

Kahshe Krier/Crier

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Kahshe Lake Ratepayers' Association (1994 inc)

www.kahshelake.ca

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FALL 2009

Name the Newsletter Contest : Only 2 names were suggested other than *Kahshe Klipper* and *Kahshe Klippings*. I have used them both above. *Kahshe Crier* was suggested by Mike Coseni, and *Kahshe Krier* by his wife, Karen Coseni (maybe because Karen also begins with K -- we K's have to stick together, Karen!) Please choose one of these 4 names as the official title of this publication. E-mail your vote to me (only one vote per membership) at keithonkahshe@rogers.com before April 20th. Actually before **November** 20th would be better : you'll all forget if you wait any longer!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Greig Holder



It's that time of year again when some of us put away our summer recreation equipment, lock the mice out of our summer homes and begin our fall migration to the various destinations typical of our species. Others of us just store the summer recreation equipment, haul out the winter ones and carry on. And those of us who live here full time will soon be activating their snow management tools.

Our family has just completed its 9th year on Kahshe Lake. This summer's KLRA survey shows that the average family has been on the Lake for 29.5 years, so we are relative newcomers.

After nine years of boating back and forth to the marina I've never tired of what I see along the way. I enjoy the variety of shapes and sizes and ages and colours of cottages people have built, and I enjoy how they sit on the land. I often try to imagine how their views differ from

ours. It's a simple pleasure, really, but the type that makes time at the lake so enjoyable.

KLRA This Season

It was a busy season for your association, and that will continue through the winter. In addition to the usual activities, here are some of the highlights:

Gravenhurst Ward Boundary Review – With municipal elections coming up in 2010, it was important to make sure residents around Muskoka's many lakes are appropriately represented. We gathered many of the petition signatures needed to require Gravenhurst council to conduct the ward review. Consultants were appointed to analyze the present and future population data and present council with options. On October 20, Gravenhurst council voted unanimously to adopt the option that had been supported by the KLRA board. You can see the new ward boundaries on the Gravenhurst website at www.gravenhurst.ca

(Report continued on page 2)

Are you into birding?

Have you ever stopped to watch a bird? Or had your spirit lifted by its cheerful song? Perhaps you have taken a few solitary minutes to examine its unique colours and patterns, chuckle at its odd mannerisms, or marvel at its ability to fly.

Watching birds is more popular than ever, and thousands of Canadian citizens are contributing their bird observation skills to science by participating in Bird Studies Canada's bird population surveys. These "Citizen Scientists" provide a tremendous service to all Canadians by volunteering their time to track the health of bird populations.

These are the opening paragraphs of the **Bird Studies Canada** website (www.bsc-eoc.org). If you are interested in birding then volunteering to help with one of the BSC Programs could be for you. My thanks to Peter Griesbach for bringing this organization to our attention. Mr Griesbach took part in this summer's Canadian Lakes Loon Survey, and is planning to participate in the winter Feeder Watch Program from November to March. As he puts it, "it helps to pass the winter, being cooped up in the house". For more information, visit www.bsc-eoc.org.



President's Report

(Cont. from page 1)

- **Gravenhurst Zoning By-law** – The zoning by-law is currently being re-written to conform to the new Official Plan. The KLRA was active in development of the Official Plan, largely through creating the Kahshe Lake Plan. We are now active in ensuring the zoning by-law meets our needs as much as possible.
- **KLRA Survey** – Many of you responded to the KLRA survey this summer. Compilation of the responses is almost done; it will be available on the website (www.kahshelake.ca) very soon. Starting in this newsletter, and continuing over coming issues, Rob Abbott will tell you what we have learned. Thanks to all of you who took the time to complete the survey – it was time very well spent.

KLRA Communications

As I mentioned in the summer newsletter, I see the KLRA playing a role in Representation, Communication, Conservation, Recreation and Celebration. In this issue, I'd like to talk about Communication.

We communicate with members in many ways: the newsletter; events such as the annual general meeting; handbills; the survey; the Website and discussion forum; group emails; newspapers; and even word of mouth. We also maintain several notice boards at points around the lakes.

