

Connections

Pointe au Baril Islanders' Association

Nov 2009

THANK YOU!!! We so appreciated the quick response to our initial request to provide us with your email address from so many of you. By using just email, we can save PaBIA a great deal of money in costs with postage, cut down on the need to recycle, and save Nancy time and energy to print, stuff and send out the newsletters!

Might we encourage those who may have overlooked the opportunity to share your email address with us to do so now!

TOPICS COVERED IN THIS ISSUE

- BEAR PROBLEMS
- COTTAGE HISTORY BOOK
- FALL COTTAGE PATROL
- GBLT POSTER AWARDS
- NEW WEBSITE LOOK
- NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS
- GETTING INVOLVED WITH PABIA
- PABERT
- PABIA 2010 MAP
- WATER LEVELS
- YEARBOOK UPDATE

Pointe au Baril Problem Bears

by Ed Garner

PaBIA is well aware of the increased bear activity in our community this last summer and particularly this past fall. The increased number and aggressive nature of the bears during the fall has been most disturbing to many of our members, particularly those who have had their cottages broken into numerous times. The bears are a



part of the natural environment in Pointe au Baril and we need to learn how to live with them in a safe manner. The problems have been caused by an increase in the bear population in our area and a severe shortage of food this past summer and fall. The situation will correct itself in time as long as we take some steps to insure that the bears do not continue to equate cottages with food.

Pointe au Baril is not alone with the problem. All the other associations on the bay have reported increased bear activity. We have instructed our GBA representative to take this issue to the GBA and they

have already started to respond. We suggest you read carefully the article that will come out on the bear problems in the next GBA Update. We are very appreciative of GBA's efforts and look forward to working with them on it in the future.

PaBIA intends to take some local actions on its own during the winter and during the summer season to educate our membership on this issue and to give all of you some ideas that we hope will increase your own personal safety as well as protect your property when you are not at the cottage.

Some of the things currently under discussion but not yet finalized are:

- 1) Education about how to minimize the possibility of a bear approaching your cottage.
- 2) Education about what to do if you encounter a bear on your property.
- 3) Ideas to protect your property from a possible bear attack when you are not there.
- 4) A MNR Bear Wise Community Hazard Assessment including a bear reporting system where members can easily discover if there have been bears reported near their property.
- 5) A section on the PaBIA website forum dedicated to exchanging ideas for managing the bear situation.

During this fall we have been in close contact with our new PaBIA patrol officer, Bruce Tiffin. Bruce is well aware of the bear problems and

has been reporting bear damage he has seen both during his routine fall inspection and at other times while he has been working on the Bay. Bruce is also sending pictures whenever he finds damage or any issue that needs attention this fall. In addition, a number of contractors have been in contact



with us and with owners about damage they have found. PaBIA contacts members immediately when ever damage is reported to us.

In a few weeks now the bears will all be hibernating and hopefully away from our cottages for the winter months. PaBIA will have more information on this issue in future newsletters.

Fall 2009 Water Levels - Good News!

October Michigan and Huron Net Basin Supply is way above normal in 2009

All of the Great Lakes basins experienced above average precipitation during the month of October. This above average precipitation caused a net supply of water to the Michigan/Huron basin that was 60 times the long term (1918-2008) average! The values shown below are in cubic feet/second. Net basin supply represents inflow minus evaporation. Outflow represents outflow from the basin. (Negative numbers in the chart indicate more evaporation than inflow.)

(Diversion are not included in these results.)

the long term average. Lake Erie is 3 inches (7.2 cm) above average and Lake

LAKE	October WATER SUPPLIES ² (cfs)		October OUTFLOW ³ (cfs)	
	2009	Average ⁵ (1900-1999)	2009	Average ⁴ (1900-1999)
Superior	14,000	39,000	64,000	81,000
Michigan-Huron	120,000	2,000	181,000	192,000
Erie	-14,000	-23,000	200,000	199,000
Ontario	39,000	7,000	275,000	243,000

The high net basin supply and below average outflow are a welcome addition of water to our basin. Currently the Michigan/ Huron and the Superior basins are just 6 inches (15.2 cm) below

Ontario is at the long term average. Water levels are looking better – and so will your propellers next summer

By Ed Garner

Pictures, Pictures, Pictures on www.pabia.ca!

