

## President's Message

**KATE O'HARA**

As I write this, ice is off the lake, water levels are manageable, grass is greening, and we look forward to a new season on Golden Lake. A season where we are anxious for meet and greet opportunities we so badly missed over the past two years.

Our Board is anxious to get back to pre-Covid life at the lake. We recognize there are still some concerns about the pandemic, but we are working on the belief we can now manage life with Covid and regain some "normal" in our lives here at the lake. This includes personal canvassing starting the May long weekend, holding an Annual General Meeting at the Killaloe Public School in July, bringing back the Poker Run on the long weekend in August, and hosting a Volunteer Appreciation dinner at the end of August. Board meetings – in person - are scheduled for the coming year, continuing the work we have carried on for you throughout the pandemic challenges.

We may have been quiet, but we have not been idle. Regular Board meetings and two Annual general meetings were held since 2020; and we are happy to finally close our Zoom account! We have several initiatives in place for the coming year: a Junior Lake Steward summer position, a new committee addressing Invasive Species (flora and fauna!), an advisory committee to work with local municipalities/ interest groups to inform them of our goals and activities. We continue



Dedicated Volunteers-Rainbow Smelt Harvest April 2022

to communicate regularly with our members providing information about water levels, water quality, hazard marking and boating safety. We share information on our website, with our very active Facebook group, and by e-mail blasts to members providing current information relevant to member interests. We promote "Love Local" in support of our corporate sponsors, as they in turn support GLPOA.

Finally, we are proud to tell you our work on your behalf was acknowledged by Federation of Ontario Cottage Associations (FOCA) at their Annual General Meeting in February. Our submission for the 2021 FOCA Achievement Award, did not win the award, but was rewarded with an "Honourable Mention" from among

some 75 submissions. Something we can all be proud of!

## FISH COMMITTEE

**SYLVIA HILLIER**

Your Fish Committee will be hosting a few fishing photo contests throughout 2022 with the goal to see and understand what folks are catching this year, so keep those photos posting! While you are at it, please take a minute to fill out whatever information you have on your catch. This information is highly valuable to us as we continue to monitor, in multiple ways, the fish population. The link to the survey can be found

here: <https://secureservercdn.net/104.238.69.231/711.cce.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Fish-Survey-02-20-2022.pdf> We will begin to post on the GLPOA website the statistics from this years catch!

The NDMNRF (Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry) will be conducting a sonar survey on the lake in early August. We will have a member of the Fish Committee participating with this 2-3 night survey. At the conclusion, the ministry will provide a presentation to show their findings and we will post that information on the GLPOA website. We plan to have additional information on this survey available at the 2022 Area General Meeting.

The tough decision was made not to have a Smelt Fry this year due to the committee not knowing where



COVID restrictions would be at when we needed to start planning. There has been a lot of interest this year in folks wanting to join in on the harvesting. Nets and headlamps continued to be provided along with updates posted on Facebook. An exciting new opportunity was provided by Councillor Angelina Commanda who worked with the Pikwakanagan Cultural Coordinator who agreed to take any smelt caught for their community feast!

Please take some time before you journey out to fish on Golden Lake to review the important changes to bait movement. Four new BMZ (Bait Management Zones) have been created to minimize the transport of bait from outside our zone to the lake. To save you a bit of reading – please note that Golden Lake is FMZ (Fisheries Management Zone) #15 and begins on page 109. This publication is a great resource regarding everything you need to fish safely this year!

<https://files.ontario.ca/ndmnr-2022-fishing-regulations-summary-en-2021-12-13.pdf>

In closing, we would like to encourage you to participate in Catching and Releasing this year! The benefits will allow our population to continue to grow and reproduce, allowing for continued healthy fishing for years to come!



#### DON BISHOP

On Apr 19 snowpack levels in Algonquin Park continued to diminish at a slow rate with the cooler than average temperatures we have been having <https://www.renfrewpg.ca/.../upl.../SNow-graph-2021-2022.pdf> Golden Lake is slowly rising however well below the average and certainly below the levels of the flood years of 2017/ 2019. <https://www.renfrewpg.ca/wp.../uploads/Golden-Lake-2022.pdf> This is .33 meters above the lowest point of the winter or .17 meters below the average summer operating levels.