In addition to communication with members, we also communicate with others, such as the Town of Gravenhurst, the District of Muskoka, and other cottage-oriented organization like FOCA, the Greater Gravenhurst Residents Association, and so on.

We recognize that communication is a crucial part of the role of the KLRA. Our intent is to look at how we are doing with each type of communication, with a view to improving them over time. You will already have noticed significant changes in the newsletter, edited by Keith Price, and of which there are three editions a year. Keith is always soliciting input from members, be it articles for the newsletter or comments on how to make it better. Recently, we've starting using group emails to let members know of events. Feedback has been positive.

We are also in the early stages of improving the KLRA Website. We hope, over time, to make the content even more relevant and current so that you will find value in it and visit often. We hope you'll be able to manage your membership information on the website. We also aim to drive more use of the discussion forum for member interaction on virtually any topic of interest. This will take some time – we'll update you as progress is made.

Winter Wishes

This is the last newsletter for 2009. I want to wish you a great winter. For those who close up for winter, it's only six months to opening! I will chat again with you then.

Greig Holder

(greig.holder@sympatico.ca)

The Water Pump at Nagaya Beach

by **Doug Paul**

If you look closely the next time you enter Nagaya beach you will see, hidden in the foliage on the west end, a hand-operated water pump.



This pump was the focus of much activity and local gossip in the 40's and early 50's as many cottagers gathered to fill their metal buckets (it was much later that we changed to plastic containers) at one of Kahshe's main sources of drinking water. Many a four-hour drive to the cottage ended with a cool drink at the pump before we collected the boat and rowed to the cottage.

Our regular trips to the pump were much anticipated as they often included a swim at the beach, a climb up (and sometimes a jump off) the diving tower and a walk up the road to get an ice cream cone from Denne's hut.

We couldn't keep ice cream in the cottage ice box.

I can't remember when the pump ceased to function as our potable water source.

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Don't forget to send me your comments, your pictures, your suggestions, your ideas, your tips, your helpful hints and your complaints. And if you can't manage all of those, skip the complaints! Deadline APRIL 20th.

keithonkahshe@rogers.com or 416 233 7688

Kahshe Lake Residents' Survey - 2009

You should have received a survey in the mail this summer. It was sent to all residents, both KLRA members and non-members, in the Kahshe and Bass Lake area. The purpose of this survey was to get feedback and direction from area residents about their concerns, and to find out what the current important issues are.

We thank all those who took the time to fill out and return the survey. Overall, the results were not drastically different from the previous survey carried out in 2001. Boating and related issues continue to be the most common problems. Your responses showed also that the environment and natural heritage of the lakes and of the area are important. There was also general support for the KLRA and what it does. Many of you provided additional comments, either in answer to survey questions, or on other topics. I want to assure you that all KLRA Board and Lake Plan Committee members have read your comments. However, only the 2 board members who tabulated and summarised the results (myself and the president) were able to see the names of the responders. This summary report is presented on the website www.kahshelake.ca. It has also been provided to the Town of Gravenhurst and District of Muskoka representatives, to our MPP, Norm Miller, and to other area Lake and Resident associations.

Over the next few newsletters, I plan to discuss the results of specific sections of the survey in a bit more detail.

Who Responded?

Landowners' names were manually collected from publicly available information at the Town office. A total of 816 surveys were mailed out, approximately 20 being returned as undeliverable. As of October 12, 2009, we had received 181 responses, or 23% of the possible total.

Though most of the surveys were sent out to non-KLRA members, 78% of responses were from members, only 6% from non-members; 16% did not indicate their membership status. Based on our present membership, this represents an approximate survey return rate of over 44% for members and only 2% for non-members.

Out of these 181 responses, 124 people provided their names, 109 provided their email address, and 101 people provided their property location. Though this will be kept confidential, it indicates that people were serious about their answers and comments.

On average, properties have been owned, or in the family, for 29.5 years; though this ranged from a few months to 99 years. It would seem that many people keep their properties longer than most people keep their homes.

Only 6 respondents anticipated any change to this status over the next 5 years. These included:

- uncertain - age related
- addition
- change to extended seasonal
- may sell
- change to year-round
- move

Problems, Problems, Problems.

