

Wah-Wash-Kesh

Conservation Association

— SPRING/SUMMER 1997 NEWSLETTER —

Published twice a year

Land Use

There have been no new development proposals for our lake (as of April 9th, the last time I was in touch with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs).

I received a letter and a surveyor's map from the counsel for the Longhorn developers regarding condition 7 of the Ontario Municipal Board Agreement. Since it was a technical matter, I sent it to Michael Wynia (the planner who acted for us at the hearing) for his comment; I have yet to hear what his opinion is (the formulation of which I suggested to him should be arrived at as inexpensively as possible). I trust that members will agree that we must continue with the process, and see this issue through to its conclusion.

According to Mr. Ken Cunningham, MMA planner, Mr. Auld has purchased a lot in Parker Bay. This lot will be dedicated to parking for the proposed development site (referred to in previous newsletters and at least at one AGM). The Ministry had suggested to Mr. Auld that in order to gain approval for a water-access plan, he would need such a site closer than the Landing to a public road. The Ministry also requested a copy of the agreement we worked out with the Longhorn group. They will be examining this in the context of applying those conditions to this plan of a subdivision. Comments—as I understood them anyway—at the original mediation hearing led me to believe then that Mr. Auld and Mr. Leeson would be amenable

to the standards laid out in that document; I trust I was correct then and that this, at least should not pose a great hurdle. In any event, according to Mr. Cunningham, we will be consulted before final approval is granted.

At present, the Merritt subdivision proposal is on hold.

Wayne Lennox

Ministry of Natural Resources Forest Management Initiative

We recently received a letter from the MNR regarding an invitation to participate in the forest management planning process for Crown lands situated within the Ministry's Parry Sound District (which obviously includes McKenzie Twp.) for the period 1999-2019.

The forest management plan will outline "the long term strategic direction for management of the forest; and the details of harvest, renewal and tending operations and planned road locations for the first five year period of 1999-2004".

The purpose of this first public consultation is to "provide access to information to be used in the forest management process; to obtain contributions to the background information to be used in the planning process; to ensure that the planning team is aware of all values that require protection during forest management operations; to obtain (our) views on the desired benefits which can be achieved through management of the...Crown Management Units; and to

identify persons who wish to be included on the forest management plan mailing list".

The MNR is in the process of forming the *Parry Sound District Local Citizens' Committee (LCC)* — apparently to be composed of interested stakeholders such as cottage associations; the first public forums are slated for November 10th, 1997 to January 20th, 1998. If you wish to supply background information or resource values to the planning team, or if you wish to express any comments or concerns, contact: **Forest Management Planning Team -**

*Ministry of Natural Resources
Bracebridge Area Office
R. R. # 2, Highway 11,
Bracebridge, Ontario P1L 1W9
Fax: (705) 645-8372*

For further information concerning this forest management plan, you can contact MNR Plan Author Dave Deugo at (705) 646-5508.

The Executive has requested to remain on the mailing list and to be sent any pertinent documentation. Perhaps this will be on the agenda at the AGM.

Membership Dues

Just a reminder that membership dues for 1997 are \$30.00 per person. Please get these in as soon as possible. Mail your cheque to Duncan Robertson. If you do so as soon as you get your newsletter, you won't forget.

Encourage your neighbours, and/or adult children to become active members of the Association. We need and value each and every membership.

Dates to Remember

**Saturday,
July 12**

10am - 5pm
Dunchurch,
Unorganized
Township Meeting

**Saturday,
July 19**

Poker Run, 1pm - 3pm
& Weiner Roast

**Friday,
August 1**

7pm - 9pm
Art Show & Sale

**Saturday,
August 2**

10am - 12noon
ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING

12noon - 12:30
Silent Auction

10am - 4pm
Bring your donated
treasures to Lookout
Point for organizing
before the sale