In contact with RPG on Apr 19 they had 6 logs in at the Tramore dam. Snow is gone from their sample area as of an April 14th check. We are in a good position at both Round and Golden lakes as far as getting to summer levels. RPG will continue slowly to achieve this as weather is still all over the place with respect to temperatures and precipitation. Levels at Golden Lake are stable at that time, so logs were not needed however they were added on Apr 21, so it is day by day as significant rain events or lack of rain could change this.

On May 2 they are removing another log from Golden Lake that makes 3 now. For clarification when it's stated that a log is being removed it is from one sluice. If stated 3 logs out as of today this means 1 log out of three different sluices over the past week.

They would like to lower levels slightly to be able to accept future rain events. RPG will continue to monitor and remove more logs if needed. Round Lake seems to be stabilized, if they need to lower levels there then logs will be removed at Golden to pass the water through as needed. The goal here is to be at summer levels by May 24th weekend.



#### NATALIE CORBIN

GLPOA uses the Lake Partner Program for our water testing. The goal of the program is to better understand and protect the quality of Ontario's inland lakes by involving citizens in a volunteer-based program. The Lake Partner Program is a province-wide, volunteer-based, water-quality monitoring program. All samples are collected and sent to their lab for analysis. There is no charge for this service. Results are typically posted every April – ours have not been updated yet. As per their recommendation, the deepest part of the big lake, and the deepest part of Tranquility Bay are where we test. They are tested for total phosphorus, chloride and calcium twice a year. Water clarity is tested monthly.

I would like to thank Andy Trafford & Tammy Joudrey for their continued help & Welcome Rob Bryce to the team!



## Membership

KATE O'HARA/TARA WALLACE

First, we want to thank the people who paid membership over the past two years when we have been unable to see you in person due to Covid. At 31 March, we had 45 paid memberships for 2022, all of whom were entered into an early bird prize draw. The winner (by random draw) is John Visser & Bev Hindle, who will receive a \$100 certificate from Pikwakanagan Fuels. Happy to see a member win, a local sponsor win, and a win for GLPOA! To everyone who put through early membership payment; you have given us a great start!

We are reaching out to members to re-establish our slate of canvassers across our 12 zones over this season. We hope everyone – former members and new owners – will welcome these people when they arrive at your door. Our canvassers are wonderful ambassadors for GLPOA and will be delivering kits this year that include our Spring newsletter, a little swag, and information about benefits of membership in GLPOA and in FOCA. Membership remains at only \$20. We believe we provide a pretty good return on that investment with committees addressing water quality, shoal marking, invasive species, water levels, and regular communication of a lot of information relevant to life on the lake.

You can pay membership by e-transfer (details on our website), mailing in a cheque, or in cash when the canvasser stops by. You can also make payment in person at Golden Lake Pharmasave, and at the Annual General Meeting on 9 July, where we look forward to thanking you in person for your continued support!



### Annual General Meeting – Save the Date!

JULY 9, 2022 | KILLALOE PUBLIC SCHOOL | 9:00 – 11:30

#### GLPOA 2022 Annual General Meeting to be held in person

Meeting will include transaction of business and voting on:

- approval of 2021 AGM minutes (currently posted on GLPOA website)
- approval of financial report and appointment of auditor
- Board elections, changes to Constitution
- Guest speakers, draw prizes and refreshments provided.

Official notice of meeting to be posted 30 days prior to AGM. Masking protocols may be in place – to be confirmed in official meeting notice. All members in good standing are invited to attend and vote. Looking forward to see you there!

#### SHOAL AND CHANNEL MARKING

GLPOA deploys and maintains a significant number of red and green shoal markers to assist with safe and enjoyable navigation. The markers are deployed on or before the long weekend in May and removed on or after Thanksgiving. Please understand that the markers are all maintained and placed by volunteers and exact dates may be difficult to adhere to. We appreciate everyone's assistance to help keep the lake safe for boating by reporting any missing or damaged buoys. Also, be aware that while we have a significant buoy program, with the mainly rocky shoreline there are many unmarked hazards close to shore, and particularly off the many points around the lake. Please practice proper boating etiquette and safe practices when out on the water.

The GLPOA board would like to sincerely thank all the volunteers who have "adopted" buoys and helped to make our lake safer and more enjoyable for boating!! We have a very successful marking program and it is all because of you!! If you would like to become involved in the shoal marking program, please send us a note!

