



# RILEY LAKE REPORTER

Newsletter of the RILEY LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.rlpoa.ca](http://www.rlpoa.ca)

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## FALL 2018

### REMINDER: RLPOA membership fees:

Thanks to all of you who have paid. Those who haven't paid yet are asked to send a cheque for \$35.00 payable to:  
RLPOA, 32 Winona Drive, Toronto M6G 3S6.

**Supporting our lake community and our investment is important for all of us.**

### MUNICIPAL ELECTION: Oct. 12-22

You can vote by phone or online during this period.  
By late September you will receive a 'pin' in the mail to help you vote online.  
Go to: [www.Gravenhurst.ca/elections](http://www.Gravenhurst.ca/elections) to ensure you are on the voters' list.  
Information from our two Ward 4 candidates, Marc Mantha and Terry Pilger is supplied further on pages 9-10 in this edition.

**PLEASE SEE page 6 for RECOMMENDED CANDIDATES**

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS: For Help or Emergency

**911** (police, fire, ambulance, etc.)

Gravenhurst Fire Dept: **705-687-2121**

OPP: **1-888-310-1122** (including reporting dangerous boating or boats without mufflers)

Air & Marine Search & Rescue: **1-800-267-7270**

Natural Resources Violation Reporting Line: **1-877-847-7667** (this includes people polluting water or ice)

Wounded bird/duck centre ([awing&aprayer.com](http://awing&aprayer.com)) Port Sydney: **705-385-1488**

Wildlife Rescue Centres: [www.ontariowildliferescue.ca](http://www.ontariowildliferescue.ca)

### RLPOA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our RLPOA AGM was held on Sept. 2. It was very well attended with 27 cottages represented. Of significance, a motion was passed to change our AGMs to the July 1<sup>st</sup> weekend starting with 2019. Thanks were expressed to **Wayne McDougall** who has finished a four-year term as Treasurer. Much appreciation is due to **Karen Whitewood** for being our Secretary for many years and she will stay on our board as a Member-at-Large. After the meeting adjourned, our two local candidates for Ward 4 councillor, **Terry Pilger** and **Marc Mantha** addressed the group and answered questions. A special thank you goes to **Doug and Susan Haughton** for generously hosting the meeting at their cottage.

## **INTRODUCING THE NEW OWNERS OF THE SUMMERLAND STORE**

### **Andrew & Gen Dickson and family**

We are the proud new owners of the Summerland General Store. We have been local to Muskoka for six years now, met in Vancouver BC and eventually made our way to Muskoka to settle down and bring up our three children, Oliver (7), Maggie (2) & Lucy (2).

Andrew worked in the Marine industry on the West Coast (large Sailboats mainly), but his family roots come from rural Muskoka. Since being back, he installed Satellite TV. Gen has been in the water sports, hospitality and catering industries over many years in Europe, including Greece and the French Alps. Between the two of us, we have a great blend of skills to make a good go of this fabulous little General Store.

We are so excited to add our own flare to the already well-established iconic property. We will continue to provide the usual services including, gasoline, propane, water and ice. The shelves will remain stocked with as wide a variety of products as possible. Andrew will be offering a range of marine services drawing from his many years of work on the West Coast maintaining large yachts. In the beginning services will be a case-by-case basis depending on the scope of the work. Boat Storage/winterization and other storage will remain available, and at the Cafe we will continue serving pizza, good coffee, and some great other food items throughout the day, i.e. breakfast sandwiches, and lunch specials. This will evolve over time.

We will be posting our hours on Google and do follow us on Facebook (Summerland General Store) and Instagram (#Summerlandgeneralstore). We would like to thank you very much for your support and look forward to meeting you all.

Regards,

Andrew and Gen Dickson

Editor's Note: the store's phone is 705-687-7776 Email: [summerlandmuskoka@gmail.com](mailto:summerlandmuskoka@gmail.com)

### **SPECIAL THANK YOU TO RON AND CARRIE**

Past owners **Ron Post** and **Carrie Marriott** worked extremely hard for nine years making it the 'heart' of our community. Despite long hours, they were always cheerful, helpful and welcoming. We are pleased that they will continue to live nearby in their home on Deerfly Drive.

