



NEWSLETTER

Vol. 100, No. 3

We're dedicated to keeping Charleston Lake beautiful in every way!

Fall, 2000

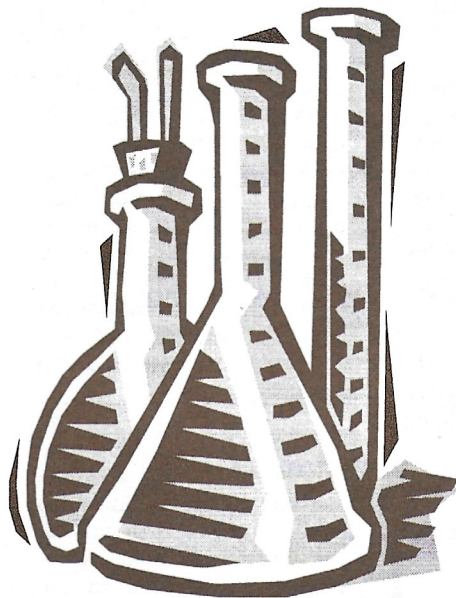
Charleston Lake Environmental Association

Charleston Lake Water Test Results

Over the past summer **Ontario Lake Assessments**, were contracted to your Association to conduct a series of studies and test of the water of Charleston Lake. This contract was financed by a grant from the **Charleston Lake Environmental Association** (a charitable trust foundation) as a part of their on-going program to protect and advance the natural beauty of Charleston Lake.

Tests were completed from the surface to the bottom for oxygen, temperature, pH, conductivity and salinity at six different sites in the deep water portions of the Lake. In addition phosphorous samples were collected at these six sites. This resulted in the collection of approximately six thousand five hundred read-

ings or analytical results. All of the survey results will be presented in a report prepared



by **Ontario Lake Assessments** to the **Charleston Lake Association** early in the new year.

These tests were made six times over the four months of June, July, August and September. These tests were made at nine Lake sites each time and four additional sites were tested at creek mouths feeding to the Lake. The reason that the creeks were involved in the overall test procedure was to determine what extent agricultural runoff influences the ecological health of the Lake. Tests for Faecal

coliform, Faecal streptococci and Escherichia coliform or 'E Coli' were done.

None of the tests showed results which approached any level of major concern, but several things were made apparent by our testing. All measured levels were higher at the creek outlets than in the Lake itself at the points chosen for measurement. The presence of elevated numbers of Faecal streptococci in these readings is indicative of contributions from agricultural sources.

E Coli may be present in the water of Charleston Lake and was apparent on several tests. There are many different

strains of E Coli, all of which can cause illness; some strains can be fatal if ingested. All lakes, regardless of how pristine, are surface water and as such should not be considered potable without appropriate treatment. We recommend a hearty boiling before consumption. We recognize that many people drink the water directly from the Lake without treatment and have done so for years with no apparent problem. We cannot recommend or endorse this dangerous practice. No sickness is more the result of good luck than good management.

We are pleased with the results of testing to date and can only repeat what we have said before: **COME ON IN, THE WATER'S FINE.**

OUR THANKS

To Rick Frank, Seagrams and Dominion Islands, Charleston Lake for the donation of a high quality lighted buoy which has been placed on Beacon Rock

The Directors

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YOUR BOARD REPORTS...

A Message from your President

The Charleston Lake Association continues to be a dynamic pro-active organization. Our affiliation with the newly formed Charleston Lake Environment Association and the major lake trout study carried out on the lake this summer are excellent examples of progressive achievements.

A real success story is the new water quality testing program carried out this year with funding provided by the Charleston Lake Environmental Association. Ontario Lake Assessments, the company engaged to carry out the program has provided us with comprehensive data to compare with tests taken in past years...and even more important future trends and take appropriate action when these trends indicate potential future problem areas. A preliminary report on this year's water quality program and test results is outlined on page 1 of this newsletter.

