



Newsletter Volume 38, No 1, January, 2019

## President's Message

Welcome to the 2019 cottage season. I am very honoured to be serving east end cottagers in the role of President. Thank you for your support. While there may be snow on the ground and the winter winds are cold and blowing, I know that like many of you, I am thinking about the upcoming cottage season.

Having spent some time at the cottage between Christmas and New Year's, despite our cottage being "three season," I was amazed at the growing number of cottagers experiencing the winter beauty of Big Gull Lake. Due to a unique freeze thaw freeze period over the holiday season, the lake was an amazing sheet of clear ice. I saw hockey games and people skating for miles on the lake. Quite a difference from the hot sunny summer days.

Our past Annual General Meeting saw several changes to the Big Gull Lake East End Cottage Association Board. Ken Grant has stepped down as President but thankfully, has agreed to remain as Lake Steward. We all truly appreciate his leadership over the past many years and are grateful to still have his expertise on our Board of Directors.

Joining us as a new Board Member is David Marsh from Area 5. He will be assuming the role of Secretary on the Board of Directors. Greg Best will now be our new Vice President. Keith Rowe, Murray Finch, Steve Burnie, Dave Cox, Debbie Bird, remain from the previous Board. I look forward to working with all the Executive this year.

The format of the newsletter is changing with a sleeker look for 2019. It will contain only pertinent information for our members and will include the following:

- Message from President
- Financial statement
- List of directors
- Calendar information
- Membership renewal/application
- Road management information
- Events

All other information will be posted on our website at: [www.bgleeca.ca](http://www.bgleeca.ca).

Access to the private section of the website, where the member address/phone directory is located, requires a username and password. The logon information is provided to BGLEECA members only and can be obtained from your Area Rep or from one of the association's Directors.

### **North Frontenac Fire Ban New Regulations:**

With climate change affecting all of us, there have been times when it has been necessary for the township to enforce a fire ban in our area. The township has amended the by-law regarding this topic. I have included an excerpt from the new by-law. All of the changes can be found on our website.

The Township of North Frontenac Open Air By-law #48-05 as amended, defines a Fire Ban as follows:

“Fire Ban” means a total fire ban and shall prohibit; burning of debris, burning in an outdoor incinerator, chimineas, fireworks displays, campfires of any type, and charcoal installations. *NOTE during a fire ban a BBQ or Hibachis (charcoal installation) may be used provided the installation is used within 100 meters of a permanent structure used as a dwelling that you occupy, or in an organized campground, is at least 2 meters from any flammable material and the ashes and coals produced are completely extinguished and safely disposed of.”*

During a Fire Ban, you **cannot** have an outdoor open-air fire.

For more information on Frontenac County burn ban and fire dangers, please click on link below.

<https://www.northfrontenac.com/en/our-community/burn-ban-and-fire-danger-1.aspx>

North Frontenac Township now has a new website. You can contact them using the following information: Website: [www.northfrontenac.com](http://www.northfrontenac.com)

Or by contacting:

Cheryl Robson, Chief Administrative Officer  
6648 Road 506, Plevna, ON K0H 2M0  
(613) 479-2231 or 1 (800) 234-3953 Ext 221

### **FOCA Update:**

As a member of FOCA, I receive newsletters from them, keeping our lake up-to-date on any important issues that come forward that could have a detrimental effect on Big Gull Lake.

The December newsletter contains an environmental update regarding the plan of the Ontario Government to eliminate the office of the **Environmental Commissioner of Ontario (ECO)**. The ECO is our environmental watchdog, supporting public participation through the

Environmental Registry, as well as government accountability for decisions that affect our environment, now and into the future.

FOCA has asked us to inform you of this proposed change and have asked that any members who are interested in voicing their opinion, write a letter to our MPP, Randy Hillier. All of the details are posted on our website.

