

SSCA NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2014



MEMBERSHIP

With the leaves falling and winter approaching most of us have shuttered our cottages and headed for home with the winter chores in mind. Looking back on a great summer we accomplished a couple major milestones that demonstrate our commitment to the future of our Association. First our members approved plans to continue exploring a Community Centre building. Secondly we approved a new class of membership, the Associate Membership for our next generation of members.

Regarding Associate Membership, I am very pleased to announce that Katherine Denune of Columbus Ohio and Nice Island became our first Associate Member this past July. Katherine has already demonstrated a leadership role by volunteering to help with The Kids in the Biosphere Club. This kind of enthusiasm and spirit is the future of our Association. Please be sure to congratulate Katherine and thank her for her commitment to the SSCA.

We all must be committed to growing our membership. To that end I am asking all members to approach friends and neighbors on the Bay who are not currently members, and to please ask them to consider becoming a member. If you are unsure of their membership status after checking your membership directory you can always contact me and I will confirm their status with our Permanent Secretary.

Please join me in growing our membership. With the holidays fast approaching, what more meaningful gift to give to your children than an Associate Membership in the Sans Souci Copperhead Association. They will cherish it forever.

Gregg Scott
Membership Chair
Contact: gssails@gmail.com; 412.782.1700

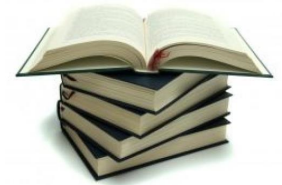
MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

SSCA BOOK CLUB

Dates: Tuesday; June 23rd, July 7th, July 21st, Aug. 4th, Aug. 18th & Sept. 1st

Time: 3:30pm – 5pm

Location: SSCA
Community Centre.



List of books: visit ssca.info>Programs

2015 SSCA POT LUCK DINNERS

June 13th: Early Bird

July 11th: Music &
Dessert Auction

Aug 8th: International
Theme



5pm 'til dark at the SSCA Community Centre

**AN UPDATE ON THE COMMUNITY
CENTRE PROJECT HAS BEEN POSTED
TO THE SSCA WEBSITE**

FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

We have started working on the 2015 Directory! Please send any corrections or updates from the information found in the 2014 directory to sscayearbook@gmail.com. If you know of any local businesses that would like to advertise next year, we'd appreciate hearing from you. The SSCA website will be updated throughout the winter, so keep your eye out for recent news or join our Facebook page, "SSCA Georgian Bay", to keep in touch with your summer friends.

Have a good winter!

Naomi & Alicia

UPDATE ON PHRAGMITES FROM THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Many of you have already read Colin Dobell's article in this Fall's issue of GBA Update entitled: "It's Like Asian Carp – with Roots". If not we recommend you check it out. Phragmites is becoming a real concern in southern Ontario and is starting to reach the Bay. We have had at least two reported sightings in the SSCA area. The good news is that many groups, including Stop The Invasion, Georgian Bay Forever, Ontario Invasive Plant Council and MNR, are actively involved in addressing this problem.

The GBA has now formed the Phragmites Ad Hoc Committee with a mandate to investigate and advise the Board about Phragmites on the Bay and to be a liaison for GBA with other organizations, to help develop educational materials and eradication protocols for property owners along eastern and northern shores of Georgian Bay. Your Environment Committee is represented on this committee. We hope to have a solid plan of attack to recommend to property owners heading into the next cottage season. Stay tuned.

The Environment Committee is now beginning planning for next year's Environment Day, building on our success of this past summer's event with the support of the folks at the Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve. We would welcome any and all of your suggestions for topics of interest.

We are also looking for members to join the Environment Committee. Please contact current members: Katherine Denune, Phil Klauder, Sue Herbold or me if you are interested in helping us serve the SSCA community.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Sherk
Chair, Environment Committee
Carolyn.sherk@sympatico.ca

MESSAGE FROM THE GBA

Aquaculture – This fall, the GBA has been active at both the federal and provincial level in raising our concerns about open net cage aquaculture (fish farming) in Georgian Bay and the North Channel.

