



**CHRISTIE LAKE ASSOCIATION INC.**  
**SPRING NEWSLETTER**  
[www.christielakeassociation.com](http://www.christielakeassociation.com)

**Greetings from the President:** *Gordon Hill*

Spring has returned. Winter's grip has been broken. It's time for renewal. Time to renew Christie Lake friendships. Time to renew and refresh the spirit in the relatively tranquility of cottage life, free from the frenetic pace and demands of the city, free from noise and traffic congestion. Time to renew our commitment to Christie Lake and its ecosystems, to good stewardship, to do no harm, to be good examples to our children and our neighbours.

Your Association's goals for 2009 include:

- (a) encouraging and strengthening the sense of community among Christie Lake residents through social and sporting events;
- (b) improving our communication with the Christie Lake community to ensure that our message is clear and reflects the wishes of our community, that constructive feedback to that message is encouraged and respected, and that it is clear to all that your Association's directors and committees are guided by the principle "educate, don't regulate".
- (c) continuing the traditional programmes (e.g. marker buoys, water testing, safe boating course, fishing derby and corn roast) and tackling new issues (e.g. Eurasian Milfoil, zebra mussels)

As always, we encourage your participation in CLA activities. If you have a particular interest in one or more of our committee activities or would like promote a new one, we encourage you to let us know and to get involved. Two of our directors have advised that they do not propose to stand for re-election at this year's AGM. If you would like to serve as a director, we can certainly use your time and talents. Wishing you a warm, healthy, happy and safe summer.

**Lake Stewardship Planning Committee (LSPC) Update – May 2009** by Austin Sweezey

The Christie Lake Stewardship Planning Committee (LSPC) activities continued through the winter and we are looking forward to another summer of interaction with the lake community. Recommendations, feedback and support received from the community to date have focused primarily on education and stewardship activities.

The Committee continued its review and compilation of the final State of the Lake (SoL) Report based on community and partner feedback. The SoL Report provides a summary of what is currently known about the Christie Lake Watershed and how that information relates to the issues that are important to the lake community. We also circulated a 2<sup>nd</sup> community survey to confirm the level of support, and importantly the lack of support, for identified issues and interests on the lake. Thanks to all who participated.

With the approach of spring we continue to work with the Lake Association and the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority on water sampling and macro-invertebrate testing programs. These activities help advance our collective understanding of the health of our lake and the issues which may be negatively affecting our Watershed.

Key activities and milestones in 2009 include:

- Final version of the State of the Lake (SoL) Report will be available in June, distribution details will follow
- Compilation, interpretation and reporting of 2<sup>nd</sup> survey results to the community
- Confirmation of key issues and values for lake stewardship
- Continue to gather direction and information for the Lake Stewardship Plan (LSP)
- Develop a draft outline for the LSP for presentation and discussion at the AGM in July
- Prepare LSP based on community direction and feedback beginning in fall
- Conduct town hall meeting(s) to provide periodic updates in late summer or early fall
- Compile results from shoreline vegetation survey update conducted in summer of 2008 - results to be confidentially conveyed to property owners

**NOTE:** *We want your involvement and feedback! Comments concerning the development of the SoL and LSP may be directed to any one of the following LSPC members:*

**Austin Sweezey** - Chair: tel 613-829-1323, e-mail [asweezey@gamma.ca](mailto:asweezey@gamma.ca)

**Liz Bell:** tel 613-267-2200, e-mail [lizbell@xplornet.com](mailto:lizbell@xplornet.com)

**Larry Bowen:** tel 613-273-4861, e-mail [bowensl@rideau.net](mailto:bowensl@rideau.net)

**Ralph Fish:** tel 613- 267-3268, e-mail [rfish@superaje.com](mailto:rfish@superaje.com)

**Brian Saunders:** tel 613-273-3198, e-mail [SaundersJamesBrian@yahoo.ca](mailto:SaundersJamesBrian@yahoo.ca)

**Spring Plant Give-Away** : By Liz Bell

Shoreline Shrub Giveaway was a windy and somewhat chilly but nonetheless successful afternoon at Jordan's Bay on the lake on Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>. We had approximately 30 lake residents come out and pick up a selection of Sweetgale, Red Osier Dogwood, Highbush Cranberry, Nannyberry & Willow - about 200 plants in all were available for distribution. These native shrubs will be planted along the lake border to help address several lakefront and shoreline erosion issues. For example, the Dogwood forms a thicket and the root system is excellent for soil retention and erosion control; the Highbush Cranberry also helps erosion control, in open areas; and the willow provides a dense and wide spread rooting system. Some of these plants also have white flowers and berries that attract birds and butterflies. We also had expert advice available from Andrea Klymko of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority – Andrea very kindly volunteered a few hours of her time to spend with us helping people choose the right plants to address their particular needs and offering her advice on how to plant and care for their new shrubs. We look forward to receiving your feedback on this shoreline restoration initiative and hope to plan a similar program next year. Please send your comments and/or pictures to [info@christielakeassociation.com](mailto:info@christielakeassociation.com). More info on the benefits of shoreline planting and shrub species is available at :

[www.rvca.ca/maple/index.html](http://www.rvca.ca/maple/index.html)

Thank you for your interest !!

