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Fall 2005

SANS SOUCI AND COPPERHEAD ASSOCIATION

## Fall Newsletter

SANS SOUCI AND COPPERHEAD  
ASSOCIATION

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# Ted Hetherington Remembered

C.W. (Wally) King

Major F.E. (Ted) Hetherington, C.D.,  
R.C.C.S. Ret.'d

August 29, 1918 – October 30, 2005.

Honourary Life President, Sans Souci &  
Copperhead Association (SSCA)

Ted Hetherington died on October 30, 2005 at Kingston, Ontario. His wife, Betty predeceased him in 2002, after 60 years of marriage. He leaves his children, Lynne Poole, Joanne Hetherington and Bruce Hetherington; his brother John (Mavis), sister Lois Harris and six grandchildren.

After attending Ridley College in St. Catharines, Ted became Cadet No. 2,526 (numbered from 1876, start of RMC) in 1936 at The Royal Military College of Canada (RMC), graduating in the accelerated class of October 1939 in electrical engineering, just prior to World War II. He was then commissioned in the Royal Canadian Army Corps of Signals and served with 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Army Group for the duration of the war in British and European theatres. After the war Ted completed his B.Sc. degree in 1948, and Masters Degree in 1952 at Queen's University, joined the Electrical Engineering faculty of

RMC where he rose to the academic rank of Professor and served twice (1962-1968 & 1972-1978) as head of the department, retiring in 1978. Ted was honoured with a Doctor of Engineering, *honoris causa* in recognition of his outstanding services. His rather unique citation is the very essence of a gentleman of character and integrity.

Ted was a consummate volunteer whose activities included serving as a past Commander of the Kingston Canadian Power and Sail Squadron.

Ted became president of the SSCA in 1971 following the 13 year Presidency of Elmer Phillips. This decade of the seventies saw the Association evolve from a social entity to a full fledged ratepayers association. As the wider Sans Souci area consisted of unorganized townships the SSCA (along with its adjoining associations) served as the *de facto* local 'government' providing such services as communications (there was no telephone service at that time), an advisory role to the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs regarding area development applications, a community centre, first aid supplies and fire fighting equipment.

....cont'd on page 5

## President's Update

Bill McNeill



The summer of 2005 was amazing - and here we are approaching winter and already contemplating getting back up to the Bay for our next summer season!

Although our cottages are closed down, nothing else stops around us as you will see from all the news contained in this publication. I encourage you to read about and get caught up on the multitude of things which continue to happen - and to share this newsletter with all generations in your families. I also encourage you to stay aware of all the Bay issues reported in

any one of the many news sources which come your way - from the GBA, the GBA Foundation, the Georgian Bay Land Trust, the West Parry Sound Hospital, the Township of the Archipelago, the Ministry of Natural resources or the International Joint Commission. Through awareness we can be prepared and meet the challenges facing us and our beloved Georgian Bay.

Your SSCA Board continues to be very active in reviewing and assessing the events of last summer and planning our programs and strategies for next year and beyond. I would like to specifically recognize and thank each of our retiring directors, Jacquie Green, Cathy MacNiven and Penny Pepperell, for all their past and ongoing efforts on your behalf - and to welcome our new directors, Eric Armour, Nancy Bowen and Iryna Revutsky, and thank them in advance for volunteering their time and efforts for SSCA activities.

On behalf of the Board, I wish each and every Member and your respective families a very special, and safe, holiday season. Lastly, I have been asked to forward to SSCA members and families best wishes for the holiday season from Reeve Peter Ketchum, Councillors Ted Christie, John Seagram and Rick Zanussi and all the Archipelago staff. 🍷

# Wind Farms on the Georgian Bay

Mary Lee

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Many SSCA members will have heard about the proposal put forward by Wind PowerGen to place testing equipment on a site on Remy Bay in Carling Township in order to monitor its feasibility as a wind farm location. The Land Use Permit request was met with vigorous opposition and the company has removed its proposal. It agreed to look at an alternative Industrial Park site further inland, but has withdrawn from this location too as the wind energy inland was inadequate.


The issue of wind farms on the Georgian Bay is extremely complex:

- It is hard to argue against the environmental and economic need to create renewable energy generation capacity in Ontario. This issue is not going to go away.
- Wind power is typically 50% more dependable at a water-based or shoreline location than at an inland one. This makes our coastline very tempting for development.
- But much of the economic base of the Georgian Bay is as a heritage coastline, enjoyed and financially supported by cottage owners, boaters and tourists. Indeed, the environmental and aesthetic importance of the coastline as a global treasure was recognized by the UN's designation of the Georgian Bay as an international Biosphere Reserve.
- And commercial windmills, whether singularly or in massed groupings, are huge. The windmills currently being installed for commercial electricity generation are rated at between 1.5 to 2 Megawatts – enough to power 500 homes. Each tower stands 80 metres high while the blades have a diameter of 80 metres (260 feet), making the total height some 120 metres (about 400 feet). On a

clear day you should be able to see the top of the windmill more than 50 km away, although because they are slender the visibility limit for most people is more like 30 km. A big wind tower sited in the middle of the Bay would be visible from anywhere. Interesting experiments have begun in Germany in camouflaging these structures with paint to make them blend with the sky or the earth. But they are still huge.

