

Spring 2006

Lake Matinenda Cottage Association

Nancy Harz,
Editor

Newsletter

P.O. Box~772Blind River, Ontario~POR 1B0~Canada
<http://www.brchamber.ca/matinenda/>

NOTES FROM PRESIDENT JERRY

Today is the first day of spring, but Lake Matinenda is still very wintry with lots of crusty snow and over two feet of ice.

Bell Telephone has canceled their plans to erect a communications tower at The Lodge due to "insufficient demand." They have refunded the \$200 deposit plus interest to those who sent it in.

Another alternative to cottagers would be a satellite system which two cottagers (myself included) have installed. The initial cost of hardware and installation is not much more that the Bell system would have been. Monthly costs for the internet start at \$55 Can. for a good high speed system which can be put on vacation. You can then use Vonage, Skype or any VOIP (voice over internet phone) for phone service.

We are looking forward to the return of the "cool birds" soon to Matinenda.

MATINENDA LAKE EVENTS FOR 2006

- Jan 1----Trout season opens
- April ?-- Ice off Matinenda
- Pending-- Hazardous waste pick up
- June 29---Bass season opens
- July 29---Annual clean up day
- Pending--Annual General Meeting
- Aug 15---Bear hunt season begins
- Oct-----"Minnow Trap" book about Ufo's
on Matinenda available

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President:** Jerry Behnke
- Secretary:** Ron Servatius
- Treasurer:** Ed Pilon
- MNR Liaison and
Scientific Studies:** Dick Brennan
- Special Projects:** Beetli Kierniki

Lake Matinenda Cottage Association
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM)
06 August 2005

A 4:00 p.m. registration provided information packets, meal vouchers, nametags and 911 number information.

Meeting called to Order at 4:38 p.m. in **The Lodge** by the president.

Matinenda Board Members present: Jerry Behnke, president; Ed Pilon, Treasurer; Ron Servatius, Secretary; Dick Brennan, MNR liaison, trustee. Absent: Beetli Kiernicki, trustee.

The **AGENDA** order was changed for the dog Tikaani, and Jeff and Jennifer Rice, “children” of Dr Karen Rice. This allowed Jeff and Jennifer to say a few words and express their gratitude toward the volunteers who aided in the rescue of their mother. Jerry also moved the award presentation up to this point to honor the volunteers, who received applause, thanks, and a recognition certificate with meal vouchers. Not present at the time, were Jim Hamilton, Dr Peer, and Larry Pilon (who came in later and received his recognition.)

The minutes from the last AGM were approved. (Aschenbach/Hogg/Carried)

In the treasurer’s report, Ed explained income taxes may have to be paid because of our private status and earned interest dollars. Interest on the two savings accounts has been reduced from 1.75 and 2.0% respectively, to 1.4 and 1.25% respectively, as they were renewed. All bills have been paid to date. Chequig has \$1683.44 as of 29, July 2005. GIC’s have a current value of \$10, 390.95 as of 28, June 2005. Paid memberships for 2005 to date are 43. Motion to approve report: Pilon/Cameron/Carried. (At the end of this meeting, 86 memberships were tallied.)

President’s report:

- ❖ **Fire Ban** has been modified to allow campfires. No brush burning fires are allowed.
- ❖ **WRAFT**-a lobby group we supported last year for \$200., have developed alternative stabilization measures and caused property assessments to be deferred for 1 year, until 2006.
- ❖ **Bell Communications Tower**-on hold. Does not look promising. Forms that survey interest in tower types are being passed out and collected. More forms are available at the dock attendant’s house. Lake resident John Minoz spoke about the tower and explained the information we understood to be correct last year, is not what the tower would be this year. The tower this year if put in, would NOT be a cell tower, would NOT enhance cell phone service and ONLY would be equivalent to a landline.
- ❖ **Dump Day** is over. Lake Hope Dump is closed and has been for 6 years. People are to take their loads to the Dump on HWY 17 East. Ron Servatius found in a recent meeting with Ken Corbiere that Dump Day will always be the last Saturday in July. Three (3) FREE passes per year per lake resident are available from town hall. Jim Hogg said the gates were open at the Lake Hope Dump and there are recent dumpings there. The board will notify town hall about this.

Lake Water Quality Report from the **Lake Partners Report** (<http://www.ene.gov.on.ca> and email at lakepartner@ene.gov.on.ca) given by Dick Brennan indicated Matinenda is overall in very good shape, as far as issues of phosphate levels and clarity are concerned. From the statistics one can see Matinenda, barely definable as a mesotrophic (moderate nutrient level) lake in clarity, especially around Lee's island in 2004, falls completely in the category of a shield or oligotrophic (unenriched) lake in other tested areas and in ALL tested areas in 2005, so far. But the weather has been dry and weather has a profound affect on the results when water sheds from higher-level lakes according to Dick. He explained the board has authorized start up sampling of biological or ecoli/coliform data for this year. (Mineral content is also authorized.) (Reports as soon as available will be posted to our web site.)

Dam Control Report-the town and ministry have not returned notice to the Lake Matinenda Cottage Association that trained lake resident volunteers assisting the MNR will be covered for expenses and liability on personal injury or property, because of dam control activities. The naming or training of volunteers has not occurred.