Bob Duncanson and Claudette Chabot, the Chair of GBA's Aquaculture Committee, appeared earlier this month before a Canadian Senate committee in Ottawa that is looking into the aquaculture industry. They told the Senators that we are very concerned about the long-term environmental impact of the pollution created by the discharge of phosphorus into the water from fish feces and uneaten fish food.

Most of the existing commercial aquaculture operations in Georgian Bay are at the north end of the Bay and in the North Channel. There is also a fish farming operation near Parry Island. Based on their approved feed quotas, we estimate that these operations release 46 tonnes of untreated phosphorus into public waters annually. This is equivalent to the discharge loads from the three largest municipal wastewater treatment plants on Georgian Bay. Another way of looking at this is that it is equivalent to the phosphorus output that would result from 16,000 hogs defecating directly into Georgian Bay.

Recent blue green algae outbreaks in Lake Erie, Lake Huron, Lake Ontario and Georgian Bay have been fueled by too much nutrient in the near shore waters. Phosphorus has been named as the primary nutrient behind these outbreaks. So having more phosphorus added to the Bay from fish farming operations is a serious issue.

To date the Canadian government and the Ontario government have decided that these operations are acceptable as long as they are located in areas that have good currents to flush the waste and help it assimilate into the public waters. Their attitude seems to be that the solution to pollution is through dilution.

We think this is unsustainable and irresponsible.

In the US, none of the eight Great Lakes states allow or have cage aquaculture operations in the Great Lakes.

The GBA does not oppose the growth of aquaculture in Canada or in the Great Lakes region. We believe, however, that the only way forward for freshwater aquaculture is to transition the open net cage farms to environmentally responsible closed contained systems. These systems would enable the operators to capture and properly treat their farm waste. This would be consistent with all other feedlot operations in Ontario. Such technology is being successfully used in British Columbia, Nova Scotia, and in other countries such as Norway and Denmark. We think that, with a little creative thinking between governments and the industry, closed contained technology could be

implemented in the Great Lakes region. This would enable the industry and government to achieve their vision for growth but in an environmentally sustainable fashion.

Most of the members of the Senate Committee reviewing aquaculture are from Maritime provinces and the West coast. However at this meeting Senator Nancy Ruth sat in and was an active participant. At the start of the meeting, when all of the Senators introduced themselves and stated which Province they represent, Nancy Ruth proudly introduced herself as "Senator Nancy Ruth from Go Home Bay, Georgian Bay." At the end of the meeting, Nancy Ruth asked Claudette and Bob for additional information so that she could be prepared for a meeting she was scheduled to have with Minister Clement. It was encouraging to have such an engaged and energetic Senator at the meeting.

Bob Duncanson and Gerry Quinn, Chair of the GBA's Fisheries Committee, met last week with Bill Mauro, Ontario's new Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry. They outlined the GBA's concerns regarding aquaculture and urged the provincial government to take action to assist operators to convert to the closed containment systems we are recommending. We will be following up with Minister Mauro shortly.

Phragmites - When Bob and Gerry Quinn met with Minister Mauro, they also briefed him about the phragmites problem. They urged him to have the MNR take a leading role in developing guidance for property owners on steps they can take to safely and reliably eradicate phragmites.

Endangered Species- Bob and Gerry also discussed endangered species with Minister Mauro and urged the MNR to take a balanced approach to protecting habitat for endangered species including education, rather than just relying on regulation and penalties. They pointed out that if pushed too far with regulation landowners might take matters into their own hands and alter habitat before applying for development permits.

Water Levels – The Council of the Great Lakes Region is starting to organize work on the second phase of its study on the economic impact of low water levels in the Great Lakes, building on the initial Mowat Centre report that was released this spring. The second phase study will look at the economic impact of eight proposed solutions for regulating or adapting to extremely low water levels in the Great Lakes St. Lawrence River basin. It will also consider political institutional and informational obstacles to identifying effective regional strategies. The GBA will be participating as a member of the steering committee

BAYSCAPES ART AUCTION

Don't miss the Bayscapes Art Auction! This event sees 250 Georgian Bayers getting together to preserve the Bay.

