



# Sturgeon Bay Pointe au Baril Ratepayers Association

## Newsletter

[www.oursturgeonbay.com](http://www.oursturgeonbay.com)

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

Volume 7,

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### ***Report from the President***

*By: Steve Sadler*  
[sssadler@rogers.com](mailto:sssadler@rogers.com)

It is sunny and yet cold as I look out my bedroom window and see the beach covered with a hint of snow. In the distance, the muffled reports of rifles indicate that deer season is well underway. The fireplace crackles in the living room as I look outside and see that boats and docks are stored away. All of these sights indicate to me that the final days of 2007 are upon us on Sturgeon Bay and another season draws to a close.

The year has been another good one for all of us in the Association. I always like to look back over the year and remark both upon our accomplishments and ongoing projects.

Our councillors John Cochrane and Terry Desmasdon continue to work tirelessly on our behalf. Their efforts on Council have greatly assisted residents of both Sturgeon Bay and Pointe Au Baril. I want to thank them both for their valued support.

Our Annual General Meeting went well this summer and for the first year in a very long time, we now have a full complement of directors to assist our efforts. All of these new directors, Ian McLeod, Stephen Elliott, Steve Bradford and John Czarny, are highly motivated individuals, and all are deeply concerned with the health and welfare and

the environmental focus of our area. We will continue to meet throughout the winter months and are planning various ideas and strategies for the coming years. Please contact any of our directors with any questions or comments that you may have.

I also want to pause and thank our outgoing directors Dave Brown and Cathy Kidston for their efforts on our behalf. Cathy has kindly agreed to continue to assist in the publishing of our bi-annual newsletters for a year or two. Thank you both for your assistance to me over the years and in your assistance in bettering our community.

Our ongoing quest for action on our water troubles has continued. The Township has initiated the start of a project that might give us the solution we need for our blue green algae troubles. A study, funded by the Township, the GBA foundation and the local residents is ongoing at this time. This study by Gartner Lee (the PowerPoint presentation on this study is available on our website) will report on the efficacy of various remediation solutions, then report back to the Association and the Township on our choices. These choices will then be perused, and eventually an agreed upon solution that we can all support will be determined. An interim report on this study is expected by the end of

November, with the final report to be tabled to Council by early spring. The solution to our common complaint may soon be within our grasp!

We have continued to liaise with other Associations in the area. The Deerhorn Conference, organized by the Township Council, was held late in October and brought all local Associations together for a meeting to discuss our common goals. This event was the best yet that I have attended and allowed the various Associations time to meet and discuss our various initiatives. More importantly, it gave our association the chance to discuss our water problems and not surprisingly, every Association director I talked to indicated that they would have assisted in paying for the water study **had they been asked**. They realize that this is a problem that may yet affect all of us on Georgian Bay. See the report by Ian McLeod in this newsletter for further information on this meeting.

Our working relationship with PABIA continues to grow. I will soon be adding my family's name to their membership list and I fully support any area resident to do the same. The work conducted by our combined associations will assist us greatly in dealing with the Township and in assessing the needs of our area. Our strong ties will help us greatly when major issues requiring massive support are required. Our memberships are an investment in our intertwined futures.

The Association Poker Run was a resounding success yet again. The participation was even larger than last year, and provided a great chance for all of us in the Association to enjoy the opportunity to talk and spend time together. The prizes were handed out in all categories, and it is clear that this community event is something positive for all who attended. Thanks to Bill and Helen Tedford for again hosting this event. For a total list of

the winners for the event, please check our website.

After a long and protracted discussion, it has been decided that this will be the last newsletter to be sent to the entire ward. As a cost saving measure, mailings will now only be sent to members, though the newsletters will still be available on our website. I am hopeful that this may stir more of our residents to join our Association and assist our endeavours in the future. We need all members to approach their neighbours and friends and stress to them the importance of membership.

The GBA membership issue has been studied for some time now. The Association has been an associate member of the Georgian Bay Association for a couple of years, and now it is time for us to step up and show our full support. The GBA is an important and vital organization that is working diligently on water level and water quality issues for all residents of Georgian Bay. It is incumbent upon us as an Association to support their efforts for the Bay, both those of an environmental and political nature. We will show this support when we take the Association into a level of full membership status.

The above information in mind, at the next AGM I will be tabling a motion to raise our membership dues to \$ 120.00. This new fee will include GBA membership and a parking pass at the Town dock. Those of us who are members of PABIA as well will be allowed to pay the membership fee alone and thus save paying identical fees twice.

I look forward to any feedback or comments that you wish to provide me. Please contact me with regard to any questions or comments about the Association. In the interim, please have a safe and happy winter season, and before we know it, it will be time for another full season on the Bay.