Garbage/Recycling Report-Ron continued the Dump Day report, saying his discussion with Ken Corbiere yielded quick results for pick up of unauthorized dumping of much stuff at the landing after the July 30 Dump Day. Appreciation to Ken Corbiere for the extra garbage bins, on behalf of the Association was expressed. Recycling was the second issue presented to Ken Corbiere, who readily received the request as viable and said he would have to present the Association request to Town Council right away for Recycling Bins during the summer months. Some of the membership erupted about how fast this was going to occur and what could be done about people who just think the recycle bins are more trash bins. Question arose about where to take USED MOTOR OIL. Dennis Davey wanted to know if Matinenda residents of Blind River could have access to summertime Hazardous Waste Pickup Day since many lake residents of Blind River are not yet up on the lake for mid-May pickup. The Board will investigate the possibility again. Ron went on to explain Wet Cell Batteries (Boat and Car Batteries) may be left at NAPA Automotive, next to Home Hardware (Left side of the building.) Dry Cell Batteries may be left at The UNICORN (old Radio Shack Store just south of Mitchell's Rx. in the center of town. The Board will provide real-time answers on its website or updates for questions above eventually in the newsletter that will be published in the spring.

Boating Safety Report-Ron reported he received a warning from the OPP that in spite of having PFD, manual bailer, whistle without cork, throwing line 50' (15m) with flotation, oars in an open fishing boat, etc., NOT having had a water-tolerant, floating flashlight, even in the morning on a sunny day, constituted a violation. Manuals about requirements are available at the dock attendant's house, the OPP station, and at the Tourist Information Building across from Home Hardware at no cost.

Memorials-Ike Blue, John Blue Island; Theo Felden-Founder, Teacher's Bay; Don Fitch-Founder, Teacher's Bay; Bill Kibbey, Camp 7 Bay; Len Pike, Log Chateau; Lou Ruley, Teacher's Bay; Joyce Trudeau, MacDonald's Bay.

Emergency Access Site Update-An explanation of the conditions of emergency access requirements was made and survey passed out to those who felt they may qualify and volunteer an emergency Helo Pad site by their property for future rescue efforts.

Recognitions-see Agenda change above.

Elections of Directors-Nominations for 2 directors to replace Jerry Behnke and Ron Servatius, whose 2 year terms expired, were opened by Jerry Behnke. No names were forthcoming and Jerry announced that he and Ron would be willing to run again. Del Aschenbach quickly moved to close nominations "and let the torture continue." Linda Brennan second/Carried without objection. The current president and secretary were returned to the executive by acclamation.

Other Business-

Von Dilloway made a motion that the Association donate \$500. to commercial bush pilot Larry Pilon to express the thanks of the Association for the volunteer use his aircraft to rescue Dr. Karen Rice when other aircraft generally required for this type rescue were unavailable. Nancy Harz second. Discussion of ideas, concerns or amendments to the motion came from John Minoz, Ray Sholberg, and Ben Denaro who wanted gifts for all, Ben Kaufman and Kathryn Lowther who wanted gifts to any or all volunteers to be left to the discretion of the Board, Jim Hogg and Steve Taylor who was concerned about precedents, and others. The amendments were denied by Vaughn as "contrary to the spirit of the motion." The question was put. The motion was soundly defeated.

Ben Kaufman moved that the directors consider what is appropriate for gift to whom. Jim Hogg second. Discussion-Chris Brandt suggested a medallion/proclamation as a commendation from governmental officials was appropriate. Frank Lee expressed the need for including all volunteers in any recognition. Kathryn Lowther thought EMT technician "John," who volunteered to go beyond his job boundary and up into the bush should also be recognized. The question was put. Carried.

Ben Kaufman raised the question about just getting CPR training sessions set up on the lake because of our aging population and not obtaining defibrillators, which are expensive and have the liability and effectiveness issues and which the Board did not approve this last winter. Jerry said we will see what can be done.

Von Dilloway expressed concern that Channel 5 is not open for general use, saying "the ladies up the lake are intimidated" to the point where they feel they cannot make general announcements about craft get-togethers, when in the past, so much work was done and money made to build the Association treasury. Discussion ensued which held the prevailing intent is for open use of the Channel, not lengthy, private use. By a show of hands, it appeared 95% of those in attendance felt Channel 5 has been known for many years as a traditional and customary "Call Channel" for short transmissions. This has typically included general lake announcements, emergency calls, calls for rides or information from fixed stations, e.g. the dock Welcome House, radio checks, and short momentary communications between individuals, not monumental exchanges of information on issues which can be discussed on alternative channels.

Sharon Stine was concerned about parking and handicap parking and the lack thereof. The Board will be looking into any problems, such as unauthorized use of Handicap Parking.

Keith Cameron informed the membership that Dick Hagman from the MNR was receptive to the interest shown by Matinenda residents in the apparently declining fish populations. He reported that should survey results show a need for restocking, the MNR has grant money and in-kind dollars available to improve Matinenda's situation. Since the Association has money and MNR knows it, Jerry said the Board will look at Survey results and work with MNR about restocking, should it be necessary. There was no objection from the membership.

