



Volume 10, Issue 5

SANS SOUCI AND  
COPPERHEAD ASSOCIATION  
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SSCA Fall Newsletter

## President's Update - Bill McNeill



To All SSCA Member Families

It is very gratifying to have seen and to have had the opportunity to participate with so many of our members and families and friends in so many wonderful activities and events over the summer at our Community Center. The property work days, the GBLT lobster dinner, our annual Regatta, lectures about the environment around us, the tennis events, our Annual General Meeting, Church on the Rock and so on.

Perhaps the most gratifying activity was the replacement of our docks at the north end of the property - congratulations to all who contributed and worked so hard to ensure that it all was possible in time for summer - and those docks were full on many days. Thanks to our Property Committee and to the Township for a community project well executed - on budget and on time.

Please take the time to read about the many things which continue to happen around us - and to share this newsletter with all generations in your families. We 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 beginning our planning for our programs and strategies for next year and beyond. Please join us in recognizing and thanking each of our retiring directors, Jackie Campbell and David Parkes, for all their past and ongoing efforts on your behalf. Jackie did a splendid job on community activities and events and David worked many hours on property and other matters - we will miss their guidance and efforts as members of the board.

Have a safe and relaxing Holiday Season. 🌿

## Sandy Island Update – Janet Lougheed, GBLT

You may not be aware but 450 acres of Sandy Island is being purchased by the Nature Conservancy of Canada and the Georgian Bay Land Trust (GBLT). GBLT is responsible for fundraising \$600,000 to purchase this property.

At this time, the GBLT has raised \$385,000 but still needs support. Several members of the SSCA have committed. Brian Chapman, David Roffey, Ken Andras and Norm Playfair are a few of the people who are out asking for gifts. Please help GBLT preserve this special property. Should you like more information or to make a gift contact Janet Lougheed at 705-735-2600 or go to [www.gbtl.org](http://www.gbtl.org). 🌿



### In This Issue

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## Island Odyssey – Robin Young

Enjoy the history and people that have shaped the Sans Souci area through the pages of our very own limited edition, Island Odyssey. Filled with pictures and colourful vignettes, this book is a perfect addition to any library and is a great way to reminisce about the uniqueness of Sans Souci through the winter months. Copies of the Island Odyssey are still available for \$70 (Canadian) plus shipping by emailing Robin Young at [robin@dsmleasing.com](mailto:robin@dsmleasing.com) or by telephoning her directly at 416-929-0976. A 100% of the proceeds go towards supporting the SSCA. 🌿

## Yearbook Update - Eric Armour

In an effort to reduce the cost of producing, printing and mailing of the Annual SSCA Yearbook, we will be reducing the number of yearbooks mailed to members in the Spring to one copy instead of two. In the spring membership dues mailing, members will have the option to purchase additional copies of the yearbook for \$5.00 each. 🌿

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## The SSCA Environment Day – Mary Anne Brinckman & Nancy Christie

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The SSCA Environment Day, Saturday August 18, was a fabulous day studded, with wiggling snakes, flying bats and a very informative report from the GBLT—and a free barbeque lunch was thrown in too. Here is a brief report on some of the highlights.

There was standing room only for late comers in the School House for the Scienstational Sssnakes!!! presentation. Jenny Pearce and James Baxter-Gilbert told us about, and showed us, many of our indigenous snakes, including a rattler that was kept safely in a glass cage. One interesting snake was the Eastern Hognose snake that fans its head and neck much like a cobra and hisses when alarmed. Then, if this doesn't work it plays dead. After they had told us about the snakes, they let us hold them, including two large non-indigenous cobras.

The planned Birds of Prey presentation for the afternoon was cancelled at 9:30 that morning due to an ill bird, but Bill Scully generously came and gave us a fascinating presentation on our bats, and the snake people then stayed on to do another shorter presentation. It was very kind of them to help us out at the last minute and the Environment Committee is very grateful. Thank you, Bill and Scienstational Sssnakes!!!

Next Wendy Cooper, executive director of the Georgian Bay Land Trust gave us an overview of the unique qualities of Georgian Bay, and told us why it has been named an UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. She showed us examples of threatened indigenous plants and aquatic life –as well as some of the invasive species – that are found in our area. She also told us about Sandy Island, for which the GBLT and the Nature Conservancy have secured a purchase and sale agreement that is scheduled to close in next couple of months.

This island will be a wonderful addition to the collection of protected Georgian Bay land as it has a striking Provincially Significant Wetland consisting of coastal meadow marshes, deciduous swamps, thicket swamps, bogs, shore fens and other community types. These form an important habitat for both fish and wildlife, particularly waterfowl that frequent the network of wetlands along the western shore. And if this wasn't spectacular enough, the island even has several older growth forest types, including stands of Red Oak-American Beech and Eastern Hemlock that are virtually undisturbed. Congratulations to the Nature Conservancy and the GBLT for this wonderful soon-to-be new acquisition.

The Environment Committee and the Land Trust were so pleased to see so many new faces and want to thank you all for coming. We will now start to plan a day that we hope will be as popular next year and look forward to seeing you then. 🌍

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## Dock Project Update - Geoff Hyland

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The new docks were installed and placed into service in June of this year and provided badly needed boat parking for our members. Capacity was tested on several occasions when more than 40 boats were docked at one time. The dock layout also provided a protected area on the inside of the main 200 foot section which proved to be a great location for Regatta swim races.

Originally the plan called for the new docks to be accessed from the end of the old L pier, the repair of which was to be part of this Project. However when work started on this phase, it was found that the cribs had deteriorated to such an extent that the cost of repairing the structure was prohibitive. The alternative chosen utilized a section of the old dock system that was still in decent repair to provide the access from the Dockhouse deck to the new floating docks.

In October, the removal of the old L pier was carried out thus cleaning up the area in front of the Dockhouse and removing an unsafe structure. The accompanying photo shows a view of the Dockhouse and waterfront that has not been seen for over 80 years!

This substantially completes the Dock project with the remaining donated funds to be utilized for minor work on the waterfront which will take place in 2008.

We wish to once again acknowledge the tremendous response of the more than 100 families who so generously contributed the funds to make this critical project possible and to the Township of The Archipelago for their administrative support. Also we would like to thank our main suppliers who were able to help with donation of discounted products and services. These include North Shore Barge, Whitewater Docks, McNabb Lumber, Badger Construction, Chantler Barging, and Moon Island Docks. 🌍

