

LAKE MATINENDA COTTAGE ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

spring, 1999

PRESIDENT: Sharon Dupuis
Secretary/Treasurer: Paul Menard
Directors:

Jerry Behnke, Rod Duhaime, Gene Kiernicki, Frank Lee, Bill Otteson
P.O. Box 772, Blind River, On, P0R 1B0

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Greetings from the not so cold and the not so white Lake Matinenda! Does this sound like a repeat of last winter? You bet! Last year we were affected with El Nino and this year it's La Nina. We started off with bitter cold and lots of snow but this last month or so, we have had spring-like conditions. If this keeps up, damage to camps will again be minimal and maybe we'll see an early ice break-up like last year (April 13).

A Message from the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR):

Fire Wood: A permit is required for any wood retrieved from Crown Land, whether it is a tree downed from beavers, wind or from natural causes. Wood permits are very easy to obtain and usually cost about \$1.00 per cord. There also are fire wood lots on the shoreline. In these lots, trees marked by the MNR may be taken down. The man to write to is Gord Cambell, 62 Queen Avenue, Blind River, On, or call 705 356 2234.

Docks, Cribbing, Alterations etc. A permit is not required when you are replacing the decking on existing docks, or working on existing cribs less than 15 metres. A permit is required when you are building new cribbing, or dredging, or if you are altering the shoreline in any way, e.g. hauling in sand for a beach. Apply early because it will take approximately 2-3 weeks to obtain the permits.

Fishing Licences: For our American friends, the fishing licenses have gone up this year: spousals to \$80; a seasonal is \$55; a conservation seasonal is \$33; a 7 days regular is \$35 and for a 7 day conservation, it is \$21 (all in Canadian funds). There is no longer a one day permit. As you all know, for the last few years we have been talking about the possibilities of annexation. Well, it's finally coming to a reality. Last month the Town of Blind River put an application in to the provincial government to take in the 4 townships that Lake Matinenda sits on, along with 4 other townships. Just what it will mean to us, we do not know yet. Sometime in the near future, the Town will get together with the Board of Directors of the Association and we will try to negotiate the best deal for our community. I would welcome any comments or thoughts from all members, including our American friends. Mayor Bob Gallagher informed me that we should be all signed, sealed and delivered to Blind River in about 6 to 10 months. Details of these negotiations will be discussed at the Annual General Meeting in July or feel free to chat with me at anytime.

In January, 1999, Lake Matinenda lost one of her greatest treasures, **Martha Oberhansli** (Swiss Island). She was a long-time summer resident and friend to all. After the death of her husband, Fred, Martha continued to reside on her island. She would return as soon as the ice was out and stayed until the Canadian Thanksgiving. She gave inspiration to many and so much love to the Lake. We will all miss her weather forecasts and her "thought for the day" each morning. Martha was famous for her baked bread, buns, homemade jams and her knitted socks which she gave happily to different fund-raisers. We will all miss her...

In my different jobs on the Lake, I have gotten to know so many people and have listened to many stories about Lake Matinenda and how She got to be so beautiful and great. I would like to propose to the membership an idea I have. I think we should erect a monument on Monument Islet and have all the names of people who passed on -- all the people who made Lake Matinenda what She is today -- a beautiful tribute. We can discuss this idea at the membership meeting.

Sharon Dupuis, President

Business Arising from the Last Annual General Meeting (AGM):

- Job "Connection" Program-(Provincial Government's summer student program). We are arranging to have two students as Dock Attendants again this year but are enquiring about a similar Federal Gov't program with larger salary subsidies.
- "Clean-up Day" This will be your opportunity to have small and large items disposed of in a safe and easy manner. Bring your old pails, appliances, batteries etc. to the Landing for disposal. There will be a charge for this service but only enough to cover our costs. Date, time and costs to be given at the AGM.
- Annexation: a meeting attended by several of our Directors was held in Elliot Lake on February 17. More news at AGM.
- Cost for additional boat decals: This item has caused considerable controversy and will be reviewed at the Board of Directors meeting in May. A proposal will be presented at the AGM.
- Association insurance was increased to \$5 million
- Lands for Life: This Provincial Gov't plan for land use has angered both green groups and loggers. Its impact on our Lake, as we understand it, will be outlined at the AGM.
- Damage to the breakwall at the Landing: Compensation has been received.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IS ON SUNDAY, JULY 18 AT THE LOG CHATEAU at 1:00 PM

Half of the Director positions will be open for election. Please consider running for your Association Executive.

