



Sturgeon Bay Pointe au Baril Ratepayers Association

Newsletter

www.oursturgeonbay.com

P.O.Box 183, Pointe au Baril, Ontario P0G 1K0
Spring 2007

Volume 6,

Report from the President

By: Steve Sadler
sssadler@rogers.com

As yet another cold snap strikes the GTA, I sit at my desk and yearn to be up north again, but time and work has been against me this season. So I sit and contemplate the upcoming season from a distance.

It appears that the Township has moved ahead with the ongoing draft for the new Comprehensive Zoning By-Law. I am hoping that all residents will have a good look at this draft and ensure that any complaints or disagreements with it are forwarded to the Township at the earliest convenience. It is only with this type of input that the necessary changes will be made. I am further pressing our members to attend the scheduled open houses and public meeting dates with regard to the new by-law (look for dates both in March and April). Only this type of active involvement from our residents will ensure that the final draft is one that the residents are in solid agreement with.

I have participated in meetings with the Water Quality Action Committee and some progress has been made, though slow appears to be the best description of the current pace. Tender requests have gone out to companies interested in forming

remediation proposals for study. The ultimate intent for these proposals will be to find companies with the knowledge and ability to implement the methods necessary to fix our water problems. The original remediation proposals had to be re-configured and are now again in the hands of the two competing companies. Final clarification of objectives is set to be completed by the summer of 2007, with a preliminary assessment of remediation proposals to be completed by the end of the summer. At the current pace, I would assume that no firm commitments should be expected before mid spring of 2008.

For the Association, plans are in place for the Annual General Meeting (July 29, 2007) and the second annual non-motorized "POKER RUN" is set for August 18. I am hoping that this event, which was attended by some 30 members last season, will be even better attended this year. Attendees will again be competing for the environmentally friendly custom made trophies from last year, currently being showcased with last years winners (at the BROWN cottage). I hope all members who wish to attend make themselves available for the date this year.

.....continued on page 2

Sturgeon Bay Pointe au Baril Ratepayers Association
Board of Directors

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| PRESIDENT | Steve Sadler | 905 623-5922 | or 705 366-2168 |
| VICE PRESIDENT | Dave Brown | 416 444-0406 | or 705 366-2232 |
| TREASURER/ SECRETARY | Helen Tedford | 705 366-2898 | |
| DIRECTORS AT LARGE | Cathy Kidston | 519 843-3704 | or 705 366-2183 |
| | R. Keith Gardner .. | 705 366-2489 | |

President' s remarks continued.....

The bass nest building project supported last year by the Association will again be available this year. The required supplies should still be available at Bill Tedford's, and if more residents become involved the fish stocks for bass will be further enhanced over the coming seasons. The report from the Ministry indicated that Sturgeon Bay was third in the area for quantity and variety for fish, good news for all residents and visitors.

The Association directors have investigated our participation in the TD Canada Trust Shore Cleanup day. This will be our Associations "Environmental Day", where we can gather together and spend the day beautifying the Sturgeon Bay area. The Association executive will be talking in the next few weeks and select a date for this event. This will show our support for continued environmental protection.

We will continue to re-develop our focus towards the various proposals contained in the Sturgeon Bay Plan, identifying the most urgent needs and working towards their completion. As an executive board, we hope to select at least one aspect of the Bay Plan and begin to work towards its completion. As an environmental

aside, the Association has been invited to the Cottage Life Show Green Cottager Awards on March 31. We previously placed our Association in the running for this award, so I am hopeful that this invite means that the Association had been placed into the finals for these prestigious awards. The final result of this should be announced before you read this newsletter.

The membership numbers remain steady (at approximately 80 members) and I am hoping that the local residents, both seasonal and permanent, will continue to show their support by renewing their annual membership. I am hoping that word of mouth will increase the membership even more this season. The Association has a voice with the Township and is being included in the governmental process. It is clear that our opinions matter, and therefore so do the opinions of our members. We shall continue to be your voice with the Township over the next year and are confident that both Terry Desmasdon and John Cochrane will continue to bring our message to our elected body.

Until the ice clears and the weather more moderate, I will sit and wait for the commencement of yet another great season on the Bay.

