



October 2009

NEWSLETTER

51 King William St.
Box 3006
Huntsville, ON
P1H 1G4

The New Board

The Fairy Lake Annual General Meeting was held on July, 4 in the Partner's Hall at the Algonquin Theatre. The event was well attended by members; perhaps because of the exciting agenda or perhaps because refreshments included the pancakes which should have been flipped at the rained-out Pancake Breakfast.

The following Directors indicated that they were willing to sit on the Board for the upcoming year:

Rob Zingel	President
Jim King	Vice President
Kathy Hunter	Past President
Bruce Gowan	Treasurer
Ingrid Sinclair	Secretary
Peter Van Buskirk	Director
Dee Mallette	Director

Rob Zingel agreed to take on the role as President from retiring President, Kathy Hunter. Rob is a long time lake resident and has been involved with the Board for a number of years. His President's Message, printed on the following page, clearly illustrates that he is going to be another powerful leader.

We thank Kathy for her leadership, dedication and enthusiasm. She has fostered a healthy, co-operative vision for Fairy Lake as well as a highly functional lake association.

Board Contact List

Rob Zingel , President rzingel@northemprojectplanning.com 705-788-4375	Jim King , Vice-Pres james.king@riconsultants.com 705-789-6203	Kathy Hunter , Past President hunters@clearwavetech.com 705-789-8464
Ingrid Sinclair , Secretary, Newsletter Editor sinc@rogers.com 705-789-6962	Bruce Gowan , Treasurer bgowan@surenet.net 705-788-9361	Dee Mallette , Director mallette007@sympatico.ca 705-788-0844
Peter Van Buskirk , Director petervanb@sympatico.ca 705-789-1067		

President's Message **Huntsville's Environmental Economy and Lifestyle**

Rob Zingel

Huntsville is a jewel in the Canadian Shield, and within Huntsville, Fairy Lake is the heart and soul. Its beauty and magic continue to amaze me after nearly 40 years on the lake.

Within driving proximity to 5 million people, it yet remains clean with breathtaking shorelines. Affording opportunity for all manner of summer and winter recreation, our lake lifestyle is a fine example of Canadian living at its best.

Fairy Lake Association seeks to ensure that our lake remains a community treasure for generations to come.

Many towns and cities have managed waterways with good intention for the well-being of their citizenry, yet these became polluted, un-swimmable and undesirable. The buck stops here at the 45th parallel. We want our lake to remain clean, the shoreline to be natural. I believe by working together we can ensure this.

I'm sure we all have fond recollections connected to the lake. My heart leaps with memories of sailing its waters; skating kilometers at a stretch; swimming, standing on its sandy bottom, enveloped in its purifying life; walking or skiing its frozen winter-state to one tree-island, blue sky, children bundled up so that -20C feels warm; relaxing on the dock with a good book; and perhaps best of all, doing nothing at all....being with nature. All this and more in a single year at one place – Fairy Lake.

We do not want to be a part of damaging this natural treasure, but rather of providing a continuing example of how to live in harmony with our fragile resources.

The past policy and direction of FLA has been managed through extraordinary efforts by a few who devoted much of their life through those years to pursue improvement to our environment. It takes committed voices and actions to make a difference. Be an Al Gore. This is your lake.

We are an organization of hundreds of members, grateful for our mutual support, and especially grateful to the dozens who find priority in giving their time to the effort of maintaining what we all see - Beauty; What we experience - Pleasure; What we want for our children's children, an opportunity to sense externally that which is internal.... and eternal.

Activities that FLA volunteers undertake to maintain our lake lifestyle include: water quality testing; planning and development review with the town; annual lake cleanup; navigation and safety regulation; representation to the Huntsville Lakes Council and the town's Environmental Advisory Committee; website development and maintenance; annual pancake breakfast; and this newsletter. Your directors, elected at the Annual General Meeting meet periodically to manage these initiatives and discuss new ways to maintain and improve quality of life for us all. You are welcome to join us.

The task is difficult. For a century and a half, our forbears sought survival often at the expense of the environment, which was unaccounted in awareness and calculation. This culture is changing very slowly, but changing it is. With concerted efforts we can

continue to experience aspects of Tom Thompson's inspiration, Glenn Gould's 'Idea of North' for years to come.

We propose the following principles for Fairy Lake within Huntsville:

- Health and welfare of individuals and community are dependant primarily upon the environment;
- The economy in Huntsville region is environmentally based;
- Lakes of Huntsville Region are the key environmental feature supporting the economy and lifestyle enjoyed by lake dwellers and the broader community;
- Preservation and enhancement of lake/watershed health will continue to be the main foundation for Huntsville's continued economic growth;
- Lake communities are presently prime stewards of the lakes. It is desirable that the broader community, government and business take a greater role in stewardship.