**Sturgeon Bay Pointe au Baril Ratepayers Association**  
*Board of Directors*

PRESIDENT	Steve Sadler .....	905 623-5922	or 705 366-2168
VICE PRESIDENT	Ian MacLeod .....	905-642-9819	or 705 366-9347
TREASURER/ SECRETARY	Helen Tedford .....	705 366-2898	
DIRECTORS AT LARGE	Stephen Elliott .....	905 841-3688	or 705 366-5661
	R. Keith Gardner ..	705 746-6293	
	John Czarny.....	705 366-2446	
	Stephen Bradford....	905 846-1010	or 705 366-5662

## Fall 2007 Deer Horn Conference

*By Ian MacLeod*

This year the Deer Horn conference which is hosted by the Township was held over two nights and one day which gave time for formal presentations and workshops but allowed lots of time to network with all the other associations and with the Township councilors to better understand the problems facing different areas and their different points of view.

The Town staff showed off their new mapping tools available on the Town website. If you haven't checked it out yet you should. If you want to know anything about the Archipelago chances are it's there.

We then learned of the sequencing and procedures that occur when you call 911 in the Township. Several of our neighboring associations are trying to set up their own Emergency response teams to complete the last step in the call for help, which is to find the patient and start them en route to hospital. We should be very thankful and supportive of our dedicated volunteers at the Pointe au Baril Emergency Response Team and their excellent work because they have pioneered this initiative in the Township and

have done a fantastic job. They are our life line to help in an emergency.

Staff then took us though the water access and dredging policy. The Township is basically against dredging, but with low water levels, requests are coming in and each case is looked at individually. This helped everyone understand what is minor and what is major in terms of dredging, minor being access to your dock and major being changes to a channel or water way and why some applications were granted and others refused.

Next up was a workshop that turned quite lively on architectural control through the development process. Through Bill 51 the provincial government has given the municipality the ability to control architectural design. This turned into a big debate about freedom of expression and who are we to dictate how your cottage should look and what surfaces you use and what colour it should be, ending in a resounding no! Don't expect this to go away, the power has been given and it will come up again.

*.....continued on page 4*

## ***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.

*Ian's remarks continued.....*

We then had an update on a topic that is ongoing: garbage. The town experimented with the Healey lake waste transfer site, installing fencing and being fully staffed during operating hours. This cut down tremendously on illegal dumping by non-residents, contamination of recycling materials and dumping of hazardous waste and therefore a reduction of the complete waste stream, extending the life of site 9 and reducing haulage and tipping costs. This initiative is being expanded to the other sites throughout the Township and should greatly help to clean up all of our transfer stations. Remember to recycle and to follow the information on which items can be recycled included with your tax bill every year.

Lastly was an excellent presentation by Chuck Southam of Environment Canada called 'The ups and downs of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay; making sense of water level changes'. Chuck has studied water levels on the great lakes for almost 30 years. He talked about glacial rebound and the changing ground levels around the lakes as well as the huge swings in water levels that have been seen in the short 100 years of collecting data. We all left with some glimmer of hope that the bay will return to higher levels. When and how much is anyone's guess.

### ***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

# Nature Notes

By Terry Carr

## *What is Hibernation?*



Sturgeon Bay/Pointe au Baril residents either migrate or celebrate winter .... only a very few of us hibernate. J

Animals enter hibernation during winter to conserve energy by going into a deep sleep-like state. Mammals, such as groundhogs, bears, skunks, raccoons, and bats, lower their metabolism and enter a state of torpor or kind of “deep sleep”, but they are not really asleep. With a slowed heart rate and lowered body temperature, these animals have adapted to survive cold winters with little or no sustenance.

The dormant state means the hibernating animals minimally eat, drink, move, think, or defecate. Some "deep" hibernators, like Groundhogs, never rouse themselves once they are secure in their den. Other animals, especially rodents like Voles and Deer Mice, frequently come out of hibernation to snack on food they harvested during the summer and fall. Cold-blooded creatures, such as reptiles and amphibians, also can be said to hibernate. But because they are always the same temperature as their surroundings, hibernation means something different. For instance, wood frogs actually freeze solid over winter, while a natural [antifreeze](#), [glucose](#) sugar, protects their organs.

Once in wintering mode, in a snug den, most animals do not need significant external energy sources. They survive plummeting temperatures by lowering their own body temperature, sometimes to within degrees of the freezing point of water. Physiologically, their bodies reduce their need for energy by almost stopping their heartbeat. In the months leading up to the cold season, the animal has stored fat by eating more than usual. They receive the little energy they do need by breaking down stored [carbohydrates](#) and fats. Organs and muscles even donate some sustenance. A bear actually borrows protein and water from organs, because it can regenerate them to healthy levels once spring comes.

