



Sturgeon Bay Pointe au Baril Ratepayers Association

Newsletter

www.oursturgeonbay.com

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

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Report from the President

By: Steve Sadler

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The snow has fallen once already, but thankfully it hasn't stayed on the ground too long. That being said, the precursor to yet another Georgian Bay winter has arrived, and it won't be long until the Bay is frozen and winter activities start.

I think that 2008 has been a pivotal year for our Association, a year of important changes and progression towards our goals. For the Executive of your Association, this has become even more obvious by the sheer work load that we have been involved in. The purpose of this Presidents report will be to highlight those issues and events that have moved us forward.

A measure of thanks is due for the Executive directors who have assisted our efforts, with a special thanks to Helen Tedford for her tireless work regarding our membership and finances. Thanks to Cathy Kidston for again editing this newsletter and resident Melanie Whetham for the creation of our new flyer.

Our efforts with the Water Quality Action Committee, chaired by Councillor John Cochrane, finally resulted in a definitive study toward remediation options. The Phase three, and final report, will soon be tabled at the Township, and is complete with the

Association and resident support for PHOSLOCK, a product currently being used in Lake Simcoe to reduce phosphorus levels in the Bay.

The Association continued to expand its partnerships within the Georgian Bay area. As a result of a positive vote at the Annual General Meeting, we moved towards full membership with the Georgian Bay Association. As of October 25, we are now full members of the GBA and will have a role as a Director in this organization. This umbrella organization, encompassing some 22 individual cottage associations throughout Georgian Bay, gives us the strength of numbers and the potential of political clout to push agendas and protect the interests of our members. This will only assist in further strengthening our relationship with PABIA, as we move towards common goals and objectives for our area.

The Association lobbied for, and received assistance, from PABIA in the placing of markers at various points throughout the Bay. The Bay is now further protected from boat traffic by these markers, and our channels, with the help of our area residents, are now clearly marked, making the ride into and out of our Bay more safe and enjoyable.

I have always advocated the move towards direct political action. We have moved closer to this concept, as we have contacted members of all levels of government, seeking their support and financial assistance towards the remediation ideas we have supported. Our cause was broached on the floor of the Legislature by MPP Norm Miller, and published in the official record HANSARD. We have received confirmation of our concerns from MPP John Gerretson, Minister of the Environment for Ontario, and are waiting for PHOSLOCK studies to be completed in Lake Simcoe, and hope for the same Provincial financial assistance that was provided to that area. We have contacted Hon. Minister Donna Cansfield - Minister of Natural Resources and expressed our concerns. Most importantly, we have secured a meeting with MP Tony Clement (Minister of Health- MP Parry Sound - Muskoka) on November 7. He has shown his concern and interest towards our plight, and has been active in facilitating the opportunity to meet with him to present our case for assistance.

We have continued to build our membership base, increasing the numbers to the highest in our history. We have shown the strength of our relationships, and this was never more visible than by the great numbers of our neighbours who showed up for the annual Non - Motorized Poker Run in August. We can work towards common goals, and visually show the strength of our Association, when we can get together in a social environment and enjoy the beauty of our Bay.

That is what your Association Executive has done for you in 2008. Now it is my turn to ask for your help. We need your continued support towards expanding our membership base. In the spring newsletter, we will be including information flyers for you to pass

out to your neighbours, explaining the role of the Association and the importance of membership.

We need you to continue our political action by writing MPP's and MP's about your personal concerns about the blue green algae problem. If you need suggestions for the format of these letters, take a look at our website (www.oursturgeonbay.com), click on political action and see some of the examples of the letters we have sent. Please check the POLITICAL ACTION section of this newsletter for contact information of the various politicians we should be contacting.

We need you to get involved, assist our efforts, provide suggestions and move our Association forward. Our Association is nothing without your continued and ongoing support. Please stand up with us and together we can make the positive changes necessary.

In the interim, as the snow flies and the Bay quietens for another winter season, stay safe and healthy and look towards the future as we continue to move forward in the protection and enhancement of Sturgeon Bay.

Until then, I shall see you on the Bay.

As a footnote, I just learned of the passing of long time resident and Association member Terry Carr. Terry was a dedicated naturalist and environmentalist, and was a frequent contributor to our newsletter in his "Nature Notes" column. His love of nature and our area was inspirational to me and the other residents and his comments and work will be greatly missed. Thanks to Terry for his work throughout the years, and my deepest condolences to Audrey and their family on his passing.

We need to continue our political action by writing MPP's and MP's with our concerns about the blue-green algae problem. Check page 4 for the addresses.

