



**From the
Board of Directors**

Your RLPOA Board wishes you a safe and happy summer. We welcome **new property owners** on Round Lake and the Bonnechere River. Let us know who and where you are, so that we can include you in our winter and spring newsletter mail-outs.

As a token of appreciation to new members, we hand deliver coloured maps of Round Lake, over the summer.

The association is of significant benefit to the lake in general. RLPOA members join the association for a **modest annual fee of \$20.00.** Membership dues support all of the RLPOA's programs, including: **Stewardship; Safety** (boating hazard marking and education, and Cottage Watch); **Issues & Negotiations** (water levels, parks planning, waste management planning); **Community Involvement** (annual bursary to assist a local high school graduate in his or her post secondary education, and modest donations to Round Lake Recreation and the Bonnechere River Watershed Project); membership in **Waterfront Ratepayers After Fair Taxation** and the **Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association; Communications** including newsletters and a web site to keep all property owners educated and aware of conditions that affect the welfare of lake and its property owners; **liability insurance** for all of our programs and volunteers. This year, we have had to purchase computer equipment and programs to run things more efficiently, and we will need to replace our hazard markers in the near future.

We have been producing newsletters three times per year since 2001. Readers may notice an occasional article that has been recycled, however some messages cannot be repeated often enough.

The RLPOA sends newsletters to all property owners, rather than limiting distribution to those who have paid their membership fee. Keeping everyone as informed and educated as possible on care of the lake's environment and on issue-related matters is in the best interests of Round Lake and the Bonnechere River, and therefore of each and every member of the RLPOA.

If you have yet to join, and wonder why you should since you're receiving the benefits of this association anyway, please consider that **the higher our membership numbers, the stronger our voice** on behalf of everyone will be. And the more financial membership support, **the better job we can do.**

Newsletter Summer 2010

RLPOA Annual General Meeting Saturday, July 24

**St. Casimir's Church Hall,
Round Lake Centre
Registration 9:00 a.m., Call to Order 9:30**

The meeting is open to RLPOA members only, but if you have yet to renew your membership, you may do so at the door. This is a good opportunity to catch up with fellow property owners over pre-meeting coffee and snacks.

We hope as many of you as possible will join us for updates on Township affairs by **Mayor Janice Visneskie** and a presentation by **OPP Constable Trevor MacInnis** on crime prevention and Cottage Watch. You will also hear annual reports on your association's activities, and be asked to approve nominees for positions beginning a new term.

Board positions open to election are: president; vice president; past president; treasurer; water levels chairman; lake steward; shoreline directors for Areas A (Reserve Creek to Jack's Creek), D (Pine Point to Bonnechere River), and N (Dombroskie's Point to Reserve Creek). Nominations should be received by July 5. RLPOA contact info is listed at the bottom of the page, and in the 2010 Business Directory included in this newsletter package.

Please attend. We look forward to meeting with you.

Volunteers Needed!

Please check the mail-in sheet for board positions currently vacant, as well as for other areas in which assistance is required.

The position of secretary is in urgent need of filling. The secretary has full voting privileges on the board. Essential duties include recording meeting minutes and keeping correspondence. Basic typing and computer skills as well as emailing capability are necessary.

Shoreline directors are liaisons that ensure by their collective votes that board decisions reflect the best interests of the lake in general. It is important that your area is represented.

Please consider taking a turn in this organization that is so important to the present and future well being of Round Lake. The board is a welcoming, friendly, helpful group, and the issues with which it deals are interesting.

Water Levels

(By RLPOA Water Levels Chairman Don Pouliot)

Spring Levels

Due to the early, dry spring plus the fact that there was minimal ground frost this year, the snow melt in the Bonnechere headlands mostly percolated into the ground, resulting in a slower than usual spring run-off or "freshet". This slow freshet combined with Renfrew Power Generation's (RPG's) experimental preparations to bring water levels down to the minimal allowed by the lower limits of the Water Management Plan (WMP). The result was excellent containment of high spring water levels which in turn resulted in absolutely minimal erosion and property damage caused by high wind/wave action on the shorelines.



