



est. 1890

NEWSLETTER

WINTER
2017

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

www.charlestonlakeassociation.ca

President's Message

For those of us fortunate enough to be at Charleston Lake this fall, we were treated with a magnificent display of autumn colours despite the lengthy drought conditions. This past summer, one of the warmest on record, was a great year for swimming and boating though windy conditions were sometimes a problem.

A tip of the hat to CLA/CLEA directors for all the work devoted to our 2016 Golf Tournament and Youth Programs both of which proved to be well attended and very successful.

Once again, CLA/CLEA will sponsor the Shoreline Challenge for 2017. A modification to our website will make it easier to sign up online and of course you can mail it in or contact a CLA/CLEA director. Please read the information in this newsletter. Science shows that a healthy shoreline equals a healthy lake.

Your CLA directors met with MNR officials in the spring and discussed numerous issues including the results of the broad scale monitoring program which indicate a 9% increase in the lake trout population since the last testing.

Great news from a wildlife perspective is the discovery of Peregrine Falcons nesting this past summer on Indian Head. Adults and chicks performed their acrobatics for many lucky observers. CLEA spent several years trying to reestablish these endangered raptors.

Our Common Loon population is relatively stable and all of our Loon nesting platforms show signs of success. Loon eggs and chicks are very susceptible to water level fluctuations and wave action from high winds and wakes from increasing numbers of motor boats. If we want to maintain our Loon numbers we need to give them their space.

Some members have commented on the number of Cormorants on the lake. You can share your support for a Cormorant control program by emailing Steve Clark, our local MPP, at info@steveclarkmpp.com

Our membership committee has been very active with some innovative ideas in promoting ourselves. Although membership numbers are still a concern, new signage, Welcome Kits for new

members and the introduction of the Charleston Lake Corner in the local newspaper is showing positive results.

CLA/CLEA is saddened by the passing of long time director Hartley Nichol. Hartley's passion for Charleston Lake and wise advice will be missed. Our condolences to Peggy and family.

Upcoming events for 2017:

- Summer Youth Programs and Regatta
- Golf Tournament
- Shoreline Challenge
- Annual Water Quality Assessment
- AGM – Saturday July 8th, 9:30 am, Holy Trinity Church

CLA/CLEA and it's directors would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a safe and healthy winter.

See you in the spring!

Bill Hallam

Water Quality Summary from 2016 Survey

The Charleston Lake Association has worked with CLEA to ensure the monitoring and protection of the water quality of Charleston Lake over the past seventeen years. During the summer of 2016, forty-two samples were collected over the period June 1st to October 19th inclusive; six samples from each of seven basins in the lake. This work is a continuation of the yearly monitoring effort for water clarity and phosphorus concentrations. The sample sites are located in Big Water, Deep Water (Runnings Bay), Donaldson Bay, Webster Bay, north of Goose Island, Eastern Waters and Southern Waters.

A detailed report inclusive of all the recorded values will be completed for the Association before spring. A brief synopsis is presented here. Whole-lake mean water clarity continues to be very

good at 6.75m a modest improvement over 2015 values but still a decline from the high values in the range of 8 metres achieved in the years 2010 through 2013 inclusive. For the year 2016 the clearest water column was found in Donaldson Bay at 7.750 m while the least clear water was found in Southern Waters with a mean value of 5.983m.

The 2016 clarity values fall within the expected range of year to year variability based on a host of factors at the time of recording including, cloud cover, winds and surface conditions, time of day and of course phosphorus concentrations. Fluctuations in the zebra mussel densities may also play a role.

Phosphorus concentrations in the lake continue to be low with a whole lake mean value of 8.74 ug/L (2016). Webster Bay had the lowest mean value of 8.10

ug/L and Southern Waters had the highest mean value of 10.25 ug/L, a slight increase above the 2015 value of 9.70 ug/L. The good news is that the whole lake mean value of 8.74 ug/L for Charleston Lake continues to fall in the oligotrophic category; lakes in this category are typically clear, dilute and have low phytoplankton densities and rarely experience nuisance algal blooms. It is interesting that for a year when the water clarity demonstrates a modest improvement, the nutrient levels indicate a modest decline. The parameters are collected independently but the outcomes are supportive.

Article prepared by Reg Genge, Ontario Lake Assessments

BOATING SAFETY AND SHOAL MARKERS

This year, we have purchased 15 new shoal marker buoys, including a few "Slow – No Wake" buoys to replace existing ones that are due for replacement. The solar pile cap type lights seem to be working well on 20 or more of our 70 plus buoys and we have had lots of positive feedback from lake travellers, who feel safer knowing that the buoys are there and that some have lights on them. We have also purchased 400 feet of galvanised chain to connect these buoys to their anchors at the bottom of the shoals. Thank you to G. Tackaberry and Sons Construction for ordering and supplying it to us and their donation of 200 feet of chain.

