

### President's Message

Happy Spring Everyone!!

Now that the warm weather is arriving and the snow is melting, we are all looking forward to the summer and another great season in the Golden Lake area!

The warm weather is bringing an end to a very busy and productive winter for GLPOA and the board. As you are all aware we held our first winter event which was the Snow Moon skating venue. This event was a tremendous success with hundreds of visitors, great local coverage and even made the news on CTV Ottawa! What makes this event even better is that the board successfully applied for a grant that covered the entire cost of the skating venue for this year. The grant also allowed us to purchase the infrastructure components (e.g. solar lights, benches, etc.) that can now be used to continue this as an annual event at a low cost to GLPOA!!

Additionally, the board has been busy resolving some recently discovered issues with our corporate status that required us to take steps to meet the legal requirements under the Provincial and Federal statutes. At this time we have completed the necessary filings and are current and in good standing. More detail on this as well as the skating venue grant will be provided at the AGM in July.

Also, you will have seen some great work being done by the Fish Committee to explore the most effective way to



Back row from left: Julie Callon, Sylvia Hillier, Sandy Nash, Kate O'Hara, Chris Hamilton, Dave Clark Front row from left: Tara Wallace, Natalie Corbin, Mathew Ingram, Theresa Rasp, Livia Vodenicar Missing: Allison Wood, Rob Bryce, Janet Cottreau

revive the fishery in Golden Lake and develop a plan to address it. Please read on in the newsletter to get an overview of the work and how you can help with this initiative.

Looking forward to this summer, in addition to all the great initiatives GLPOA regularly undertakes we are looking at reviving the Smelt Fry as well as adding some additional events for members and the public!! Watch for more to come in the near future on potential new events!

Lastly, as you are all aware volunteers are the life blood of the association and the primary reason we are able to keep our membership very affordable, while providing so many great things for our members and the community.

Our sincerest and heartfelt thank go out to all the volunteers that make this possible!!! Please reach out to us if you feel you can contribute and help to keep GLPOA as one of the premier property associations in the FOCA family!

Help us support the services and events provided by GLPOA by paying your 2023 membership, this can easily be done via e-transfer, cheque or directly with one of our canvassers. Every membership is important in helping us continue the great work on your behalf!

Best Regards,

- Dave Clark



### **FISH COMMITTEE**

For those of you that were at the annual general meeting of GLPOA in July 2022 the guest speaker was Dr. Peter Heinermann a 30 plus year visitor to Red Pine Camp and a recently retired biology lab coordinator at the University of Ottawa who gave a very impressive presentation on the fishes of Golden Lake. As I sat watching his passion for fish I was reminded of the many conferences I had attended over the last 25 years travelling around the world working in the fish farming or aquaculture sector. Here my focus was on mollusks with process growing technologies and finfish containment and waste management solutions.

When I first moved to Golden Lake in 1987 you could go fishing within season and catch your limit typically in short order but as most of you know today that has not happened in many years. I knew there were solutions however putting them into practise would take speciality talent and enthusiastic individuals to make it happen. Peter and his presentation were the catalyst or perhaps the missing link I was looking for so right after his presentation I had a quick chat and the next day we met and discussed in more detail how we might work together to rehabilitate the Golden Lake walleye. He agreed, and soon after we became co-chairs of GLPOA Fish Committee. Our first order of business to collect all the data we could find on the research of Golden Lake that had been done over the last 25 years and to make contact and meet with the existing fish committee.

At first, we were surprised at the lack of data that had been made available from the number of studies that had been done, it appeared that there



were different groups that had studies however it was like they were existing in silos and not communicating or sharing information. We put together what we could find but then reached beyond using contacts and information from both our backgrounds which became the base of our information gathering.

We knew early on that the methodology of stocking lakes with eyed eggs, fry or spring/summer fingerlings was problematic. The survival rates of these introductions were very low, with most of the stocked fish becoming food for the other existing fish in the lake, the solution was to create a nursery application to allow the stocked fingerlings to grow to late fall fingerlings or even yearlings. In this way, instead of stocking small fish we were now releasing fish that could be up to 30cm in length. The traditional methodology of stocking had a survival rate that was at least 4x greater. In the wild when a walleye lays her eggs the survival rate is similar at 3% - 5%. During our research we looked at historical stocking of Golden Lake and were able to go back to 1922 however the size or the walleye introduced were not recorded rigorously 1946 it was at that year that 200,000 yearlings were introduced which was the beginning a most successful population of walleye that gave Golden Lake the reputation as a premier walleye lake in Ontario. From this it became clear what we needed to do... now it was to create a plan and budget to do so and gain the support of government agencies

We contacted MNRF personnel, researchers in other parts of Canada and the US that had worked with walleye and backed up data and methodologies we had so we would have our best chance of success. We are currently putting together a 5-year plan with a goal to start this summer 2023.