It is worth noting that this year's freshet levels, which actually quite closely followed the typical operating line for the Round Lake water level operating regime, very well illustrate the fact that if the lakes are well prepared and are lowered sufficiently to control or contain the freshet, spring high water flooding and wind/wave damage could be minimized substantially. It is the opinion of the RLPOA that dam-controlled lakes, if properly managed, should consistently be able to control high spring water levels under all conditions with the possible exception of the occurrence of a one in a 100 year flood. Hopefully the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) and RPG will concur that the massive amount of erosion and shoreline damage experienced over the past several years cannot continue and that steps must be taken by both groups to ensure that the proper guidelines and water level controls be implemented to achieve results that will be consistent year over year. This would be to the benefit of fisheries, property owners, and hydroelectric generation.

Charts and Log Placement Information

RPG is now publishing log placement with its weekly water level chart on the RPG web site at:
http://www.renfrewpg.ca/round_lake_water_levels.php

A number of property owners, as well as the RLPOA, have requested over the years that this information be made public. RPG has finally complied. RPG also intends to work out the method and the technology to provide actual flow volumes at the Tramore dam as well as all the other dams downstream. This information is a requirement of the WMP and will be tested over the next 6 to 12 months prior to becoming public. RLPOA has requested that RPG's water level chart be updated daily rather than on a weekly basis. This would allow property owners to compare water levels relative to their shorelines virtually instantaneously at any time throughout the year.

Lake Trout Fish Study

The long awaited Lake Trout fish study and its impact on managing water levels is due to be released June 16th. One of the prime objectives of the MNR is to manage or maintain a

healthy riparian environment to promote successful fisheries throughout the Bonnechere River system. Accordingly, both the MNR and RPG have applied significant effort and cost to determine fish species, populations, environmental impacts, etc., as well as to locate and identify current spawning areas and associated water depths and other potential spawning beds that could be suitable at different water levels. It is a milestone study for Round Lake and will in all likelihood become a reference base that can be used to promote the development of a successful fishery as well as for comparison of the effects of any future changes to the management of water levels that could impact Lake Trout habitat.

From the Fire Department

The following basic points may save your life, and your property:

- **Smoke detectors** are required by law in homes, travel and tent trailers, cabins, bunkies - any enclosed sleeping accommodations.
- **Carbon monoxide detectors** are recommended.
- Both sides of your 911 sign should be clearly visible from the road.
- **Keep lanes brushed** to a minimum width of 11 feet, to allow emergency vehicles adequate clearance.
- **Post your civic address** in a prominent place near your telephone. Renters and guests (and distressed owners) will need to give the necessary information if they have to make that call to 911.
- **Daytime burning is not allowed. Burning at night is not allowed during dry periods.** Keep an eye on the hazard conditions dial near the Round Lake Fire Hall on Round Lake Road (County Rd. 58), west of Round Lake Centre. Fire hazard warnings are also posted on MNR's website (Pembroke District)

A false alarm bylaw is now in effect in KHR. On the first occasion, the property owner receives a written warning. Subsequent false alarms result in stiff fines.

The KHR Fire Department's annual **Open House** is scheduled for **Saturday, July 24**, at the Round Lake Fire Hall, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Displays and hands-on opportunities will be fun and educational for adults and children alike.



And from the RLPOA: We thank our volunteer fire department, local OPP officers, KHR roads crew, and other emergency services for their 24/7 dedication to our safety.

Motor Boating, Sailing & Swimming

Annual Round Lake Regatta

(By Michael Shulist)

Yes, it's safe to go in the water again this year! Though you might find that the competition to sail in the regatta may heat up given last year's results. The sailing dynasty of Mantifel and Recoskie had to settle for second place when the solo Anthony Dixon won in the catamaran class and Ron Weber arrived in third. The monohull class was won by Julie and Gilles Rodrigue.

