



# Spring Newsletter 2020

## Message from the President ...

"May you live in interesting times". Happy March 74th, 2020..... or at least that's what it feels like right now as I sit here at home gazing out over the concrete jungle, rather than at the trees and lake.

I wonder if, like the rest of the planet's ecosystem seeing some return to Mother Natures "factory re-set", wildlife at the lake is enjoying a similar bounce back.

We're not quite sure what the 'new normal' is going to be, but I do think we see a light at the end of the tunnel and for the first time in over 2 months, it's not a train coming the other way. How we treat each other through this and how we've supported one another, has been inspiring to me. Here's to hoping we come out of the other side without losing these lessons. A special shout out to all of the front-line and essential service workers. We sincerely appreciate all that you have done and continue to do. Real heroes at work!

The Crystal Lake Cottagers' Association welcomed a couple of new team members to the Board in 2019, Gary Round and Sherry Whiteway from the Galway Area Ratepayers Association, and we are extremely lucky to have them join us. Their experience and depth of knowledge have proved very useful already. If you see them or any of the volunteers who put their time and resources into running the CLCA, say 'thanks!'. I'm grateful to work with them all.

We continue to liaise with our county and municipal partners, as well as working with other associations like the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations, Coalition for Equitable Water Flow to name a couple. We're also proud to continue to support the local Kinmount community, participating in Kinmount Fun Fest for the kids, supporting the Gazette and more recently with donations to the Foodbank and Community Care.

While some of the large online retailers have been doing VERY well through this pandemic, it's been extremely tough for small businesses, the ones that truly drive our economy. When we do get back up, more than ever, remember to shop locally in Kinmount for all you can. They need us and we need them, that's what communities do.

As a Board we continue to meet virtually and are optimistic that some events can still take place during the summer of 2020. They'll look different for sure.

You'll be hearing more from us as we ease into summer and we know more about what we can and cannot do. In the interim, look after yourself and each other.

We hope that everything that matters is good with you.

*John Hubbard*

President  
Crystal Lake Cottagers' Association

## Crystal Lake Cottagers' Association (CLCA) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

**Wednesday, June 10, 2020 @ 7:00pm**

Due to current circumstances, we are unable to hold our AGM in person. As a result we will be holding it virtually.

Please stay tune for more details.

## Crystal Lake Trivia!!!!

We could all use a little fun! Take the quiz below and see how many you can get right! Do any of the questions have you stumped? Check out our Facebook Page and Website on **July 1, 2020** to see the correct answers.

1. What is the maximum depth of Crystal Lake?
  - a. 20.5 Metres
  - b. 42.5 Metres
  - c. 34.5 Metres
2. Before Crystal Lake got its name, what was the name of the lake?
3. How many miles of shoreline does Crystal Lake have?
  - a. 12 miles
  - b. 21 miles
  - c. 33 miles
4. Crystal Lake water levels fluctuate throughout the year. How many metres annually?
  - a. 4.50 metres
  - b. 2.75 metres
  - c. 1.75 metres
5. Name all 7 bays on Crystal Lake.
6. There is an old mine located on Crystal Lake. What was mined there?
7. Crystal Lake is a reservoir lake that feeds into the Trent Seven Waterway. What is the name of the body of water that flows from Crystal Lake into the north end of Pigeon Lake?
8. How many retail businesses serviced Crystal Lake in the 1970's? Can you name them?
9. Crystal Lake saw its first cottaging community form in the:
  - a. 1890's
  - b. 1930's
  - c. 1950's
10. There is a sunken plane on Crystal Lake from a crash in the 1950's. You can see it on a sunny day. Do you know where it is?

## CLCA Events

We know things have been super tough lately. We are working behind the scenes to plan something for us all to get together as soon as we can!

### Information on COVID-19

We have been working hard to try to provide you with as much information as possible related to the current COVID-19 emergency. As the information changes by the second, here are some useful links to stay informed and up to date including the CLCA Facebook page.

- [CLCA Facebook Page](#)
- [Government of Canada website](#)
- [Province of Ontario website](#)
- [Municipality of Trent Lakes website](#)
- [Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association website](#)
- [Ontario Provincial Police website](#)

### New By-Law for Off-Road Vehicles

The Municipality of Trent Lakes has passed a [new by-law](#) related to off-road vehicles (ORV). Here are some highlights. We have also posted more details on our Facebook page.