Please renew your membership now. See the back page. Many thanks.

Sturgeon Bay Pointe au Baril Ratepayers Association

Mission Statement

The Sturgeon Bay Pointe au Baril Ratepayers Association is a non-profit group of area citizens committed to the protection of the natural ecological health and beauty of Sturgeon Bay. Recognizing the natural uniqueness of our area we, working together, are dedicated to ensure the ongoing quality of life for every thing and for everyone makes this treasure a natural heritage.

Fall Foca Meeting

By Dave Brown

For your information here are some notes from the fall FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers) meeting. It was primarily financial .

Most interesting was a seminar given by WRAFT (Waterfront Ratepayers After Fair Taxation). They claim that Ontario has the highest property taxes in the world and that Ontario property taxes are 40% higher on average than the rest of the provinces. This is because the Ontario property tax funds a large number of services which other jurisdictions fund via the personal income tax route. As you are undoubtedly aware many cottage owners are taxed for two educational systems but by law can only use one. WRAFT believes that the CVA (current value assessment system) used now is volatile, cumbersome, expensive and unfair. Many organizations are lobbying for tax changes and WRAFT will be joining CAPTR the master umbrella tax lobby. WRAFT will still maintain its independent status. WRAFT are confident that changing the current tax laws will be a major election issue and have support from the ombudsman who criticised the present system as unfair. The proposed new taxation system would cap the yearly tax increase at 5% and buildings would be reassessed by CVA when sold.

Electronic Newsletters

Many of our members now receive a newsletter notification by email when the newsletter is posted on the web. This results in substantial savings to the association. If you would like to receive your newsletter this way please email me at kidston@sentex.net with your name and email address. Thanks.

Cathy Kidston, editor

You are invited to the
GBA's 90th AGM

in Toronto, Wed. April 11
A free event - free parking available

Guest speaker, Peter Annin
author of
The Great Lakes Water Wars

More info on GBA website
www.georgianbay.ca

What's Happening in Pointe au Baril

By R. Keith Gardner

Please mark your Calendar

March 31 - Cottage Life
Green Cottager Awards.
Presentations – 1pm

April 11 – GBA 90th AGM
More info on page 3

mid July - Association
“Environmental Day”
More info in next
newsletter.

July 29 – Our 7th AGM
Pointe au Baril
Community Center
Registration 9:30 am

August 18
Association Poker Run
Non-motorized
More info in next
newsletter

* See Keith's column for
other events this summer
in Pointe au Baril

Hi, everyone, just a quick note on what's happening in Pointe Au Baril from now though the upcoming summer months. For more details check my column out in the Parry Sound North Star.

It all starts this spring with the Ladies Church Group's annual Daffodil Tea. An afternoon of draw tables, bake tables and tea on Sunday, **April first** at the community center.

The North East Georgian Bay Snowmobile Club will be hosting this year's Duckie Race at the docks in Pointe Au Baril. They'll have a BBQ, lots of draws, and of course the Race itself. That's on Saturday, **April 7th** starting at twelve noon.

The Pointe Au Baril Arts and Culture Club will be running their Dinner Theatre again this year. Arts on the Bay will bring back another line up of Canadian entertainment, art & poetry to the community center. Shows are scheduled for **July 5, July 19** and **August 9**.

C.C. Kennedy Co. Ltd. will be having a giant yard sale on Saturday, **July 21st** beginning at 9:00 am. Something for everyone. The Kennedys will be celebrating their 100th anniversary on Saturday, **August 11**. There will be vendors, dignitaries, music, authors and free popcorn, balloons, cake, coffee and lots of free draws and giveaways. The Chamber of Commerce will be having a BBQ and donations will be used to install a wheelchair accessible washroom at the information center.

The Chamber will be hosting Canada Day again this year. Parades, fish fry, tons of things to do all at the community center on

Sunday, **July 1st**. The Chamber also supplies high speed internet for your computer needs at the Information Center on the highway.

The Pointe Au Baril Lion's Club will have their annual Summerfest again on the **third weekend in July**. Always a good time at this one. Also a good time will be our own Regatta, (no motors), slated for **August 18th** at the Tedford's. I hope to see you at some of these events. 'Til then have a great summer.