**Mining Committee report** – David Hill

On April 30 2009, in response to concerns of Ontario property owners and aboriginals the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines introduced Bill 173 which represents a major revision of the Mining Act. It has already received second reading. The goal is to promote mining in a manner more respectful to the rights of property owners and aboriginals. In anticipation of passage of the Act the Ministry has

terminated all new claim staking, on private land in Southern Ontario. About 1.4% of Southern Ontario private land does not include ownership of the mineral rights and has been open for staking.

The Ministry's stated intention for Southern Ontario is to pass regulations to provide that future claims will no longer be by posts on the land but rather by map filing. Prior to any assessment work on private lands there will be an environmental assessment and claims on aboriginal lands will be subject to consultation. Damage done to property during exploration and assessment will have to be repaired by the miner, resolving a major problem. Many other matters favourable to private property owners are to be included in the regulations.

Northern Ontario, where 0.4% of private property owners do not own the mineral rights, will be subject to similar changes but somewhat more favourable to the mining industry.

The proposed legislation should be of significant benefit to Christie Lake residents, since, as it appears from maps available at the Tay Valley Township offices, most of the waterfront property lying to the west of Big Island is owned by persons who, at the present time, hold surface rights only.

***Christie Lake Association Memberships*** : By Apryle Patterson

The Christie Lake Association membership drive gets underway this year June 15<sup>th</sup>. CLA volunteers will be visiting cottagers throughout the months of June and July to inform the lake residents of past year achievements, outline future objectives of the CLA and update member contact information. If you have any ideas on how to improve life on the lake, here is your opportunity. A copy of the membership form is attached to the newsletter as well as being available on our website [www.christielakeassociation.com](http://www.christielakeassociation.com). As an added bonus this year all memberships purchased will be entered in a draw to win a \$50.00 gift certificate to the Stone Cellar restaurant in Perth.

We released a new version of the Christie Lake Directory last fall. Any member that did not receive a copy, please contact Apryle Patterson at : [membership-info@christielakeassociation.com](mailto:membership-info@christielakeassociation.com), or call her at 613-273-6260. The directory is a work in progress that always needs updating. If you spot an error please send your corrections to [changeofaddress@christielakeassociation.com](mailto:changeofaddress@christielakeassociation.com).

Again we would like to thank everyone who supported the Association last year by buying a membership.

***Safe Boating Course***: by Apryle Patterson

We are planning to hold 2 sessions this summer, July 11 and August 15<sup>th</sup>, 9am at the Tay River Tent and Trailer Park Recreation Hall. Last year's session was informative and the feedback about the instructor was very positive. The cost for Association members is \$65.00, \$60.00 if the number of participants is more than 20. Anyone interested in signing up contact Apryle Patterson at [aprylep@sympatico.ca](mailto:aprylep@sympatico.ca) or 613-273-6260. Remember all operators of powered watercraft used for recreational purposes within Canada will require their boater card in 2009.

The following three groups of boaters require the card **IMMEDIATELY**:

- All operators of any powered watercraft under 4m in length (13.1ft)
- All operators of PWC's (i.e.: sea-doo's and jet skis)
- All operators of any powered watercraft born after April 1, 1983

As of **September 15, 2009** all boaters will be required to have the Pleasure Craft Operator Card in order to operate a powered watercraft. There is no grandfather clause or age exemption – this law applies to all boaters. Powered watercraft includes watercraft fitted with any size motor – even a trolling motor.

**Spawning Bed Report:** George James

Finally, in mid August 2008, the spawning bed for Walleye at Deacon's Rapids, on the Upper Tay, was greatly enlarged and improved. It was quite an undertaking that happened after three days of intense work. Jane McCann, eight Junior Stewardship Rangers and Devon Barr, Nathan Barr and Ryan Dicintio formed a "chain gang" moving rocks from shore to river bed. It was a labour intensive job as the first day proved to be bitter cold and the "shore" was a very steep incline. The C.L.A. directors provided a B.B.Q. lunch each day. Funding to purchase and transport the special rock for this project was provided by the MNR Community Fisheries and Wildlife Improvement Program.

**Marker Buoys:** George James

As a public service, all buoys were installed by May 8<sup>th</sup> with three additional ones added due to the spring high waters. It is not unusual, during a storm or high winds for a marker to move or break loose. If you notice a missing marker please phone George James at 613-264-8948. . We have also recently added a lake map to our website the shows the marker locations and water depths around the lake. Why not visit the website and print a copy.