**Sunday,
August 3**

9am - 12noon
Rock & Dock
Party

**Saturday,
August 17**

Corn Roast



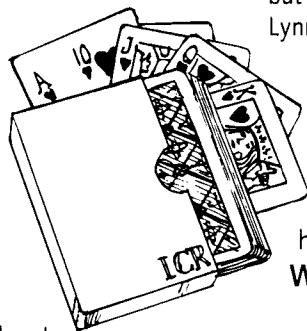
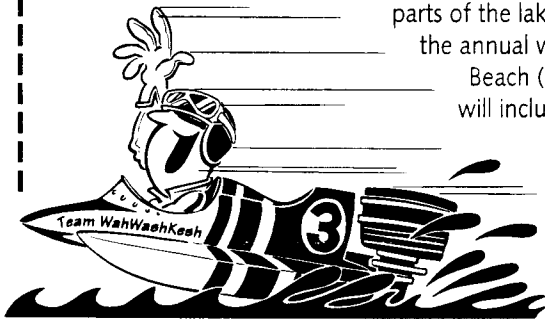
FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES – New for 1997

Please support the following events and endeavours; all have been organized by volunteers working for the benefit of everyone.

POKER RUN

– Saturday, July 19th from 1pm - 3pm

Sandra and Randy McCullough, and Jeanette and Bert Ellingham have been working on this event since last summer and they have many great prizes already donated (the form shows you a list of the sponsors as of printing). This promises to be lots of fun, and will acquaint you with all parts of the lake. The final stop is for the annual wiener roast at Straub's Beach (entry in the Poker Run will include the wiener roast fee).



ART SHOW AND SALE

– Friday, August 1st from 7pm - 9pm

Gary Dimmick has again generously offered to donate a percentage of the proceeds of each sale of his beautiful paintings to the Association. Don't miss this social and cultural evening at Bennett's Boat House, Friday, August 1st, from 7pm to 9 pm.



Some of you may know that Gary has been experiencing health problems, but he is still busily preparing for the show. Our best wishes to you, Gary.

COOKBOOK

Ginnie Sperry reports that she received many great cottage recipes

which are being tested in the kitchens of our team of WahWashKesh gourmet cooks. However, they need more recipes in order to make this a real success. So, we will extend this endeavour through the summer. If you don't still have the form for this, please make sure to give complete details when you write out your recipe (there's no need to limit yourself to just one or two recipes!).

The book will be available as soon as possible.

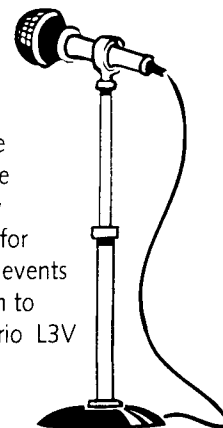
Send recipes to: Ginnie Sperry at 74 Mayfield Ave., Akron, OHIO, 44313 USA. Alternatively, you can leave them at Bennett's for Ginnie.



SILENT AUCTION – Saturday, August 2nd from 12noon - 12:30pm

(As included) Items and services have been donated (for the most part by last year's donors!). The list and transportable items, as well as bidding forms will be available at the wiener roast/Poker Run, the Art Show and Sale and the Annual General Meeting. Immediately following the AGM, the bidding will be active for a half-hour. If you cannot attend any of these events but wish to mail in your bids, please send them to Lynn Lennox, at 48 Dalton Cr. S. Orillia, Ontario L3V 5J8, before June 15th.

Only the highest bidders will be notified.



ROCK & DOCK PARTY

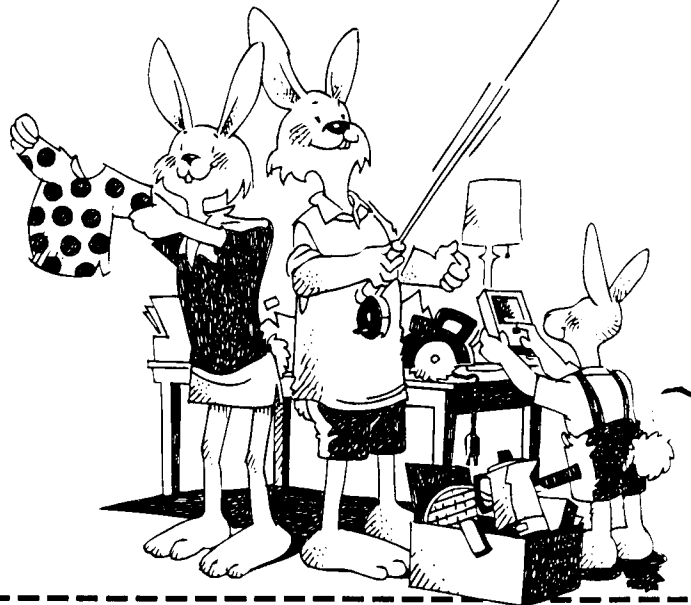
Lew and Jackie Morgan have again kindly volunteered to host this event.

