

**Spring 2007 Lake Matinenda Cottage Association**

Nancy Harz,  
Editor

**Newsletter**

Post Office Box~772 Blind River, Ontario~P0R 1B0~Canada

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**NOTES FROM PRESIDENT JERRY**

The issue of most concern to the Cottage Association is waste water disposal. The most difficult part of this issue is the gray water. A properly installed outhouse or composter can effectively handle the human waste.

Now that most cottages have water pumps, large volumes of gray water are being generated. A family of 4 just washing, showering and doing dishes can easily use 50 gal. of water daily. If 200 cottages average 30 days of use, then 300,000 gal or 1.5 million liters are being produced.

This is affecting the phosphate levels, algae growth and water clarity. A 50 gal drum with a few wheelbarrows of sand is ineffective in filtering this water before it is returned to the lake. Most cottages have a bedrock or clay which has zero percolation value. To effectively filter such gray water, a filter bed of at least 50 cubic yards of filter sand is required. The Cottage Association would like cottagers to consider this issue and improve their gray water disposal systems (if they have not already done so). Lets all work together to keep our lake clean!

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**\*\*MATINENDA LAKE EVENTS\*\***

**\*\*YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS\*\***

Jan 1-----Trout season opens  
July 28<sup>th</sup> --Hazardous waste pick-up  
4<sup>th</sup> Sat in June--Bass Season Opens  
No Annual clean-up day (see pg 12)  
July 28<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting  
Aug 15 Bear hunt season begins

President: Jerry Behnke  
Secretary: Ron Servatius  
Treasurer: Ed Pilon  
MNR Liaison and  
Scientific Studies: Dick Brennan  
Special Projects: Beetli Kierniki

**Lake Matinenda Cottage Association  
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM)  
Saturday, 05 August 2006**

Registration for the 2006 Annual General Meeting (AGM) started on a beautiful Saturday morning about 9:20 a.m. Tim Horton's Donuts, coffee and tea were fresh and promptly brought out by Mgr. Chad Horton. Water, juice and ice were also available. Marilyn Behnke, Sue Servatius, Linda Brennan ran the registration table.

The meeting started at 10:04 a.m. President Jerry Behnke introduced the Board, Town Councilor Beryl Gibbs, guest speaker Beth Woods, and some new members on the lake. Present were long time town residents, Maureen Bell and Liz Van Atter, who bought the Lee/Wildman Cottage in Teacher's Bay. Nancy Harz was recognized for the nice job she did with the Newsletter and Jerry said she was willing to do it again. The president's Opening Remarks were concluded.

Secretary Ron Servatius summarized the 2005 AGM Minutes attached to the printed agenda, posted on the LMCA website and published in the Newsletter. Ed Pilon moved for acceptance; Von Dilloway second. No discussion. Approved without objection. Question was raised by Ray Sholberg about what the Board decided about giving Bush Pilot Larry Pilon for his efforts to fly Karen Rice out of Emerald Lake, a summer resident on the lake who was injured last year. Jerry listed some of the things the Board concluded after last year's AGM. The Board decided what was done was enough by the Association and was equal, fair and did not set disputable precedents. (These were stated in this spring's Newsletter and sent to members this spring, and also posted on our website. The issue was revisited just prior to this AGM. Again, it was found that the LMCA did enough to recognize the efforts of good Samaritans.)

Treasurer Ed Pilon gave the financial report by starting questioning the members about what should be done with all the money we were accumulating, fueled by rising interest rates. Suggestions included: 1) developing a central Helicopter Landing at Signal Rock," with ramps and docks for access by boat to the pad. (Von Dilloway) 2) Surveillance Cameras to deter thefts in the dock/parking area. (Kathryn Lowther) 3) Provide signage to report all Vandalism/Theft to police. 4) Hire spotters for theft deterrence (Don Udell) Discuss with Ray Huffmaster security measures (K. Lowther) (a job for Ron and Ed). 5) Expand dock ramp for on and off loading.

and the sea wall for increased parking, also increase parking lot size and signage (Udell/others). 6) Communication devices for town to keep in contact with the dock attendants, get better communications for the lake residents such as cell phone tower/repeater-booster, pay phone at the landing. Comments included: Bell tower is dead for lack of support. Beryl Gibbs will check again about cell tower and booster possibilities. Don Barill says a yagi antenna and a cell phone are effective. Frank Lee kept emphasizing it is the town's responsibility to provide security, signage, enforcement, communications with dock attendants, dock/parking upkeep and improvements. It is not the job of the LMCA since annexation. Substantial (full year) tax revenues are collected from many part-time residents for their properties. A general feeling became evident that little, if anything, is being done on Lake Matinenda by the Town of Blind River.

