



# Newsletter

## Message from the President

You might notice a change in the format of our newsletter. We are fortunate to have had some help this year from one of our new residents, Robert Powell. Robert and Sandra, and son Sam, recently moved to 14 Island Lake from London, England. Robert has been kind enough to do the desktop publishing of the newsletter (much to my relief), and to join our lake stewardship planning committee. Thank you very much, Robert.

Well, if that wasn't one strange winter, I don't know what you would call it. After a hint of winter in late November/early December, we had a Christmas with no snow and no ice on the lake. Our kids decided a canoe ride around the lake was in order on Christmas day! The lake didn't freeze until mid-January, and then we had about six weeks of real winter, and we got an early spring in March. But it was short-lived, as late March and then most of April was cold and wet – with a pretty good snow storm on April 13th.

If you ask me, it's climate change. If it isn't climate change, then it's our "new normal" as the expression goes, where what we can expect every winter is just more weird weather.

This newsletter has a lot of information on the Lake Stewardship Plan, and I hope you will all read it, and become active in the process. The process of doing a stewardship plan gives us the chance to really understand our lake, and to decide what we all want our lake experience to be.

It is meant to be a community effort, and the product will only be as good as the joint efforts of all of us around the lake(s) – so please join in and make sure our lake is always going to be a great place to live or to visit.

Enjoy the summer when it comes. See you around the lake.

*Gord Rodgers*

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△ Christmas 2006



△ Easter 2007

# Update on the Lake Stewardship Plan

by Brett Dark

The group who are leading the stewardship plan have been busy over the past few months. They have been “getting organised” so we can start the planning process this summer.

## Who is on the committee?

The committee currently consists of:

- Brett Dark (Chair)
- Mike Jennings
- Peter Peart
- Jim Pine
- Robert Powell; and
- Gord Rodgers

## What's been done to date?

The committee has met on a number of occasions, and has:

- set out an initial/draft mission statement;
- applied for, and received a \$1,500 grant from the Frontenac Stewardship Council;
- laid out a table of contents and a general work plan;
- made initial contact with the Ministry of Natural Resources, Quinte Conservation, and the Township of South Frontenac;
- received some excellent maps (digital and hard copy) from MNR;
- researched the history of our area;
- organized the first Residents' Workshop for May 19th – don't miss it!

## What's being done this year?

We are approaching our stewardship plan in a methodical way, and in our first year, we want to find out what we know about the lake,

and what you, the residents, feel is important for the future of the lake.

## This includes:

- making contact with the key agencies – MNR, MOE, Quinte Conservation and South Frontenac Township;
- inviting the residents of the lakes that feed into Mink and 14 Island to join us in our process – from Buffy, Little John, and Little John's Sister Lakes;
- digging out existing information and data – what do we know about the lake at present (water quality, fish, the dam, surrounding landscape, history, etc.) and what additional information and data do we need to collect?
- starting to collect some of the missing information, and setting up a comprehensive program for 2008.

Through the May 19th Workshop, we'll be reaching out to the residents around the lake to set out:

- our collective knowledge about the values, special places, and memories around the lake;
- a vision for the future of our lake; and
- the issues and challenges we need to tackle in our stewardship plan.

## What's planned for 2008?

We will be putting together a work plan to gather more detailed information on:

- Water quality
- Fisheries
- Streams and wetlands
- Shoreline features

- Surrounding forests
- Wildlife
- Boating and recreation; and
- Other

## Joint Research Proposal

As a basis for grant requests, that will allow hiring of students in the summer to conduct a lot of the work identified in the list above, we hope to join forces with 13 Island and 30 Island Lakes so that we can ask MNR to sponsor a summer crew that would do much of the information gathering – particularly on water quality and fisheries.

So – don't miss the workshop session on the Lake Stewardship Plan on May 19th (details below).

## Lake Stewardship Plan

### Workshop and

### Information Session

May 19th 2007

1.30 - 4.00 pm

Desert Lake Family Resort  
Desert Lake Road

The venue is just east of the junction with Holleford Road. (At the resort follow the signs along the main road.)

# Lake Steward's Report

by Peter Peart

Winter was a curious affair in 2006-07. Westbrook golf course in Kingston was open for business in January, and early in that same month our neighbour Tom Pertell was fishing on 14 Island, not from an ice hut but from his boat. A report indicates that Tom got no fish but was very cold.

