

SPRING 2018 NEWSLETTER

Warm Greetings to all! We anticipate a great summer at Clear Lake for returning cottagers and newcomers! A hearty welcome. Thanks to all cottagers for supporting CLPOA with your membership fees and by volunteering for the fun, family Regatta.

CLPOA AGM

Saturday, June 30, 10am, at Torrance Community Centre

Refreshments will be served and we hope every cottage will be represented. Come early, carpool with neighbours or walk over. It is a good chance to visit fellow cottagers. *Note: Zion Presbyterian Church, strong member of the Torrance and Clear Lake community for decades, has a fundraiser Bake Sale that day so bring a few dollars for treats to take home to the cottage.*

I want to thank my Clear Lake Board Members for their hard work, time and commitment to attain our common enjoyment and for 'standing on guard' for Clear Lake. Board activity continues throughout Fall, Winter and Spring. Thanks to my fellow board members Ian McClennan, Ron Algate, Charlie Wilkins, Marg Kenwright, Erin Beckett and Mike Silver and a special thanks to Sharon Cleverdon for managing and protecting our Membership List.

This is a director election year. Please indicate on the enclosed *2018 Election Year and Proxy Form* if you wish to nominate someone, with their permission.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL & PAYMENT OF FEES

Our Annual \$30 Membership Fee is critical for the Association to function. It helps pay for

- Clear Lake water testing
- Marking the shoals with buoys (Please, do not tie up to the buoys)
- Insurance
- And offsets cost of Member Events

Early payment of fees is appreciated. Three ways to pay:

1. By Cheque to: CLPOA c/o Sharon Cleverdon, 1077 Clear Lake Road, Torrance, ON, P0C 1M0
2. By Online Transfer: Customers of TD Canada Trust may pay by online transfer (the Membership Renewal Form, sent separately, describes how).

3. Or, Bring Cash or Cheque to the AGM on June 30th. Each property may have up to four (4) paid memberships, age 18 and over, so consider getting the next generation involved! Only 2018 paid-up members of CLPOA may vote at the AGM, particularly this year as we have director elections.

AN UPDATED MEMBER CONTACT LIST will be available at the AGM and at other events this year. Please submit any contact information changes as soon as possible so they can be included.

In an effort to be more environmentally friendly and to save postage, we emailed this newsletter to all members who supplied their email addresses. If you received this newsletter by post, but now have an email address, please let us know.

2018 REGATTA

Saturday, August 4 at the Carruthers/Chernecki/Mills/Cartwright Dock in Little Bay

We need volunteers to make the Regatta a big success. To help, even in a small way, please sign the Volunteer Form (sent with your Membership Renewal Form) or let us know at the AGM.

NOTE: Very minimal parking (see addresses on Membership list) so please “boat-pool” with your watercrafts—there’s lots of room on the water.

- **Decorate your boat** and be part of the Boat Parade – maybe even win the coveted ‘Broken Paddle’ Award!
- **11:00 am** – Parade starts at the entrance to the Big Bay, travels around the bay and continues around the rest of the lake to cheers of those watching from their docks.
- **1:00 pm** – Water Activities start at Little Bay. All ages are invited to join in! Bubble-blowing for the very little ones, swimming for all, paddle boat races, and the ever-popular Tug of War.
- **Delicious, FREE lunch** of hot dogs and pop – all you can eat!

MARK SATURDAY, AUGUST 4th ON YOUR CALENDAR!

CLEAR LAKE PUBLIC BOAT LAUNCH

The concrete ramp is to be used only between 9am and 1pm. Before launching, please clean your boat, dump bilge water before arriving, and note location of boulders on shore. Because of the gravel shoulders on the ramp, it is not possible to install a floating dock. We recommend that you have two people to launch your boat. If you are not experienced in launching a boat without a dock, we recommend you have a professional do this for you.

Signs Regarding Boat Launch: “Hours of Use” (9am to 1pm) and “No Parking” signs are installed at the ramp. “No Parking” signs are in place as far as 200 metres on either side of the boat launch.

MUSKOKA'S DARK NIGHT SKY—Michael Silver to present at AGM. His summary follows:

Our August 8, 2017 presentation to Gravenhurst Council met great resistance to enforce their own Dark Sky By-Law. We were supported by the presence of Don Furniss, Mayor, Township of Muskoka Lakes; MLA; Muskoka Ratepayers Assoc.; CLPOA; YMCA Pine Crest; Muskoka Lakes Chamber of Commerce; MNR; Muskoka Conservancy. One Council member dismissed the whole presentation saying, "***We don't have to pay any attention to these people. They aren't even taxpayers.***"

When I strongly objected to the statement, Gravenhurst Deputy Mayor yelled at us to leave.

Gravenhurst Council seems to see no value in the precious Dark Sky for Tourists and Residents. Their obligation seems to be a nuisance to them. That view must change or else the dark sky will be lost. It is already teetering.

If we care about the health of the ecosystem, we must lobby the Gravenhurst candidates before November's election.

MAKE YOUR VIEWS KNOWN—ESPECIALLY TO PAUL KELLY, RUNNING FOR OFFICE OF GRAVENHURST MAYOR

WATER QUALITY RESULTS FROM 2017 TESTING

Please see the results posted on our CLPOA Website, www.clearlakemuskoka.ca. Thank you, Bob and Sharon Cleverdon, for your time and effort collecting the lake water samples several times every season and submitting them to the Muskoka Lakes Association (MLA) Water Quality Initiative on our behalf. The cost for testing is approximately \$1,000 this year. With a \$30 discount for each CLPOA member who is also a member of MLA, it would benefit CLPOA if more of our members joined MLA. Check out their website (www.mla.on.ca) to see benefits of membership.

LOON NEST

The loons are back! Let us know if you know where they are nesting. We must all keep well away so that the loons can be as protected as possible. When you see them on the lake, please slow right down and give them a very wide berth.

In closing, I extend my sincere wishes for a safe and happy summer. I look forward to seeing you at the AGM on Saturday, June 30th at 10am, at the Torrance Community Centre.

Best regards,

Dennis Cartwright

Dennis Cartwright,

President, CLPOA, on behalf of the Board of Directors of Clear Lake Property Owners' Association

Note: 2018 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL and REGATTA VOLUNTEER FORM sent separately.