- ORV are allowed on municipal highways
- Speed limit is 20km/hr if speed on the road is 50km/hr or less.
- Speed limit is 50km/hr is speed limit on road where speed limit is greater than 50km/hr
- Do not drive on roads between dusk and dawn
- Operators must be licensed
- Operators must wear a helmet

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### OPP Patrol

The OPP patrol both our lake and roads during the day and night. Know and follow the rules of the lake and road. For more information on safe boating visit the [Transport Canada](#) website.



### Visit the CLCA Website & Facebook Page (Crystal Lake CLCA)!!

Both our **website** and **Facebook Page** (which has grown to over 1000 members!!) are great sources of information on community events and important issues such as the current COVID-19 emergency, water levels, waste management as well as other matters. You can also find photos, things lost and found, items for sale and other topics of interest.



### Buoys/Markers

As you know we have a number of buoys around Crystal Lake to mark some of the rocks and shoals. We have a team of volunteers that work hard every year to maintain these buoys (sincere thank you to those that take care of this).



Given the current circumstances, it has not been possible to get all the buoys prepped and out on the lake. We hope to have them out soon but in the meantime when out in your boat please use extra caution.

Over the course of the season, if you happen to notice that a buoy has become loose, damaged or you find one floating, please leave it on your dock or shore plainly visible and one of the volunteers will pick it up and place it back out as soon as they can.

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### Just for Fun!

Got an extra minute? See if you can find the words hidden below! There are 16 in total.

Crystal Lake	Cottage	Loons	Waves
Sunsets	Canoe	Boat	Paddle
Water Skis	Fishing	Swimming	Dock
Summer	Campfire	Life jackets	Mosquitoes

M	O	S	Q	U	I	T	O	E	S	R	T
C	P	R	B	A	Y	X	R	Z	B	Q	L
R	O	V	P	K	J	T	I	P	O	W	I
Y	G	T	D	M	W	F	O	Y	A	A	K
S	I	B	T	P	D	Y	C	V	T	T	M
T	J	N	C	A	N	O	E	W	S	E	P
A	H	D	H	D	G	S	C	R	A	R	L
L	K	G	A	D	H	E	E	K	F	S	Y
L	M	N	F	L	O	M	H	G	L	K	J
A	T	I	Y	E	M	Q	T	S	D	I	L
K	F	H	T	U	H	V	R	K	U	S	O
E	A	S	S	U	N	S	E	T	S	I	O
S	W	I	M	M	I	N	G	C	I	R	N
E	D	F	L	H	P	O	J	R	A	H	S
B	C	V	Y	E	R	I	F	P	M	A	C
L	I	F	E	J	A	C	K	E	T	S	L

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## What does the CLCA do?

CLCA focuses on and represents the interests of Crystal Lake waterfront property and area residents.

- ✓ We keep the welcome signs and various planters looking beautiful.
- ✓ We offer discount cards for use at local businesses for CLCA members.
- ✓ We support Crystal Lake events such as the Canada Day Family Event.
- ✓ We purchase and maintain buoys to mark some of the rocks and shoals on Crystal Lake.
- ✓ We maintain a website and Facebook page to keep us informed, share events, photos and other interesting stuff!
- ✓ We make donations to and support other local volunteer organizations.
- ✓ We promote and support local businesses and events.

## Meet the CLCA

### Executive Committee

**President** - John Hubbard  
**Vice President** - Christine Brickman  
**Secretary** - Sharon Brickman  
**Treasurer** - Carol Ing  
**Membership** - Sarah Petrik

### Board Members

John Hubbard (Chair)      Michael Leblanc  
Monique Lloyd              Gary Round  
Sherry Whiteway

CLCA acts as a liaison and represents waterfront and area residents on various important matters that arise in the community that may impact us.

- ✓ We liaise with the Municipality of Trent Lakes Council and staff regarding waste management, roadway maintenance, septic inspection program and environmental and development concerns.
- ✓ We support the Crystal Lake Steward who takes water samples to be tested by the Ministry of the Environment to monitor the water quality of the lake for clarity, phosphorus levels and invasive species (i.e. zebra mussels).