We have engaged John Yakabuski our local MPP. He immediately understood what we were proposing, supported it and introduced us to staff at the ministers office with the goal to have full support for our efforts as we progressed.

In early March we had our first public meeting/presentation at the Golden Lake Community hall, we had 24 people in attendance, of which 4 were from the existing fish committee, at the end of the meeting all in attendance agreed to work with us and support our plan.

Your new fish committee is made up of coordinators for the different positions and they are always looking for volunteers in different capacities, you can get a better understanding of who and what is taking place at https://goldenlake.co/ A good example of how the new structure has worked was the coordinator for the smelt run and Smelt fry, Brian Yourth and his team of volunteers having secured stock of spring smelt and will be having the fish fry in June...stay tuned for more information.



# Membership KATE O'HARA/TARA WALLACE

It's that time of year again when our canvassers come to visit, and to remind everyone why membership in GLPOA is a great \$20 investment in our life on the water! It includes your membership in FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottage Associations), this year celebrating 60 years of advocacy & resource for waterfront property owners. GLPOA has been a proud member of FOCA since 2004, recognizing the valuable support they provide to our association & membership.

Numbers for 2022 were up to about 360, an increase over 2021. Thank you to every renewing or new household for your membership. Your support is what keeps GLPOA strong, and good membership numbers mean we keep our annual fee at \$20. To get back to our pre-pandemic numbers of 450+, we need your help. There are 12 zones around the lake and on the river, covered by a core group of canvassers. These people are the reason we were able to keep membership fairly stable through early pandemic years. We cannot thank them enough for their time and dedication. BUT we can REALLY use more help canvassing going forward. We know many properties changed hands during the past few years. New owners may be part of the local community, but we want them to be a part our GLPOA family! Please consider becoming a GLPOA canvasser; we guarantee it's more rewarding than it is time consuming, and you'll meet some wonderful people along the way!

A meeting is planned for Saturday, 10 June 2023, where volunteers collect their membership kits/ materials, and share tips with fellow canvassers. Save the date! Further details of time and location to follow shortly.

Congratulations to Betty & Terry Lussier from Billena Way, the winners



JULY 8, 2023 | KILLALOE PUBLIC SCHOOL | 9:00 - 11:30 GLPOA Annual General Meeting

- Approval of 2022 AGM Minutes (currently posted on GLPOA website)
- Approval of Financial Report and Appointment of Auditor
- Corporation Status Update and Subsequent Procedures & Protocols
- Board elections
- Amendments to Constitution

Guest speakers, draw prizes and refreshments provided for attendees.

Official notice of meeting posted publicly 30 days prior to AGM.
All members in good standing are invited to attend and vote.
Membership payable at meeting.

Look forward to seeing you there!

#### SHOAL AND CHANNEL MARKING

We would like to welcome Mark Hammer to the team! He will be learning the ropes from Dave, our current chair this summer. Mark will fully take over the buoy Chair position after the 2023 buoy season is over.

Buoys will be put out by our FANTASTIC group of buoy parents/volunteers the Long weekend in May and taken out Thanksgiving weekend. Just a reminder that buoys can come off so always boat with caution.

of our 2023 early bird membership draw prize: a \$100 gift certificate for Pikwakanagan Fuels. We thank all of you who have paid before the canvassers get to you; membership cards & kits will be delivered by your zone canvasser in due course. Our next prize draw will include all memberships paid by 22 May long weekend, and will take place at our June board meeting.

I offer my heartfelt thanks to our members who continue to support our mandate and our activities for the association. See you at the AGM in July!





We have made it through another winter and spring freshet with things under control thanks to RPG following the management of the system within the Bonnechere River Water Management Plan (BRWMP) that was implemented after being passed by the different agencies involved in the fall of 2021.

RPG freshet monitoring started in early April this year however with the summer like temperatures we had in mid April a lot of water was flowing early as well the snow depth on the lakes in the area was much less then it was in the forests. Daily reports started Apr 13, 2023, this continued until there was the expected trending level downwards. Under the BRWMP Golden Lake is drawn down to very low levels in the fall with no logs in as of Jan 4, 2023, Round Lake draw down being similar however 6 logs were kept in all winter at Tramore dam. Last winter was the lowest many have seen the lake at that time of year, however without it there is

always a chance for higher than expected water. Snowpack reports in the park at the location selected by MNRF and RPG in 2019 have proven to be a good indication of what to expect however it still is an indication and there are so many other factors to consider, mother nature controls how and when it is released, how warm it gets, how quick it melts, how much rain, wind at the wrong time... and the list goes on. All RPG can do is get levels as low as possible before Freshet and provide information to people to make informed decisions.

