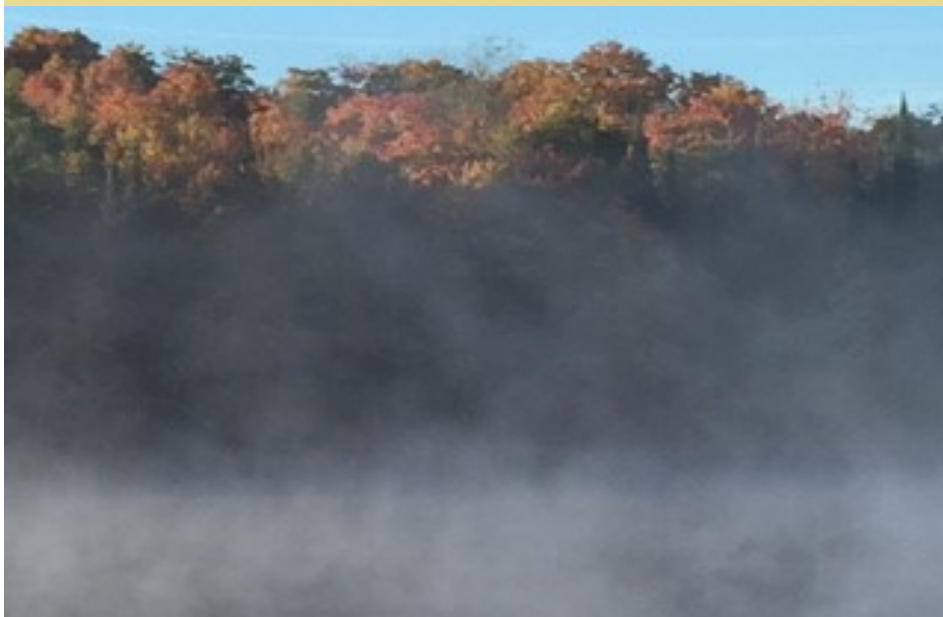


Kapikog Lake Newsletter



Kapikog Lake Cottagers Association Box 167, MacTier, Ontario PoC 1H0

Executive Summary Spring 2017



The Thaw approaches !

Here comes spring and another blissful year at the lake we hope

Post 50th celebration.. this will be the year of support of GBBR activities .

We have a GBBR sponsored hike and craft table set up in conjunction with the AGM on the 19th of August .

Kapikog Lake promotional items have been ordered and will be available at the upcoming Canada Day celebration !

This year we will be upgrading the web site to deliver the newsletter to our members 3 times a year and to serve as a resource for important contact information and list of helpful links

We are trying something new this year with a Canada day celebration at the public dock instead of a wine and cheese ...so mark your calendars ! Fun and refreshment for all ages

Remember these dates!

Saturday August 19th 2017 AGM

Put it on your calendar!

Canada Celebration July 1st 1-3

Rain date July 2

Public dock—bring lawn chairs !

Fun and refreshment for all ages.

Executive summary

Well they tell us its spring and some days we believe it might be .. the spring Cottage Life show has come and gone and our thoughts turn to when the road might be clear enough to drive in .. Always an exciting time of year! A time of discovery really .. How did the roof fare ? Did we have mice ?(gosh I hope not) Is my dock still there ? Did I forget to leave the fridge open ? All the usual anxieties and usual relief 9fingers crossed) when you get back up and all is well ...its just the lake and the forest there ...waiting for us

This is our first newsletter of 2017. Ultimately we plan to make the newsletter a more integral part of an updated web site ..however until we are able to get that done we will continue in this style. I know its not as pretty as when Bud so skillfully put it together so please forgive me for that— a work in progress :) If there are any cottagers who are computer savvy and interested in helping with the newsletter and website please contact me at sinclairmktg@aol.com

Its been a variable winter and those frequenting the lake over the winter months have mentioned some freeze / thaw conditions so we may find some dock damage on the lake this spring.

As a helpful reminder—if you decide to replace rather than repair your dock a building permit is now required—you can find the details of what you need to know here on the Archipelago web site ...

