



Sturgeon Point Association

84 Irene Avenue, Sturgeon Point, Ontario, K0M 1N0

May 6, 2012

Dear Sturgeon Pointers:

A short and mild winter has come and gone since I last wrote one of these newsletters. The ice went out on March 19th, which is twenty days earlier than last year. With spring off to such an early start, I'm hoping that we are in for a long and warm summer season.

The summer of 2012 will feature one of the busiest calendars in recent history here at the Point. There is barely a single weekend without something happening somewhere. I've described a number of these events in this newsletter. You'll be able to find updates and a complete calendar of events on our web site. We'll also be posting the calendar of events on our bulletin boards at the Park and the mailboxes.

2012 SPA MEMBERSHIPS

At the top of SPA's list of priorities at the start of each year is our annual membership drive. Since the Village was amalgamated in the year 2001 the community has generously supported their association, and much has been accomplished in the intervening years. This year we've decided to redouble our efforts so that we can bring our membership rolls to the levels that we saw several years ago.

If you received this letter in the mail then you've probably received a membership form in the same envelope. Extra forms are available online if you need more. I encourage each adult member of every cottage and residence to take out a SPA membership this year. Membership is still just \$35/person. You can mail us your completed forms along with a cheque or just drop it off directly into the SPA mailbox at the Park.



If you'd prefer the convenience of online payment by credit card or PayPal then please visit our web site. We've set up a secure online payment portal hosted by PayPal.

Membership forms and online payment: <http://www.sturgeonpoint.com/spa-membership/>

As most of you understand, we have a rather unique situation here in Sturgeon Point. Through the foresight of the Village Council prior to amalgamation we now manage some of our own community properties. These properties were not transferred to the City when our Village was amalgamated. These "Trust Lands" include the Park, the Public Beach, the Upper Wharf, and the Leaf Dump. As a community, we manage these lands in a way that the City could not. (For example, you won't find a swim raft at a City-run beach, or a beautiful children's playground designed and built by the local community, independent of the CoKL.) The Leaf Dump saves many of us a significant amount of time and money every year. These and other benefits come with a responsibility, and part of that responsibility includes a financial commitment. As you can see from the other parts of this newsletter, SPA organises a number of

community events and activities that serve to maintain and promote Sturgeon Point traditions, some of which are well over a century old. Your membership dollars are the primary source of funding all of this activity, and because we are all volunteers, those dollars go a very long way. Please become a 2012 SPA member.

UPPER WHARF PROJECT

Last year we addressed the worsening erosion problem at the Upper Wharf grounds with the addition of a natural stone stairway leading down to the waterfront and a concrete swale along the edge of Irene Avenue. The swale (financed by the City of Kawartha Lakes) worked well over the spring run-off season and looks to have solved the erosion problem. The stairway provides easy and safe access to the waterfront area.

The project will be completed this year with the installation of a railing along one side of the stairs and three bollards along the top of the grass slope adjacent to the stairs. Two permanent bollards have already been installed, and a third removable bollard will be installed between the first two. The bollards, which will be painted and capped, will provide easy pedestrian and stroller access to the Upper Wharf grounds while restricting vehicle access. The stone stairs and the railings have been paid for primarily through reserves accrued through membership revenues, with extra help from the CoKL's matching grant program.

We'll soon be installing a cedar bench over the ugly cement block on the pad area. The bench will serve two purposes: it will provide needed extra seating and also hide the otherwise useless cement block.

The next step is to rejuvenate the gardens and surrounding green areas on the property. This is a longer term project, and Nelia Steward has generously volunteered to act as the point person. Nelia is looking for help from people with green thumbs, green ideas, any colour plants to donate, or red muscles to exercise. It's not a community project if you don't get involved, so please contact Nelia at the following coordinates:

Nelia Steward's Contact Information:	Home:	(705) 878-1810
	Cottage:	(705) 887-3415
	Email:	nsteward@cogeco.ca

SOCIAL CALENDAR

There'll be a full slate of events this year, including all of the events that you've become accustomed to and some new ones. The season kicked off with another very successful Easter in the Park event, attended by young and old alike. We enjoyed beautiful weather for the egg hunt this year. Thanks to all involved in helping to make this event so much fun.