- Finally, the areas where the Ontario government is inviting proposals are on previously protected land, (similar to the way in which it allows logging in provincial parks). This raises old arguments about the principle of leasing the land involved.

How should we respond to such a complicated issue? The first answer is to remain calm. Currently, the transmission corridor which runs down our side of the Bay from Sudbury to Barrie is operating near capacity. Even if there were the roads to handle the weight of the heavy machinery needed to transport equipment out to a coastline building site (which there are not), there is no where for the electricity to go at this time. And the government's hands are tied in expanding the transmission corridor as it would have to cross lands currently under First Nation Land Claims review. Given that it typically takes about 10 years to develop a new generation site, from early monitoring through all the environmental review levels involved, these things pose serious problems that developers will have to overcome. Stay tuned.

The long awaited Ontario Power Authority report on how to fix Ontario's looming power shortage has just come down and soon the Ontario government will be launching plans to build new generating and transmission line capacity. Wind power is a key element of the recommended renewable energy portfolio. The GBA is closely monitoring these developments and will be working with all levels of government to try to develop solid policy frameworks for exploring and developing smart solutions that balance the physical, economic, environmental and aesthetic requirements in moving forward. 

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## Property Committee Update


### David Parkes

During the summer of 2005, we welcomed Wayne Crone and his wife Janet to the caretaking team. Working along with our much loved team of Frank and Barbara Martin, Wayne and Janet added much to our Community Centre activities. The team continued to improve facilities and safety on our property, doing their many duties with a wonderful positive attitude, and within financial budgets. After installing a new environmentally friendly septic system for the south cottage, the building was improved and is now a safe and healthy home for caretaking staff for many years to come.

Happily, Chris Goulding agreed to join the property committee. Other members are Peter Conacher, Cameron Wardlaw, and David Parkes.

Sadly, Frank and Barbara Martin will not be returning to their duties next summer (2006). They have decided to retire because the physical requirements of the job could possibly be harmful to their health. We will miss them so much, it is hard imagine our community centre without them. However, we certainly support their decision, nothing is more important than continued good health.

Hopefully, Wayne and Janet will be returning next summer. We are beginning the process of looking for assistance for them. Any members knowing persons (either student or mature) or couples who would be interested please contact Peter Conacher (or any committee member) as soon as possible.

Many thanks to all our staff, and to all our members who support the community centre every year, through donations to the Community Centre Fund. 

# O'Donnell Point Nature Reserve: Public Consultation Process

## Penny Pepperell

The public consultation process regarding the disposition of 160 hectares of Ontario Park Nature Reserve on O'Donnell Point to the Moose Deer Point First Nation drew to a close on December 13, 2005.

The Plan is a great improvement over

the previous proposals. It would add 180 hectares to the Nature Reserve, a net gain of 20, of land that is regarded as ecologically equivalent or superior to the land to be lost. SSCA continues to have a prominent role in consultative process.

For details, please visit the Ontario

Parks website. SSCA's response will be posted on the SSCA website in due course or contact Penny Pepperell, chair of the O'Donnell sub-committee for GBA and SSCA rep on the Ecosystem Protection Group at:

pennypepperell@sympatico.ca

## Greener and greener: Summer 2006

### Peter Andras and Mary Anne Brinckman

The SSCA Environment Committee has great plans for the future. A draft Environment Report with 24 suggestions for initiatives has been drafted and is now under review by the SSCA board for comments and for further suggestions. The initiatives in the Draft divide into four categories:

- Education by dispersing environmental information
- Education by example to our members
- Partnership projects where we support the environmental stewardship projects of the GBA, GBA Foundation, the local Stewardship Council, the Township of The Archipelago and other environmental organizations
- Undertaking SSCA special initiatives.

It is obvious that the SSCA cannot tackle such a large number of projects at one time so the Environment Committee members have been asked to choose the

initiatives that they think the Association should tackle first. These will be put to the Board in the form of recommendations, and then all of you, our SSCA members, will be asked to comment on some of them in a questionnaire in the Spring Newsletter. The water, flora and fauna of the Bay need our protection and the SSCA will be moving into even more areas of activity to help do this.



## Did you know.....

**Did you know that even Biodegradable SOAP does not biodegrade in water!** It is true! Most Biodegradable soap is made with purified water, vegetable - based cleaning agents and natural fragrance oils which need certain types of Micro bacteria to break them down. These types of micro bacteria are only found in the first 6 to 10 inches of soil! So, if you wash directly in the lake you are polluting our waterways and with the concern of Eutrophication and water quality - well you get the picture.

**Did you know that Septic systems do not stop Phosphates from entering the surrounding Ecosystems?** If you have a septic system near water you need to use Phosphate free soap to avoid Phosphate loading. You can find Phosphate Free soap in any grocery store. Just look at the label if it says **Phosphate free and septic safe** you are in business!