When the real cold finally descended, however, it hit hard. The lake finally froze on January 17th. This was the first time that it had not frozen in the same calendar year as the spring break-up. The latest previous date was a December 30th. The ice disappeared for the most part on April 11th this year. Even the south bay which usually follows the main body of the lake by four to six days was clear on the 11th.

Because of the nature of the winter Frank and Dave Babcock fished only twice and were skunked both times.

The pickerel are increasingly hard to catch and the question arises, "Has 14 Island Lake been overfished to the point of significant stock depletion?"

The Ministry returned the water quality tests to Dave Babcock. The TPI which measures the total phosphorus influence on the lake showed a result of 10.9 parts per million down from 11.9 a year ago. Good news. The Secchi Dish reading for clarity was 7.8 metres as opposed to 6.0 metres in 2003.

Some of you may be considering changes to your cottage plumbing; some of you may be tiring of the old outhouse routine. If so, may I recommend the composting toilet? We have an electric Sun-Mar model in each of our two cottages at the south bay. They work marvelously well. They are absolutely, 100% odour free, convert human waste into organic compost, and have no negative environmental impact.

Gord Rodgers writes elsewhere in this newsletter about our initiatives in formulating a lake plan. He and the committee led by Brett Dark have made a fine start at analyzing what is required for our lake's preservation. But we need more information. If you have a diary of your lake experiences and observations such as ice dates, loons returning, wild life activity, etc., it would be of great value in helping us understand the history of our lake. If you can help please contact one of the committee or executive members.

Finally, if at all possible, please have a representative of your cottage attend the May 19th Lake Stewardship meeting. The conservation of this jewel of a lake that we share is not a foregone conclusion. It will require study, analysis and participation by you.

## Membership and Financial Report - 6th May 2007

by Rod Harris-Lowe

On March 31, 2007, the end of the 2006/07 financial year, the Association's assets were \$8,097.48 held in the Association account with the Bank of Montreal in Verona. Since then:

- An additional five members have paid their 06/07 dues totalling \$125.00
- The Executive at their meeting held on the 12th of April directed the purchase of a \$5,000.00 GIC cashable on an annual basis. The purchase of the GIC from the Bank of Montreal was completed on the 27th of April.
- The Association received a \$1,500.00 contribution from the

Frontenac Stewardship Council toward the Lake Stewardship Plan

- Expenses amounting to \$58.49 were incurred in the preparation of the notice for the "Lake Plan Meeting" to be held on the 19th of May.

As of the 6th of May the Association's total assets including the GIC amounted to \$9,663.99.

Forty-nine members have paid their dues for 2006/07. Seventeen members who paid dues in 2005/06 have still to pay dues for 2006/07.

### Reminder - Dues are Due

For those of you who haven't paid your dues for 2006-07, this is a reminder that your \$25.00 is overdue. Please make out a cheque to:

**"Fourteen Island and Mink Lakes Association", or FIMLA**

and send it to:

The Treasurer,  
Fourteen Island and Mink  
Lakes Association,  
Box 105, Hartington, Ont.  
K0H 1W0

# A Bit of History Around the Lake

by Robert Powell

**S**ituated at the head of the Napanee River system, Fourteen Island Lake is one of five major lakes and numerous smaller lakes, all interconnected by streams, which eventually drain into Hardwood Creek, one source of Napanee Lake from which the Napanee River begins its journey south to Lake Ontario. Such an extensive system of water was well known to the aboriginal peoples who travelled up the Napanee River in the spring, past what is now Verona, to spend the summer hunting and fishing in the northern lakes.

**E**uropean settlement to the south of the Lake began after 1807 with the creation of 'back country' townships to meet the land claims of first generation Loyalists. Apart from reserves of land set aside to support the protestant clergy, all the land surrounding the Lake was granted to the sons and daughters of Loyalists, although none of the original grantees ever settled on their lots. In many cases these lands were in excess of what the ordinary settler could manage, or were located too far from their family lands, and were thus left unimproved, or were sold or traded off. As late as 1861 all the lots around the Lake were still vacant.

