Advisors	Bruce & Barb Jones fbarbarajones@hotmail.com
Dock Talk	Nancy Simpson rn.simpson@sympatico.ca
Website	Dave Duggan DaveDuggan@ECNG.com



# Flying Squirrels

*Nancy Gilchrist*

It has been a few years since I have seen one of these squirrels up close but they are still around in the woods at Healey Lake.



Because they are nocturnal, not many people actually see them and therefore think that they are rare in northern Ontario. In fact there are many (approximately 25 subspecies) throughout Northern Ontario. They can be found in most of Canada except for the southern parts of Ontario, Alberta and Saskatchewan. If you have been out late at night you might see something gliding between branches in the trees. Flying squirrels are 25 to 37 cm in length (10 to 14 inches) and can glide effortlessly as far as 30 metres (98 feet) at a time because of a furry membrane called a patagium – it is like a giant sail attached between the front and rear legs. Actually depending on the wind and take off height they can actually glide 50 metres (164 feet) or more. The flying squirrel also has a flat, furry tail that is used like a rudder while gliding. It can actually steer left and right and even make a 180 degree turn using its tail and membrane between its legs. They also can easily retract this membrane to enable it to be very fast running around and climbing trees. According to some articles these ancient members of the squirrel family are 30 million years old. They actually do not hibernate in winter but will store food. They will sleep in groups and share nests with up to 50 other flying squirrels to keep warm. Sometimes they also may move from nest to nest each night.

These squirrels have big button eyes, rounded ears and soft brown fur with a white underbelly and white under its furry membrane. They also have something called “feelers” which are sensitive whiskers which make nocturnal travel

easier. In order for the squirrel to mark its route in the forest it uses scent glands in its cheeks. These squirrels are most active between dusk and dawn.

They have their young between late April and June. Their diet consists of mushrooms, fungi, nuts, tree sap, insects, bird eggs, buds and flowers and they will use hollows in trees, woodpecker cavities or during the hot summer months they will use leaves to build outside nests known as dreys.

The flying squirrel has many predators; the owl, raccoon, coyote, weasel, house cat, and snakes are just a few and they have to rely on its ability to blend in to its environment. Its eyesight is not all that great, so its instinct is to remain perfectly still in the hope that the predator will not see them. If it does get caught it is actually able to break off its tail in order to escape!

When you are out at night, gazing at the stars, take a look in the woods, up high in the trees to find these nocturnal creatures.

## Wall 2 Wall Painting

Quality Interior & Exterior Painting  
Deck & Dock Staining / Painting  
Custom Colour & Design Consultations  
Zero VOC and Green Products Used

For a Free Estimate Call  
Darlene Jones  
905-830-8900  
wall2wallpainting@rocketmail.com





*Selling or Buying on Healey Lake*  
**CALL ME....**



*Four Seasons*  
**Real Estate Centre**

**Peter Watkinson**  
BROKER  
**705-375-0533**

SERVING PARRY SOUND, MUSKOKA & GEORGIAN BAY AREAS

# Councillor's Corner

Grant Walker Ward 6

## End of Summer Report

### Locators added to vehicles & boats



*A Water-based Community*

The township vehicles and boats have been equipped with locators as our employees are out on the water alone in the summer in all kinds of weather and on our back roads at night plowing in poor weather conditions.

### Townships share resources

McDougall Township has acquired a new state of the art asphalt repair system which we will rent this fall to do repairs before winter. Some of our neighbors will be renting the new sweeper that runs off a 3/4 ton truck that we acquired this summer. The agreement for sharing services and employees with Carling Township while each retains their own service levels, programs and independence is working well and saving money. It has led to other municipalities communicating on how to cooperate to avoid duplication and save money. At a meeting with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister was most interested in how it was set up and how well it is working.

### Official Plan reviewed

The first public meeting of the five year review of our official plan has been held. You can find information on our web site and I encourage you to participate as it sets the direction of our municipality will move in and it is supported by the bylaws we live by. There will be more meetings over the next year and all people, groups and associations are asked for input.

### Water & forest testing program

The new agreement with the Georgian Bay Biosphere is in place and they will be looking after both the water and forest testing programs. They are also developing a educational fun day program to be held with cooperation from the associations. Ted Thompson a long time employee of the township, now retired will be working with them during the summer months. Phosphorus testing is also coming on stream.

## Policing costs

Now the government has a majority they are pushing ahead with the increased O.P.P. costs. A new formula reduces the cost some but it is still very high and will result in a large tax increase. Sequin Township and the Archipelago are still exploring the cost of local service with Carling Township showing some interest in contracting for service. We were paying approximately \$120,000.00 a year for service. Next we were told it would increase to approximately \$1,200,000.00. Now as far as I can see the formula will work out to approximately \$650,000.00 - still far too much for the services we get. Keep tuned by my next report. I will have more accurate figures along with the amount of service each municipality in our area requires and gets.

It's back to school time and I hope we can all enjoy a great fall after the summer we have had.



## Municipal Election October 27, 2014

As we go to press, Grant Walker is the only candidate running for council in Ward 6 so he could be acclaimed in the upcoming election. Grant received a resounding vote of confidence at the HLPOA Annual Meeting on September 1, '14. He has done a great job of representing our interests in the Archipelago and also of keeping us informed. His regular contribution to Dock Talk is very much appreciated Thanks Grant! Here's to another four years.

## Election Update

The Township of The Archipelago will once again be using Internet and Telephone Voting in the 2014 Municipal Election and therefore, to ensure greater security, you will require two pieces of identification when you cast your vote this time. The first piece of identification will be the pin number that is mailed to you by the Township and the second piece of identification will be your date of birth.

Have you got your pin number? Find out how and who can vote by going to

<http://www.thearchipelago.on.ca/>

Click on Council / Election 2014



# AROUND THE LAKE

*Stephanie Joiner*



## FAMILY FUN DAY

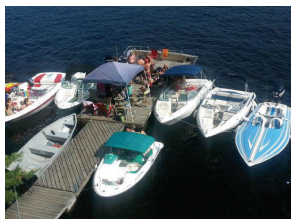
It was a terrific day and great turn out for Family Day at Mariner's Cove on August 9th. Hats off to Peter Hintze and team including M&M

Meats, Lisa's Famous Fries (wow were they tasty!), and the host of volunteers who supported the children's face painting, balloons, dunk tank and bouncy castle activities for the kids. A great time was had by all!



## WASN'T THAT A PARTY!

The August long weekend was a hot one, leading many cottagers to find ways to cool off. In true Healey style, an impromptu gathering at the cottage of Becky and Gary Schafer turned out to be quite an affair with over 8 boats and 30+ people aboard the dock. Great view from above Becky!



## AUSTRALIA BOUND!

HLPOA Membership Secretary Sharon Tosswill has been a Girl Guide leader for over 35 years! This year she was selected as one of two Canadian Guide Leaders to represent Canada at the international conference in Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia departing Sept. 11th. Congratulations Sharon!



Have a social event, or happening to share? Send your pictures and a few words to [stephanie.joiner133@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.joiner133@gmail.com) for the fall issue!



## HEALEY LAKE ANNUAL BOTTLE DRIVE

This year's bottle drive was a resounding

success, thanks to the support of many volunteers and contributors. Special thanks go to folks who made the day possible: Charlie Smith, Bob Barrett, Marilyn Courtney, Cliff Walters, Dave Latter, Jim and Carole Dunkley, Stewart Weir and his two awesome friends on the barge, Mitch, Scott & Stephanie Joiner, Yasmin K, Jeff Hynes and his daughters, Rob Harris, Mason Smith, Luke and Matt Wiseman, Mae Coulson, Serena, and Bob's terrific "can counting" grandchildren Drew and Hayden! It was a fun day for all! Special thanks to Bob Barrett for making the barge available for the day and to Charlie for driving it, to Dave Latter and Reg Heal for taking the bottles to the Beer Store this week, and to the countless folks who also gave generously of their bottles and cash contributions! Looks like this effort reaped over \$1000.



## HAPPY 60TH PETER!

Peter Morley celebrated his 60th in August, with a soiree hosted by his spouse Judy and attended by family and friends. Happy Birthday Uncle Peter!



cont'd p. 8





**Hamer  
Bay  
Marine  
Ltd.**

**NO AGGRAVATION BOATING**

**EVINRUDE**



**VOLVO  
PENTA**

**Naden** BOATS

•Sales •Service •Storage •Boat Rentals

**Certified Mechanics 7 days a week**

92 Hamer Bay Road, Lake Joseph, 1 km off  
Lake Joseph Road next to Rocky Crest Resort



**705-375-2232**



[www.hamberbaymarine.com](http://www.hamberbaymarine.com)

# Barrett Contracting

- Septic Systems
- Plumbing Systems
- Cottage Service
- Barge Service

**Robert (Bob) Barrett**  
**(705) 375-1764**



**BEV KEALL**  
**BULLDOZING & TRUCKING**

**FILTER SAND & GRAVEL**  
**SEPTIC TANKS**  
**& SYSTEMS**

**MACTIER, ONTARIO**  
**P0C 1H0**

**(705) 375-2638**



**Muskoka**  
*Septic Services*

- Septic & Holding Tank Pumpouts
- Island, Water, Mainland

705-375-2797

705-765-5777

## **Certified Marine Mechanic**

Offering Dockside Marine  
Repairs, Tune-ups, Oil Changes  
Servicing all makes and models  
Most services can be done at your dock

Text or call: (905) 806-2221



**Ruth and Dan August 16, 2014**

Neither wind nor rain could dampen spirits when Dan MacLeod wed Ruth Webb on the shore of Lakeshore Marina & Chalets. The morning of August 16 dawned with grey skies and rain pelting across the landscape horizontally. The rain stopped in time for the ceremony; the intended venue for the service - Blueberry Island was simply not possible. The intent was to have the Healey Lake guests anchor off shore while those from afar would come down the Lake in a flotilla of pontoon boats. The ceremony and reception were both held under white canopies at Lakeshore.

The bride was beautiful; the wedding ceremony lovely and the 100 ++ guests had a great time. It was Dan who quipped that the mud underfoot cost extra but the party went on unabated. All the men who wore tuxedo t-shirts certainly added their own touch of class.

Dan was an enthusiastic President of the HLPOA for nine years, retiring in 2013.

Our very best wishes go out to Dan and Ruth as they start a new chapter in their lives.

## Membership

**Sharon Tosswill, Membership Secretary**  
2565 Proudfoot St. Mississauga,  
Ontario, L5C 2N9

Tel:(H) 905-275-6834; (C) 705-375-1357

Hello Fellow Cottagers: Hope you are all enjoying our summer season. Welcome to our 6 newest members. I am pleased to say we have 201 paid up members at this time. Just a reminder to those who have not yet sent in your membership renewal, it is not too late.

If there are members of your families who would like to receive notifications through their emails please forward their email addresses to [sharon\\_tosswill@hotmail.com](mailto:sharon_tosswill@hotmail.com) and we will add them to our email list.

An executive decision was made to increase membership fees from the current \$30. to \$40. in 2015. Family members who would like to be associate members would pay \$20.00.



**DION CONSTRUCTION provides products/services related to Business Services, Construction**

**Contractor Contact:** Dion Construction Ltd  
Box 134, Mactier, ON POC 1H0  
Tel: 705-375-0308; Fax: 705-375-5007  
[dion\\_construction@yahoo.ca](mailto:dion_construction@yahoo.ca)



**Be part of the safe quiet boating movement. Place this sticker on the windshield of your boat.**

**You have right of way over vessels approaching From this (red) arc.**

**You must give way to vessels approaching from this (green) arc.**



## In Memoriam

Jim slaughter passed away on Aug 10th, 2014 after a courageous battle with cancer. Jim has been coming to the lake since 1958. We rented the Woodruff place for 3 weeks every year for 20 years.

He loved everything about this lake, and loved to party with John King. I bought the Woodruff place in 1997 and he continued to come up, only this time with his wife Barb & daughter Danielle who stuck with him tooth & nail through his fight.

Jim always had a smile on his face, & he had a laugh that was full-hearted & loud. He was all about a good time, & treated life the same way. He will be sadly missed by the Slaughter family & old friends from the lake.

Go to the top of the mountain Jim & rest for a while. Till we meet again.

Jack, Deb & family

## A reminder!

The docks maintained by the HLPOA are for drop off and pick up only. Please do not leave your boat at these landings.

## Notes from the Annual Meeting

Sept.1 2014

### Bulletin Boards

Watch for information: boards to be erected next Spring at the landings. This will improve communication around the Lake. Four new boards are planned.

### Ice Rink

If you are a winter Healey Laker and are interested in an ice rink for skating, contact Chris Moore. He would like to organize a winter event.