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

Hiking in Cottage Country

By Phil Kidston

Cathy and I enjoyed hiking the trails in the Torrance Barrens Conservation Reserve in late September. This area has unique geology and vegetation, making it well worth a visit. The lunar landscape has low ridges of Precambrian bedrock, separated by wetlands and peat filled hollows.



These low ridges are bare or covered in meadows of moss, lichen and grass, very sparsely wooded with oak, pine and maple trees and with the occasional picturesque boulder. During our visit many of the maple trees were spectacular in their full fall colours and we were blessed with lovely weather! We were thankful to be wearing our hiking boots due to the occasional damp spot. The area is not large: the 3 well marked connecting loop trails total about 10 kilometres. We had no trouble finding them: the Torrance Barrens are located on Muskoka Road 13 (Southwood Road), 8 km south of the

community of Torrance, which is on Muskoka Road 169 about 5 km east of Bala towards Gravenhurst.

POLITICAL ACTION

These are the politicians we should be contacting. For sample letters look at our website www.oursturgeonbay.com

MPP Norm Miller

Constituency Office
17 James St
Parry Sound ON P2A 1T4

norm.millerco@pc.ola.org

Hon. John Gerretson - Minister of the Environment

Ministry of the Environment
135 St. Clair Ave W, 15th Flr
Toronto ON M4V 1P5

jgerretson.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org

Hon Donna Cansfield - Minister of Natural Resources

Ministry of Natural Resources
6630- 99 Wellesley St W, 6th Flr, Whitney Block
Toronto ON M7A 1W3

dcansfield.mpp@liberal.ola.org

Hon. Tony Clement - Minister of Industry

Office of The Honourable Tony Clement,
Member of Parliament for Parry Sound - Muskoka
2-202 Main Street West, Huntsville, ON P1H 1X9
(705) 789-4640 - telephone
1-866-375-8669 - toll free

clement1b@parl.gc.ca

**STURGEON BAY POINTE AU BARIL RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION
8th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2008
HIGHLIGHTS**

1) CALL TO ORDER: 1:14 p.m. There were 17 members and 10 proxies present and a quorum was declared.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion that the minutes of the AGM of July 29,2007 be approved as circulated. **Moved** by John Cochrane, seconded by Cathy Kidston. **Carried.**

3) FINANCIAL REPORT

Motion to accept the financial report for the year 2007/2008 as presented. **Moved** by Bob Causton, seconded by John Cochrane. **Carried.**

Motion to accept proposed Budget for the year 2008/2009 as presented. **Moved** by John Hodgson and seconded by Judy Gast. **Carried.**

Motion that the audit be waived for the 2007/2008 fiscal year. **Moved** by Bob Causton, seconded by John Cochrane. **Carried.**

4) PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Stephen Sadler thanked the membership for their continued support of our efforts. He advised that while the board had very good intentions to oversee the four items that were chosen in the Lake Plan at last year's AGM our focus has been and continues to be remediation of our Bay.

He indicated that we sent out 2 newsletters this year and encouraged our members to check out our Web site which provides useful information. **www.oursturgeonbay.com**

He reminded everyone about the Non-Motorized Poker Run being held on Saturday, August 23rd at the Tedford's. Start time will be 2:00 p.m.

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

7) NEW BUSINESS

Bill Tedford proposed that our Association become full members of the GBA for the 2009/2010 fiscal year. He indicated that it would give us needed political clout for issues that affect us and reiterated that the Joint Commission is doing much work on our behalf and the behalf of all the Great Lakes.

Motion to become a full member of the Georgian Bay Association. **Moved** by Bill Tedford, seconded by Bob Causton. **Carried.**

Melanie Whetham thanked the Board for their work over the year.

8) ADJOURNMENT: 2:30 p.m.

Councillors Report - November 2008-11-06

Have you seen downtown Pointe au Baril lately?

Approximately six years ago an Economic Development Committee was formed by Council to look at the Economic future of Pointe au Baril. This committee after numerous meetings, community consultations and consultant reports identified a number of improvements that would enhance the viability of Pointe au Baril. From all this input a projected master plan was developed.

Council then approached the Provincial and Federal Governments for funding. As a result of the funding commitments to date Council has divided the restoration and beautification of Pointe au Baril into three phases. Phase one is to shore up the road so that South Shore Rd will not slide into the Bay. This has been accomplished by steel pylons and steel sheeting along the barrier between the road and the bay.

The next phase will be rebuilding South Shore Rd. from highway 69 to the community centre, a new washroom facility, a walkway and more docks.

This is expected to be a three year project and will depend entirely on funding from other levels of government.