**G**ood agricultural land to the south was settled much earlier, but the poor soil to the north, and the difficulties of building and maintaining roads through the rocky hills, and across Cameron's Bog, were impediments to settlement of this area. After 1850 homesteaders began moving into the Shield country along 'colonisation' roads, built by the government to promote settlement, but despite making a tremendous effort, more often than not, many were defeated by land unsuitable for farming. For those that did stay life was hard and many relied on part time work in lumber camps, and later mining, to supplement their meagre incomes.

## History in the Making

The Lake Stewardship Plan will include a section on the social and historical context of the Lake, to aid our understanding of how things came to be as they are, and inform our decisions about the future.

This article is a brief outline of some aspects of local history that have shaped life around the Lake, but in the plan we want to focus more specifically on the Lake and surrounding area.

### Do you have any:

- Sites of interest on your land
- Old artefacts
- Documents
- Historical pictures or photos

### About:

- Farming
- Forestry
- Mining
- Recreation and early tourism
- Settlement around the lake

If so we would like to hear from you. It is important that the Plan recognises this heritage and identifies historical features of the lake and surrounding terrain that add to the uniqueness of this area.

**A**griculture, the predominant industry of this area, has evolved through three overlapping stages. Subsistence farming dominated the pioneering phase, beginning in 1807, when settlers struggled to clear land and build homesteads; coming to an end by the early 1860s when labour-intensive,

mixed farming became the norm. Then, by the 1890s, dairy farming was introduced, which came to dominate local farming in the first half of the twentieth century, as more farmers responded to the demands of a growing urban population for milk, butter and cheese.

**L**ogging and lumber production were major economic activities in the area from early in the nineteenth century. Abundant water power was used to drive saw mills and grist mills. Meacham's 1878 historic map shows the site of a saw mill on John Sigsworth's land located on a stream connecting Little John Lake to Mink Lake. The flow of water from the Lake and other watersheds also provided a means of moving logs to big saw mills near navigable water, where sawn lumber could be transported by ship. For sixty years the annual log drive was a time of excitement (and hard drinking) as the logs moved through Bellrock and Petworth. Many local men took part in the drives as a way to earn cash at a time of year when farming was at a low point.

**I**n 1866 a consortium of business men with interests in logging and saw mills formed the Napanee River Improvement Company, 'to improve and increase the supply of water in the Napanee River for manufacturing purposes'. They put in dams throughout the system, including, in 1870, the outlet of the Lake, to hold back the water for log drives and extend the operating season of the mills. Regular flooding caused by the annual spring run off of the Napanee River was made worse by these dams leading to acrimonious disputes with local farmers that went on for years. Failing to resolve matters through the courts, or by legislation, irate farmers occasionally solved the problem by blowing up the dams. To avoid future trouble the company started to buy property around the lakes. In 1872 they purchased land to control the outlet from

the Lake. Two directors of the company, Joseph Stevenson and Joseph Bawden, also bought land around the Lake.

The dam at the outlet of the Lake escaped dynamiting and was in use until the Company's demise in the 1950s. Ironically, after nearly one hundred years of private enterprise trying to control the water flow in the Napanee River watershed for commercial ends, the task was taken over by the Province of Ontario in 1947 with the creation of the Napanee River Conservation Authority. By then the need was not to power water turbines, but to ensure a year round supply of drinking water for the communities of the Napanee River and to support reforestation, wildlife conservation and other environmental concerns. Now there was a need to restore the dams.

Mining for Mica and Feldspar found in Canadian Shield country helped support scattered, struggling farm communities in the local area from around 1890 to the 1940s. New inventions such as look-in stove doors, electrical insulators, and windows in cars stimulated the demand for Mica. Feldspar is principally used in the production of various types of ceramics, such as china, sanitary ware and electrical porcelain.

The great bulk of ore was mined by open quarry methods, much of it coming from small individual pits scattered across the producing territory. A 1932 Department of Mines Report identifies a number of open pit mines north and south of the Lake, established between 1900 and 1930, including a large open pit 250 by 40 by 80 feet deep operated by Verona Quarries Limited. It was actively mined between 1925 and 1929 producing between 2,000 and 3,000 tons of Feldspar per year, until the operators hit an underground spring and it flooded. It now serves as a private lake and fishery adjacent to the home of Ray and Sheila Reed in Old Mine Lane.

