

The Kahshe Krier



Oh, to be on Kahshe, now that spring is here! Photo by Tim Ottoway

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

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Editor: Keith Price, 90 Meadowvale Drive, Etobicoke, ON, M8Z 3J6 keithonkahshe@rogers.com Spring 2013



President's Message -- **Spring 2013** As I write this column, I'm just thinking about the glorious area in which we spend our summers, and how varied it is from year to year. Last year, I was paddling in March. This year, the ice didn't go out until April 19, and there have been serious flooding issues. I hope your summer properties haven't been too badly affected by high water levels. On that note, if you are planning on some early spring boating, please

be aware that the hazards that are so obvious in the summer months are lurking just below the surface now. I want to thank John Mertl and Randy Craig for running a successful fund-raising initiative in support of our Rock Marker program last year. I also want to thank all of you who responded, as your generosity means that our Rock Marker program will be sustainable for several years to come.

If you haven't had a chance to read the comprehensive Lake Steward report completed a few months ago, please check it out on our web site at http://www.kahshelake.ca. Many thanks to our Lake Steward, Ron Pearson, for the many hours of work that went into this document, and into his report on p3-4 of this newsletter.

The KLRA is considering sponsoring First Aid/CPR training (including AED (Advanced External Defibrillator)) for members this summer if there is sufficient interest. In order to gauge whether there is sufficient interest, we have created a survey form on our web site at www.kahshelake.ca. If you have an interest in taking this kind of safety training, please indicate your interest by filling out the on-line survey, or filling out the mail-in survey included in this newsletter.

Because past membership surveys have indicated a high level of interest in safe boating, the KLRA has decided to become involved in the Safe Quiet Waters program. More details are included in another area of this newsletter.

When you arrive at your summer residence this year, you may find the beavers have been at work while you were away. An excellent article on beaver dam removal, and whether it is even feasible or legal, was published in the April 17 issue of "What's Up Muskoka".

To conclude, I wish all of you a safe and rewarding summer season on Kahshe Lake. Bob Reyburn

Will spring ever come?

The heavy rainfall a couple of weeks ago, combined with frozen ground and snow melt, caused extremely high water levels all over Muskoka, leading to serious flooding and the closure of a number of roads some of which affected Kahshe.

If you are planning to go up anytime soon, be aware that the cottage roads may look firm but could be very soft. Go to the **Photo Gallery** on page 4 for flood pictures.

Index:	President's Report, Volunteering Beach Report, Ducks	page page		Kahshe Happenings What's on in Gravenhurst	page 7
	Lake Steward Report	page	3-4	In Memoriam	page 9
	Photo Gallery	page	4	In Memoriam	page 10
	Rock Markers, Board Directory	page	5	Advertisers	page 11
	Safe Quiet Lakes, Editorial	page	6	Advertisers	page 12

Nagaya Beach Report

by Gary Baskerville

We have some plans to keep Nagaya Beach on a path to continous improvement.

The town of Gravenhurst has agreed to provide some garbage containers that are "Critter proof" for the 2013 season. Critter attacks were a major problem for us last year. The raccoons were resourceful and overturned and opened up our garbage pails on many occassions. Thank you to the many volunteers that cleaned these messes up.

The town also provided us with some new signs with Beach rules in 2012. Most people follow the rules. Some ignore them and the worst offenders are the dog owners who allow their

dogs on the beach. There are obvious reasons for not allowing dogs where our childen play and swim. Please consider their safety. The diving raft will receive a new top, so we need volunteers for this work party, which will be a Saturday morning project in mid June. Please contact Gary asap. The floating safety line will be replaced with a new one.

Wood benches will be repaired and get a fresh coat of stain. We need volunteers for this project as well. We will provide the stain and other supplies.

