



Volunteers Needed

The RLPOA is an incorporated Not for Profit Organization (NPO). Volunteers are covered by its Commercial General Liability and Directors & Officers insurance policies.

**Urgent Message
To
Mr. or Ms. "Someone Else"**

You are expected by many to step forward. However, you rarely respond to our warnings that without people in the essential board positions listed, the RLPOA and its voice for the lake will not be able to continue.

We hope our members get the point. This is actually a very serious situation. **With the various issues facing the lake, it is not a time to let its voice fade.** Please indicate your willingness via your mail-in sheet, the RLPOA email address (info@rlpoa.info) or contact Wendy Engel directly: (613) 592-1758; wengel@rogers.com

Board Position: President

We are grateful to **Bill Goderre** for putting his best effort into the duties of president for the past two years but unfortunately he **has found it necessary to resign** from all of his RLPOA responsibilities, due to the increased time he is now obliged to devote to his business. Thank you, Bill, for all you have done. We wish you every success.

We are again appealing to volunteers within our membership to step forward. **We must fill this position in order for the association to continue.** The duties of president are not onerous, and include providing general support and direction for the association. **A highly supportive apprenticeship will be in place** until you have gained a comprehensive knowledge of the RLPOA's various issues, activities and administrative set-up, and are comfortable to chair meetings (4-5 for the board during May to late September, and one members' AGM in late July).

This position might ideally suit - but is certainly not limited to - a member who is semi-retired and lives within a two-hour drive of the lake. If you are at all interested in taking a turn in filling this crucial need but have questions, **please contact Wendy.** She promises to fill you in - not rope you in.

Newsletter Spring 2011

Board Position: Secretary

Our current *interim* secretary continues with her "hunt and peck" keyboarding to keep this position filled, as required for an incorporated NPO. But not for much longer. Duties of the **secretary** include **recording and distributing meeting minutes and keeping correspondence**, therefore typing and emailing capabilities are necessary. Lots of editing help will be available while you are settling in and becoming familiar with the various topics discussed at board meetings. This position includes voting privileges.

Boating Hazard Marking Coordinator

If we do not have a coordinator in place by May 20th, the program will have to be suspended.

We have a great team of volunteers who mark the hazards in their areas. Their responsibilities include installing the buoys in June, monitoring over the summer, removing them the last weekend in September, storage over the winter, and notifying the coordinator of the need for new tethering chain or any other problems with the equipment.

It is necessary that someone who is a summer-long resident and has a boat be generally responsible and in charge. The hazard marking program coordinator's duties include checking with the team in early summer as to the put-in weekend, and again in the fall re take-out. The coordinator is also the contact for property owners who notice a marker missing (or find one under their dock), and takes steps to notify or have it returned to the designated team member. From time to time, tethering chains rust and must be replaced. The coordinator keeps a supply of chain and extra markers at the ready for the marking team.



Many of you may recall the RLPOA Annual General Meeting a number of years ago, at which a motion from the floor to institute this program was greeted with overwhelming support from the members. The RLPOA has devoted considerable effort and expense to putting it in place, and volunteers have made sure that it has been run in a responsible, reliable fashion.

This program is one of the Association's most visible and appreciated services. But - **we will not be able to continue with it unless a volunteer for the position of coordinator steps forward.**

Please Support Your RLPOA!

Your membership fees, donations, participation in fundraising, and volunteerism support the many RLPOA programs important to the lake and its property owners: Stewardship (water quality monitoring and education); Safety (boating hazard markers and Cottage Watch); Issues and Negotiations (water levels, park planning, waste management planning); Communications (newsletters and website); Community Involvement; support for umbrella associations such as the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association and Waterfront Ratepayers After Fair Taxation; administration.

Many thanks to those of you who have responded this year. **We ask those who have yet to do so to please use the mail-in sheet.** Don't forget that we need your updated contact info, including your email address so we can send you any short-notice messages (blind copied, of course). We do not share your information with outside organizations, and only use it within our own on a strict need-to-know basis.

July 23rd Annual General Meeting

Please mark your calendars. The RLPOA AGM 2011 will be held July 23, Saint Casimir's Church Hall, Round Lake Centre, registration 9:00 a.m., meeting to start at 9:30.