Ed Pilon brought forth the issue of a NEWSLETTER. This past year tested the use of our website: <http://www.brchamber.ca/matinenda/>, a direct link from a search engine to get information and forms. Overwhelmingly, the membership wanted a printed NEWSLETTER. Ed asked for a volunteer to do the job. Nancy Harz, from north of the Narrows, volunteered and will be our Newsletter Specialist.

Adjournment 6:27. Frank Lee/Nancy Harz/Carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Ron Servatius, secretary/director Lake Matinenda Cottage Association

Thank you to John Spina, Emergency Medical Services Technician....

Ron L. Hamelin
Emergency Medical Services
Operations Supervisor
Algoma E.M.S. Headquarters
RR #1 Collver Road
Thessalon, ON P0R 1L0

August 2005

Dear Supervisor Hamelin,

Last year you spoke to us about EMS situations at the Lake Matinenda Annual General Meeting. Just a few weeks ago on Lake Matinenda, we had an emergency situation which required a number of residents to respond correctly for your Emergency Medical Services personnel to act appropriately which helped save the life, or at least quality of life, of **Dr. Karen Kammerer Rice**. Dr. Rice was a fall victim from cliffs on Emerald Lake, only bush accessible and southeast of Lake Matinenda.

Thanks to your input and the actions of Emergency Medical Services Technician **John Spina**, who went above and beyond the call of duty for the rescue effort, Karen Rice is recovering and doing well. EMS Technician John Spina evaluated the situation correctly. After appropriate checks and entrusting his transportation to responsible local residents, went beyond his job responsibilities. He left the shore with his equipment and spent several hours traveling up and down a bay in a float boat, bouncing up and down a snowmobile trail in a six-wheeled ATV and was hiking up and down rugged, rocky terrain. Then he reached and properly immobilized Dr. Rice to prevent further medical injury during bush plane/ambulance transport. His expertise and expediency was evident to all those at the scene.

The Lake Matinenda Cottage Association wished to recognize and applaud **John Spina** for his valiant efforts and thank him for not saying "It's not my job." We wish to thank you again for your education of our membership, which proved valuable in a year's time.

We ask that you show this letter and place a copy in his personnel file and a copy in your personnel file. A copy of this letter will be posted on our website: <http://www.brchamber.ca/matinenda/> and in our Newsletter this next spring.

Sincerely,

Ron Servatius, secretary/director

January 2006 Newsletter

Treasurer's Update:

- ❖ 2005 memberships were 92. (This is up from last year – great!)
- ❖ GIC savings was valued at \$10,359.44 as of October, 2005.
- ❖ Checking (chequing) account as of September 25, 2005 was \$1477.00

“Minnow Trap” sci-fi author from town, Brian Horeck, has a sequel coming out in October 2006 based about a spacecraft nose-diving into Lake Matinenda. (Ed Pilon)

The LMCA wishes to **thank the Blind River Town Council** for their cooperation in addressing issues brought forth by the LMCA Board of Directors in letters to Council by Jerry Behnke and Ron Servatius. Council members responded expediently, correctly and with understanding about the struggles lake residents have. A summary of the correspondence follows below.

As stated in the minutes of the August Directors meeting (available on our website) after the 2005 AGM, the 2005 independent findings from **Water Quality Tests** on Ecoli and Coliform in Lake Matinenda have been posted on the website and are higher, compared to previous measurements. Numerous factors can cause a rise. But many other impurities harmful to humans may also be found in water. Minerals, cysts, toxic chemicals, etc. this was a limited, one time test o one day, last year for Ecoli and Coliform only. Website visitation of Canadian standards will reveal statements indicating a need for national agreement on danger levels in any water. The unit of “1” is the minimum reporting value over “0” Colony Forming Unit or “CFU.” Wildlife is a contributing factor for any level of bacteria, one website suggested Coliform less than 50 to 100 CFU’s is a low count and routinely found in high quality lake waters. A typically expected value might be 20 CFU’s, according to this website. But, as previously stated, standards are reported on another site to be a “confused patchwork.” Obviously, our report, according to Director Dick Brennan, will be addressed by the Board. Director Ron Servatius will propose its placement on the 2006 AGM agenda. Many people on the lake use reverse osmosis water purification units, or filters and Ultra Violet (UV) purification systems to alleviate their concerns. These systems may be purchased in Blind River. Home Hardware has a UV system display from time to time. The Health Ministry water test kits in town are free and effective for checking your tap water at camp.

Dock, Garbage and Parking issues have been reported to Town Council by Jerry Behnke and Ron Servatius in separate letters. Response on President’s Behnke’s letter has been rapid. Suggestions and alternatives made in Secretary Servatius’ letter have not yet fully been addressed. Below is a summation, first of the responses to Jerry’s letter to Council:

Finger **dock repair & replacement** will be looked at by Council in the spring.

Signage renewal and additions for boat, car and trailer parking, pet care, and advertisement need to be addressed with Association’s help of photos and representation.

Trailer parking and space to park vehicles can be handled by signs to remind all boaters to disconnect trailers when parking, and courtesy warnings.

Student Supervision – Council will handle problems with student supervision, since oversight of governmental employees by private enterprise can cause it’s own set of problems.

Boat Parking is a difficult regulation to enforce for the overnight parking. Council suggests educating members with warnings and information and better signage. (Directors feel government dockworkers can record boat numbers of those continuously disregarding the regulations at night, before going off shift. The workers coming on in the morning can check for violation and report later in the day to their Marina Supervisor for appropriate action.)