RPG is still working to do repairs to the Golden Lake dam starting in July. This work will be completed without lowering the summer water levels using a cofferdam arrangement.

RPG and ourselves continue to learn and adapt to the BRWMP with the changing weather patterns that we have been experiencing, as we gather more information more things start to fall into place. The challenge is predicting the outcomes so we can get better at timely information for GLPOA members, please keep in mind however that the river is a system that cannot just be turned on or off for instantaneous results.

#### **GLPOA Corporate Sponsors**

Our corporate sponsors are one of GLPOA's key lifelines. Without these local businesses - 42 strong! - we wouldn't be able to complete our important tasks relating to water quality/levels, fishing, invasive species, boating safety and community gatherings.

- This year we welcome four new sponsors:
- Andrea Rathwell Century 21 Eady Realty,
- Brokerlink (formerly Greg Kelly Insurance and Real Estate)
- Landmark Business Consulting
- · Valley Marine and Power Sports

They join a stellar list of businesses that our property owners trust and visit through their reputations and support for our community, including events like our annual Poker Run. There will be more to come on events we are planning throughout the summer. You can also find out more information about our sponsors with their signage on our four billboards located at public boat launches around Golden Lake and on the Bonnechere River and on our website goldenlake.co under the Sponsors Directory.

Please continue to shop local with these businesses who live in our community, employee local residents and serve you with their goods and services. They mean the world to all of us!

### **WATER QUALITY**

The Lake partner program requests that we test 2 places on Golden Lake - a spot on the "Big Lake" and the deepest point in Tranquility bay.

Tranquility Bay: One of our volunteers kayaks to take the readings. Most samples are done in May and mailed to the LPP. However, twice a month from May through September you may see a lone kayaker in the Bay staring over the side of their kayak as if they've lost something. This is our volunteer conducting water clarity A special weighted disk is lowered on a measured line to judge how far down that disk can still be seen. Generally, this is about 3.25 to 3.5 metres but changes a little over the year. Last year's disk fell off the line and is currently living its best life on the bottom of the Bay, well over 3.5 metres below the surface as now we can't find it. A new disk will be arriving soon.

Golden Lake's data is collected and published by the LPP through the "Data Stream", and is available here: <a href="https://data.ontario.ca/dataset/ontario-lake-partner">https://data.ontario.ca/dataset/ontario-lake-partner</a>, but they have not updated the database with our newest data from 2022 yet.

A Big Thanks to our Amazing volunteers, Tammy, Andy and Rob for their hard work and dedication.

#### TREASURERS REPORT

The Financial summary for the 12 month period ending 31 December 2022 shows a starting balance on 1 January 2023 of \$16,028.10, revenue of \$16,494.35, disbursements of \$14,869.64, and a balance on 31 December 2022 of \$21,412.40.

All records are given to an outside accountant for review and final report will be given at the Annual General Meeting 8 July 2023.

## Thank you to all our Sponsors... Love Local, Shop Local





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### **INVASIVE SPECIES**

Although Smelt are not considered an invasive species in Golden lake, their excessive numbers could be part of the reason our Pickerel numbers are in decline. The fact that they are not considered invasive, means that (Per the MNR) you must eat what you catch - The good news is that with a group of fantastic volunteers we are working to tackle the issue. Every spring the smelt "Run" into Golden Lake in large numbers when the water reaches 4 degrees. Volunteers catch the smelt and clean them – 3000 if them!!! Fun fact: Smelt typically run in larger

numbers late at night – midnight or so. Catching them requires a headlamp, net, bucket and tall boots/hip waders. Brian Yourth has not only taken on the task of re-vamping our smelt fry this year, but he also set up a smelt cleaning station at his house. In less than a week, enough smelt were caught and cleaned to fulfil our smelt fry which has not happened in years. Smelt are delicious and nutritious

https://www.livestrong.com/article/457143-what-are-the-health-benefits-of-smelt/

Stay tuned for the Smelt fry details!!



### Snow Moon Skating Loop

Winter 2023 was anything but dull at the Island View Park! GLPOA and North Algona Wilberforce Township partnered in what we hope will be an annual happening where you, your family and friends can come out for a skate, roast hot dogs and marshmallows, and play games on the ice. GLPOA was successful in securing a small tourism grant from the Federal Government to develop an outdoor activity that would appeal to the greater community while driving tourism.

Over 350 people showed up for the inaugural Family Day Weekend launch at the Snow Moon Skating Loop! People came from as far away as Ottawa, Perth, Smith Falls and Toronto. It was a sight to see so many young families enjoying the outdoors at a time when there were not many ice venues open, including the Rideau Canal. The Loop operated day and evening, and aside from the hard work from our ice crew, it was designed to be self-sufficient.

We're very thankful for great media coverage from the Eganville Leader, CTV News Ottawa and Valley FM who carried our message far and wide: come out to Golden Lake and enjoy the outdoors. Everyone was welcome - this was something for all ages.

