



2010 LOON CALL

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LOWER BEVERLEY LAKE ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 204 , Delta ON Canada K0E1G0

www.lbla.net

Message from the President

Time is flying by, and it will be summer again soon. Last summer's activities went smoothly, thanks to our steadfast core of "volunteers," as well as some new faces.

We are still involved with the Gananoque River watershed study, and understand that the scientific field work will be moving on to other parts of the watershed. In our last discussions with collaborating organizations, Upper Beverley Lake is likely to be the 2010 focus. Since much of Lower Beverly's water comes from there, this will be of continuing interest.

We have a huge pile of binders labeled "Shoreline Report" to distribute to LBLA members and other property owners around the Lake. This contains information specific to each individual property, plus an "Appendix" of general information to assist landowners in pursuing good stewardship of lake area properties. We hope you will look through it, and apply the information to future projects. Do you recall the establishment of "road champions" at the 2009 AGM? Please try to help them distribute the binders.

We will also distribute with the binders a Lake Management Plan for Lower Beverly Lake. Drafted by your Executive Committee (including past members), at this point it is a draft on which we welcome comments from the membership. The plan is divided into several topics of most concern to members. For example, under Water Quality, we suggest a goal of reducing lake phosphorous concentrations from the current 20ppb range to 15 ppb (parts per billion). Please send me your comments on this or on any section of the document. We will post the Plan on the website, as well as other information relating to our activities.

After encouragement from the Association, the Township initiated a septic system inspection program on our lake. Your President can report from direct involvement that the "Little Brockville" section was attended to last summer. The Township will be doing about 25 inspections per year.

This summer we also have Deltabration events, a "special" picnic, and a canoeing event. And, we commenced pursuit of official charitable status for the LBLA, in order to facilitate fundraising.

But enough! Thank you to all the members who, through their efforts, continue to make our Association a success, and have a great summer 2010!

Dave Champagne
president@lbla.net

The Old Stone Mill Turns 200 Years

This year, the Delta Old Stone Mill National Historic Site celebrates its 200th anniversary! In January, Canada Post issued a commemorative stamp celebrating William Jones' gristmill which served the local community for over 150 years.

The Delta Mill Society will host a major **bicentennial celebration** during the June 4-6 weekend.

Be sure to enjoy:

- the **Mill Exhibition** opening featuring Lower Beverley Lake.
- the yummy **pancake breakfast**
- The gorgeous **horticultural show**
- the **parade & opening ceremony**
- the twilight **dinner theatre** showcasing a delightful historical play written specifically for the bicentennial.
- A two-day **juried fine craft show** boasting the region's best talents
- An **ecumenical service** on Sunday morning, crowning the exciting weekend
- And lots more for **children** of all ages!

The Mill needs lots of volunteers to help run the various activities! Please contact Natalie at 613 928-2584

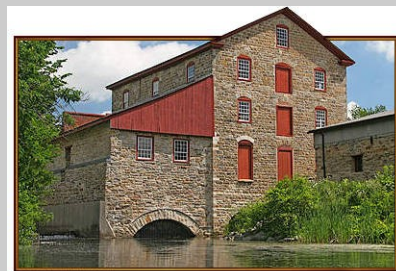


PHOTO BY KEN WATSON
"UNQUESTIONABLY THE BEST BUILDING OF ITS KIND IN UPPER CANADA"
— STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF UPPER CANADA, 1817



"Canoeshuk" Sunrise Ceremony

Get your canoe/kayak and join the Lower Beverley Lake and Lyndhurst Paddling Associations for a **Sunrise Ceremony on Sunday, July 18, 2010!**

The ceremony will take place at the Canoeshuk on Lower Beverley Lake at 6 am. Yes, 6am! Canoes/kayaks will leave from the boat launch behind the Delta Mill at 5:30am.

The ceremony will be followed by a 'Paddle to the Post' for a special breakfast in Lyndhurst. Transportation will bring paddlers back to the Delta Mill for refreshments and a personalized guided visit of the new Mill exhibits. More information about the event will be posted on

www.LBLA.net. Please confirm your attendance and numbers by sending an email to **Canoeshuk@hotmail.com** or calling 613-928-2197.

