

The Kahshe Krier

Winter 2014



Photo: Tracy Burroughs

President's Report, by John Mertl

Happy New Year!



Wild weather, heavy snows, -30C nights: it's that time again when only the hardiest of us venture out on the lakes. If you're a sledder,



skier, snowshoer, or ice-fisher, winter is *the* season to be on Kahshe and Bass Lakes. For those of you interested in enjoying a little winter fun, the Snowcrest Riders Snowmobile Club – the club that maintains the snowmobile trails on and around Muskoka lakes – have their annual pancake breakfast on January 25th. For details, see the Snowcrest Riders website (snowcrestriders.com).

Speaking of winter fun, the KLRA Board has been busy lobbying the township on behalf of Kahshe and Bass Lake residents in order to improve the level of services it provides our residents. And in the KLRA's annual planning exercise, your Board considered over thirty initiatives for 2014. Along with the time-honoured programs and events (Picnic, Fishing Derby, Regatta), we have planned a few new initiatives for the coming year, including:

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Do You Know and Use Your Lake Address? John Kuropatwa

There are many different ways to describe where you are on the lake. Unfortunately, directions such as the "2-storey brown cottage just past the swamp next to the beaver dam" or "the small island just south of the deep channel near the big cliffs" are no longer good enough, especially when emergency responders need to locate you in a hurry.

Fortunately a standardized protocol has been developed and each property on the lake has a unique identity.

Please make it a point to learn and use yours. Post it prominently where it can easily be found by family members and guests, e.g., close to your phone, by your fuse panel or next to the main entrance.

Essentially, there are three types of properties at the lake, each with their own address format:

- **Road Access** Each dwelling on a road will have a number, plus a road name and/or Fire Road number
e.g. 150 North Kahshe Lake Road, or 85 Bell Road, or 1039 Witbeck Road FR5A
- **Island** The format for islands is: (property #) **Island** (Island#)KL
e.g. 7 Island 15 KL or 2 Island 23KL
- **Mainland, but water access only** These are shown as "(property #) **Kahshe Lake**"
e.g. "400 Kahshe Lake"

By using these conventions, we know immediately if a property is on a road, island or if it is on the mainland but is water access. People will be able to locate you and, in the case of emergency responders, be able to provide assistance quickly.

Kahshe Lake Ratepayers' Association (1994 inc) www.kahshelake.ca

Membership Correspondence: E. MacLean, Membership Manager, 809-350 Mill Road, Etobicoke, ON, M9C 5R7

Other Correspondence: RR#2, PO Box 117A, Kilworthy, ON, Canada, P0E 1G0

Four ways to Attract Canada Geese to Your Waterfront

by Rob Abbott

(with tongue firmly in cheek)

Canada Goose were once extirpated from Ontario, were re-introduced 55 years ago. and were still listed as a species of concern until about 25 years ago. Although there are now over seven million Canada Geese in North America, this is still not nearly enough for each person, so here are **four** tips on how to attract more than your fair share of these black, buff and brown avian ambassadors to your waterfront.



1. **Replace** the existing natural plants on your property with a nice

manicured lawn right down to the water's edge. Geese love to graze in the grass where they are safe from ambush by foxes and other predators hiding in the vegetation. Even a 10 foot strip of natural shrubs, weeds and tall grass at the shoreline is enough to keep the geese from choosing your lawn for their feeding ground. A nice big open lawn is goose heaven, particularly during the breeding and moulting season when they are reluctant or unable to fly.

2. Maintain that lawn. The geese will feed first on the new emergent grass, pulling the shoots and roots out, so you will need to re-seed frequently. Fertilizing shouldn't be a problem since each goose poops approximately 10 times an hour. Mowing may be something of a challenge during nesting season, as you risk being attacked (goosed) by over-protective birds.



3. **Make a beach.** Bring in truck-

loads or barge-loads of sand to create an easy transition from water to land for these web footed grass gobblers -- a welcome mat so to speak, and soon to be a litter box too. Don't forget to get your permit from the Ministry of Natural Resources, allowing lots of time and money for appeals as your permit will almost certainly be denied.