<http://www.thearchipelago.on.ca/index.php/news-public-notice/building/1213-important-notice-regarding-dock-a-boathouse-construction>

Speaking of damage to docks —the public dock came dislodged in the late fall . Andy from H and H was good enough to let me know and to push the dock against the shore to prevent damage ..

In discussions with Grant .. He indicates that township staff will be reattaching the dock to its ramp once the ice goes out. Some further damage was done to the base of the dock during the course of the late summer season and the township is also looking at getting that repaired.

Here's to a blissful summer for all ..

Looking forward to seeing you at the lake !

Laura

COUNCILLOR REPORT

APRIL 2017

TRANSFER STATION

Operations appear to be working well and I have not received any recent complaints. Hours and services will be as close to last year same as possible. We are trying not to make changes as everyone is pretty well used to hours etc.

ROADS

The winter was hard on roads because of the ups and downs of temperature. It also caused some heaving but staff thinks they will flatten out. Some preparation work will be done on the Kapikog Road and it is scheduled to be resurfaced next year.

PARKING and DOCKS

Both lakes have had some problems. On Healey we will continue to monitor the parking so everyone will respect other users. Part of the problem at Pine Bay may be helped by the park applying to enlarge parking at their location off Healey Lake Road. Staff is looking at private docks built on Township Property which is unfair to others and to marinas on the lake. Public docks that are provided and maintained by the associations and the township are for in and out/loading and unloading not parking. On Kapikog a contractor left a barge larger than the dock for a very unreasonable length of time before he could be tracked down and made to remove it resulting in damage to the ramp during last fall's high winds. Staff is negotiating to have the contractor make repairs.

BYLAWS

It's unfortunate the need for better and stronger bylaws has reached a point where changes are being made. Four bylaws have been updated. They are Illegal/Environmentally disposal, Illegal parking, Noise/Disturbance, Fires/fireworks. A trained enforcement officer has been engaged and a part five summons system is awaiting approval. Our goal is NOT to lay charges or create a negative atmosphere towards Bylaw Enforcement, but to encourage cooperation through education and communications. You will be receiving more detailed

information and I am arranging to have the officer attend association functions to discuss further and answer questions.

The new season is showing signs of arriving and I wish you al a great one. Any question call me at 705 720 4422 or grant@olresources.ca

Fire Pumps

Last year at the AGM we discussed with Grant that the folks on Healey Lake have a contact for fire pumps and that we might be able to combine an order with them if we have members who would like to have a fire pump on hand as a safeguard at their cottages.

It is apparently a good make and model gives good pressure . A single pump package includes all fittings and 50 foot of hose for \$1008.00 plus shipping from BC. If we were to accumulate eight orders the price drops to \$758.00 with free shipping. They recommend an extra 100 foot hose which costs \$110.00. to reach further locations.

Please let me know if you are interested and we will see if we can combine our order with Healey lake .

We will be getting the name model and spec for any who are interested

Service is apparently available at any small motor repair shop.

Send me an email please if you would like one

Thanks

Laura sinclairmktg@aol.com

SPIKE BUILDERS

SPIKEBUILDERS.COM



JACCO & LORRI SPYKERMEN

PHONE 705 378 4258

FAX 705 378 4259

E MAIL JACCO@SPIKEBUILDERS.COM

NEW BUILDS

RENO'S

REPAIRS

FINISHING



**Family owned and operated
since 1968**

317 Healey Lake Road

Telephone: 705-375-2097 Fax: 705-375-0058

marinerscove.ca



Find us on
Facebook

A DIAMOND RATED 'CLEAN MARINE' MARINA



WINTER STORAGE

SERVICE

SALES

RENTALS

MERCURY
#1 On The Water

Reflections and looking forward

By Gerry Haarmeyer

Fifty years ago this spring the serious business of building cottages on Kapikog Lake really began in earnest. The October land auction from the Department of Lands and Forests in October of 1966 a distant memory. Not all lots were sold and there were still some opportunities for people to purchase cottage lots that were not auctioned off for the grand sum of the survey costs. My parents Gerard and Jannie like the majority of new property owners chose the Victoria Day weekend to start on their land clearing and cottage building adventures. I was still in school then and made my way over from the Ontario Forest Technical School in Dorset to assist. Boats were launched and parked on the beach at the landing, vehicles trailers and a huge assortment of building materials were scattered hither and yon in the looped parking area. Line ups and flotillas of vessels, rafts and barges were not uncommon and all headed west to the piece of paradise on Kapikog Lake that the Kapikog Pioneers had purchased. Everyone had to go over the water there were no roads. A spirit of camaraderie prevailed and to top it off it was Canada's Centennial everyone was proud and happy.

