## Lower Beverley Lake Association

## P.O. Box 204, Delta, Ontario K0E 1G0

## Spring 2002 Newsletter

IMPORTANT NOTE: The web version of the newsletter (below) has been reformatted to make it easy to read on screen. Material that appeared in the newsletter that was already on the website has been omitted.

## Message from the President

How fortunate we are to return and enjoy the beauty and tranquility of the Lower Beverley Lake. As a citizen of the U.S. I extend my sincerest thanks to the Canadian citizens for the support given to us after September 11, 2001. It is our hope that the solidarity shown will continue forever and we can continue to have an open border between us.

This winter has been a most unusual one for us all. As I write this letter I am told the lake level is about normal, but there is little snow to provide a spring freshet. We may well start the season in a drought condition. Make your plans now to conserve water. Let us also hope that with little ice, shore damage will be minimal.

Mark your calendars for the[third Wednesday of July for the Annual meeting of LBLA](http://neil.eton.ca/LBLA/meetings.html). This year it will be held at the Delta Agricultural Fair Hall starting at 7:00PM. There is ample parking for cars, but boaters will need to scout out docking space in the area. We are fortunate that the United Church Women will again cater a light lunch for us. The Executive is looking forward to seeing you there.

Millard Goodsell.

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## Loon nests

Earl Patric reports that four nests were constructed this past fall. Two have been deployed and the other two are scheduled to be out with ice out. Earl wrote a grant request that was honored and provided funds ($250) for these nests. He has since submitted a second grant to continue observation of the nests and repairs as needed. He does not feel any more are needed until the success of the present ones is proven. Maybe Mother Nature will not need any more help. The makers of the nests, Earl and Jean Patric and Doug Kilpatrick know where they are placed, PLEASE do not go out and disturb areas where they might be.

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## Picnic anyone?

How about a picnic to meet and enjoy an afternoon of games and food? Sue Penstone Watson has agreed to chair a committee if there is enough interest. We need to know your ideas and choices for a mid-week afternoon or weekend event. Kendrick Park is available but persons not residents of that Township will pay $2.00 per car or have the Association pick up the cost. We can use the Delta Agricultural grounds , but no water sports area is there. We also need to know your food ideas, such as do we charge $5.00 per family and provide hot dogs and soda etc.. or have every family bring a dish to serve 8 people. Let us know soon by e-mail to Sue atWatson9970@rogers.com or telephone 905-812-9970. A decision will be made at the spring meeting of the Executive on holding a picnic.

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## Boat ramp in Delta

Ken Woods, Park Superintendent for Beverley Lake Township Park has been in contact with the various Agencies responsible to change the boat ramp in the park. The Township Council is going ahead with a plan to improve the ramp and make it available to residents without charge. Funding is not available from the Province, so it may take time to complete the project. William Morris is the Chairman of the new Park Committee. I am sure we will see some progress, be patient. The Council is also making changes in their structure as required by the amalgamation plan.

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## Cottage Watch

John Truyens informs us that Cottage Watch is working beyond expectations. In 1997 there were 3510 break-ins and only 277 reported by autumn of 2001 in Ontario. Lower Beverley Lake has 130 participants. We hope that this year more people will engrave their "stealables". REMEMBER: YOU ARE YOUR NEIGHBORS' NEIGHBOUR.

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## Newsletter distribution

At the fall Executive meeting we discussed not sending a newsletter to non- members. The figures from Doug showed in 1999 we sent out 390 letters .That year there were 104 members and 50% donated to the cost, but left a deficit of $89.36. In 2000 we sent 400 letters, had 97 members and 56% donated, but again a deficit of $123.47.

Last year 2001, we again sent 400 letters, had 109 members and 66% donated enough to give an excess of $46.33. The Executive voted to have this the last year of distribution to all property owners around the lake. This is an item that can come before the Annual Meeting for further action.

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## Zebra mussels

In 1998, we were able to expand our testing to include participation in the Federation of Ontario Cottagersí Association (FOCA) Zebra Mussel Monitoring Program. The analyses indicate the presence of the first stage of Zebra Mussel activity in 4 of 5 areas sampled in Lower Beverley Lake (Kendricks Bay, mouth of Delta/Mill Creek, Marble Island/Dawson Bay, and Oak Bay). There is no indication of significant adult Zebra Mussel infestation through 2001.

