



NEWSLETTER

SLAPOA Newsletter - April 2017

Photo Credit: Al Byrnell

Board of Directors (2016-2017)

	<u>Position</u>	<u>Term End</u>
Peter Rhamey	Chair	AGM 2017
Geoff Hall	Vice-Chair	AGM 2019
Dennis Hons	Treasurer	AGM 2018
Cathy Hare	Secretary	AGM 2018
Neil Wilcox	Environment	AGM 2019
Jim Skelton	Past Chair	

Anne Chetwynd	Communications SLAPOA.info@gmail.com
Wilson Boynton	Boating & Safety Family Regatta

Dates of Upcoming Events

Family Regatta	Saturday July 29, 2017
Sailboat Race	Saturday August 6, 2017
AGM	Saturday August 19, 2017

Turkey Shoot This event was cancelled in 2016 due to a lack of volunteers willing to lead in its organization. The Board will soon make a determination regarding the viability of re-instating the event after considering a number of other related issues. Stay tuned.

Greetings from Your SLAPOA Chair

The spring weather is upon us and with it thoughts turn to another summer at the lake. Over the last year a group of enthusiastic volunteers once again hosted the highly popular lake regatta. This event remains the highlight of the summer offering everyone an opportunity to relax and socialize while participating in events ranging from traditional canoe and swim races for all ages to the less conventional egg and shoe toss.

This year saw the cancellation of the Turkey Shoot for the first time in recent memory due to the lack of volunteers willing to commit their time to lead in the organization of this event. While unfortunate, a number of community members have since indicated that they would be willing to take on a leadership role in organizing the Turkey Shoot in the future. While we are hopeful that we can see the return of the Turkey Shoot, there are a number of issues that need to be

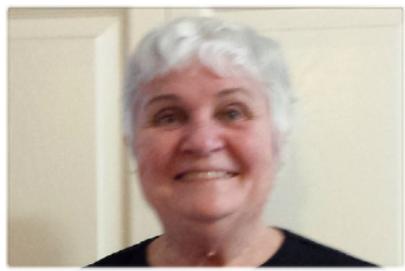
Faces of your Board



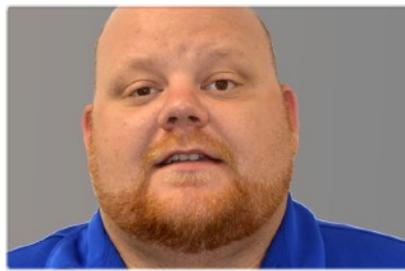
Geoff Hall - Vice Chair



Dennis Hons - Treasurer



Cathy Hare - Secretary



Neil Wilcox - Environment

addressed before we can commit to having it return and set a date. We will have more news on this at the AGM.

On more mundane matters, your Executive has been dealing with a number of development issues in the region that could have an impact on the quality of life for seasonal and full time residents in the area. Whether it be dealing with densification of existing tourist establishments, the development of new ones, or proposed boat house construction, we have provided constructive input to the application process in a number of cases. It has been busy as this is in addition to the association having ongoing input to the Town of Kearney's Planning and By-law development, its budget and monitoring the unfortunate situation at the Graphite Mine.

Lastly, the Buckley's Beach Property Committee has written a fulsome report reviewing the possible options for this property. The executive will be reviewing the report this spring and hope to bring a recommendation to SLAPOA members at the AGM in August.

I would like to sincerely thank the volunteers who make the fun events happen at Sand Lake and my fellow board members who commit considerable time and effort looking out for the best interests of the SLAPOA membership.



Sincerely,

Peter Rhamey
Chair, SLAPOA

SLAPOA Mission

To safeguard the interests, enhance the welfare and protect the environment of the Sand Lake Area community.

Graphite Mine

Last year we learned that there had been a spill at the Graphite Mine. The mine is currently closed. Neil Wilcox, notes that there has been no formal information posted by the MOECC (Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change) or any other involved parties. He will continue to monitor the situation but at this time there is no new data to report on. Neil plans to meet with the town this summer to discuss the data they have been receiving and will report back when he has more information.