Looking back over the fifty years I can vouch for a lot of changes on the lake, the building of access roads, local road boards, introduction of electricity and phone service, and the transition to the Township of the Archipelago from the governance of the Province all changes that benefit us today. It is now Canada's 150th anniversary and we are still proud and happy Canadians looking forward to an exciting year on the lake.

This past winter has been a strange one. It was very unsettled. Snows came and stayed relatively early. Anke and I have been snowmobiling out to our vehicle since December 12 2016 and are still doing so today March 30 2017 though signs of spring are quite apparent. On Christmas Day when sledding out to pick up family members we were treated to the unique privilege of seeing three moose along the North Shore Road just an awesome experience. Like past winters many birds frequented our feeders but we were totally unprepared and surprised to see a fisher feeding on sunflower seeds on a number of occasions. Many bird species have returned, we have seen Sandhill Cranes, Trumpeter Swans, American Woodcock, Red Winged blackbirds and Robins to name a few. South facing slopes are relatively snow free but on the north face of the ridges around the lake 60 cm of snow is still not unusual. Tree buds are swelling with the movement of sap from the roots to the tree crowns but leaf emergence is still a month away. Ice is starting to recede from the north side of the lake but is still tight to shore on the south side. Over the last month the ice worked quite a bit and expanded along the north shore and pushed up a couple of feet along the shorelines and I expect that there has been some damage caused to structures in or near the lake's edge. Temperature fluctuated greatly, creating havoc with the snowmobile trails and causing a shortened season even though we had an early snowfall, temperatures were not cold at the beginning of the winter so swamps and waterways did not freeze to permit the trail groomers to do their work and set the trails. Then when the cold and snow combined to make ideal conditions nature turned up the thermostat and curtailed the season.

Now we are looking forward to the open water season, a warm and pleasant summer and like our Pioneer predecessors to enjoy this unique place called Kapikog Lake. Hope you will too ! Happy 150th Canada there is no place I'd rather be.

Gerry

Canoe adventure awaits !

By Stuart Ferrie

With Spring arriving we will soon have open water and canoeing season will be here. Now is a great time to plan canoe trips for the summer. One popular trip is the loop south through the Moon River. I first took this trip about 45 years ago with Brian Howard who used to be at Lot 33 when we were both 15, and I still take it almost every year. The route can be done in a single full day of hard canoeing, but most people take two days for the trip, or three days if you want to fish a lot. As always if you are in the bush, please remember to bring out anything you take in, and try to leave it cleaner than you found it. Following are detailed directions.

Starting from the south west shore of Kapikog, portage into Dunbar Lake, cross the lake, and then from the south end of Dunbar take the simple portage on the right into the Juniper swamp. Paddle left through the channel into the open swamp area. If you are going to Juniper you would continue to the left and up the creek, however for this trip take the portage which is at the south end of the swamp. Pass to the left of Berry Island and find the portage to the right of the rock on the shore. Since the beaver dam was damaged a few years ago the water level in Juniper is significantly lower than it used to be, so it is mucky reaching the portage.

The portage into Eagle Lake is marked both by ribbons and by cairns, as well as the usual groove in the ground in earthen areas. It is longish but generally good although there are two areas about a third of the way through with tricky rock dips where you need to watch your footing, especially if it is wet and you are carrying a canoe. It is probably the least used portage on the trip and easiest to lose. It is also unfortunately loved by deer flies.

Once over the portage, paddle south east on Eagle lake. There is a good campsite on the south point of one of the islands, and a few secondary campsites around the lake if needed. Watch for the rocky shoals. When Eagle Lake narrows, stay to the left channel, which takes you past the hunt camp and into Vaughan Lake. Vaughan Lake has a good campsite on a narrow point half way down to your right near another hunt camp. Continue to the creek at the south end of Vaughan. Do not take the bay to your left (east). Paddle up the creek to the portage.