As in the 2001 survey, boats and boating seem to be the most common area of concern, followed by algae/weeds and water quality. A new issue to surface is excessive building height.

Next issue, we'll get our feet wet and wade into the hot issue of boats and boating.



Rock Marker Report

Most of the rocks marked are pleased that we identified them again this summer. They seem to have fewer scars. This is not to mention the boats, hulls, props and lower gear units that have been spared significant damage. I have only heard of one boating mishap when a boat ran into some rocks at night during an August weekend. So, I would say we have had a pretty good year (except for some lousy weather). Again I want to thank the Rock Marker volunteers for all their good efforts in putting in, taking out, and maintaining the markers this summer. They are Tim Ottoway, Mike Bradley, Sandi and Dave Follis, and Barry Glen, and also many others who placed markers in and around the shorelines of their cottages. And thanks to all those who noted the importance of the rock markers in the survey responses. We do value your appreciation of this important service on the lake.

Clint Rohr, Rock Marker Volunteer Co-ordinator



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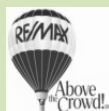
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Favourite walks and other things

Do you have any favourite walks or other interesting activities away from the lake? If so, we'd like to hear from you. keithonkabshe@rogers.com 416 233 7688

The Tree Museum

Last year my wife and I discovered the Tree Museum on Doe Lake Road. This is the road the "easterners" take to get into Gravenhurst, and for several years we had driven past the Tree Museum sign and wondered what a Tree Museum would be like. Giant redwoods and banyan trees in glass display cases? Hardly!



In fact, it is not a museum at all. When we finally decided to investigate we discovered that it is really an outdoor sculpture gallery in the woods. To view the exhibits requires a walk of perhaps 1.5 – 2 kms along a

farm track and back, with occasional side trips into the woods. On a fine day the walk alone is worth the effort as you finish at a small lake and a homestead, which is now used by artists who come to create their works. Unless you are into modern art, you might have a hard time appreciating the sculptures, but some of them are quite delightful.

Keith Price



Getting there from Hwy 11: Head north past Gull Lake Narrows and take the next exit onto Doe Lake Road heading east. After 5 kms you will pass Doe Lake on your right. The Tree Museum is about 1 km further on on the right,



just as you come round a sweeping left curve. Park just inside the gate and enjoy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Actually this letter is NOT to the editor, but to you, so here it is :

Hello Kabshe Ratepayers,

My name is Erin Nadeau and I work for the Adopt-A-Pond Wetland Conservation Programme of the Toronto Zoo. During the month of November I will be conducting two focus group meetings where I am hoping to speak with people involved in lake issues and the creation of lake management plans in the District Municipality of Muskoka. I was fortunate enough to speak to a few lake association presidents and board members at the end of last week, all of whom showed support for this project and assured me that they would encourage their association members to attend one of the two focus group sessions.

The Kabshe Lake Management Plan has elements in it that make it an excellent example, and I would appreciate the input of your association's members.

This is an excellent opportunity get involved in an important Toronto Zoo initiative and I hope to see some of you out in November.

Thanks very much,

Erin Nadeau

Adopt-A-Pond Wetland Conservation Programme
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KAHSHE'S "LAST MEN STANDING"

By Cathy Dunphy

70 years ago Kahshe's "Boys of Summer" went off to war.

Henry Tuero, Walter Moore, Roy King, Ed Heaps, Jack Pearce, Ted Howchin, Vic Stringer, Alf Sutton, Art Sirois, Emil Sirois, Ronald Kent, Hughie Kent, Bert Cameron, Harry Cameron, Albert Kehl, George Kehl, Walter Kehl, Norm Kehl, Ben Tuero, George Bouck along with Vic and Meryle Tuero who went overseas to entertain the troops. Henry Tuero has written all their names down for inclusion in this article because this is a story for all of them, a tribute to their memory.

Today Henry, 90, and his brother-in-law, Walter Moore, 91, are the *last men standing*, the last of the Kahshe Lake "Boys of Summer". They have been habitués of Kahshe Lake and Nagaya Beach for a combined 160 years (and counting) They were just two of a large crowd of high-spirited young men, close friends who fished, swam and raced each other for ribbons at the regattas, who square-danced Saturday nights at Sopher's Landing and round-danced to Count Basie and other brand-name big bands at Dunn's Pavilion. And when war was declared, there was no question: they would all sign up. Tuero remembers meeting his buddies at Nagaya Beach the day after Canada entered the war. It was all they talked about.

