



# Winter Newsletter

For those with an interest in the well-being of Golden Lake and the Bonnechere River

GLPOA: Box 99 • Golden Lake, Ontario • K0J 1X0

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## **Executive Committee**

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Dave Clark	Rocky Point	613-858-1659		
<b>Vice-President</b>				
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Don Bishop	Island View Drive	613-639-3474		
Treasurer				
Livia Vodenicar	Golden Lake	613-401-7629		
Secretary				
Sandy Nash	Pikwakanagan	613-625-1506		
Past President	11 11/2 5:	(12 (25 1050		
Kate O'Hara	Island View Drive	613-625-1050		
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Theresa Rasp	Island View Drive	613-462-6216		
Natalie Corbin	Island View Drive	613-697-1143		
Allison Wood	Hawkins Drive	613-601-6000		
Rob Bryce	Rocky Point Drive	613-219-9738		
Janet Cottreau	Red Pine Camp	613-301-9809		
Julie Callon	Hawkins Drive	613-702-6612		
Mathew Ingram	Island View Drive	647-967-4695		
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Toni Mcleod	Great Heron Lane	819-921-8669		
Membership Committee				
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Co Chair Krista Jones		519-385-2470		
Records Keeper Toni Mcleod		819-921-8669		
Corporate Theresa Rasp		613-462-6216		
Lake & River Stewardship Commitee				
Chair Don Bishop	613-639-3474			
Shoal Marking Mark Hammer		613-853-2663		
Water Levels Don Bishop		613-639-3474		
Water Testing Rob Bryce		613-219-9738		
Fish Committee Don Bishop / Dr. Peter Heinermann		613-639-3474		
Invasive Species Rich	Juhasz	613-277-3863		
Communications Co	ommittee			
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AGM

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Pancake Breakfast & Cornhole Tournament

Volunteer Dinner

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### **Dave Clark**

President

## 01

### Happy New Year Everyone!

As we settle into 2024, the GLPOA board wishes you a healthy and prosperous year to come and looking forward to another great season in the Golden Lake area! 2023 was a very good year with a number of great events and accomplishments including continued growth in our membership back to pre covid levels! We are looking to build on the board and volunteer's hard work and further enhance the value to our membership and the area.

With the cold weather hitting us, GLPOA is once again looking to start up the Snow Moon skating venue. This event was a tremendous success last year with hundreds of visitors, great local coverage and even made the news on CTV Ottawa! We are hoping this year's version will be as well received and once again provide a great winter activity for the Golden Lake area!! As always, our events are powered by volunteers so please let us know if you would like to help out!

In 2023 there was an incredible amount of work done by the GLPOA Fish Committee on the Walleye rehabilitation initiative and as a result 2024 will see the initiation of the program and solidifying the 5 year + plan to bring the fishery back! This is an exciting initiative which will not only rejuvinate the local walleye fishery but provide a great boost to local businesses. In addition, plans are in the works for a bigger and better Fish Fry this year!! Please see the more detailed overview of the Fish Committee plans and accomplishments further on in the newsletter.

Once the winter skating season is over we are looking at a number of new or expanded summer events. Our new Events Committee is hard at work getting the preliminary plan in place and will provide more detail in the Spring Newsletter before things start kicking off!! We are very excited to engage in more social events to further enhance the great sense of community we enjoy in the association!

Additionally, we will strive to make the lake safer through our hazard marking program, continue to keep members informed on water levels and ensure water testing is completed and results communicated. These are core benefits to our members and we are constantly looking at ways to improve and deliver on them!

Lastly, as you are all aware volunteers are the life blood of the association and are the primary reason we are able to keep our membership very affordable while providing so many great things for our members and the area. Please reach out to us if you feel you can contribute and help keep GLPOA as one of the premier property associations in the FOCA family!

Help us support the efforts of the volunteers by paying your (\$20) 2024 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!!



