

Connections

POINTE AU BARIL ISLANDERS' ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER 2011

Your PaBIA Board has been hard at work for all! At our teleconference earlier this month, we discussed a variety of items which, once the minutes have been approved, will publish on www.pabia.ca.

- COTTAGE PATROLS
- IN MEMORIAM
- PaBERT
- PaBIA YEARBOOK UPDATE
- PRESIDENT'S UPDATE
- PONTIAC ISLAND UPDATE
- THANK YOU, GEOFF
- WELCOME, STEWART

Dear PaBIA Member,

2011 was a great summer in Pointe au Baril with many warm sunny days. I am lucky to have an excellent board of experienced PaBIA members working with me on all the many activities PaBIA is involved with each year. As of this writing we have met three times either in person or by conference call to manage the issues currently facing PaBIA.

Terry Clark has been working very hard on the Pontiac Island transfer. A committee of PaBIA board members has chosen the custodian for the Pontiac Islands group. PaBIA is now near the end of the process of transferring those islands to the Georgian Bay Land Trust (GBLT). Terry has spent many hours on the three documents that must be completed. This has involved complex negotiations with PaBIA, Martha Findlay, the custodian, and GBLT. That process should come to a finish by the end of the year. At that point we can all be sure that the constraints on the original donation will be maintained for the foreseeable future.



Ed Garner

We are in the process of looking for a new, larger marine patrol boat for a number of reasons. One reason for this is the need to continue to monitor the McCoy Islands. The current boats are not large enough to safely make that open-water crossing. I have worried about our patrollers making that crossing in a small outboard for some time and will be relieved when we have them traveling in a larger boat. The new boat will also be a big improvement for many of the other Marine Patrol duties. We are looking for ways to fund this purchase as soon as possible and to begin accounting, through amortization, for the wear and tear the marine patrol boats and motors experienced each year in our annual budget process.

For the last two years we have been considering a small dues increase to meet our ever-rising costs. We have recently had a 50% increase in the cost of using the Ojibway for the regattas; our costs for the fall, winter and spring patrols have increased as fuel costs have gone up; and the costs of installing, maintaining and removing our many navigation markers continues to rise; and we should be amortizing the boats in our annual budget. We have not had a dues increase in 10 years and if you just stop and think about the increase in the cost of maintaining our cottages and using them each summer, you can understand why we need a dues increase. As do many non-profits, PaBIA tries to maintain one year's worth of expenses in reserve for unexpected events. Your Board has therefore determined that we not only need to increase the dues \$25 to allow us to operate effectively but, as well, to implement a periodic 3-5 year review process to assess PaBIA's needs.

As I am sure you are all aware, our channels are becoming more crowded during July and August, particularly on the weekends and holidays. Many of us are driving larger, faster boats than in the past. The result of this is a significant increase risk of boating accidents. This summer we did have a boating accident involving injury and unless things change we may see more. Of the folks who spoke to me after the AGM this year, the vast majority were concerned about the increased risk in boating during our busiest times. PaBIA has been trying to offset these increased risks with the educational program you have all been exposed to during the season on the Ojibway dock and in the Yearbook. While this effort has had a very positive impact, we need to do more. The township has been discussing this issue and may be making some changes next summer that will help. PaBIA's board is currently discussing what it can do to help with this growing problem. We will have more information on this issue later this winter and spring. At this point I would like to suggest that all of us slowdown, take our time, and enjoy the boat ride.

Each summer I watch the boats go out to see the sunsets in the evening. I see boats rushing out there at full speed only to turn around and rush home once the sun has set. I also see a few boats that leave their dock a bit earlier and drive out there at about 10-15 mph and still get out in time to see the sunset and then return at the same speed. Guess who appears to have had a nice relaxing evening cruise? I sometimes wonder if any of us even knows (myself included) that our new big fast boats run very nicely at 10 - 15 mph while using a lot less gasoline. I believe we all rush around out of habit from our busy city lives. It would be good for all of us (including myself) to change that.

We have an organization in Pointe au Baril that protects all of us during our summers in the islands and also protects our property. They don't make much of a fuss and we rarely see them on the water but they are ready to help at a moment's notice 24/7 all season long. They are all volunteers and there are no taxpayer funds going to this effort. The members of this organization are part of our wonderful local year round community that saw a need some years ago and have filled it. Each year they end up quickly removing folks who have become gravely ill or have had a serious accident from the islands and into the ambulance waiting down at the community center. They also have put out many cottage fires. Although it is almost impossible to save a cottage once a fire gets a good start, they do save the trees and other nearby cottages. As you all have guessed by now, I am speaking of the Pointe au Baril Emergency Response Team (PaBERT). PaBERT can always use donations. They have to fuel and maintain the fireboat as well as the equipment they use to fight these fires. I have watched these folks function in an emergency and they are very professional. We all need to thank them for this service as it has made a huge improvement in the safety of our summers on the water. You might want to view the [firefighting effort](http://youtu.be/BEGmuXPPYwk) made recently by PaBERT and notice that they unquestionably saved a cottage and a separate building that would have been consumed by this fire had they not been on the scene quickly. If you have trouble with the link, the URL is: <http://youtu.be/BEGmuXPPYwk>

Cottage Patrols

During the Fall Cottage Patrols (as of Nov. 9), it would appear as if **weather, not bears, is the major culprit** to the abnormally high number of reports of damage!