'Progress' continues. As Huntsville continues to grow, increasing pressures and new threats arise for the lake. Storm sewers feeding into the lake untreated are a major concern. Increased motor boat and snowmobile traffic, increased lighting and road noise are noticeable on an annual basis. Applications for increased shoreline density are not infrequent.

To SUSTAINABLE economic development we say "YES!". Shoreline development within the Lake Plan and Official Plan we support. Minor variances are just that. But great care must be taken to ensure that lake and environmental degradation do not occur during our sojourn.

Take action for Fairy Lake! It's never been more important than now. When your great grand-children ask you what you did when the lake was threatened by water pollution, motor traffic or over-development, what will you tell them? Come out to a meeting. Call us with ideas and concerns for action. Speak to your town councilor. Let the mayor know how you feel!



President, Rob Zingel with children Karl, Erik and Veronica

Staying In Touch

Kathy Hunter, Past President

We have been asked by several members if we will be communicating with members solely by email in the future. "Wouldn't it be less costly, less work and have less of an impact on the environment to send our newsletter by email?" many people query. These are very valid considerations.

We believe, however, that the personal contact of our Neighbourhood Ambassadors is invaluable. It creates a sense of community to know that someone near you is looking out for your interests and concerns on the lake. Consideration must also be given to those who have not yet made the transition to a 'paperless' world. However, if you would prefer to receive just an electronic version of our newsletter, please let me know at hunters@clearwavetech.com

We will continue to use email to keep you 'in the loop' between newsletters, and on issues of an emergency nature, we will contact you by phone. Please visit our new website www.fairylakeassociation.com which also has current postings relating to Fairy Lake issues.

Fairy Lake Association Profile as of October 2009

Scope: Canal Road to Fairy Lake, Fairy Lake, Fairy Lake to town bridge, Muskoka River to the locks	4 areas
Registered Property Owners	303
Registered Members	243
Paid Memberships up to: October, 2009	155
2009 Donations: (20)	\$650.00
Volunteers:	(70)
Neighbourhood Ambassadors	29
Navigational Markers	5
Water Testing	16
Spring Lake Clean-up	25
Board of Directors	7

Fairy Lake Association and You

Membership Update

By Kathy Hunter

Each year, during our membership drive, there is great debate among property owners as to who should/could be part of the Fairy Lake Association. Do you have to have waterfront property; do you have to have property on the lake; should people on the canal and along the river be included? We welcome anyone who has an interest in contributing to the protection and preservation of Fairy Lake. It just makes sound investment sense to be part of the Fairy Lake team.

While we collaborate with other lake associations on issues of mutual concern, our general focus encompasses the area from Canal Road into Fairy Lake, Fairy Lake, the Muskoka River from the lake to the town bridge and downstream to the locks. **We do not limit** our lake management initiatives to the main body of the lake. These boundaries were established approximately ten years ago when each of Huntsville's four main lakes were embarking on individual Lake Plans; these boundaries were established so that each lake could direct their study and subsequent recommendations to the areas that impacted them most directly.

The success of the Fairy Lake Association can be measured by our many accomplishments. Without the financial support of our members and the numerous volunteer hours they have devoted to our initiatives, there could be no association.

One of the most arduous endeavours undertaken this spring was the second annual Lake Clean-up. Photos of the clean-up can be viewed at www.fairylakeassociation.com

This initiative is a costly one. The financial costs can be attributed to the rental of heavy equipment to help with the retrieval of logs and debris; the cost of losing a life or the cost of the damage to watercraft when logs are encountered during the boating season cannot be measured in dollars. We hope you will get involved in next year's spring clean-up.

Catherine Cumberland continued to ensure that our swimming areas in Fairy Lake were safe this summer. Catherine and her new neighbour, Don Brandle, both property owners along the river, tested for bacteria at each of 10 swimming sites on the lake throughout the summer. Costs for this initiative include the coli testing plates, gas for travel and lab costs.

Newsletters, maintaining a website, managing navigational markers, monitoring development on the lake, providing educational pamphlets for our property owners, as well as carrying liability insurance, are just a few of the items that have associated cost increases.

Our membership fees have remained fixed at \$25 over the past seven years. Where can you receive a better return on a twenty-five dollar investment than the security of having your property located on a well-managed lake? Our initiatives do come with a price tag, however, a price tag that has seen increases over the last two years.

If we are going to be able to continue to fulfill our mandate and to achieve our goal of protecting and preserving Fairy Lake, our increased expenses cannot be covered without increasing our membership fee for the year 2010. Although a figure has yet to be determined, our research tells us that many of our neighbouring lake associations presently have a membership fee of around \$40.