## **2018 TERRY FOX RUN, Sunday, Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>**

**George & Pam Fell**, along with **Suzanne Garriock** and her son, **Jeremie** participated in this year's run/walk/bike. They raised \$120.00 from sponsors on Riley Lake. Terry Pilger was one of the sponsors.

### **SAFE QUIET LAKES...*an important movement in cottage country.***

Safe Quiet Lakes is an organization formed in 2011 by a number of lake associations. There's a helpful three-minute video on their website's homepage at: **safequiet.ca**

Their MISSION: Make the Muskoka lakes safer and quieter to ensure sustainable enjoyment of a treasured safe resource.

Their MOTTO: Boaters Always Care:

- Boaters operate with caution and courtesy
- Always keep a 360 degree watch and minimize wake and noise
- Care for passengers, respect regulations, and offer PFDs and safety instruction.

Safe Quiet Lakes believes lakes should be:

1. Safe for everyone who wants to use the lake every day; safe for swimmers and all types of motorized and human-powered craft. High speeds, oversized craft and excessive noise increase the risk for everyone.
2. Quiet enough so that everyone can enjoy nature's sounds, speak at normal voice levels and not to be startled by or awakened by intrusive noises.
3. Sustainable environmentally so we can share this resource with future generations. Large wakes erode shorelines, loud noises disrupt wildlife and emissions damage the environment.
4. Protected by all residents, businesses and visitors sharing in the responsibility of keeping our lakes safe, quiet and sustainable by talking to their neighbours and doing their best to reinforce safety and courtesy.

**Editor's Comment:** The goals of 'Safe Quiet Lakes' are very worthwhile and we should attempt to stress these concepts as part of the culture of our lake. Enjoyable use of the lake is important for everyone, but we must respect other residents and our wildlife.

## RILEY LAKE 2018 REGATTA & BBQ – Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup>

Organized by Susan Haughton and assisted by a number of people including **Pam Fell**, **Suzanne Garriock**, **Jennifer Bond** and **Doug Haughton**, the regatta was blessed with great weather and a fun time was had by all. At about 5:00 p.m. people congregated at the Government Dock for a BBQ that served over 60 people. **Scott Bond** was the capable chef and once again the event was planned by Susan Haughton to whom we owe much gratitude for a great event.

*ALL PARTICIPANTS AGREED THAT THE REGATTA WAS GREAT FUN*

### REGATTA RESULTS

#### Swimming Races

	Girls/Women	Boys/Men
7 & 8	1 <sup>st</sup> Maddy Bryson	1 <sup>st</sup> Gabriel Sagardia
9 & 10	1 <sup>st</sup> Hazel Sagardia	1 <sup>st</sup> Peter Fenton 2 <sup>nd</sup> Christopher Caravasilis 3 <sup>rd</sup> Matthew Green
11&12	1 <sup>st</sup> Meg Irwin 2 <sup>nd</sup> Madison Bond 3 <sup>rd</sup> Chloe Bryson	1 <sup>st</sup> Dylan Bond
13-15	1 <sup>st</sup> Zoe Irwin	1 <sup>st</sup> Ethan Boyd
16-25	1 <sup>st</sup> Stephanie Bryson	
40-59	1 <sup>st</sup> Simone Garriock 1 <sup>st</sup> Suzanne Garriock 1 <sup>st</sup> Heather Irwin	1 <sup>st</sup> Greg Boyd 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tim Irwin 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jeff Garriock

(Note: all the ladies voted to come in at the same time)

#### Fun Races

**Watermelon:** Team of 4 – 1<sup>st</sup>: Greg & Ethan Boyd, Jennifer Cavanaugh & Tim Irwin. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bobby, Jeremie, Simone & Suzanne Garriock

**Pajama:** Team of 2 -1<sup>st</sup>: Greg & Ethan Boyd. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Chloe Bryson & Zoe Irwin

**Paddleboat:** Team of 2 – 1<sup>st</sup>: Major Martinek & Liam Wanner. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jennifer Bond & Jo-anne Schneider

**Kayak:** 1<sup>st</sup> Jim Martinek; 2<sup>nd</sup> Ethan Boyd; 3<sup>rd</sup> Greg Boyd

**Canoe:** Team of 2 -1<sup>st</sup>: Bobby & Dave Garriock; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jim & Maverick Martinek; 3<sup>rd</sup>: Lauchie Fraser & Sheila Horne

**Canoe Tug-of-War:** Team of 2 – 1<sup>st</sup>: Jim Martinek & Rob Goos; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bobby & Dave Garriock; 3<sup>rd</sup>: Jeff Doran & Ian Moulton

## **RILEY LAKE GARMENTS: *the definitive holiday gift!***

Your RLPOA received a number of enquiries from members wishing to buy a t-shirt, hoodie, or other garment with a Riley Lake logo or emblem of some kind.