We also maintain membership with various associations so we can provide a united voice on behalf of our members on important matters including:

- ✓ Coalition for Equitable Water Flow (CEWF):
  - Work to implement equitable water management policy for the Trent-Severn Waterway taking all those affected into account.
  - Water levels are important to us on Crystal Lake and we encourage you to visit the [CEWF's website](#) for more information.
- ✓ Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA):
  - a non-profit, voluntary organization that represents over 500 Ontario cottage associations at the provincial level, dedicated to supporting the interests of Ontario's waterfront property owners.
  - FOCA is an active supporter of:
    - Waterfront Ratepayers After Fair Taxation (WRAFT) which is a coalition of waterfront associations across Ontario working to achieve equity in waterfront property taxation; and
    - Coalition After Property Tax Reform (CAPTR) which is an alliance of over 700 ratepayer organizations striving to bring equity and stability to residential property tax system.
- ✓ **Galway and Area Ratepayers Association Incorporated (GARAI):**
  - a community-based organization, dedicated to working with area associations, residents, businesses and local township to find solutions to issues that are common among property owners in our area.

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## IDEAS AND VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

Are you interested in helping out with an event or initiative? Do you have great ideas to share? Do you have questions to ask or comments to offer? If so, we would love to hear from you!!

Please send us a note at [crystallake.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:crystallake.newsletter@gmail.com) or [crystallakecommunityassoc@gmail.com](mailto:crystallakecommunityassoc@gmail.com).

Also, if you have an interest in helping out with any of our upcoming events or are willing to help out with canvassing for membership (chatting with your neighbours or taking on a section of the lake) please let us know!

## Spring Newsletter - Paper"less"

As we shared with you last year, the CLCA Spring Newsletters will no longer be sent out via regular mail in an effort to reduce our use of paper and the costs associated with the printing and mailing.

The Newsletter will be shared via email and will be posted on our [website](#) and [Facebook Page](#). Some paper copies will be available at the Crow's Nest and in the outdoor boxes at the Galway Hall and Crystal Lake Transfer Site.

You may also request a paper copy by emailing [crystallake.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:crystallake.newsletter@gmail.com) or by calling 416-998-6499.



## Membership Discount Cards

When you join or renew your membership for 2020 you will receive a membership card by email or through regular mail if you prefer. Those that have pre-paid their memberships for multiple years will receive a new card each year.

A list of the current businesses that offer the discount will be kept up to date on our [website](#) and [Facebook Page](#). See the vendor or 'in-store' for details. A big **Thank You** to participating businesses!



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## Friendly Reminders

- ✓ Watch your boat wake! Be considerate of docks, water craft, and shorelines.
- ✓ We share the lake and roads with many of nature's creatures both big and small. Please respect all forms of wildlife.
- ✓ Always be respectful of your neighbours (e.g. 4-wheelers, music, fireworks, lighting, pets etc.).
- ✓ Always use caution when having any type of fire. See the rules & regulations at <http://www.trentlakes.ca/services/fire-rescue/>
- ✓ Be Bear Wise! Check out [www.bears.mnr.gov.on.ca](http://www.bears.mnr.gov.on.ca)
- ✓ Know your 911 information in case of emergency. Please ensure that your 911 number is visible and in good shape. Remove all old Crystal Lake numbers to avoid confusion.
- ✓ Do you rent your property? Some things to consider include:
  - ✓ Adequate parking for guests (i.e. no parking on private or municipal roads)
  - ✓ Advertise only for the number of bedrooms your septic tank permits.
  - ✓ Be available 24 hours a day for renters or make arrangements for someone else to be.
  - ✓ Ensure guests are aware of by-laws and laws (i.e. noise, fireworks, boating).

## Helpful Phone Numbers

### Emergency Numbers

Fire, Police, Ambulance Emergency – 911  
 Marine & Air Search and Rescue – 1-800-267-7270  
 Poison Information Centre – 1-800-268-9017  
 Kids Help Phone – 1-800-668-6868



### Non-Emergency Numbers

Police – 1-888-310-1122  
 Tele-Health Ontario – 1-866-797-0000  
 Ambulance (Non-Emergency) - 705-286-2424  
 Ministry of Natural Resources (Minden) – 705-286-1521 or 1-800-667-1940  
 Hydro One – 1-888-664-9376 For Outages Call 1-800-434-1235  
 Bell Canada – 416-310-2355 or 1-800-668-6878  
 Municipality of Trent Lakes - 705-738-3800 or 1-800-374-4009 (**NEW\* After-Hours By-Law Enforcement – Call Trent Lakes and enter extension 300**)



Cottage Dreams is a unique program that offers recent cancer survivors and their families the opportunity to spend a week at a donated, private cottage after treatment to celebrate recovery.

