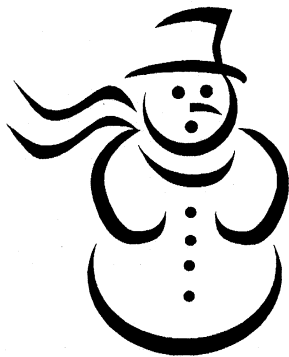




# Pike Lake Post

FEBRUARY 2004



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and greetings for 2004. Just a few cold months to go and we will be back at Pike Lake and ready to open our cottages for another season. Your elected executive will continue to work with you towards ensuring our lake remains healthy for us to enjoy. Our 2003 AGM was well attended and we have set the date for 2004.

**Geoff** provided a water quality update with a report that was circulated. It was agreed that the testing would be continued in 2004. The Township will continue to inspect septic systems (120 budgeted for) and members are requested to highlight any problem areas so we can direct testers.

The fridge magnets were well received by the members and a suggestion was made that we **discourage** cottagers and their visitors from **bathing and shampooing** in the lake

The bank balance was \$2,058 with more dollars expected. We need to continue to increase membership numbers if we are to continue with our present expenses.

The membership voted not to continue with the present web site at a cost of \$125. We feel a web site would be an asset to PLPOA and invite the membership to offer help if they can.

**Mike Mosher, Brian Cambell and Nancy Bryan** attended our AGM. Taxes were a hot topic, road maintenance, septic systems and the new 911 system were also covered.

It was reported that Fishers have been seen around the lake and Raccoons have been found to have ringworm

Please circle the date of the **2004 AGM** on your calendar,

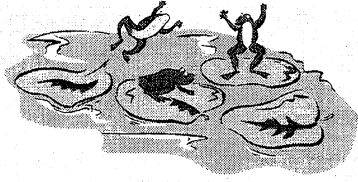
**Saturday July 17<sup>th</sup> 10 -12 at the Old Burgess Township Hall.**

**Rick** will be bringing sample plants from the MAPLE cutting day this fall.

**Caroline Tibbles 692 4981**  
**[mail4caroline@rogers.com](mailto:mail4caroline@rogers.com)**

## MEMBERSHIP

Paid memberships for 2003 was 120. Down from last year's 132, and not near our target of 150 out of 220 property owners. Twenty-two members paid for two years so we have a good start for 2004. This newsletter is being sent out either by email where possible or otherwise by surface post. Please see the 2004 membership form, and it would be helpful for budget purposes if it could be mailed promptly. Payment can be made for two years, and cheques can be made payable to the Pike Lake Property Owners' Association or PLPQA.  
**Dale Crook.**



## LAKE STEWARD REPORT

### Water clarity good – weeds are a problem

Throughout 2003, your Lake Stewardship team actively pursued several elements of our water quality strategy. This strategy involves both research/measurement and improvement programs to ensure the health of our lake for next generations. Our lake is aging naturally and we need to limit our contribution to this aging. In summary:

#### Research/Measurement

We look forward to the results from the third year of the **Watershed Watch** sampling program. Each month from May to October, Phil Tibbles and John Wilson provided their boats and ferried the samplers around the lake. We will spend \$1200 to continue this program in 2004.

#### George Sansom and Wylie Stewart

continue to take water readings each year under the **Lake Partner** program. This has provided measurements of phosphorus and clarity since 1975. Although somewhat cyclical, the trend indicates increased levels of nutrients.

**Audrey Cook** took two independent sets of readings around the lake to sample for **zebra mussels** and spiny water flea. Results indicate that these invasive species have not yet invaded our lake.

**Phil Tibbles** researched Tay Valley Township 2003 plans for **septic inspection**. The township budget for this program is very limited. Twelve inspections were made on Pike Lake in 2002 and all were judged to be in good working order.

**Orest Roscoe** has vigorously pursued **relationships** with other resource groups such as the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, the Friends of the Tay, and the Federation of Cottage Associations. This provides much needed information to support our programs.

## Improvement Programs

Education continues to be the focus. Water quality **fridge magnets** were distributed with the summer newsletter and **fact sheets** on invasive species and proper septic system maintenance were circulated at the AGM. A large "invasive species" **sign** will be erected at the boat launch. We must reduce the buildup of nutrients and weed growth. Our team is becoming more involved with the township in septic inspection. We want a say in what, how and when lake properties are inspected and we need to make sure that by-laws are enforced.

The Board is also becoming more involved with other local lake associations to ensure that we support each other in lake quality programs.

**Geoff Mace**

[maceg@algonquincollege.com](mailto:maceg@algonquincollege.com)

264-3375 (lake)

The lake water was tested twice this year for both Zebra Mussels and Spiny Water Fleas and the results were: no Zebra Mussels or Spiny Water Fleas in Pike Lake! Good for this year. Thanks to all who observed the guidelines of not transferring water from one water source to the lake whether by bilge water, bait cans or boat hulls. It is up to each of us to be vigilant. The Invading Species website is "[www.invading-species.com](http://www.invading-species.com)"

**Audrey Cook**