Special thanks this year to our shoal marker team of Cody Johnston, Jason Coon, Pierre Menard, Robbie Gibson and of course, George Bellisle for his precision driving and the use of his pontoon boat. Thank you also to all the Charleston Lake Association members and to donations from the community which make it possible to keep the lake safe and clean. Recommend to all your friends and new cottage neighbours to join the Charleston Lake Association so that they can become part of what we do!

Robbie Gibson

Microbeads and the Environment

Microbeads are minute solid plastic particles less than 5 mm in size. They are mostly made of polyethylene but may also be made of polypropylene or polystyrene. Microbeads are added to a wide range of cleaning products and cosmetics and end up being washed down the drain adding to

the already alarming plastic pollution of our waterways. Most waste water treatment facilities cannot remove microbeads. A variety of wildlife from small fish, amphibians, turtles and birds can mistake microbeads as a food source. Microbeads also can absorb and concentrate pollutants like pesticides,

DDT and PCB's - thus fish consuming this toxic mix should not be on your menu. Fortunately Charleston Lake does not have any waste water facilities draining into our lake but that does not mean that microbeads are not present in our lake.

Septic Systems and Microbeads

Microbeads can easily pass into your tile field, even with an effluent filter, and since they don't break down, they can plug soil pores and reduce the soil's abilities to accept septic tank effluent. According to some septic authorities,

there is no fix when this happens except for replacement. Home owners should avoid using excessive amounts of soaps and cleaning products especially those containing microbeads. Canada placed microbeads on the EPA list as a toxic

substance in June 2016 but as yet has not banned them. To know if your products contain microbeads check the label for the words polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene or go to the internet.

HARTLEY NICHOL

Hartley discovered Charleston Lake thanks to his in-laws and a farm neighbour who sold him that rocky eyrie in Sally's Hole, a name he endorsed. There he and Peggy built a 'little log cabin' in the woods in 1974. The cabin remained, though it somehow reproduced other cabins as his family increased. No visitor to their cabins escaped without a boat tour of the lake where he regularly got lost amidst various islands. The cabin inspired Hartley's engagement with the Charleston Lake Association and ultimately to join the CLA Executive in 2008. Peggy and Hartley were deeply concerned with environmental affairs and focused on that committee of the CLA.

Their annual Civic Holiday fete which ran for many years, their involvement with the golf tournament and his presence at the Information Centre ensured that he was in touch with many neighbours on the lake. He was a negotiator by nature, which made him a natural for the CLEA liaison with the municipalities. He supported the recent property purchases which expand publically accessible areas on the lake, but he also found time for the little jobs like painting the info centre. In retirement at their farm, which gave him one of the shortest commutes to the lake, he continued to actively support CLEA/CLA.

Hartley only survived Winters by dreaming of his next project at the little log cabin on the lake.

Ross Nichol

2016 DOUG HALE MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Our golf tournament sold out this year with 69 golfers teeing off at the Cedar Valley Golf Course on Sat Aug 13. Another 27 family members joined the golfers for a tasty lasagna lunch and the tournament wound up by 2:00PM so everyone could enjoy the rest of another beautiful summer day. With your support over \$4000 was raised to support the many environmental activities of the CLEA.

This tournament and fund raising would not be possible without the participation of our dedicated sponsors who continue to support us year after year. A listing of all our sponsors is enclosed; please provide your support to our local businesses whenever possible.

We look forward to another great tournament in 2017, again to be held at the Cedar Valley on Sat Aug 12.

Committee Co Chairs
Pierre Menard, Wayne Ashford



Tee Marker Sponsors

Burt Hudson Realty
Canarm Limited
G. Tackaberry and Sons Construction
Greg and Kelly Judson
Lakeline Lodge and Marina
Lyndhurst Home Building Centre
Mansworth Family
Mary Jane Manley
Margaret Hale & the Hale Family
Peggy Nichol
Purcell's Freshmart
Doreen Kelsey
Roger Kelsey Insurance Brokers Inc
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Kroeger Inc.
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Contest Sponsors

Athens Pharmasave
Charleston Lake Service Centre
Willards Bakery
The Friends of Charleston Lake Park

Other Sponsors

St. Lawrence News, Performance Printing,
Smith Falls

Charleston Lake Associations Doug Hale Memorial Golf Tournament

Silent Auction, Prize Sponsors
Camalor Manufacturing
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Lansdowne Fresh Mart
Roger Kelsey Insurance Brokers Inc
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Wayne Gill
Rocci Pagnello
Dwayne Struthers