30 problems have been reported thus far by PaBIA patrolman, Bruce Tiffin. After the Canadian Thanksgiving weekend, there was a tremendous wind storm with heavy rains. The water surged 3 feet and the waves in the Ojibway Bay were 2 – 3 feet high which might account for some of the damage Bruce has witnessed. He has yet to complete his rounds due to weather related delays, but he's getting there...only a few more days!

We are thankful to Bruce who not only reported these problems, but tries to solve problems where he can - trying to stop animals getting into garbage bins, closing doors and windows, even chasing critters out of cottages before closing. We are certainly getting our money's worth! Thanks Bruce!

- ☞ 8 cottages with windows and/or doors blown open
- ☞ 3 cottages with shingles blown off¹
- ☞ 2 cottages with shutters blown off²
- ☞ 5 locations with docks out of place, on shore, damaged³
- ☞ 1 property with trees down, cottage damaged
- ☞ 1 property with tree down close to cottage, no damage
- ☞ 1 aluminum boat washed up on shore, damaged
- ☞ 2 canoes blown over and moved, 1 damaged
- ☞ 1 cottage where doors blown open, animals chased out before closing doors
- ☞ 1 cottage with screens ripped off by wind
- ☞ 1 cottage with barbecue blown off a deck⁴
- ☞ 1 set of keys found on the deck of a cottage
- ☞ 1 location with garbage left in a bin, attracting animals
- ☞ 1 cottage with window frame clawed or chewed by a bear⁵
- ☞ 1 dock area with beavers piling up lots of branches

What does Bruce Tiffin do?

- ☞ checks each property and punches tag(s) as proof of visit
- ☞ tries to fix problems where possible e.g. closing windows or doors
- ☞ takes digital photos of problems found
- ☞ emails photo(s) and report of each problem to Nancy Rogers

What does Nancy do?

- ☞ forwards photo(s) and report to property owner by email (or phones where we don't have an email on file) immediately

What can YOU do?

- ☞ attach cottage tags to your buildings in a protected but accessible spot when you close at the end of the season
- ☞ provide your email address so we have it on file for reporting - it can be kept unlisted in the Yearbook if you prefer
- ☞ if you have more than one building to be checked, purchase extra tags and give Nancy Rogers the details of the locations of the buildings



Pointe au Baril Emergency Response Team



Box 306, Pointe au Baril,
Ontario, P0G 1K0
pabfirebrigade@hotmail.com

OUR MISSION

The Pointe au Baril Volunteer Fire Brigade serves the residents of Pointe au Baril by reducing the threat and damage caused by Fire, Disasters and Emergencies. We are committed to making Pointe au Baril a safer, healthier community through our actions and will work cooperatively with anyone who shares this goal.



Dear Pointe au Baril Residents,

Another year is drawing to a close and after thanksgiving the team will be winterizing all of our equipment and discontinuing our services until next spring.

2011 was an exciting year for the PABERT with the addition of the long awaited attack unit that is utilized when responding to fires not accessible with the fire boat. This unit is equipped with two fire pumps and can draft water from both a static water supply as well as from the onboard tank. Fire suppressant foam is used in most fires and is paramount when attacking oil-based fires.

The funds were raised by the PABERT volunteers and from generous donations from both seasonal and permanent residents.

Fortunately, there were only a few fires we needed to respond to this year. Medical emergencies continue to be where we are needed most and the team continues to hone their skills with both scheduled training and on call situations.

On a personal note I would like to thank all our volunteers for doing such an outstanding job this year. We all know that we are making a significant difference to the health and well being of our community.

In closing, I wish to thank each and every one of you who has helped us move forward and continue our emergency service this year.

Please continue to make a yearly donation if possible, in order that we can always be there FOR YOU.

Sincerely,
Mike Payne
PABERT President

Thank You to Geoff Boone; Welcome, Stewart Metcalfe!



Geoff Boone

PaBIA would like to thank Geoff Boone for his 7 years of service to our organization as the Membership Chairman. Geoff has volunteered countless hours phoning and writing potential members. During his tenure, he increased PaBIA's membership by 24 families. Geoff took the lead in several initiatives such as redesigning PaBIA's membership brochure which he had placed in PaB's Chamber of Commerce. Geoff's outgoing and friendly nature has served the organization well through the years. Pointe au Baril has the most active association in the area and we owe this in part to Geoff's efforts. On top of this he has continued to be a fantastic PaBIA booster. Our heartfelt gratitude, thanks Geoff.

