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BAY LAKE
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

www.baylakeontario.ca

"To promote and maintain a healthy lake environment and to encourage the responsible use of Bay Lake for the enjoyment and benefit of our community today and for the future."

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

April 29th is the official ice-out date on Bay Lake for 2014. Above-freezing temperatures and strong winds finally got rid of the last of the ice. It has been a long winter in our area and I hope that when seasonal residents return to their cottages they will find little, or no winter damage. Our nights continue to be around the freezing point so our melt has been slowed considerably, thus avoiding the potential for flooding in the area...so...welcome to spring at Bay Lake!

Our annual (one and only fund-raising event) will be held as usual on the long weekend in May, namely the **PANCAKE BREAKFAST & SILENT AUCTION** being held on **SUNDAY, MAY 18** from 9 am until noon.

The Pancake Breakfast gives you an opportunity to reconnect with your old and new neighbours on Bay Lake while enjoying an excellent breakfast.

We have solicited a number of the local businesses and hope to offer some real bargains for bidders at the Silent Auction.

However, **VOLUNTEERS** are needed! It takes a small army of volunteers to ensure this event is successful. **DONATIONS TO THE**

SILENT AUCTION would also be gratefully accepted. Please email president@baylakeontario.ca to let us know if you can spend a portion of that morning helping out or if you have an item you can donate.

I hope to see you all there to celebrate the new season. *'Best, Sarah Adams*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
 Sunday, **May 18**: 9 am – noon **Pancake Breakfast**
 Sunday, **August 10**: 9:00 am **Annual General Meeting**

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Your BLPOA memberships can be paid at the Pancake Breakfast. Cheques (\$40) can be made out to BLPOA, and of course cash is always acceptable.

Membership dues can always be paid via our website www.baylakeontario.ca/membership or by mail to:

BLPOA, Box 120, Novar, ON P0A 1R0.

Please note, that the Membership List at the Bay Lake Sign Board will be updated at the end of May. If you are a member but do not wish to be on this list, please let us know.

LOCAL FARMER'S MARKET

The Perry Farmers' Market will be held every Friday from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm from June 27 through August 29, 2014.

This will be located at the Municipal Office at 1695 Emsdale Road.



WATER TESTING SITE SPONSORSHIP

Last year, a number of residents kindly sponsored all the e-coli water-testing sites on the lake. Four e-coli tests are carried out every year at all 11 sites, thanks to Bill Paterson and Judy Dunn.

Please let us know if you are interested in sponsoring a testing site this year. A map showing the location of the test sites will be displayed at the Pancake Breakfast for your perusal.

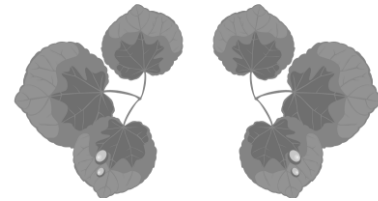
NATIVE PLANT SALE

If you are interested in adding to the plant life that already lives on your property, you can order ones that are native to our area through the Muskoka Conservancy Organization. A wide variety of trees, shrubs and perennials are listed for sale and orders can be placed on-line **before May 6th.**

Their website is:

www.muskokaconservancy.org/events/plantsale

Orders will be available for pick-up in Huntsville at Avery Beach Park on Saturday, May 10th.



PITCH-IN DAY

The BLPOA Pitch-In day was held on Saturday, April 26, having been changed from April 12 because of snow-laden ditches. Guess what? The 26th gave us some icy rain/sleet and there was still some snow in the ditches! Against all odds, nine brave souls turned out. About 3 bags of garbage, 9 bags of recyclables, a bag of beer cans and bottles, plus various other large refuse items, were picked up.

Please check the area around your property for additional garbage. With the melting snow, everyday something is surfacing, so let us keep Bay Lake litter-free.

Many thanks to those who participated last Saturday.

PERRY TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

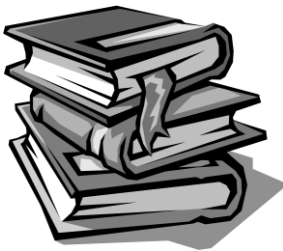
The Township's Public Library is located at 25 Joseph Street in Emsdale. An Internet Cafe is now available at this site where you can enjoy a fresh cup of coffee while looking for that special book or browsing the web.

In addition to fiction, reference, large-print, children's, and talking books, you will find videos, DVDs, magazines, local history and genealogy collections. A fax machine, photocopier and laminator are also on site.

The summer hours at the Library are:

Monday	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Tuesday	2:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Wednesday	10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Thursday	2:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Friday	1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Closed on Saturday and Sunday	

Membership at the library is free for residents of Perry Township, while non-residents will be charged a yearly fee of \$10 for individuals and \$15 for families.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Just a reminder that our Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday, August 10 starting at 9:00 am at the Winning Techniques hall (formerly the Clear Lake/Bay Lake Hall). More details will follow in the next newsletter, but please mark your calendars to attend.

MEMORIAL FOR RICHARD LAMBERT

A celebration of the life of Richard Lambert will be held at 453 North Bay Lake Road on Saturday, May 17 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. All are welcome.

A founding member of the Bay Lake Property Owners Association, Richard passed away on January 15, 2014, in Huntsville Hospital.

The Executive join many lake residents in extending our deepest sympathy to his wife Patricia, his many friends, and the family circle.

WINTER FAMILY FUN DAY

The BLPOA sponsored this event in conjunction with Karren and Randy Smith. It was held on the Family Day Weekend in February, and deemed to be a great success, although no fish were caught.

Over the day, between 90 and 100 well-clothed individuals braved the frigid temperatures to socialize and enjoy chilli, hot dogs, coffee and hot chocolate. Two shelters were set up to provide respite from the wind and cold. Some were inspired to sit around the fire pit at the Smith's.

Unfortunately we did not have a flooded ice rink on site. However, Rob and Patti Tilley kindly invited skaters and hockey players to use the great rink that had been "nurtured" outside their home this winter.

It is our hope that this will become an annual event and that next year we will have more organized activities for the children.

Thanks to all those who helped out this year.

BARE FACTS ABOUT BLACK BEARS

Remember, we are in Bear Country!

Most problems between black bears and humans occur when bears, attracted by the smell, are rewarded with an easy food source. They pick up a scent with their keen noses and go to investigate it. If they find a feast they tend to come back to the same area in search of another easy meal.

Things that are likely to attract bears include:

- Garbage
- Food smells
- Fruit trees
- Bird seed or pet food

Things you can do to lessen the likelihood of a bear visit include:

- Store all garbage securely until it can be taken to the Transfer Station
- Minimize food smells by storing scraps in the freezer
- Clean off your BBQ grill promptly after use and remove the grease cup
- Don't leave fallen tree fruit on the ground and clean up any rotting fruit
- Only fill bird feeders in the winter months
- Don't leave pet food outside

If you do come face-to-face with a bear:

- DO NOT turn your back, run, climb a tree, kneel down, or make eye contact
- DO try to remain calm and slowly back away

If the bear approaches you:

- Yell or blow a whistle or bear horn if you have one
- Wave your arms to look bigger
- Throw something at it
- If the bear is within 7 metres and you have pepper spray – use it!

No bears have been reported at Bay Lake yet this spring, but with the warmer weather they will surely be around soon...and they will be hungry.

Also, don't forget to inform visitors to your cottage of these precautions.



Source: Ministry of Natural Resources