Initially some mines were profitable, but as more operators came into the

business the market became saturated and prices fell. In 1894 the Canadian General Electric Co. bought the Lacey Mine in Sydenham and several others around the area, to secure their own source of supply when a US company, the "Mica Trust" tried to control the market by taking over sources in that country. In the face of competition and fluctuating markets mining in south Eastern Ontario declined in the 1930s, with only a few small operations continuing on an inconsistent basis until the 1950s. Disused pits are now the only reminder of an industry that was the main reason for the development of villages like Verona.

By the end of the nineteenth century the way of life around the Lake was changing. The rural population declined as mechanical power replaced manpower on farms. Many families abandoned farming on marginal land and moved to urban centres. The introduction of steam driven machinery, and later electrification, meant that factories and mills could be located near centres of population rather than be restricted to sources of water power. Logging and lumber production came to an end by the 1900s as the best timber in the Napanee River watershed became depleted. Saw mills closed and the last log drive took place in 1905. The decline of mining operations, that had helped sustain the population as rural industries were declining, added to the surplus work force caught in the 1930s depression years. Many moved to urban centres or joined the migration west.

Decline of the rural population continued after 1945, as the rationalisation and mechanisation of agriculture increased, and more people were drawn to urban centres like Kingston to live and work. Village centres declined as better roads and the availability of cars made travel easier, enabling people to take advantage of the new shopping centres on the western edge of the city. In 1951 there were fewer people living in the area than one hundred years before, although since the 1960s population has resumed its upward growth. With few full time jobs available to local residents,

however, the majority of employed people commute to work and the local area has largely become a 'bedroom' community and retirement centre.

One result of these changes has been a resurgence of wild life in the area. In the 1950s, beaver, which had all but disappeared when most of the surrounding area was farmed or cleared of timber, returned to abandoned water meadows and, in the 1960s, deer returned south to areas that had reverted to bush. Wolves and coyotes, having no natural enemies, also become more numerous because of the increased deer and wild animal populations.

The economic and social activity of rural industries has been replaced by the development of the local area as 'cottage country'. Bruce Huffman, in the 1920s, was an early pioneer of letting summer cottages, or cabins on the Lake, for recreational fishing, boating and swimming. In the 1950s, as more people became aware of the beauty and recreational value of the Lake, Kingston residents began to buy property and to build summer cottages. More recently the area has attracted year round residents wanting to live in the midst of the natural beauty of the Canadian Shield. Subdivisions have been opened up and many permanent homes been built around the rocky hills of the Lake.

How we reconcile the preservation and enhancement of the natural environment of the Lake with the growth of recreational activity and development of the Lake community is central to the Lake Stewardship Plan. History will be the judge of how well we succeed in this task.

## References

- Portland My Home, Patterson, 1974.
- County of a Thousand Lakes, Rollason (Ed.) 1982.
- Feldspar, Spence, Dept of Mines, 1932.
- Small Scale Mining in the South Shield Region of Eastern Ontario, Miller, 1976.

# Security Tips from the OPP & the Fire Chief

by Elaine St. John

## Crime Prevention Tips

South Frontenac is unique in having the only Community Policing Officer position in Ontario. George Hiles, the current postholder, comments that crime, in general, has fallen in the township, in part due to neighbours watching out for neighbours.

He recommends that you:

- call the OPP office to report strange vehicles and unfamiliar people.
- carry a pen and paper with you when out on walks to record licence plates and locations.
- contact the OPP Communications Centre at 1-888-310-1122 as soon as possible if you observe a suspicious incident, to have your concern investigated.

To improve security of your cottage:

- install curtains or blinds on windows and close them when you leave so robbers can't see what's inside.
- if possible, at the end of the season, take home portable items with a good resale value, typically taken by thieves.
- if this is not possible, then at least put all portable items out of direct view from windows and doors.

To deter robbers, make your house look occupied when you're out by:

- leaving a light on in the house.
- having the radio on - preferably tuned to a talk station (CBC 1).

If you are going out for the day do not put the outside lights on when you leave as this is a sure sign that you are out until dark. Install a motion detector light above your garage or front door

so this will come on when you return home and provide the desired lighting.

Alarm systems available are:

- audible alarm only – which emits a loud siren noise to deter robbers and alert neighbours that someone has tried to force entry.
- a monitoring service - which provides dispatching of police when the alarm is triggered. An additional advantage is that it can also provide fire alarm and medical alert coverage.