No one knows exactly what triggers hibernation in various animals. It might be a change in light exposure, measured by melatonin levels, which alerts an animal to the coming winter and nudges them to seek out a burrow. It might be a lessening food supply that makes them drowsy and lethargic. Biologists have been successful at triggering hibernation in certain species, like rodents, in the laboratory.

Of course, biologists also use their research to solve human problems. Might we, too, hibernate one day, in order to travel to Mars or lose weight. Scientists are looking for clues to healing people's liver disorders, kidney disease, starvation, or obesity, by studying mammals in hibernation.

For those who would like to have a look at last season's weather summaries. All that is needed is to do a Google search for "Ontario Weather Review, (state the month),2007"

**OUR STURGEON BAY POINTE AU BARIL ASSOCIATION**  
**7th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2007**  
**HIGHLIGHTS**

1) CALL TO ORDER: 10:00 a.m.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion** that the minutes of the AGM of July 30,2006 be approved as circulated. **Moved** by John Cochrane, seconded by Gord Froggatt. **Carried.**

3) FINANCIAL REPORT

**Motion** to accept the report for the year 2006/2007 as presented. **Moved** by Bill Tedford, seconded by Terry Carr. **Carried.**

**Motion** to accept proposed Budget for the year 2007/2008 as presented. **Moved** by John Cochrane and seconded by Terry Carr. **Carried.**

**Motion** that the audit be waived for the 2006/2007 fiscal year. **Moved** by Diane Froggatt, seconded by Jack Newell. **Carried.**

**Motion** to ratify acts and proceedings of the Board of Directors. **Moved** by John Cochrane, seconded by Bill Tedford. **Carried.**

4) GUEST SPEAKERS

- Leslea Lotimer and Kate Foulds of the GBA Environment Initiative gave a presentation on how we can help our environment and an update on water levels and how the GBA and the Joint Commission is working diligently on a solution.
- Tammy Karst-Riddoch of Gartner Lee is working on the study of Remedial Strategies for Reducing Algae Blooms inside of Brignall Banks. Tammy explained the process and indicated that it will be a management and remedial plan that they present to Council when it is completed in early 2008.

5) NOMINATIONS

Seven Directors were acclaimed to the Board : Stephen Sadler, Keith Gardner, Helen Tedford and new members John Czarny, Ian MacLeod, Steve Bradford and Stephen Elliott.

6) LAKE PLAN UPDATE

Cathy Kidston gave a synopsis of the Lake Plan and indicated the four actions the Board has committed to for the next year.

- Comparing the Township Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw against our Lake Plan.
- Investigate/organize a Bay Watch Programme
- Contact the Government of Ontario to re-institute the Clean Marine Program.
- Contribute \$500.00 to the PABIA Marine Patrol Programme in keeping with the Safe Boating portion of our Lake Plan. **Motion** to donate \$500.00 to the Pointe au Baril Marine Patrol. **Moved** by Cathy Kidston, seconded by Terry Carr. **Carried.**

After a vote by the membership the two further action plans that will be completed in 2007-2008 are:

- Research advanced septic systems .
- Do a review and follow-up on the Stewardship folder.

## 7) NEW BUSINESS

- Phil Kidston asked for clarification of the Associate Membership criteria. This will be fully explained in the fall newsletter.
- John Czarny asked if we could mark some dangerous rocks with markers. Ian MacLeod said he would check with PABIA to see if their committee could do this and will report back to the Board.
- Karen Levitt thanked the Board for their commitment and indicated that the Association is moving in the right direction with the right focus.

## 8) PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Steve Sadler thanked Cathy Kidston and Dave Brown for their commitment to the Board while they served as Directors and indicated that the new Board will move forward with the following initiatives: Charitable status, monitoring the Water Quality Action Committee for information and future plans and continuing to attend GBA and Township Council meetings. He advised that the moratorium on the Road Shore Allowance ban on Sturgeon Bay has been lifted and that Council defeated the motion that all of the Township pay for the water remediation study being undertaken by Gartner Lee. He thanked John Cochrane and Terry Desmasdon for their continued efforts on our behalf. He advised that the GBA Foundation have pledged \$5,000.00 towards the study costs, which will be subtracted from the property owners share.

8) ADJOURNMENT: 11:35 a.m.

### Full Membership vs Associate Membership

There seems to be a bit of confusion relative to the two levels of membership available in our Association. Let us clarify this:

If you are a property owner you must become a Full Member for the cost of \$70.00 as stated in our By-Laws and voted on at our inaugural meeting.

If you are a son/daughter/friend of the property owner but would like to contribute to the Association, Associate Membership is available for a cost of \$25.00.

### Reminder

Unless you are a member of the Association this will be your **last newsletter**

We now have 42 families receiving their newsletter by email. That is a great saving for your Association. **Thank you.**

## **Councillors Report**

Studies are the primary activities in the Sturgeon Bay/Pointe au Baril neighbourhoods.