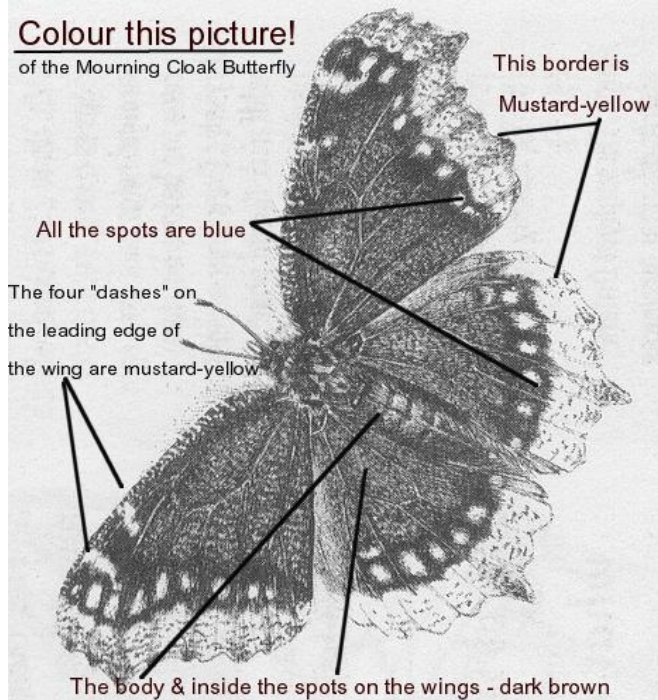
Want More Information ?

Some of our members have agreed to help if needed. Contacts are listed below.

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| MEMBERSHIPS: | Helen Tedford..... | rattlebear@vianet.ca |
| SOLAR BEE: | Steve Sadler..... | sssadler@rogers.com |
| WATER QUALITY: | Bill Tedford..... | rattlebear@vianet.ca |
| FOREST HEALTH: | Phil Kidston..... | kidston@sentex.net |
| SHORELINE AND WILDLIFE: | Terry Carr..... | tcarr@vianet.ca |

Colour this picture!

of the Mourning Cloak Butterfly



The First “Flutter-by” of Spring

Nature Notes

Prepared by Terry Carr

Ref.: Up North by Bennet and Tiner

THE MOURNING CLOAK BUTTERFLY

Named for their sombre dark wings, which is compared to a funeral cape, Mourning Cloaks are one of only a small number of butterflies that hibernate through the winter as adults. They are the first of their kind to appear in the spring just as the seasonal residents are starting to arrive back in Sturgeon Bay and the permanent residents are storing their snow machines for another season. On warm, sunny days in late April these hardy insects step out of their winter “dens” in narrow tree bark crevices or log cavities to greet the first warmth by pressing their bodies against sun-warmed surfaces. They spread their dark heat-absorbing wings and bask in the direct sunlight. Should the temperature drop to below freezing and the snows come again to our area they will seek their winter shelter and return to a hibernating state until they finally emerge by the middle of May with the prime purpose of mating and laying their eggs. They will seek moisture and nutrition by sipping catkin nectar from the aspens and birch and lap up sap from the holes created by the Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers.

Their ability to raise their body temperature up to 25 C (77 F) above the air around them and tendency to travel great distances (as much as 60 to 80 K can be accomplished in one journey) has made them the most widespread butterflies in the world. Not only will they be a common sight throughout many of the months from April to late October here in Pointe au Baril /Sturgeon Bay, they can be found throughout Northern Canada, Siberia and most of Europe. When the eggs hatch in late June, just in time to feed on the new leaves of the birches and poplars, the spiny-backed caterpillars work together to build protective webs. After a few weeks they will enter the pupal stage and will emerge as adult butterflies in July. Many species of butterflies live just a matter of days as adults...Mourning Cloaks must fly through the summer and hibernate through the winter before they are ready to breed. This is a total of 9 or 10 months as adults! If summer is too hot or dry they will go into a state of dormancy until conditions improve but will resume activity through September and into October building up fat for their long winter hibernation. Watch for these amazing members of the insect world as they “flutter by” you this coming season. For further information look them up in a field guide or on the web.

