

Sturgeon Point Association

84 Irene Avenue, Sturgeon Point, Ontario, KOM 1N0 www.sturgeonpoint.com

Greetings SPA members,

Winter 2013/2014 has snowed down on us and I hope that this quick update finds everyone happy, healthy and warm. Spring seems to be arriving, however slowly, and we'll be back in sandals and sunhats in no time! With this newsletter, SPA would like to keep you informed on recent news in and to do with the Point.

City of Kawartha Lakes

On October 27th, 2014, the City of Kawartha Lakes will hold a municipal election to vote on a new council and Mayor. This means we get to have a say on whom we elect to serve our community. Those who can vote will again have the ability to do so by a mail-in-ballot or by dropping ballots off at designated Service Centers. The city has had great success with the mail-in-ballot option and if you, like me, don't spend as much time at the Point in the fall, this means we have a convenient way of making our voices heard. We will again plan to have an all candidates meeting this fall, leading up to the election. It is important that our community's voice be heard, so be sure to get informed and vote this fall! Here is the link to the election website, www.city.kawarthalakes.on.ca/city-hall-office-of-the-city-clerk/election

SPA Membership

Membership packages will be mailed out shortly. Fees remain at \$40 per member and we encourage everyone 18 years and older to take out memberships. As usual, once you have received your membership package, you will be able to submit your form and payment via our website, by mail, by dropping it off in the SPA mailbox at the Park, or in person at one of our social events.

<u>Events</u>

The annual Halloween celebration with a party at the park and trick or treating was a great success. Thanks to Judy Haverkort and all the volunteers who made the event possible as well as to the households who handed out candy.

Over the Christmas holidays Sturgeon Point made their skating prowess known once again at the Fenelon and Bobcaygeon rinks. Thanks to Larry Thomas for organizing and all who participated.

Public Beach

This year we are going to make improvements at the Public Beach: replacement/repair of some of the furniture and umbrellas, repairs to the concrete dock, and the replacement of the two trees roadside, which unfortunately did not take. We will use the expertise of professionals to make sure we get the most appropriate trees for the location.



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Upper Wharf – Rain Shelter Restoration

This year we will be restoring the historic rain shelter to return it to its former glory and ensure its longevity as a gathering place for our community.

The rain shelter was erected by the Village of Sturgeon Point in 1903 and it is a historical reminder of the importance of steam boats that operated throughout the Kawartha Lakes and Trent Severn Waterway. It is also a reminder of the trek some of our ancestors used to take to get to the place we all enjoy now. Without these boats our village would not have developed as early as it did, since they provided the only access at the time. The shelter was designated as a Heritage site in 2006 which bestowed us with the honour of maintaining the building for future generations. The building is thought to be the only remaining one of its kind in the City of Kawartha Lakes. What a feather in our caps to be the keepers of such an important landmark!

In 2004 the members of the first Upper Wharf committee evaluated the state of the building as needing a new roof and paint, which were both done in 2005, and that the structure would need to be addressed in about 10 years. Those 10 years have elapsed and given the state of the building, the time has come. We have formed a committee for this project, made up of Lisa Vehrs, Leslie Thomas, Chris Van Lierop, Christina Hall and Madge Barr, with Derek Banks and Jo Breyfogle assisting in an advisory capacity. We are working on a plan for solidifying the building's foundation and structure and making it more accessible for the community. A section of the concrete dock under the west wall is crumbling and will be repaired. The building is also leaning forward and structural repairs to straighten, lift and place it on a permanent base will be necessary. The committee will be making applications for grants to help fund these repairs, but will also need help from the community to cover the cost of maintaining the heritage building. An information package will be mailed out in the coming weeks with more details and information regarding how you can contribute to the project.

Commemorating a Special Sturgeon Pointer

"In November of 2012, Sturgeon Point lost one of its lifelong residents and matriarchs: Flora Agnew. During her life, Flora was a longtime supporter of the Sturgeon Lake Sailing Club and her family continues that tradition today. To recognize that and give a lasting tribute to Flora, a donation site has been set up to collect funds to purchase a much needed Optimist sailboat to add to the SLSC fleet. Please help to recognize and remember this great lady by going to https://www.canadahelps.org/GivingPages/GivingPage.aspx?gpID=35353 and making a donation to help us reach our goal. Donations will be accepted until June 30, 2014 and any funds received over and above the set goal will go towards the purchase of a second boat. Thank you all in advance for your help."

Thanks to Doug Brown for organizing this initiative.



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Sturgeon Point Water System

For the residents who are part of the water network on the Point, it's almost time to start thinking about getting the water running again. This will be the last season that Dave Kennedy will have a hand in making it run and will need someone to take over for him. He has offered to spend some time training his replacement and being involved when necessary. If you would like to get involved, please contact me and I will put you in touch with Dave.

Staying Connected

Our Facebook page continues to grow thanks to the efforts of Patricia Aspinwall and we now reach 200 members. To keep up to date on what's going on in the community with things such as the local environment, local events, businesses, and much more, find us under Sturgeon Point Association (SPA) and 'like' us.

To keep up to date with what's going on in Fenelon Falls you can go to www.fenelonfalls.info.

Regards,

Chris Van Lierop

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