When? Sunday, August 3rd
Rain Date: Monday, August 4th
Where? Lookout Point (Morgan's Cottage #12)
What? Pancake & Sausage Breakfast 8:30am
Flea Market 9:00am
Hamburgers & Hotdogs 11:30am

Bring your treasures to Lookout Point (North shore by Deadman's Island) Saturday, August 2nd from 10am to 4pm. Start thinking about good used items OR crafts to donate. 25c, 50c, \$1, \$2, Make-An-Offer, & Craft Tables. Puzzles, games, books, housewares, sporting & fishing equipment, toys, collectibles. We also need 20 helpers. To volunteer, speak to the Morgans, Willets or any other member of the executive.

Last years earnings were over \$750. This year our goal is over \$1000.

• NO LARGE APPLIANCES • NO CLOTHING



COTTAGERS BEWARE!!!

Important Meeting

As a result of Provincial Government municipal restructuring plans, we will not be allowed to remain as an unorganized township. There are presently seven unorganized townships under consideration in my report: Burton, East Burpee, Ferguson, McKenzie, Ferrie, Croft and Spence (all are north and east of Parry Sound).

At present, three possibilities exist for these seven:

- 1) We can sit quietly by and let the organized municipalities nearest us such as Hagerman, Chapman and the Town of Magnetawan decide which unorganized townships they would like to try to annex to suit their interests.
- 2) Determine for ourselves which organized townships or municipalities would best suit our interests and approach them on amalgamation.
- 3) Approach the Provincial Government to approve the organization of the seven unorganized townships into one municipality.

To date option 1 is occurring where Chapman Township and the Town of Magnetawan are seeking approval to annex a portion of Croft. As well, option 3 is occurring. A local body has been formed with members from each of the seven unorganized townships referred to above. Their intent is to obtain a recognized

opinion of the voters within this region with regards to forming their own municipality (Mr. Ernie Eves, MPP for Parry Sound and the Conservative Minister of Finance has already let Mr. Leach – the Minister of Municipal Affairs – know that the scenario of the seven unorganized townships should be considered).

There will be an information session/voting in the Dunchurch Pavilion,

**Saturday, July 12th,
between 10:00 am
and 5:00 pm**

a ballot will be available for people to vote yes or no for the seven unorganized townships to become one municipality.

The intent is that knowledgeable people will be present at the meeting to answer questions so that voters can make an informed decision and have a good understanding of the area to be restructured. You can also obtain a copy of the restructuring proposal. It is extremely important that Lake property owners try to familiarize themselves with the pros and cons of all the issues. A good place to start is to read the article in the March 1997 issue of "Cottage Life" magazine, page 54 titled the "Big Fix".

Don't miss the meeting.

Don Easterbrook

Roads' Board Report

Please note...

Our fall newsletter was in error stating that the minimum road tax had been increased to \$90.00. At the annual meeting (roads' board meeting), it was the consensus of those present we should try to retain the existing standard of road maintenance and upgrades, even though the Provincial Government had cut its funding in half for 1997. As a result, a motion was passed to raise the minimum tax to \$75.00 from \$60.00.

The budget meeting was held on February 19th, 1997 at Ardbeg. The maintenance and upgrade program was established for 1997 at a total estimated cost of \$155,000.00 which represents a slight decrease from 1996. The mill rate remains unchanged for 1997 since the reduction in Provincial funding was covered by the

increased minimum tax, increased assessment, and recovery of taxes in arrears.