Nagaya beach is operated by the KLRA for the exclusive use of its members and guests. Part of the beach property (the grassed section) is land deeded to the

KLRA. The balance of the land (Old road Allowance) is leased to the KLRA (\$1 per year) from the town of Gravenhurst. Beautiful, south facing, gently sloping sand beach is a rare gift in the Muskokas. The KLRA is committed to maintaining and preserving it.



The Beach Committee



Feeding Ducks Can Be Fun, but please DON'T

(excerpt from an article in the *Oakville Beaver*) By Bernie German

Like most families, we introduced our kids to the joys of bird watching by bringing bits of bread crumbs down to the local pond to watch the ducks. Nothing like watching little kids squeal with joy as the ducks come to feed. But, while bread in extreme moderation is not harmful to ducks or birds, it

is better to avoid giving them bread at all, since moderation is hard to judge. And who knows how often others have fed the ducks we are feeding?

If you really have to feed the ducks, there are alternatives: grapes cut in half, cracked corn, barley, oats, birdseed or other grains, frozen peas that have been defrosted, or duck feed pellets available from farm supply stores. Ducks also love to eat grass seeds already growing around the pond. **But it is far better not to feed them at all.**

When ducks become used to being fed by humans, they no longer search for food sources on their

own. This can delay, or even prevent, their migration south. During storms and very cold winter days, (and in the winter generally in cottage country) there are fewer people out feeding the ducks and they are left hungry because humans have become their only source of food.

Just remember, a sufficient amount of food already exists within a lake or river for native waterfowl.

So, for the sake of the lake and the waterfowl . . .

please, **DON'T** feed the ducks.

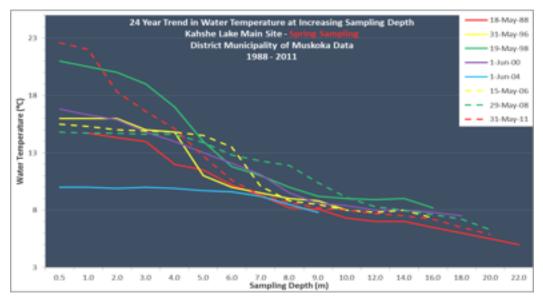


Want to know know what's happening in Muskoka?

This is a handy little link to a number of Muskoka area newspapers. http://www.cottagecountrynow.ca/printeditions

LAKE STEWARD REPORT – April 2013

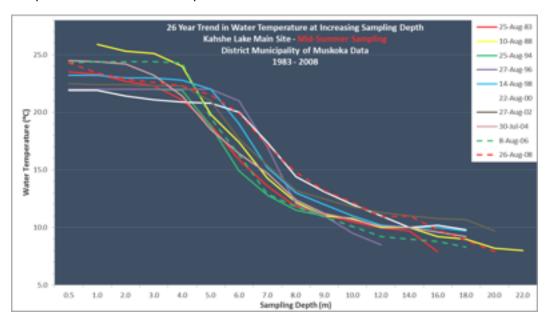
First, it's good to be through the winter, so we can all get back up and enjoy our places on the lake. As many of you know, I completed the 2012 Kahshe Lake Steward Report in late December of last year. Although it's posted on the KLRA web site, I suspect it probably hasn't jumped to the top of the best seller list, so my plan is to present smaller portions of the report in the Krier and then a summary of the entire report at the 2013 Annual Meeting. One of the



most interesting findings to date involves changes in the temperature of the lake. While most people would love to have warmer water earlier in the year so we could get in with less 'pain', we're also cognizant of the fact that this may not be good for aquatic species and may promote the growth of unwanted algal blooms. As the District Municipality of Muskoka actually measures the water temperature of Kahshe Lake at increasing

depths every two years, I've been able to plot this information to see what's happening.

The first graph compares water temperature at increasing depths for the 24 year period from 1988 to 2011. These samples were taken at the deepest location on the lake near Hens and Chickens and shows how things look in the



spring, following thermally driven turnover (mixing) in the fall and winter.