Ah, to see the sun rise over the shimmering waters....!



Delta Agricultural Fair Parade

The Lower Beverley Lake Association continues to shine at the Delta Agricultural Fair. In 2009, the parade theme was Nursery Rhymes. We are delighted to report that **we won second prize** for our imaginative float "Rub a dub dub, three men in a tub" put together by Lily Faust and other volunteers. We congratulate them for their fine work and creativity! Too bad they couldn't find 3 live guys to put in that tub!



"Rub a dub dub, three men in a tub."

The theme for the 2010 parade pertains to the Delta Stone Mill's 200th anniversary.

We need volunteers to come up with a float that is bigger and better than ever!

Now is your turn to come forth and use your creative juices!

LBLA Links up

The LBLA pursues its links with these organizations and represents you:

- Frontenac Arch Biosphere
- Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association (FOCA)
- Waterfront Ratepayers After Fair Taxes (WRAFT)
- Frontenac Arch Paddling Association
- Delta Mill Society
- Algonquin to Adirondack A2A

LBLA Executive Committee & Volunteers

- Dave Champagne, President
- Dave Johnson, Vice President
- Lily Faust, Past President
- Barb Kirkham, Secretary
- Betty Penstone, Treasurer
- Earl Patric, Director at Large
- Lynne Jeffries, Director at Large

We are also very grateful to our auditor Don Santos, our web master Brian Jeffries, and to our many volunteers! Thank you so much!

Ripples Through Time

Buy our history book **'Ripples Through Time, Memories of Lower Beverley Lake'** at the Delta Stone Mill, or at Bob's Diner in Delta. It will answer all your questions about the lake history and place names....and then some!

Hickory Tussock Moth



Many of you probably noticed the attractive white and black caterpillars that blanketed our lake vicinity last summer. They were covered in grayish-white hairs, with rows of black tufts on the first eight abdominal segments and pairs of long black hair-tufts on the first and seventh segments. These are called hickory tussock moths and touching them can sting sensitive skin. The caterpillars feed on the leaves of several hardwoods but prefer hickory, walnut and butternut. They have a relative who prefers sycamores.

The adults deposit their eggs in May-June, and the larvae feed for about eight weeks beginning in July which is when you would have noticed them. They spend the winter as pupae in gray, hair-covered cocoons under litter in the soil, and have one generation per year. The species may become locally abundant in a cyclical fashion, but rarely causes defoliation and control is usually not necessary. So, no need to worry. You will probably notice their moths this summer...

LBLA 2010 Summer Events

Mark these events in your summer calendar:

- **Thursday, July 8 :** **LBLA 2010 Annual General Meeting**
6:30pm at the Delta Fair building, refreshments served
- **Sunday July 18 :** **"Canoeshuk" Sunrise Ceremony and Paddling Event**
- **Saturday July 24:** **Delta Fair Parade**
- **Thursday, July 29 :** **Clean Up the Lake Day**
10 am meet at Delta Creek boat ramp, pizza lunch provided
- **Saturday, August 14: Fish Fry Dinner 4pm at the Delta Fairgrounds building**



- Minnow races: Fun for all! Watch little Nemo go...!!!
- Fishing displays
- **Fish Fry: buy your tickets now! see the attached 2010 membership registration form**
- Dessert auction: bring a decorative cake or pie and make dough for the LBLA!
- Meet and greet with friends and neighbours!

Lower Beverley Lake Water Quality: 2009

Water Clarity:

Over 1200 lake locations were sampled across Ontario in 2009, and approximately 20% are classified as "enriched" (high in nutrients) with comparatively poor clarity (less than three metres). Clarity measures suffer from high rainfall and high or varying lake levels that result in watershed runoff and flushing of nutrients into the water system.

LBL water levels generally vary widely during each summer, but consistent high water levels/cool temperatures/windy conditions in 2009 favored fewer algal blooms. Seasonal average clarity measurements demonstrate an improving trend since 1998, and with the exception of Oak Bay [Whitefish Lake/Morton Creek inlet], LBL has plateaued just above the threshold of "moderately enriched" (greater than 3 metres clarity) since 2003. Results in 2009 were consistent with 2007/2008, and we continue to enjoy the best water clarity levels recorded. LBL 2009 test site averages at Kendrick Bay and Black Jack Island were above 3 metres and in the "moderately enriched" category, while Oak Bay fell just below in the "enriched" category.

