

Bay Lake Property Owners Association Newsletter

www.baylakeontario.com



Winter 2008

WHAT'S UP NEXT

Before you know it, winter will be over and we'll be looking for things to do. Here's what's on the BLPOA event horizon: **Earth Hour**, **Pitch-In Day**, and our annual crowd-pleaser – the **Pancake Breakfast**.

We hope you will be able to participate in these activities.

Earth Hour

Let's do it! Let's participate in Earth Hour, an international push to have people turn out their lights for one hour to reduce electricity use and thereby greenhouse gas emissions.

Last year, people in Sydney, Australia, turned out the lights and reduced their emissions by 25,000 tons. This year, at least 17 cities around the world are joining in to show that individuals can make a difference. Let's include Bay Lake in the list!

When: Saturday, *March 29th*
from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

What You Do: *Turn out your lights.*

That's it...it's that simple!

Those who participate at Bay Lake are welcome to douse their lights and then come on over to the Stamper place (773 Bay Lake Road) to enjoy the darkness and the company of other participants.

National Pitch-In Day

We need volunteers to come out and clean up the garbage that is lying around our roads and ditches.

The Bay Lake Pitch-In Day will be held on **Saturday, April 26th** (rain date of Sunday, April 27th) from **9:00 a.m.** until all the garbage is bagged (no later than 12:00 noon).

Volunteers will be rewarded with coffee and donuts, as well as a Free Pancake Breakfast ticket. Contact Bill Paterson at 636-0568 to sign up and join us **at the Boat Ramp** on April 26th and pitch in to clean up Bay Lake.

Pancake Breakfast – Sunday, May 18th.

Support your Association by attending this delicious event. Great pancakes and Silent Auction items are on the menu. If you can volunteer some time to help run the event, that would be great! Call Cheryl Stamper at 636-0222 to join the volunteer brigade.

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THE BAY LAKE STORE

Our **Donation Rewards** program gives you something in return for your donations.

Bay Lake Shirts

Do you want one of our great Bay Lake shirts? Just make a donation to the Fish Fund and let us know what sizes and colours to order.

Donation	Reward	Colours
\$15.00	One youth T-Shirt <i>(small, medium, large)</i>	Black Dark Brown Navy
\$20.00	One adult T-Shirt <i>(small, medium, large, XL, XXL)</i>	Neon Green Neon Orange Red Royal Blue
\$30.00	One adult Sweat Shirt <i>(small, medium, large, XL, XXL)</i>	Black Brown Dark Heather Light Blue Pink
\$40.00	One adult Hooded Sweat Shirt, zippered or pullover <i>(small, medium, large, XL, XXL)</i>	Navy Royal Blue

Bay Lake Hats

Make a donation of **\$20.00** and receive a baseball-style cap **embroidered** either with a **Dragon Fly** (on pink) or a **Loon** (on beige).

Nature Walk Books by Marlene Walker

These fabulous books are full of pictures and information about the nature that surrounds us in Muskoka (including, in Volume II, a selection of nature trails complete with maps, descriptions and trail ratings). Volume I and Volume II are available for \$20.00 each, \$5.00 of which will be donated back to the BLPOA.

To order any of the Donation Rewards items, please contact Janice Paterson at 636-0568.

WEBSITE UPDATE

We have added a new feature to the Bay Lake Website (www.baylakeontario.com) - the **Make a Donation** button. This lets you donate to the Association using your credit card using a process that is as secure as on-line banking.

So, if you would like to make a donation, and if you're comfortable performing the transaction online, please give this new button a click.

If this method of payment proves popular, we will look into making it available for you pay your annual membership fees and to participate in our Donation Rewards program (see the article entitled *The Bay Lake Store* on this page for information about what is available, and how to order, from our Donation Rewards program).

BAY LAKE CALENDAR

Many thanks to Janice Paterson for once again collecting a number of local photos and turning them into our own awesome Bay Lake calendar. This year's calendar also includes the winning photos from our Photo Contest.

Since the cost of printing the calendars is fairly high, we are not taking orders. Instead, we have provided a link to it on our website (www.baylakeontario.com). You can simply click the link to view or print the calendar.

Remember, if you have digital photos from around Bay Lake, please email them to [willyp@xplore.net.ca](mailto:willyp@xplore.net). Janice will select the ones for next year's calendar, and she will pick the best of the submissions as the winner of our annual Photo Contest.



ANOTHER FUN EVENT

Last September's Corn Roast was a huge success. We managed to get the rain behind us and serve hot dogs, sausages, chilli and corn to over 100 people. Those who attended managed to eat every single one of the hot dogs and sausages we had on hand – and we even had to head out to the store to get more buns. For those who were asking, the sausages were Schneider's Oktoberfest, and the hot dogs were Schneider's Juicy Jumbo (both delicious!).

Once the evening set in and the temperature cooled down, the bonfire was perfect to keep people warm as they sat around and visited with neighbours – old and new alike. The stars that night were also amazing.