Geoff will help Stewart Metcalfe transition into his new role as Membership Chairman. Stewart's family has been in Pointe au Baril for three generations and he has been interested and involved in the island community via The Ojibway Club and PaBIA. Stewart comes to us with extensive background in real estate sales which will serve PaBIA well through his ability to forge and maintain relationships. We look forward to working with you Stewart!



Stewart Metcalfe

Transfer of Pontiac Islands to GBLT

by Terry Clark

As reported to the membership at the end of August, following the search process and written proposals, the PaBIA Board determined that it would enter into a lifetime custodianship with Martha Hall Findlay for the care and preservation of Pontiac Island and its 100 year old cottage. Over the past several months, PaBIA has been working with Martha and the Georgian Bay Land Trust to develop the terms and conditions for a fair and equitable Custodian Agreement with Martha and a carefully constructed Stewardship Agreement with GBLT to insure that the four islands of Pontiac and its historic cottage are properly maintained, preserved and protected in accordance with the Will of Chester Smith as well as the Stewardship Policies of the GBLT.



Those two documents have been negotiated with the lawyers and integrated with cross-provisions so that, pursuant to the policies and programs of GBLT and in accordance with the wishes of the Pontiac neighbors in Pointe au Baril, the Pontiac Islands will be monitored and preserved under a customized Management Plan being developed specifically for those properties and maintained under the guidance of a Stewardship Committee on which both a PaBIA representative and Martha will be active members. The limited uses for Pontiac by the public will be only through organized educational and environmental programs approved in advance. In addition to the obligations for all maintenance, repairs, taxes, insurance and other costs and expenses related to Pontiac, as lifetime custodian Martha will have specific responsibilities regarding the stewardship policies and plan.

These two agreements (Custodian and Stewardship) have now been approved and signed by all parties. The final document, the Transfer of Title Agreement, should be completed and implemented by mid-December so that full title to and ownership of the Pontiac Islands will pass from PaBIA to the GBLT by the end of this year. Appropriate signage and a distinguishing plaque will be prominently placed at the Pontiac entrance next summer to memorialize this land donation and the stewardship partnership between PaBIA and GBLT formed to preserve these beautiful island properties for future generations



Pontiac Islands

'Chip Off the Ole Dock'

Found: 1 Camera chip under the Ojibway docks which must have fallen out of someone's camera! Might you be that someone?

There are some shots of the "paderno pei chowder championship" event plus numerous people shots including the pictures to the right.

Contact [Barry Middleton](mailto:Barry.Middleton@pabia.ca)



In Memoriam - (since Yearbook 2011 printing)

To the friends and families of those whose deaths have been reported to us during the past year, we extend our deepest sympathy. If we have not included the name of any deceased member, we are sorry. Your help in keeping us informed is greatly appreciated.

VALERIE CUMMING, A510-76 HEMLOCK CHANNEL, WIFE OF ROBERT CUMMING, MOTHER OF MARTHA (PAUL BUCHANAN) AND DANIELLE (ROBERT BAKER), JUNE 2011.

ANDREW PHIPPEN, E40-1 'PENDRAGON', SON OF PETER AND BARBARA PHIPPEN, BROTHER OF GORDON (LYNDA) PHIPPEN, OCTOBER 2011.

BETTY WELLS (NEE BARCLAY), A399-1 'SHINING WATERS', WIFE OF DR. BRUCE WELLS, MOTHER OF NANCY, MARY, PETER AND SUSAN, SISTER OF THE LATE DAVID AND JOHN BARCLAY.

Yearbook Update

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We encourage your thoughts, comments and suggestions!

Email us at pabia@shaw.ca or click on the individual director/chair's email address to contact directly!

PABIA *BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES 2011 - 2012

ADMINISTRATION

LEGAL
PERMANENT COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE
PRESIDENT
SECRETARY-TREASURER

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[DIANE PENFOLD](#)
*[ED GARNER](#)
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ASSISTANT WEBMASTER
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PABIA NATURALIST, FOREST HEALTH
FISHING
ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR, NATURALIST

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[SHELAGH GRANT](#)
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JUNIOR REGATTA
MEMBER EVENTS
MEMBERSHIP
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[STEWART METCALFE](#)
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MAPS & MARKERS
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GBA REPRESENTATIVE
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[CAM RICHARDSON](#)
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PABIA IS ADVOCATING FOR THE ISLANDERS'

CHANNEL MARKERS AND CAIRNS
CLEAN WATER
COMMUNITY ADVOCATE
SUPPORTER OF G5 &
MEMBER OF GEORGIAN BAY ASSOCIATION
PRESERVATION FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS
PRISTINE PICNIC PLACES
PROTECTION OF OUR COTTAGHES
SAFETY ON THE WATER
AND
EVENTS FOR THE COMPETITIVE SPIRIT
REGATTAS, SAILING RACES, PABIA NATURALIST

THE POINTE AU BARIL ISLANDERS' ASSOCIATION

UNITES TOGETHER OUR "WATER ACCESS" COMMUNITY TO
PROMOTE, PROTECT AND PRESERVE THIS
UNIQUE AND NATURAL REGION.

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Nancy Rogers

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