By Ed Garner

PaBIA has just brought on line a new website that literally has hundreds of photos from last summer's PaBIA sailing, and regattas. These photos were taken by Peter Watson, David Hitchcock and Kevin Ballon. Thanks Peter, David and Kevin for all your hard work in shooting and sorting these photos.

The new site has all the regular information on it but arranged in a more modern design and with lots of scenic photos throughout

the site. In addition, a forum is now available for discussion of any topic that is of concern to members. Click on the forum tab and sign up so you can participate. It will only take a minute or two. The forum also contains a secure area for the PaBIA Board and Exec to discuss the numerous issues that come up during the winter months. There will be more on the forum in a future newsletter.

We are hoping that the new website and our regular

newsletters will improve communications, understanding and participation in our community.

This new site can be reached from two addresses. Our old address www.pabia.on.ca and also www.pabia.ca. We will eventually stop using the www.pabia.on.ca but both will point to the same site for the next year or so. We suggest you change your bookmarks now to www.pabia.ca and start using that address.

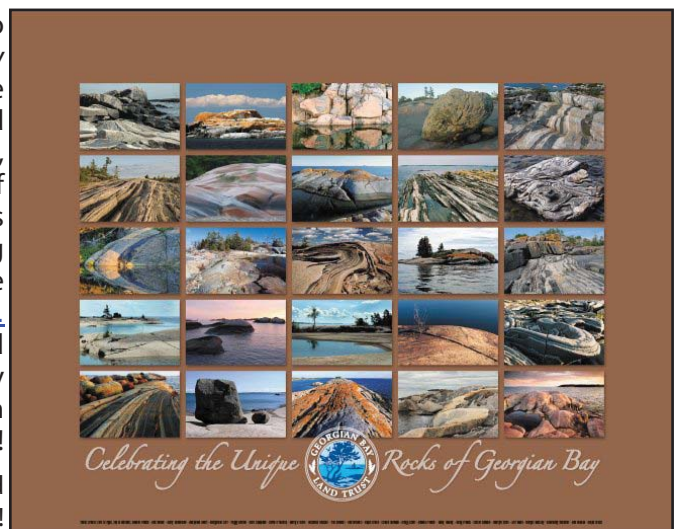
Have fun surfing!

GBLT's Poster

The Georgian Bay Land Trust (GBLT) would like to congratulate the winners of the *Rocks of Georgian Bay* photo contest! The collection of photos portray the many faces of the rocks, from orange lichen-covered crags to smooth whale's backs plunging into the water, each one a snippet of the Bay's beauty. The splendour of the rocks is just one of the many reasons to protect this incredible natural wonder, a cause the GBLT is forwarding through conservation, promotion and education. The posters are available for sale on the GBLT website (www.gbtl.org), or by calling 416-440-1519 ext. 3, and make a fantastic Christmas gift for the Georgian Bay enthusiast on your list! PaBIA members, Barry Middleton and Cecile Gambin, took two of the pictures chosen!

GBLT has financially supported and educationally strengthened PaBIA's Marine Patrol for the past 4 years! We thank them!

by Wendy Cooper



Pointe au Baril Emergency Response Services *by Ed Garner*

DONATIONS AND RESPONSES NEEDED

We are very lucky to have a nursing station in Pointe au Baril as well as the outstanding emergency response



system that has been developed. Many years ago it was decided to have the ambulances in our district stationed at outlying locations that would minimize the time to reach an emergency medical situation rather than keep them all located in Parry Sound. Pointe au Baril was lucky to have one of those ambulances assigned to our community. We have all seen it parked at the Station and many have used it over the years.

Because of the frustrations associated with getting injured or sick individuals out of the islands and with fighting fires located on remote islands some of our local citizens stepped forward and started the Pointe au Baril Volunteer Fire



Brigade. Many of these were the same people we, as islanders, would call for help when an emergency arose at our cottage. The Fire Brigade found that it had far more medical emergency calls than fire calls and to reflect that after a few years changed its name to Pointe au Baril Emergency Response Team (PaBERT). They have had outstanding support from the emergency response folks in Parry Sound both for training and for donated equipment. Also

the Britt Fire Department has been a major source of support in training and equipment. Over the years PaBIA and many members of the community both business and individuals have supported PaBERT. Many of us have had the unfortunate opportunity to call for help and then felt the relief when, after a remarkably short time, that big metal boat came flying towards us with a very capable crew onboard.