Performance Printing
Kroeger Inc/Daragh Mansworth
Roofmart, Kingston/Phil Batt
Athens Hardware
KPMG/Andrew Newman
Charleston Lake Provincial Park
Rick Wilson
Garth Joy

The Outlet Dam

The first dam at The Outlet was built in 1880. At this time the community was flourishing, with its own sawmill, post office and general store. Many local residents worked as fishing and hunting guides, but the farmers depended on their land for most of their income. When the Gananoque Water Power Company's dam flooded low-lying farmland, the farmers were justifiably irate. The dam was blown up, only to be replaced. The farmers organised rafts of logs and floated them down the stream

to wreck the dam. The Power company erected a log guardhouse, with rifle slits. An employee, equipped with a firearm, kept watch from inside. The farmers organised a raid on the guardhouse and the watchman, Mr. Cotton was shot in the arm. He was taken to the doctor and the local militia arrested five of the raiders. However, the raiders never went to trial as Cotton could not identify them. The farmers sued the company for damage to their land and after years of litigation were compensated for their losses.
From Beautiful Charleston by Edna B. Chant

Healthy Shoreline Challenge

What do we value the most about the natural beauty of Charleston Lake ?

Is it the sight of a blue heron wading the shallows hunting for frogs and minnows? Is it the sight of turtles sunning on a shoreline log, a bass protecting its nest or even a river otter or mink hunting in the marsh?

We all enjoy the natural beauty of the granite rock outcrops and majestic pines or the haunting sounds of loons.

The one thing that all the wildlife have in common is that they rely on the natural shoreline for food, shelter, nesting and rearing their young.

Minimizing the disturbance to the shoreline ensures the those beloved sights and sounds of Charleston Lake continue for future generations.

Charleston Lake is blessed with over 160 kilometres of shoreline and it is up to all cottage owners and visitors to ensure the protection of much of the natural shoreline for the benefit of the native plants and animals.

To recognize those efforts the Charleston Lake Association and the Charleston Lake Environmental Association are again sponsoring the Healthy Shoreline Challenge.

Do you have a healthy shoreline? If so, you will want to register your property and have a chance to win one of the beautiful original acrylic paintings by wildlife artist Sherrie Greig.

There are two categories: Category A for those shorelines where little or no development has occurred and Category B for shorelines that have had some lake friendly alteration or rehabilitation.

Watch for more information and the application form in the spring/summer newsletter or visit our website at www.charlestonlakeassociation.ca



Charleston Lake Association Directors

Bill Hallam - President

Cottage 613-659-2997 billhallam@hotmail.com

Wayne Gill – Secretary/Treasurer

Dwayne Struthers – Fisheries and Wildlife

Robbie Gibson – Safety and Law Enforcement

Wayne Ashford – VP South / Golf Tournament

Pierre Menard – VP North / Golf Tournament

Rocci Pagnello – Fisheries and Wildlife

/ Ontario Youth Summit

Julia Woito – Youth Programs

Charleston Lake Environmental Association Directors

Brian Hollingsworth – Shoreline Challenge

Irene Ireland – Membership

Daragh Mansworth – IT

Roy Angelow – Municipal Contact

Jay Kyle – Shoreline Challenge

Mary Mansworth – Newsletter

Membership Committee

CHARLESTON LAKE ASSOCIATIONS CLA/CLEA

"Dedicated to Keeping Charleston Lake Beautiful in Every Way"

- Management Plan Alive & Active
- Protecting Water Quality Through Testing
- Maintaining Healthy Fisheries
- Restoring And Protecting Our Shorelines
- Shoal Marker Placement
- Youth And Family Lake Programs

www.charlestonlakeassociation.ca

*Supported Through Membership
Membership Driven
Join Our Membership*

The Membership committee is pleased to report that we have 30 new members to our Association. The feedback from our members regarding our welcome packages for our new lake residents and also for our new signage is very positive. The welcome packages are available at the CLA office.

The Association office received a nice fresh coat of paint and we are striving to keep the Information Centre stocked with up-to-date materials on lake issues and general CLA/CLEA information. Your \$40 membership fee is certainly a great investment!

Managing, planning, protecting, maintaining and restoring are all key elements to help keep Charleston Lake a beautiful gem for our current enjoyment as well as for future generations of families and friends.

The Shoal Marker placements on the lake and the youth and family programs provide added boat safety and enjoyment for our members. The benefits of group rate insurance and the discount for youth summer programs are certainly nice bonuses for the members of CLA/CLEA.