Councillors' Report

As has been reported in previous newsletters your Councillors and representatives of the Pointe au Baril Community have had on going discussions with the Ward 3 Councillors and representatives of PABIA in regards to the Garbage Bins on our Main Street.

Your Ward 1 representatives have been adamant that these ugly bins must be removed from our main entrance. However the Ward 3 representatives insist that the water access ratepayers need a water access garbage depot other than the three Marinas that presently accept garbage.

The Township on the direction of the joint Garbage Committee hired a consultant to look for possible alternative sites. However the alternative sites suggested by this consultant were not acceptable to the joint Committee. This consultant also received no input from the Committee.

Your Ward 1 representatives in January sent a letter to the Reeve (chair of the garbage committee) and Council stating that "It is our opinion that we are no further ahead on resolving this issue today than last Spring or for that matter 4 years ago when it first became apparent that there was an issue to be dealt with" In regards to the Consultant's report the letter stated "The Consulting firm should have met with the task force in order to fully understand the scope of this issue— both infrastructure and social impact." The Task force representing both aspects of these issues would have been able to assist Azimuth (the consultant) in fully understanding why we were at the point of requiring their services. If it was solely an issue of infrastructure then meeting with us wouldn't have mattered. It is not. The concerns that have been raised by both areas of our community are primarily related to social impact, convenience, aesthetics and future potential for improvements to the village.

"In our opinion this issue has been dividing two areas of our community. We believed that through the process of the Strategic plan we had begun to bring our community together as one. Now there is anger and animosity where it was not needed"

In addition to this fragmentation now within the village and island neighborhoods we have a credibility issue. Within the Islander's community we have been framed as extremists and within the village community there is utter frustration at no resolution. People shouldn't have to feel as though they shouldn't have an opinion for fear that it may rock the boat. We have been put in a very awkward position that will be difficult to recover from. We do not believe that was Council's intention. We do believe that Council wants the Community as a whole to direct the future.

After receipt of the Ward 1 letter Reeve Peter Ketchum asked the Ward 3 representatives to respond to this letter in writing and he stated that he would respond as Chairman of the Joint Garbage Committee in writing at the February Council meeting.

Ward 3 in their response stated "that they were encouraged by the final report of the Pointe au Baril Strategic Development Plan that recognized the continuance of the Garbage Bin operation at the current site but also recommended a modest expenditure of funds to improve the aesthetics and provide screening".

Reeve Ketchum in his three page report set out 13 salient points that he felt should be referenced for the future. A few of those salient points are as follows 1: The current site should not be eliminated without an alternative site being provided. 2: There are a significant number of ratepayers who use the current location to justify the need for at least water access for the Pointe au Baril community. Any new site to be appropriate, must have water access. 3: Any new site, be it on Crown Land or Private land, will incur significant community back lash. 3: The current site has been described as toxic and environmentally wrong, unsafe due to the presence of bears, and unsightly. In response it should be noted that the current site has the approval of the Ministry of the Environment. Further the occasional bear visit in the evening should not be viewed as unusual in a northern village. However there is no question that the garbage bins are ugly. 4: There must be adequate facilities or space to take care of the total Pointe au Baril community. 5: Current marina garbage services may not be sustainable 6: Economic sustainability of the Pointe au Baril business may be affected by relocation of garbage bins to an alternative site. 7: It is unfair to ask the local community

to be part of the solution when their livelihood depends on servicing the needs of the seasonal ratepayers. Council was elected to look after such issues.

The above is an attempt to summarize in a fair manner the various positions on Garbage in Pointe au Baril in the one page that we were granted. If you have any questions please feel free to discuss the issue with Terry or John.