A lawyer was retained to help in the effort to deal with delinquent taxpayers. As a result, approximately \$18,000.00 was collected in taxes and penalties. With the provincial government matching the local taxpayers' contributions one to one, we realized an actual gain of approximately \$36,000.00. We will continue to work with the lawyer to collect all unpaid taxes.

At this time, I would like to thank those who elected me at the annual roads' board meeting to be a trustee. To date it has been an interesting learning experience, and I believe those responsible for the maintenance of our roads are sincere in their efforts to ensure we get good value for our tax dollars.

Don Easterbrook



Wah-Wash-Kesh Conservation Association Membership Renewal

Please fill out the membership renewal form, tear if off & MAIL it & your cheque to:

- **Duncan Robertson - Secretary**
346 Kerrybrook Drive
Richmond Hill Ontario L4C 3R1



Directory update

Including with this mailing, you will find a sticker label.

Please check:

- your name(s)
- mailing address
- home and cottage phone number(s)
- CB handle
- cottage directory number (if one exists)

If there are any changes to be made, or information missing, please send the label and corrections back to Lynn Lennox promptly.

If you do not contact us, we will assume that your information is correct and complete, and we have your permission to print it. This information will not be used for commercial purposes.

We hope to have this insert ready to be picked up at the Annual General Meeting. If anyone would like to work on a major directory up-date (maps, binding, etc), contact Lynn or Wayne Lennox (check Executive list for address and phone).

MNR Dock - Indian Narrows

The MNR now wants to work a partnership with the Association to look after and repair the dock – also responsibility for putting the dock in the water in the spring and away in the fall.

There will be a further update in the next bulletin or at the Annual General Meeting.

There is nothing to report on the government dock at Bennett's Landing.

Ross Willett

Notes

CONDOLENCES

WE WERE SADDENED TO LEARN OF THE DEATH OF JACK SCHURMAN. HE PASSED AWAY ON APRIL 29TH IN HOSPITAL. OUR THOUGHTS ARE WITH HIS WIFE FRAN AND FAMILY.

Thank you! Thank you!

The Executive (and I hope the membership) wishes to express our sincere appreciation to Don Easterbrook for volunteering to serve on the Local Roads Board Committee.

Also, thanks to Karen Abbott for providing the mailing labels once again this year.

Newsletter Items

If you have any news items that you would like to see included in the Newsletter, please send them along to Lesley Hugill at the address listed (see right). Births, deaths, weddings, momentous events – we want to hear about them!!

We need to keep our newsletter newsy as well as informative.

1996-1997 Executive

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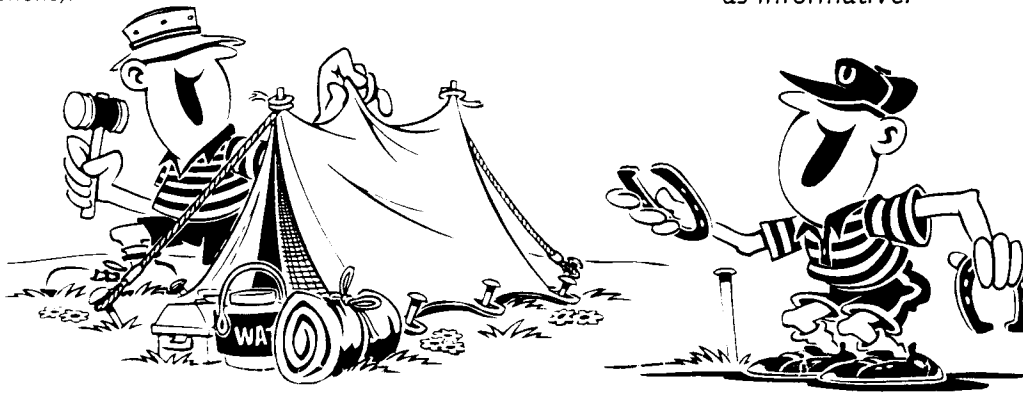
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VACANT

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WAH-WASH-KESH CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

(January 1st - December 31st, 1997) (Please pay by cheque only - \$30.00 per member)

Name(s):

Address:

Telephone: ()

CB Ident.:

Number of Memberships purchased:

Are you in the directory?: Yes:

Location Number:

No:

Description of location: