



Loon Call Lake Cottagers' Association

WEB SITE: <https://sites.google.com/site/looncalllake/home>

July 16, 2016

Mid -Summer Newsletter

Regatta and Corn Roast: By now you will have received an invitation to this year's Regatta and Corn Roast. Both will be held on Saturday July 30th; the Regatta between 1:00 p.m. and 4:30 and the Corn Roast between 7:00 pm and around mid-night. Cost for the Corn Roast is \$5 per person with kids under 12 free. If it rains, the date will change to Sunday, July 31st. Special thanks to the organizing team:

- **Scott Phillips** (705-745-4959 and sPhillips25@cogeco.ca) for the Regatta;
- **Roger Van Katwijk** (705-930-4670 and rogervk@sympatico.ca) for site management including the fire, lights and general cleanup;
- **Syd Bowcott** (705-656-4556) and syndee@yahoo.com) for ordering the food and cooking;
- **Brian Webster** (705-656-1229) for music.
- **Janice Manias** (416-882-7830) who will emcee the corn roast....and collect the money.

As always we could use a lot of help with these events! Please contact one of the organizers if you can help with cooking, cleanup, selling raffle tickets etc. We especially need help with the regatta, cooking, fire management, setup and cleanup.

Last year the raffle generated some \$400 for the North Kawartha Food Bank. This year we will have at least six prizes. In addition to the tax receipt, the prizes will include:

- A set of wooden bowls carved by Brian Webster;

- Pottery donated by Mary and Malcolm Martini made by Roslyn Reed, an Apsley potter who made some of the prizes given several years ago;
- A gift basket donated by Steve and Janice Manias;
- A print of a painting done by Barb Miszkiel of the collapsing building at the Harris Farm, and,
- A quilt made by Ann Keller;

Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. They will be available at the Corn Roast and Regatta or you can buy them in advance from Malcolm Martini at 705-656-1413.

Cottage History: We still have some books available. If you'd like one or more contact Dave Pressley at david.pressley@sympatico.ca.

The book is also available on the web. Don McDonald's company sponsors the link.

http://ezine.dmdigital1.com/2015LoonCall_eZine/

AGM Minutes: The minutes for 2016 AGM were previously sent out. Thanks Syd, for these and all you do. The minutes include a detailed discussion of the debate over how to respond to the Township's new dock by-law. It remains to be seen if the by-law which limits shoreline structures to 25% of the shoreline, requires a 15' setback for docks from the property line and allows docks up to 800 square feet will be appealed. If it is appealed, there is no telling when and if it will become law. If it is not appealed and becomes Township law it will only apply to the land as the Park has jurisdiction over over-water structures.

The executive will not be making further comments on dock sizes this year and will monitor applications over the year to determine if a change in policy is needed next year. We will keep you informed.

Bears: A number of people have expressed concern about what appears to be an increased bear presence around cottages. The Ministry of Natural Resources has a comprehensive website (ontario.ca/bearwise) as part of its Bear Wise program to prevent bear encounters. The site notes that:

- Black bear attacks on humans are extremely rare;
- Prudence suggests that when bears are around it is best to not to walk alone as bears shy away from noise such as talking, bells, etc. and of course, keep an eye on the kids and leash your dogs.
- If you encounter a bear, chances are that the bear will walk the other way if it sees you; if it doesn't, don't panic, and slowly walk away while keeping an eye on the animal.
- If the bear doesn't leave and advances, yell, jump up and down, throw stones and if you have it, consider using a bear pepper spray.
- Bears usually only frequent cottages when there is food available. That could be unsecured garbage, bird feeders, greasy barbecues, etc. If you are having bear problems make sure there's no food or garbage lying around your property.

The Association has also spoken to the Park about the possibility that bears may be wandering into cottage properties that are near bear baiting areas and is exploring the possibility that baiting areas might be moved further away and or that baiting during the summer months may be inappropriate.

Shooting: For the last month or so, a lot of gunfire has been heard on the Lake. We have contacted the police, the Park and the

municipality to determine what to do. The legal aspects are not entirely clear, but here's what we've learned:

- Provincial park regulations prohibit the use of guns in provincial parks outside of hunting season.
- One can shoot on one's own property and can shoot across crown land providing it is done in a safe manner...that is, the shooter must not shoot into areas where people may be present.
- Shooting while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs is a criminal offence no matter where you shoot.
- The police have warned against confronting people with guns and suggest that if you're concerned, call the OPP. Even if they don't come immediately, there is a record that a complaint has been filed.
- Shooting when people and pets are around is not a neighbourly act. Most people are frightened by the sounds of shooting and stay indoors until it stops.

Beaver Dams: The Park has advised us that the destruction of a beaver dam may be an offense under the Provincial Fish and Wildlife Act.

Assessments (Potentially Good News): Many of you will have received your updated assessments from MPAC – the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation. It appears that the assessment of many properties has been reduced significantly – from 15 to 20%. These reductions will apply immediately and there is a possibility that our share of the tax base will have fallen and that our cottage property taxes may actually be reduced in 2017. For those worried about declining property values, you should know that MPAC's assessment is for January 1, 2016 and is based partly on the limited number of property sales that occurred in

the last four years most of which were at the lower end of the price spectrum. As a result, it may be that the real value of your

cottage may not have fallen as much as it appears.

Look forward to seeing you at the Regatta and Corn Roast

Loon Call Lake Cottagers' Association			
2015-2017 Executive			
Position	Name	Phone	E-Mail
President	Malcolm Martini	Cottage: 705-656-1413; Home: 416-484-9957	mlmartini@icloud.com
Vice President	Carolyn Smith - Green	416-267-0358	donandcarolyn@sympatico.ca
Treasurer	David Pressley	Cottage: 705-656-1257; Home: 905-707-9235	david.pressley@sympatico.ca
Secretary	Syd Bowcott	Cottage: 705-656-4556, Home: 847-531-8381;	sydndee@yahoo.com
Lake Steward	Jim Hartog	Cottage: 705-656-7367; Home: 905-430-3584	jim@hartog.ca
Member at Large	Janice Manias	Cottage: 416-882-7830 Home: 416 621-3102	janicemania@hotmail.com
2015-2017 Area Directors			
Lots	Name	Cottage	E-mail
Lots 1 to 7, plus XO's 1 to 4 - all FR 55 and 56	Bill McRae	656-1223	mcraemin@sympatico.ca
Lots 8 to 18 - all on FR 55	Helen Yielding	656-4978	hdyield@gmail.com
19-29 - all on FR 55	Lenore Pressley	656-8768	david.pressley@sympatico.ca
30-39 - all FR 58F	Mary Martini	656-1413	memartini@sympatico.ca
40-52 - all on FR 58F	Sue & Ross Murray	656-2042	rwmurray74@yahoo.ca
53-64 - FR's 58G & 58D	Leslie Guyatt	656-3446	m.l.guyatt@hotmail.ca
Island, and lots 65 to 68 - island and FR 57	Heather Thornton	656-7307	parsons@nexicom.net
69-77 all on FR 57A	Reiner Stimming	656-8435	stimming6461@rogers.com