## Georgian Bay Land Trust Auction Raises \$8,000

### Nancy Christie

Sincere thanks to the many SSCA members who supported the Georgian Bay Land Trust Auction this past August through your donations, purchases and organizational skills. With the help of our local community, we raised \$8,000 to support the programs of GBLT to preserve and protect Georgian Bay.

A special thanks to Ernie Kovacs, our auctioneer for the 'live' part of the auction, and to Pete Conacher who solic-

ited the numerous NHL items that are so popular amongst Canadian sports buffs. In addition, there were many creative items this year including 2 days work from Steve Mcdowall, a local handyman, three uniquely decorated chairs by Anne Hauck, and the "fish fry picnic on your own island for 20" hosted by Chris and Louise Goulding.

The funds raised through this event contribute to the stewardship work of the

Georgian Bay Land Trust. As new islands are added to the Trust's holdings, the efforts to meet our commitment of long term preservation of the Bay increase, and these funds assist in meeting such costs.

If you haven't participated in the auction in the past, plan to come next summer. If you have, thank you... and we look forward to your participation again next year!

# Sleeth Island Fire Thank You Jones Family

September 18, 2005

Dear Friends and Neighbors on Georgian Bay,

On Friday September 9th, the main cabin and two of the outlying sleeping cabins on Sleeth Island burned down. If you are getting this letter, you are probably one of the many neighbors and locals who fought the blaze. Those of you who live on the Bay or who have cottaged up there for many years were likely familiar with the little cluster of *Sung Green* cabins that overlook the narrowest part of the Long Sault. They were pretty simple but they represent a lot of memories and 45 years of Jones family history on the Bay.

Many of you know my parents Roger and Peggy Jones, who owned the island up until last year and who built the docks and sleeping cabins to complement the original main cabin that had been there since the 30's. It was their love of nature and the simple north-woods life style which gave that cottage its magical qualities. The main cabin was filled with mementoes tacked to the walls. These included the winners of all the Sleeth Island contests over the years – archery, sailing, rifle, fishing, art, gourmet cooking (pretty competitive family!). And of course the most unique contest “Biggest Goof” which was recorded upside down above the toilet (this year I guess we have a doozy). Framed on the wall in the kitchen were the 1967 rules (I was 13 then) that included *We always wear shoes on Sleeth Island* and *Complainers, Me Firsters and Tattletales grounded for 20 minutes*.

There were also the records, often written on a piece of drift wood, of all the trips taken by my parents in their 19 foot Boston Whaler *Bahama Mama II*. This included a record of their epic journey in 1994 from Sleeth, down the Trent Waterway, across Lake Ontario to the NY State Barge Canal, down the Hudson River and around the coast of Connecticut to Boston. The following year, they went back via Lake Champlain and the St. Lawrence Seaway (over 2000 miles in an open boat!). While the art world will probably not mourn the loss of much of the kid's art that was tacked on the walls, the books that lined the walls and were consumed in the blaze may have rivaled those lost in the famous book burnings in Florence in the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

Also on the wall of the porch was a photograph of Robert Sleeth and a picture of his gravestone in France. Robert Sleeth was killed in World War I. My brother Tim researched this info and sent it to my parents. Around 1960, the Canadian government renamed many of the larger islands in Georgian Bay after Canadian war heroes who were killed in action. I think it is fitting to mention his heroism in this letter because you are all new heroes of Sleeth Island.

Although we are all devastated by the loss of so many memories, you and your firefighting teammates saved the real value of Sleeth Island. I want to quote from a letter my mother wrote to my family a day or two after the fire. She said: “*When Rod wrote what a great Labour Day weekend he and Jo had with their friends, he talked about the great sunsets, the northern lights and the peace of the Long Sault. All those things are still there as are the wonderful memories you all and we have of that magical place.*” The cabins on Sleeth can and will be rebuilt. Probably not exactly as they were but hopefully in a way that will recall their wonderful simplicity. If the island had burned, there would be nothing left.



On the other side of the bridge from the main dock area is a system of trails that were cut by my family along with Warren and Barry King, who have visited almost every year. These well-marked trails wind over rocks, through swamps and along beautiful waterside gullies. Along them, my father has designated the *Seven Wonder's of Sleeth Island*. They include a tree that grew over an old stump that has long since rotted away leaving the tree to stand on four pillars, the giant hemlock we call the *King of the Forest* and five more I

can only remember as I walk around! Thanks to all of you, these seven and all the thousands of other wonders of Sleeth are still there. I have talked to a few of you who tell me that there was no hope for the cottages but that it took a huge effort to stop the fire from spreading into the woods. I know for instance, that some sparks ignited a fire on the other side of *Rattlesnake Flats* on the main island. If that fire had spread, all 17 acres would have burned. Joanne and I and **all of the extended Jones family** thank you for saving this and the *Boy's Cabin* (the one building that survived). The fire happened very late in the season and there were not many cottagers still on the Bay. I know many of you came from near Bears Head and from as far as Oak Point. The neighborhood firefighting capability of the cottagers and Native people on the Bay is something that I have always heard about but frankly never gave enough thought to in the past. I can assure you we will pay a lot of attention to it from now on.