Irene Ireland – Membership

**2017 AGM – SATURDAY, JULY 8th, 9.30 am at the
Holy Trinity Church, Oak Leaf Road.**

2017 CLA SUMMER PROGRAM SAND BAY COUNTY PARK, CHARLESTON LAKE

LEADERSHIP CAMP ~ JULY 4 – 6 (9AM-3PM)

For youth completed grades 5, 6, and 7. If you want to experience an exciting camp with the "older kids", build your leadership skills, and have some epic fun – this camp is for you! Have fun swimming and taking part in games, learn how to create and lead activities.

NATURE CAMP ~ JULY 10 – 14 (9AM – 3PM)

For children completed JK to those completed grade 5. Games, crafts, swimming, and excitement, all while exploring the environment and the amazing things at Charleston Lake.

ADVENTURE CAMP ~ JULY 17 – 21 (9AM – 3PM)

For children completed JK to those completed grade 5. Come discover, explore, and create at this adventure-packed camp with games, crafts, swimming, and adventure-themed activities.

SPORTS AND FITNESS CAMP ~ JULY 24 – 28 (9AM – 3PM)

For children completed JK to those completed grade 5. Land sports, water sports, fitness, and games, all while having fun with friends at the lake!

CLA SUMMER 2017 REGISTRATION FORM

Participant Information

Name:	DOB:	Address:
Parent(s)/Guardian(s):	Summer #: Cell #: Email:	Emerg. Contact and phone #:
Doctor and phone #:	Health Card #:	Medical Conditions (allergies etc.):
Previous Swimming Level:	Authorized individuals to reclaim your child:	Other Information:

Charleston Lake Association is committed to our youth and **subsidizes** all youth programs

~ Camp and swim programs subject to a maximum # of participants, register early! ~

2017 CLA SUMMER OPTIONS:

- a) Camp ONLY b) Camp + Swimming c) Swimming ONLY waitlist (you will be put on a waitlist as priority will go to registered campers)

Please check each session your camper would like to register for:		CLA Members	Non-members
<input type="radio"/> Week 1: July 4 - 6	Leadership Camp	\$50	\$60
<input type="radio"/> Week 2: July 10 - 14	Nature Camp	\$50	\$60
<input type="radio"/> Week 2: July 10 - 14	Swimming Lessons	\$25	\$30
<input type="radio"/> Week 3: July 17 - 21	Adventure Camp	\$50	\$60
<input type="radio"/> Week 3: July 17 - 21	Swimming Lessons	\$25	\$30
<input type="radio"/> Week 4: July 24 - 28	Sports Camp	\$50	\$60
<input type="radio"/> Week 4: July 24 - 28	Swimming Lessons	\$25	\$30
TOTAL FEES -----		_____	_____

Liability Waiver

I agree not to hold Charleston Lake Association or any of its agents responsible for any accidents, injuries, losses or damages which may occur as a result of named participant involved in planned activities. I also understand that misbehavior will not be tolerated and will result in being removed from the program at the discretion of the individual in charge.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Invasive Species

Zebra Mussels, Emerald Ash Borer, Asian Carp and Round Gobies are invasive species introduced from other countries that are wreaking havoc on Canadian ecosystems.

But what about the other sides of the coin? Here are a few.

The Canada Goose: Canada's most famous migrants have found their way to 6 of the 7 continents where they are now polluting the waterways with their droppings.

American Bullfrog: This native of Eastern Canada has been found pillaging local lakes and waterways in more than 40 countries on 4 continents, wiping out other frog species as they go. They also carry a fungus that is deadly to other amphibians.

The Beaver: Introduced to Argentina to create a fur industry, the 50 initial animals have grown to an estimated 100,000 and have no natural predators. They are severely deforesting large areas of Patagonia.

Grape Phylloxera: These are tiny aphid like insects that infest vineyards and entire wine regions in Europe. They have been ruining European vines which are more susceptible than North American vines since the 1800's and are resistant to insecticides

American Lobster: This tasty Canadian staple has spread to Iceland, the Baltic Sea and the English Channel and now poses problems to the native European lobsters.

Blame Canada!

NEW THIS YEAR CLA GOLF SHIRTS

Turquoise golf shirts with an embroidered logo are now available in both men's and women's sizes. They are made of a cotton/polyester blend and were designed by a local print/embroidery shop. They will be on sale at the Information Centre and at the AGM and would make a great gift.

CANADA'S 150th BIRTHDAY

Events are being planned for the Charleston Village celebrations on July 1st. There will be events in the afternoon for families and children, as well as live music and a BBQ. Fireworks will start at dusk.

There will be more information in the Summer newsletter as well as on the Charleston Lake Association website.