It has been a great experience for



me to watch these changes occur in our community over the years. The generous assistance and cooperation of various emergency response organizations, businesses and individuals has been, and continues to be, remarkable. We owe a debt of gratitude to all these folks and particularly for our fine volunteers.

Another improvement is about to occur. The ambulance has been sitting outside while in Pointe au Baril because there is no ambulance base at the Station. In the winter that means that the ambulance must be kept running in order to keep the onboard medical supplies from freezing. In addition, the ambulance is located down a narrow windy road which increases their response time.

The recent past and the present director of emergency services in Parry Sound have found the funds and the land to build an ambulance base that will house the vehicles. It will be located just south of Pointe au Baril on 69. This base will not only keep the ambulance warm during the winter but will also supply space for the Pointe au Baril Emergency Response Team to keep a fire truck warm. That will make fire fighting during the winter months much easier for our local volunteers.

This new base brings two issues up that PaBIA members need to consider.



fast attach fire fighting unit

First, PaBERT is going to purchase and build a fast attach fire fighting unit for fighting fires that they cannot reach with the fire boat. **They will be running a fund drive to pay for that outfit (see picture) this winter. I strongly encourage all of you to support this fund raising effort.** They will be able to store this unit in a heated environment in the new ambulance base building. This unit will be mounted on a trailer.

The second issue has to do with a proposed helicopter pad near the ambulance base. This pad would only be used for extreme life and death emergencies. There are two families who are protesting this proposed helicopter pad. They are concerned with noise and light pollution. While those are valid concerns for all of us, the pad will be in the woods over 300 metres away from their homes (that is almost 1000 feet) and the use will be rare. For those who know Parry Sound it is the distance from the Helicopter Pad at the Response Base in Parry Sound to the bowling alley.

There is an article in the Parry Sound North Star Newspaper about this issue. It is a good description of the complaint and the response of the Parry Sound Emergency Response center to the complaint. **We would ask that you read that article and then please comment at the end of the article.** It is important that our individual voices be heard on this issue. A helicopter pad would be a great addition to the ambulance base and undoubtedly will save lives in the years to come. The article can be reached at the following URL on the web:

<http://www.parrysound.com/press/1257974198/?q=pointe+au+Baril+helipad>

Need a Christmas Gift?

Several members have been asking about buying copies of the CHBI this fall in anticipation of the upcoming holidays. Should you wish to purchase one, Nancy Rogers, and Hilde Clark (USA) have a limited quantity and will be able to send them to you.



Should you wish to order a copy, please send your order with a cheque made out to PaBIA for \$70 CN or USA (\$59 + \$11 S&H) and mail to:

Nancy Rogers,
38 Elora Drive Unit #1,
Hamilton, ON, L9C 7K3

You can email either Nancy at pabia@mountaincable.net or Hilde at hilde.clark@gmail.com with questions or requests.

Get Involved!

Interested in becoming more involved with PaBIA's efforts to protect, preserve and promote the safety and natural beauty of our Pointe au Baril area?

Though we encourage your participation in all areas, we are presently needing help in the following areas: (1) chairing our PaBIANaturalistprogram, (2) helping with the Marine Patrol for summer '10 (3) becoming PaBIA's historian.

We encourage you to get involved! It's a great way to get to know others and become informed about what is going on in our paradise on the Bay! Email Nancy at pabia@mountaincable.net!

Fall Cottage Patrols

The Fall Cottage Patrol by Bruce Tiffin is close to being completed. No further bear break-ins have occurred but some bear damages (scratches at windows and doors) were reported. There were also some damages caused by high winds at two cottages. Bruce took digital photos of any problems found and these were sent to the property owners right away. The Winter Cottage Patrol will begin in February.