We have been trying to find out the names and contact details for all of you who helped out. We have some but many are still missing. We would like to ensure that this letter gets to all of you and next summer Joanne and I would like to try to thank you all in person. I have shown the list of the names to whom I am sending this letter in



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the address list below. If you see anyone who is missing, please send me a letter or an email ([rjones@cslbos.com](mailto:rjones@cslbos.com)) with as much info as you can to help me find and thank them.

So far the police and the Fire Marshall do not have any real solid theories for the cause of the fire. It seems to have started in Mom and Dad's cabin, the *Master Suite*, which is the little cabin that sat on the point overlooking the Long Sault. Mike Pegahmagabow, who was the first person to see the fire, says it started on the south side of that building. The preliminary conclusion is vandalism but the authorities have sent many pieces of evidence away for analysis and will give me a full report later this fall. Our own theories have ranged from sunlight focusing through the lens of a binoculars to mice chewing on wooden matches. We really

have no idea what could have caused this fire!

At this point I guess the cause doesn't matter any more. We mourn what was lost at Sleeth but we look forward to rebuilding and creating new memories. We hope that will include getting to know many of you, to whom we are so indebted. I hope that we will have a chance to thank you in person and while I pray we will never be in a position to do the same for you, we have learned a huge lesson about what it means to be a good neighbor on Georgian Bay. Thankfully the tall flagpole that sits out on *Flag Pole Point* is still there. We'll have to get new flags but next summer the flags of Canada the US, the Bahamas and the UK will once again fly from that pole. When you go by, please stop in and say hello. If we are not there, remember **the flags are flying because of you!**

Thank you.

**Rod, Joanne, Kim, Emma and Trevor Jones**



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## Green grow the Lilies ho. Mary Anne Brinckman

The landscape committee (co-chairs: Ann Conacher and Mary Anne Brinckman; members: Nancy Bowen, Chris Goulding, Jaquie Green) have had a good summer and have almost completed a report with recommendations for the Board. Essentially the committee has not recommended any major changes as the lawn in front of the schoolhouse and the annuals in the planters will continue as they have been. A new idea, however, is the possibility of planting a teaching garden with native plants especially chosen

to be helpful to our butterflies, caterpillars and birds. These plants would have signs identifying them and also identifying which animals benefit from them. Other recommended changes are not large, in fact, many people might not even see the differences when they come to the Community Centre. These include planting ground cover between many of the rocks and in some other small areas where the grass used to be cut. We will let you know more about all this in the Spring Newsletter. 🌱

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## Work Days Peter Conacher

As always our two work days were very productive for the property. Our member volunteers are very enthusiastic. Thankfully, we keep attracting new members which makes it interesting for everyone.

The July work day, transporting the logs from The Three Bears, was a real work out for all involved.

Thank you again and we will keep you informed about next spring. 🌱

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## Bell Canada Telephone Services Bill McNeill

Members will likely have received one or more mailings from Bell Canada over the past year or regarding a CRTC directed program for Bell to provide basic telephone service to areas demonstrating need and where requested by a sufficient number of affected area residents. We have reported to members on this matter from time to time and, with the GBA, we have participated in meetings with Bell Canada.

In summary the service was a very

basic and low cost radio type service using land towers and cottage antennae. Cell or email service were not involved although a number of people are interested in new or enhanced service of that nature. There were many concerns about large towers being built in various areas including 12 Mile Bay. A revised program was prepared and presented but in the end it is unlikely that there would be sufficient interest in our area to have Bell Canada move ahead. The program would not have

affected existing landline use nor was any expanded landline use offered (or expected to ever be offered). So, at the end of the day, it was generally felt that the program did not offer much to our area. In light of that, the GBA has taken the lead to open discussions with Bell Mobility and Rogers about what alternative services might be available to residents in our area and other areas along the Bay coastline. There will be more information provided as the discussions proceed. 🌱

# Major F.E. (Ted) Hetherington, C.D., R.C.C.S. Ret.'d C.W. (Wally) King

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Cont'd from page 1....

Ted's leadership and mentoring skills saw the SSCA serving the community as never before in its long history. He provided much encouragement for the re-activation of the GBA in 1974 which became an important vehicle for a number of initiatives including the efforts that led up to the creation of the Township of the Archipelago (TOA), problems of commercial shipping (oil spills) and even the selection (with the MNR) of five garbage sites several of which are currently in active service as Transfer sites. Ted saw the problems of indiscriminate development and was primarily responsible



for drafting the Ministerial Order to control development which became the substance of the TOA Official Plan passed in 1982.