The Round Lake Regatta has become a permanent sporting event on the lake and has been held continuously since before 1960 (according to some of the elders on the lake). It is a great venue to participate in a friendly sailing competition or just sit back and watch the sails go by. Winning, participating or just watching-all have fun.

This year, the regatta is being hosted by Dave Barnes and John Cameron on **Sunday August 1 (the long weekend) at the Barnes' cottage, 2238A Round Lake Road**. The skippers meeting will be held at 11:30 and the regatta will be started at 13:00. For additional information contact regatta@shulist.com



Editor's Note: This popular regatta is privately hosted by Round Lake sailing enthusiasts.

Township Swim Program

We are pleased that KHR will be running its swim program, this year. Lessons take place at the Bonnechere Park beach **Monday to Friday, July 5 to August 13, 9:00 a.m. to noon**. The fee is \$40 per child. **Seasonal residents** who have missed the June 30th registration deadline at the Township office **may register at the beach**. Bonnechere Park staff will issue passes at the gate to swim program participants.

Boat Operator Card Now Mandatory

All operators of motorized pleasure craft must have on board a PCOC. If you have missed the July 4 Golden Lake POA course and exam at Killaloe Public School (8:00 a.m., \$40 per) and have yet to obtain the license otherwise, **Transport Canada** lists accredited course providers at www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety

RLPOA Boating Hazard Markers

Target dates for installation and removal of hazard buoys are June 15th and September 30th, respectively.

The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA) has experienced complications in its goal to provide standardized markers for all member associations who mark boating hazards. FOCA will not, after all, be a go-between for lake associations in obtaining the buoys. However, it has provided information regarding the source of the standardized

marker it has developed, so that individual lake associations can purchase their own supplies.

As this will take some consideration, we will continue with our current markers for this year. Although they are more than a little "tired", it would not be fiscally responsible for RLPOA to replace them in kind until we sort out the options. Our liability insurance continues to cover our present hazard marking program and all of our volunteers.

If you notice that a marker is missing, or if you find one hiding under your dock, please contact Bill Goderre, ASAP. Cell Phone: (613) 371-4644.

Many thanks to Bill and the team of marker managers who make boating safer for all who use the lake.

Disclaimer: Although an effort is made to mark some hazards, the RLPOA is not responsible to insure all hazards are marked or continue to be marked. Every individual operator of a water craft is solely responsible for safe boating including the avoidance of any water hazards.

Safe Boating: Ride with Respect

The 2009 RLPOA summer newsletter package included **Transport Canada's "Safe Boating Guide"**. We have a limited number of these booklets left, so if you did not receive it in '09 and would like one, please contact the RLPOA.

Section 43 of the Small Vessel Regulations prohibits:

- ◆ operating vessels at high engine regime in circular crisscross patterns for extended periods of time in the same location.
- ◆ jumping the waves of the wake of another vessel unreasonably close to that vessel or so as to cause engine RPM to peak and make unusual or excessive noise
- ◆ disturbing the peace or causing annoyance
- ◆ weaving through congested traffic at more than a slow speed
- ◆ swerving at the last possible moment to avoid collision (playing "chicken")
- ◆ operating a vessel at a speed higher than necessary to maintain steerageway when near swimmers or non-powered vessels

and

- ◆ Powered vessels may only travel up to 10 km per hour when within 30 metres of the shore, except when towing water skiers.
- ◆ Mufflers must be in good working order and be in use when the engine is being operated.

Docks, Rafts And Moored Water Craft

You are required to obtain a permit from MNR to construct a **dock** if the total surface area of the supporting structure (e.g. pipes, cribs) placed on the lakebed exceeds 15 square metres. For smaller dimensions or floating docks, a permit is not required. Do not use pressure treated wood, as harmful chemicals leach into the lake.