Ed also reported the number of current paid memberships prior to the meeting was 52. Sue Servatius amended the number to 100 for those paying at the meeting. (typically this number goes up in the next months.) His written report indicates 173 members in 2001, 2002-172, 2003-94, 2004-71, 2005-92. For 2005, membership brought in \$920, donations \$230, total \$1150. Disbursements for the Newsletter, bank charges and administrative costs were \$416.56. The checking account had \$1735.34 as of

07/18/2006, and the GIC's were valued at \$10,469.14 at the end of June, 2006. The GIC interest rates increased on July 1, 2006 to 3% and 3.2% yearly from 1.3% and 1.4%, the past year. Gene Kiernicki moved for acceptance/Frank Lee seconded. No discussion. Motion approved without objection.

Featured speaker Beth Wood, Algoma Health Unit Officer on Waste Water was introduced. She explained her territory and area of responsibility, saying she enforces the Ontario building codes, which since 1969 requires permits even for waste water disposal systems. Since Blind River annexed Lake Matinenda around the turn of the Second Millennium, Lake Matinenda properties are required to comply with these codes. She described her job as abatement of sewage/waste water of human kind from laundry, toilet, kitchen wastes which can pollute or harm lake environment. She was drawn to inspecting systems here because there are only 31 permits for about 200 properties on this trout sensitive lake. Algae, weed growth, ear and eye infections from nutrients inadequately filtered from detergents, waste bacteria are primary concerns. There must be at least 50' (16m) distance between lake hi water marks and discharge points, with adequate leeching/soil to buffer water flow. Building Inspector John Jones follows the same codes, derived from the EPA and turned into a support-by-fee-paying-for-inspections Agency. Installers and contractors must know the code. Of the 5 Classes of Code, these are pertinent: Class 1-Privy/outhouse - no permit necessary. Minimum distance of

50' from high water, more is better. Class 2-Leeching Structure for sink and shower waste requires a \$100 application fee. Class 4-Septic Tank requires a \$500 application fee. Alternative systems including a Waterloo Bio Filter with Styrofoam and peat are also considered on a case by case basis. If a present system is found inadequate, after looking for malfunctions, it must be changed. Beth Wood triages problems and will be with the building inspector on her rounds. She is willing to work with homeowner, but will enforce the law. She will have an ID badge, and a lanyard with ID. Beware of impersonators. If the homeowner is not home, a card will be left and arrangements can be made to meet the next time the homeowner is at the cottage during the week, generally. A dye treatment may be made to verify that water doesn't get to the lake. Solutions for failing systems where there is slow running, backed up systems, or spongy soil with odors, causing infections, or lake water showing blue-green algae-which is toxic and should be reported to the health department immediately-include pumping septics, using less water and no phosphates.

Comments/Questions and Answers: 1) Does your office have jurisdiction over Native Lands where there is now surveyed property and construction on the lake? We have no jurisdiction on Native Lands. It is a federal issue, where Paul Talford acts only as an advisor, not an enforcer. However, Native Peoples have been exceeding the standards for environmental preservation in Ontario. 2) Comment by Fred Hamilton-this lady is on our side and is trying to be helpful. 3) What is the order of inspections? Basswood was started first, Matinenda is in process too because of the size of the lake and the few applications for the number of properties. (31 permits w/9 for outhouses which are not required, and 14 septic tanks).

Other lakes will be inspected over time and re-inspected for compliance. 4) Problems with compliance? Applications are good for one year. Interim solutions, such as leaving the property till next year, if there is a problem is ok. But then the problem must be resolved, and the old system changed. the first approach is education, then enforcement.