The second chart is from the same location and for the same years, but the temperatures were taken in mid-summer, as the lake starts to stratify thermally.

What does this tell

What this appears to indicate is a possible warming trend in the upper 4m of the water column during the spring

turnover sampling event.

By mid-summer, this warming trend was not apparent, as water temperatures were fairly similar over the 24 year period from the surface down to the lower, cooler water levels.

To further explore this apparent warming effect, the findings presented in two water quality lectures given by Drs. M. Palmer and S. Somers from the Ministry of the Environment at Dorset were evaluated.

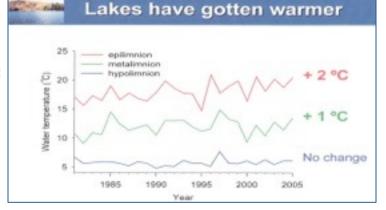
In both presentations, based on statistical analysis of larger sets of Muskoka lake data and on a more intensively monitored group of nine lakes evaluated continuously by the MOE since the mid-1970s, a warming effect has been confirmed in the epilimnion (upper 5 m of the water column), and to a lesser degree in the metalimnion which is the zone below the upper 5 m and above the bottom (hypolimnion) of the lakes. (cont. on p4)

Lake Steward's Report (cont. from p3)

It was also noted In the Palmer study that about 57% of the variance in water temperature was explained by air

temperatures. The chart below has been taken directly from the 2012 Palmer presentation.

So I guess we need to be careful what we wish for! On April 27th, I'm attending the 2013 Muskoka Stewardship Conference in Bracebridge on April 27. It is entitled: What are You Watching? and will feature speakers covering many of the environmental issues we're facing on Kahshe Lake. I'll have a report on the main topics in the next Krier.



Volunteers needed

And finally, a heads-up that I'm looking for about a dozen volunteers to help count little critters (worms,

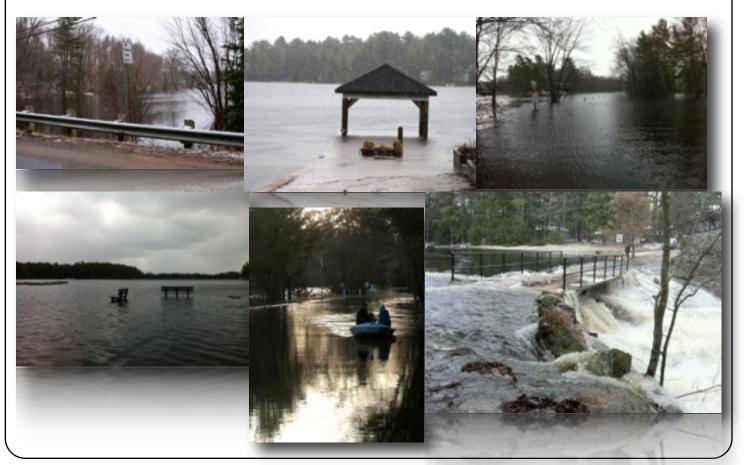
mollusks, insects, crustaceans, and mites) in this year's benthic monitoring program. I don't have a date yet, but it will be in August and it will involve a morning of sitting on our deck and counting all kinds of invertebrates in sediment samples from the lake. It's a great learning experience for kids at the senior public or high school age as well as for adults who want to help keep Kahshe Lake healthy. Flip me an e-mail if you would like to participate.

Ron Pearson Lake Steward rpearson1203@rogers.com

Photo Gallery

Clockwise from top left: Bass Lake (*Jennie Nice*), Soper's Dock (*John Kuropatwa*), SKLR parking Lot and Rockhaven Government Dock (*Glenn Osborn*), Evacuation on Cooper's Falls Road (*Kim* Beighton), SKLR Dam (Internet)

Want to see your photos in the *Gallery*? Send them to keithonkahshe@rogers.com before July 20.