We can't stress enough that the success of the Loop (and any community event) depends on the work of volunteers. Please keep this in mind and send us a message if you can help us next year!

The email is glpoainfo@gmail.com







### **Executive Commitee**

PRESIDENT Kate O'Hara Island View Drive	625-1050
VICE-PRESIDENT Dave Clark Rocky Point Drive	858-659
LAKE STEWARD Natalie CorbinIsland View Drive	697-1143
TREASURER Livia Vodenicar Golden Lake	401-7629
SECRETARY Sylvia Hillier Nien-Mar Lane(343	3) 9977402
PAST PRESIDENT Ron Rimmer Hawkins Drive	۷ ۵1-3590

Directors at large				
Chris Hamilton	Rocky Point Drive	889-3148		
Theresa Rasp	Island View Drive	462-6216		
Sandy Nash	Pikwakanagan	625-1506		
Allison Wood	Hawkins Drive	601-6000		
Rob Bryce	Rocky Point Drive	219-9738		
Janet Cottreau	Red Pine Camp	301-9809		
Tara Wallace	Tramore Road	633-8148		
Membership Committee				
Chair	Kate O'Hara	625-1050		
Co-Chair	Tara Wallace	633-8148		
Records	Chris Hamilton	889-3148		
Corporate	Theresa Rasp	462-6216		
Lake & River Stewardship Commitee				
Chair	Natalie Corbin	697-1143		
Shoal Marking	Dave Clark Eric Weckworth	858-1659 625-1200		
Water Levels	Don Bishop	643-3474		
Water Testing	Tammy Joudrey & Andy Trafford	206-3000		
Fish Committee	Sylvia Hillier	(343) 997-7402		
Invasive Species	Mathew Ingram			
Communications Committee				
Chair	Chris Hamilton	889-3148		
Website	Chris Hamilton	889-3148		
Newsletter	Allison Wood	601-6000		
Facebook	Allison Wood Natalie Corbin	697-1143		

# Membership Zones & Canvassers

Zone	Location	Representative	
Zone 1	Golden Lake Village Pikwakanagan	**Need Volunteers Sany Nash	625-1506
Zone 2	Island View Drive, Abby Way Red Pine Camp Way Log Cabin Trail	Kate O'Hara Kate O'Hara Kate O'Hara	625-1050
Zone 3	Mundts Bay Lane Twin Maple Lane Highway 60 (#11917-#12573	Clare Daniels Shelley Termarsch Theresa Rasp	625-2101 735-8389 462-6216
Zone 4	McMillan Rd – Section 1 McMillan Rd. – Section 2 Goldfinch Dr. Kasdorff Lane	**Need Volunteers **Need Volunteers **Need Volunteers	601-6000
Zone 5	Hwy 60 – McMillan to Deacon Hwy 60 – Sands to Browns Cres. Brown's res. McNee Drive	**Need Volunteers **Need Volunteers Kate O'Hara	625-1050
Zone 6	Black Point Road Harrington Rd. Great Heron Lane L'Escale Lane	**Need Volunteers Burk Hein Gerry Williams Abbie Buch	752-2343 756-0168 830-7337
Zone 7	Hawkins Drive Nien-Mar Lane Skelly Lane Sheedy Lane Bob's Lane Bonnechere Lodge Sleepy Hollow Lane	Julie Callon Sylvia Hillier **Need Volunteers Bob Staff (BL) Bob Staff (BL)	702-6612 (343) 997-7402
Zone 8	Golden Lyn Way Golden Mile Way Cedar Beach Lane Lynch-Reid Lane Richards Lane, Bilena Way, McSearsull Way, Ruby Rd.	David Costello David Costello Chris Hamilton	524-2753 524-2753
Zone 9	Rocky Point Dr. – Section 1 Rocky Point Dr. – Section 2 Mundt Lane Tranquility Bay	Sheila Kennedy Carole Hamilton Joe Mineo Stephen Butler	625-1225 889-1759 401-0996 639-9751
Zone 10	Tramore Road #778 to #870 Libby Lane	Judith Hartwig **Need Volunteers	757-3123
Zone 11	Tramore Road (#871 - #1195) Tramore Road (#1196 - #1476)	**Need Volunteers **Need Volunteers	462-6216
Zone 11	Boyle Lane Bonnechere River Lane Eady Rd. Narrows Lane, Jeffries Lane, Okum Lane	**Need Volunteers Judith Hartwig Gary Cooper Gary Cooper	462-6216 757-3123 757-1175
Zone 12	Carty Rd. Whitechurch Rd. Karmak Haven Rd. Muskie Lane	Dennis Brock **Need Volunteers Lu-Ann Clarke	327-4235 (416) 669-1009