Yearbook Updates - (since last Connections)

ADAMS, VIRGINIA & RICHARD
EMAIL: RNA39@MSN.COM

ANDERSON, DAVID
EMAIL:
DAVIDLANDERSON@YAHOO.COM

ANDERSON, JOHN & JOY
130 JASMINE WOODS COURT,
UNIT 10 - C
DELTONA FL 32725 USA
H: 386-574-4066

ARMSTRONG, JAMES & CHRISTINE
10 SILVER SADDLE LANE
ROLLING HILLS ESTATES EA
90274 USA
HM: 424-206-2262

DAVIDSON, PENNY-ANNE
EMAIL: PADAVIDSON@CANADA.COM

GREEN, LAUREN
EMAIL: AGWINDE3@GMAIL.COM

HOBSON, H. LEE & ANN
EMAIL: LEE.HOBSON@HIGHSIDE.COM

JOHNSON, SYLVIA
EMAIL: GBGJOHNS@PERSONA.CA

KILGOUR, BOB & SYLVIA
(ADDRESS CHANGE)
3900 YONGE ST., APT. 604
TORONTO ON M4N 3N6

SADLER, STEVE & SANDY
2695 CONCESSION RD. 8, R.R. 5
BOWMANVILLE ON L1C 3K6
EMAIL:
SADLER.RKO281@GMAIL.COM

SCHROEDER, REED & ANN
EMAIL: AREEDSCH1@VERIZON.NET

WHITE, BELLA
4788 MARGUERITE ST.
VANCOUVER BC V6J 4G9
H: 604-565-4559
EMAIL: DRAGONFLYGAL@MAC.COM

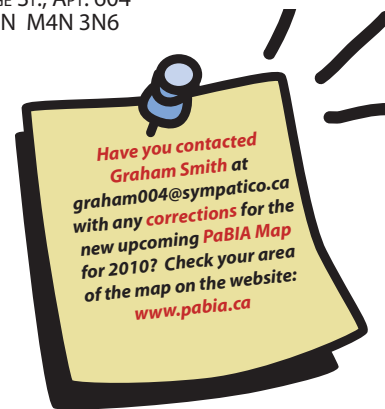
We encourage your thoughts, comments and suggestions!

Email us at pabia@mountaincable.net

PaBIA BOARD 2009 - 2010

BOATING SAFETY & WATER USE.....	*HILDE CLARK
COMMUNICATIONS	*HILDE CLARK
EMERGENCY & FIRE.....	RANDY JOHNSON
ENVIRONMENT	*ED GARNER
ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS	SHELAGH GRANT
FISHING	SANDY BOECKH
GBA REPRESENTATIVE	*CAM RICHARDSON
GBA REPRESENTATIVE	MICHAEL REDDY
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT.....	DOUG HALL
JUNIOR REGATTA	PETER SKUCE
LAND USE	TERRY CLARK
MAPS & MARKERS	GRAHAM SMITH
MARINE PATROL SUPERVISOR.....	DAN KUHN
MP BOAT SAFETY TRAINING	RANDY JOHNSON
MEDICAL	MICHAEL EVANS
MEMBERSHIP	GEOFF BOONE
PAST PRESIDENTS' ADVISORY CHAIR.....	*JACK MARLEY
PERMANENT COMMUNITY REP.....	BILL KENNEDY
PaBIA COMMUNITY EVENTS.....	*LESLIE TAYLOR
PRESIDENT	*STED GARBER
RATEPAYERS COMMITTEE.....	*CAM RICHARDSON
SAILING CO-CHAIR	DOUG MALCOLM
SAILING CO-CHAIR.....	JAMIE ISBESTER
SECRETARY-TREASURER.....	*NANCY ROGERS
SENIOR REGATTA	GORD PHIPPEN
WEBMASTER.....	*ED GARNER

*EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Mission of PaBIA

The object of the Association shall be to unite together those interested in Pointe au Baril as a "water access" community for the purpose of protecting, preserving and promoting the interests of property owners, residents, cottagers and tourists.

Pointe au Baril Islanders' Association

38 Elora Ave, Unit #1
Hamilton, ON L9C 7K3
905-383-6726

pabia@mountaincable.net

www.pabia.ca