4. **Feed** them. While Canada Geese

love grass, they do enjoy variety, and like most of us, not necessarily something that's healthy. If they find French fries, bread, popcorn and other favourites on your neighbour's lawn, they'll abandon you in a heartbeat. So keep those tasty snacks coming!



Follow these steps and you'll soon have these feathered fecal foul flocking to your frontage. You'll be the envy of all your cottage neighbours.

President's Report (Cont. from page 1)

- Lake Cleanup Day
- Improvements to Nagaya Beach, including the replacement of the large swim raft
- A new, improved edition of the Good Neighbours Resource Book, including the production of a high-quality map of Kahshe and Bass lakes
- An update of the KLRA website to improve usability and engage more of our membership.

As you may know, it's budget time at the Township. Bob Reyburn (KLRA Past President and our Township liaison) and Henry Kowalewski (Water Access Committee Chair) are actively petitioning our councillors and city manager to ensure that upgrades to the government docks on Kahshe are included in Gravenhurst's 2014 budget.

As a volunteer, not-for-profit organization, the KLRA relies on the dedicated effort of its many volunteers. The KLRA needs your help and we encourage everyone to help out with at least one KLRA event, such as the Housey's Rapid Picnic, the Kermit Long Fishing Derby, or the Regatta. Volunteering is a great way to meet your neighbours and help make our lakes an even better place.

This year, we are seeking some specialized skills to provide guidance on a couple of important initiatives. If you'd like to learn more about these opportunities, email me directly at john.mertl@gmail.com.

- Lawyer with expertise in co-ops and real-estate
- Chartered Accountant
- Lake Clean-up Day Coordinator and volunteers

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, best wishes for 2014. See you on the lake!



John Mertl

Editorial



Enough already! The Great White North has had it's say and we're not even through January yet. For some this is not a problem. Avid winter activity enthusiasts have been skiing, sledding, snowshoeing, ice-fishing or snowmobiling, and having a great time. Snowbirds have been lazing on sun-soaked beaches and relaxing poolside with margaritas in hand. Could it get any better?

The rest of us, however, have been shivering through power outages, clearing fallen tree limbs from lawns and, in some cases, from cars, shovelling mountains of snow off driveways, slip-sliding our way through frozen slush and risking life and limb driving on ice-slick roads.

If you are dreaming longingly of summer at the cottage, I hope the Krier will give you heart to stick it out for a few more weeks with the promise that Summer WILL return, the promise that you WILL be back at the lake and the promise that this winter WILL become just a memory! As John Mertl mentioned above, we are already planning not only the 3 annual events, but also a couple of additional activities. I am extremely enthusiastic about the work of COMCom of which I am a part, and cannot wait to share some of our initiatives with you, hopefully in the next issue in May. And if our ideas spark ideas of your own, please share them with us -- John Kuropatwa jkuropatwa@rogers.com or Keith Price keithonkahshe@bell.net. I am pleased to report that John Klinck, the Mayor of the District of Muskoka, is pursuing an initiative to get the province to curb and, perhaps, eliminate the unsightly proliferation of billboard-style signs along Highway 11. I wish him success.

Enjoy the rest of the winter, or survive it, as the case may be.

I look forward to seeing you at the lake!

Keith Price, Editor

Kahshe



RYDE COMMUNITY CO-OP

from Jennie Nice



Ryde's 135th Anniversary Celebrations

The countdown is on! Our huge culminating celebration day is only eight months away. Saturday, August 16 will

be a day to remember. All hands on deck for this exciting day, with Doors Open, great food, quilts galore, a parade and more. Your 135 committee is working hard to put together the celebrations for Ryde's big birthday bash. Stay tuned to the Ryder and Chickadee Cheeps for updates. And don't forget to spend some quality time on the Ryde Barn Quilt site (www.rydebarnquilttrail.com) (see paragraph below) and like our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/RydeQuiltTrail>. Carol Wagg and Janet Merkley are constantly updating the webpage with fascinating historical documents, and we

2014 Ryde Co-op Memberships Are Due

It's that time of year again! Ryde Co-op Memberships are now due. Memberships are valid for a calendar year running from January 1st until December 31st 2014. Individual memberships are \$10 and family memberships, that cover 2 adults and children under the age of 16, are \$20. Membership forms are available online at www.rydecommunitycoop.com, at the Co-op and we will leave some at Summerland General Store as well.