Presently Gardner Lee Limited is studying the potentials for remediation of the blue green Sturgeon Bay water. Tammy Karst-Riddoch the lead for Gartner Lee on this project reported at a September 29th public meeting on her findings in Phase one of the project. In this report she reviewed all the previous studies and outlined the next steps. Tammy will report to the Environment Committee of Council on December 5 and to the Sturgeon Bay Water Quality Action Committee on December 13. All of her reports will be available on the Township's web site.

Tulloch Engineering has been researching and designing the remodelling of downtown Pointe au Baril. They have reviewed the previous Strategic Plan recommendations and the input received at the September 25<sup>th</sup> public meeting and engaged a Landscape Architect to present their preliminary concepts of how downtown Pointe au Baril should look in the immediate future.

This preliminary design will be presented to the Community at the Community Centre on November 20<sup>th</sup>. It will also be added to the Township web site. By the time you read this the Public Open House will have passed but if you missed the presentation please go to the Township Web Page and view the presentation. We have one opportunity to get this design right and thus we would like comment from permanent and seasonal residences. The more comment we have the greater the chance of designing the Water Front in a manner that will please the majority.

Garbage is still under study. The Public Works Committee undertook a project this summer utilizing our students and some permanent staff at all our waste disposal sites to record the volume of garbage daily and the peak garbage hours. At our Pointe Au Baril site the staff also attempted to record whether the garbage was from a permanent or seasonal resident and whether the garbage came by boat or car. These statistics are now being collated.

The purpose of this study is an attempt to develop a garbage collection strategy for the whole Township even though garbage collection in Pointe au Baril is a major issue.

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[drjgc@hughes.net](mailto:drjgc@hughes.net)

Terry Desmasdon  
705-366-2144  
[tbd@vianet.on.ca](mailto:tbd@vianet.on.ca)

## Sturgeon Bay Pointe au Baril Ratepayers Association

### Current Members 2007-2008

Adamanda Custom Builders	Tom Lundy/Jan Papineau
Brian Adams/Melanie Whetham	Brian & Joyce MacDonald
Paul Adamson/Eleanor Duthie	Ian MacLeod/Jane Sheppard
Angelika Bestig	Rowan Marsh/Andy Skerlec
Ernest & Gloria Bradford	Michael & Jane Marshall
Steven & Kathy Bradford	Doug & Sandy McOuat
Andrea Bradford*	McRhode Inc. Construction/
Dave & Sonja Brown	Miriam McAllister/Larry Rhodenizer
Gregory & Ellen Brown	Doug Miller
William & Janice Burgess	Dave & Kim Montgomery
C. C. Kennedy Co. Ltd.	Jack & Doreen Newall
Neil & Judy Cameron	Northshore Barge & Marine Limited
Terry & Audrey Carr	Darwin Oldfield*
Bob Causton/Judy Gast	Kenneth Oldfield
Roger & Lisa Cleghorn	Robert & Doreen Pinkney
John & Barbara Cochrane	PAB Chamber of Commerce
Jose Couto	PAB Station (Shell Station)
Peter & Anna Curren	James & Gloria Porteous
John & Patty Czarny	Lloyd & Pat Posno
Terry Desmasdon*	Peter Pylypiv/Paula Schnoll
Desmasdon Boat Works	Vada Robinson
Jim & Linda Dodgson	Andrew & Christine Robinson
Bill Draper*	Rock Pine Resort Cottages
Lawrence & Judy Earl	Rolar Construction
Stephen & Barbara Elliott	David & Susan Rourke
Jerry & Pat Evoy	Stephen & Sandy Sadler
Daniel Franchuk	Dennis Scale
Gordon & Diane Froggatt	Don & Nancy Scale
Kim Garnet/Suzie Arsenault	Ted Simmonds
Charles Green	Ted & Sally Slumskie
Walter Guderian	Martin & Vera Smits
Brian & Sharon Henderson	Jan Stahlman
John & Barbara Hodgson	Ron & Cheryl Stanek*
JMK Boat Storage/Murray & Mabel Kennedy	Noel & Colleen Staunton
Elizabeth Kaczmar/Morris Okopny	Sturgeon Bay Marine/Dan & Kathy Noble
Phil & Cathy Kidston	Bill & Helen Tedford
Tom & Gerry Kirton	Rex & Verona Teskey
Paul & Anna Kopcok	Jim & Linda Wagler
Bernie Kuhnert	Joanna Waugh
Jane Kydd	Mark Wiseman/Marcia Moffatt
Karen Levitt	Larry & Janet Young
Reg Lewis *	Steve & Alourdes Zakreski
Terry & Kathy Lunan	* Associate Member