Many thanks to everyone who volunteered – our cooks, our servers, our setup and cleanup people. And thanks to those who came out. It truly was a great event.

FOND FAREWELLS

It is with great sadness that we report of the passing of two Bay Lake and Association supporters, Kathy MacMillan on October 5, 2007, and Gail Redshaw on January 26, 2008.

Kathy made an amazing recovery from a stroke a few years ago, but was unable to bounce back from her last one. Kathy was always at, or involved in, our various functions and had worked tirelessly to help keep the Hall afloat. We will miss her efforts, and miss seeing her happy face.

Gail had been battling lung cancer since last summer. Wayne and Gail have been residents on Bay Lake for a number of years (at least during the summer as they were part of a group who spent the winters at "Bay Lake South" in Florida). We will miss her big smile and the great laugh which was never far from the surface.

RECIPE EXCHANGE

Here's a really neat way to make omelettes, especially when you have a cottage full of hungry guests.

ZIPLOC OMELETTES

1 quart-size Ziploc bag per person

2 eggs per person

Omelette filling ingredients

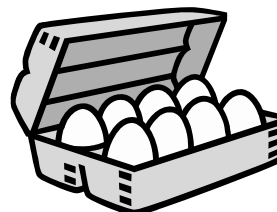
(such as grated cheese, diced ham and/or onion and/or peppers, chopped tomatoes, mushrooms, salsa, etc.)

1. Bring a pot of water to a rolling boil
2. Write each guest's name on a Ziploc bag with a permanent marker
3. Crack 2 eggs into each Ziploc bag and shake
4. Have guests add their own combination of omelette filling ingredients to their bag and shake to combine
5. Press the air out the Ziploc bags and zip up
6. Place bags in pot of boiling water and cook for exactly 13 minutes
7. Remove bags from the pot, cut open and roll the omelette out onto a plate

You can cook 6-8 bags at the same time in a large pot. Use another pot if you are cooking any more than that.

For a quick breakfast, you can even make up an omelette bag the night before and cook it in the morning.

Thanks to Pauline Moore for submitting this recipe. We encourage you to submit your recipes by email to: recipes@baylakeontario.com.



KEEP BAY LAKE HEALTHY

It's never too early in the year to talk about what we can do to help Bay Lake stay healthy and happy, especially in light of the fact that another toxic algae bloom was reported last year, this time in an arm of Georgian Bay.

- Use bio-degradeable cleaning products
- Have your septic system cleaned and inspected every 3-5 years
- Do not plant grass on your property, especially leading down to the water
- If you do have grass, NEVER use fertilizer
- Regarding shoreline changes: DO NOT strip away trees and shrubs, DO NOT bring in sand to create a beach...DO maintain or create a ribbon or life along the shoreline by making sure plants and shrubs live there
- Reduce your boat speed to cut down on erosion caused by boat wake

You might also want to attend the **Environmental Lecture Series** being put on by the Muskoka Heritage Foundation and the Muskoka Watershed Council. On the evening of February 28th Gord Miller will discuss the report of the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario. Call 705-645-7393 to register.

MUSKOKA JAZZ JAM

This is a notice for anyone who likes to listen to jazz or to play jazz. Our own Doug Banwell is hosting the Muskoka Jazz Jam at the Hideaway Pub on Wednesday nights. If you want to hear some great jazz, come on out at 8:00 and enjoy! If you want to add your musical talent to the mix, show up with your instrument. For more information, go to www.muskokajazzjam.com.

Date: Wednesday evenings
(starting February 20th)

Time: 8:00 p.m. to closing

Place: Hideaway Pub
11 Main Street East, Huntsville

WINTER UPDATE

- December saw lots of snow fall (to the point that many people ran out of room to put it!), but early January rains washed a lot of it away. The rain turned out to be a good thing because the rest of January brought tons of snow again. Temperatures have been relatively mild, with only a few nights going down near -30°. This means that the ice is likely not all that stable or reliable. Be careful if venturing out on the ice on foot or by snowmobile.
- And...**Please DO NOT DRIVE on the Ice.** Remember last year when we had a Jeep go through the ice and we had to anxiously wait for the spring before it could be removed? Let's not go through that again! Do not take full-sized vehicles onto the ice.

- **REMINDER:** If you snowmobile on Bay Lake and use the boat ramp for access, be sure to **go around the ramp on the north side.**



Winter traffic over the concrete causes heaving in the spring and we would like to avoid the resulting damage and repairs. Some people have been using the snow mound at the south of the ramp as a jump. Please don't!

If you want to check snowmobile trail conditions before planning a snowmobile trip, here are some websites that provide details for the surrounding areas:

Parry Sound www.pssd.ca
Muskoka www.msrsnowtrails.com
Near North www.nnta.net

- If you park at the turn-around on North Bay Lake Road, be sure to leave enough room for the snow plow to turn around.