Garbage Pickup – provision is made for extra pickups. Copy of this will be sent to Municipal Waste and Recycling. Council will leave the dumpsters in the general area, but ask the contractor not to have placement interfere with traffic. (Secretary Servatius' letter has provided a variation suggestion for aesthetics.)

Lake Water Levels – Jerry's letter for more responsive dam control and council's letter were sent to the MNR for consideration and action. Members should recall that the issue of training and insuring Matinenda residents to take on dam control responsibilities was dropped by the MNR at the end of summer, 2005.

Ron has not received a response to his letter to council about dock and parking area issues, to date. His points are summarized here:

Appreciation was expressed for all that has been done to date, by council.

Standards, however, should equate to other park areas around Blind River, e.g. Marina in town, Berthelot Park, Visitors Center, etc., where there are flowers and landscaping.

Fresh signage needs to be erected to replace broken, faded, dismantled signs, like the "No Overnight Parking" sign that was on the hillside by the dock. This item was addressed in Jerry's duplicate effort.

Review and revision of all signs for parking, trailering and handicap access was requested to alleviate parking problems that existed during the peak summer season. This item was also addressed by Jerry.

Welcome to Matinenda sign and planting should greet the visitor at the hilltop, rather than dumpsters. However if dumpsters could not be moved away, it was suggested a barrier, sign and plantings be used to block the view upon arrival to Lake Matinenda.

Dock Maintenance and Replacement was also requested. Jerry addressed this issue as well.

In February, Ron received a response from the Town of Blind River to his letter. It was simply a copy of the letter sent to Jerry. A letter has been received by Treasurer Ed Pilon from the MNR stating there have been requests to officially name two islands located on Lake Matinenda. LEE Island is a correction from the current official name of LEE'S Island. SWISS Island has never been officially named. However, the original buyers came from Switzerland over 40 years ago and their descendants own the property, which everyone currently knows and refers to as SWISS Island when communicating to the owners or about the owners.

A letter dated September 20, 2005 has been sent specifically to the "Lake Matinenda Cottage Association" by the MNR in Blind River "RE: Boathouse on Crown Lake Bed." After review of this letter, Dick Hagman, Area Supervisor, summarizes the position of the MNR on previously suspended collection of rents for boathouse/storage facility sites. (May 2000) because of needed reforms for fair and equitable collections. "Our Free Use of Crown Land" policy has been updated. The MNR over the next few months may be conducting inspections of Lake Matinenda to determine Boathouses/Boat Storage Facilities on Crown property that do not meet criteria for free use, particularly boathouses with living accommodations. Owners of property on the land in question will be contacted individually so that rents of 6% of market value of each site can be collected starting in 2006. Subject to certain criteria the option of purchasing these sites will also be made available. Questions may be directed to Joanne Marck, Area Technician. (705) 356-2234, extension 239.

FOCA Issues alert, Fall 2005, talks of the destruction of clean water and lake trout in the deep, cold waters of Limerick Lake, south of Bancroft in Ontario. (No, this is not a Limerick!) Casual Fears? Development of properties in large numbers, sewage facilities and locations, and phosphorus content leaching to the lake from larger amounts of human waste, detergents, cleaners, fertilizers, etc. that will only increase because of the development effort. What Matinenda residents should ask themselves is: Why is there more algae in the water in 2005 than ever seen before? (Slimy rocks, thicker carpets, coverage in places never seen before, like at the dam outlet, tufts of algae in the water, either seen or recorded on depth finders.) Am I using bacteria developers to neutralize waste? Am I using cleaners and soaps that do not contain phosphates and are "Safe for Septic Systems?" what am I doing to improve my septic facilities, or am I trying to keep an old system going for just one more year? Yes, location, seasonal rainfall, and heat can also make a big difference on the effects of the water. But with global warming, the northern icecap disappearing at the rate of 8% per year as recently stated on the radio, water quality will not improve with more runoff and heat. Are we having problems? The increased Ecoli/Coliform counts will be addressed by the Board for Matinenda. Are you active with the Association? Pay your dues and get involved.

FOCA also is concerned about the 2005 tax deferral's impact on 2006 taxes for the 2005 MPAC Assessment. Fear is no deferral or modification will clearly increase taxation on waterfront properties for 2006. In short, blame should not be placed on MPAC or Municipal Governments. Rather, blame should be placed squarely on Provincial Government Officials of Ontario. This is where FOCA is focusing its fighting efforts. (www.mpac.ca may give you some information on calculations.)

Clark and Mabel sold the Laundromat in town to Value Mart. Reports are that Value Mart will be converting the space into more market area. On the other hand, more reports indicate three bidders have applied for a business license to open a Laundromat in Blind River at the time of this writing.

Following are excerpts from the **Minutes of Directors' Meeting**, August 22, 2005:

- ❖ John Jones, building inspector from Town has the green **911** signs for Matinenda residents
- ❖ Recognition for rescuers of Dr Karen Rice will be made with presentation of a very nice plaque and letter by Mike Brown, Minister of Provincial Parliament.
- ❖ June Krupka was inadvertently left off of the recognitions at the AGM, when she was the person making the **911** call and explaining the problem to start rescue efforts.
- ❖ Karen Rice received flowers from the Association in the hospital and were delivered by Beetli and Gene Kiernicki.