Dick Brennan motioned that the LMCA actively support Officer Beth Wood of the Algoma Health Unit and her efforts for 100% compliance on the lake. Beeli Kiernicki seconded. No discussion/Approved with no opposition. Jerry said calls for help to take Beth Wood around the lake may be forthcoming. Gas expenses will be paid. Also, 2

contractors/licensed installers were present with barges at this meeting and were identified as Steve Watson (Narrows) and Don Udell (McDonald's Bay.)

Councilor Beryl Gibbs, Town of Blind River, spoke about comments and issues brought up in the meeting, so far. There can be no public phones at the landing and plans for cell towers have been successfully opposed by local aircraft pilots. Lack of signage was noted. The lack of a laundry was resolved by statement that the Marina laundry is open to the public and there are 3 new washers and a large washer soon available with 4 dryers to ease the pressure of need. Recycling issues especially between May and September were noted, including the LMCA desire for a mid-summer pickup of hazardous waste, but only at the town's recycling center. Communications between dock attendants and their supervisor Darryl in town is weekly and the LMCA has Jerry and Ed to supervise concerns. This was disputed as a regular job by Ed and Jerry, and was only to be an emergency measure. Concerns, said Beryl, should be called into the appropriate office at Town Hall. Thefts and vandalism are reported sometimes. The need for consistent police reporting is necessary for trends to be noted, and none seem to be. Jerry said we can make a sign to remind people to report all problems. Don Udell pointed out any work by the town on docks cannot be done unless it is contracted for July or August, because of the trout sensitivity. Fred Hoffman said the town gets around ¼ million dollars a year from Matinenda and zero services. Beryl Gibbs suggested we send a representative to be at the Marina Committee meetings every 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month (next meeting would be in September) and to address the committee with concerns in person. Don Udell recommended everyone to write the secretary, Denise, that they would like to be on the agenda. Frank Lee thanked Beryl Gibbs for coming out and courageously standing on front of the LMCA members to listen and field concerns. Gene Kiernicki asked if she could report back to Council our concerns and update us on the results.

Jerry explained only one person to date has signed up for EMS training. The EMS sign up sheet will remain at the Welcome House, so if 10 or more people sign up, St John's Ambulance Service will run a course costing \$80 a person for 2 days.

Ron read the Recognition Certificates which are to be given to Tom and Bev Updike and Bob and Jane Henderson for the rescue of Von Dilloway from a life-threatening leg break outside of her cottage on an early October afternoon.

Ron recognized Nancy Harz for her fine job of putting out the Newsletter. (Howard and Nancy have the cottage in McGregor's Bay, and have the traditionally hosted BBQ (Chicken Party) on Labor Day Sunday.

Ron also listed those people passing this year, who have been on the lake. Dave Faegre, Reed Hagen of Teacher's Bay, Mrs. Ray Spencer (Spencer Bay) and Josephine Fairbairn by McDonalds Bay were founders or married to founders on the LMCA. Maxine Francis of Francis' Point, Paul Barnes, and Bob Richardson were in Mc Donald's Bay. Rick Scott, son of Pat and Dick Scott, James Burling, at the south point of Sullivan's Bay, Fred Fitch, Butterfield Narrows owner and Connie Redmond, north of Roy's Northland, all left us this year.

Accolades were given to Candice and Tiffany for the nice jobs they were doing as dock attendants, with little supervision.

Building Inspector John Jones was on vacation, and the Matinenda property 911#### signs are still not available.

New Business: Jerry said all the directors whose terms were up would be willing to stand if nominations from the floor for new directors to replace Beetli Kiernicki, Ed Pilon, and Dick Brennan were not forthcoming. None were forthcoming. John Godbolt motioned to

close the nominations and support the standing directors. Dave Hall second. Approved without discussion or objection.