Hazard Buoy - Rock Point

In 2016, Wilson Boynton installed a highly visible Hazard Buoy off of "Rock Point" to warn boaters of the rocks that are very close to the surface but which are a significant distance from shore. The buoy remained in the Lake throughout the winter and Wilson will be checking on it to ensure that it is secure and repositioning it this Spring to better mark the location of concern.

SLAPOA Membership 2017 Fees are Due

Have you remembered to renew your membership? If you have not yet done so, we ask that you send in your membership dues at your earliest convenience. Annual fees are \$40 per individual. **This is discounted to \$35 if you submit them by April 30, 2017.**

You now have two options: Pay by Cheque OR Pay by INTERAC e-Transfer.

Please complete the application as per the instructions on the form attached to this newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support.

2016 Family Regatta Results



Kearney to Sand Lake Canoe Race
 Sack Race
 Dinsmore Parent & Child Canoe Race
 Jerry Pot Race
 Six Person Canoe Race

Dean Coulson & Monika Stoeger
 Megan Johnstone
 John & Heather Kelly
 Rob & Jay Prichard
 Jubile & Maelle & Jeff Warriner; Jonathan
 Matson; Jarrod Smith; Adam Kesek
 Kristin Oswald
 Alison & Jennifer Smith
 Aron & Ben Laco
 Andrew Berger
 Taylor Koson & Riley Blake
 Amy Johnstone
 Abby Herason

Mile Swim
 Balloon Toss
 Lott's Three-Legged Race
 Shoe Kick
 Egg Toss
 Overall Trophy
 Sportsmanship Trophy



Thank You to All Our Volunteers

Your Association cannot operate without its volunteers and we've had many throughout the years, all of which deserve a heap of thanks for all they've done. At this time we would like to take the opportunity to thank a few in particular who have contributed tirelessly through many years ensuring that our annual Regattas take place like clockwork.

Jen Beland (Smith) ran the Family Regatta for 12 years or more and finally decided last year to step down in order to spend and enjoy more time with her young family. Also... Sue and John Nelson have organized the Sailing Regatta for many years and continue to do so. Many thanks to all of you and your families for making these events so enjoyable!!

2016 Sailing Regatta



For the first time in 3 years, we had nice weather, a bit light in the middle of the race, but we got 2 rounds in.

- 1st overall John Nelson in a laser
- 2nd Sharon McKenzie and Jesse Audette in the Wayfarer, Women's Trophy
- 3rd Alex Moore and Sam Moore in a Laser, Laser trophy
- 4th Dave and Heather Blandford in the Hobie, Hobie trophy
- 5th Chris and Pam Elton in a Hobie, the Knot a Beck trophy
- 6th Tom Nelson and Jordin Clark in a Laser II
- 7th Diana Perry in an Optimist, the under 18 trophy
- 8th Bruce and Bjorn Eidsvik in a Hobie, under 13 trophy and the Dull Thud



Opening & Cleaning the Cottage

With the Victoria Day weekend fast approaching, we thought a few reminders of the tasks this weekend usually entails might help you get through them.

Having a checklist that you can refer to annually helps accomplish all the opening jobs so that we can enjoy our lovely cottages throughout the summer and fall.

First off, a check of the exterior for damage to the power and phone lines, the chimney, deck, windows and underside of the cottage would be a good place to start. Once inside, check for signs of mice or other animals and any water damage.

Some of the most immediate chores on which to focus are:

- replace batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors;
- check that fire extinguishers are charged
- stock up on batteries for flashlights
- clean the eavestroughs
- remove large branches that are close to the cottage

To ensure the safe operation of fireplaces and wood stoves, check the flues and chimneys for leaks, nests or other obstructions and stock up on dry firewood.

This is also a good time of year to check your wood deck, stairs and siding for signs of mold, moss and discoloration. A power washer and a biodegradable cleaner can be used to address these issues.

It is still debatable as to whether the deer mice in our area carry the Hantavirus but it is probably better to err on the side of caution when dealing with the aftermath of mice inhabitation.

The following list provides steps to deal with mice droppings, urine and nests.