Thanks to over 60 volunteer

trout anglers, a considerable amount of valuable information has been obtained concerning the health of our lake trout population. This data is currently being summarized and then will be reviewed with the Ministry of Natural Resources (M.N.R.). Expected is that the M.N.R. will use the information as a base for a Trout Management Plan geared to ensuring that Charleston Lake enjoys a natural self-sustaining lake trout population in future years.

Meetings held with the Ontario Provincial Police (O.P.P.) this past winter resulted in a substantial increase in the number of patrols on the lake this summer. Our thanks to Sgt. Larry Fitzpatrick and members of his detachment for a job well done.

Information on the O.P.P. activities carried out on the lake this summer is outlined below.

Again this year, due to much organization and hard work on the part of Vice-President Irene Ireland, activities such as the winter carnival, Canada Day celebrations, the Family Picnic in the park and the swimming lessons program were all real success stories. Also, our thanks to Wayne Kelsey and his team of volunteers who very professionally carry out the annual fireworks display ... which this year was truly spectacular.

Over the course of the summer, members asked the Directors and I questions or expressed their concerns about situations on or around the lake. I believe the information provided is of interest to all association members; accordingly, effective with this newsletter a column has been introduced entitled 'Thanks you for Asking'. Please refer to page 6.

'Fare Thee Well' to Directors Doug Hale, Ron Webster and John Brownlie who have resigned as Directors of the Charleston Lake Association. Welcome to the same gentlemen who have become Directors of the

Charleston Lake Environmental Association .. an organization dedicated to working as a team with our Association to keep Charleston Lake beautiful in every way.

Welcome to new Directors Joan Barnell, John McMahon and Dwayne Struthers. Joan will chair the Membership Promotion Committee, John the Safety-Security Committee and Dwayne the Fish and Wildlife Committee.

Your Association Executive Team in continually seeking ways to grow and be prepared for change. We need to stay strong to advocate for continued good health of Charleston Lake. Our children and grandchildren are counting on us to take care of the lake for them.

Please encourage members of your family, your neighbours and the businesses who provide you with various services to become members of the Charleston Lake Association ... let's build up our membership base to make the Association even stronger for future challenges.

Don Curry

Police Safety Patrols on Charleston Lake

June to September, 2000

**Patrol hours :
103**

Charges - 9

Liquor License Act - 5
Small Vessel Regulations - 4

**Boats Checked:
315**

Warnings - 35

Liquor License Act - 2
Small Vessel Regulations - 31
Other Prov. Offenses Act - 2

*Ontario Provincial Police
Leeds County Marine Branch
Sept. 9, 2000*



NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is published regularly by the Charleston Lake Association for its members and those persons interested in Charleston Lake. Comments and/or submissions are welcome, and should be forwarded to The Secretary, Charleston Lake Association, P. O. Box 609, Athens, Ont., K0E 1B0.

Newsletter Co-ordinator:
Don Curry, Box 399, Athens, Ont. K0E 1B0

Production and Design:
Herb Buehler, Rideau Valley Marketing
R.R. #1, Westport, Ont., K0G 1X0

Tel: 613-273-2758, Fax: 613-273-4255, E-mail: ashwoods@rideau.net

For Membership Information, Call 613-924-2809

While the Association makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of information contained in this newsletter, it cannot accept responsibility for errors and omissions. Readers are urged to obtain professional advice before acting on the basis of the material contained in this newsletter.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Notice of proposed Constitution change

Proposed Change to the Constitution and By Laws of the Charleston Lake Association.

Notice: At the next **Annual General Meeting** of the **Charleston Lake Association**, the Directors of the Association will place before the members, and recommend the adoption of the following change to the **Constitution and By Laws** of the Association.

The reason for this recommended change is to make what has, for many years, been the accepted practice of the Association comply with the relevant By law without the necessary requirement of a special motion enacted each year.

