

2018/19-2019/20 CLPOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RON ALGATE, Treasurer; ERIN BECKETT, Vice President; MARG KENWRIGHT, President
IAN McCLENNAN, Secretary; MICHAEL SILVER, Director; CHARLES WILKINS, Director

Cottagers BOB CLEVERDON, SHARON CLEVERDON and PAUL TRAYES volunteer their time
for the management of Water Quality Testing, Membership Records and Water Marker Buoys

SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER

Clear Lake Friends,

Welcome to another great summer. Please visit CLPOA website "www.clearlakemuskoka.ca" to find information about the lake and our Association, and also the opportunity to submit photos and suggestions. We have a Twitter account "[@ClearLake_CLPOA](https://twitter.com/ClearLake_CLPOA)" and a Facebook page "[Clear Lake Cottage Owners Association – CLPOA](https://www.facebook.com/ClearLakeCottageOwnersAssociation-CLPOA)". Thanks to Ian McClennan and Erin Beckett for these works in progress where we can share stories and news about our favourite lake.

CLPOA AGM – Saturday, June 29 at 10am – Torrance Community Centre

Everyone is welcome a half-hour beforehand, for refreshments and to chat with friends and Guests.

ON THE AGENDA:

- 2018 Water Quality Test results; 2018 CLPOA Income Statement; Membership status
- Invited guests: Township of Muskoka Lakes (TML) Councilor Glenn Zavitz, TML&District Councilor Ruth Nishikawa. (At this writing, TML Mayor Phil Harding hopes to attend)
- Invited guest Karen Dalton of Safe & Quiet Lakes
- Mike Silver (CLPOA Dir, represents Guardians of Muskoka's Dark Sky)
- Coel Balmer (represents YMCA Camp Pine Crest) update
- Information about Boat Launch, Wildlife sightings, Fish Habitat, Catch and Release
- 2019 Regatta plans and volunteering (Organizer Lisa Pennycook)

REMINDER: Bring a few dollars to support the Annual BBQ and Bake Sale at **Zion Presbyterian Church** (next door). Drop by the church after our AGM for lunch and goodies.

SPRING SOCIAL – An Early Get-Together

Around 50 adults and kids enjoyed meeting for the first time or becoming reacquainted. When planning, we chose not to rent a hall or prepare food in case only a few could come on a busy cottage-
cont'd..

Spring Social, cont'd

opening weekend. Instead, we invited cottagers to drop in at Clear Lake Brewing Co. between 1pm and 4pm. We appreciated the delicious appetizers that were supplied to the Clear Lake group free of charge. In turn, CLPOA paid a gratuity to the servers – and most people purchased refreshments as well. Considering the positive response, this Spring Social, or something like it, will continue.

2019 CLPOA MEMBERSHIP

Thank you for supporting Clear Lake Property Owners' Association. Here is a list of how your \$30.00 Annual Membership fee is spent:

- Clear Lake Water Quality Testing (*NOTE: Muskoka Lakes Association (MLA) will deduct \$30 from our invoice for every CLPOA Member who is also an MLA Member*)
- Maintenance of Marker Buoys (*Please, do not tie up to them*)
- Regatta expenses (food, equipment, rentals, prizes)
- Communications, AGM, Membership Records and Contact List
- Association and Director liability insurance
- Legal advice (with Members' approval to seek)
- Donations to advocacy groups/institutions deemed to be beneficial to property owners
 - Muskoka Lakes Association
 - Safe and Quiet Lakes
 - Guardians of Muskoka's Dark Sky
 - Torrance Community Centre
 - Others, from time to time, if approved by Membership

ONE \$30 MEMBERSHIP = ONE VOTE. Each civic address is entitled to a maximum of four (4) Memberships. It is not unusual for more than one family to share a cottage address and any family member, aged 18 or older with a paid Membership, may vote on elections and other issues.

Pick up 2019 CLPOA Member Contact List at AGM June 29. *IF YOUR INFORMATION HAS CHANGED,* email membership@clearlakemuskoka.ca no later than June 20 for changes to be included this year.

CLEAR LAKE BOAT LAUNCH

Most of us are now familiar with the new ramp, but here are some reminders:

- Hours of Use: Between 9am and 1pm
- Before launch, please clean your boat (and dump bilge water before arrival)
- Be aware of location of boulders on shore
- We recommend two people launch or take out a boat because the site is awkward for one. If you don't have experience launching a boat without a dock, we suggest you employ a professional.