If returning your membership form has slipped your mind, please, take a moment to send in your cheque and membership form in the envelope provided. We rely on your financial support through your membership fees and your generous donations to fulfill our commitment to all property owners on Fairy Lake.

Treasurer's Report

Bruce Gowan, Treasurer

For the latest fiscal year ended March 31, 2009, the association ended the year with a small operating surplus of \$10.01 on revenues of \$5,030.94 and expenses of \$5,020.93.

Revenue included \$4,125.00 in membership dues with the additional revenue being from initiative donations and \$160.94 in interest income.

Major expenses included:

- Liability insurance
- Water testing equipment and expense
- FOCA annual fees
- Newsletter expenses
- Annual general meeting expenses
- Lake cleanup
- Website development



We continued to financially support FOCA and the Huntsville Lakes Council.

FLA ended the year with a bank balance of \$3,025.42 and a Guaranteed Investment Certificate balance of \$8,180.99.



Moving To Fairy Lake

Dee Mallette, Director

My family and I discovered Huntsville and the surrounding area during a search for an “ideal” holiday location. We decided to vacation at Ronville Lodge one summer when our kids were in their early teens and we fell in love with the region. We vacationed at Ronville for the next four years. As the children grew and spread their wings, leaving for University and my husband’s business travels increased, Huntsville slipped from our radar. As time passed we began to reflect on our retirement years. We knew we loved being by the water because we had spent several vacations in the Caribbean. However, the Caribbean was just a little too far to become a permanent resident. We wanted to be near our children, their spouses and our grandchildren. Alas, we remembered the enjoyable times we had in Huntsville. There was no question in our minds that we would enjoy spending our retirement here. Five years ago we met a real estate agent at the Cottage Show in Toronto and she helped us find our piece of “heaven” to build our home. Two years ago in May we moved into our waterfront home on Fairy Lake and have embraced our new life. We have enjoyed rediscovering the area, entertaining our family and friends from the city and meeting new friends who have made us feel very welcome. My husband and I feel very fortunate to live in this part of Muskoka. The area and the people have enriched our lives and we hope to live in Huntsville for many years to come.

Canal Update

Peter Van Buskirk, Director

The Fairy Lake Association has been trying to find out which government (Federal, Provincial, District or Municipal) is responsible to ensure safe navigation of recreational vessels that traverse this important link between Fairy Lake and Peninsula Lake.

Discussions have been held recently with stakeholders of the canal area.

The Summit Management Office (SMO) has an Environment and Community Issues Division. This division is lead by Ms. Nadia Ahmad. Meetings have been held with Ms. Ahmad and her staff to provide them with information about environmental issues in our collective communities (Pen Lake, Fairy Lake and the Canal). The purpose is for this division to recommend a green legacy project.

A meeting was held to outline issues as to safe navigation, fish habitat and wetlands within the canal area. This was followed with a boat tour for Ms. Ahmad and her staff to see first hand the issues raised in the meeting.

Ms. Ahmad agreed that the Environment Issues Division would research what help federal agencies such as the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (Waterways Management Development Program) could provide in developing an assessment of long-term viability for recreational navigation, while preserving its unique environment.

We look forward to further information from the SMO Environment and Community Division.



Water Quality 101

Catherine Cumberland

We certainly had a rainy summer; and very short one I might add. It was a bit of a challenge collecting the samples with all of the rain this summer. Our collection protocol remains the same as the previous years. We are still testing for bacteria: Coliform and E.Coli (which is the commonly used bacterial indicator of the sanitary quality of water).

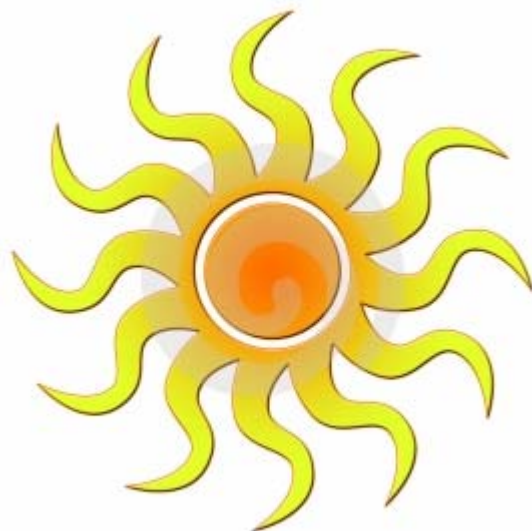
Bacteriological water analysis is a method of analyzing water to estimate the numbers of bacteria present. It is an [analytical](#) procedure which uses samples of water and from these samples determines the concentration of bacteria. It is then possible to draw inferences about the suitability of our water for [recreational](#) use. We have 10 sites from which I collect.