This proposal, which will be moved by the President and seconded by the Directors as a whole would serve to remove the entire paragraph

4.01 from Article 4 of By law 1. and replace it with the following words:

A4.01 Officers. - The officers of the Association will consist of a president, one or more vice-presidents, a secretary and a treasurer. **“These officers will be elected by the directors at the first meeting of directors after the annual general meeting at which these persons were confirmed elected as directors.”**

The paragraph which would be deleted now reads:

A4.01 Officers - The officers of the Association will consist of a president, one or more vice-presidents, a secretary and a treasurer, **all of whom shall be elected by the members at the annual meeting of members from among the persons elected at such meetings as directors.**

A Collectors Item

**The Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne
The Making of a Community on the
Gananoque River Frontier, 1796 – 1996**

By Glenn J. Lockwood

A book celebrating the bicentennial of the Township of Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne.

With amalgamation on January 2, 2001, we will no longer be the Township of the Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne and this is an excellent opportunity to purchase this history book.

The book can be purchased by mail by forwarding payment of \$49.95 to the Township office at the following address:

The Township of Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne
312 Lyndhurst Road, P.O. Box 160
Lyndhurst, Ont. K0E 1N0

Shipping and handling are free.

You may also purchase this book by dropping into the office. For a limited time, receive a free souvenir when purchase is made at the office.

Don't forget Christmas – it's an excellent gift idea!

Group insurance program

Our second anniversary

This fall marks the second anniversary of our group insurance program.

The program has been a real success story. There has been a very positive response to this program. In the majority of cases, members who have taken advantage of the program have obtained better coverage at a lower price.

Our thanks to the National Frontier Insurance and Roger Kelsey Insurance Broker Ltd. for a job well done.

To mark the Second Anniversary of the group insurance

program, National Frontier advised, “We have been happy to support your ‘Adopt a Buoy’ program, as well as ‘Neighbourhood Watch’ and will continue to support these worthwhile programs”. They further advised that effective October 1, 2000, National Frontier Insurance Co. will change its name to Optimum Frontier Insurance Company.

Please take the opportunity to save money...call Roger Kelsey at 613-924-9135 to obtain a quotation on your insurance under the Association's group insurance program.

Rainfall

The amount of rainfall in the Charleston Lake area between April and September almost doubled this year.



**287 Millimeters
11.3 Inches**



**547 Millimeters
21.5 Inches**



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Environmental Association's agenda

On the top of our agenda is the total Water Quality Assessment project that has been underway all summer.

Ontario Lake Assessments is in the recording, graphing and analysis stage and expects to deliver their final report to us by late Fall. An interim report is shown on page 1.

A similar assessment of the lake was done in the early 80's by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). We are working with the MNR and Ontario Lake Assessments to retrieve that report.

From the two studies we would have a good measure of the changes over that time period and good benchmarks for future comparisons.

After a full review and discussion of the results, we will make a full report to the membership. We expect this project will lead to a number of measures we can all follow to enhance the overall water quality.

We are nearing the completion of a brochure which outlines the mission, objectives and numerous details of this Charitable Foundation. It should be ready for the printer soon and we hope to have a copy in your hands by year-end. It also explains a number of ways you can support this very important endeavour.

I do ask you, at this time, to seriously consider making a provision in your Wills for the Charleston Lake Environmental Association. There's no better cause, and the gift will reduce your taxable estate.

For the environment;
Doug Hale

'Who's Who' in the Association for 2000 - 2001

The Board of Directors ...

Executive

President • Don Curry
 Secretary / Treasurer • Judy Wyatt
 Vice-President / North • Irene Ireland
 Vice-President / South • Yvonne Landon

Directors

Bill Borger
 Joan Barnell
 John McMahon
 Dwayne Struthers

The Committees ...