Action resulting from discussion of the rescue of Dr. Rice by acclamation of the directors:

- ❖ Based on the information available at the time, the Board feels recognition of involved individuals as given at the AGM, with follow up action for key individuals left off the namings, including a Newsletter story and attention from MMP Brown, about then efforts of these individuals, is sufficient action by the LMCA.

Other Business and Action:

1. Jerry will write to Town Council about moving the date or having a second mid-summer date for the many taxpaying Lake Matinenda summer residents to drop off hazardous waste in mid July or early August. Additionally, he will review our need for more pickups, more containers and recycling containers, during the summer months.
2. Time and place of the 2006 AGM was discussed. Later a survey will be on **website** and in spring **Newsletter**. A similar but improved format will be followed as this year probably at the Lodge in the late afternoon.
3. Beetli will pursue the fish stocking issue and fish survey results. Get updates online and in the Newsletter.

4. Beetli will be acquiring Boating Safety Activity books for kids next summer. They will be available at the AGM. She will also be acquiring a supply of Boating Safety Guides for Adults (also available from OPP, Dock attendants, Beer Store, and the Tourism Center.)
5. Beetli will pursue around-the-lake cleanup activities with the MNAR and its force of Junior Rangers.
6. Jerry or Beetli will be pursuing CPR training for residents on the lake for next summer.

Updates: Beryl Gibb, Councilperson for Blind River told Ron and his wife Sue, in a chance meeting:

- ❖ There is currently NO place to safely dump USED OIL.
- ❖ The issue of Hazardous Waste removal occurs once every two years and is expensive for the city, but she, as a member of the **Ecological Resource Committee**, will ask for a midsummer Hazardous Waste pickup for the next time around, since Hazardous Waste pickup was to be on the agenda, and she thought it was a good idea.
- ❖ She will have Town Council write a letter to Bell about putting in a “**repeater**” to enhance cell tower service because of her needs (based on a call from Sue to son Russ and his cell tower tech friend for Verizon.)
- ❖ MNR would be interested in offshore obstructions attached to the shoreline which create safety hazards to boaters, according to Beryl Gibb. She is on the committee for MNR activities.

Dump Day at Matinenda 2005

Notice

A report has been made at the AGM on August 6, 2005 that Dump Day at Matinenda will **Always Be “The Last Saturday in JULY,”** as it was this year. The confusion this year was learning experience for all.

Ron Servatius talked with Ken Corbiere from town hall about clean up of refuse deposited at the landing by a number of individuals who waited until after the dock attendants left for the day. Mr. Corviere said lake residents are entitled to Three (3) Town Landfill Passed per year from Town Hall, so large item disposal may be done without charge.

RECYCLING BINS during the summer months are being sought from Town Council by Mr. Corbiere per a request from the LMCA. Recycling of glass, paper and metal is currently available in town, south side of Hwy 17 near the Tourist Information area. Wet cell batteries may be left on the West side of NAPA Automotive, which is west of Home Hardware. Dry cell batteries may be recycled in the entranceway to The Unicorn Shop in the middle of town, once known as the Radio Shack store.

The LMCA asks that lake members/residents keep current on notices and information posted at The Welcome House, from Dock Attendants, and on the website: <http://www.brchamber.ca/matinenda/> and the NEWSLETTER.

Please remember all Gas refrigerators must be TAGGED as drained by a certified technician before the town can remove them on DUMP DAY or you leave them at the HWY 17 LAND FILL. The Association will not support violations or actions of individuals not following information from authoritative/responsible persons or notices.

MEMORIALS.....

Dave Faegre was a seasoned veteran on the lake who has been with us forever. He knew so much about how to make the best out of living in the backwoods. His expertise was so broad, that many from the lake would seek him out to solve their problems.

Rick Scott, son of Pat and Dick Scott, lost his battle to cancer. But he did it with courage and humour. Hunting season at the Menard camp and Hunters Lodge each fall and especially the social gatherings was made even more 'jovial' as you could hear Rick's laughter over everything else. He helped a lot of boaters and cottagers and always seemed to show up at the right time.

James Burling, a professor in the states, was a long time summer resident from Sullivan's Bay.

Paul Barnes was a long time resident at Barney's Camp and good friend of Jim "Hammer" Hamilton in McDonald's Bay.

Reed Hagen a 50+ year resident in Teacher's Bay, was a retired school superintendent in several states.

Josephine Fairbairn and her husband Wayne were 2nd generation owners as Wayne's parents built their cabin in 1946 across from Allen's (now Roy's) Northland Camp.

August 28, 2005

Jim Trottier
Northshore Area Biologist
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
62 Queen Avenue
P.O. Box 190
Blind River, ON P0R 1B0

Dear Beetli'

Our office completed a netting assessment of the Lake Matinenda lake trout population in May 2002. The results indicated that the population was self-sustaining, with a good range of sizes and age classes present in the population. Our current provincial stocking guidelines strongly discourage the stocking of hatchery-reared fish in waters that already contain viable populations of native fish. As such, the Ministry of Natural Resources has no plans to stock fish into Lake Matinenda in the foreseeable future.