Jay Foran, Dr Peter Heinermenn, and Don Bishop

### Membership Committee Report

Co-Chairs: Julie Callon and Krista Jones



### Good news, fellow GLPOA members!

Due to the dedication of the door to door canvassers and the commitment from property owners to join or renew, we reached 385 members! This is good news but great news will be when we reach 400+ in 2024! Thinking positive!

With membership comes perks such as access to our contests - the early bird membership draw (pay your membership by March 31, 2024 to be eligible for an awesome prize), the photo contests, the scavenger hunt and many exciting events throughout the year! Participation in our AGM which always offers many resources, support, and door prizes. Follow your association on Facebook, Instagram, check in on the webpage often for information about what your Board has planned. One of the best perks is feeling like you are a part of the GLPOA family.

As well, as a paid member, you will have access to all the resources and support offered by FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association). You can visit their webpage at https://foca.on.ca. Membership remains the best deal in town at only \$20.00 per year. You can pay by etransfer, cheque or cash when your friendly canvasser knocks on your door. For easy to follow instructions on how to join or renew, please go to https://goldenlake.co/home-tng/how-to-join/



GLPOA's Membership Committee

## 2023 Returning Canvassers

Sandy, Kate, Shelley, Theresa, Mary, Abbie, Burk, Jennifer, Christine, Julie, Sylvia, Ernie, David, Sheila, Carole, Joe, Stephen, Chris, Judith, Gary, Dennis, and Lu-Ann

## 2023 New Canvassers

Shelley Ter Marsch, Mary Beatty, Jen Cumper, Christine Juhasz, Julie Callon, Sheila Kennedy, Lu-Ann Clarke

## 2024 New Canvassers

Walter Jackowlew

But Membership Committee is very much in need of volunteers for the door to door canvassing. I canvassed in 2023 for the first time and it was amazing! I met so many new property owners and had the opportunity to catch up with my neighbours and friends. The chance to chat and hear their "Golden Lake" stories was priceless plus the added benefit of enjoying everyone's amazing view of our lake at the same time! I highly recommend this opportunity to everyone. The time commitment can be as little or as much as you can provide and I guarantee, you will come away with the feeling of being a member of the GLPOA family. Please reach out if you are willing to volunteer by email to **glpoainfo@gmail.com.** We would love to hear from you!

Many "zones" (greater than 50% of our members list) do not have a representative/canvasser. See the list of zones at the end of this newsletter showing where help is needed. Please check to see if your area/road is one where you can help. Each zone shown covers a manageable 10-15 properties. You can cover your own zone, or choose another zone where you can meet new members! Wishing everyone a wonderful beginning to 2024 and hope to see our numbers grow, grow, grow!



2024 – Make it the Year You Volunteer!

> Kate O'Hara, Past President and Past Chair, Membership

## I write this as we reflect on the past year, and move into the new year of 2024:

As property owners, you are members of your local community: Pikwakanagan, Bonnechere Valley Township, Killaloe Hagarty & Richards Township, North Algona Wilberforce.

BUT, GLPOA membership brings you into our waterfront "family". This "family" grew back to nearly 400 strong in 2023. We want this family to grow again in 2024!

This association is built and sustained by volunteer participation. Our volunteers are passionate about the life of our waterfront. I am one of those passionate volunteers. We are looking to welcome more of you to our roster of volunteers so we can continue to work for the continued benefit of all of our waterfront property owners and their families.

I ask again the questions I posed at the 2023 Annual General meeting: think about how much time you spend enjoying life at the lake/river. Now think about giving back a little of that time to volunteer for your association. A few hours or a few days can make the difference in what you want your lake to be and to become.

We are all leading busy lives, but I suggest to you that if being on the water is the part of your life you most enjoy then please make a little time to support your association.