We've already started planning for the Canada Day celebration, the Civic holiday Street Dance and Regatta events, and Sturgeon Point's own Halloween. Below is a tabulated summary of the summer's community events. The following pages proved some additional information.

Community Events Calendar 2012			
Event	Place	Time & Date	Notes
Canada Day Celebration	Park in the Woods	July 1, 12:00 p.m.	Celebrate Canada Day and meet the neighbours
Frog Jog	Park in the Woods	July 7, 11:00 a.m.	5 km and 1 km fun run/walk around the Point. Refreshments and prize draw
Environment Meeting	Union Church	July 14 th , 10:00 a.m.	Lake health updates. (other presentations TBD)
Annual Civic Holiday BBQ and Street Dance	Park in the Woods	August 4, 6:00 p.m.	Food, music and dancing!
Sturgeon Point Regatta	The 174 nd running of the Sturgeon Point Regatta.		
	Public Beach	Aug. 5, 2:00 p.m.	Swimming and canoe races
	Swannanoa	Aug. 6 10:00 a.m.	Running and novelty races
SPA AGM	Union Church	Sept. 2, 10:00 a.m.	The AGM – come out to hear the reports and have your say!
Doors Open	Church, Upper Wharf, Golf Club	Sept 9, 10:00 a.m. – 5 p.m.	“Open Doors” and historical photographs at all three sites.

CANADA DAY CELEBRATION – JULY 1ST, 12:00 P.M.

This event is the first large gathering of Sturgeon Pointers every season, and we hope to see you there again for a BBQ lunch and birthday cake. This year July 1st lands on a Sunday, and we'll be marking the big day by raising a new Canadian flag on a rejuvenated flag pole. Festivities start at noon. Don't miss it!

FROG JOG – JULY 7TH

The 1st Annual Sturgeon Point FROG JOG, will be held on July 7 at 11:00 a.m. This is a 5 km FUN Run/Walk and 1 km kid's run/walk around the village. This event will be a great opportunity to get together for a tour around the Point.

The FROG JOG will start and finish at the Park. There will be finishers' ribbons and a prize draw at the finish line afterwards, and refreshments and snacks will be provided. Note that this event is open to everyone, and participants can complete the course at their own pace.

Advance registration is not required, but we would appreciate an informal “RSVP” via email to help us plan for refreshments, snacks and ribbons. We'll also require a number of volunteers to act as race marshals, to help out with the water station and to distribute finish line refreshments. Donations for the local food bank on race day would also be appreciated.

The organisation of this event is being spearheaded by Rosemary Stochel. Please send her an email if you're thinking of participating in this event: rosemarystochel@hotmail.com. (No email? Just call me at (705) 887-6221 and I'll let Rosemary know.) Watch for further details over the coming month or so.

DOORS OPEN – SEPTEMBER 9TH

This year Sturgeon Point will be participating in the Kawartha Lakes Door's Open program on Sunday, September 9th. The Doors Open program promotes Ontario's heritage by organising tours of different regions in the province. You can read more about this program on their web site:

<http://www.doorsopenontario.on.ca/>

In September the Kawartha Lakes region is holding a Doors Open event and the organisers have asked us to welcome visitors to our unique community. We will be showcasing the Union Church, the Upper Wharf and its Rain Shelter, and the Golf Course. This trio of sites presents a natural circuit for visitors to follow, with the Golf Club serving as the perfect location to relax and enjoy a beverage after a tour through the community. The Sturgeon Point History Project, headed up by Liane Kennedy, will be providing historical photographic displays that will provide historical context at each of the three sites.

While this event will draw visitors to our Village, I think it will also be a very enjoyable day for Sturgeon Pointers. We'll all be able to visit and enjoy these heritage sites – we can be tourists in our own Village! Please let me know if you have an interest in getting involved with this event. We'll keep you posted with plans as they develop.