E-mail: CSMoore@hotmail.com

### Volunteers for Cottage Watch

This is a great service for paid up members of the Association. If you can volunteer to help out with this important service, contact Peter Arnold

E-mail: lakeshoremarina@vianet.ca

### Directory

There is interest in producing a Healey Lake directory. Privacy laws have made this a more delicate matter. In next year's membership renewal notice watch for a "request for permission" to include you in the directory.

### Dock Talk

In 2015, timing of the issues of *Dock Talk* will be Winter, early Spring, Mid Summer, and Fall.

485 High Street  
MacTier, ON  
375-2007

**Muskoka  
Station  
Store**

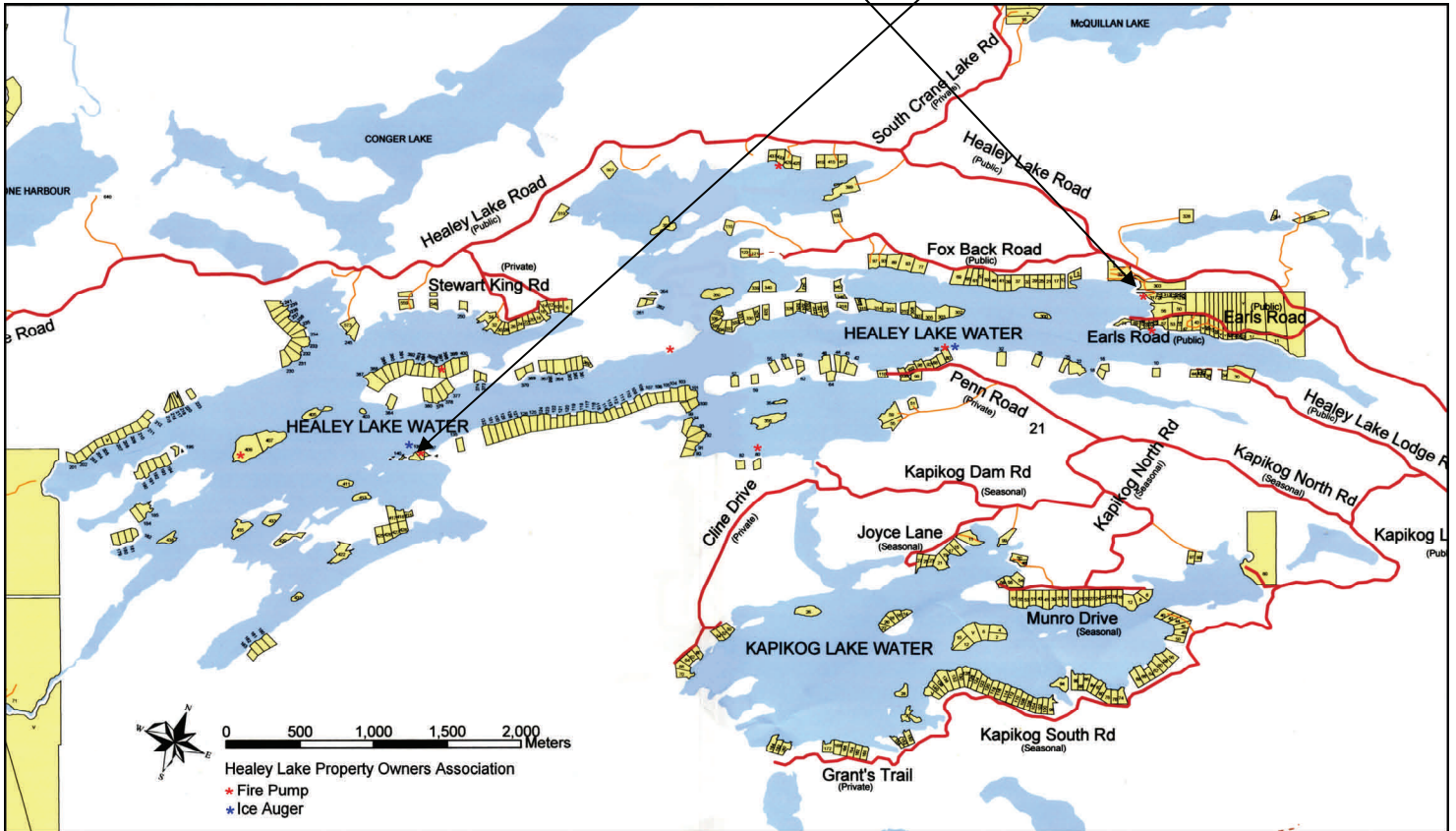
OPEN MON-SAT  
9:00 - 6:00

- ★ Sears Catalogue
- ★ Lotto Centre
- ★ Carlton Cards
- ★ Gifts for All Occasions



# Healey Lake

Can you locate the fire pumps? This map shows eight pumps. One or two more have been added. Stay tuned! The pumps will be serviced soon and all but two of them will be stored for the winter. One will remain at Mariner's Cove Marina – around the corner from the main door on the Lake side. The other one will remain with an ice auger at Charlie Smith's.