The portage is fairly short and easy, travelling straight along a rock ridge, ending at Buckhorn Lake beside another hunt camp. Buckhorn is a long narrow lake, and you paddle the length of the lake. It is not a great lake for camping, with the best site being the island in the middle, half way down the lake. For the past few years there has been a picnic table on the island.

At the south end of Buckhorn you begin the portage to the Moon River. The portage consists of roads driveable by a truck and is therefore relatively easy to walk, although somewhat long. The first 50 yards by Buckhorn are mucky, before the road is established. Walk up the road to the junction, turn right, and walk until there is a spur road to the left, which takes you to the river. It is possible but not likely that you may encounter traffic on this road. The portage has mosquitos, which are generally gone by August.



We offer public sightseeing, lunch and sunset dinner cruises as well as private charters on *Peerless II*. Private charters are also arranged for *Idyllwood*.

Interested in seeing parts of the lakes not seen on the larger ships?

We can take you there from May to

SUNSET
CRUISES



Information and Reservations

Captain R.S. Potts

705-645-2462

www.sunsetcruises.ca

info@sunsetcruises.ca

Canoe adventure ctd.

At the Moon River, if you go left (upstream) you would come to the misery of the Seven Sister Rapids, the Gibson reserve, and then Moon Chute near Bala. However for this trip you turn right and go downstream. As a river, the Moon has a current. During a dry summer this is not usually a factor on the flat stretches but in spring, fall, or other high water times the current can be significant. The water flow on the Moon is controlled by a dam near Bala as Ontario Hydro (or whatever it is called now) adjusts water flow between the Moon and the power stations on the Musquash River. Therefore the current can change within a few hours. If you are camping along the river make sure you camp well above the waterline, and keep your gear and canoe well clear also, just in case they change the water level on you at night.

Going downstream, the first obstacle is Curtain Chute. The moderate length portage is on the left, starting on a rock ridge. The Chute is also a good and large campsite. Beyond the Chute, paddle down the river for awhile until it widens out. Here you have a choice. To the right is a creek and short portage to Bern Lake, which has a nice campsite. To the left is a weedy bay. Straight ahead and slightly right is one of two branches of the Moon River, and ahead and slightly left is the other branch of the Moon. Either branch works, but the left branch is slightly broader. From this point to Moon Falls there are good campsites scattered along the river.

Paddle down either branch of the river until they join up again downstream. Here again you have a choice. There is a small rapid and portage almost straight ahead of you. Do not take it as it leads to a terrible portage later. Instead go to your left until you find the second (south) rapid. Take this one over another simple portage. Follow the river downstream. You may have to pull over a beaver dam or shallow rock ledge (it varies by the year) part way along until you get to another small rapids. A short portage around this brings you back to the merged river. This is a great place to drift for a few minutes break, admiring to the right the chasm that the other branch of the river goes through and the massive steep rock which you didn't have to portage over because you took the south branch.

About two minutes paddle will bring you to Moon Falls. The portage is close by on the right. The first part of the portage is through the forest, and then opens out onto layered open rock. Carry the canoe down past the Falls. If you are confident you can begin the portage closer to the falls to cut off the part of the portage through the forest. Only do this if the current is weak. Moon Falls is a great place for a picnic lunch, and is also heavily used for camping as there are four or five campsites nearby. There is a small rapids downstream of the Falls. This can be run if you have some minor white water experience, or easily portaged around. You are now essentially at Georgian Bay lake level, and there are often people who have come up from the Bay for the scenic view.

On a hot summer's day there are often people swimming in the pool by the falls. Do this only if the current is weak. People have drowned at this spot in the past when they misjudged the current. After taking a break at the base of the Falls, paddle downstream through some rather unattractive floodplain terrain until you come to the narrows into Arnolds Bay. Watch for the gravel shoal just upstream of the narrows.

Arnolds Bay is open, with few places to pull over, and a bare steep rock shore on the right. With its east/west orientation it can be miserable if there is a strong west wind. Paddle down the bay, keeping mostly to the right, past the island at the end of the bay and then into Moon River Bay. This is a nicer paddle, with numerous campsites on both sides of the Bay. Stay toward the sandy right bank and follow it as it gradually curves from west to north and then north east. Travelling past the remains of the Moon River Club you will enter an area with a few cottages.

