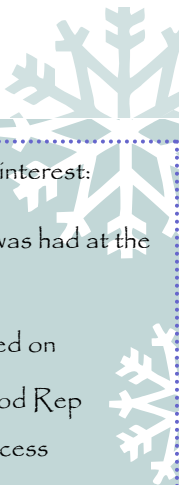


December 07

2007 #2

Fall Newsletter

Brandy Lake Association



Special points of interest:

- A good time was had at the annual social
- Vern has moved on
- Neighbourhood Rep program a success
- AGM—big hit
- Nature Notes
- Winter Lake stroll...take

Letter to the Editor: Now that freeze-up is not too far away, I would like to take this opportunity to ask everyone that walks their dog on the lake to *please* pick up after their dog. Last winter I was disgusted at the amount of dog feces on the ice. Of course when the ice melts next spring they end up in the lake and contribute to the already high levels of phosphorus. As property owners we must do everything possible to maintain the water quality of our lake.
Jim Cormack

President's Report - Fall 07 Bill Allen

The summer of 07 is now behind us, and was hopefully enjoyed by all. The long drought was unfortunate, and predictions of more of that sort of thing due to climate change are not heartening. Safe to say we all wish that doesn't prove to be the case.

A good time was had at the annual Social, thanks to our hosts Rob and Lisa Saunders.

The AGM was well attended and most seemed pleased with the new venue at the Community Center. This, by the way, was forced upon us as the Legion was having some difficulties and were unsure they would be operating. We hope their situation improves.

All things evolve, and your Board is no exception. Vern Heeneman has moved on - thank you Vern, for all your efforts. Peter and Donna Sale have joined the board and will be leading the water testing team. I said team - in the past one member alone performed **all** the work involved, and we owe a tremendous vote of thanks to Jim Cormack for doing so - but this is a **big** job, and it's only right that we spread the burden. Tony Mathia and Doug Swant have volunteered to assist with the sampling portion of the work, and we're hopeful more members will join the team. **More—pg 2**



Some Ice On The Lake

Nature Notes from Brandy Lake Donna Sale

One of the many enjoyments of being on Brandy Lake is the beauty and diversity of nature. Knowing what it is you see, and understanding it, can enhance that enjoyment. This Nature Note is about birds, some of the ones you may see year around, others during the winter. All the birds listed can be found in Muskoka. These are some of the more common ones, but there are many others not on this list. Each species is associated with a particular habitat it likes; open fields, forest, wetlands, and others. And not all are here every year. Temperature can affect how far north or south they go.

More pg 2

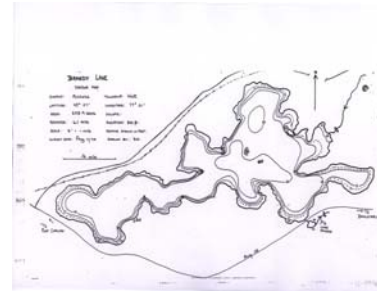
NATURE NOTES continued Remember things are changing with global warming and species are moving north. We may lose some species but gain others. It is up to you to protect all the different habitats on our Lake. Don't destroy them by using pesticides or herbicides, which easily spread to other areas. Remember all things are connected. You can poison an animal or kill it by destroying its food source.

The best viewing for beginners may be at a bird feeder outside a window at your habitat. A good pair of binoculars will be a great help, as well as a good field guide such as the National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America or Eastern Birds by Roger Tory Peterson, one of several Peterson Field Guides. You will find many others in a good book store. The bird list was compiled by Marnie McCall. Look for the spring and summer list in the next newsletter.

Black-capped Chickadee
 White-breasted Nuthatch
 Purple Finch
 Downy Woodpecker
 Pileated Woodpecker
 Raven
 Wild Turkey
Winter birds
 Pine Siskin

Goldfinch
 Red-breasted Nuthatch
 Blue Jay
 Hairy Woodpecker
 Crow
 Barred Owl

Common Redpoll



We're on the Web
www.brandylake.com

President's Report - Fall 07 continued below

The Brandy Lake Association held a very successful Annual General Meeting last summer. The Executive of the BLA have served many years with great pleasure but are hoping more members would like to help and offer their services. It is very rewarding to ensure that Brandy Lake stays healthy for the many generations to follow and it is hoped that we can get nominations from our members for the vacancies available on the Board at our next Annual General Meeting in August 2008. Please contact any member of the current Board if you are interested in volunteering.

Also, please don't forget to note on your 2008 calendar that the Brandy Lake Social will be held in late July; details will be sent out with our spring mailing. Everyone who attended the last Social hosted by Lisa and Rob Saunders had a wonderful time. A Special thanks to Lisa and Rob and the Executive for their work in organizing the Social.

Gail Hammond

Judy Filman has joined the Membership committee, and will assist Rob Saunders in keeping our records straight.

Our "Neighbourhood Rep" program was launched this year. The intent is to facilitate communication with your Board, and to introduce newcomers to our Association. The following members have volunteered to act as Rep's, and cover various portions of the Lake:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Johanna Guezebroek - Hwy 118 [western portion], Brackenrig Rd [western portion] | Alison Smith - Brackenrig [eastern portion], Falkenburg Rd, Buttler Rd |
| Doug Swant - Scout Trail | Peter Millar - El-Kee Point |
| Bill Berlet - Phyllimar Lane | Lorne Hay - 1035 Brandy Crest |
| Velda Vasilaros - Hwy 118 [eastern portion], Brandy Crest Rd [except # 1035] | |

Many thanks to all these folks for stepping forward; their efforts will surely pay off..

Gary Simmonds, Rob Saunders, and Vern Heeneman worked to expand our navigation hazard marking program. We now have seven locations marked with big orange balls - boaters would be wise to give them a wide berth. If perchance one of those marks comes adrift, please rescue and return it.

Lynn and I wish you all a pleasant winter season, and we look forward to seeing you next summer.
 Bill Allen