Other announcements from directors and floor came first from Director Dick Brennan who gave water quality reports on bacteria levels and clarity/phosphate data. In summary, he said the lake had low levels of bacteria. Clarity/phosphate information is meaningless because there is no long-term trend analysis on little data yet collected. Shoreline data is separate from the bacteria levels and secchi-disk checks performed in middle-of-the-lake and deep water locations. Shoreline bacterial testing will be first focused around high density cottage areas by Beth Wood. We should be increasing our monitoring and Dick will work with Beth Wood to determine best testing locations. Questions and comments: Do we have a water flow and hydrology chart? No, but all lake water drains out by the dam and comes in from higher lakes. Don Udell suggested a fall and spring water evaluation and evaluations done on Moon Lake. Jerry said we are looking at worst case scenarios where the health department says don't drink the water, because all untreated water from the lakes has some bacteria in it. Discussion continued about treatments: 0.5 micron filters take out Girardeau cysts. Boiling water for 1 minute, or filtering and using a UV light will treat water. Question was raised about the health department giving property owners the tracer dye to see if there is leakage into the lake from cottage drainage. The simple answer was no. but, it seemed the LMCA could purchase this dye from a supply house and provide interested cottage owners a quantity of dye to do a self analysis. We have the money to do it.

Beetli Kiernicki announced the Junior Ranger program cleaned up the center channels in the Moon Lakes creeks. Dead logs and other items were taken out. One supervisor, 4 seventeen year old workers, Jerry Behnke, Gene and Beetli Kiernicki and grandson Zachary all worked on the project. We can apply for other projects. She also announced there will be no restocking of the lake, since it is one of the best regenerating lakes around and fish (trout) populations are fine.

Maureen (Moe) Bell is connected to the SPCA in town which is in need of funding to care for animals. She wanted residents to recycle aluminum at a collection point so it could be turned in for money. Don Udell will get some 45 gallon drums to place at the landing so residents may drop off all aluminum for the SPCA.

Sue Servatius commented that the Association may want to look at working with other lake associations in the area to form an umbrella group to act as one voice on similar lake issues which need attention by the Town of Blind River.

Dorothy Faegre asked if we could set up a standard distress signal for use on the lake. Answer: "Mayday" 3 times for life and death situations. "Pan" three times for property loss. A reminder the LMCA had previously discussed using orange/red panels to display distress. (under circumstances - use what you have. Make a fire, or use wood, sand or stone to spell "Help," yell, cross your arms back and forth over your head.)

Von Dilloway motioned that the Board investigate helicopter emergency landing site possibilities up the lake. Winifred Hall seconded. No discussion, no objections, carried.

Beth Wood had handouts on her presentation and talked to individuals after the meeting was adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Ronald Frank Servatius, Secretary/Director



### Treasurer's Update:

- 2006 memberships were 106 (This is up from 92 in 05' GREAT!)
- GIC savings was valued at \$10,629.11 as of December 31, 2006.
- Checking (chequing) account as of December 31, 2006 was \$1,784.61.
- Cook book sales: \$30.00 (See Jerry for availability if you want one).
- Misc. donations: \$240.00

### Membership Comparisons

2001 = 173

2002 = 172

2003 = 94

2004 = 71

2005 = 92

2006 = 106!

Attendance has been slowly increasing, so please help us continue to grow by joining the Lake Matinenda Cottage Association. For only \$10.00 per lot owned we address issues that benefit all lake residents. Large numbers in an organization carry weight and meaning. HELP US HELP YOU-get involved!

### ASSOCIATION OBJECTIVES (as stated in 1962)

1. Communication, friendship and fellowship among cottagers
2. Conservation of natural beauty and resources
3. Promotion of water safety
4. Continued effort to provide the highest possible SANITATION
5. Co-operation with public agencies to continually improve facilities

Annual Lake Matinenda Cottage Association membership dues are \$10.00. At our Annual General Meeting, one vote is allowed for each lot owned, provided dues are paid for each lot. In situations where more than one family uses a cottage property, we would be pleased to receive additional contributions in support of Association activities. Please complete the form on the back page of this newsletter, attach your check made payable to *Lake Matinenda Cottage Association*, and mail to :

Lake Matinenda Cottage Association  
P.O. Box 772  
Blind River, ON P0R 1B0

## FOCA NEWS AND UPDATES

FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottager's Associations), is our LMCA lobbyist to protect cottager's against a multitude of issues, including tax assessment. FOCA stays on top of key waterfront issues for Ontario cottage owners. Sign up for electronic updates or "E-Alerts" on their website [www.foca.on.ca](http://www.foca.on.ca). Established in 1963, FOCA is a non-profit, voluntary organization that represents over 500 community groups across Ontario including over 50,000 waterfront property owners. Recent updates on their website ([www.foca.on.ca](http://www.foca.on.ca)) on property tax reform mention a two year freeze on property assessments will end in 2008. New assessments will arrive in 2009.