Moore, already in the militia reserve (they used to call them Friday night soldiers), was the first to become an active member of the army on Sept. 16, 1939. He shipped overseas with the 48th Highlanders on Dec. 16 arriving in Scotland on New Year's Eve.

Two years later, at age 20, Tuero joined the air force and became a radar mechanic attached to the RAF. He left for Union Station directly from the lake, refusing to let any of his family see him off. "They were Spanish, emotional," he says with a smile. "I didn't want them crying."



LAC Henry Tuero — extreme left, middle row

One by one, all the boys left to go overseas, some to fight in France, others to Italy and North Africa. They were from neighbourhoods all across Toronto and southern Ontario but they had grown up together on Kahshe Lake. This was their bond, so strong that they were a brotherhood. And whenever they ran into each other on leave (as sometimes happened), they would always ask about the latest news from the lake.

The "Boys of Summer" - Henry reads their names aloud, then stops. "They're all gone. It's a damn shame."

Ronald Kent never came home from the war; he was shot down over North Africa. Roy King was a POW in Italy, George Bouck was wounded. Moore, who came back to Canada on a leave in '43 to marry Tuero's sister, Anne, and to get his officer commission, caught a bullet in his spine fighting in Italy the following year. The bullet was never removed; it's still there between his fourth and fifth vertebrae. "I zigged when I should have zagged," he says. "I'm lucky I wasn't paralyzed."



Lt Walter Moore is welcomed home by his son, Gary — 1945

But by 1947, most of them had returned to Kahshe Lake. "We knew we were lucky to be back," said Moore, "I used to think about Kahshe on the battlefields."

Later some of them bought cottages on other parts of the lake for their own families. Moore and his family took over Tuero's parents' cottage on North Kahshe Lake Rd. and Tuero bought a place for his own family a few minutes away. Both widowed, they still spend time every summer at the lake. Moore says he likes to sit at the end of the dock at Denne's and watch the goings-on. Often he'll walk over to Nagaya Beach, where he's been going for 74 years. There are memorial benches there now for his late wife, and for Tuero's brother, Benny. He likes to sit there and remember.



Art Sirois, Henry Tuero & Roy King (with lion) in Trafalgar Square 1943 & 1942

Art Sirois, Henry Tuero, Harry Cameron, George Fernie, London, Dec 14, 1944

Bernie and Henry Tuero, Hilversum, Holland, 1945

Editor's note: If Kahshe has any vets from other wars (Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf, Afghanistan) or from peacekeeping missions around the world, we would love to tell your stories too.

keithonkashshe@rogers.com

416 233 7688

The Picture Gallery

Send **your** favourite cottaging picture(s) with a small caption (5-10 words) to keithprice1@rogers.com under the heading "Picture Gallery", and it/they could appear in the next issue of the newsletter. **Deadline for submissions: April 20th 2010.**



Sunrise over South Kakshe

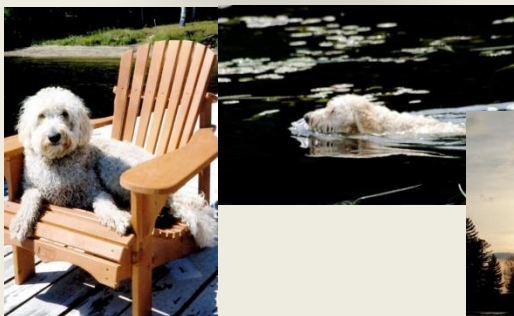
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Donna Williamson



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It's a dog's life



Fun and Games
&
Dog's Life
submitted by
Robert Pal



September summer at Sopher's
submitted by **Doug Paul**

The 2010 Kahshe Country Craft Show

REALLY NEEDS YOU!

Yes, you.

We **urgently** need volunteers to share the load of organising and running next year's Craft Show, the lake's ***premier social and community event***. It's scheduled for the August long weekend 2010 (mark your calendars NOW), but we need to start doing some long range planning **immediately**.