NOTE SIGNS AT RAMP "Hours of Use" and "No Parking". Also, no parking is allowed on the road for 200 metres on either side of the boat launch.

Update - MUSKOKA'S DARK SKY and Torrance Barrens—Michael Silver

We are gratified that the attitude towards the Barrens and dark sky preservation on the part of Gravenhurst has improved over the last year. Depositions regarding the Barrens have been made to Gravenhurst's Environmental Committee and to Muskoka Lakes Township Council.

The MOE has taken over provincial jurisdiction and we hope to have meaningful input into their decision making eg/respecting camping and fire making and signing and enforcement. To say that there is confusion regarding camping and an enforcement vacuum is an understatement

We are still waiting for a garbage bin, still waiting for the grant money applied for, still waiting for urgently needed boardwalk repair, still waiting for the imposition of a fire ban and a coherent policy on camping. Nothing has been done yet.

The Guardians of the Torrance Barrens and Muskoka's Dark Sky was awarded the Muskoka Conservancy's top conservation award on June 8th. We are starting to have some impact. I arrived late to the meeting presenting the award to underscore the "hanging by a thread" nature of Barrens protection. The dark sky and the eco-health of the Barrens are hanging by a thread. What we do now regarding commercial lighting in Gravenhurst and getting the irresponsible use of the Barrens under control will determine whether a dark sky In Muskoka and a world class unique wilderness in the heart of Muskoka continue to exist for future generations.

CATCH-AND-RELEASE

There have been reports in recent years of people on Clear Lake catching and keeping large bass, sometimes four or five of them on a single fishing outing, presumably to eat. Over the past few years, pike and cormorants have seriously depleted the numbers of small bass in the lake. So there is a very limited immature population to replace the large breeding fish that are sometimes visible in the shallows, especially during breeding season. We see the big ones, and presume the overall population is healthy. But it is not. So for now and into the future, we're strongly encouraging cottagers and their guests to use a catch-and-release approach to fishing for bass. There may be some possibility of stocking fish in the lake during seasons to come — perhaps trout. But at this point, please help restore the bass population by carefully returning your catch to the lake.

LOON NEST

There have been several loon sightings, but if you have seen their nest, please let us know where it is. We must all keep well away from it to protect the loons from distress or injury. When you see them on the lake, please slow right down and give them a very wide berth.

2019 REGATTA – Saturday, August 3, 1pm at the SILVER FAMILY DOCK, 1139 Ridge Road

Viewing area is limited on shore, so it's recommended that you come by water. Bring an anchor.

BOAT PARADE: Starts at 11am, NW of the island. Decorate your boats for some good-natured competition. Parade around Big Bay, then the entire lake. Among several prizes, the top one is the coveted 'Broken Paddle' Award! REGATTA continues at 1:00 pm at the Silver Family dock. As always, there will be water activities for all ages – from bubble-blowing for the very little ones to swimming races for all, paddle boat races, and the ever-popular Tug of War.

Clear Lake cottagers always make Regatta fun. Tell Lisa Pennycook (Organizer) how you would like to help her. **WAYS TO HELP:** FOOD Pickup/Preparation/Serving; REGATTA/RACE Announcer; RIBBONS Assistants; SITE SETUP/take down; IN-WATER Race Assistants; BOAT PARADE judging; TOWN CRIER (announcing from boat before event); CANVASS stores/businesses for prize donations.

Email your preference to membership@clearlakemuskoka.ca or tell Lisa at the AGM. *Thank you! With your help, everyone will enjoy another great Regatta.*

Delicious, FREE lunch of all-you-can-eat hot dogs and pop.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2019 CLPOA AGM at the Torrance Community Centre on Saturday, June 29. The meeting will begin at 10am.

On behalf of CLPOA Board of Directors, best regards,

Marg Kenwright

ATTACHMENTS:

1. DRAFT MINUTES OF 2018 AGM
2. 2018 INCOME STATEMENT
3. 2019 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL (PAYMENT OPTIONS) & REGATTA VOLUNTEER FORM

NOTE – DID YOU RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER BY POST? If so, please provide us with your Email address. It saves postage cost and also, sending by Email is a way for us to confirm that Members receive what we send. Email addresses are protected. They are not used for solicitation and they are not printed in Member Contact List. Thank you.