Rock Marker Fund Raising Update, Randy Craig



The KLRA would like to thank all of those who contributed to the 2012 Rock Marker fund raising initiative!

It was a fantastic success with enough funds raised to accomplish the goal of properly marking the lake with professional grade markers.

Our fund raising efforts will continue in 2013 in order to fund future markers, maintenance and upgrades as required.

If you weren't able to make a contribution in 2012, it is not too late! There are a limited number of plaque-mounted posters still available.



Donate \$100 and receive a plaque mounted Muskoka/National Geographic #1 in the World poster -- choose from the 2 posters on the left.

Donate \$150 and receive both posters

Donate \$1,000 and receive both posters as well as a custom designed plaque to celebrate your place or a loved one. →

Donations can be made online at <u>kahshelake.ca/donate</u> or at the Kahshe Lake AGM on Sunday July 7.



If you come across any rock markers adrift because of the high water levels, please contact Barry Elder at <u>bjelder@rogers.com</u> 416 931 8157.

KLRA Board of Directors - Spring 2013									
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<u>Website</u>	Clare Henderson	crhenderson@sympatico.ca	705 689 9917	905 469 0551					
Rock Markers	Barry Elder	bjelder@rogers.com	416 931 8157						

Garbage pickup to continue

Despite a move by the Muskoka District Council to end garbage pick-up at road access cottages, Gravenhurst Town Council voted against the proposal and pick-up will continue as in past years from the first Monday in May, until last Friday in October. As Bob Reyburn, KLRA President, pointed out in a letter thanking Mayor Donaldson for the Town's position,"There are problems with bears and other scavengers even at the current frequency of garbage pickup. I'm appalled that anyone would make a proposal that would exacerbate the problems.

Our membership agrees with Councillor Colhoun that summer residents pay a disproportionate level of property taxes compared to urban property owners, and the only services received are roads and garbage collection."

KLRA Joins Safe Quiet Lakes

Boating safety and the impact that boats have on our lake are major concerns of many of our members as revealed in KLRA surveys over the years and by individual cottagers. The trend to larger displacement vessels, especially wake-boarding boats, with more powerful engines, the increased volume of boat traffic, and some bad boating behavior are impacting our shorelines, our wildlife, our personal safety and our enjoyment of the lake.

To help address these concerns the KLRA has joined Safe Quiet Lakes (www.safequiet.ca), a volunteer organization formed in 2011 dedicated to the development of a culture of safety on our lakes through education, through the enforcement of existing laws in partnership with the OPP and by sponsoring productive dialogues between cottagers to help improve and maintain an enjoyable and safe boating environment in Muskoka and now on Kahshe.



One of the first steps toward addressing specific Kahshe Lake issues on boating safety will be the establishment of a baseline, which will be used to illustrate the degree of success of this program in future years, and will also help us to understand and focus on the more salient issues facing us. This baseline will be based on the results of a survey to be conducted by a professional market research firm. The survey will be available electronically or via hard copy some time in late May.

We hope to have a Safe Quiet Lakes representative available at our AGM on Sunday July 7th to discuss this program in more detail, and to answer your questions
We strongly urge you all to complete this survey and to voice your concerns.
If you have any questions regarding the program, please contact:

Steve Wild, 168 Briar Hill Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M4R 1H9 steve wild@yahoo.com 905-486-1651



Editorial

My least favourite task as editor of the Krier is contacting the families of those who have passed away to ask them to put aside their grief briefly in order to write a tribute for the In Memoriam page. This time I understood more personally the loss that friends and neighbours suffer, since Ken Dunphy was an excellent neighbour for the first 15-20 years of our time on Kahshe (we have the "other" John Witbeck lot).

My wife, my 3 daughters and I all have very fond memories of Ken welcoming the girls with cookies whenever they went over to see him, of Ken sitting with our dog and his daughter's dog watching the afternoon roll by, of Ken coming over to help me put in a window or move a fridge, of Ken putting me to shame with his effortless front crawl. And I could go on......