- wear latex or rubber gloves and sensible work clothes with long sleeves
- mix a solution of 1 cup bleach to 10 cups water
- thoroughly spray or soak any dead mice, traps, droppings or nesting areas with disinfectant solution
- do NOT vacuum, sweep or dust. This may spread the virus through the air. Use rags, sponges and mops

that have been soaked in disinfectant solution.

- wipe down counter tops, cabinets and drawers. Mop floors and baseboards.
- wash clothes and bedding in hot water and detergent. Set dryer on high.
- to dispose of contaminated items, including dead mice etc., double bag in plastic bags and take to the dump. Make sure to wash your hands or shower with soap when you are finished.
- air out any buildings that have been closed up for the winter season for an hour or so by opening all the windows and doors.
- dust masks provide some protection from contaminants in the air
- for heavy contamination of an enclosed area such as a garage, shed or crawl space, consult a professional remediation company.

With all these tasks done, you can now begin to enjoy the beauty, serenity and fun of being a cottager in the beautiful area of Sand and Himbury/Rock Lakes... and Kearney at large.

Lyme Disease



(Images are not to scale)

Lyme Disease is becoming of increasing concern with each year and Spring is known as a time when ticks become extremely active. In recent years, a number of our members have had personal experience with tick bites with followup treatment for the borrelia bacteria infection which causes Lyme Disease. The Black-Legged Tick, and some others, can carry the bacteria. With climate change the areas for exposure are widening and the area of Sand Lake is not immune.

Please take some time to do your own research about Lyme disease and measures you can take to avoid the disease. In the meantime here are some things you can do to help protect yourselves.

- Avoid tick-infested areas, such as leaf piles around trees. Walk in the middle of trails and avoid brushing against long grasses. Don't sit on logs, wooden stumps, stonewalls or the ground.
- Wear light-coloured long pants and long sleeves with a tight weave, to make it easier to see the ticks.
- Your pet can become a host for ticks and may also become infected with Lyme disease, although it is more likely they will test positive but won't experience symptoms.
- Keep long hair tied back, especially when you are gardening. Remove leaves from your lawn each fall, as ticks will seek shelter from cold weather and snow under piles of leaves.
- Ticks are very tiny. You want to find and remove them before they bite, so do a thorough tick check upon returning inside and take a shower.
- Continue to check your body and bedding for several days after being in an area likely to have ticks.
- Tuck your pants into socks and wear closed shoes and a hat, especially if venturing out into wooded areas. Also tuck your shirt into your pants.
- Once you return home, place your clothing in the dryer (before washing) on high heat for 60 minutes to kill any ticks on your clothes.
- If you choose to use chemical repellents, spray the outside of your clothes while outside and avoid inhaling the fumes.
- If you find that a tick has latched onto you, it's very important to remove it properly. For detailed instructions, please see <https://canlyme.com/lyme-basics/tick-removal/>
- Once removed, make sure you save the tick so that it can be tested for presence of pathogenic organisms

New Dock Permit Rules

(Excerpted from FOCA Elert - April 2017)

After more than a year, the MNRF have recently proposed new regulations under the Public Lands Act to enable certain occupations of public land without the need for permits, leases etc. This will essentially be "back to the future," allowing certain activities like docks, through a "free use" approach. Read FOCA's background on this issue, and provide your comments on the proposed regulations by May 18, 2017: <https://foca.on.ca/municipal-authority-over-boathouses-decision/>



Call for Board Nominees

We are looking for nominees to the board as at least one position is coming open this year. If anyone is interested in letting their name stand for election, or if you have a name to suggest, please contact Anne Chetwynd at SLAPOA.info@gmail.com

Passages 2016

Lillian Skelton - July 9, 2016

Lil was a long time member of the Sand Lake Association and passed away peacefully in her 100th year. She will be remembered well for her devotion to family and friends, her loving and kind ways, and her welcoming and kind manner. She lived a courageous and fulfilling life, enjoying her many friends, and relishing in family and many (95) summers at Sand Lake where she was a vibrant and inspiring member of the community. Lil is dearly missed by all her family and friends.

NOTE: Lil's "Memories of Life at Sand Lake in the 1920's" is an interesting read and we may try to feature it in an upcoming newsletter.