Several years ago Bruce Jones produced a map showing all the cottage numbers. They are too small to see in this graphic but it is a wonderful resource. We had ours laminated and it is hanging on the cottage wall. Please inquire from any member of the Executive—a version of the map is available. (ED)

## The Last Word

I am always glad when I have to squeeze the last word into a little space. It means that all the great contributors have come through with another great issue of Dock Talk. Thanks again to Stephanie Joiner for the last issue and for getting us started on a more social bent with her *Around The Lake* column which also appears in this issue.

Nancy Gilchrist always comes through and this issue is no exception with her most interesting article on *Flying Squirrels*. More of Nancy's well researched articles will appear in the final issue of the season so be sure to watch for them.

Thanks also to Bob Bennett, our friend and long time cottage neighbour for the *Great Goose Chase* in this issue. This is his first submission and I hope there will be more.

Read on as Barb Jones shares, from her archives, the story of the resurrection of the Healey Lake dam. Without it we would all be high and dry. As I recall this project was finished on time and under budget. We were asked to contribute \$100. and got \$50. back when the project was finished and then of course, there was all the sweat equity. Just another reason

## Three-way effort ... fixes the dam

Barb Jones

### Healey Lake: Work continues on the dam on Healey Lake.



The dam, originally constructed by loggers in the late 1800's, and rebuilt in the 1920's, was becoming a concern for area residents. Concern over the dam's integrity led to a three-way deal for reconstructing the dam.

The Ministry of Natural Resources, the Township of the Archipelago, and the Healey Lake Property Owners all pooled their resources together in order to shore up the dam. Under the agreement, the Healey Lake Property Owners was responsible for the cost of supplying all materials delivered to the dam and providing the labour. The MNR undertook the costs of design and supervised the construction. The Township of the Archipelago assisted in the co-ordination of this project and arranged with the Parry Sound Trails Council the services of two Environmental Youth Students.

The contractor, the Georgian Bay Management staff, and the Property Owners Association worked from dawn to dusk constructing



the new dam. Approximately 2,300 sand bags were piled upon plastic to make a coffer dam upstream while the old dam was cleaned and checked for flaws & weak spots.



Once the old dam was stabilized, construction on the new dam began. The new dam was constructed using the remains of the old.

A wood frame was built, and concrete poured in the frame, around several reinforcing beams. The concrete had to be piped 400 feet to reach the site.



Once the concrete hardened, the frame was removed, lumber salvaged and sold off.



Lake water levels will be controlled by water overflow, maintaining a consistent level. The entire project was scheduled for completion in one month.

Source: Pictures and article taken from the *History of Healey Lake* book: original excerpt from the *Parry Sound Beacon*, summer of 1993



*The Last Word cont'd*

for having a strong Healey Lake Property Owner's Association.

There is now solid evidence of the therapeutic value of being surrounded by nature so protecting the water and the bush has never been more important and it takes all of us to do our part.

And that is what the HLPOA is about – making sure Healey Lake stays the treasure that it has always been. Volunteers are always needed and we are off to a great start with new people stepping forward so thanks for that as well.

Take care - until the next time.

**Nancy**





**Mariners' Cove Limited**  
**317 Healey Lake Road, PO Box #84**  
**MacTier, Ontario P0C 1H0**  
**Telephone: 705-375-2097**  
**Fax: 705-375-0058**  
**On the web: [www.marinerscove.ca](http://www.marinerscove.ca)**



**Family owned and operated since 1968**

**WE ARE PROUD TO BE A DIAMOND RATED**  
**'CLEAN MARINE' MARINA, (1 OF 10 IN ONTARIO)**

**WE ARE SERVICE**



**Winter Storage ● Service ● Sales**

**Fall Hours: Monday to Saturday 8:30 am - 5 pm**

**Sunday 10:00 am - 5 pm**