Swim rafts must: be placed directly in front of your property; be no further than 30 m (100') from shore; be in water depth of 1.8 m (6') or less; be removed from the water at the end of boating season; have reflectors and be painted white or yellow on all four sides; float so that the deck is no less than 45 cm (18") from the surface of the water.

Regulations for **mooring** buoys are illustrated on Page 72 of the Safe Boating Guide delivered to you in last summer's newsletter package. At the time of this newsletter printing, we have not found other specific rules for anchoring boats offshore. Do make your moored boat highly visible. We don't know how compatible the following suggestion may be with recommendations to reduce night lighting, but an innovative solution we have witnessed is a solar patio light stuck into in a pail of sand on the anchored boat. It did not reflect on the water so probably had no impact on fish habitat, and it seemed dim enough to be inoffensive to neighbours. Yet, it was sufficiently visible to be an effective warning at night.

KHR Council has agreed to add an **extension to the public dock at Round Lake Centre**. The dock is of benefit to many who boat on Round Lake, whether or not they are property owners on the lake or Bonnechere River. It is also of benefit to Round Lake Centre businesses. The cost of the dock is covered by KHR revenue from sale of shoreline allowances to waterfront property owners.

Bonnechere River Watershed Project (BRWP)

The BRWP is often confused with the Bonnechere River Water Management Plan (BRWP). The latter governs management of the water levels and flows through the system, and was developed by Renfrew Power Generation, the Ministry of Natural Resources, and other stakeholders. **The BRWP is a volunteer stewardship organization** whose interest is the preservation and enhancement of the environment of the watershed along the Bonnechere system.

The Home Page of the BRWP's website states: "Since our beginning in 1998 the BRWP has had many accomplishments within the Bonnechere River Watershed. Over the past 11 years we have provided education to landowners and students, offered incentives to become better environmental stewards and run a variety of programs that focus on the health and integrity of the Bonnechere Watershed." That is a modest statement indeed. To appreciate the work that the BRWP does, please take a tour through their website: www.bonnechereriver.ca

Round Lake Stewardship Notes

(By RLPOA Lake Steward Larry Wade)

Water Quality



RLPOA members who have a genuine concern about the presence of possible E. coli in the water at their shorelines are invited to request that a sample be taken for testing: Email: glwade@sympatico.ca; tel: local 757-1073; 613- 737-4399.

RLPOA will cover the cost of only one sample per property this summer 2010. E. coli enters water from warm-blooded animals including birds swimming nearby; hence the results of one test may not be significant. If members request further testing we will try to collect those samples and arrange for their testing at the same lab cost as our regular tests, but those costs must be borne by the property owner in advance.



Without knowing what interest this notice may bring, and with a limited budget, **RLPOA may need to limit its response to such requests.** Since samples must be kept cold and I must drive them to the Ottawa lab within one day, and as I do not have a power boat, sampling will be limited to the boat transportation I can find, and to the times I have available. RLPOA and the property owner retain ownership of the results of such testing.

KHR Solid Waste Management Planning

Killaloe Hagarty and Richards Township (KHR) has hired the environmental management firm Greenview to develop its Municipal Solid Waste Management Strategic Plan, (MSWMSP). KHR solicited volunteers to sit on the Public Liaison Committee (PLC) which "... is intended to play an integral role in the development of the MSWMSP". **Fellow RLPOA board member Patricia Hoist and I** volunteered, and in April 2010 we were selected to **sit on that committee**. We are to serve as conduits for information to and from RLPOA and KHR. We will report to RLPOA as we become aware of developments to be published in RLPOA's newsletters. Additionally, Greenview will place notices of plan developments in the three local print media, to which citizens can respond.

We encourage you to keep abreast of developments so that we can bring forward your suggestions at the monthly PLC meetings. **Patricia Hoist:** patriciaholst@gmail.com ;cell 613-401-7724. **Larry Wade:** glwade@sympatico.ca; 613-737-4399; 757-1073.