**Sailing - The Christie Lake Sailing Club ("CLSC")**

CLSC's goal is to promote interest in sailing, knowledge of sailing techniques, an understanding of "the rules of the road" and sailing etiquette, and adherence to the principles of boating safety. And let's not forget eco-friendly fun, exhilaration, exercise, and camaraderie.

To that end, CLSC will hold races starting at 2:00 p.m. on the following dates:

- Sunday July 5, Saturday July 18,
- Sunday August 2, Saturday August 22 and Sunday September 6

Weather and interest permitting, we may hold up to 3 races each race day, with approximately 3 to 5 minutes between races. Each race should take 40 to 60 minutes depending upon wind conditions. If, on a particular race day, winds should be a "flat" or the weather just bad, races may be rescheduled on the following day.

If you would like to race, be part of the race committee, receive individualized (no charge) sailing instruction, or simply receive more information, please visit our website at:

[http://www.christielakeassociation.com/sailchristie/sailing\\_club.shtml](http://www.christielakeassociation.com/sailchristie/sailing_club.shtml)

or contact either:

Brooke Briggs	613-267-1392	<a href="mailto:briggs@xplornet.com">briggs@xplornet.com</a>
Gordon Hill	613-267-5478 (after June 20)	<a href="mailto:gordonhill@xplornet.com">gordonhill@xplornet.com</a>

**Heritage Committee News!**

The heritage committee was very busy over the winter interviewing some most interesting folks who had stories to share about life at the lake from days gone by. We have a published author, John McKenty, who has joined us and who will be putting a book together on Christie Lake. If you have a pre-1967 Christie Lake story, anecdote or photograph to share please email it to either Donna Walsh at [dw.boomer@hotmail.com](mailto:dw.boomer@hotmail.com) or to John McKenty at [john.mckenty@sympatico.ca](mailto:john.mckenty@sympatico.ca) OR call George James

at: 613-264-8948 to set up an appointment where we could meet at your convenience.



Photo taken at Red Cedar Inn dock sometime in the 1890's. In photo are R.W. Marks, Tom Marks, Jack Marks, Joe Marks and two Matheson girl cousins

## **Social Events to Add to Your Calendar:**

**Welcome Back Wine and Cheese:** June 6<sup>th</sup>, 7p.m. at Christie Lake Camp. B.Y.O.B. All Welcome!

**July 1<sup>st</sup> fireworks** at the Christie Lake Marina starting at dusk. Donations to help aid this event can be made at the marina

**Hallow'en In July!** July 25<sup>th</sup> (rain-out July 26<sup>th</sup>) : From 1-3p.m. Children from 0-13 years of age dress in their spookiest costumes and then go dock to dock that display a pumpkin or other Hallow'en décor for treats

**Kids Sunfish Derby!** August 1<sup>st</sup> (rain-out Aug.2<sup>nd</sup>): From dawn until 3:45 pm For children ages 0-13 years fish for sunfish. They are to have an adult count the fish, bring the count (release the fish) to Jordan's for a 4 o'clock count. Prizes for all participants! Cost is \$5/child. Pay the day of the derby to the association representative at Jordan's.

**Corn Roast!** August 1<sup>st</sup> (rain-out Aug.2<sup>nd</sup>) AFTER the fish derby. All welcome!

**Beat The Baby 2 Great Chili Cook-Off:** Pre-register and bring your best pot of chili to the Marina September 6<sup>th</sup> noon sharp!

**End of the Season Dance!** Back by popular demand is the season ending dance to be held Labor Day week-end at the Christie Lake Camp. Starting time 7PM. Cost \$10/ person with part of the proceeds to go to the camp. Watch the signs for the exact date! Volunteers are needed! Please call Donna Walsh at 613-267-3215 if you can help

**For event updates, details and new events please check our website !**

### **AGM:**

**TAKE NOTICE THAT The 2009 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the CHRISTIE LAKE ASSOCIATION INC. will be held FRIDAY, JULY 24, 2009 at 7.00 p.m. at the TAY RIVER TENT AND TRAILER PARK BUILDING, Christie Lake North Shore Road, about 1 km. west of its intersection with Christie Lake Road/Althorpe Road.**



**2009 CHRISTIE LAKE ASSOCIATION**  
**MEMBERSHIP FORM**  
**Yearly Membership: \$50**

1.	Name: (all members 18 & over)	
2.	Address:	
3.	Lake Address:	
4.	Postal/Zip Code:	
5.	Home Phone:	Cottage Phone: <span style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"></span>
6.	E-Mail Address:	
7.	Amount Enclosed:	

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check box if you do not object to having your cottage phone number published in the Christie Lake Directory.

Return form to:

Christie Lake Association  
P.O. Box 20058  
Perth, Ontario K7H 3M6  
Or

Drop it off with Steve Day at the Christie Lake Marina

Please direct any questions to Apryle Patterson at 613-273-6260.

Thank you for your support!