Incidentally, the netting that was carried out on Matinenda was part of a larger **Regional Lake Trout Enhancement Project** that has been ongoing since 2000. One of the goals of this project has been to find out the current status of the lake trout resource across the region (the "big picture"). This has been achieved through the netting of over **135** lake trout lakes to determine lake trout abundance, and conducting summer and winter aerial creel surveys to estimate angler effort on over **675** lake trout lakes. While the data is still being analyzed, it appears that stricter harvest control measures will be required across the region. The form that these measures will take (e.g. seasons, catch and possession limits, size limits, gear restrictions, etc.), have not been explored yet, but there will be opportunities for public input to the process in the near future.

Should you have any addition questions or would like to discuss this further, please feel free to contact me at the phone number or address listed above.

Regards,

Jim Trottier

NOTE: Of the 135 lakes tested, Lake Matinenda was the 2nd healthiest for lake trout in our area.

Here are some statistics:

Name	#live fish per Net	Name	#live fish per Net
Dunlop	1.97	Elliot	0.57
Gullbeak	0.43	Quimby	0.47
Pecors	0.13	Basswood	0.88
Chub	0.88	Canoe	0.00
Chiblow	0.65	Duborne	0.15
Little Chiblow	2.43	Matinenda	2.45
Jobam	0.33	Seymour	1.07
Aubrey	0.03	Constance	0.93
Cumming	0.97	Flack	0.80
Rocky Island	0.13	Granary	0.90
Kindiogami	2.50	Wakomata	0.62
Lauzon	0.46		

PROPOSED FISHING REGULATION CHANGES IN NORTHEAST ONTARIO

The MNR has completed a review of recreational fishing regulations. The goal is to streamline fishing regulations and divisions to make it easier for anglers to understand. On January 1, 2007 Lake Matinenda will become consolidated into **Zone 10**. The total numbers of fisheries zones has been reduced from 37 to 20 across Ontario. One of the proposed changes is extended seasonal limits for some stocked waters.

SPECIES	Proposed Season and Limits SEASON	LIMITS
WALLEYE	Jan 1-Mar 31; 3 rd Sat in May-Dec 31.	S:4 C:2
BASS	4 th Sat in June-Nov 30	S:6 C:2
NORTHERN PIKE	Open All Year	S:6 C:2
YELLOW PERCH	Open All Year	S:50 C:25
SUNFISH	Open All Year	S:50 C:25
BROOK TROUT	Jan 1-Sept 30	S:5 C:2
BROWN TROUT	4 th Sat in Apr-Sept 30	S:5 C:2
RAINBOW TROUT	Open All Year	S:2 C:1
LAKE TROUT	Jan 1-Sept 30	S:3 C:1
WHITEFISH	Open All Year	S:12 C:6
STURGEON	Jan 1-Apr 30; July 1-Dec 31	S:1 C:0
CHANNEL CATFISH	Open All Year	S:12 C:6

A new Recreational Fishing Booklet will not be produced for 2006. A two (2) year summary was issued last year.

A child under 18 can fish without a license, but their catch counts against the parent's limits. The cost for Fishing Licenses for 2006 will remain the same as 2005: There are 2 types of licenses:

SPORTS SEASONAL: RESIDENTS: \$29.00 NON-RESIDENTS: \$64.00 (CANADIAN FUNDS)
CONSERVATION: RESIDENTS: \$19.50 NON-RESIDENTS: \$39.00 (CANADIAN FUNDS)

Jim Trottier, our Northshore Biologist with the Ontario MNR, also mentioned no new boating regulations were passed this year, however he encourages all Residents and Non-Residents to pick up and read the Safe Boating Regulations Booklet available at many area merchants.

Jim can be reached at:

Jim Trottier
 Northshore Area Biologist
 Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
 62 Queen Avenue
 P.O. Box 190
 Blind River, ON P0R 1B0

Phone: (705) 356-2234 Ext. 225
 Fax: (705) 356-7441
 Email: jim.trottier@mnr.gov.ca

HOW HEALTHY IS OUR LAKE WATER?

The worst E. coli outbreak in Canadian history occurred in Walkerton, ON, May 2000. Thousands fell ill, at least seven people died and a full inquiry occurred as a result of contaminated water. The water was contaminated with fecal bacteria. The particular bacteria that caused the illness was a pathogenic strain of the bacterium Escherichia coli (E.coli O157:H7). Although most strains of E.coli are harmless and live in the intestines of healthy humans and animals, this strain produces a powerful toxin and can cause severe illness and death. This is only one of many recent outbreaks in North America.

Contamination of rural drinking water by bacteria is more common than contamination due to excessive nitrate or pesticides. Almost half of the wells tested in an Ontario survey had fecal bacteria present in the well water. The safety of drinking water is declining throughout the world because of microbiological contamination. This decline is not only in Third World countries but in developed countries as well.

E.coli comes from human and animal wastes. During rainfalls, snow melts, or other types of precipitation, E.coli may be washed into creeks, rivers, streams, lakes, or groundwater. When these waters are used as sources of drinking water and the water is not treated or inadequately treated, E.coli may end up in drinking water.

Coliform bacteria originate in the intestinal tract of warm-blooded animals therefore where coliform occur in well water this is evidence of movement from the surface (or near surface) of the soil into groundwater.