Phosphorus Concentration/Algal Level:

Algal density in the lake

reflects the level of nutrients present in the water. The clarity measurements above are indirect indicators of nutrient levels. Water samples are also chemically analyzed to determine the phosphorus nutrient level. LBL total phosphorus (TP) measurements also indicate we hover around the "enriched" threshold where blue/green algal blooms are expected to occur. Results in 2008 deteriorated modestly from 2007, but improved again in 2009 falling below the "enriched"/"moderately enriched" breakpoint [20ug/L]. Kendrick Bay and Black Jack Island are in the "moderately enriched" range with Oak Bay classified as "enriched".

Zebra Mussels:

Invading species also affect clarity, and in 2003 MOE highlighted LBL among lakes that exhibited improving clarity with recent Zebra Mussel infestation.

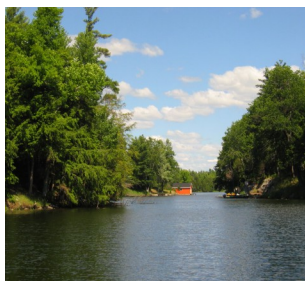
We participated in the *Invading Species Watch 2003*, a volunteer-based monitoring program to detect the presence of aquatic nuisance species. As earlier sampling and cottagers' experience indicated, the analysis confirmed Zebra Mussel activity in all areas sampled in LBL, but found no indication of Spiny Water Fleas that are spreading into inland waterways from

the Great Lakes.

Overview:

Sample data for Upper Beverley Lake [major input source during spring/summer seasons] are measurably better than any sample sites in LBL. Data from Whitefish Lake [spring inflow from the Rideau water system through Morton Creek into Oak Bay] is also better than every LBL location. This suggests water quality in LBL is not a function of inflow from other water bodies, but lake sensitivity to rainfall/watershed runoff, property development, agriculture, etc.

However, LBL profiles have improved over time. The Ministry of the Environment (MOE) has indicated that both clarity and total phosphorus measurements are generally improving in most Ontario locations. This is good news for off-shield lakes with elevated phosphorus levels/poorer clarity like LBL. However, MOE feels this is likely due to soil chemistry changes and rain fall trends, rather than changes in human activity in the watersheds.



Phosphorus and Water Quality

In surveys and questionnaires, LBLA members have consistently expressed concerns with maintaining &/or improving the water quality of Lower Beverley Lake. Phosphorus concentrations are arguably among the most important causes of pollution.

It can be speculated that prior to European settlement, the total phosphate concentration of LBL was probably 10 ppb (parts per billion) or less. Currently, based on several years of sampling, it is somewhat over 20 ppb, and has possibly been in the mid to high 20's at times. With oversimplification, concentrations of about 20 ppb or more are sufficient to encourage weed and algae growth to a point that many people consider objectionable.

Many human activities contribute to phosphorus in a lake environment. At one time, mill waste and whey from cheese factories were probably significant. Now, landfills and farm runoff in the watershed contribute; so do wastewater inputs from cottages and residences (e.g., septic effluent and gray water), oil pollution from outboard motors, and runoff from fertilizers.

Some **direct actions that lake users can take to reduce phosphorus** concentrations in the lake are:

- **maintain properly functioning septic systems;**
- **eliminate cleaning products containing phosphorous;**
- **when purchasing or using gasoline engines, consider the impacts;**
- **avoid fertilizer usage that may impact nearby water systems;**
- **support Township and other efforts to reduce potential contaminants.**

The Lower Beverley Lake Association's goal is to encourage activities and educational efforts achieving a lake water phosphorus concentration of **15 ppb or less.**

Are you ready to work towards that goal?

Remember: together, we can!

(based on information compiled by Earl Patric)

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Lower Beverley Lake Water Levels

After establishing a water level monitoring program for LBLA, and implementing it for several years, Earl Patric passed the gauge on to John Truysens this past year. We are most appreciative of Earl's efforts, and to John for agreeing to continue the job.

These charts compare precipitation & water level fluctuations, collected by Earl Patric, in both '08 and '09.