Visit [www.cottagedreams.ca](http://www.cottagedreams.ca)

## Our Loons

The loons are back on the lake and they will be getting ready to mate and nest. A recent study has shown that loon populations are declining, with major causes being loss of habitat and water levels. There are a few simple things we can all do to protect our loons including:

- ✓ Watch your wake, the lake levels are generally high during mating and nesting season, one wave can flood a nest and destroy the eggs, meaning the pair will have no chicks for that year. Please avoid activities that cause large wakes near shore (May and June).
- ✓ Respect their space. If you see a nest, stay clear, don't try to get close to adults or chicks.
- ✓ Try and leave shorelines as natural as possible, particularly if you have property in small bays/inlets frequented by loons.



## Are You Interested in Advertising?

Contact us for more details at [crystallakecommunityassoc@gmail.com](mailto:crystallakecommunityassoc@gmail.com)



A look back at a Crystal Lake Triathlon ...

## Buy or Sell?

Check out the Crystal Lake, Galway and Kinmount Area [Buy and Sell Facebook Page!](#)

## Water Levels

Water levels are important to most if not all of us on Crystal Lake. The CEWF, one of the organizations that the CLCA supports is in regular contact with the Trent Severn Waterway (TSW) water management team.

The CEWF has recently reported that we can expect the current lake levels to gradually rise during the month of May, reaching seasonal averages heading into summer.

We encourage you all to visit the CEWF website at [www.cewf.ca](http://www.cewf.ca) for updated information throughout the year.

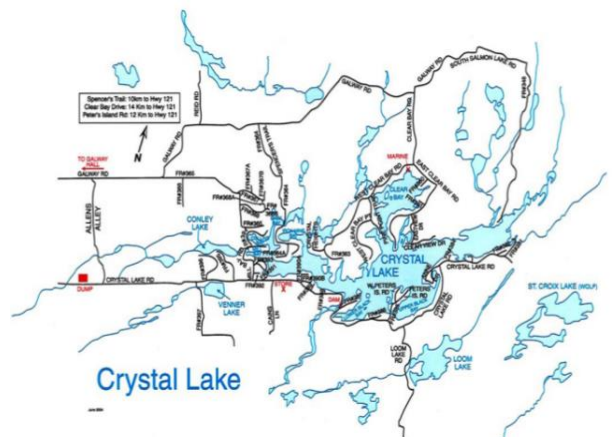
For more information and updates from CEWF, visit our [website](#) and [Facebook Page](#).

Some of you may Recognize this map of Crystal Lake and may even have one.

We are working on an updated version to reflect recent address and road changes in our area.

Stay tuned for more details on how you can get one for yourself!

## Crystal Lake Map



## **Become a Member of the Crystal Lake Cottagers' Association**

The Crystal Lake Cottagers' Association represents you and your interests as a property owner. We represent you with our local council, other associations and other government agencies. It is important that we have a strong association represented by all property owners so when we speak on your behalf we are able to say that we represent the majority of all Crystal Lake residents.

We know that your property is a major investment, so why not join the CLCA so we can help protect that investment and your interests.

Membership is only \$20 annually per property. For those who are interested we are now offering the option for you to pay your membership fee for up to 5 years at a time.

We encourage all residents to join for a strong association. There are 3 ways that you can join the CLCA.

1. Online by credit card or PayPal at [www.crystallakecottagers.ca](http://www.crystallakecottagers.ca)
2. Online by e-Transfer to [crystallakecommunityassoc@gmail.com](mailto:crystallakecommunityassoc@gmail.com)
3. By mail – Complete the Membership Form below and send it along with a \$20 cheque payable to the CLCA to:

Sarah Petrik c/o CLCA  
95 Samantha Circle  
Richmond Hill, ON L4B 2S1

If you have any questions at all, we would be pleased to answer them. You can contact us by visiting our website at: [www.crystallakecottagers.ca/contact.html](http://www.crystallakecottagers.ca/contact.html)



### **Crystal Lake Cottagers' Association** **Membership Form**



**Cottager Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cottage Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cottage Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

I would prefer to receive mailings by regular mail

**Option # 1**

**I wish to pay my CLCA 202\_ Membership (\$20)**

**Option # 2**

**I wish to pay my CLCA Membership fee for the next \_\_\_\_ years (up to 5 years).  
Enclosed is my payment of \$ \_\_\_\_ (\$20 x up to 5 years).**