Garbage: Your Councillors have been working very hard to solve the garbage problem in downtown Pointe au Baril. Garbage has become a major item for Council to deal with in the whole Township. We have hired consultants in an attempt to get some out of the box thinking but these consultants find that the garbage collection and disposal in the Township of the Archipelago does not fit into any of the models that they know thus the township is designing it's own model. Glen Kargus our Public Works Superintendant and his staff have been working with the Public Works committee to come up with a Township management plan by April 2009.

Water: I am sure that Steve Sadler will have a have a full report in his Presidents Report on Sturgeon Bay Water. As you know even with the higher water, increased rain and wind this summer we still had to endure Algae beginning in early August. The Township in late October finally received the completed Phase Three report from Gardner Lee recommending the use of PhosLock. This report is two months overdue. At the November Council Meeting this report will hopefully be accepted by Council and then the next steps can be developed. We already know that MOE is probably going to drag it's feet on giving approval to use this product thus political lobbying will be a major activity over the winter.

John Cochrane
705-366-2536
drjgc@hughes.net

Terry Desmasdon
705-366-2513
tdb@vianet.on.ca

POLITICAL ACTION - UPDATE

Subsequent to my Presidents Report, representatives from your Executive Board travelled to the Huntsville constituency offices of Minister Tony Clement, now Minister of Industry.

During our meeting, Minister Clement was attentive to our concerns and listened intently as we explained the efforts of our Association over the past 6 years. He asked for clarification when necessary, and allowed us to speak freely throughout the meeting. At no time did any of us feel rushed or ignored throughout this meeting, and we were able to leave material representing our efforts , which included copies of our newsletters, the Bay Plan, the Stewardship folder we produced, as well as current photos of active blue green algae blooms.

I believe that this meeting was pivotal to our efforts to achieve remediation for the Bay. I am confident that Minister Clement will assist our efforts, and convey our concerns to those Ministers and government agencies that are in the best position to assist us.

He asked that we keep him informed of our efforts and I will ensure that we do so. In the meantime, any e-mails or letters to Mr Clement, expressing your individual concerns, will assist him in understanding how deeply we are committed to this cause.

Some of the Poker Run Winners **2008**



MEMBERS 2008-2009

Brian Adams & Melanie Whetham	Reg Lewis
A. Bestig	Terry & Cathy Lunan
Ernie & Glorida Bradford	Ian MacLeod & Jane Sheppard
Steve & Kathy Bradford	Michael & Jane Marshall
David & Sonja Brown	Doug & Sandy McQuat
Greg & Ellen Brown	Doug Miller
William Burgess	David & Kim Montgomery
Neil & Judy Cameron	Jack & Doreen Newall
Terry & Audrey Carr	North Shore Barge & Marine
Bob Causton & Judy Gast	Kenneth Oldfield
John & Barbara Cochrane	Payne Marine
Joe Couto	Pointe au Baril Station Limited
John & Patty Czarny	James & Gloria Porteous
Terry Desmasdon	Lloyd & Pat Posno
Desmasdon Marina	Larry Rhodenizer & Miriam McAllister – McRhode Inc
Bill Draper	Vada Robinson
Angus Dunphy	Rock Pine Resort Cottages
Lawrence & Judy Earl	Brian & Hilda Rolph – The Moorings
Stephen & Barbara Elliott	Stephen & Sandy Sadler
Jerry & Pat Evoy	Joe Saudade
Les Franks	Dennis Scale
Gordon & Diane Froggatt	Paula Schnoll
Keith Gardner	Ted Simmonds
Kim Garnet & Suzie Arsenault	W. E. Skerratt
Charles Green	Ted & Sally Slumske
Walter Guderian	Martin & Vera Smits
Michael & Kelly Higman	Janice Stahlman
John & Barbara Hodgson	Noel & Colleen Staunton
Gabrielle Hrynkiw	Sturgeon Bay Marine – Dan & Kathy Noble
C. C. Kennedy Co. Ltd.	Bill & Helen Tedford
Murray & Mabel Kennedy- JMK Boat Storage	Rex & Verona Teskey
Phil & Cathy Kidston	Bernie & Grace Trippel
Tom Kirton	Jim & Linda Wagler
Andy & Kathy Kopcok	Vernon & Michelle Ward
Paul & Anna Kopcok	Joanna Waugh
B. D. Kuhnert	Richard & Joan Westlake
Jane Kydd	Mark Wiseman & Marcia Moffat
Ken & Barbara Leitch	Larry & Janet Young
Karen Levitt	Steve & Alourdes Zakreski