We need friends to work together organizing the bake sale, others to run the auction. We need people to take care of the food wagon, and to help us find talented crafts people willing to show their wares. We need your high school sons and daughters to earn volunteer hours by helping out on the actual day of the Show. Heck, we need volunteers to organize the volunteers. The more of us who sign on, the lighter the workload for everybody (and the more fun we'll all have).

Please email me saying **you** would like to help. Catherine Dunphy -- catherinedunphy@rogers.com



The Healing Views of Kahshe

by Donna Williamson

As I sit and contemplate the benefits of having a view of the lake compared to being surrounded by trees, it came to me that both have wonderful qualities. As Glenn and I await the completion of our home in the woods, we are renting a unit at South Kahshe Lake Resort. It is like coming home to the lake once again with a wonderful view of the Lake. As you can see from the pictures (***see also the Picture Gallery, facing page***), it is a pleasure to see the sun rising in the background, with a view of the government dock just outside my door.

The sky, ever-changing, gives a different picture every morning. The lake is so calm and tranquil at that time of the morning and everything, including the flowers, are just waking up to a new dawn. Rain or shine the scenery is majestic, the clouds seem to form shapes and I have fun just envisioning a form, a face or an animal in the cloud formations.



In the woods the view will be quite different. Now that we are building above ground, we will be in the trees and our bungalow will now become a two storey house - the wonders of uncovering an incredible glazier rock running from one end of the house to the other. Amazing that the rock is flat and ready to build on! Can't think of a better foundation than good ole Muskoka rock. We will miss the lakeside, however, living in the middle of the forest we will be surrounded with the energy of the trees and the wonderful colours in the Fall.

Life is good. Now we just have to add some patience and soon our dream will become a reality.

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Errata

Dolgarn it! I'm not perfect, after all. In the Summer Issue I managed to make not one, not two, not even three, four or five, but SIX mistakes and counting. My apologies to all my victims:

1. Sandi Follis e-address is sfollis@vianet.ca
2. Karen Paul was NOT a teacher (although she would like to be receiving a teacher's pension). She retired from her work as a Clinical Trials Co-ordinator in Oncology.
3. My chief helper at the Housey's Rapids Picnic was Belinda Sutherland, not her sister-in-law Donna.
4. Donna's daughter's name is Jenelle, not Jonelle
5. The map of Kahshe on the back page was taken from <http://encode.com/kahshemuskoka/> which is a website sponsored by one of our advertisers: Contractor Glenn Osborn. The map itself was hand-drawn and labeled by Eleanor MacLean at some point during the work of drawing up the Kahshe Lake Plan.
6. Cathy Dunphy's cottage number is 705 687 5305

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Beach Committee Report: the rafts are all secured for the winter and the buoys are all in. It wasn't the busiest summer but the kids still had fun. The beach was fairly busy when the weather allowed..

Wine bottle and beer bottle collection: A big thank you to all the people that brought their wine bottles and beer bottles to the hut or left them at the dances. We were able to raise \$456.40 for Interval House

Barn Dances: The dances were well attended and enjoyed by all. Watch the spring news letter for the dates for the dances next year.

Johnette Ollman

Lake Plan Implementation Update

George Lindsay

September 2003 - KLRA submitted The Kahshe Lake Plan to Town of Gravenhurst for inclusion in the Town's Official Plan.

2008 - Town's new Official Plan approved including a specific section for Kahshe & Bass Lakes.

2009 - Town began to update Comprehensive Zoning By-Law.

October 3rd - Town held 1st of 3 Open Houses to seek public input; members of KLPIC and KLRA Board attended. The Open House was the 1st of three public meetings that are planned to review the new By-Law.

October 10th - KLRA Board meeting, Nick Popovich, Town Development Manager, answered questions and solicited input from members.

Mid-November - 2nd Open House anticipated

KLRA will provide written comments to the Town to support inclusion of the provisions of the Kahshe / Bass Lake specific section of the Official Plan in the updated By-Law.

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Next issue May 2010

Deadline for submissions –April 20

Submissions and suggestions needed for The Picture Gallery, Meet Your Neighbour, Favorite Walks

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