However, because of the number of false alarms from older security systems, which waste manpower resources, the OPP have instituted a policy of not responding to alarm calls from a house or cottage where there have been a number of previous false alarms – until the owners provide evidence that they have had their alarm systems overhauled.

He encourages take up of the 'Operation Identity' program, which involves engraving 'identification' on personal belongings. The OPP will provide you with decals for your windows advising would be robbers that you are part of this program. It is suggested that license plate numbers are used as identification, enabling the police to trace items back to you using Ministry of Transport records of all licence plates ever issued.

## Fire Safety Tips

South Frontenac Fire Chief, Rick Cheeseborough, advises that road access is the most important factor affecting their ability to respond to a fire. It is vitally important that cottage roads are maintained to the standard of 15' wide and 15' high and that the base

can support a vehicle weighing 35,000 lbs, to avoid delay or a limited service in response to emergency calls.

Calls to the Fire Department for grass and brush fires have drastically decreased in the last couple of years as a direct result of burning brush and grass only during daylight hours, and calling the fire department on 613-376-3027 to advise them of this activity. For information on the fire burning bylaws go to: [www.township.southfrontenac.on.ca/Bylaws/2004-107.burn.pdf](http://www.township.southfrontenac.on.ca/Bylaws/2004-107.burn.pdf)

If you need to call the fire department here are some things you should know.

- Dial 911. The former 7 digit numbers for the various townships are going to be discontinued.
- If your cottage phone is billed to your home address then the 911 call will be directed to your home 911 dispatch centre. Advise them to direct you to the Kingston Fire Dispatch Centre to provide details of your location.
- If you call from a cell phone they do not know where you are, so your call gets directed to another dispatch centre. You need to advise them to get you to the Kingston Fire Dispatch Centre.
- Although not mandatory, it is highly recommended that you have a 10 lb fire extinguisher in your home, close to the kitchen for sudden flare ups.

In November 2006 South Frontenac was registered as a Superior Water Shuttle. This means that if you live within 8 kms of one of the 9 fire halls your house insurance can be reduced by up to 40% - check it out with your home insurance company!!!

# Dock Talk

by Gord Rodgers

## 1. The Great Divide:

Our lakes are on the eastern edge of a watershed – and Holleford Road is about where the height land exists, i.e., the boundary between water that flows down to the southwest into the Napanee River watershed, and water that flows southeast into the Cataraqui River watershed.

Do you know where the water in our lakes comes from and where it goes after it goes over the dam? We are at the top end, or the headwaters of the Napanee River system. Our water comes from wetlands and drainage around our lakes, and from the smaller lakes, Buffy, Little John, Little John's Sister, and Cranberry.

So we are the only ones responsible for the water quality – we can't blame or thank anyone "upstream." And when it flows over the dam, our water goes through the Provincially Significant Spring Lake Wetland, then into Spring Lake, Hambly Lake, and joins with the drainage from 30 Island, 13 Island, Howes and Verona Lakes before it heads along its journey in the Napanee River to Lake Ontario. And just to the east, Desert Lake drains through Holleford lake, Tim's Lake, Knowlton Lake, and on its way eventually to Lake Ontario.

## 2. Green Award to Bob's and Crow Lakes

One of our neighbour lake associations, the Greater Bob's & Crow Lakes Association, received an award of merit from Cottage Life at the Cottage Life exhibition in Toronto. The GBCLA was praised for:

- their work on the Lake Stewardship Plan;
- the formation of the Bob's and Crow Lakes Foundation;
- over 30 years of water quality testing and maintenance;
- for the many programs, and workshops they've held;
- their focus on the community

- involving all stakeholders, cottagers, residents and government in their work for the lakes.

**You can check them out at:**

[www.bobsandcrowlakes.ca](http://www.bobsandcrowlakes.ca)

## 3. More on Zebra Mussels

It looks like the explosion of our zebra mussel population might be going through the next phase in the "cycle." Ever since the first few were spotted around 2002-3, they have spread like a plague across the lake, causing the water to become clearer, and subsequently, causing more weeds to grow. Although we may be seeing a slightly downward trend in their numbers, research suggests that the critters rise and fall on about a 10 year cycle, so we may see them explode again in the not-too-distant future.