## Junior Lake Steward Program Calling All Applicants ...

DAVE CLARK

Apply now for an opportunity to gain valuable skills, help make a difference in our community and gain volunteer hours!! We believe the newest generation of Golden Lake / Bonnechere River residents and cottagers will greatly define the future of our special piece of the Ottawa Valley. As a result, the GLPOA board is excited to announce the implementation of the Junior Lake Steward, a new initiative to help foster enthusiasm amongst our latest generation in caring for and promoting a healthy environment, boating safety and sense of community.

The JLS program is open to all High School and Post Secondary students and successful candidates will work

directly under the mentorship of the GLPOA Lake Steward, engaging in activities such as:

- Water Testing collection and results
- Promoting safe boating and shoal marking
- Fish committee activities / creel survey tabulation and promotion
- Invasive species identification, mapping and education

As a token of appreciation for a student engaging in the JLS program, GLPOA will provide an honorarium of \$250 at the conclusion of their participation.

### Requirements / Responsibilities

- Open to Secondary and Post-Secondary students
- The JLS program will run during the summer vacation months, however successful candidates can be involved outside of those months depending on availability
- The JLS responsibilities will be part time and will not interfere with

other summer employment / school responsibilities

- All hours working on the lake stewardship will be signed off as volunteer hours

### How To Apply

In order to apply please send the following to [glpoainfo@gmail.com](mailto:glpoainfo@gmail.com) :

- A brief letter describing yourself, your connection to Golden Lake / Bonnechere River and why you are interested in the Junior Lake Steward position. We are also interested in any additional or related experience you have so don't hold back!
- Your current resume if available
- Your availability from June through Sept. If you have availability outside of these months please include that also.

We will respond to all applicants and final decision will be made on or before May 31st. We look forward to hearing from you!!!

## GLPOA Corporate Sponsors Update

THERESA RASP

The saying "everything old is new again" is a fitting description of our corporate sponsors this year. Once again, we are thrilled to have full support from this loyal group of 42 businesses.

The new again part is exciting as we welcome new ownerships with several of our sponsors over the past year: Beavertails/Freshmart Eganville, Bonnechere Valley Windows, Gerry's Septic and The Sands on Golden Lake. They join the long list of local businesses that proved they could meet the changing demands of public safety during the pandemic. Whether it be takeout meals, curbside service, retrofitted golf carts or special early shopping

hours, our sponsors have found ways to keep consumers safe and stocked up while keeping their businesses functioning.

And so this is another great reason to love local and shop local! Our sponsors are featured prominently on our four billboards around the lake and river at the public boat launches (Bonnechere Lodge, Island View Drive, Deacon Bridge and Tramore Bridge), as well as on our website ([www.goldenlake.co](http://www.goldenlake.co)), Facebook page (Golden Lake Ontario Property Owners) and the winter & spring newsletters.

Please continue to support our sponsors - you'll find their doors wide open for your business!

## TREASURERS REPORT

LIVIA VODENICAR

The financial summary for the 12 month period ending 31 December 2021 shows a starting balance on 1 January 2022 of \$15,288.97, revenue of \$14,077.68, disbursements of \$9,578.96, and a balance on 31 December 2021 of \$19,787.69. All records are given to an outside accountant for review and a final report will be given at the Annual General Meeting 9 July 2022.



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**Golden Lake & Bonnechere River Property Owners Association**



## Invasive Species

SYLVIA HILLIER

### Why should you care and what is being done about invasive species here in Ontario?

In Ontario, there are hundreds of invasive species that out compete native sportfish, plants, and animals, impact real estate prices and can even cause physical harm such as skin burns. ([www.greenshovels.ca](http://www.greenshovels.ca))

In this newsletter, we would like to focus on what is considered one of Canada's worst invasive species (Phragmites) and what your GLPOA is doing about it.

"Phrag" is a very tall and fast-

growing perennial grass that now covers nearly 17,000 hectares of shoreline, wetlands and road allowances. It creates ecological dead zones and impacts all at-risk species.

The GLPOA board became aware of the Green Shovels Collaborative Initiative through FOCA and applied (and received) a grant to allow us to begin the first step in the process of identifying its presence around our lake. This will take place this summer once a qualified professional has been secured. I would encourage all property owners to download this brochure and communicate the information in it to all those who live or visit your property. Let's make sure

this invasive species doesn't become a concern at our lake! [https://foca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Green-Shovels-Brochure\\_Final.pdf](https://foca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Green-Shovels-Brochure_Final.pdf)

The impact of invasive species does not end there, for some practical ways that you can assist in reducing invasive species from entering our lake, look up the following link for best practices to prevent invasive species:

<https://foca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/ndmnr-best-management-practices-for-preventing-the-spread-of-aquatic-invasive-species-en-2022-03-2022.pdf>

We are committed to working hard to reduce invasive species in or around our beautiful lake!