After the water is collected (each site has its own collection bottle which is sterilized) it is put into coliplates (like a petri dish with 96 small wells). The composition of the nutrient usually includes reagents that resist the growth of non-target organisms and make the target organism easily identified by a color change in the medium. At the end of the incubation period, which is 24-26 hours, the colonies are counted by eye. This procedure takes a few moments but does not require a [microscope](#) as the colonies are typically a few millimeters across. The wells that turn blue are counted as positive for Coliform. The plates are then placed under an ultraviolet light and the wells that 'glow in the dark' are counted positive for E.Coli. The good news is that the levels were quite low this summer.

I hope you all enjoyed the few sunny days we were blessed with this summer.

Photo - Catherine collecting data from coli plates



Web-Site for Fairy Lake!

www.fairylakeassociation.com

We would like to extend our thanks to FLA Director, Jim King and Tom Stewart of Tek-Tom for their time and effort in creating the site. It's professional and was developed for a very small fee.

We believe that by showing the world our lake and association through our web-site, we will maintain and increase our property values.

On the site you can find pictures, past newsletters, maps, and history of the lake as well as the Lake Plan and links to various lake-related organizations. For example we have a link to the G8 Integrated Security Unit's website. There's a handy comment section if you'd like to contact your association directors, as well as bulletins, upcoming events and a description of some of our initiatives. You can even check the weather for Huntsville!

We're always looking for more pictures so if you have some favorites, send them to us for posting. We also welcome stories from around the lake, past and present. Happy surfing!

Fairy Lake Spring Clean-up, 2009

The clean-up was a great success. They dragged using kayaks; they collected using canoes; they hauled using ski boats and sea doos. And before noon, the bin was overflowing with logs, branches and even a 'Robinson Crusoe-style' raft. The last load arrived by Sea-Do at 1:30pm. To give you an idea of the magnitude of this initiative, check the **Photos** page of our web site. www.fairylakeassociation.com



Todd Knapton's Sawyering Skills



Team Work

Neighbours assisted one another and made a combined total of 16 trips to the Centennial Boat Launch. We hope that the efforts of over 25 Fairy Lake Association volunteers will have contributed to a safer boating experience this summer.

A special thanks to Danny Andrews from Aces for donating a dumpster for the clean-up operation.

Securing Huntsville and protecting Fairy Lake residents during the G8 Summit

We, at the Integrated Security Unit (ISU), feel very fortunate to have the support of the vast majority of the community in Huntsville, including those who live around Fairy Lake. We hope that we have gained your trust by being open in our communications and reaching out to the community. In great part, this is due to the work of our Community Relations Group (CRG) in meeting with residents and their associations, among many other community groups.

We have already made public some security measures that will be in place in late June 2010. For example, we announced restrictions on access to Highway 60 that will be put in place for the summit. Residents who live in the yet-to-be-determined security zones will go through an accreditation process so they can be issued a pass.

As you know the accreditation process has started and many of you have been visited by members of the CRG or have paid a visit to their office in town. In addition, we have already planned for alternate routes and they are posted on the ISU website at www.q8isu.ca.

We also informed residents of a total marine exclusion zone on Fairy Lake, Peninsula Lake and the canal between the two. We have done all we can to give everyone a year's advance notice about the road and marine restrictions, and we believe the community appreciates these efforts. Air restrictions will be put in to effect for the summit and these restrictions will be announced to the community and pilots as soon as they become known.

We will continue to communicate and engage with you to respond to any of your concerns. The ISU will have a very visible presence in town during June 2010. We will not just focus on the summit site at Deerhurst resort. Calls to police and other emergency services will be answered, whether they come from the Fairy Lake area or any other part of the region.

The 2010 G8 Integrated Security Unit

June 25, 26 & 27, 2010



Attention ... History Buffs

Local Writer documents Huntsville Lake History

Beyond Mainland, recently published by Nathan Tidridge, is based on the history of the lakes surrounding Huntsville and includes maps, surveys and photographs. Copies are available in Huntsville.

Attention ... Photo Buffs

This photo was brought to my attention by a friend in Vancouver. It's currently posted on the CBC News website listing the top five photos of the week. Congratulations Donna!



Fairy Lake in Muskoka, Ont. lives up to its ethereal name. Submitted by Donna Morano

Upcoming Events

Ice Out Contest – beginning mid-March
Lake Cleanup – June 5, 2010
Pancake Breakfast – mid-June, 2010
AGM – July 3, 2010



If you would like a coloured copy of a zoning map of Fairy Lake which was handed out at the Annual General Meeting in July, please contact Kathy Hunter at 789-8464 or at hunters@clearwavetech.com to arrange for your copy.