Another nasty side effect that is being seen in some lakes in the Province is that the zebra mussels may be changing water chemistry, spurring the growth of potentially toxic, and smelly, blue-green algae, or cyanobacteria. In a study co-authored by Andrew Laursen of Ryerson University, and published in the journal, *Science of the Total Environment*, reported that masses of cyanobacteria are becoming more common in Canadian lakes because of the mussels. Some species of cyanobacteria secrete chemicals that alter the taste of drinking water and create a foul odour. Others emit toxins that can be potentially harmful to humans. The bacteria bloomed in the 1960s and '70s, nourished by lake water polluted by phosphorus, a chemical component of household detergents. But cyanobacteria in Canadian lakes declined after phosphorous was banned from detergents 30 years ago.

It's hard to predict which lakes will be affected because cyanobacteria growth can loom up literally overnight. "You might look at a lake and see nothing day after day and then all of a sudden, bam, it's green and smells," says Laursen. "It's almost instantaneous because cyanobacteria

reproduce and divide exponentially." The good news for us is: Dave Babcock reports that our phosphorous levels are slightly lower than previous years. But it's one of those things we had better keep an eye on – we do not want an outbreak of blue-green algae!

**REMEMBER** the only defence we have against the spread of zebra mussels is to restrict their movement between waterbodies. Once they become established in a lake, there is no known way to eradicate them. Please make sure you are not spreading our zebra mussels to other lakes by taking the following precautions (recommended by the OFAH):

- **Inspect** your boat, trailer, boating equipment, fishing tackle and nets and remove any visible plants or animals before leaving any waterbody.
- **Drain** water from motor, live well, bilge and transom wells while on land before leaving the waterbody.
- **Empty** your bait bucket on land before leaving the waterbody. Never release live bait into a waterbody, or release animals from one waterbody into another.
- **Wash/Dry** your boat and equipment to kill any mussels that were not seen at the boat launch. They can survive for several days out of water, so it is important to:
  - rinse your boat and equipment with hot tap water (> 40° C); or
  - spray your boat & equipment with high pressure water (250 psi); or
  - dry your boat and equipment for at least five days, before transporting to another waterbody.

For more information, the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters Association manages an invasive species program.

**See:** [www.invasivespecies.com](http://www.invasivespecies.com)

# Marsh Monitoring Programme

by Robert Powell

Don't be alarmed if you see my teenage son wandering around a wetland near you carrying a 'ghetto blaster'. You are not about to have your evening peace disturbed by high decibal 'gangsta rap' or the latest 'Indie' band offering. The likelihood is that he is assisting me with volunteer work for the Marsh Monitoring Programme.



△ Green Heron

Launched in 1995 the MMP is a bi-national, long term monitoring programme developed by Bird Studies Canada and Environment Canada in partnership with the US Environmental Protection Agency to help understand, monitor and conserve marsh wetlands and their amphibian and bird inhabitants throughout the Great Lakes basin.

The programme was launched in response to concern about the loss and degradation of marsh habitats throughout the Great Lakes basin, caused by urban, industrial and agricultural development, adversely affecting marsh-dependent wildlife populations. There is also cause for concern for human society as wetlands, sometimes referred to as "nature's kidneys" improve water quality by filtering and absorbing pollutants, and by recycling nutrients that move through the natural environment.

Volunteers are required to conduct marsh bird and/or amphibian surveys by establishing routes, comprising one to eight monitoring stations in a suitably sized, marsh wetland area.

Marsh bird routes are surveyed twice per year between May 20 and July 5 on warm dry evenings between 6.00 pm and sunset. At each monitoring station participants play a five-minute call CD to elicit call responses of normally secretive species (Virginia Rail, Sora, Least Bittern, Common Moorhen, American Coot and Pied-billed Grebe) - hence the ghetto blaster! This is followed by a five-minute listening period. Throughout the 10-minute survey they record the number of all birds heard and seen.

Amphibian routes are surveyed three times per year between April and the end of July. Volunteers conduct a three-minute survey at each monitoring station, anytime between one half-hour after sunset and before midnight, to assess the presence and abundance of calling frog and toad species.

Data collected is recorded on survey sheets and summary forms provided and sent off, together with a marsh habitat description of each survey station, to Bird Studies Canada by the end of July.