The Ministry of Health tests well water for Total coliform and Fecal coliform bacteria. These bacteria are used because they have similar life cycles to pathogenic bacteria. The presence of these organisms in water is a strong indication of recent sewage or animal waste contamination. Where these bacteria are present more harmful bacteria may also be present and therefore you should not drink this water without treatment.

In August of 2005, Richard Brennan had an analytical water test performed on Lake Matinenda. The results are listed below:

SAMPLE NAME	E.coli	Total Coliform
Teacher's Bay	2	58
Sullivan's Bay	2	65
MacDonald's Bay E.	12	58
MacDonald's Bay W.	4	19

Lake Matinenda 2005 Water Quality Survey

AREA	2004 Secci Disc (M)	2005 Secci Disc (M)	“PARTNERS” RANGE (M)
Lee’s Island	4.9 M	5.7 M	1-9 M
MacDonald’s Bay	5.0 M	6.0 M	
Stover’s Point	5.7 M	8.0 M	
Baker’s Bay	6.8 M	8.0 M	
68 Bay	6.4 M	7.75 M	
Oligotropic – unenriched		Over 5 M	
Mesotropic – moderately enriched		3.0-4.9 M	
Eutropic – enriched, high levels of nutrients		Less than 2.9 M	

Lake Matinenda 2005 Water Quality Survey Part II

AREA	June 2004 Phosphate Level (ppm)	“Partners” Range (ppm)
MacDonald’s Bay	4.4-5.9	2.0-40
Stover’s Point	3.3-4.0	
Baker’s Bay	3.0-6.1	
Oligotropic – unenriched	10 ppm or less	
Mesotropic – moderately enriched	11-20 ppm	
Eutropic – enriched (high levels of nutrients)	21 ppm or more	

Complete Lake Partners Report is available at:www.ene.gov.on.ca and e-mail:
lakepartner@ene.gov.on.ca

For LMCA members: **Real Property Tax Protection Promised by Homestead Act**

Recently I received an email from Jerry Behnke. Subject: FOCA – E-let. FOCA, you recall is the Federation of Ontario Cottager’s Associations, which is our LMCA lobbyist to protect cottager’s against a multitude of issues. One issue is tax assessment, which is not equitable. The newsletter suggests movement of a HOMESTEAD Act “to provide real taxpayer protection.” It sounds good until it is picked apart word by word. At first blush, I see no equity for non-Canadian Canada property owners. However you are encouraged to read the FOCA E – lert, transcribed below and visit <http://www.foca.on.ca/index.php?knowyourmpp> and visit www.wraft.com for information and recent developments on property tax reform.

EDITED INFORMATION: Current Value Assessment (CVA) on a province-wide basis was designed to bring fairness in an environment of rapidly increasing residential assessments. Legislation being proposed in Ontario is similar to legislation capping increases on residential property assessments in Nova Scotia, California, Florida, Michigan, Minnesota, Maryland, New Mexico, Oregon and Texas.

Action as described by FOCA: see the full version March 1, 2006, press release at <http://www.foca.on.ca/indexcms/index>

Summary: MPP and Opposition Finance Critic, Tim Hudak (MPP, Erie-Lincoln) introduced Private Member’s Bill, the Homestead Act, 2006, as described above and to also reduce tax assessments on home improvements and give seniors (undefined) and disabled persons (undefined) a break. The three primary benefits are worded below:

- ❖ A cap on residential property (principal residence?) assessment increases for tax purposes at 5%, provided homeownership is maintained.
- ❖ The ability for Ontario homeowners (non-resident Ontario home/cottage owners?) to make up to \$25,000 in home repairs, alterations or additions without facing an increase in their property assessment.
- ❖ Seniors (undefined, includes non-resident property owners?) and disabled (undefined, includes non-resident property owners?) would not pay property taxes on the first \$10,000 of (their) assessed principal (definition?) residence.

Check it out, ask questions. Canadian homeowners should contact their MPP. The Board would like to hear of your findings.

Ron Servatius

NEWS AROUND LAKE MATINENDA AND BLIND RIVER

In 2006 Blind River is celebrating its 100th anniversary. For the past four years the town has been recognized at the Provincial level as one of the Top 50 Ontario Festivals for its excellence in hosting and organizing events that promote culture and heritage.

Blind River Community Calendar

Winter Carnival 2nd weekend of Feb.
Community Days 2nd weekend of July
Canada Day Fireworks July 1st at Marina Park
Deer Trail Studio Tour last weekend of Sept

Centennial Events

Mixed Curling Bonspiel
Good Old Days Tribute
Anniversary Ball
Seniors' Games
Scavenger Hunt
Festival of Sails
Homecoming
Fiddlers 3 Concert
14 hr. Outdoor Concert

Call the Recreation and Parks Department for additional information or details at 705-356-225 or 705-356-7257 or Blind River Chamber of Commerce: 800-563-8719.

MAYOR WELCOMES MATINENDA COTTAGERS

WELCOME

On behalf of Town Council and the citizens of Blind River, I extend a warm and hearty “welcome back to Blind River” to the Lake Matinenda Cottagers.

We hope you will enjoy your time in Blind River and will be able to participate in our 100th Anniversary events taking place all year long. Log on to www.blindriver.ca/festivals for more information about Blind River and the schedule of events for our centennial.