A Public Consultation meeting will be held on Saturday, August 14, 9:00 - noon, Lions Hall, 18 Lake Street, Killaloe. There is parking at the back. Please plan to attend!

If you spot an algae bloom, please contact Larry, as above.

High Water Emergency Communications

Representatives from RPG, MNR, both the Round and Golden Lake Property Owners' Associations and the Townships in which the Round and Golden Lake reaches are located met four times since last fall-to-work-out **a plan for timely and efficient communication to property owners** if there is an impending high water emergency.

In consideration of our seasonal resident population and property owners who are not connected via computer, and the fact that a relatively low percentage of our property owners have given us their email addresses, RLPOA had hoped to combine efforts with KHR to have a mail-out plan in place in addition to email and website coverage. We proposed that the RLPOA would be responsible for: maintaining address-updated mailing envelopes for all property owners in our membership area; printing the notifications; labour in stuffing and mailing envelopes. We asked KHR to cover the cost of postage stamps.

KHR Council chose not to participate in this mail-out plan, as they felt electronic notification via website would be more efficient. Therefore, RLPOA must limit individual notifications of high water emergencies to those for whom we have email addresses.

Potential emergency conditions (fire, flood, etc.) are good reasons for you to consider giving us your updated email address. We do not share this information with any outside organizations, and are careful to blind copy when sending out notifications.

KHR's website will provide information and appropriate links, as well as notifications via the local media. The **RLPOA website** will also post notifications as well as links to the Township and to Renfrew Power Generation. **RPG's website** will provide frequent updates and information, including daily water levels charts.

Websites:

Municipality: www.killaloe-hagarty-richards.ca

RPG: www.renfrewpg.ca

RLPOA: www.rlpoa.info

Property owners without computers may visit their local library to access the information.

Although the time for worrying about such conditions has passed, for this year, our summer newsletter package affords us the opportunity of delivering the enclosed **instruction package on how to construct a sandbag dike**. We recommend that you **keep these instructions at your lake residence**, ready for your use should we face high water emergency conditions in the future.

We thank Golden Lake POA's John Gulland for finding these instructions issued by the government of Manitoba (experts in flood control, no doubt) and making them available to committee members for distribution.

Foy Park Planning

As mentioned in previous newsletters, plans to amalgamate the administration and development of Bonnechere, Bonnechere River and Foy parks on Round Lake under one management as the "Little Bonnechere Park" have been underway for some time.

The following is an early May update from Bonnechere Park Superintendent Paul Smith: "The park planning process was held up in 2009 as we had to take into consideration the implementation of the new Endangered Species Act. The Preliminary Management Plan is now, once again, in the approval process. Once approved, we will be taking it back to the advisory committee and proceeding to the public open house."

An announcement of a public open house is not likely to coincide with the RLPOA newsletter schedule. **To ensure that as many property owners as possible receive the notification in a timely fashion**, we are maintaining a supply of address-updated mailing envelopes, which will be given to Paul when an announcement is imminent. He and his staff will stuff and mail the envelopes, and Parks Ontario will cover the cost of copying and postage.

Beach Side Beefs

A gentle reminder that although being at the lake is about the pleasure of summer, **restraint and respect for others** is in order so all can enjoy it. Common frustrations can be reduced with some **thoughtfulness and consideration** toward your near and not-so-near neighbours.

Try to find a storage spot for **leftover construction material** that is not only out of your own view (if you mind it), but also out of the view of your neighbours.

Avoid sharing your music with your neighbours, near and far. Turn down the base, and refrain from parking your stereo in the window of your home at high volume in order to hear your music on the beach. It travels a long way.

The **constant barking of dogs** can echo up and down the shoreline.

Be considerate regarding night lighting. Not only can it cause problems for the natural balance of a lakeside environment (see Summer '09 newsletter), but also it can also really spoil your neighbours' enjoyment of their own homes and properties.

