

**CRYSTAL LAKE COTTAGERS'
ASSOCIATION INC.
SPRING NEWSLETTER 2011**

Interim President's Message:

Greetings! Another cottage season is upon us! Many things have taken place since last year's newsletter-some good (Rock Bass Derby, water sampling, wildlife inventory), and some bad (ice damage, wind storms, power outages). 2011 is an election year for our Executive and Board of Directors. I do not plan to serve another two year term as President. I do encourage interested individuals to get involved in any of the vacant positions to bring new ideas and enthusiasm to our Association.

Election of Officers:

In an election year, all positions are open for nominations and/or volunteers. **Board of Directors:** To date, the following people are on the Board of Directors: Barry Abelson, Mike LeBlanc, and Vic Spring. There are two positions available on our Board. **Executive:** To date, three people have agreed to be on the Executive. President- vacant, Vice-President- Christine Brickman, Treasurer- Don Langlois, Secretary- Sharon Brickman, Membership Secretary- Vacant A huge "shout-out" goes to Evelyn Windsor and to Jill and Bill Bradley. Evelyn has resigned as our treasurer, a position she has held for many years. Previously, she served as our membership secretary. Jill has resigned as our Membership Secretary. She spent countless hours at the GCH Municipal office updating our mailing list. Jill also has transferred all the info onto a memory stick for our next volunteer as Membership Secretary. Bill has resigned as a member of our Board of Directors.

**CLCA - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JUNE 5TH 2011 10 A.M.**

Galway Hall

Guest Speakers: Inspector Brent Anderson-OPP, Craig Burk- District Fire Chief Hall # 3 (Galway)

***Did you know? Facts from the
MNR re: Crystal Lake***

Surface Area= 483 Hectares or 4.5 Square Kilometres
Volume = 4 814 539 Cubic Metres
Maximum Depth= 34.5 Metres
Average Depth= 12 Metres
Water Level Fluctuation= 1.75 Metres annually
pH= 7 to 9 (alkaline water)

Water Quality: The following is a summary based on water samples and readings taken courtesy of the Lake Partner Program.(courtesy of Anna DeSellas) Crystal Lake is located on the Canadian Shield and is sampled at two locations each spring for total phosphorus (TP) concentrations and monthly for water transparency (Secchi depth). Based on the Lake Partner Program data from 2002-2010, TP concentrations in Crystal Lake have ranged from 7.2 to 15.5 µg/L. The overall average for the whole lake is 11.4 µg/L. The average TP concentrations for Site 1 (Clear Bay) and Site 2 (mid lake) are 12.3 and 10.5 µg/L, respectively. Both of these sites show similar patterns of between-year variation in TP. The majority of Ontario lakes monitored as part of the Lake Partner Program have an average TP concentration of 10-13 µg/L of TP. Therefore, Crystal Lake has relatively good water quality with respect to phosphorus concentrations in comparison to other Lake Partner lakes across Ontario.

Water Quality (con't)

With respect to trophic status, Crystal Lake can range from 'oligotrophic' to borderline 'mesotrophic' lake, meaning that it has a low to moderate amount nutrients. "Oligotrophic" is a term given to lakes that have average) TP concentrations of less than 10 µg/L "Mesotrophic" is a term given to lakes that have average TP concentrations between 10-20 µg/L. From year-to-year, the ice-free season (May-October), TP concentrations can vary from low (oligotrophic) to moderate (mesotrophic)

The average annual Secchi disk transparency of Crystal Lake has stayed relatively stable since 1996, ranging from ~4 to ~6 m over the years. Also note that the average Secchi disk readings at both sites are very similar.

White Nose Bat Syndrome Update: As we have mentioned in the past, white nose syndrome has been detected in the bats that hibernate in the abandoned mine on Crystal Lake. This is a very serious disease that is having a devastating affect on bat populations in the U.S. and Canada Recently researchers have tagged hibernating bats in an effort to determine how they are being affected by this disease. As bats are now leaving the mine, some cottagers and residents are finding dead, tagged bats on their properties. If you find a dead, tagged bat please use gloves when handling it, put it in a plastic bag and return it to the Ministry of Natural Resources in Minden. If it is not possible for you to do that please contact Sharon Brickman (705-488-2295) and she will try to make arrangements to pick it up from you. For additional information, we have included a fact sheet related to white nose syndrome on the Crystal Lake website. As it is still unknown how this disease affects humans and there is concern that human-bat contact may be responsible for disease transfer, please do not enter any bat hibernacula (caves). Also, please discuss this with your children and young adults.