Ted's Presidency was all inclusive. It saw expansion in Membership including permanent residents joining the SSCA for the first time and becoming Directors...including women! Ted initiated winter resident meetings in February at Sans Souci in order to meet with them recognizing how busy their summer months had become and the resultant difficulty of getting them together. Ted created a filing system for all Directors to use, he was a meticulous administrator. He saw the Georgian Bay as a Trust for future generations to be protected. He encouraged all of us to cruise/travel the Bay and the North Channel rather than just our local areas.

We cannot leave Ted without mentioning the early days

of the TOA. He was unanimously selected to stand for election for the position of Reeve by the GBA Standing Committee (later to become the annual Deerhorn Conference). He was a very reluctant candidate! There was a hiccup in the plans of the day as, at the last moment, two Townships were created by the Ontario government, North and South Archipelagos. However, Ted was elected as Reeve for the Township of the South Archipelago. It had been agreed with the government that if both Townships at that time to be created passed resolutions to amalgamate, the Minister would so order by Ministerial Order. Both Townships after some contentious debate passed such resolutions at their inaugural meetings and the TOA as we know it today became incorporated on April 1, 1980 with Ted as the first Reeve and Chairman of Council. Ted was always concerned about costs and always a consummate volunteer, serving along with other Councillors without remuneration. The Township offices were modest, in rented space with limited number of employees (7). Much of his legacy exists today and the residents of the TOA and those members of staff who remember him can be well pleased and appreciative of Ted's contribution and sensitive leadership.

In later years he served as Chairman of the TOA Committee of Adjustment which oversaw development and planning issues which after all, was the main reason for the creation of the Township and always Ted's primary concern.

It is difficult to write about Ted without covering the very history of our community over the last 40 years. He was a man for all seasons; he loved the quiet of the 'shoulder' months and enjoyed visits in the winter months after freeze up. Ted was generous to a fault. His loyalty to his College, to the Georgian Bay community, his friends, and above all to his family makes him an exemplary peer among men.

We are fortunate to have known him and his memory will last for many years to come. We extend our deepest condolences to his family and trust the fond memories of time spent in the past with Ted will comfort them in the future.

## **Footnote:**

The Hetherington family would be pleased if those who would like to express their sympathy make a donation in Memory of Ted to the Georgian Bay Trust Foundation Inc. (The Georgian Bay Land Trust) which was always close to his heart.

## **The Georgian Bay Trust Foundation Inc.**

2482 Yonge Street, P.O. Box 99

Toronto ON M4P 3E3

Attn: Wendy Cooper, Executive Director

## Sans Souci Tennis Club Peter Murphy

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The past summer, as we all know, was one of the best on record. It was also a banner year for the SSTC.

I would like to thank John Christie and his crew from North Shore Barge & Marine for the **donation** of his time, barge & men along with the crew from Barber

Sports Surfaces who performed the first annual maintenance on the four courts.

The SSTC membership enjoyed many social activities including a spectacular Lobster feast in July. Other events included the annual intra-club tournament, the Pointe-au-Baril challenge, ladies house

league & a men's day.

We currently have 2 memberships available. For information, contact Peter Murphy (705) 835-5451 or email me at [pjm4aboat@aol.com](mailto:pjm4aboat@aol.com).

On behalf of the SSTC, we wish you a safe & happy holiday season. 🍷

## Members Remembered - James Prendergast, DFC C.W. (Wally) King

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Unfortunately we lost a great character of the Bay - Jim Prendergast died on August 11, 2005.

Apart from a distinguished business career over many years in largely insurance related executive positions, he served in the RAF and RCAF (430 and 414 Fighter squadrons) during the Second World War, attaining the rank of Squadron Leader.

Jim was first elected as a Director in 1979 in our Association, and became our President in 1983 serving until 1985. Jim then became Chairman of our Advisory

Board and an active member of our Blackstone Park Advisory Committee. Jim and Pat, his wife, reluctantly sold their beautiful Consolation Island (B671) in 1987 as Jim was having knee surgery and found it increasingly difficult to manage our terrain. In typical Prendergast fashion, Jim told me he would rather remember Sans Souci during his robust days than potentially remembering the problem days, after his knee replacements that were about to happen.

It was during Jim's Presidency that we used to have Directors' Meetings in

February – middle of winter – in Sans Souci, largely to meet with our permanent residents. In summer time, they were so busy it was not possible to get them (about 40 at that time) together. We stayed at Forbes and Lois Black's cottage which was furnished with a huge space heater, and Jim would keep us up late at night, to hear fascinating stories of his war escapades.

These were good times of fellowship and camaraderie! 🌊

## Members Remembered - Dorothy Wilson Norma Tangney

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On July 30, 2005 the bay lost a wonderful friend, Dorothy Alexandria Wilson.

Born in Maple, Ontario on October 10, 1915, Dorothy grew up in Ontario. She married her husband Carl in 1939 and raised a family of four in Etobicoke and Islington. In 1988 they left the city and moved to Orillia where they built a house on Couchiching Point.