Information collected by MMP volunteers over the last ten years has established that ten out of sixteen of the most abundant species of marsh birds are experiencing a decline in number, as well as highlighting the ups and downs in amphibian populations. On a more positive note observations have helped identify the specific habitats and plants that different



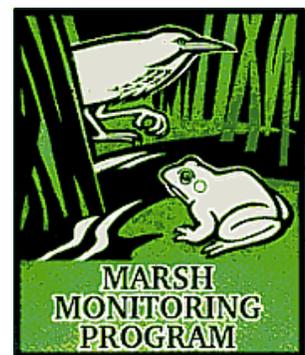
△ Mink Frog

wetland birds and amphibians require to thrive, informing recommendations for restoring wetlands, in addition to providing valuable scientific data for academic research and environmental monitoring.

For more information, or to register, contact Kathy Jones at Bird Studies Canada. Brochures are available on request at:

Marsh Monitoring Programme  
Bird Studies Canada  
P.O. Box 160,  
Port Rowan, Ontario,  
Canada N0E 1M0

Toll free: 1-888-448-2473 ext. 212



**E-mail:** [aqsurvey@bsc-eoc.org](mailto:aqsurvey@bsc-eoc.org)  
**Website:** [www.bsc-eoc.org](http://www.bsc-eoc.org)  
([www.bsc-eoc.org/mmpmain.html](http://www.bsc-eoc.org/mmpmain.html))

# Miscellaneous

by Gord Rodgers

## Interesting Websites

### 1. Burning Wood

For information on burning wood for heat and enjoyment go to:  
[www.burnitsmart.org](http://www.burnitsmart.org)  
 or: [www.woodheat.org](http://www.woodheat.org)

### 2. Biosphere Reserve

We are part of the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve, so check this one out: [www.fabr.ca](http://www.fabr.ca)

### 3. "Flick off" Campaign

While it may be considered a bit cheeky, or even rude, by some people's standards, the site for the "Flick off" campaign has lots of good ideas for

conservation of energy. It has been set up by a group of eco-friendly advertisers in Toronto at: [www.flickoff.org](http://www.flickoff.org)

### 4. Frontenac Stewardship Council

An important "grass roots" organization serving Frontenac County is the Frontenac Stewardship Council. The goal of the FSC is: "to sustain all natural resources in Frontenac County through cooperative community efforts." We were very pleased to have received a grant in the amount of \$1,500 from the FSC for work on our lake stewardship plan. Check out the provincial stewardship program, and Frontenac Stewardship council at: [www.ontariostewardship.org](http://www.ontariostewardship.org)

## Lost and Found

LOST - one sailboat rudder (aluminum with a wooden handle) near the east side of McLeod's Island, facing Storm's island.

Contact Tom, if found, at:

**374-1473 or 389-9866.**

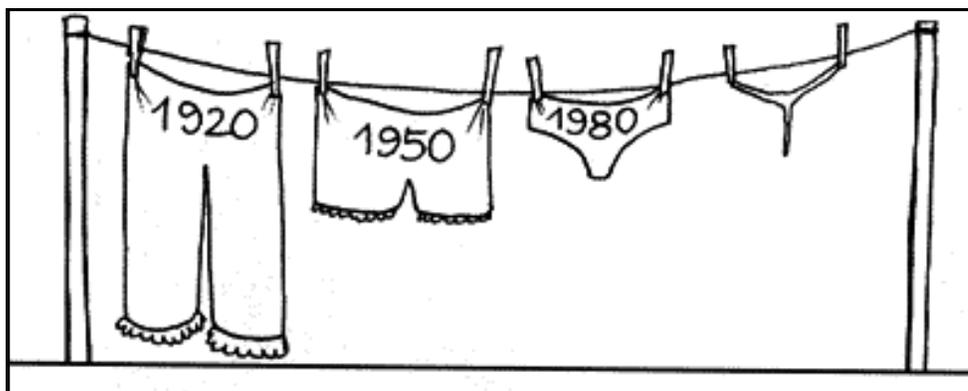
## 2007 Annual General Meeting

As agreed at our 2006 AGM, the 2007 meeting is scheduled for:

**Sunday, August 5, 2007**

**1:00pm**

**at Anne Tucker's cottage**



△Proof of global warming

Please feel free to contact your executive:

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