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## President's Letter

Darlene Cade Fraser

A celebration of thanksgiving, with delicious food, fine refreshments and family and friends, is always a wonderful weekend no matter where we find ourselves! But Thanksgiving dinner at the cottage is simply hard to beat. This year the changing of the forest colour is well underway thanks to the introduction (finally) of lower temperatures. And the cooler evenings over the Thanksgiving weekend demanded extra warmth from the fireplace and an extra blanket on the bed. What a terrific transition from the continuous extreme heat of the summer as we welcome a more moderate, delightful autumn season. However, for many of us it also means the end of cottage life for another year. The outdoor furniture is removed from the decks and docks, the boats are winterized, and the cottage secured in preparation against the coming harsh winter climate. Sadly, we leave the cottage behind until next Spring, but we take with us a fresh bundle of remarkable memories of the exceptional summer of 2018 on Crane Lake!

Mother Nature certainly expressed her wrath on Friday September 21st as she sent destructive wind forces raging through cottage country resulting in a loss of power on Crane Lake for one of the longest periods in recent history. Several cottages did not receive restored power until Wednesday evening. For those without mobile or permanent generator

back up, that's a long time to manage without hydro! Congratulations to those that remained creative without power and survived the lengthy outage!! Our thoughts, of course, go to those near Ottawa who suffered the destruction of the resultant tornado!

Reflecting further back into the summer of 2018, we certainly experienced one of our longest, hottest waves of weather. The humidity and lack of rain played havoc with our forest and wildlife and added a certain discomfort to those that enjoy just lazing around on the dock. But, the water was gorgeous for the Annual Regatta held on the August long weekend at the Resort Beach. While the swimmers, canoeists and kayakers participating in the various competitions had a terrific time in the water, those on the hill cheering them on were certainly feeling the heat of the sun! Nonetheless, 'kids' of all ages had a wonderful time, attendance was great – and the \$5 BBQ lunch meal was devoured! And, as always, the Fire Pump Relay was a big hit! Many teams competed again this year in a timed relay with the objective of spraying the goose off the ladder with the fire hose! So much fun! Then, following the Fire Pump Relay, the sailors readied their sailboats and the Sailing Regatta started across from the shores of Crane Lake Resort. The results of the participants from both Regattas are inside this newsletter! Make sure you encourage your family

and friends to join us next year at the Annual Regattas - swimming, canoeing and kayaking on the Saturday, and the Sailing Regatta on the Sunday - of the August long weekend and both are always a great time! The Association's Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday July 14th, 2018 at the Resort Banquet Hall, once again thanks to Ned (Owner). The attendance was excellent. The board directors brought the membership up to date on all the activities undertaken by them throughout the year. Topics included water quality testing, fire boat and fire safety preparedness, website and communications, and about our new project underway that will result in a multimedia product for our members bringing the history of Crane Lake right into each of our homes. We were very fortunate to have two highly qualified and delightful speakers present to us this year on important topics of interest. A representative from the OPP Parry Sound division spoke to us about their involvement in safety on the roads and the lakes. And Rick Esselment, President of ESSE Canada, educated us about water resource management at cottages, septic systems and water quality preservation. ([www.essecanada.com](http://www.essecanada.com)). Both speakers were well received, and we are grateful for the personal time they each shared with us on a weekend at Crane Lake to share their professional knowledge and guidance!

An informative discussion took place during the AGM regarding the potential of a future at Crane Lake without a professionally installed gas pump and tank. With the change to residential use only on most of the current Resort property, the old gas pump and storage tank need to be removed. The cost to purchase and install new equipment was prohibitive to Mike and Sue. The membership proposed a motion, which was passed by a vote with a very large majority, that a community fundraising effort be commenced to assist Mike and Sue Steele with the purchase and installation of a new gas pump and storage tank. A 'Go-Fund-Me' online community fundraising campaign commenced on the August 1st weekend, and by September 1st the results were overwhelming. The Crane and Blackstone Lakes neighbourhood rose to the occasion and donations were immediate and generous. These funds, along with the initial substantial financial gift from Ned McLennan, allowed Mike and Sue to move quickly to obtain permits from the TOA for installation, and the order for the new equipment has been placed with the contractor. This new equipment will be installed on the land that has been recently severed from the rest of the Resort property and designated as Marina Commercial use and where Mike will continue his Marina operations. Full speed ahead!! The CLA has a designated bank account for the sole purpose of holding the campaign funds and transferring the money to Mike and Sue as the project progresses and invoices are presented to them. This campaign has been one of those stories that we often read about, but are seldom involved with, and that make us smile. Everyone in our community should be smiling today! When help was needed, help was given. Simply fabulous.