Board Terms Ending



Three-year terms scheduled for the following positions are concluding and therefore open to election (*read volunteers!*): secretary; community involvement chair; shoreline directors for areas E (Bonnehchere R. to 818 John St.), H (Lake St. to Oak St.), I (Oak St. to Lakeview Dr.), K (Sunrise Rd. to Sherwood R.), L (Sherwood R. to Bonnehchere R.). **Nominations must be received by July 4.** Please contact any board member or reach us by email: info.rlpoa.info Remember that a shoreline director must own property within the area he or she represents, and that a property owner's designate (see definition on mail-in sheet) can hold a board position. **Other positions** that are presently vacant and can therefore be filled at any time during their current terms are listed on the mail-in sheet.

Please consider helping. The board is a friendly group, the subjects and issues discussed are interesting, and you will be participating in the betterment of the lake.

Amendment to the RLPOA By-Law

At the May RLPOA board meeting, we will be discussing a potential amendment to the RLPOA By-law. The amendment would require that the topic and content of AGM presentations be made available to the RLPOA board prior to the AGM, and be subject to the approval of the board. This will ensure, to the best of our ability, that the topic is relevant to our association and that the presenter has reasonable expertise to speak to it. Pending board approval, the amendment will be presented for your ratification at the July AGM.

Father George Olsen



Many of you may be aware of the tragedy that took place shortly after midnight on March 20th when the Saint Casimir's Church rectory at Round Lake Centre was suddenly consumed by fire. Father Olsen, much loved and admired by all who knew him, died in the blaze.

The community is devastated by the great loss of this kind, caring priest who had a wonderful and engaging sense of humour and a happy, positive outlook.

Our profound condolences to Father Olsen's family, parishioners, and many friends and acquaintances. Our thoughts and prayers are also with the members of Saint Casimir's Church who in their grief must face the challenges ahead for their church community. We additionally extend sincere sympathy to the students and staff of Saint Casimir's School, where Father Olsen will be sadly missed.

Keeping the "Family" In the Family Cottage 2011 FOCA Cottage Succession Seminars

The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations will be delivering Cottage Succession seminars across southern/central Ontario this summer, carrying on from their successful seminars in 2010. These seminars offer information and guidance to waterfront landowners who are planning on passing their cottage down to their children or family members. The 2011 series will again feature a presentation by Peter Lillico, Estate Lawyer, author and Cottage Life writer, along with information about financial planning from the event sponsor Tranter & Associates.



The speaker and his presentation are outstanding. Unfortunately the seminar schedule is full for this summer but FOCA has us on their list for 2012, should they continue with the seminars. Meanwhile, those of you who would like to attend this entertaining, forthright and excellent presentation in **Perth** (August 28) or **Ottawa** (date/time/location to be determined) should register with FOCA Program Coordinator Tracy Logan at: programs@foca.on.ca or (705)749-3622.

Water Safety Instructor and Assistant Applications

If you are qualified for one of these positions for the six-week Killaloe, Hagarty & Richards summer program at Bonnehchere Park beach on Round Lake, please contact the Township office (ASAP!) at (613) 757-2300; lhudder@khrtownship.ca

Notes Re The Mail-In Sheet

Please see the volunteer side about the **fish stocking program**. Also see the information about **advertising your business** in the RLPOA Annual Directory.

Water Levels

(By Don Pouliot, RLPOA Water Levels Chairman)

Negotiations

Following up on our declaration in the January 2011 newsletter to continue negotiations to resolve the long term issues and concerns that property owners on Round Lake are experiencing, two major actions were initiated and are currently under review by the MNR.

In February the RLPOA gave a **presentation to the MNR in Pembroke** that was essentially an updated information session to highlight our ongoing commitment to property owners to have winter water levels lowered to reduce the damaging impact of thermal ice push movement on waterfront properties. As well it reiterated our belief that the current water flows and levels that are designed for hydroelectric production are detrimental to the ecology and wildlife habitat in and on the lakes and rivers and along the shorelines of the Bonnechere River system.