Featuring the works of Ed Bartram and John Hartman, not to mention our community painters Gill Cameron, Cathy Griggs, and more. In addition, we feature custom works from Jim Lorriman and Terry Sheard. Silent auction will include Georgian Bay based adventures, such as a trip to Brebeuf Island with lunch and scavenger hunt.

See your summer friends, sip Georgian Bay Gin and Georgian Bay Beer, catch up, and support the place you love.

For tickets: [eventbrite.ca/e/gblt-bayscapes-art-auction-tickets-13434660431](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/gblt-bayscapes-art-auction-tickets-13434660431)

Parking: <http://www.stjamescathedral.on.ca/Portals/0/ParkingNearStJames.pdf>

View our Gallery:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/33019839@N02/sets/72157647643270925/>

For more info contact Sarah Koetsier (416) 440-1519 x 102

BAYSCAPES ART AUCTION

ST. JAMES EVENT CENTRE
65 CHURCH ST., TORONTO

DATE: NOVEMBER 14TH 2014

TIME: 6:30PM

AUCTION TIME 8:15 & 8:45
CLOSINGS

DR NORMAN PEARSON (1928-2014)

It is with much sadness that we learned recently that Norman passed away, August 8, 2014, in London Ontario. He was predeceased, earlier this year, by his wife, Gerda. They had no children.

Norman fulfilled his military service in the RAF and later, the RCAF, as Navigator, NATO Command.

Norman came to Canada in 1954 after graduation in Fine Arts, with honours in Town and Country Planning at the University of Durham, England, and obtained his PhD in Land Economy and Ecological Planning at the Institute of Advanced Studies in 1979.

Norman received many honours, awards and citations both academic and in land use planning, in North America and internationally, too numerous to cover in this obituary. He was founder of the School of Rural Planning at the University of Guelph, and was a Founding Member of the Bruce Trail Committee and later Norman became the first President of the Bruce Trail Conservancy (known at the time as the Bruce Trail Association.) Dr. Pearson's leadership in the creation of the Bruce Trail and the preservation of the Niagara Escarpment, is a significant contribution to Ontario, and indeed, Canada.

After much searching, the GBA retained Norman, in 1975, to help with what became the creation of the first water-based Township of the Archipelago. In retaining Norman, we were very much influenced by the work he did on behalf of the then Department of Lands and Forests in the 1960's, which resulted in the creation of North Georgian Bay Recreational Reserve. The Pearson Report "Planning for the North Georgian Bay Recreational Reserve" (4,000 square miles), became the vision of what we had in mind, planning-wise, for the Archipelago.

The guiding documents he developed for us were:

1. Georgian Bay Archipelago, A Decision for the Future
2. The Archipelago Municipality, Towards Effective Local Government in the Georgian Bay Archipelago.

Both were published by the Georgian Bay Association in April 1977 and provided the guiding principles leading to the creation of the Township in 1980, and to the development of the Official Plan, and the Comprehensive Zoning By-Law developed within two years and approved by the Ontario Municipal Board.

Norman, during the same time-frame, and at the request of the Sans Souci & Copperhead Association, carried out an exhaustive review of the Official Plan for the purpose of ensuring that it reflected the guiding principles set out above.

Norman went on to act for us on numerous issues and indeed the success of the Township over the ensuing two decades reflects his leadership, advice and commitment to those he served in our community, and others over the years.

Norman was very proud to be a member and former Registrar of the Canadian Association of Certified Planning Technicians (CACPT). This Association initiated the Dr. Norman Pearson Bursary, which recognises the public contributions and academic achievements of first year students in accredited programs. To quote the CACPT, 'His life was full of great achievements and we owe a debt of gratitude to him for the legacy he has left the world.'

We can do no less than endorse this statement.

As a former President of the Georgian Bay Association and Sans Souci & Copperhead Association, I appreciate the contribution and leadership he gave to so many of us over the years.

He was a true friend of Georgian Bay. His keen interest in land conservancy has benefitted so many people. For those who wish, I know a contribution to the Georgian Bay Trust Foundation Inc. – The Land Trust – in his memory, would be welcomed.

Respectfully submitted,

C.W. (Wally) King
Former President, GBA and SSCA
Founding Chairman, GBTFI
Former Councillor, TOA