Finally, we are delighted to confirm that the distribution of our Crane Lake Association 'Guide to Preserving Paradise' will be completed in the early summer of 2019. As volunteers, our time is limited, and for many only the summer weekends available to us, but our intent is to hand deliver every Guide to each of our members! If you don't have your own yet, please know that it is coming to you next spring/summer! Meanwhile, we are reviewing the Guide's information over the winter. We will update any pages that require attention since their original issuance. These revised pages will be posted on our website. An E-blast, and our next newsletter, will keep you posted on our progress.

We hope you'll share this newsletter with the other members of your family and guests who visit with you. Read on and enjoy!

From all the CLA directors, we wish each of you and your families a very happy and healthy winter season, a very merry Christmas/Holiday celebration, and a wonderful New Year in 2019!

# Councillor's Corner

Ian Mead

As I'm writing this, the Hydro on Crane is predominantly out. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> day of this outage and probably a record.

## Election 2018

This is election year for municipalities. I am happy to say that I have been acclaimed again and will be your representative at Council for the next 4 years. I'm pretty sure this will be my last term.

## Gas on Crane

As I'm sure you are all aware, we had a fundraising initiative in August to raise enough money to fund a new Gas tank and pump at the Crane Lake Marina. The initiative was a huge success thanks to many of you on Crane and Blackstone. It should make all of us proud to be part of such a caring and generous community. This effort will be invaluable in ensuring the ongoing success of a full service marina for Crane and Blackstone.

## Hydro One Power Outages

As I mentioned above, we are currently experiencing a 5 day power outage on Crane. More like 4 days on Blackstone.

As long as we have power lines strung through the bush on poles, we will have power outages at the whim of Mother Nature. And with climate change, we can only expect/prepare for more extreme weather events.

Yes, we can perhaps blame Hydro One for not doing enough preventative maintenance re tree trimming etc. but they are faced with an ever increasing tree death due to invasive predators. Beech trees are virtually all going to die from Beech Bark Disease. Ash trees are doomed from the Emerald Ash Borer, White Pine is under threat of the Pine Saw Fly and on and on!

So, what can we do to help ourselves and help Hydro One?

How can we help ourselves?

- Make sure all unhealthy trees within reach of your service line get dealt with. It is a pay me now or pay me later situation!
- Place a few ice cubes in a dish in your freezer. When you arrive at the cottage and find these have melted, you know you have a potential spoiled food problem.
- In order to determine remotely if your power is on, install an inexpensive answering machine connected to your telephone land line. If you call the cottage and the machine answers, you know you have power.
- If you have an internet connection or smart phone, you can go to the Hydro One website ([hydroone.ca](http://hydroone.ca)) and register to get alerts when your power goes out and comes back on. All you will need is your Account #, your E-mail address and a password. I have used this for years and it is slick! While you're on their site, check it out. It is quite functional!
- Install a generator. If you are road access, I recommend installing a standby generator. At our home we installed a 16 KW Generac fueled by propane. Our cost was \$8000.00 all in and we consider it one of the best investments we have ever made. Whether we're there or not, it will fire up and provide power to the whole house after the power is out for 40 seconds. When the power comes back on, it shuts down automatically – perfect! At the cottage, we have a smaller generator that requires us to be there to operate.

How can we help Hydro One?

- If you are at the cottage and the power goes out, call around to see if it is wide spread.
- Weather permitting, go outside and check your service lines as well as your neighbour's. Take a walk/drive down the line to see if you can find problems.
- Report any found problems to Hydro One. I had occasion to do this last weekend and I was able to get a real, nice, polite person to talk to and register the problem.

- If you find a problem, you can identify your position by taking the # off the nearest hydro pole. Each pole has a metal number on it. When you call Hydro One, give them the pole number and they will know exactly where the problem is.
- Better yet, why not just make it part of being at the cottage to take the time to walk the line before there's a problem. Take the kids for a nature walk!!
- Maybe we should establish an "adopt a line" program where we all take a chunk of the hydro line that feeds us and report potential problems before they become real problems – just a thought!