On a totally different note, I would like to reinstitute the Photo Gallery, and have included a selection of flood pictures in this issue on page 4. Please send your interesting pictures for future issues to:

keithonkahshe@rogers.com

Finally, it is encouraging to see that the Town of Gravenhurst does support seasonal residents from time to time (see Garbage Pick-up, p5). Hopefully this will continue on future issues that impact cottagers. Have a great spring and summer now that winter seems to be over finally.

Keith Price

Editor

Kahshe Happenings

SNOWCREST RIVERS Annual Golf Tournament

Friday June 14, 2013 Father's Day Weekend

Where? Lake St George Golf Course, 3156 South Sparrow Lake Road When? Friday June 14, 2013 Registration and light lunch - 11:30 a.m.

Cost? \$125.00 per person includes:

Light lunch - sponsored by Molsons, 18 holes of golf, Golf cart, Steak dinner

Awesome prizes including: FOUR Hole-in-one prizes*

*(professional golfers not eligible for Hole-in-one prizes) donated by:

Sears Travel * Gravenhurst Home Hardware * Campbell's Landing Marina * Bracebridge Yamaha

For more information or to pre-register your foursome (before June 10), please contact:

John Dove at 705-687-9341 or Snowcrest Riders at 705-687-7921 www.snowcrestriders.com snowcrest@vianet.ca

All proceeds to Snowcrest Riders Snowmobile Trails!

(Cash only on day of tournament)

Summer at the lake



The complete guide for cottagers and their friends to the picnics, regattas, derbies and other happenings in, on and around Kahshe Lake in 2013

Brought to you by the Kahshe Lake Ratepayers' Association (KLRA)

Sunday July 7th

10.00 am

Please note that this is NOT the Canada Day weekend.

Many of you have indicated how difficult it is to attend the AGM when your cottages are full of guests!

Now you have no excuse!

KLRA

Annual General Meeting

ALL WELCOME

Contact: Bob Reyburn bob_reyburn@vianet.ca

Gravenhurst Centennial Centre Terry Fox Auditorium

Nor is this one of our past venues. We are hoping that meeting in town will encourage ALL Kahsheites, from the east and from the west, to attend

Saturday July 20th

1.00 pm - 5.00 pm (rain date – Sunday 22^{nd})

Housey's Rapids Picnic

ALL WELCOME Free admission Contact: Keith Price keithonkahshe@rogers.com



Bass Lake Park

Saturday July 27th

Weigh-in (4.00 - 5.00 pm)

4th Annual Kermit Long Kids' Fishing Derby

KIDS ONLY Admission – 1 or more freshly caught fish! Contact: Ken Long kklong97355@yahoo.com

Denne's Dock



Saturday August 10th

 $10.00~am-2.00~pm \\ (rain~date-Sunday~12^{th})$

The Regatta

ALL WELCOME Free admission Contact: Colleen Powell colleenpowell@rogers.com



Nagaya Beach

What's on in Gravenhurst?

The Town of Gravenhurst Community Services Department

will again be offering a myriad of activities for all age groups.

Register now for the following programs:

Teeball, Minor Baseball, Ladies 3-Pitch Baseball, Gull Lake Rotary Park Red Cross Swimming Lessons, private lessons, Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross, Red Cross Assistant Water Safety Instructor Course, NLS waterfront, Teen Learn to swim, Synchro Lessons, Swim Fitness Conditioning, Adult Stroke Improvement, Rowing Program Canvas & Cocktails Art Classes,

Sunshine Yoga on the Barge, Stand-up Paddle Board Yoga, Couples Ballroom Dancing, Zumba,
Youth Bath Bombs & Soap Making, Kids Can Cook, Kids Magical Potions, Oodles & Doodles of Art, Summer
Drama, Sock Puppets, Kids Yoga, Intro to Mountain Bike Racing, Skateboarding, Geocaching for beginners, Beach
Volleyball, Canoe Action Camp, Kayak Camp Program, Hockey Skills and Drills, Summer Figure Skating for
beginners, Summer Learn to Skate.