Dorothy and Carl spent their summers on Georgian Bay in the 1960's and

70's on their cruiser the "Mistress". They traveled extensively from Port Severn to Mackinaw and discovered many delightful coves and anchorages, marveled at the outstanding beauty of the unparalleled landscape and explored and picnicked on numerous islands.

Every journey was a new and exciting adventure for them.

In their later boating years they looked forward to the fall when the busyness of the summer subsided and the bay

returned to how they remembered it best. In the 90's they built a small cottage on the Manitou Inn property where they spent many wonderful summers surrounded by family, grandchildren and friends.

The legacy of a wonderful mother who lived life to the fullest will always be remembered and be in our hearts wherever we may be. 🌊

## Township of the Archipelago - Water Access Task Force Bill McNeill

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Earlier this year, and in large part driven by the focus on our TOA official plan review and the unique and special water access nature and character of our township, Council determined to form a group to look at all aspects of water access and marina use in the Township and to recommend to Council some guidelines on the overall topic.

The group consisted of the Reeve, several members of TOA Council, staff, representatives from a number of cottager associations, some marina operators and some permanent residents involved in commercial activities. Chris Goulding and I had the pleasure of participating in this process.

The Task Force met at length on three separate occasions and discussed a wide range of ideas on this matter and the types of actions which Council may wish to take depending on the circumstances of a particular event - including the possible change of use or closing of an existing marina used by Archipelago residents. At the end, a report was formulated which described the meetings and summarized the discussions and formulated a number of guidelines for council to consider.

The report has been submitted to Council for consideration. The subject matter is complex since very few of the marinas which we use to access our prop-

erties are within the boundaries of the Township and the various neighbourhoods in our township have widely differing needs - for example, some areas have some degree of road access whereas others, such as the Sans Souci area, are totally dependent on a marina for boat storage and access to properties. So the guidelines have been prepared to enable Council to have variety and flexibility in its response to any particular situation threatening residents' ability to access property. The report is not too lengthy and can be found on the Township website - [www.thearchipelago.on.ca](http://www.thearchipelago.on.ca). 🌊

## Green Deeds: Summer 2006

### Peter Andras and Mary Anne Brinckman

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The Environmental Committee has lots of exciting things to report. At its second annual meeting on July 16<sup>th</sup> at the School House, Bill Scully (known as ‘Bill the Bat Boy’) who is doing a study on the bat colonies in our area gave a fascinating presentation. We learnt a lot about these small creatures, such as the fact that bats live in maternal colonies of mothers and young, while the males just hang about separately until breeding time.

Also in July, members of the SSCA and the Environment Committee helped the Fisheries Stewardship Council and the Ministry of the Environment (MNR) with their initiative to increase bass spawning grounds. (See the GBA Update, Fall/Winter 2005, page 7). A workshop was held at the Grisdale Marina. There were hands-on demonstrations and pamphlets were given out on with instructions on how to create these small—the inside area is about the size of a car tire—rock and gravel spawning beds for small mouth, large mouth and rock bass. (For more information on how to build these nests go to /www.helpourfisheries.com.) Groups came from as far afield as Sandy Island, and the Iron City Fishing Club planned a weekend long initiative to set up nesting sites. We are all looking forward to seeing the bass use these safe new areas to spawn.

In August, the Environmental Committee also got involved with the GBA’s ‘Adopt a Wetland Project’. (See GBA Update, Fall/Winter 2005, page 13) Dr. Pat Chow Fraser, who with a team of graduate students, has been studying our wetlands gave a presentation at the School House about how badly they are being affected by the low water levels. This was followed by a field trip by canoe and kayak to the Garden Channel. In August, the team went to look at the vast wetlands of the bays and inland lakes by the barrier island, Sandy Island, and discovered the harm the low water levels have had on these wetlands too. It is important to learn how

much our wetlands are being effected so that we can fight even harder to save them.

Members of the SSCA have been supporting the work of the GBA to protect the Bay’s water levels and have helped it achieve one of its ‘greatest achievements’—convincing the International Joint Commission (IJC) to study the probable loss of water though the St. Clair River. (See GBA Update, Fall/Winter 2005, page 10.) This study could help us protect our water levels and consequently our precious wetlands.

SSCA members have also helped the GBA’s work with the IJC on the issue of our water quality. Poor water quality has been found in many locations of the Bay because of improper septic systems, the use of phosphates in soaps and cleaners, and from fish farm waste. (For more information or to comment please visit the IJC web site: [www.ijc.org](http://www.ijc.org))

The SSCA has done many things to help protect our water and bass this summer and it will continue its good work! 🌊

## The SSCA welcomes the following New Members

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- Jim Strachan & Lennie Strachan - Nobleton, ON
- Marcel J Jelinek - Sarasota, FL
- Margaret Marino Reszczynski & Daniel Reszczynski - Brampton, ON
- Mark Hyland & Carolyn Smith - Toronto, ON
- Michael Cameron & Dianne Usher - Toronto, ON
- Jonathan & Claudette Pintwala - St. Catherines, ON
- Deborah Guild - Toronto, ON
- John & Lisa Eaton - Toronto, ON

## West Parry Sound Health Centre Foundation

### John Ramney - West Parry Sound Health Centre Foundation Chair

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The largest fundraising initiative in the history of the West Parry Sound area has draws to a close. The “Give in a Heartbeat” capital campaign to build our new world-class health care facility equipped with leading edge technology, wrapped up on August 31, 2005.