Remaining near the shore on your right, you enter Healey Creek past a few docks. Follow the creek upstream. Go slowly and watch for rocks. If water levels are higher, as they have been for the past few years, you should be able to reach the recently built bridge, and see the rapids beyond. The portage is on the left of the creek. Pull out and walk down the road to the left for a bit, past the large house. Turn right and go past the back of the woodshed and along the left (north) edge of the lawn. The trail enters new brush, and past a boat graveyard before entering the forest. Once in the forest the trail is obvious and pretty easy and takes you to Healey Lake, where the MNR has built a dock. The portage is fairly long, but not arduous. At one time, before the Healey Lake Road was built through to Woods Bay, the farmer who lived here made a few bucks by transporting boats along this trail by tractor.

Once into Healey Lake, you have a long paddle in front of you, however most days the wind will be at your back. Before you get started, take a moment to walk over and see the dam holding Healey Lake from draining, and be thankful for the Kapikog dam. Paddle down the lake, following the main channel. To your right you will pass by a couple of islands which were devastated by the Hemlock Looper a decade or more ago. The islands are re-growing nicely but the damage is still obvious to a sharp eye. After a while you will see the Hydro lines in the far distance and the green fire hut on the left shore, also off in the distance. As you reach the fire hut, you should see Molson Export cottage (it has the sailing ship logo prominent on the front of the cottage) ahead and to the left. To the right is a gap into a bay. Go through the gap and paddle diagonally across Kapikog bay. As you approach the far shore you should see vehicles parked.

Go through the broken beaver dam to the right of the parking area, pull up on the left shore and take the short portage up the rock, past the dam and into Kapikog. Paddle back to your cottage and have a cold drink. You earned it!

Pups Porcupines and Pliers?

What dog owning cottager has not had a traumatic porcupine encounter to relay? .. here are some facts and tips to keep in mind

When fearful, the North American porcupine will make a clicking noise to try to ward off predators but when that doesn't work they will release quills to defend themselves—most dogs approach this interesting prey by planting their feet on hem and trying to bite down .. which is why most dogs get quills in the face and legs .

The Majority of porcupine encounters happen late at night or early in the morning so vets recommend you not let your porcupine loving dog roam free at these times .

The best advice is to have a vet remove the quills as soon as possible after the injury has occurred as it can be tricky to get the barbs out of the skin particularly in the area of mouth or around the eyes -

Timing of removal is key as after 24 hours there is risk of the quill barbs getting imbedded further down under the skin .

Keep the dog as calm and possible and get them to a vet as soon as you can for quill removal under sedation.

If you do try to remove them quills yourself with flat pliers ...consider the following

Event a gentle dog may snap or bite when under stress

Have someone the dog knows and trusts hold him gently during the experience—unfortunately due to the usual placement of the porcupine quills it may not be possible to safely muzzle your furry friend without doing more harm..

Grasp the quills at the base to enable you to quickly remove the barb—do not break off the quills first

Get them to the vet as soon as you can to check for barbs left under the skin , in the mouth or throat and near the eye to avoid long term injury and infection

.below are some web links and or phone numbers for local emergency vets

<http://cottagecountryanimalclinic.ca/service-category/emergencyextendedcare/> (Parry sound)

<http://osullivananimalhospital.com/> (Barry)

Georgian animal hospital Bowes road Parry sound 705 746 8178





Muskoka
Septic Services

Septic and Holding Tank Pumping
 Island • Water Access • Mainland

705.765.5777 705.375.2797
www.muskokasepticservices.com
muskokasepticservices@hotmail.com

Protecting Your Environment

**Start to Finish
 Carpentry & Maintenance**

Nevin Fitchett 705-773 2884

start2finishcarpentry@hotmail.com

New Builds

Renos

Roofing

Landscaping

Cottage Checks

Snow Removal

Property Maintenance

Bev Keall

Bulldozing & Trucking

Filter Sand and Gravel

Septic Tank & Systems – Quarry Products

DAVID KEALL

Box 435

Mactier ON P0C 1H0

phone 705-375-2638

cell 705-375-0743

mdzkeall@muskoka.com