Membership Committee in particular needs canvassers – see the member zone list near the end of this newsletter to sign up to help us in your area. The Board is looking for new members to add to the expertise of our already talented and dedicated team. We welcome people to assist with any/all of our committees: Events, Communications, Lake Stewardship (hazard marking, water testing, water levels). Whether you're young or young at heart, still working or retired, the amount of time you (and your family!) give us can be short or long. Contact us to see what we need and how you can step up to help. You can reach us at glpoainfo@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

2024 is a leap year. Make your own leap to volunteer with GLPOA. I can guarantee your gift of time will be rewarded with new connections, new friends, and new possibilities! And that's a definite win-win for you and for GLPOA.





## Lake Steward Report

Chair - Don Bishop

Water Levels: The Bonnechere River Water Management Plan with amendments saw the lowest drawdown during the first week of Dec 2022 than most of us have ever experienced; this allowed a safety margin against floods we experienced in 2017 and 2019. There are never any guarantees when dealing with nature so being prepared and to anticipate spring run off has been the approach of all stakeholders. Renfrew Power Generation / Shawn Cameron has worked closely with us understanding that while the flooding concerns are still in our memories, enjoying the lake from the long weekend in May until Thanksgiving weekend is significant to our property owners. On Dec 15 2023, I was at the Golden Lake dam and the difference in height from the water going into and out of the dam was less than 2 inches with zero logs in; typical summer logs will raise the level at the dam by almost 3 ft, so the levels we have now would be very close to the typically summer levels before a dam was in place (1916 then rebuilt in 1932) when flows through Round and Golden Lake had no controled dams.

Next event for monitoring will be ice off, which will happen in April. One thing we need your help with is letting us know in your part of the lake (small, middle and big). Ron Rimmer has agreed to do the record keeping on this so if any of you have kept records over the years at your properties please let Ron know at candrrimmer@yahoo.ca



Last year we had some buoys break loose and that is being addressed by the potential of new ropes and chains as well as attachment systems. More to come on this as we get closer to spring.

Buoy Markers: Mark Hammer took over as coordinator of the channel and shoal markers working with volunteers around the lake to have them in before the May long weekend and out after Thanksgiving. He has been working on a new numbering system that will identify with a downloadable map of the lake so boaters will know exactly where they are, the areas to stay away from and if a buoy goes missing how to identify it.

Water Testing: Rob Bryce is gathering data and reporting is being forwarded to FOCA Lake Partner Program as scheduled, Secchi Disk readings as well as Total Phosphorous, Chloride and Calcium levels are part of this. Moving into this year testing that the fish committee will be working on will be combined based on their needs so to have more efficiencies of time and share resources.

**Fish Committee:** I think that most of you have an idea of the efforts and progress of the Fish Committee regarding rehabilitation of Walleye in Golden Lake, as cochair with Dr. Peter Heinermann we have put a lot more work with a dedicated team of volunteers that we are so very thankful to be working with. We were supposed to have our small nursery cages in the water this past June however our request to MNRF for 5000 summer fingerlings was not met even though we had requested this in Jan of 2023. We are working though the minister's office with his Chief of Staff and MPP John Yakabuski to get our requests accomplished however the wheels of bureaucracy move slowly. We are in communication with the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan and a group from Magnetawan that have their own mobile hatchery and have offered to assist us as they see that our format of nursery cages can help them as well. The coverage we had by CBC early this summer has gotten us a lot of attention, we were able to upload most of this to https://goldenlake.co/



The Fishes of Golden Lake initiative of signed and numbered prints and mugs has been well received and we had a hard time of keeping up initially but now have things in order, many were purchased as Christmas gifts which spread the word, we will have them available through out the year at Cottage Cup and Grass Roots Healing a 3rd retail location will be added this summer, you can still get them through Peter or myself. We are also working on shirts printed with the same.