Thanks to the generosity of the various federal and municipal governments, our seven municipalities and the first nations along with thousands of residents and cottagers, organizations, service clubs, businesses and countless others, the West Parry Sound Health Centre Foundation has raised more than \$7.5 million to provide this area with the highest level of health care possible.

We have succeeded in reaching our milestones because of the unstoppable support of the entire area through cash gifts, pledges, endowments, and participation in numerous events that benefited the objectives of the WPSHC Foundation.

We have also had great leadership and volunteers.

Norman Maciver, Len Yauk, Sue Woodhouse, all the Health Centre and Foundation staff along with the multitude of volunteers gave their time over the years to help make the capital campaign a success. Anthony Fell, Bay Street business person and well-known cottager, lead the cottager challenge and secured more than \$2.5 million in pledges and gifts. Brock Tudhope, capital campaign chairperson was instrumental in gaining financial support and spearheaded the successful capital campaign to a close. And last but not least our development director Dawn Cooper, was a driving force in helping the Foundation reach its goal.

Before the Foundation Board starts implementing the next fundraising phase, the annual campaign, I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for your belief in our ability to make this dream a reality. I hope that every time you drive by this magnificent building you will realize that you helped to make this happen. We could not have done it without you. 🌊

# SSCA Regatta 2005 & 2006

Nancy Bowen



What a fantastic day it was for the 2005 Regatta! Picture perfect weather and full of great events and family fun. The ever popular Art and Crafts show organized by Nancy Powis again brought out some beautifully creative works of art by young and old alike.

We had just enough to feed the hungry crowds, who turned up in record numbers this year. Our BBQ picnic lunch was again sponsored by Dennis Hauck (Royal LePage) and Gregg Farr of Farr Lincoln Ford in Welland, thank you gentleman. Thanks also to Sandy Phillips and his crew, plus a few last moment stand-ins, for BBQing forever!

The 3 legged race was such a hit this year, we nearly had to extend the time for the event! The day was full of old favorites like long john stuffing race and the many swimming and canoe-

ing events. It was nice to see so many come out and enjoy this long standing event.

A huge thank you Jackie Campbell for her incredible dedication to running this event over the past 5 years. I look forward to continuing in her footsteps with the running of the 60th Regatta!

The planning for Regatta 2006 is well underway with a few new events including the "Diaper Race", a swimming race where you wear your life jacket through your legs!!! Better get practicing kids!! All the traditional events will be back. Hope to see your continuing enthusiasm and enjoyment of this very special Sans Souci Tradition.

Mark down **Saturday August 5th** on your calendar, see you there! 🌊



## Parry Sound Station Gallery Sponsorship Committee

Since opening in 2001, the Parry Sound Station Gallery has been pursuing its mandate of "actively promoting the development of a quality visual arts experience in a heritage setting".

We now have a full exhibit program featuring ten shows per year, attracting an estimated 7000 visitors annually.

We are at an exciting point where artists who have exhibited internationally are applying to show their work here. It is a beautiful facility in a picturesque setting, in an area that can draw from large markets. We are being "put on the map", a direct consequence of the hard work and professionalism of many community members.



To keep this momentum going, we are revamping our advertising campaign in order to reach thousands of potential visitors to our area, as well as developing an annual "passport" of exhibitions, programs, and show sponsors that will be in the public eye for the entire year.

To fund a complete show, a "gold" sponsorship is \$2000. Other levels of sponsorship are also available, and of course,

more than welcome. All donations over \$10 are issued a Charitable Tax Receipt as the Gallery is a "not-for-profit" organization. As well private businesses and corporate sponsors, individuals or a group of individuals can sponsor a show.

**SPONSORSHIP HELPS THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY.** The

arts draw visitors to the area, giving them the reason to linger. A strong culture setting is often determinant in deciding what town to settle in and the Gallery, along with the Museum, the Charles W. Stockey Centre, numerous arts, music, and theatre groups, and the Festival of all Sound, provide Parry Sound with a healthy and active cultural base.

**SPONSORSHIP** increases the advertising scope of your company, giving year round exposure to a target market with your expense being written off as a charitable donation.

Your support in this campaign ensures that the Station Gallery will continue to be a home to the visual arts in our area.