Have a great 2006!

Robert V. Galligher
Mayor

WHAT'S NEW FOR MATINENDA PROVINCIAL PARK

Matinenda Provincial Park was designated through the Ontario Living Legacy Land Use Strategy as a Natural Environment class park and was regulated under the Provincial Parks Act in June 2004.

Since then, Ontario Parks has been preparing a Management Statement to provide direction for the management of the 29,417 hectares of parkland. This Statement will be the primary guide, along with applicable policies and legislation, to ensure public health and safety. The Management Statement should be completed in June 2006.

There is currently no immediate intent to undergo development in Matinenda Provincial Park.

Fisheries Management will continue to be managed through the Ministry of Natural Resources Blind River Area Office.

All inquiries regarding permitted uses, access and general questions should be directed to the Park Superintendent responsible for Matinenda, at Chutes Provincial Park (705-865-2021).

THE LODGE ON MATINENDA AWAITS COTTAGERS FOR THE SUMMER SEASON

The Lodge is gearing up for a busy summer season and welcomes the Cottagers to enjoy its many services, including boat slip rentals, dock shop items, ice, gasoline, propane gas exchange, Laundromat, as well as increased summer hours at the bar/restaurant. The restaurant will be offering the "Friday Night Special" again, the all you can eat walleye dinner. The Lodge also has cabins on Bearhead Lake available for rent. Call Jimmy at 705-848-2881 for other available services.

WELCOME BACK TO MATINENDA.....

Steve and Sharon from Butterfield Narrows have a new business on the lake. They're glad to be back on the lake and anxious to start their new venture, Butterfield Barge and Excavating. They'll be offering such services as: licensed septic installation, barging, site preparation, stump removal, and etc. Call them at 705-812-1467 or E-mail at butterfield.barge@gmail.com.

NEW FACES MANAGING U-RENTAL SALES & SERVICES

In 2005, Jeff and Tammy started to run the family business, which started in 1994. they are located in Blind River at 250 Woodward Avenue. They offer more than 150 rental tools, including backhoes, woodsplitters, woodchippers, brushsaws, boat rentals, canoe rentals, barge services, and are the largest bait and tackle shop in town. Feel free to call them at 705-356-2767, or online at www.urentals.ca.

NEWSFLASH!!!!

Based on reliable 3rd party reports there will be a Laundromat in Blind River. New location? Tentatively the old "Chic Char". When? Don't know. Who? Not confirmed. (FYI the Chic Char used to house the original Laundromat back in the 50's and 60's.)

The Honda dealership on HWY 17 has closed and a new dealership is opening next to Home Hardware.

According to Kenny Allen of Allen's Northland Camp, the earliest ice-out date was April 5th in the early 80's. Does anyone know of an earlier date?

Peter Fitzpatrick from Bakers Bay mentioned a new petition going around Northern Ontario to bring back the spring Bear Hunt to ease the over population of bear in the area. Currently the bear hunt season runs from August 15th through the end of October.

A REMINDER!!!

After several attempts to contact the Clerk of Blind River for 911 Emergency Procedures, I'm still confused. For us cottagers I understand the Volunteer Fire Department of Blind River/EMS/Paramedics will meet accident victims at the dock. Once you contact 911, don't leave the dock area!!! Further information in case of an accident or health related issue can be discussed at the AGM. Last summer, Dr Rice was berry picking on a back lake and fell down a cliff, fracturing her back. Rescue efforts by many concerned helped her rescue in the bush, expediting her successful recovery. Late last fall after most cottagers had left for the season, Von fell through a wood plank at her camp and suffered a compound fracture of her leg. After several hours attempting to crawl to her cottage for assistance, Henderson camp heard her yelling for help and came to her rescue. After these two life-threatening accidents, we need to develop a better emergency response procedure. Any suggestions? What would you do?

The Fire Department will respond to fires on the lake, as we've seen several times in the past, but will not attempt to extinguish a cottage fire, only the surrounding forest area. Are Lightning Rods an option?

2006 ASSOCIATION DUES

Annual Lake Matinenda Cottage Association membership dues are \$10.00. At our Annual General Meeting, one vote is allowed for each lot owned, provided dues are paid for each lot. In situations where more than one family uses a cottage property, we would be pleased to receive additional contributions in support of Association activities. Please complete the form below, attach your check made payable to *Lake Matinenda Cottage Association*, and mail to:

Lake Matinenda Cottage Association
P.O. Box 772
Blind River, ON P0R 1B0 Canada

Lake Matinenda
Cottage Association

2006 ASSOCIATION DUES

Name(s): _____ **Amount Enc:** _____

Property Location: _____ **Lot Number:** _____

CB Handle: _____ **Monitoring Channel #** _____

Summer Mailing Address: _____

PH: _____

Winter Mailing Address: _____

PH: _____

If you wish the above information included in our membership directory, please check here: _____

Information you wish directed to the Board:

*Dedicated to promoting communication,
friendship, conservation of natural beauty,
and resources, water safety, sanitation, and
cooperation with public agencies for over 40 years*

SURVEY FOR DATE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Please list the date(s) and reasons why you prefer the date(s) for our next meeting:

List additional information you wish to direct to the Board:
