



MARY LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

November 2005

Message from the President:

Fall, 2005 may go down on record as one of the warmest we have had for some time with the leaves still on the trees in early November. The last Secchi reading I took for water clarity on Cavalcade weekend was 4.95 metres which exceeds the usual 3.5 metres by a lot. Clear blue skies, a very clear warmish lake-what could disturb this paradise you might ask.

The sound of stone cutting and propane trucks rumbling up and down Greer Road. A number of our member Mary Lakers spoke at a Huntsville Town Council Meeting in August which was considering rezoning applications to allow industrial uses around the lake. Our contingent urged council to stop "senseless checkerboard industrialization" that would "make a nasty area even nastier." Council agreed that rock cutting should go on at quarries, not in our corner of the world. The propane distribution use being proposed for the old Hutley tire site is being reviewed because of our efforts. These issues underline the importance of having an active paid up association ready to rally when our environment is challenged. Response to the draft Official Plan for Huntsville, developing a useful Mary Lake Plan that addresses Mary Lake specifics that emphasize gaps in the Official Plan has been the work of the association this summer. The workshop in August at Christ Church brought more of us together to contemplate our five areas of concentration where our local plan can make a difference, hopefully appended to the Official Plan.

Wearing my water quality hat, I would suggest you check out www.muskokawaterweb.ca our link to Muskoka water. It is designed to keep you up to date and informed eight different ways.

The other link of interest to our members who have recently received their MPAC assessments is www.wraft.com. Carefully constructed appeals do work but the political action suggested by Waterfront Residents After Fair taxation would go further long term if you are unfortunate enough to own waterfront property.

We have much to celebrate: a “Communities in Bloom” heritage award for the village of Port Sydney; a cleaned up near shore beach area; news that Hydro will leave our lake levels alone because of our relative insignificance to the watershed according to the Ministry of Environment at High Falls.

Enjoy a safe and happy holiday and a merry Mary.

Winter well,
Jane Earthy
President

Treasurer’s Report:

For the first 5 1/2 months of the new fiscal year, the Association’s income was \$2696.41 and expenses were \$1834.31. This has resulted in an operating profit for the period of \$862.10. Details can be found on the statement below. To date, there are only 10 members who have not paid their annual dues. **We would encourage you to renew your membership today as this will be the only mailing you will receive.** A reminder is enclosed for those with outstanding membership dues.

At November 13, 2005

Income	
Interest	276.41
Membership	2420.00
Total Income	2696.41
Expenses	
Hall rental	50.00
Dues/Subscription	25.00
FOCA Fees	294.52
Website	53.45
Insurance	1335.51
Newsletters	72.63
Bank Service Chg	3.20
Total Expenses	1834.31
Net Profit (Loss)	<u>862.10</u>

Harold Balderson, Treasurer

Port Sydney News:

Communities in Bloom has awarded 5 Blooms for Heritage Conservation to Huntsville

Port Sydney was one of four groups that enabled Huntsville to win this International Competition in the area of Heritage Preservation

Communities in Bloom is a non-profit Canadian organization committed to fostering civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification through community participation and the challenge of a friendly competition.

It has grown to involve hundreds of municipalities registered in the provincial editions.

The international challenge for 2005 was held in partnership with America in Bloom, Japan in Bloom and Britain in Bloom in an International Challenge

The Town of Huntsville won 5 Blooms, the top award, for Heritage Conservation in the International Competition. We, in Port Sydney were a big part of that award.....so be proud of your community! It is now world famous!

Ryan Kidd

Membership Information:

Would you like to be informed about police alerts and public safety issues??

...then we would encourage you to subscribe to a **FREE** service offered by the Huntsville detachment of the OPP called MCCOPS and Neighbourhood Watch. These agencies have offered to notify citizens by phone or computer when a break-in has occurred in your neighbourhood or a public safety issue, such as the MBC spill, poses a potential risk to you and your family. If possible you should **register for both, MCCOPS and Neighbourhood Watch services**. The required forms can be found on our website www.marylakeassociation.ca, under 'Member' at bottom of home page. If you choose the phone message option then you will be contacted, when necessary, at your cottage answering machine. No long distance calls will be made to your home phone. If you do not have access to a computer, then please send a note to: Charles Forret, RR 3 Utterson ON, P0B 1M0 and the OPP registration form will be mailed to you. We would like to see all our members subscribe to this **FREE** community service.

Charles Forret
Membership Coordinator