If you are interested in supporting the Gallery please contact Kristine Smith at 705-746-9206 or via Email: [stationg@vianet.ca](mailto:stationg@vianet.ca)

# Archipelago - Zoning Bylaw Update


## Bill McNeill

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As you will be aware from recent mailings from the Township of the Archipelago (“ToA”), now that the mandatory five year review of the ToA Official Plan (“OP”) has been completed and the new OP submitted to the Ontario government for approval, work is starting on reviewing the ToA’s comprehensive zoning bylaw. The ToA has retained planning consultants to work with staff and Council, and the challenge will be to prepare a zoning bylaw which effectively addresses and reflects the objectives of the OP. The ToA has now held three consultation sessions at Pointe au Baril, Parry Sound and Toronto. The third session was very heavily attended by interested persons from all areas of the ToA. The presentation was excellent and the resulting discussion was vigorous and wide ranging, covering many topics, including the following:

- Whatever happens, the water access nature of our township always needs to be specifically at the forefront - not only in the OP, but in all the documents that flow from the OP.
- Some residents expressed concern about the planning process being unfair, with tight regulation of those that follow the rules, and insufficient regulation of those that do not. Suggestions included a more vigorous program of bylaw enforcement and some form of ombudsman structure.
- Maximum coverages are too large. For larger islands there needs to be a cap on the size of permitted structures.
- It was generally agreed that the flexibility offered by the current rules on the number of buildings adequately addressed most people’s needs.
- Larger buildings should be kept further back from shorelines with trees along the shorelines in front of houses protected.
- A simple guide document in plain language should be created to help residents understand the main points of the OP and Bylaw as most of the wording is highly legalistic and technical. The wording in such a document could encapsulate the more 'heritage' related concepts held dear by so many people, and this would also give people new to the area an overview of the heritage and culture of the Bay.
- There was considerable discussion on regulating 'taste' and visual impact. The difficulties of incorporating subjective views and aesthetics into an OP that primarily deals with (and is restricted to) location, size and height were pointed out. The main concern was the so-called “monster cottages” and the ombudsman or independent review board idea was brought up again as a means of addressing these concerns.
- Topography and tree coverage are key issues that should be addressed.

- Questions were asked about the extent to which new residential development will be permitted in the ToA and how the bylaw will deal with significant activity/applications which might lead to over-development.
- The difficulties of applying a workable bylaw to properties that are all different and unique was discussed. For instance, in a city, lots are usually regular and well defined.
- A First Nation group (mainly from Magnetawan Ojibway FN) spoke to their needs and history and the potential for claims on crown land or any unceded land. They did confirm their respect for private property, but feel ToA actions impinge on or don't properly reflect their hunting and fishing rights. They proposed some form of working protocol with ToA and other stakeholders and a moratorium on decisions until the protocol is established.
- Septic inspection must play a central role. The problem is that ToA does not have the absolute right to go on to properties, therefore voluntary programs become key where building permits are not involved.
- Control over tree removal was suggested, but this may be very tough to enforce.
- On water access, a summary of the task force process was provided.
- Concern was expressed about increasing taxes/higher assessments effectively forcing those people out of the area who are unable to afford the increases. The possibility of allowing a severance on larger islands to a private or existing land trust, natural use or as a charitable donation to reduce tax burdens was brought forward. It was suggested that, where a severance will not result in any significant density increase, this could be examined on an OP Neighbourhood Policy basis.
- A very casual and unofficial for/against straw poll on boat-houses and their desirability yielded a 50/50 split on this matter.
- On blasting and fill issues it was noted that the result of some has been fine but others have had a negative visual impact. It was agreed that this must not be used as a means of increasing island size etc. to allow development. The potential impact on height regulations was discussed.

As you can see from the large variety of issues, this was a very interesting meeting. Council and their consultants will take on board all the views and information expressed and start to put together a draft revised comprehensive zoning bylaw. The process will include more public meetings on this matter. The ToA will continue to welcome thoughts on the topic. There is a lot of information on this in the ToA website: [www.thearchipelago.on.ca](http://www.thearchipelago.on.ca) 

# Deer Horn Conference

Bill McNeill

The Township of the Archipelago, the GBA and TOA member Associations convene an annual (sometimes twice a year) one day event known fondly as the Deer Horn Conference since the event used to take place over a spring or fall weekend at Deer Horn Lodge in the Sans Souci area.

It provides a terrific opportunity for networking and keeping up with the details of a number of happenings affecting all of us in our Township. This November, Nancy Bowen, Mary Anne Brinckman, Peter Conacher and I represented the SSCA at the day long conference which was held at the Black Creek Pioneer Village in Toronto. The agenda was indeed very action packed and the presentations were extremely informative and useful. Minutes are provided after the sessions and I would be very pleased to forward those on to interested Members. The agenda set up somewhat as follows:

- opening welcome from GBA and TOA

- township planning issues
- TOA Water Access Task Force report on findings and implications
- Georgian Bay North Channel Fisheries Stewardship Council report
- report on outside boating channel expansion from 12 Mile Bay to Killarney
- report on alternative green energy (windpower) in the Georgian Bay area
- Bell Canada telephone services update
- report on township taxation and assessment matters
- wrap up and closing remarks

Information on a number of these topics is included in this newsletter or may be found in the GBA Update publications which are sent to all SSCA members. ☺

# 2005 Regatta Pictures

Nancy Bowen