Terry Desmasdon 366-2513

John Cochrane 366-2536

Sturgeon Bay Pointe-au-Baril Ratepayers Association Membership Form 2007 / 2008

Our membership year runs from July 1st to June 30th. Fees are \$70.00 per property, which includes one voting membership. Annual Associate Membership (non-voting) is available to non property owners – members of your family, friends, relatives, and visitors at \$25.00 per member. Your Association looks forward to your continued support during 2007 / 2008

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Name:</i> | |
| <i>Home Address:</i> | |
| <i>City:</i> | <i>Postal Code:</i> |
| <i>Home Telephone:</i> | <i>Cottage Telephone:</i> |
| <i>E-Mail Address:</i> | <i>Electronic Newsletter Notification YES / NO</i> |
| <i>Cottage Address</i> | |
| <i>City:</i> Pointe au Baril | <i>Postal Code:</i> P0G 1K0 |

Membership Calculation

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="text"/> <i>Full Membership Dues @ \$70.00</i> | |
| <input type="text"/> <i>Associate Membership(s) Dues @ \$25.00 (List Names & Addresses on Bottom of this Form)</i> | |
| <i>Donation</i> | |
| TOTAL | |

Please complete and return with cheque or money order to:

**Sturgeon Bay Pointe-au-Baril Ratepayers Association
P.O. Box 183, Pointe-au-Baril, ON, P0G 1K0**

THE PRIVACY ACT:

The Privacy Act became law January 1, 2004. Our understanding is that we are allowed to compile, keep or share a mailing list as long as it is:

- Gathered with the knowledge and consent of the individuals involved*
- Collected for a reasonable purpose*

- Ø Used only for the reasons for which it was gathered
- Ø Accurate and up to date
- Ø Open for inspection for the individuals involved
- Ø Stored securely

Our interpretation is that we are in compliance. Should any individual wish to have any information removed from our Mailing List / Directory, please direct our Treasurer, Helen Tedford, to do so.

Sturgeon Bay Pointe au Baril Ratepayers Association

Current Members 2006 / 2007

Adamanda Custom Builders
 Brian Adams/Melanie Whetham
 Shane & Gail Ardiel
 Wolfgang Bestig
 Ernest & Gloria Bradford
 Steve & Kathy Bradford
 Dave & Sonja Brown
 Greg & Ellen Brown
 William Burgess
 C. C. Kennedy Company Limited
 Neil & Judy Cameron
 Terry & Audrey Carr
 Robert & Lisa Cleghorn
 John & Barbara Cochrane
 Allan Coughlin
 Jose Cuoto
 Mary Jo Cullen & Torfin Hansen
 John & Patty Czarny
 Terry Desmasdon*
 Desmasdon Boat Works
 Bill Draper*
 Angus Dunphy
 Eleanor Duthie & Paul Adamson
 Lawrence & Judy Earl
 Stephen & Barbara Elliott
 Jonathan & Jackie Evans
 Jerry & Pat Evoy
 Gordon & Diane Froggatt
 Keith Gardner
 Kim Garnet & Suzie Arsenault
 Bob Causton & Judy Gast
 Charles Green
 Walter Guderian
 Harbour View Patio Café
 Ken & Mavis Hodgkin
 John & Barbara Hodgson
 Ian MacLeod & Jane Sheppard
 Margaret Jennings

Fred & Nancy Lefevre
 Karin Levitt
 Reg Lewis*
 Terry & Kathy Lunan
 Tom Lundy & Jan Papineau
 Brian MacDonald
 Rowan Marsh and Andy Skerlec
 Michael & Jane Marshall
 Mirian McAllister & Larry Rodenizer
 Doug Miller
 Dave & Kim Montgomery
 John Mueller
 Jack & Doreen Newall
 Northshore Barge & Marine
 Payne Marine Ltd.
 Robert & Doreen Pinkney
 Pointe au Baril Chamber of Commerce
 Pointe au Baril Station (Shell Station)
 James & Gloria Porteous
 Lloyd & Pat Posno
 Peter Pylypiv
 Vada Robinson
 Rock Pine Resort Cottages–Bert McMahon
 Eric & Debbie Rohrbasser*
 Rolar Construction
 Brian & Hilda Rolph*
 Steve & Sandy Sadler
 Rick Savage
 Ted Simmonds
 Martin & Vera Smits
 Springhaven Services –Dennis Scale
 Jan Stahlman
 Ron & Cheryl Stanek*
 Noel & Colleen Staunton
 Bill & Helen Tedford
 Heather Trakalo
 Jim & Linda Wagler
 Joanne Waugh

Bill & Lauralee Kennedy
Phil & Cathy Kidston
Tom & Gerry Kirton
Bernd Kuhnert

Joe Williams
Larry & Janet Young
Steve Zakreski
* Associate Members