As I said earlier, Hydro outages are a fact of life! Especially in cottage country. It's not if we have another power outage, it's when we have another power outage. I have to commend the Hydro line workers for the amazing job they do and I think it is up to all of us to help them help us!

### Are you on my E-mail List?

If you currently are not on my E-mail list and would like to be, just send me an E-mail at [ianm@vianet.ca](mailto:ianm@vianet.ca) and ask me to add you.

Cheers  
Ian

Address – 206 Crane Lake Water  
The Archipelago, ON  
P2A 0B7

Phone - 705-378-2089 – summer  
705-484-5235 – winter  
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2018-2019

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# 2018 Perimeter Swim Update - Yay Tracey!

Monica Gemeinhardt



The Perimeter Swim Project continued through the summer of 2018. What an ideal summer for swimming it was!

Tracey Beaulne completed her perimeter swim this summer. Congratulations, Tracey. She said that her son, Nate, is motivated to swim the lake perimeter now too!

Tracey Beaulne joins Ardith Easton, Judy Smith, Tory McMahon and Monica Gemeinhardt who completed their perimeter swims in 2017. Judy, Tory and Monica continued to swim with an add-on to the project. They began in 2017 to "circum swim" the Crane Lake Islands and completed this feat in 2018: eleven islands, seven swims and three and a half hours of swimming.

Karin Doss-Reid, her daughter Carys Reid, Sharon Reynolds, Bev Bonk, Kate Lissauer and Courtney Ferguson are among the swimmers targeted to finish the perimeter in upcoming years. Again, a huge thank you to all the lifeguards and coaches in the boats who keep the swimmers safe and on track. We couldn't do this without all of them.

Watch for the swimmers as they glide by your dock. We hope many more families will be inspired to start and finish perimeter swim projects in the years to come.

Monica Gemeinhardt  
On behalf of the Perimeter Swimmers

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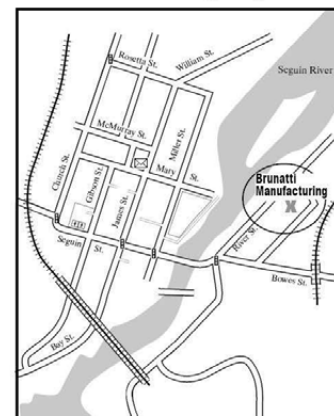
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# Crane Lake History Project

Monica Gemeinhardt

This project is intended to capture the history of our beloved lake. We hope to produce a CD/DVD for all members with photos and interview footage of some key players. We may also highlight some history through articles in the newsletters. We are pleased to report that Gary Mueller has begun to capture drone footage of Crane Lake through the four seasons. Interviews are scheduled to begin this Fall.

Did your family come in by horse? Were you on the Archipelago train?



Did Ken build your cottage? Did you buy bread from Frona? Did you eat Mabel's pies? Did you catch a big fish? Did you perform a waterskiing feat? Have you skated on the lake?



We very much need YOUR HELP to capture the essence of Crane Lake's history. There is a treasure trove of photos scattered in members' memorabilia boxes in cottages or in homes, on cottage bulletin boards, in photo albums or framed on walls!

**Please submit copies of photos to Gary Mueller at [history@cranelakeassociation.ca](mailto:history@cranelakeassociation.ca).**

If you have something to share, but don't know how to scan or get it to us digitally, email us and let us know!



# 2018 Regatta Results

Ross Fraser



This year's August long weekend brought sunny skies, calm waters and a competitive spirit to Crane Lake for our Annual Regatta! We enjoyed a great turn-out with 44 participants in the water and paddling races, and 31 racing against the clock in the Fire Pump Relay!

