

# DICKIE LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

August 2006

[www.dickielake.ca](http://www.dickielake.ca)

Issue #2

President – Paula Elliott 767-3251  
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Vice President – Brenda Richards 767-3261  
Secretary – Anna Landry 767-3951

Well another summer is almost past. We have had a wonderful sunny summer although July brought us some terrific rainstorms. We survived two power outages and made new friends during this event. The last power outage was just before the Annual Regatta and we wondered how many people would attend and what would the dinner be like. Once power was restored at 1:30 many people got into action and the dinner was terrific as usual. As you will see by the following report, everything went very well.

## THANK YOU

The executive would like to thank all members of our community who continue to support our efforts to keep our lake healthy. If you were not able to reach your director to pay you dues, please feel free to stop by my place, 1137 Dickie Lake Rd. W. and I would gladly accept your contribution.

## BABY LOON

This year for the first time in many years we have been blessed with a baby loon. We hope that it will be big enough to head south at the appropriate time.

The following is information that was taken from the Canadian Lakes Loon Survey web page.

If anyone is interested in being involved as a volunteer with this group please go to their web page and click on survey.



- chick can swim right away, but spends some time on the back of a parent to rest, conserve heat, and avoid predators
- has many bones that are solid, rather than hollow like those of other birds, which aid its diving ability
- can stay under water for almost a minute and dive to depths of 80 m may have to run as far as several hundred metres on the surface of the water on a calm day before gaining enough speed to take off.

## MORE INFORMATION

There are five species of loons worldwide, four of which breed in Canada. The Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) is the most widespread and well-known species. Loons are reported to be among the oldest groups of birds still living today, with a history some think stretches back more than 50 million years.

However, their present challenges may well be the most severe they have faced throughout that long period. Human activities have decreased the abundance and the breeding range of Common Loons in North America over the past 150 years.

These declines might be due to several factors:

### **ACID RAIN**

Loons are fish-eating birds and so are susceptible to the acid rain that is reducing fish stocks in lakes. On severely affected lakes, loon chicks may die from starvation because of low fish numbers. Acid water also leaches mercury and other toxic metals from rocks and soil. These metals concentrate up the aquatic food chain and may reach toxic levels in top predators like loons.

### **SHORELINE DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN USE OF LAKES**

The legs of loons are placed far back on the body, making loons powerful swimmers but virtually helpless on land. Nests are typically built right at the water's edge for ease of access and to provide a quick escape from perceived danger. Cottages built close to the shore displace loons from their traditional nesting sites. Damming for flood control or hydroelectric power causes water level changes that swamp nests or leave them stranded high out of the water and unreachable. Powerboaters often unknowingly run down buoyant loon chicks, panic parents and disrupt care and feeding of young, or create wakes that wash loon eggs out of nests.

### **NEST PREDATORS**

Predation of eggs and chicks is a natural occurrence and something loons have lived with throughout their long history. However, populations of some egg and chick predators like raccoons, bears and gulls have increased because of the availability of human garbage.



Thanks to Paul Breslin for this is a picture of the real Dickie Lake Loons which was taken with a telephoto lens. Thank you to all those who called regarding the safety of the loons. The community worked well together to keep the loons alive.



Baby Loon is learning to fly. Thanks to Margaret Morrison

### **RECORDING FISH**

Joe Riley at 1139 Dickie Lake Rd. W. is the person to take your fish to for official weighing. His dock has 2 yellow Muskoka chairs and a cream coloured umbrella. If the colours change next year we will let you know in the spring newsletter.

Call Joe at 767-2513 and he will meet you at his dock. If he is away, call Fred Elliott at 767-3251. Fred will meet you at Joe's dock.

**REMEMBER IF YOU CATCH A PIKE –  
DO NOT RELEASE IT BACK INTO THE  
LAKE.**

Eat it or bury it after it has been weighed.

## REGATTA



They were out and about the lake again this year calling everyone to the Regatta. Did you hear “Jingle Bells”? Although we had few people in attendance this year, we were happy to welcome some new families to the regatta. Bill Hunt brought his son, Roy Donnelly brought his great niece and nephew and the Foster and Anders families joined us. There were 31 families represented with a count of over a 100 people but I (Paula) forgot to keep track. Next year I will be more organized.

We cannot thank the Picnic Committee enough for all the work they put for to make the 2006 Regatta a great success. Paul Breslin has already posted the pictures on our web page [www.dickielake.ca](http://www.dickielake.ca)

Before listing all the results, I want to extend an invitation to those who would be willing to help at next year’s Regatta. Our present Picnic chair person (Brenda Richards) will not be available next year. She has a strong committee but they need help. If you can spare some time please contact either Brenda Richards or Anna Landry. Many hands make a wonderful Regatta. Thanking you in advance for your help.

Now for all the information and pictures that you have been waiting for.



## SAILBOAT TROPHY

The day was sunny but the winds were not high so the race was rather tricky. Two boats had a photo finish and two other boats were out

trying the course so that hopefully they will participate next year. Doug Basterfield and George Wagenaar were involved in the photo finish with Doug Basterfield taking the trophy.

## ALICE AND HAP WATSON TROPHY



This trophy is open to teens between the ages of 14 and 18. This year’s winner was Will Scott.

## KAYAK TROPHY



This trophy is open to all under the age of 18. This year’s winner was Brian Lowrance.



## CANOE TROPHIES

There are two trophies. The Intermediate is for those under the age of 18 and the Adult is (you guessed it) over 18.

The Intermediate winners were:

Ryan Lee and Jamie McNaughton



**MELTZER TROPHY – Paddle Boating**



This year's winners were Hayden Fennell and Shea Darlison.

**PRESIDENT'S TROPHY - Adult Fishing**

This year the largest Bass caught was 4lbs 1 oz. The Trophy went to Steve Basterfield.

**JOHN WHEELER TROPHY – Largest Pike**

The largest Pike caught this year was 7lbs 7oz. The Trophy went to Steve Basterfield.

**LARGEST FISH (11 – 18 yrs)**

Jacob Giacomazzo caught a 3lb 1oz Bass.



**LARGEST FISH (Under 11 years)**

Zachary Elvins caught a 3lb 10oz Bass while



visiting Grandpa Jim Murphy.

**SID THOMAS AWARD – Smallest Toad**

Thanks to the football team we were able to judge the five little toads. The winner was



Nicole Johnston.

**LARGEST FROG**

It was wonderful to see frogs at the picnic. We had three to judge. The largest frog trophy went to the Snell Family – Erin Christenson



and Kendra Lee.

The

frogs were returned to the lake and hopefully they will be bigger next year.

**NAIL DRIVING TROPHIES**



Men's – Jamie McNaughton

Women's – Donna Fearnley

Junior – Jason Lowrence



## WATERFRONT ACTIVITIES -

### PADDLEBOAT RACES:

#### **CHILD AND ADULT**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Hayden Fennell & Shea Darlison
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Brooke Bodden & Josh Bodden
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Nicole Johnston & Wayne Johnston



### CANOE RACES

#### **CHILD AND ADULT**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> Ryan Lee & Jamie McNaughton
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ryan Baroey & Jason Lowrence
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Ben Christensen & Roy Christensen

#### **YOUNG AT HEART**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> Will Scott & Jamie McNaughton
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ryan Baroey & Jason Lowrence
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Byron Darlison & Daina Darlison

### KAYAK RACES

#### **UNDER 18**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> Brian Lowrence
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Rob Hunt
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Tie Grayson Fennell Shae Darlison

#### **YOUNG AT HEART**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> \_\_\_Carolyn Snell
- 2<sup>nd</sup> \_\_\_Kyle Swadron
- 3<sup>rd</sup> \_\_\_Ryan Boroey



## BALLOON TOSS

### **CHILD AND ADULT**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> Tie Kyle Swadron & Ryan Lee
- / Debbie Johnston & Nicole Johnston



**LONG DISTANCE SWIMMING RACE:** For teens over 14 yrs. of age.

- 1<sup>ST</sup> -Will Scott
- 2<sup>ND</sup> -Kevin Bodden

### **REGULAR SWIMMING RACES:**

**4 - 5 yrs** 1<sup>st</sup> Michael Anders

**6-7 yrs** 1<sup>st</sup> Althea Boncheff  
2<sup>nd</sup> Kirsten Bonneville  
3<sup>rd</sup> Ben Christensen

**8-9 yrs** 1<sup>st</sup> Ryan Lee  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grayson Fennell  
3<sup>rd</sup> Daniel Foster

**10 - 13 yrs** 1<sup>st</sup> Liz Foster  
2<sup>nd</sup> Stephanie Memmolite  
3<sup>rd</sup> Paul Stead



## LAND RACES

### WHEELBARREL RACE

**4 - 5 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    Micheal Andrews  
                  2<sup>nd</sup>  
                  3<sup>rd</sup>    Jordan Benson

**6-7 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    Althea Boncheff &  
                                 Taylor Stead  
                  2<sup>nd</sup>    Ben Christensen

**8-9 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    Ryan Lee  
                  2<sup>nd</sup>    Kirsten Bonneville  
                  3<sup>rd</sup>    Grayson Fennell



**10 - 13 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    Stephanie Mammolite  
                                 Daniel Foster  
                                 3<sup>rd</sup>    Rob Hunt

### Young at Heart

1<sup>st</sup>    Will Scott & Jamie McNaughton  
2<sup>nd</sup>    Kyle Swadron & Delroy Meyer  
3<sup>rd</sup>    Brandon Roffey & Cam Perkins

### POTATO SACK RACE

**4 - 5 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    \_\_Jordan Bensen

**6-7 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    Althea Boncheff  
                  2<sup>nd</sup>    Ben Christensen

**8-9 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    Grayson Fennell  
                  2<sup>nd</sup>    Kirsten Bonneville  
                  3<sup>rd</sup>    Nicholas Bonneville

**10 - 13 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    Rob Hunt

2<sup>nd</sup>    Stephanie Mammolite  
3<sup>rd</sup>    Brooke Bodden

**Young at Heart**    1<sup>st</sup>    Will Scott  
                                 2<sup>nd</sup>    Bill Thomas  
                                 3<sup>rd</sup>    Jamie McNaughton

### PEANUT ON A SPOON

**4 - 5 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    Micheal Andrews  
**6-7 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    Ben Christensen  
**8-9 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    Josh Bodden  
                  2<sup>nd</sup>    Nicholas Bonneville  
                  3<sup>rd</sup>    Kendra Lee



**10 - 13 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    Liz Foster  
                                 2<sup>nd</sup>    Shea Darlison  
                                 3<sup>rd</sup>    Kendra Lee

**Young at Heart -** 1<sup>st</sup>    Brian Lawrence

### STRAIGHT RACE

**4 - 5 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    Micheal Andrews  
                  2<sup>nd</sup>    Josh Niro



**6-7 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    Althea Boncheff  
                  2<sup>nd</sup>    Ben Christensen



**8-9 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    Grayson Fennell  
                  2<sup>nd</sup>    Josh Bodden  
                  3<sup>rd</sup>    Ryan Lee

**10 - 13 yrs**    1<sup>st</sup>    Stephanie Mammolite  
                                 2<sup>nd</sup>    Liz Foster  
                                 3<sup>rd</sup>    Samantha Stumbington

## Young at Heart

- 1<sup>st</sup> Bill Thomas
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jamie McNaughton
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Will Scott

**ALL THE CHILDREN RECEIVED RIBBONS FOR PARTICIPATING IN AN EVENT OR THE REGULAR 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> ribbons.**

**The children who attended the dinner and stayed for the trophies and prizes were very excited about what they might receive. Some of the dues that you pay to the association go to buy the prizes for the children. The adult door prizes are either donations from members or small gifts purchased by the picnic committee.**



## **MARILYN SHERRY AWARD**

This award is presented to the family that helps keep the spirit of the Regatta/Picnic going. We could always give it to Jack Sherry who always allows us the use of his property for the Regatta but he knows that there are a lot of people who make the day a success. This year the Award is presented to Anna and Fred Landry for all their efforts to make the day a success.



## **HORSESHOE EVENTS**



The Women's Singles Horseshoe Trophy was won by Stephanie Mammolite.

Ian Brown won the Don Strath Memorial Trophy in the Men's Singles Horseshoe tournament.



Fred Elliott and Jim Murphy won the Joseph Heringer Memorial Trophy for the Men's Doubles Horseshoe tournament.



Thank you to all those who attended and made this a special day again.

## HORSESHOES 2007

The Picnic Committee has decided to hold the

### **2007 DICKIE LAKE HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT**

on the Saturday before the Picnic.  
SAT JULY 28, 2007  
1PM  
JACK SHERRY'S  
LOT#1091

Mark your calendar so that you will remember to participate in the Horseshoe Tournament. The trophies will be presented as usual at the picnic after our Pot Luck dinner.

### **WELCOME**

Since last fall's Newsletter we have had three families join the Dickie Lake Year Round community. We welcome Ruth and Ron Tucker, Sue and Wayne Arbeau and Donna Lee and Tom McConville.

### **SPECIAL OCCASIONS**

Sue Arbeau had a special birthday this year and it was not 39. Happy Belated Birthday Sue.

Jim and Jean Murphy became grandparents again to a new grandson.

Please let us know if there is someone in our community that celebrating a special birthday, anniversary or the birth of a new family member.

### **THINKING OF YOU**

Adele Allan has made a spectacular recovery after her knee operation. Congratulations Adele!  
Dave Flucker continues to make excellent progress after his accident.

Lorne Ryan continues to struggle to gain his health back to normal. After spending a few days in the hospital, we wish him a speedy recovery.