With the new addition of our Invasive species division, one thing we all need to be aware of is the Clean, Drain, Dry campaign. <https://canadainvasives.ca/programs/clean-drain-dry/>The Clean, Drain, Dry campaign is a reminder that all of us - and our guests, are all responsible to stop the spread of harmful aquatic invasive species through changes in behaviour. If you are putting your boat, canoe, paddleboard, etc. from one body of water to another, you must

CLEAN Inspect and clean plants, animals and mud from watercraft, trailer and gear.

DRAIN Drain all water from your watercraft, trailer and gear (e.g. buckets, well, bilge, ballast etc.)

DRY Dry all parts of your watercraft, trailer and gear completely between trips.

No Water craft? You can still help by taking the following actions:

- Understand the threats of aquatic invasive species.
- Learn to recognize aquatic invasive species and know where to look for them.
- Clean, Drain and Dry all guest watercraft, trailer, motors, and gear every time.
- Never release or move fish, animals, or plants from one waterbody into another.
- Report new sightings of aquatic invasive species.
- Help inform others about the threat of aquatic invasive species.
- Encourage your elected officials to support measures that prevent aquatic invasive species.

## Introducing Mathew Ingram

Hi, my name is Mathew Ingram. I'm a new member of the Golden Lake Property Owners Association team this year, but a long-time summer resident on the lake. My family has had a cottage on Island View Drive -- down near the small end of the lake -- for several generations now and my brothers and I spent every summer here while we were growing up. Like many of you, I have developed a deep love and respect for our lake and all that it brings with it, and that's why I accepted Theresa's kind offer to join the GLPOA team. I've agreed to take on a role helping the

lake steward track the impact of invasive species in our lake, whether it's fish, fowl, or plant life -- understanding what they are, and what if anything we can do about them and how they impact the way we use and enjoy Golden Lake. If you have any questions or concerns related to that, or if you have any specialized knowledge or understanding that might help us in our task, please let me or someone else on the GLPOA team know. I look forward to seeing you on or around the lake this summer -- I'll be the one in the red kayak.



## Executive Committee

### PRESIDENT

Kate O'Hara Island View Drive.....625-1050

### VICE-PRESIDENT

Dave Clark Rocky Point Drive .....858-1659

### LAKE STEWARD

Natalie Corbin Island View Drive .....697-1143

### TREASURER

Livia Vodenicar Golden Lake .....401-7629

### SECRETARY

Sylvia Hillier Nien-Mar Lane..... (343) 9977402

### PAST PRESIDENT

Ron Rimmer Hawkins Drive .....401-3590

## Directors at large

<b>Chris Hamilton</b>	Rocky Point Drive	889-3148
<b>Theresa Rasp</b>	Island View Drive	462-6216
<b>Sandy Nash</b>	Pikwakanagan	625-1506
<b>Allison Wood</b>	Hawkins Drive	601-6000
<b>Rob Bryce</b>	Rocky Point Drive	219-9738
<b>Janet Cottreau</b>	Red Pine Camp	301-9809
<b>Tara Wallace</b>	Tramore Road	633-8148

## Membership Committee

<b>Chair</b>	Kate O'Hara	625-1050
<b>Co-Chair</b>	Tara Wallace	633-8148
<b>Records</b>	Chris Hamilton	889-3148
<b>Corporate</b>	Theresa Rasp	462-6216

## Lake & River Stewardship Committee

<b>Chair</b>	Natalie Corbin	697-1143
<b>Shoal Marking</b>	Dave Clark Eric Weckworth	858-1659 625-1200
<b>Water Levels</b>	Don Bishop	643-3474
<b>Water Testing</b>	Tammy Joudrey & Andy Trafford	206-3000
<b>Fish Committee</b>	Sylvia Hillier	(343) 997-7402
<b>Invasive Species</b>	Mathew Ingram	

## Communications Committee

<b>Chair</b>	Chris Hamilton	889-3148
<b>Website</b>	Chris Hamilton	889-3148
<b>Newsletter</b>	Allison Wood	601-6000
<b>Facebook</b>	Allison Wood Natalie Corbin	697-1143