COMMITTEE	COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Alliance of Cottage Associations, Conservation Authorities	* Bill Borger 924-2809
Charleston Lake Environmental Association	* Ron Webster 345-2866 Don Curry 924-1598
Environment - Land and Water	* Bill Borger 924-2809 Richard Cook 924-1423
Fish and Wildlife	* Dwayne Struthers 275-2321 Dave Wyatt 924-1640
Legal Affairs	* John Brownlie 924-2795
Membership -Administration	* Judy Wyatt 924-1640 Herb Buehler 273-2758
Membership -Promotion	* Joan Barnell 924-9630 Justin Hudson 924-1167 Yvonne Landon 659-2399
Municipal Affairs	* Don Curry 924-1598 Ron Webster 345-2866 John Swift 592-3462
Provincial Park and The Friends of the Provincial Park	* Yvonne Landon 659-2399
Safety - Security	* John McMahon 924-1001 Gary Bellisle 924-2051 Dave Wyatt 924-1640 Glen Cuming 924-9318
Social - Youth Activities	* Suzanne Ogilvie 924-9235 Pat Blanchard 924-9050 Irene Ireland 924-2981
Water Levels	* Ron Webster 345-2866 Don Curry 924-1598
<i>Unless indicated, all telephone numbers are in Area Code 613</i>	* indicates Chairperson



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Annual General Meeting report

The Annual General Meeting was July 8th and was held in the Holy Trinity Anglican Church Hall on the Lower Oak Leaf Road.

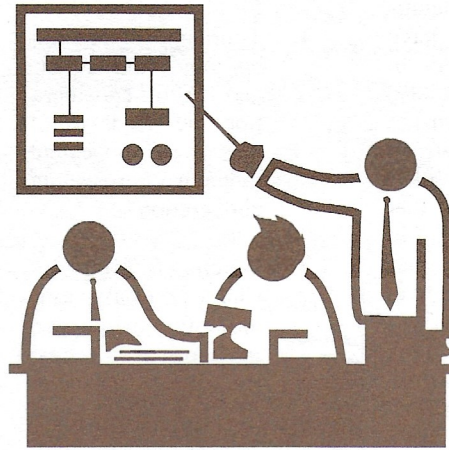
Visitors attending and welcomed to the meeting were members of the Friends of the Charleston Lake Park Organization, Henry Garcia from the Leeds and Grenville Health Unit, and Marilyn Tedford, President of the Bass Lake Association.

Guest speakers were Gary Nielsen of the Leeds County Stewardship Council and Doug Hale, President of the newly formed Charleston Lake Environmental Association.

Gary outlined the mandate and various programs of the Stewardship Council. He provided a number of examples of the good things that can happen to the environment when his organization, land-owners and volunteers work together as a team. Gary concluded his remarks by describing the uniqueness of Charleston Lake and the lands within a 100-mile radius of the lake. "Our rock formations, certain trees, reptiles, wildflowers and wildlife species are not found elsewhere in the Province of Ontario."

Doug Hale provided information on the newly formed Charleston Lake Environment Association. This new organization is dedicated to 'leaving no stone unturned' in protecting/enhancing the environment of Charleston Lake. All members of the Charleston Lake Association, stated Doug, are encouraged to contribute to the Environmental Association; receipts will be provided for income tax purposes. Water Quality is a top priority and therefore

the Environment Association has donated over \$10,000 to the Charleston Lake Association to carry out the major



water quality-testing program underway on the lake this summer. Directors of the Charleston Lake Environmental Association are Doug Hale, Ron Webster, John Brownlie, Borden Purcell and Hugh Segal. Doug advised that additional information regarding his group would be provided along with Charleston Lake Association Newsletters or in separate mail outs.

Secretary-Treasurer Judy Wyatt reported that the Charleston Lake Association is in excellent financial shape with revenues exceeding expenditures and funding in place for all current programs.

Don Curry, the Association's President, welcomed members and guests and thanked the members and Directors for making current programs successful. Committee Chairs reported on these programs and activities. This provided some good discussion and recommendations concerning future programs.

Presentations were made to retiring Directors Doug Hale,

John Brownlie and Ron Webster for their dedicated service to the Association and the Lake. All have become Directors of the Charleston Lake Environment Association and in this capacity they will continue their dedicated service to the Lake - Year 2000 and beyond.

Directors elected for the 2000/2001 term are: Joan Barnell, Bill Borger, Don Curry, Irene Ireland, Yvonne Landon, John McMahon, Dwayne Struthers and Judy Wyatt.