**Water Quality Sampling:** Last year, we introduced a new water quality sampling regime with The Water Rangers. In addition to Secchi Disc and one-time water sampling done through the sponsorship of FOCA and the Lake Partner Program, we now conduct a series of readings including dissolved Oxygen, air and surface water temperature, conductivity, and ph. You can access the information on line through <https://app.waterrangers.ca/groups/big-gull-lake-east-end-cottage-association>

The Cottage Association annual dues are owing once again, and we encourage you to fill in the dues form and return it to us. See Dues Sheet attached to this newsletter.

Happy New Year. Hope to see you soon up at the lake.

Donna Commerford

## 11th Annual Family Triathlon

July 27, 2019  
10:00 a.m.

This event is a family friendly, participatory triathlon. You may enter as an individual (using a kayak) or as a team (using a canoe). Teams may be comprised of any number of individuals, and any member(s) can complete any part of the event. Individuals and families of all ages are welcome, but we ask that parents accompany younger children.

Each team will predict how long it will take their entire team to complete the course. The team closest to their predicted time wins. It does not matter how slow or fast you complete the course, you just need to complete the race in your predicted time. **Of course, we ask that watches or timing devices not be worn during the event.**

Appropriate signage related to this event will be placed on BGLEECA bulletin boards. Teams can register by email or by phone at:

- Nancy Gibson at [nancyinsaudi@yahoo.com](mailto:nancyinsaudi@yahoo.com) (613 479-2728)
- Donna Commerford at [donna.commerford@sympatico.ca](mailto:donna.commerford@sympatico.ca) (613 479-2901)

Please state the name of your team, including each participant and your estimated time of completion. Team check-in will take place @ the Gibson's cottage on Helen Lane on the day of the triathlon.

The triathlon will consist of 3 events: a swim, a run/walk and a canoe, kayak, paddleboat leg (any type of floatation device is acceptable, as long as it is not wind powered or motorized).

Come out and enjoy the fun!

### **2019 Annual Gull Lake Golf Tournament – Hold the Date**

The 2019 Annual Gull Lake Golf Tournament will take place on August 7<sup>th</sup> – 2:00 pm at The Blue Heron Golf Course in Lanark. Come out for nine holes of golf followed by dinner and prizes in the clubhouse. It's lots of fun for golfers of all ages and skill levels.

Details for registration, dinner menu, etc., when available, will be included in the spring newsletter and on the Gull Lake Facebook page. For more information, contact Susan or Greg Best [gbest@bell.net](mailto:gbest@bell.net) or 613 268 2188.

### **2019 Big Gull Lake East End Cottage Association Calendar**

This year's calendar is now in production and we're looking for your pictures to include. Pictures of scenes around the lake from all seasons would be great. You can send your pictures to Judy Pietrusiak [ajaj@rogers.com](mailto:ajaj@rogers.com) (JPEG format). We need to have them in no later than February 15<sup>th</sup>. Thanks.

### **Lake Steward Report**

by Ken Grant:

The health of our lake and surrounding lakeshore continues to be impacted by climate change and accompanying consequences. Fish habitat is impacted by warmer water temperatures with some species adapting and others being negatively impacted. For an overview see our BGLEECA website ( [www.bgleeca.ca](http://www.bgleeca.ca)) for an article titled “**As Smallmouth Bass Move In, Walleye in Ontario Lakes at Risk**”.

Another consequence of climate change and warmer waters is the growth of algae. See our website for a publication from the Muskoka Watershed Council entitled “**Algae, a Quick Guide**”. It offers an overview of different kinds of algae, reporting on algae growth, pictures of different kinds of algae, etc...

We continue to see some damage to the deciduous forest cover from caterpillars: Forest tent, Easter Forest Tent and Gypsy Moth. Last season saw a heavy invasion of the Eastern Forest Tent. While I don't have any solutions for the Forest Tent or Eastern Forest Tent caterpillars, I had two gypsy moth traps out during the 2018 summer season and caught more than 50 moths. We have renewed our trap inventory and have 50 traps for sale: one trap for \$12 or 5 traps for \$50. Please contact Ken Grant at 613 408 4821 or drop by 154A East Belcham to pick up your trap(s).