On March 9, Progressive Conservative Leader John Tory announced a plan to protect Ontario homeowners from runaway property assessment increases. He will cap annual assessment increases at 5% for as long as an individual owns their home, if he wins on October 10<sup>th</sup>. So far, all we have seen is studies, except for the cancellation of any assessment until after the fall election. We still have no indication of what the Liberal government would do when their assessment freeze comes off in 2008, other than let assessments and taxes rise uncontrolled again.

FOCA also reminds cottage owners that effective in December 2005 a Fire Code Amendment requires homes to have smoke alarms on every level and outside all sleeping areas. This includes single family, semi-detached, townhouses and COTTAGES.

## LAKE WATER UPDATES

In 2004 Kitchener's drinking water was contaminated by an industrial solvent. This is only one of many recent outbreaks in North America. Although contamination of drinking water by bacteria is more common than due to excessive nitrates, industrial toxins or pesticides, we must stay on top of our LAKE MATINENDA water health. E-coli is a large concern on any OPEN SURFACE water, such as Matinenda. Mr. Marshall, Director of the Blind River Algoma Health Department suggests several options for treating lake water for human consumption. The simplest is to boil the water for one minute; or add 2 drops bleach per gallon and let stand for one hour; or purchase water treatment tablets at a camping supply store. Other water treatment equipment, like filters, etc. can be purchased at hardware stores. Each Spring, pour bleach (1-2 cups) when first filling your water tanks and interior pipes each spring. Let soak a few hours, flush well.

The LMCA participated in the Ontario "Lake Partners" program again, our 4<sup>th</sup> year. The program requests samples of water from three areas of LM after ice out. Total phosphorus analysis is preformed to track lake nutrient content. High phosphorous is most often indicative of agricultural run off or industrial pollution, but lakes with high population densities with run off from lakefront homes and leaking septic systems can also show elevated levels. Water clarity measurements are also made every two to three weeks during the season with a quartered black and white disc called a Secchi Disc. The disc is lowered near the deepest spot on the body of water until it is just visible. Obviously the more clear the water, the deeper it can be seen, which usually means a lack of algae or other unhealthy growth. That depth is measured in meters. Because the clarity is not only affected by the nutrient level, but weather as well, the average of Secchi depth data is reported for the season.

Phosphorus levels for 2004, 2005 and 2006 are shown in the following table. The values are again very low and typical for oligotrophic Canadian Shield lakes.

	June 2004 Phosphate level (ppm)	May 2005 Phosphate level (ppm)	May 2006 Phosphate level (ppm)
Macdonalds	4.4-5.9	4.8-5.2	5.7-5.9
Stover's Point	3.3-4.0	3.1-3.5	3.9-3.6
Bakers Bay	3.0-6.1	6.2-9.7	5.7-6.06

Total Phosphorus concentrations are used because phosphorus is the element that increases or limits the growth of algae. Complete Lake Partners Report is available at: [www.ene.gov.on.ca](http://www.ene.gov.on.ca) and e-mail: lake [partner@ene.gov.on.ca](mailto:partner@ene.gov.on.ca)

Water clarity measurements are shown in the next table. All values indicate Oligotrophic classification and limited nutrients in Matinenda. Note: Mac-Donald's Bay values are the lowest as well having the higher population density.