HISTORY PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

Liane Kennedy has organised a series of three presentations to be held at the Union Church over the summer months. These presentations will continue to add to the breadth of knowledge that Liane's efforts have contributed to Sturgeon Point's historical record. Be sure to visit Liane's Sturgeon Point History Project Blog: <http://stpthistoryproject.blogspot.ca/>

History Project Speakers Series		Location: Union Church
Time & Date	Speaker	Description
July 7, 9:30 a.m.	Randall Speller	Business History of Fenelon Falls (1832-1900)
July 21, 9:30 a.m.	Paul Arculus	George Crandell and the lake steamers, and Dr. Edwin Campbell, founder of Chevrolet
August 11, 9:30 a.m.	John Summers	The history of sailing canoes

STURGEON POINT GOLF CLUB – SPECIAL OFFER TO STURGEON POINTERS

The golf season started early this year, and the club is in full swing. League play (men's and women's) is already underway, and the club will be holding clinics (Junior Clinics every Wednesday in July) and tournaments all summer. This year's Fun Day will be held on July 14th at 9:00 a.m. Fun Day is open to everyone in the community, regardless of skill level. Prizes, contests and lunch included.

Early membership registration ended in April, but this year the Club is offering Sturgeon Pointers the opportunity to take advantage of the early bird rates until June 1st. All you have to do is mention that you saw the offer right here in the SPA newsletter.

You can get more information about the Golf Course on their web site at www.sturgeonpointgolf.com or by calling them directly at (705) 887-3144.

STURGEON LAKE SAILING CLUB

The SLSC kicks off the Junior Program on Monday, July 2nd. This popular program is open to anyone aged 8 to 16 years of age and all are welcome regardless of prior sailing experience. Club dances are back on Friday nights for kids of all ages along with activity nights on Tuesday and evening racing followed by a bonfire for the sailors on Wednesday nights. The Club is also hosting the Ontario Laser Masters Championships on the weekend of July 28-29. They are looking for volunteers to help on the water on race days and others to provide beds for the Masters sailors (aged 35 to 85) on the nights of Friday, July 27 and Saturday, July 28.

Finally, if you drop by the Club, you will see that things are looking a little different these days - construction is underway on a new building to provide more room for instruction, more space from which to run regattas, a coaches' administration office and more storage space for boats and equipment over the winter than can currently be accommodated. Drop by and see the progress and be sure to join with the community in a celebration of the new building on Saturday evening, July 14 at a 'Non-Gala Gala' with wine and nibbles followed by an evening of dancing in the new clubhouse. Details on this event and everything else SLSC can be found on the Sailing Club website (www.slsc.ca).

UNION CHURCH

The church will be holding services each Sunday in July and August. Services start at 10:30 a.m. The roster of visiting ministers has just been completed and will be posted in the coming weeks. After the first service of the summer refreshments will be served, providing a wonderful opportunity for everyone to reconnect after a long winter. It's also a great chance for new community members to meet their neighbours. This year the first service will fall on July 1st, making the day just a little more special.

The Sturgeon Point Union Church is non-denominational and welcomes everyone!

ROADS

The CoKL recently went through a five year roads needs assessment to guide road maintenance and infrastructure budgets. The outcome of that assessment has resulted in a decision that excludes Sturgeon Point from any road resurfacing work in 2012. This may come as a disappointment to those of you who live on Forest Road and Henry Street, as well as some of you on Lake Avenue and Fourth Street. While Sturgeon Point has benefited from some significant road work over the past two years, the job isn't quite done yet. We will continue to communicate this message to the City.

Last year the City cut back some brush from Forest Road at our request. Several cautionary signs and speed limit signs were posted along Forest Road and Lake Avenue, as well as on Irene Avenue near the Park to alert drivers to the presence of children.

Those of you driving around the Village will have noticed that the winter sand deposits are still on our streets. We have word that the street cleaners are on their way.

Several of our street signs are in need of replacement, and we are in the process of cataloging these and communicating them to the CoKL. The intent is to replace them with similar hand-painted signs that match the originals to maintain the look and character of the Village.

Please remember to drive slowly when you're in the Point.

CLOSING

If any of you have any questions or concerns about Sturgeon Point, SPA, or if you'd like to share your thoughts about how we might do something better, please don't hesitate to contact me directly to let me know what's on your mind.

Sincerely,

Victor Isbrucker
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