| Catagory                 | Winners  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Under 7 Non-Swimmer Boys | 1. Luke Rogers; 2. Sean Neugebauer   |
| 7 & Under Girls          | 1. Lexie Nicholson; 2. Avery Sallows; 3. Kenzie King   |
| 7 & Under Boys           | 1. Justin Neugebauer; 2. Braydon Sallows   |
| 8 - 10 Boys              | 1. Nate Nicholson; 2. Jacob Rosenstein; 3. Benjamin Rosenstein; 3. Paul Neugebauer   |
| 11 - 13 Girls            | 1. Madeleine Woodburn; 2. Elizabeth Galvan; Abigail Galvan   |
| 11 - 13 Boys             | 1. Aaron Rosenstein; 2. Dylan Follett  |
| 14 - 17 Girls            | 1. Hannah Russell  |
| 14 - 17 Girls            | 1. Noah Woodburn; 2. Ryerson Neugebauer  |
| 18 - 24 Ladies           | 1. Valerie Luetke; 2. Josie Luetke   |
| 25 & Up Ladies           | 1. Karen Rosenstein; 2. Carolyn Neugebauer; 2. Tori Russell; 3. Beth Russell   |
| 25 & Up Men              | 1. Bob Neugebauer; 2. Brad Pitt  |
| Fire Pump Relay          | 1. "Combine" - Carolyn, Justin, Jacob & Benjamin: 53:16<br>2. "Furies" - Vaughn, Ryker, Adam: 53:43<br>3. "Chicken Nuggets" - Lia, Abby, Matter: 56:04 |

These annual events couldn't happen without the support of our Crane Lake community, and we want to send a very special thanks to: Our friends at the Crane Lake Resort and Mike's Crane Lake Marina for the use of the beach and for all the help and support leading into the event; The Crane Lake Fire Safety Committee for their hard work at the pumps; Those cottagers who generously donate the use of their boats and other equipment; Our special guest judges; The annual 'clean up crew' of volunteers picking up after the geese; and all of the volunteers who help with registration, cooking, and running the races! Thank you all - see you next year!

# Bubblers - Safety Considerations

Ross Fraser

With the temperature dropping, our thoughts turn to preparing our cottage for the cold and snow to come. For some, this means closing up the cottage until the spring. For others, it is a time to prepare for life on Crane Lake during the winter. Regardless, we all do our best to prepare our properties to withstand the toughest weather Canada can throw at us. Some property owners have opted to give their waterfront structures a helping hand, through the installation of bubblers.

For those who are unfamiliar, 'bubblers' are a type of de-icing system, intended to prevent the build-up of ice at or around waterfront structures like docks and boathouses. There are several different types of systems, but generally these devices use air or propellers to create zones of agitated and warmer water to prevent ice from forming. Protecting our cottage properties is understandable and an increasing number of cottagers in the region are turning to these devices as part of their winter preparation. However, if you are a regular bubbler user, or if you are considering installing one at your property, it is important to plan carefully and be sure that you are not contributing to a significant hazard on the lake.

Bubblers are often turned on and left largely unattended by property owners throughout the winter. Without careful planning, management and consideration of the nature of your waterfront area, your bubbler can de-ice a significantly larger portion of the water than is necessary to protect your property. This is especially true in shallow or sheltered areas, or when several bubblers are active near one-another, with multiple property owners inadvertently creating a massive hole in the ice, hundreds of feet in size. ***These holes in the ice can pose a serious safety risk to winter users of our lake.***

[Section 263 \(1\) of the Criminal Code of Canada](#) is very clear that those who make or cause to be made an opening in ice are under a legal duty to guard the opening in a manner adequate to prevent persons from falling in by accident, and adequate to warn them that the opening exists. If you fail to perform these duties, the Code states that you may be found guilty of serious offences, up to and including manslaughter.

If you chose to operate a bubbler to protect your property, please make sure you are taking all steps possible to ensure the safety of all lake users and consider taking these risk management steps:

- Place and angle your devices with care to keep the impacted area as localized as possible;
- Talk to your neighbours to avoid doubling up in an area. It is possible that one bubbler will do the trick.
- Equip the system with a thermostat or timer control. Running 24/7 creates oversized openings.
- Place clear signs, visible from all directions noting "Danger Open Water".
- Run an amber light to mark the hazard at night and during storms. Do not use a red light, as this can be mistaken for the brake lights of a snowmobile and draw people towards the risk, rather than turn them away.
- Monitor your property. If you cannot attend, have someone check regularly to ensure the system is operating, the effected area is appropriate in size, and that the warning lights and markers are in place.
- Where possible, a knowledgeable and experienced contractor should be used to configure the system.

Summer or winter, safety on the water is our top priority!