Smelt Harvest: The 2023 smelt harvest began on April 20th when the water temps reached 10 Celsius in Cochrane Creek which has always been the most productive and easiest place to access. The run this past year lasted for 6 nights with members of the GLOPA, including from our fish committee Dale Benoit who also brought some first nations youth from the Ottawa area, Dr. Peter Heinermann, Brian and Diana Yourth, Jay Foran who was keeping records of harvesting of the about 50,000 smelt. There were also enthusiastic

people from Eganville, Barry's Bay, Kemptville, Calabogie, Bancroft and Ottawa as well as some from as far away as Toronto, smelt harvesters are very passionate about what they are doing. For information how you can help the smelt harvest in 2024 you can contact Jay Foran through GLOPA at **glpoainfo@gmail.com** or through GLPOA Facebook Group.

Our smelt run committee is planning a much more robust fish fry for the Sunday of the long weekend in May, that will include other species of fish not just smelt, a fish tournament, fishing lessons for kids, music, beer garden, will all be part of this. Mark, you calendar as not only will you be supporting our rehabilitation efforts, but it will be an enjoyable social event for all and to meet other residents of Golden Lake and area, stay tuned!





2024 GLPOA Events on the Planning Board

Snow Moon Skating Loop

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The success of the first ever Snow Moon Skating loop at Island View Park took even us by surprise!

On a cold and windy opening day on Family Day weekend in February, we saw over 500 people come and warm up by the firepits, barbeque hot dogs, toast marshmallows - all while sipping hot chocolate! It was a big learning curve for us GLPOA volunteers, but thanks to our local community members offering fantastic advice, experiences, tips and tricks, and showing up to help we made it happen.

Ice conditions were particularly challenging to overcome, but we were determined to have a winter activity for residents and visitors and I have to say – we were proud that our hard work paid off, especially considering that the Rideau Canal was not able to open last year!

We were so very fortunate to work with North Algona Wilberforce – Cameron Montgomery helped us garner tourism funding which enabled us to purchase solar lights, fire pits, a sound system, games, a water pump and some safety items. This will allow us to continue the Snow Moon Skating Loop for years to come. This year they have provided us with funding for a porta potty rental. Due to the overwhelming success of our inaugural community event, we are working with NAW in the future to make some permanent improvements to Island View Park. There is also ample opportunity for our local small businesses to host their own events for the public at the Loop. Why not challenge another business to a corn hole tournament or a broom ball or hockey game? Your potential fun is only limited by your imagination!

We hope to be able to host a few new activities from the Park, including (but not limited to) a boat flotilla and paddleboard/canoe races. If you have some free time, we would LOVE some help to organize these new ideas to see if we can implement them for this summer.

Please reach out to Natalie nataliercorbin@gmail.com or Theresa tntgolden.rasp@gmail.com if you wish to volunteer, host an event winter or summer, or provide us with vital feedback.

## Family Day Weekend

February 17 - 19, 2024



Join us at the Snow Moon Skating Loop over Family Day Weekend for games, hot chocolate, marshmallows & hot dogs over a bonfire, music...and skating of course!

Located at Island View Park, 451 Island View Drive, Golden Lake



#### Fish Tournament & Fish Fry

May Long Weekend

Our annual Fish Fry is going to be even bigger this year with kids fishing lessons, music, beer garden, and more. Come on out and enjoy this great day with your neighbours!

#### 2024 Annual General Meeting

All members are encouraged to join in the GLPOA AGM. This takes place the first Saturday after the July 1st holiday. Reports from all of our committees along with compelling guest speakers makes this a meeting of value to our GLPOA community.

#### Paddle Races at Island View Park

Whether you love kayaks, paddle boards or canoes, we have the race for you at Island View Park. We need volunteers to help run the races this summer. Date to be confirmed.

### Pancake Breakfast & Cornhole Tournament

We're lining up again with the NAW Golden Lake summer celebration in August to serve up pancakes and bean bags for a fun corn hole tournament! Date to be confirmed.

#### Volunteer Dinner

Every year we celebrate our volunteers with an appreciation dinner late August. It's our chance to thank those that give back to our community.