The Woods Clothing Co., 570 Ecclestone Dr., Bracebridge, P1L 1R2.

Telephone: 1-800-843-0704. Local phone: 705-645-1737.

Online: [www.shopmuskoka.com/woodsclothing](http://www.shopmuskoka.com/woodsclothing)

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR VOTING THIS OCTOBER**

### **Gravenhurst Election – Aligned Candidates**

The ten lake associations listed below are pleased to announce their Gravenhurst Aligned Candidates List for the upcoming October municipal election. The list reflects those candidates whose views best align with the core values of our members and have been approved by the Boards of the lake associations. In July, the lake associations met and agreed on five core or shared values. They are:

1. The Environment is our Economy
2. No High-Density Residential Developments on our Lakes
3. We are One Community of Permanent and Seasonal Residents
4. Improved Fiscal Responsibility
5. Good and Civil Governance

The associations also agreed to provide information and guidance to our members regarding the candidates running for office through the following selection process:

- All of the 13 candidates running for office were interviewed by a committee consisting of Presidents or Directors of five different associations.
- The candidates were also evaluated based upon their positions on key issues and the answers they provided during the two-hour All Candidates Meeting sponsored by the lake associations, held on August 30 at the Terry Fox Auditorium.
- For incumbent candidates running for re-election, the selection process also considered their performance on Council and their voting records over the past four years.

**Ward 4 Councillor (Gravenhurst): Terry Pilger**

**District (of Muskoka) Council: John Gordon, Heidi Lorenz & Sandy Carins**

**Gravenhurst Mayor: Paul Kelly (acclaimed)**

### ***Participating Gravenhurst Area Lake Associations***

Gull & Silver Lakes Residents' Association

Kahshe Lake Rate Payers' Association

Loon & Turtle Lake Cottage Association

Muldrew Lakes Cottagers Association

Muskoka Bay Property Owners Association

Muskoka Lakes Association

Pine Lake Ratepayers Association

Riley Lake Property Owners Association

South Muskoka Lake Community Association

Sunny Lake Cottagers & Ratepayers Association

## **BLACK BEARS IN ONTARIO by Ali Leadbetter**

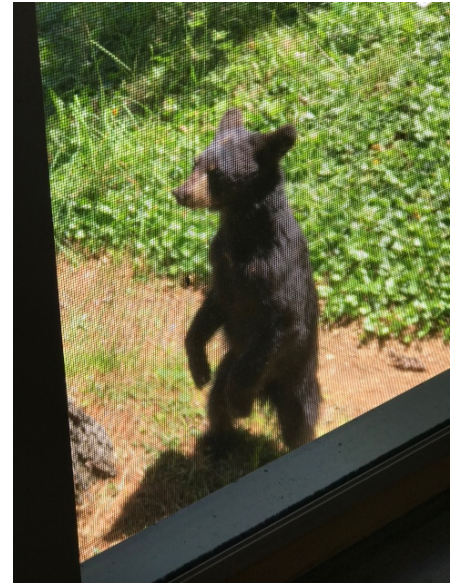
It is estimated that there are approx. 85,000-105,000 black bears currently residing in Ontario. For a province that spans a whopping 1.076 million km<sup>2</sup>, that's not a very high density. We are quite lucky that our beautiful Riley Lake is located in an area that is rich in wildlife, including the magnificent Black Bear. Black bears like forested areas, where they can forage for wild food. Bears are omnivorous creatures, although most of their diet consists of plant material. Their favourite and most energy rich food source are berries, such as blueberries, raspberries, and cherries, which become available in the summer months. Then, they turn their attention to hazel nuts, mountain ash, acorns and beechnuts in the fall. Bears spend all of their time looking for food and need to work hard through the summer months to find it. They need to put on weight to last through the winter as they hibernate. Bears can double their weight in the summer if berry crops are abundant. That's a lot of berries considering a female can weigh between 100-150lbs and a male 150-180 lbs.