	2004 Secchi Disc (M)	2005 Secchi Disc (M)	2006 Secchi Disc (M)
Lee's Island	4.9 M	5.2 M	5.2 M
MacDonald's	5.0 M	5.4 M	4.9 M
Stover's Pt	5.7 M	6.4 M	6.6 M
Baker's Bay	6.8 M	6.9 M	7.3 M
68 Bay	6.4 M	6.9 M	7.1 M

Oligotrophic-unenriched	over 5 M
Mesotrophic-moderately enriched	3.0-4.9 M
Eutrophic-enriched, high levels of nutrients	less than 2.9 M

The 2006 cottage season marked our fourth year of participating in the Ontario Ministry of

the Environment's "Lake Partner Program". Water quality trends over this short period indicate Matinenda is a typical oligotrophic (unenriched) Canadian shield lake with stable low phosphate levels and good water clarity. The complete Lake Partners report is included in the data above. The Lake Partner data is acquired over the deepest water in a given area, and samples are taken at the depth of the Secchi Disc reading (approximately 15-20 feet). The LMCA is also interested in another aspect of water quality and that is biological assay. LM sampling was done in late August of 2005 near shore, and near the surface in four of our most populated areas. Samples were submitted to a private laboratory for Total Coliform Bateria and E Coli analysis. The results for 2005 are shown in this table:

	Coliform Bacteria	E.Coli
MacDonalds Bay West	19	4
MacDonalds Bay East	58	12
Sullivan's Bay	65	2
Teacher's Bay	58	2

Coliform bacteria are typically found in all surface water samples as a result of wildlife both in the water and from run off. E.Coli on the other hand is almost exclusively the result of inadequate containment/treatment of human waste and is most often a point source.

The above values are not high enough to represent a health risk to cottager's recreation (swimming for example), but they are disturbing. The data implies that sewage is making its way into the Lake without adequate treatment (direct run off or septic systems not up to code), and more importantly illustrates the *absolute* necessity of purifying our drinking water. Chlorination, ultraviolet light and micro filtration are methods to effectively generate potable water. If you have an old, inadequate septic system, upgrade to code! Lake Matinenda did not do independent sampling and analysis for Coliform and E. Coli Bacteria in 2006. We will be implementing as expanded sampling and analysis program based on the interest expressed by our membership at the 2006 AGM. The plan is to sample Matinenda at one remote location (A CONTROL SAMPLE) and three or more locations in densely populated areas. One sampling round would be taken in May and another in early August. We hope that such data would provide some insight in to the bacteria levels that are naturally occurring in Matinenda, and those resulting from the human population.

Remember, if you are consuming water from *any* surface source, for your safety, boil it, chlorinate it, or micro filter it.

Cheers,

Dick Brennan

## NEWS and NOTICES

A report at the 2005 AGM stated that Dump Day will always be the last Saturday in July. However, this year The Town of Blind River is sponsoring "Bulk Garbage Days". Those dates are: June 4, July 16, August 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 22, Nov.19 , and Dec. 17 Call Waste Management Contractor at 356-4118 to describe the items to be picked up, take them to the docks, and they will send the appropriate truck to handle the items.

Household Hazardous Waste Day is being held on Saturday July 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Tourist Information Centre.

No news yet on recycling possibilities at the landing, only services that are offered in town.

Town Hall issues 3 garbage dump passes each year for the lake residents. Stop by and pick up your passes, when needed. The town landfill is located east of town on HWY 17.

Just confirmed, we will have a Laundrymat on Main Street!

Jimmy Horton stated that he will be running the dock rental, cottages and camping sites this season, but not the Lodge. It is closed, sorry to hear.

The LMCA asks that we keep current on notices and information posted at the Welcome House and from dock attendants

Tammy at U-Rentals explained the 2007 fishing regulation guide book won't be published, so use the 2005-2006 copy. The only change made is the opening of bass season which now will read the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in June, not the last.

### 2007 FISHING LICENSE COSTS

Non-resident full season:	\$64.90	Resident full season	\$29.23 (for new card)
Non-resident full season		Resident full season	\$23.29 (sticker only)
Conservation:	\$39.64	Resident conservation	\$19.56 (for card)
Non-resident 8 day:	\$41.62	Resident conservation	\$ 13.62 (sticker)
Non-resident 8 day			
Conservation:	\$24.28		

Ed Pilon is our LMCA representative for the new "Fisheries Management, Zone 10" which replaces 15 districts. The new Zone 10 encompasses an area from Sault Saint Marie to Sudbury, to Wawa, to Gogana. The long term plans are to enhance, maintain and improve sustainable natural fish management. This involves the MNR, Flying Operators, Fishermen at large, Bait Retailers, and First Nations. Email Ed at: [dpilonkickingmama59@hotmail.com](mailto:dpilonkickingmama59@hotmail.com).