## Baysville Fire Department Christmas Food Drive

While it seems a long way off until the winter season, we all know how quickly time passes us by as we return to the city and the busy schedules of school and work. Thinking back to this time last year, you may recall the effort that was initiated to gather non-perishable goods for the annual food drive in early December. The Baysville Fire Department will once again be planning this event and their members will be looking forward to having your assistance in extending a helping hand to those in need. Last year, we had 92 contributors, 1327 lbs. of food and over \$1000.00 donated in cash. Dickie Lake participated with remarkable spirit. As well, our community helped build up a supply of emergency blankets for the fire department to rely upon as they do their work in our interest.

This year, with the support of the elected executive for the Dickie Lake Association, we will once again take part. Starting on Labour Day weekend, we are receiving on behalf of the Baysville Fire Department any donation and storing items until early December. Throughout the autumn, further reminders will be brought to your attention. If you would like to take part, give us a call and we will drop by and pick up your donation. Or, simply, pay us a visit and we will add your gift to the collection. If you are leaving a donation and we are not at home, please set it on our porch **with your name on a small tag** so we can say thanks to you later. Be sure to watch for the up-to-date signs posted at the map of Dickie Lake recording our progress this year. Nothing great was ever achieved without a measure of enthusiasm. This is your invitation to join in on this most worthwhile cause - make a difference for those in need.

Doug and Bruce Thomas  
1051 Dickie Lake Rd. W.

## **Lake Stewardship Update**

Anna Landry/Brenda Richards

### **Water Quality Testing - Benthic Monitoring**

We have completed our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Benthic Monitoring. Thanks to our volunteers Sue Arbeau, Jean Murphy, Byron Darlison & Dave Richards for making this happen.

Benthic monitoring is the study of the bugs that naturally live in all lakes and streams and that form the base of the food chain. Benthic Macroinvertebrates or benthos, are primarily aquatic insect larvae such as black flies, mosquitoes, beetles and dragonflies. Other benthos species include leeches, crayfish, snails and freshwater clams.

The use of benthos data has proven to be a reliable monitoring tool because benthoses are sensitive to subtle changes in water quality. Our data this year was very similar to the year before and the results from our sample indicated that our water quality in the test area is good.

### **Forest Plot**

We also established a Forest Plot this year. The monitoring of forest health is very important to water quality. Trees and ground vegetation are the primary control against excessive erosion and ground water runoff within a watershed.

Establishing a forest plot and monitoring tree health will provide information about changes or trends in forest ecosystem health in Muskoka and across Canada.

The long-term monitoring of trees on a permanently marked forest plot gives important information on the structure and composition of a forest; on the condition, growth rates and

longevity of the species of trees composing that forest; on changes in species composition or population size that occur over time; and the impacts of environmental change on mature trees, etc.

Monitoring results should also give warning of what is likely to happen, and thus allow for preventative or adaptive action.

Thanks to Jean Murphy, Fred Landry and Sarah Sinclair, from the District of Muskoka for helping establish our baseline plot and data.

### **Reminder**

Our lake is a very precious resource. Our actions have an impact on its quality. Let's all ensure we are treating it well to protect our future.

Anyone wanting more information or wanting to volunteer please send us a note on the web site: [www. DickieLake.ca](http://www.DickieLake.ca)



We have something very special. Let's keep it that way.

## **SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT OVER THE WINTER**

- Geese poop every 7 minutes or so
- 50 fowl will produce as much waste as **2 elephants**
- City beaches have been closed because the geese have made the water unsafe for swimming
- We don't want that to happen at Dickie Lake
- Only a generation ago Canadian Geese were considered a rare jewel was in need of protection
- Canadian Geese have gone from a few thousand breeding pairs to over 80,000 pairs in 30 years
- Well groomed lawns are virtually goose havens
- Bread bearing humans keep them returning

The general information given above is from "The Hamilton Spectator"  
May 15, 2006

## **WHAT IS YOUR VISION OF DICKIE LAKE????????????**

The concerns for Dickie Lake are from all members of the Dickie Lake Community.

## **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

It was brought to my attention that the District and the Township do not allow All Terrain Vehicles on their roads. If there is a complaint, the police can be called. Charges could be laid against any member of our community who uses an All Terrain Vehicle on the road. If you don't abuse the use of your All Terrain Vehicle, the police will not be called.

I do not know where you are allowed to ride the ATVS but save the road by being considerate of the whole community.

This fall there is a Municipal Election. All landowners are eligible to vote by mail. I will inform you of any All Candidate Meetings that will take place around Baysville on our web page [www.dickielake.ca](http://www.dickielake.ca).

Have a safe fall.  
Hope many of you will be able to enjoy Thanksgiving at Dickie Lake.