RYDE 135 BARN QUILT TRAIL

You may have noticed the barn quilts that have been installed on various properties in Ryde. Our hardworking 135 committee is to be thanked for these! Please visit the new website by click this link: [135 Barn Quilt Trail](http://www.rydebarnquilttrail.com) You will be able to see photos of the various quilts as well as read about the history of our community. This

website is still a work in progress and feedback will be welcomed. It isn't too late to become a sponsor!

We were very fortunate to have Katherine Ward from CTV Barrie do a feature piece about the Ryde Quilt Trail on the evening news. If you missed seeing it, please follow this link: [Ryde Quilt Trail in the news](#)

Groundhog Day Breakfast

Don't miss this important Ryde tradition. Boy do we need a promise of Spring after this crazy winter. Join us for a lovely pancake breakfast on **February 2nd at 9 am**. Prices are only only \$10 per person. A family with two children under 16 eats for \$25



A couple of Steven Wright gems to make you smile!
Half the people you know are below average.
When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.

Happenings



KAHSHE COUNTRY CRAFTS SHOW & SALE

Sunday August 3rd 2014 from 10 am – 3 pm, rain or shine.

The primary recipient will be the OPP Canine Unit, and we are hoping for a dog demonstration in the afternoon.

Secondary recipients will probably be Gravenhurst Fire Department & Muskoka Paramedics.

Volunteers are needed in any capacity for long and short hours and a variety of jobs, especially for the food tent for all jobs, eg - cook & serve. We will be honouring volunteer hours for students. Baking donations are needed along with books, cds, dvds, vhs tapes, puzzles, for the second hand donation tables.

Auction items are also needed so if you have a product or service that you believe someone else would enjoy and be willing to bid on it, please donate it.

The **Kahshe Country Crafts Show and Sale** is looking for a dynamic Master of Ceremonies: He/she should be enthusiastic and should enjoy greeting both vendors and those who come to enjoy and purchase their wares. This person will be comfortable using a microphone and will be able to direct those visiting the show to the various places of interest: the bake sale, the silent auction, the raffle table, and the various vendors in the show. The MC will find out the stories behind those vendors who have attended the show for years and those who are new and congratulate and thank both. Our new MC will be both cheerleader and gracious host for our upcoming Show and Sale. If you are that person, please give us a call!!

For more information regarding the show, please contact

Dennis or Judy Ring at **705-689-6080** or rockhaven@bellnet.ca

SNOWCREST RIDERS

For those of you interested in enjoying a little winter fun, the Snowcrest Riders Snowmobile Club have their annual pancake breakfast on January 25th. For details, see the Snowcrest Riders website (snowcrestriders.com).



SOUTH KAHSHE LAKE ROAD

COM Com

Late last summer the KLRA Board of Directors created a committee to oversee all matters relating to communication, membership and outreach. Originally dubbed the Outreach Committee, it is now known as "COM Com". It is made up of five board members plus our web master, began meeting in the summer and has continued to meet on a regular basis throughout the winter. We are an ambitious group with many items on our agenda, including the maintenance of our excellent web site, the production and distribution of the Kahshe Krier (our *voice on the lake*), and the search for the 2014 Outstanding Volunteer. Here are some of the other initiatives we are currently working on.

1. Membership Data Base. We are updating this very important set of data so that it contains the most accurate information available. We have also spent countless hours at the Town offices, going through their information, in order to identify prospective members for our association.
2. Membership Campaign. If your membership is up for renewal, you have most likely already received a notice from us (either as an e-mail or regular mail). We encourage such members to renew immediately, so that their membership is not interrupted. By the end of January, we intend to reach out to those of you who have not renewed.
3. KLRA Logo. We are currently redesigning our logo, in order to update it and create a logo that will be featured on a number of products. The new logo is well underway and we hope to unveil it at the start of the summer!



4. Good Neighbours' Handbook. This invaluable book is being rewritten by members of the Conservation Committee. As they complete each section, our committee prepares it for publication. We intend to have the new book, in a new format, ready for distribution this summer.

5. Kahshe Lake Maps. We are negotiating with the publisher of some excellent maps, in order to create a map unique to our lake community. Once the details have been ironed out, we hope to offer these for sale at a modest price. Watch for details.

6. Kahshe t-shirts, hats and other memorabilia. Once the new logo is approved, we plan to develop a new line of t-shirts, sweatshirts/hoodies, caps and coffee mugs. We are confident that these will become much sought after and make for great gift items. Our plan is to have these available this summer.



We have many other exciting initiatives on our planning board and are looking forward to turning them into reality.

John Kuropatwa, Chairperson, COM Com

KLRA Outstanding Volunteer Award

Do you know an outstanding volunteer who deserves a bit of recognition? After a very successful launch last year, we are pleased to announce that we are accepting nominations for the second annual KLRA **Outstanding Volunteer Award** until May 1, 2014.

A complete description and explanation of the nomination process can be found at our website. Once you log in, look at the list of headings on the left side of the home page and click on the heading "**Outstanding Volunteer Award**". Or you can simply type in the url: <http://www.kahshelake.ca/OutstandingVolunteerAward>

We encourage you to make a nomination. There are a number of ways you can nominate someone:

1. Download the nomination form (in either PDF or Word format), complete it and mail it in to our secretary at the address shown at the bottom of the form. OR
2. Copy and paste the form into your word processor. Complete it and then e-mail it to us at the e-mail address shown at the bottom of the form.

IN MEMORIAM

I learned only a couple of days ago that long-time cottager, Robert (Bob) Jamison, passed away on December 30th. Our condolences and best wishes go out to Bob's family and friends in their loss.



www.kahshelake.ca

Make the most of your KLRA membership by logging in regularly to the KLRA website

1. To login:

When you became a member, a unique password was e-mailed to the e-mail address that you gave us on your application. This password is generated automatically, so it may seem strange. Please change it the first time you login.

2. To change your password:

open the web site at www.kahshelake.ca.

enter your e-mail address and the password sent to you

click the **Login** button

click the "**Change your password**" link and follow the instructions to do just that write down your password so you will have it when you Login again.

3. If you forget your password:

go to the web site and enter your e-mail address

click on the "Forgot password" link

follow the instructions to reset your password.

4. If your e-mail address changes:

login with the e-mail address that you gave us

click on the "View profile" link

click on the **Edit** button and change your e-mail address to the new one.

(You can make any other changes to your personal information, if necessary, at the same time)

5. Reasons to Login.

Although you can view and read much of the information on the web site, you **must** be logged in in order to:

a) pay for your membership on line,

b) access the Member Zone where you can

i. view archived Newsletters,

ii. access the Member Directory,

iii. post comments, For Sale ads, Wanted notices, etc. on the Forum

c) post to a discussion forum, or

d) update any change in contact information (address, home phone, cell phone, e-address)

Now ... go surfing!

Classified Ads Ground rules are simple -- nothing commercial, no photographs, no services -- this is for things in good shape that you no longer need, but which others might benefit from. For sale or for free. And if the item goes before publication, let me know! The Krier offers no guarantees - buyer beware!

Commercial Ads Ads must be no larger than 2"H x 3½"W (approximately business card size) and will cost \$25 per issue. No ads will be accepted unless the advertiser is a current member of KLRA. The editor will check the status of advertisers via the KLRA website, and will contact those who are not current so that they can rectify the situation before an ad is accepted. (Note that online membership payment shows up immediately on the website. Other forms of payment take up to 2 - 3 weeks to process.) Invoices for advertising will be sent out after the Spring issue and will assume ads in all 3 issues (i.e in the amount of \$75 [3 x \$25]), unless otherwise noted at the time of submitting the ad. Ads submitted for the Summer or Fall issues only will be billed individually.



Paul Caswell

Owner

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