The dock attendants will begin their summer schedule around May 24<sup>th</sup>.

According to Peter Fitzpatrick (better known as Trapper Pete), the Town of Blind River has repaired and replaced eight 8'x12' sections of dock. Also the handicap dock has been rebuilt and features a solid post in the centre of the walkway to prevent vehicles from backing out onto the dock.

The parking lot has been improved and widened . If everyone co-operates and parks their boat trailers at the end of the lot, it should provide more parking.

Pete also mentioned that as of May 31, we can kiss our Analog bag phones and older

Analog cell phones goodbye as the telephone companies are switching from Analog to a Digital system. Apparently, a huge cell tower was erected last fall to pick up the areas that have a weaker signal. Bag phones are still available from Bell Canada at a price of \$350 each and are designed to the new Digital system. The "mickey mouse" handheld phones we will be getting to replace our older models will not have the capabilities of the other system. But if you buy a "Yagi" antenna (approximately \$90) and with the proper adapter....you are back in business. See Mike Jacques, a local cb radio repairman and communications specialist.

In February, Sharon from Butterfield Narrows explained that Rogers Wireless Phone Company will be ending their Analog service by May 31<sup>st</sup> and go Digital. Rogers operates the Analog tower in Blind River.

I called Rogers Wireless (866-327-0555 or 888-764-3771) and they told me that I would need a new GSM phone with a chip and the GSM system is "Global System for Mobile Communication" phone is not a digital system. Rogers is offering old customers a Nokia 6061 phone @ no chg with no service agreement required. The monthly fee would depend upon which plan you selected, or you stay with your old plan. New customers can buy a phone at full price-\$179 to \$199, then select a plan like pay as you go, \$20 for 200 anytime minutes, \$30 for 300 anytime minutes, etc. However, these contracts won't have a long distance plan, only local. In Canada, long distance charges will be about \$.30 a minute. Add a U.S. plan @ \$40 for 60 minutes.

I then called Bell Mobility (800-267-0123). Bell techs said that although the May 31st cut off date is correct, the tower won't actually be shut down until sometime this fall. The tech also said it should still work this summer and the old satellite phones just may still work even after shut off. He advised not doing anything until more information is forthcoming. Other options he suggested were: Digital cell phones with Yagi antenna, a wireless card for your laptop, a 10-4 system (like walkie talkies), or a pc card. As you can see, any phone service will be complicated and pricy.

I talked to Brian Horeck on May 8<sup>th</sup> (author of Minnow Trap) as to when his new book "Frozen Beneath" will be out. He said it should be in our local retailers the end of June. Can't wait!

Gene Kiernicki has been getting good reception from Environment Canada Weather Radio. (162.475 frequency). It has reliable weather data for Elliot Lake. Environment Canada has been given funds to boost the signal strength this summer, so it should improve the signal even more.

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## THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to Lake Matinenda for 2007! We hope everyone enjoys their time spent in Ontario. A great place to relax, fish, golf, boat or whatever you plan on doing.

The Town will be holding a Hazardous Waste Day on Saturday July 28<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Tourist Information Centre parking lot on Hwy 17, past the OPP Station and Fire Hall. The Environmental Monitoring Committee only sponsors this event every second year as it is very expensive, but on that day, you can dispose of all hazardous material, i.e. paint, turpentine, oil, etc.

Additional information on Blind River can be viewed on the Town's website at: [www.blindriver.ca](http://www.blindriver.ca).

Hope to see you around Town.

*Robert V. Gallagher*  
Mayor

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I talked to Mr. Marshall, the Director of Blind River Algoma Public Health Unit last month concerning inspections of Matinenda Lake properties waste water systems. He tells me their mandate is to inspect properties on a complaint driven basis. There have been many complaints this past year which requires inspections first. He has no timeline for general inspections at this time.

