



PALMERSTON POST

FALL 2022

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 1

It was certainly a wild beginning to the summer with the storm of the century. We certainly hope that everyone managed to have an enjoyable summer at the lake despite the major cleanup that many of our members had to deal with.

5TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

There was a good turn out on Saturday July 23 at the Ompah Community Centre for our first in person AGM since 2019. Presentations included reports from our President on the activities of the North Frontenac Lake Association Alliance (NFLAA) during the year. The NFLAA continued to urge Township Council to adopt mandatory septic system re-inspections for lakefront properties and to adopt a short term rental by-law. Our Lake Steward reported on the Lake Partner water quality sampling program and educational efforts being made to help control the Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) in our lake. A seminar on EWM was presented in June. Members are encouraged to hand harvest this invasive species if you find it growing on your shoreline and dispose of it in the garbage. Mary Rothfels reported on the Palmerston Lake loon survey. Our lake can support 4 groups of 2 adults and 2 chicks. We need more volunteers to cover the whole lake. If you would like to participate, please contact Mary at mary.rothfels@gmail.com.

During the meeting, Joan Cotton, our Newsletter Editor announced her retirement and the group thanked her for all her contributions over the last 6 years. All other directors were either re-elected or agreed to continue their terms. In addition, Liz Jackson who has been working with the Membership and Lake Management Plan committees was elected as a Director.

BEACH PARTY

The PLA hosted a beach party for the lake community on August 20 at Waites Beach on Arcol Road. The weather was perfect and the party was a resounding success. 75 – 100 people attended the gathering to enjoy music by Fiddlers and Friends in the company of their lake neighbours. Various watercraft were drawn to the music and came to listen while moored close to the shore. Light snacks and drinks were served and those who attended were provided information on how

they could become involved in the association and support our initiatives to maintain the excellent quality of our lake. A large map of Palmerston Lake was displayed and everyone appeared to enjoy marking the location of their property on the lake.

FEDERATION OF ONTARIO COTTAGERS ASSOCIATIONS (FOCA)

We continue to attend seminars and meetings presented by the Federation of Ontario Cottagers Associations. FOCA is a tremendous source of information and other resources. The highlights of the FOCA Fall Seminar held in October were:

- FOCA is strongly opposed to Bill 23. For more information and discussion of other land use matters go to www.foca.on.ca/land-use-planning-overview
- There is very useful information on being Septic Smart at www.foca.on.ca/septic-systems
- Wake awareness is an ongoing educational matter see www.bewakeaware.com
- Transport Canada is proposing mandatory wearing of PFD's and restrictions on wake surfing.
- FOCA's position on short term rentals is that no one size fits all. A "Welcome Sheet" for renters is available at www.foca.on.ca/rental
- As of January 1, this year, the Invasive Species Act requires boaters to drain and clean their boats when taking the boat out of the water and to inspect their boat for plants and animal matter before launching
- There is a huge threat from Grass Carp, a new invasive species and a major effort is underway to contain it.
- Watersheds Canada made a presentation on sustainable waterfront development. They want to bring nature back into municipal planning. There is a lot of information available at www.watersheds.ca. You can read the entire Event Summary on the FOCA Website.

TREE PLANTING PROJECT

The PLA is once again partnering with the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority to supply native trees and shrubs along our shorelines to help replace the many trees lost in the storm in May. Information on how to order will be emailed to you. Ordering will take place in February with delivery likely in April.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

During our last meeting, the Directors decided to create the new position of Communications Director. This function has been and continues to be performed by Robbie Viets who is also the chair of our Membership Committee. As we grow larger, there is too much work for one person. Ideally, the Communications Director will also be a Board Member, but that is not essential. If you have the time and skills to help in this important area, please let us know.

We would like to wish all our members and their families a very happy and healthy holiday season.