Another impact of our warmer weather is the posting of fire bans. I have placed a publication from the North Frontenac Fire Department entitled “**Fire Ban Clarification**” on our website for your information.

Have a good summer on the water.

### **South Shore Road Maintenance Report**

There is not a lot to report on the South Shore Road. Maintenance grading was done periodically throughout the summer and 470 tons of gravel was applied to area 13,12, Shady Way, Gnage Lane and spot applied on the main portion coming in off Ardoch Road.

The south shore road system went into the winter in excellent condition.

I will be also be assuming the North Shore road management duties in 2019, collectively with Dave Cox.

**Murray Finch**  
Roads Manager  
613-769-8776 Cell  
613-479-2655 Cottage

### **North Shore Road Report**

The north shore road system received several loads of gravel, grading thru out the season, culvert work, and cutting the sides of our roads.

The 2018 plan included some work on the hill on Lowry Lane, however our road contractor could not perform the work required in the late fall. I am going to try to have the work on Lowry Lane done first thing in the 2019 season. This will be the last year I will serve as the North Shore road manager and board member. The torch will be passed on to Murray Finch (South Shore road manager) to continue maintenance work on the north shore road system.

**David G. Cox**  
North Shore Road Manager

Position	Name	Address	Phone
President	Donna Commerford	1178B Helen Lane	905-637-8564
Vice President	Greg Best	1036A&B Lowry Lane	613-268-2188
Treasurer	Debbie Bird	1302 Marsh View Drive	613-692-1051
Environment	Ken Grant	1054A Belcham Lane East	613-226-4821
Secretary	David Marsh	1130 Marsh View Drive	519-657-4881
North Shore Rd	David Cox	1050 Oak Ridge Point Lane	613-548-4107
Director at Large	Keith Rowe	1122 Helen Lane	905-377-0552
Director at Large	Murray Finch	1002 Zimmer Lane	613-592-3707
Director at Large	Steve Burnie	1086C Coleman Lane	

*Thanks to our Newsletter Editor Leslie Maitland for her contributions in the production of this newsletter.* If you have suggestions for the newsletter, contact Leslie at [lesliemaitland99@gmail.com](mailto:lesliemaitland99@gmail.com)

## BGLEECA Financial Report as of December 31, 2018

### Fund Balances

General Fund: 13,721  
 Calendar Fund: 4,968  
 Environment Fund: 17, 858  
 North Shore Road Fund: 11,167

### Dues and Fees 2019

The convenience of payment by e-transfer has become popular with many of our members. With auto deposit on our BGLEECA account there are no tricky secret questions and answers. You can send your payments to [bgleeca@icloud.com](mailto:bgleeca@icloud.com) through your online bank. Payment of dues and road fees are due by April 30, 2019. Please see Dues and Fees form, following.

## Dues and Fees 2019

<b>Full Membership Annual Dues: \$30</b> Members receive newsletters and email updates, calendars, and access to FOCA member benefits. Your dues also support lake activities, our website, and director's liability insurance.	<b>\$30</b>
<b>Associate Membership (Non-cottage owners): \$10</b> To stay connected with newsletters.	<b>\$10</b>
<b><u>North Shore</u> Road Maintenance Fees: \$200</b> <i>For cottages on: Belcham Lane East &amp; West, Bell Lane, Lowry Lane, Hanbidge Lane, Marsh View Drive and Oak Ridge Point.</i>	<b>\$200</b>
Total (Canadian Funds only please)	

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cottage Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cottage Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Providing your email address will allow us to send you BGLEECA newsletters and alerts throughout the year. Please pay by April 30.*

Please make cheque payable to: **BGLEECA**

Mail to our treasurer: Debbie Bird, 5766 Queenscourt Cr. Manotick, ON K4M 1K3  
OR

Pay by e-transfer through online banking to Debbie Bird - [bgleeca@icloud.com](mailto:bgleeca@icloud.com)

Your personal information is collected for the sole purpose of communication within our cottage association, and will not be shared with third parties.