For full details, check out the **Gravenhurst Spring and Summer Activity Guide** on the Gravenhurst website: **Click on the link below**

http://virtual.muskokamagazine.com/doc/muskoka-magazine/gag_spring_2013/2013030101/

Muskoka Steamships Muskoka Boat & Heritage Centre







Summer programmes for The Opera House and Music on the Barge

were not available at the time of going to press

INMEMORIAM



Kenneth Rae Dunphy 1914 - 2012

We were always a family who cottaged. But for years we rented or we visited places belonging to other people, often family friends. Of course we should have had our own place --my father believed early-morning lake swims, the j-stroke and splitting wood were at the core of being Canadian and he made sure my sister and I had all those skills. Okay, maybe not splitting wood. Then in the mid-70s, his old friend John Witbeck practically ordered him to buy one of the two lots he had for sale on Deep Bay. My father lost sleep over this but eventually bought the cheaper, scruffier one, threw up a \$3,000 prefab meant for fishermen, shoved a couple of stray bricks on

top of the concrete block foundations to steady the place and pronounced it a family cottage.

We all loved it. We were a family who believed in the smell of pine, Kahshe's early-morning sparkle and its sudden serenity at sunset, the glittery granite sheltering sharp tough sprays of blueberries in pre-Cambrian crevices, the slam of the screen door, and sunny lunches of open-face tomato and cucumber sandwiches eaten in swimsuits.

The cottage itself was never much and over the years it became even less: A too-small shoddy, airless place with duct tage gripping the door frame, rusting ill fitting windows that welcomed in any and all hiting inserts, rotting caves.

tape gripping the door frame, rusting ill-fitting windows that welcomed in any and all biting insects, rotting eaves troughs and precarious wooden steps made dangerous with age. A dock big enough for only a single aluminum lawn chair that he would snap open with one hand and claim for himself. No screen porch, no stone fireplace – not then anyway -- not enough space to sprawl on the floor to work on a puzzle or play extended games of Monopoly. But this is where he was happy. Even when that fire at Denne's burnt our boat to a crisp. Or when beavers attacked – always his tallest, finest trees. When the old waterlogged dock he refused to replace tipped and sent him crashing against the rocks.

He was a professional engineer who travelled the world representing Canada at international standard and codesetting meetings. He was an accomplished bridge player, pianist and, yes, figure skater. (Ice dancing, not the Patrick Chan triple-salchow stuff.) He took up water skiing later in life, but was pretty good at that as well.

But what he was proudest of was the bunkie he built out back in '81. He decided it deserved a certificate of merit which he produced using calligraphy skills he acquired post retirement.

Even when I was well past (all right, decades past) voting age, he would stand on the dock to inspect my crawl stroke. He'd grab the boat keys from the yellow ceramic mug on top of the china cabinet to drive my daughter and friends whenever they wanted to waterski – even if a Jays game was on. He spent 30 summers on Kahshe, chopping wood, slashing errant junipers and swimming from the dock to the eastern rocks at 4:30 p.m. every day -- until he was 89. Even during his last few years and the onslaught of dementia, while living in a wonderful nursing home where he was treated with respect and tenderness, he would brighten – quicken -- when we spoke of Kahshe.

He died Boxing Day at Toronto General Hospital. He was 98. This summer he'll come back to Kahshe when we bury his ashes in a bend in the path beside my mother's.

Catherine Dunphy



Jack KEHL 1928 – 2013

Jack spent time on Kahshe Lake over his entire life of 1928 to 2013. He spent many summers with his parents, Papa and Nana Kehl, and his 5 brothers and 1 sister at the "Kehl compound of cottages" that was located on North Kahshe Lake Road between Nagaya beach and the road to the government dock. Jack subsequently had a cottage on Oak Road and finally on South Bay Road. His favourite times were enjoying the company of family and friends at Kahshe Lake. Two of Jack's children (John and Judy Giles) have cottages on the lake and other Kehl relatives including Ross Kehl, Sue Francis, Eric Kehl, Jane Edwards, Margie Schliwa, Geordie Kehl and Ab

Circa 1978 ?

Kehl are also located on the lake. The smile, warm welcome and good times with Jack will be missed by these and many others.

INMEMORIAM



Wendy KIDDELL 1955 – 2012

Wendy passed away peacefully with her family by her side on Monday, October 1, 2012 at the age of 57 years after a courageous 7 year battle with cancer.

She will be forever remembered and loved by her husband Peter, by her children Kevin and daughter-in-law Erin, Breanne and Louis, by her brothers, sisters-in-law, nephews

and nieces, and by her many friends at Kahshe Lake where she spent her early summers with her parents, Arthur and Ricki (Eileen) Kent in the family cottage beside Denne's Marina off Nagaya Drive. There she was close to her god parents, Frank and Ruth Dundas, and met many of her lifelong friends. In the winter, she grew up in Lambeth, Ontario until moving to Calgary in her early 20's.

In 1991, Wendy returned to the family cottage at Kahshe Lake to spend her summers. There she was reunited with Peter Kiddell, who also grew up summering at Kahshe Lake with his parents, Keith and Marion Kiddell. Wendy and Peter were married in 1993. The whole family travelled back from Calgary to her beloved lake, every summer, every Thanksgiving and every May 24th weekend. Wendy continued to enjoy the many joys of cottage life, first at their cottage on the South Road and later on the point of Looney Lagoon in Grant's Bay. She was always the gracious hostess to many dinner parties, pig roasts, Danny B concerts and social gatherings for her family and many friends from all over the lake.

Kahshe Lake held a very special place in her heart and she was always extra proud that her three children, her nephew, Jason and her niece, Krista, were all "4th Generation Kahshe Lakers".

We were all blessed that she could spend her last summer at Kahshe Lake attending the wedding of her son Kevin, to Erin Smith, daughter of Peter and Sue Smith who cottage next door to them in Grant's Bay. Wendy will always be remembered for her beautiful smile, her kindness, thoughtfulness, strength and "never giving up" attitude. She remains an inspiration to all of us.



Chuck (Charles) O'Brien

Kahshe Lake has lost an all time devoted fisherman and hunter, a true outdoors man and a longtime resident of the lake. One would often see Chuck trolling endless hours, day or night around the Hens & Chickens, just one of his favourite fishing areas on the lake. So, it made perfect sense that Chuck, his mom, Bessie, and his sisters would build a cottage

on the main channel facing the Hens & Chickens. In the summer, young kids on the lake would love to visit him, knowing they were assured of lots of candy, popsicles and a new fishing lure so they could try to "catch the big one"!

A retired employee of Allied Conveyors, Chuck passed away on Friday November 23, 2012. He will be sadly missed by his family and friends. Chuck was ever gracious, helpful, friendly, loyal and had a smile that would light up any room. This world needs more like him.

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Ad Policies

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 $2^nH \times 3\frac{1}{2}^nW$ (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.

Classified ads

LAKEFRONT COTTAGE

Do you have a friend or relative that would like to locate to a Road Access, Lakefront cottage in Grants Bay?

Contact

robertalexander70@gmail.co



Kahshe Barge Services

1225 South Kahshe Lake Rd Kilworthy, ON POE 1G0 Phone: (705) 689-8334 jklinck@vianet.ca



R.J.LIQUIDATION

A New Truck Load Every Week Hours: Friday 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Highway 11 (northbound) between

South and North Kahshe Lake Roads riliquidation@sympatico.ca



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