## LOCAL SERVICES AND BUSINESSES

**U Rentals**--has many services available to cottagers. They are a licensed gray barrel and septic installer. With their barge and backhoe they can haul all material and prep the land, as well as clear if necessary. U Rental is available for all jobs large or small. Call for a quote. New this year to their rental fleet will be ATV's call 705-356-2767, or [urentals@bellnet.ca](mailto:urentals@bellnet.ca).

**Tulloch's Cottage Services and Construction**--offers services like open and closing cottages, docks in and out, shutters on and off, water systems in, out and winterized. Handyman work-interior and exterior, renovations including garage, decks, docks, sheds, bathhouses, roofing and wood hauling. Phone 705-356-0634 or [djtulloch@hotmail.com](mailto:djtulloch@hotmail.com).

Following is an article that Jerry Bienke received from the Watson's at butterfield narrows on the lake concerning waste water services. This is in response to an inquiry from Jerry.

"Jerry, sorry to say if people on the lake do not have a permitted system on their property, according to the O.B.C.A., their system could be classed as an unsafe system. The Health Unit can match all properties with Sewage System Permits to their property with tax roll numbers, which in turn shows properties without permits, the overwhelming majority of Lake Owners. Applications for permits can be picked up at the Health Unit, or we keep a supply here. There is no Fee until the application is submitted to the Health Unit. The Fees for different classes are described in the application. Only the owner, qualified designer or qualified installer are legally able to fill out the application. Proper site evaluations have to be completed in order to complete the application. Following the Ontario Building Code Act and Manufacturer's recommendations, Class 1 compost toilets equipped with a drain have to drain into a Class III, IV or V sewage system.

Butterfield Barge is more than willing to educate, perform site evaluations and offer quotes at no charge. When a quote is accepted, then we do the design, application, construction and installation. If people wish to do their own system, we welcome them to come to us and we will guide them down the right path, at no charge.

We encourage people to approach us at our home on the lake, or by phone @ 705-461-0006 or email @ [butterfield.barge@gmail.com](mailto:butterfield.barge@gmail.com) for any questions they may have regarding sewage systems. In order to preserve our water quality and the public health and safety, we strongly believe education is powerful and it's going to take a lot of power to safeguard our lake, potable water, and our legacy. There are certain guidelines for each class of waste water systems. It can be very confusing trying to understand all the requirements necessary for wastewater systems. Check with the professionals! When people approach the Association, please feel free to direct them to us. Education to protect our only source of potable water and the public health and safety are free.

## MEMORIALS

Sullivan's Bay was named after Colleen and Larry Sullivan who came to the lake in the 60's. Colleen passed away last November. Larry intends on coming back to the lake this year.

Dorothy Erwin passed in September (their place is across from Ted and Joan Thiel.) Dorothy and Ken's (captain Nemo CB handle) cabin is in Echo Bay. They were from Ohio.

Sharon (Butterfield Narrows) lost her son Terry this winter. As many of you may know, Terry struggled since he was a small boy with cancer, then he contracted AIDS from a blood transfusion to treat his cancer.

If I've overlooked anyone we've lost on the lake this past year, I'm sorry. Please notify the Board of Directors, as they will be happy to mention it at the AGM.

2007 ASSOCIATION DUES

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW, ATTACH YOUR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO: LAKE MATINENDA COTTAGE ASSOCIATION, AND MAIL TO:

LAKE MATINENDA COTTAGE ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 772  
BLIND RIVER, ON POR IBO  
CANADA

\*\*\*\*\*

Lake Matinenda  
Cottage Association

2007 ASSOCIATION DUES

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

PROPERTY LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

LOT NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ CB HANDLE: \_\_\_\_\_

MONITORING CHANNEL NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUMMER MAILING ADDRESS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**WINTER MAILING ADDRESS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish the above information included in our membership directory, please check here: \_\_\_\_\_  
Information you wish to direct to the board:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

LAKE MATINENDA COTTAGE ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 772  
BLIND RIVER, ON POR 1B0  
CANADA

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Dedicated to promoting communication,  
friendship, conservation of natural beauty,  
and resources, water safety, sanitation, and  
cooperation with public agencies for over 40 years.*