In March, Killaloe Hagarty & Richards Mayor Janice Visneskie, on behalf of her Round Lake constituents, **presented to the office of the Provincial MNR Minister** a request for an immediate directive by the Minister, the Hon. Linda Jeffrey, to have RPG lower winter water levels by 2 feet at freeze-up. This would create a 20-25 foot extended beach or shoreline zone that should allow ice push movement to be exhausted prior to reaching and destroying upper shoreline areas. The Minister was also requested to have this lower winter water level held and to be in effect until a review and revision of the Water Management Plan (WMP) was completed. This review is scheduled for 2012 but given past history, could take an additional year or two to be completed. Allowing high winter water levels to continue to be managed at the discretion of RPG for another 2 or 3 years cannot be allowed as the potential for continued ice push damage is too great and any further shoreline damage at this stage is unacceptable. To read the presentation to the Minister please view it on the RLPOA website at www.rlpoa.info (User Name: property owner Password: Round Lake).

MNR expressed some concern that the tone of the presentation to the Minister seemed to discount MNR's work and costs incurred on behalf of Round Lake property owners. This was not, and is not the intent. With all due respect, the simple fact is that, regardless of all MNR efforts to date, lakefront properties continue to be subjected to high winter water levels and annually occurring ice push events that inevitably result in **severe erosion** of the shoreline and riparian zones by attendant high water/wind/wave action. Unfortunately this is, and has been the status quo for numerous years and has reached the point where it **must be corrected without any further delays**. Waiting for seemingly endless studies and assessments to be completed will just result in more damaging ice push events with severe erosion and shoreline damage.

Ice Push

It appears that the a second and possibly a third ice push occurred along Eno Bay since the one that occurred on Dec. 30th and reported on in the January Newsletter. Pictures of the

damages along the shoreline taken on March 30th were presented to the Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) for the Bonnechere River System committee to illustrate and highlight the extent and extraordinary power of ice push movement under high water conditions. On the following page are four of the photos that clearly confirm the adage that a picture is worth a thousand words.

Spring Freshet

RPG initiated a very aggressive drawdown of approximately 6 cm/week from late December 2010 to the end of March. Current water levels on Round Lake are as low as possible awaiting the spring freshet and accordingly should be well positioned to contain the spring floods without breaching the upper limits of the Water Management Plan.

Feedback from the RLPOA Jan 2011 Newsletter

In addition to receiving a number of damage reports, we received several suggestions and strategies related to moving forward with our objective of lowering winter water levels. Some were quite innovative and all were helpful. **Our appreciation and thanks to those who took the time and made the effort to provide their input.** No calls or e-mails were received from any property owners who had concerns with lowering winter water levels. Several comments were received on the mechanics of thermal ice push as described in the January Newsletter. For the benefit of those who are interested, the following information was summarized (and slightly clarified due to its highly technical nature) from "River and Lake Ice Engineering" By George D. Ashton. The study can be accessed through Google.



"Thermal ice push is caused by unequal stresses on the bottom or top of the ice cap as a result of a rapid change in temperature either from warm to cold or from cold to warm. The difference in stress between the top and bottom of the cap causes the ice cap to bend either upwards or downward depending on which layer is warmer relative to the other. This bending is only released by large cracks forming on the ice accompanied by loud bangs and vibrations that sometimes can be felt on shore. These cracks become filled with water and refreeze causing more stress in the upper or lower layers of the ice cap and on for example, a subsequent rapid warming trend; additional pressure (caused by a very complex set of thermal reactions and not simple to explain) is formed on the top layer. This additional pressure and bending of the ice cap results in either ice moving onto the shores if the shoreline ice cap is not anchored or forming ridges on the ice cap itself in areas where the ice is weakest".

We are always interested in receiving any information related to any concerns of any nature in regards to the lake. We would be glad to hear from you. **Please contact:** Don Pouliot (613) 633-9035 or Wendy Engel (613) 592-1758.

The following link is the weekly water level chart produced by RPG:

http://www.renfrewpg.ca/round_lake_water_levels.php

If you have questions or need more info, please contact Don.

March 30, 2011 Shore Line Ice Push - Eno Bay