Black bears depend mostly on berries mostly to put on fat deposits. Their survival and ability to raise young depends on their body condition entering into hibernation. If their harvest is not as good as it should be, bears may not survive. Food shortages can also lead to the bear looking further afield for a meal. Unfortunately, this can result in bears investigating houses and cottages for spoils such as bird food in feeders or scraps left in the garbage. Bears are very intelligent animals and have extremely good memories. If they find food, they will remember the area where they found it and return to it. That is why it is so important for us not to encourage bears onto our properties. Bears looking for food around or in people's homes and cottages may be labelled as "nuisance" and can be shot; quite an unfair situation for the bear who is merely following its instincts. The best thing to do if you see a black bear on your property is to make loud noises, such as banging pots and pans. Black bears have very sensitive hearing, so they don't like loud noises.

Black bears are shy animals; they seek out quiet natural habitats uninhabited by humans. Humans and bears in areas such as ours can co-exist once we have the knowledge to understand them. Did you know that black bears will stand on their hind legs to get a better view and to pick up scents in the air? If you see a bear standing on its hind legs it does *not* signal aggression. Female black bears are loving mothers. Cubs are born in the den in January, and then the mother will look after them until they are approximately 1½ year old. At this time, she will chase them away. There have been many sightings of such youngsters this year at Riley Lake. Have you heard someone tell you that black bear mothers become very aggressive when she has cubs? This is simply untrue and probably the biggest misconception there is about black bears. Black bear mothers will usually retreat with the cubs, not attack.

*Ali Leadbetter lives near Fishermen's Bay*

Photo from Mary and Bob Moore



## LOONS by Pamela Fell

On August 7, 2018, I saw a couple fishing off the public dock and they hooked a loon. The loon managed to break the line and swam off with its mate.

My husband and I went out in our little boat in hopes of catching the loon and getting the hook out, but it kept swimming away from us and diving in the water. It was shaking its head a lot, trying to free the hook.



We were unable to catch the loon but I am hoping that because it was able to keep swimming and diving, it eventually managed to free the hook from its body.

I found the following information for birds in distress on the website:

### A Wing & A Prayer

Phone: (705) 385-1488  
Address: RR 1  
Port Sydney, ON. P0B 1L0  
Contact: Janice Enright  
Email: [janice.enright@live.com](mailto:janice.enright@live.com)  
Web: [www.awingandaprayermuskoka.com](http://www.awingandaprayermuskoka.com)  
Animals care for: Birds, Songbirds, and Water birds

I left a phone message and emailed Janice Enright, who responded the next day. She said:

“The way you describe the area where the hook is does not sound serious. Catching a healthy loon is intense and very stressful. Over the years when rescuing for other reasons, we have found so many hooks in various areas inside and out with all birds. The hooks eventually erode or fall away. It is only when it involves the mouth (fishing line) area where eating and preening are affected that cause major issues. If you can monitor the loon I think it will eventually resolve but the transition will bother the bird.”

I asked Janice if there is any advice she would like to give our cottagers and she wrote:

“Yes I do. Stop and or report human garbage thrown into our lakes. Initiate huge fines. For over 25 years I have sent this message ... 99% of all water bird admissions are injured or killed by lead, fishing line, deliberate or faulty septic tank dumps and boats - 1 % is natural. In only one case in all these years, the mayor of Port Carling took my advice and levied a fine of \$1,000 for feeding geese. The problem stopped within one week and the geese left. I see no hope or change, so I just keep on with my work. Thank-you.”

Another contact is: **Ontario Wildlife Rescue** [www.ontariowildliferescue.ca](http://www.ontariowildliferescue.ca) or post on their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ontariowildliferescue.ca/>.

*Pamela Fell is a long time cottager on Riley Lake*

## **CAN THE WAVES IN THE WAKE OF A SPEEDBOAT DISRUPT LOON NESTS?**

*From Cottage Life Magazine (via Mary Moore)*

They sure can. And they can drive loons off your lake permanently: If boat wake is constantly swamping or destroying nests, the loons may abandon the nesting site. That's why it's a good idea to steer clear of known nesting areas, plus boat slowly close to the shoreline—10 km/h or less within 30 metres of shore. This helps preserve other wildlife habitats, prevents erosion, and keeps your lake neighbours from getting irritated with you. (It's also the law on most Ontario lakes.)