Hydro Power Distribution to Crystal Lake: The following

explanation is from Hydro One.

Our Operations Manager for Haliburton area has advised that Crystal Lake is supplied from Kinmount DS (distribution station) feeding down HWY# 121 to Galway Rd. East to a 3 way split to Inland Subdivision and to all of Crystal Lake and to Salmon Lake and Fortescue Lake as well. Quite a bit of the distribution line is off road. This would help to explain why restoration of cottages around the lake may not be simultaneous.

Buoys: Once again, it is time to announce that the buoys/markers used on Crystal Lake are located to help cottagers and visitors alike to show many of our lake's rock shoals. However, not ***all*** rock shoals are marked. Therefore, all boaters are urged to use caution and common sense when boating in unfamiliar waters. A "shout-out" goes out to all the volunteers that put the buoys out on the long weekend in May and take them in on Thanksgiving weekend. Thank-You!! Remember, if by chance, a marker breaks loose and you find it, please leave it on your dock or shore, plainly visible. This way, the volunteers can retrieve the buoy and re-position it as soon as possible.

Adopt-A-Road: As the snow finally disappears and before the black flies and the mosquitoes re-appear, now is the time to clean up our roadways. It is surprising to see how much litter can accumulate along our roads. Remember, "Many hands make light work". Another "shout-out" goes out to GARAI for funding the signage and for its coordinator, Carl Brickman. All roads leading to Crystal Lake have assigned volunteers to keep our roads litter-free.

Septic System Inspections: At last year's AGM, 81% of the cottagers present voted in favour of a septic system inspection. This was presented to the previous GCH Council in September. It is now in the hands of the current Council. There may be a possibility that the province may become involved. Your Association is continuing to follow this process closely.

Our Website: It's awesome! More "shout-outs" go out to Jim Russel and John Hubbard for making our website so good. One can check out information, buy and sell, check the lake webcam, join the forum, and, as of this week, you can pay your membership fee of \$ 20.00 online! Go to:

www.crystallakecottagers.ca

Friendly Reminders:

1. We share our lake with many of nature's creatures both big and small. (See our Wildlife Inventory posted on our website). Please respect all forms of wildlife.
2. We also share the roads with many of these creatures so please use caution and slow down.
3. Always use caution when having any type of fire. See the GCH rules and regulations at: www.galwaycavendishharvey.ca
4. Be Bear Wise! See what you can do at bears.mnr.gov.on.ca
5. Know your 911 information in case of an emergency. Please ensure that your 911 is visible and in good shape. All old Crystal Lake numbers should be removed to avoid confusion.
6. Watch your boat wake! Be considerate of cottagers' docks, water craft, and shorelines. Know the rules. Go 'dead slow' in potential loon nesting areas or avoid these areas completely.
7. Get involved! Join the Ontario Turtle Tally or Adopt-A-Pond. For more info, go to www.torontozoo.com/AdoptAPond/Turtle
8. If you are a dog owner, you may want to familiarize yourself with the contents of the GCH by-law. website at: <http://www.galwaycavendishharvey.ca/DepartmentsCommittees/AnimalControl/tabid/86/Default.aspx>

Upcoming Events: Be a positive part of the local community by sharing in the many activities that are planned. The best way to keep in touch is via the super little local paper, ***The Kinmount Gazette***. Your Association is a proud sponsor of this venture for the second year in a row. Extra copies of this paper will be available at the Transfer Station starting in May. At print time, the calendar of local events was not available.

May 2011: Most things get rolling by the Long Weekend :

The Kinmount Artisans Marketplace back Friends" event "Welcome The Kinmount Farmers' Market opens for the 2011 season. Hours of Operation are from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

June 2011:

Sunday, June 5th at 10 a.m. at the Galway Hall is your Association's Annual General Meeting.
June 21st Summer Solstice
June 23,24,25,26 is the 4th Annual Kinmount Country Jamboree. This year's line-up includes Harold McIntyre, Anita Perras, Larry Mercer, and Johnny Burke. For more details, go to www.ambrec.com/kinmount or a preview at www.youtube.com
June 26th Canada Bay fireworks at the Fairgrounds at dusk.

July 2011:

Friday, July 1st Canada Day
Saturday, July 2nd Strawberry Supper @ the Galway Hall from 4:30 to 7 p.m.
Sunday, July 31st Crystal Lake Rock Bass Derby at the Marina

August 2011:

Monday ,August 1st Civic Holiday

September 2011:

September 2, 3 4 Kinmount Fair
Monday, September 5th Labour Day