One of the most enduring parts of the Golden Lake Property Owners Association is the incredible support of local businesses in our community. As a non-profit organization, there are only two ways to fund our activities every year: through our community memberships, and through our corporate sponsorships. Each plays such a key role, and funds the association's work every year in equal parts.

We continue to have 42 sponsors supporting our initiatives every year, the maximum amount available for our signboards posted around our community. In the rare instance when a sponsor has to step down, there are others waiting in the wings to come on board - literally!

It's been an incredible experience since I stepped into this role several years ago: the comments and feedback from sponsors is supportive, encouraging and always grateful for the work that our association does, whether it be communicating water levels, testing the water quality, holding community events to bring everyone together, or building up the fish stock in Golden Lake, among other tasks we take on.

I encourage everyone in our community, especially GLPOA members, to shop at these local businesses. A thriving local economy is one of the key pillars to a strong and successful community, bringing benefits to all of us!

### Thank you to all our sponsors!







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## Membership Zones & Canvassers

Zone 1	Golden Lake Village Pikwakanagan	* <b>Volunteers Needed</b> Sandy Nash	613-625-1506
Zone 2	Island View Drive, Abby Way Red Pine Camp Way, Log Cabin Tra	*Volunteers Needed ail	
Zone 3	Mundts Bay Lane Twin Maple Lane Hwy 60 - #11917 - #12573	* <b>Volunteers Needed</b> Shelley TerMarsch Theresa Rasp	613-735-8389 613-462-6216
Zone 4	McMillan Rd. – Section 1 McMillan Rd Section 2 Goldfinch Dr., Kasdorff	Mary Beatty *Volunteers Needed *Volunteers Needed	613-625-2057
Zone 5	Hwy 60 – McMillan to Deacon (Sai Hwy 60 – Deacon (Sands) - Browns McNee Drive		
Zone 6	Black Point Rd.	*Volunteers Needed	-
	Harrington Rd.	Burk Hein	613-752-2343
	Great Heron Lane	Jennifer Cumper Christine Juhasz	613-277-3863
	L'Escale Lane	*Volunteers Needed	013-2//-3003
Zone 7	Hawkins Drive	Julie Callon	613-702-6612
	Skelly/ Sheedy/ Bob's Lane	Julie Callon	613-702-6612
	Nien-Mar Lane	Sylvia Hillier	343-997-7402
	Bonnechere Lodge	Krista Jones	519-385-2470
	Sleepy Hollow Lane	*Volunteers Needed	
Zone 8	Golden Lyn / Golden Mile Way	David Costello	613-524-2753
Zone o	Cedar Beach, Lynch-Reid Lane	David Costello	613-524-2753
	Richards Lane, Bilena Way	Walter Jackowlew	519-831-4977
	McSearsull Way, Ruby Rd.	Walter Jackowlew	519-831-4977
	,		
Zone 9	Rocky Point Dr. – Section 1	Sheila Kennedy	613-625-1225
	Rocky Point Dr. – Section 2	Carole Hamilton	613-889-1759
	Mundt Lane	Joe Mineo	613-401-0996
	Tranquility Bay	Stephen Butler	613-639-9751
Zone 10	Tramore Rd #778-870 Libby Lane	Judith Hartwig	613-633-6162
Zone 11	Tramore Rd #871 - #1195 Tramore Rd #1196 - #1476)	*Volunteers Needed *Volunteers Needed	
	Bonnechere River Lane	Judith Hartwig	613-633-6162
	Eady Rd., Narrows Lane	Gary Cooper	613-757-3123
	Jeffries Lane, Okum Lane	Gary Cooper	613-757-3123
Zone 12	Carty Rd., Whitechurch Rd.	Dennis Brock	613-327-4235
	Karmak Haven Rd.	*Volunteers Needed	
	Muskie Lane, Green Gate	Lu-Ann Clarke	416-669-1009