But, wait, let's not pick on the powerboats; other watercraft—PWCs, canoes or slow-moving small boats that access shallow water—can disturb loons and nests too. It's helpful to know the signs of a stressed-out loon, so you can back off, ASAP: For example, a loon vocalizing at you, or splashing across the water. This means, "Get out of my face!"

**Respect wakes rules.** Because loons nest right at the water's edge, wake from boats and personal watercraft can wash eggs out of the loon's nest.

## **INFORMATION ABOUT OUR TWO WARD 4 CANDIDATES**

*The following information, each a page long, has been supplied by the candidates:*

### **MARC MANTHA: (supplied by Mark Mantha)**

Candidate for Councillor Gravenhurst, Ride Ward 4: [getmarcmantha@gmail.com](mailto:getmarcmantha@gmail.com).

Thank you for the opportunity to tell you about some of the things that matter most. Gravenhurst's Municipal Council is poised for change. Some of you have been expressing strongly that it's time for that change.

I live in Ryde full time on a side road off of Housey's Rapids Road called Ruttan's Road. I had property there for some years and decided to make Ryde my permanent home. I designed and built my home using local trades and local materials. I promote my community by spending my dollars in it. Actions speak louder than words. Here in Ryde, I'm a relentless booster, active member and volunteer with the Ryde Community Co-op. I was also accepted as an official Gravenhurst Community Ambassador. Community service is a long-standing tradition in the Mantha family. I'm very involved in my community in many ways!

I don't have a "political" stance. There's no time for that. Like you, I'm most interested in taxpayer value and efficiency. I've managed budgets about the same size as the town's revenue, so I bring my experience and new kinds of questions to the town table. New councillors, new experience keeps council vibrant with new ideas. Most importantly, the environment and ecology are top of mind here. I'm very much in tune with issues specific to our community and I'm no stranger to town hall proceedings. If there's anything you want known, tell me so we can work on it. I respond promptly and am hard working. You deserve that.

Thank you for your kind considerations. Best regards, **(signed) Marc Mantha**



## **TERRY PILGER, WARD 4 CANDIDATE (supplied by Terry Pilger)**

Terry has lived most of his life in Housey's Rapids. He was born in Bracebridge and is a 4th generation Ryde resident. As a teenager, he spent a lot of time on Riley Lake and also worked part time at the Point View Marina. After high school, he attended and graduated from Humber College in Rexdale obtaining diplomas in business and marketing. It was also at Humber College that he met his wife Wendy. Following the birth of their first child, he returned to Gravenhurst where they have made it their permanent home for more than 30 years.

Terry has had an extensive career in sales and marketing in business equipment, security and telecommunication industries. He has been a professional Realtor with REMAX since 2008.

### **Terry has always been actively involved in his community:**

- Member of a group that brought Scouts to Ryde and later became a leader
- Member (and past president) of the Gravenhurst Lions Club
- Current member of Gravenhurst Rotary Club
- Former volunteer firefighter in Gravenhurst (5 years service)
- Founding member of the Ryde Community Co-op and past president

As a member of Gravenhurst council Terry represented Ward 4 for two terms and also served terms at District Council. Terry has been a longtime advocate for the balance of economic development and protection of our natural heritage.

Terry knows how to get things done at Town Hall having served as chair of every major standing committee. Terry has a reputation for listening to all sides of an issue before making a decision. With years of hard work and community service under his belt, Terry believes a ward seat is the best fit for him at this time, by concentrating his efforts in our local municipality and community. This election is about our neighborhood, our heritage and our future. Terry will be a strong voice for you and Riley Lake!

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## **RLPOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS for 2018-2019**

President: Tim Stuart

Vice-President: Suzanne Garriock

Treasurer: Bob Moore

Secretary: Susan Haughton

Website & Social Media: Stephen Hanna

Regatta Chair: Susan Haughton

Water Testing: Rudy Boonstra

Members-at-large: Pam Fell, Mary Moore and Karen Whitewood

Newsletter: Tim Stuart & Anne Wright (Email: [stuarttj@rogers.com](mailto:stuarttj@rogers.com))