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## Water clarity

Our Lake Steward Don Santos also informs us that the water clarity has improved over the years. We are still classed as an "enriched lake". Since 1998 we have also been able to get reading from the Upper Beverley Lake at the damn in Delta. The results there are slightly better than for the Lower lake. Environment Canada reported that 2001 was the driest year since 1972 (fifth driest/third warmest on record) and Lower Beverley Lake levels were unusually low, contributing to the best clarity since 1998.

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## Water testing overview

Both Lower and Upper Beverley Lakes are among more then 20% of 540 lake locations sampled across Ontario in 2001 classified as "enriched" with comparatively poor clarity (less than 3 meters). Maintaining and evaluating long-term data is the heart of the Lake Partner Program philosophy and crucial to understanding lake quality trends. Our current testing program includes clarity and phosphorus measurements at Oak Bay (unsettled area/infrequent input from Rideau chain), Kendricks Bay (LBL deep basin), Black Jack Island(input from Cooligan Creek), and Upper Lake dam(inlet).

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## Fish and wildlife guardian program

We have one member of the LBLA who is a Fish & Wildlife Guardian. Anyone interested in joining the program should check it out on the MNR website at<http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/fishing/guard.html> or telephone MNR at 613-258-8204 and ask for the District Enforcement Officer. You must be a RESIDENT of Ontario.

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## Well, how well is your well?

From the Ground Water Workshop at Elgin in January 2002, out of service or abandoned wells should in inspected by a professional. The inspection is to minimize contamination of aquifers, assure the well is properly sealed and that the recommended depth of grout was applied. Taking these steps will minimize contamination carried by surface and near surface water.

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## PCOC: Pleasure craft operator card

Do you have yours yet? Some laws are now in effect. For details of the deadlines for having the PCOC card on board and for who may operate what craft, see the Canadian Coast Guard SAFE BOATING GUIDE or phone the Boating Safety Infoline at 1-800-267-6687 or see<http://www.tc.gc.ca/BoatingSafety/menu.htm>. It is your responsibility to secure the card. It is advised that regardless of your citizenship, take the test and get the card.

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## Fire Department donations

The area Fire Departments are most thankful to the 66 members that gave a donation with their membership. This year a total of $1,050 was distributed. Delta, Station 2 received $775, South Crosby (Elgin) $130 and Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne (Seeley's Bay) $145.

Since 1994 you have given a total of $5,350. Congratulations.

They ask that your property be well marked with the civic number. Get a permit for any "open" burning and be sure the fire is OUT when you leave. Those on islands are especially cautioned to use good judgment with open burning. A response to an island will take additional time as men and equipment must transfer to a boat.

In case of emergency, including fire, CALL 911

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## Nature conservancy property donated in 2001

Dr. Stanley C. and Mrs. Jane Skoryna of Westmount, Quebec donated to Parks Canada 550 acres of land on the north shore of Oak Bay to be used as a nature conservancy. This part of the land was acquired by Dr. Skoryna in the early 1950s.

For at least three decades, Dr. Shoryna has been active in areas such as sustainable development, solar housing and small scale hydro. Some of the donated property is environmentally sensitive, surrounded by a buffer area. Some of the forest is second growth while other parts show old growth characteristics. In addition to the most northerly Pitch Pine in Canada, there are three types of marsh and swamp. Two areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs) overlap into the Skoryna Nature Conservancy Area: the provincially significant Lower Beverley Lake Class 1 wetland (1983) and Oak Bay regionally significant marsh and swamp (1993).

The Skoryna family have been members of the LBLA for many years. Our association and all Canadians are deeply indebted for this most generous and far-sighted gift. (Source: St. Lawrence Islands National Park Thumbnail). And sent by Doug Kilpatrick for enclosure in this newsletter.

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## A few reminders ...

PLEASE RECYCLE. COMPACT THOSE CANS. There is an end in sight for the Land Fill areas. Let's work together to make them last as long as possible.

O.P.P. Rideau Lakes (Non Emergency) 613-283-6911, EMERGENCY ONLY 911

FIRE DEPARTMENTS (ALL) 911

AMBULANCE 911

CRIME STOPPERS 1-800-222-TIPS
1-800-222-8477

### Make this a safe summer for all. Swim with a buddy, wear that PFD, be a courteous boater, observe good fishing practices and respect other's property. Happy Vacation to all.