General Meeting was a successful event. The main area of interest to members at the meeting was water quality and the new testing program underway on the lake. Reg Genge, owner/operator of the Ontario Lake Assessments engaged to carry out tests on Charleston Lake provided details of the program and answered questions concerning test results year to date.

Next year we will return to the Charleston Lake Provincial Park for our Annual General Meeting and, as in 1999, enjoy the wonderful hospitality of the Park Management and Staff.

The Directors.

Again this year, the Annual

Change of Address

Don't miss a single copy of your Newsletter. Please advise us if you change your address.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Prov. / State: _____

Postal / Zip Code _____

Please mail this information to:

**The Charleston Lake Association,
Box 609, Athens, Ontario K0E 1B0**

or Fax: 613-273-4255

or e-mail: ashwoods@rideau.net

*Thank you
Membership Admin. Committee*



AROUND THE LAKE

Thank-you for asking . . .

Q. What is causing the increased weed growth and incidents of Nuisance Algae?

A. Aquatic weeds and algae, like other natural populations, fluctuate from year to year. In 1978, a Charleston Lake landowner wrote in his diary, 'In shallow bays the aquatic growth was amazing. By mid-summer it would choke the water and then die off in the icy winter'. We can speculate that this year's heavy rains and increased run-offs are causing greater levels of phosphorus in the lake and therefore greater weed growth. Our water sampling program being carried out by Ontario Lake Assessments is testing for phosphorus, calcium, dissolved oxygen, etc. The results of these tests will be available by the end of the year and published in our Winter 2001 newsletter.

Q. What can be done about these Professional Bass Tournaments with their high-powered boats?

A. Across Canada and the U.S.A. competitive fishing is increasing and is considered a popular and legitimate activity. We have met with the Ministry of Natural Resources (M.N.R.) in regards to the increasing number of tournaments on Charleston Lake. The M.N.R.'s current policy states that they will remain neutral in relation to fishing tournaments. They recommend that Lake Associations work as a team with tournament organizers to resolve problems. In March 2000, the Charleston Lake Association issued and distributed to organizers a set of guidelines for tournament fishing on Charleston Lake; the organizers in turn provided each of their members with a copy of the guidelines. The introduction to the guidelines state:

The Association will support competitive fishing events where: -

- Fish and other aquatic resources are protected and the fishing effort does not exceed

the capabilities of the resource, to sustain desirable fish populations.

- Tournament organizers and participants take into consideration the needs of all lake users and extend to them courtesy and cooperation.
- When fishing on Charleston Lake, tournament organizers incorporate these guidelines into their official tournament rules.

To obtain a copy of the guidelines, please write to the Charleston Lake Association, P.O. Box 609, Athens, Ontario, K0E 1B0, Attention: Fish and Wildlife Committee. We will continue to review the fishing tournament situation with the M.N.R. and problem areas with the tournament organizers. Currently we are working with tournament organizers to ensure an equitable distribution of bass upon release.

Q. Are dogs permitted to run at large in Cottage Country?

A. Township officials advise that dogs are not permitted to run at large or be a public nuisance. Dogs are to be maintained on their own property. To report a problem or obtain further information please contact your Township Office.

Q. Tell me more about the Charleston Lake Environmental Association.

A. It is a marvellous new Association dedicated to working as a team with our Association to keep Charleston Lake beautiful in every way. Donations to the Charleston Lake Environment Association can be deducted for income tax purposes. For further information, please write to the Charleston Lake Environmental Association, P.O. Box 609, Athens, Ontario, K0E 1B0, Attention: Secretary Treasurer

The Directors.



Our best wishes to you and your family for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Directors

ONCE UPON A TIME...

Toronto Star Angler's Award

Presented to

Bob Pepperman

28 lb. Lake Trout
Caught at Charleston Lake

June 26th, 1956

*Info courtesy of Dwight & Judy Kelsey,
Kelsey's Marina, Charleston Lake*