E. coli levels, always present and usually well below recreational swimming concerns, are found to be higher in areas where there is waterfowl excrement. So, enjoy the wildlife in their natural setting, but **reconsider making your property and/or beach a favourite feeding stop for ducks and geese.**



Miscellaneous Messages

This Is a Municipal Election Year!

Mail-in voting will again be utilized. Are you and your spouse, and your correct mailing address on the voters' list? It is important that all ratepayers exercise their voting privileges.

The voters' list will be received by the township from MP AC by July 31st. After that date, property owners may check it at the KHR office in Killaloe, 1 John Street (near the fountain), Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.,

The declaration deadline for candidates is September 10.

KHR Hazardous Waste Day

**Saturday, August 28, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Municipal Garage, Highway 60**

Please keep poisonous, toxic, combustible, and corrosive material out of our waste sites and therefore out of ground water supplies. KHR volunteers will accept this material at the **Township Garage**. Take Simpson Pit Road from Round Lake Centre and turn right onto **Hwy. 60**.

Cellphone Service

Good news for those who have been awaiting coverage for the Round Lake area: Two towers, one just east of McMillan Road at Golden Lake and the other near Simpson Pit Road, are expected to be in operation by fall. These will provide the "missing link" along Highway 60.

The initiative to convince Bell of the necessity for coverage was taken by Golden Lake POA's Kevin O'Connor and David Lemkay, and Bonnechere Valley Councilor Cairine Cybulski, a number of years ago. Their persistence in this matter is appreciated by all who wish to have service at Round Lake.

Please Help Us to Keep Our Mailing Lists Updated

We ask any **new property owners** and all **property owners who have changed their addresses** to please send us their current contact info. You can email the RLPOA at info.rlpoa.info, or send updates via post to: RLPOA Mailmaster, General Delivery, Round Lake Centre, KOJ 2JO. Telephone numbers for board members are listed in the RLPOA Business Directory.

If you are a new property owner, informing us of your civic address (or from whom you purchased the property) will help us to make the necessary adjustments.

Report Any Shoreline Damage!

Unless it's reported, we can't document it. We need documentation in our efforts to negotiate a better buffer area for spring wind/wave action and winter thermal ice pushes.

For example, although there was relatively minimal damage around the lake from this winter's ice heave, we know that it did some damage and narrowly missed a number of boathouses in Saint Patrick's Bay.

Please let RLPOA Water Levels Chairman Don Pouliot know at: djfp@sympatico.ca; 613-756-2631; 613-757-2258; cell 613-633-9035.

FOCA Newsletter Subscriptions

Oops! Somehow, we were missed by the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association newsletter. It is now in hand and its information is still relevant. The summer edition is coming out soon, so we will likely send subscribers a two-in-one package, along with our apologies.



As this is the last of our 2010 newsletters, the RLPOA extends much appreciation to Glenda Baker, who greatly improves their appearance and readability. A cottager on the Ottawa River, Glenda says she has learned a lot about stewardship and other matters over her years of setting up our winter, spring and summer editions.

We thank all who help the RLPOA, whether in dedicated, ongoing work, or in whatever capacity their personal schedules and other commitments allow. We are grateful for every ounce of volunteer power each of you donates. Your collective efforts enable this association to function.

To all who support the RLPOA with memberships, donations and participation in fund raising activities, we thank you for contributing to the essential financial foundation that makes it possible for us to do our best for the lake and its permanent and seasonal residents.

Newsletters on the RLPOA Website

If those of you who indicate on your mail-in sheet that you prefer to access the Winter and Spring editions via website only are unable to print the mail-in sheet, please follow the sheet's format in recording the requested information.

Newsletters are directed to all waterfront property owners within our membership area of Round Lake and the Bonnechere River between the lake and the Tramore dam. At www.rlpoa.info, type in **property owner** (two words, no capitals) as the user name, and **Round Lake** (two words, capitals R and L) as the password.