



DRIFTWORDS

SERVING THE RIDEAU SINCE 1911 • POONAMALIE TO NARROWS LOCK

Celebrating Driftword's 22nd Year Summer/Fall 2002

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Publisher:
**Big Rideau Lake Association
Board of Directors**

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Two Outstanding Board Members Retire

by Tracey Alf

At the August 3, 2002 Annual General Meeting, BRLA President Richard Bradley announced the "retirement" of Board Directors John

Peart and Graham Mowat. Each was an employee, Kathy Rankine. Following his presidency, Mr. Peart continued to give the Board his thoughtful counsel in his new role as Secretary, a position

he held through August 3rd. In his speech he said it had been an honour to have served on the Board and extended warm thanks to BRLA members for their support over the past 10 years.

In 1989, Mr. Graham Mowat answered an ad asking for volunteers to conduct water testing for

eight weeks for the BRLA. He was most surprised to soon find himself on the Environment Committee despite



Peart and Graham Mowat. Each was presented with a plaque in appreciation of their years of volunteer service with the Board.

Mr. John Peart, BRLA President from 1996-1999, is recognized for his overall direction and consistent support of the Association's development. During his term as President, among other notable accomplishments, BRLA purchased 30 Colborne Street and hired its first full time year-round



his big plans for a full summer of fishing with his new post-retirement boat. Seemingly, he had learned nothing



Retirement story continued on page 7

President's Pen

by Richard Bradley

The Annual General Meeting was made unexpectedly interesting by a motion put forward by Peter Cowan on behalf of the Rideau Lakes Club and carried by the membership. The motion calls for the BRLA to devote a significant portion of its annual membership dues to recreational and social

activities. I spoke against the motion because we currently allocate twenty percent of our membership revenue to fireworks and the balance is substantially committed to the Dry Dock mortgage, utilities, *Driftwords*, shoal markers, insurance, boat maintenance and accounting fees. Advance notice of the

motion would have made it easier to plan for the added financial obligations. I am delighted that the Rideau Lakes Club put forward three directors to assist with the program, budget and fundraising challenges. Welcome aboard to Nancy Watters, Rosemary McCarney and Henry Copestake !

Rideau Ferry Day a SUCCESS!

by Stacy McLean

On Saturday, July 27th, 2002, BRLA hosted Rideau Ferry Day to encourage residents from the area to discover for themselves how active BRLA is in this part of the lake.



Throughout the day residents enjoyed a BBQ, kids face painting, bug collecting and crafts. The water quality testing unit and pontoon boat were also on site to demonstrate how this hi-tech equipment gives instant read outs for 6

aspects of water quality. Additionally, information on this summer's recreation and interpretive programs, fisheries studies, healthy shoreline home visits, septic systems, composting toilets along with many other educational pamphlets were available for visitors to browse and take home. We would like to thank *Rideau Hearth and Home* for the use of its BBQ and the proprietors of *Shipwreck Restaurant* for the space at their main dock and front lawn. BRLA is pleased with the great turn-out and hopes that Rideau Ferry Day becomes an annual event.



LANDFILL / RECYCLING – WINTER HOURS

Portland Site (Oct 16-May 14)

Wednesday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Saturday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Burgess Ward (Oct 15-May 20)

Wednesday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

North Elmsley / Drummond (Year Round)

Monday, Tuesday & Friday 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Bathurst Ward (Year Round)

Tuesday & Friday 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Sherbrooke Ward (Oct 15-May 20)

Wednesday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

NOTES

1. The Portland site only accepts garbage in CLEAR bags that are labeled with township stickers.
2. For more information contact:

Twp of Rideau Lakes	928-2250
Twp of Drummond / North Elmsley	267-6500
Tay Valley Twp (formerly BBS)	267-5353

Social and Recreation Support and Membership Revenues

The Motion

One motion, passed at the Annual General Meeting August 3, 2002, expressed the need to devote a significant portion of membership dues in support of social and recreational activities for children, youth and fireworks at Cow Island. It is fair to say that the motion was prompted by supporters of the Rideau Lakes Club who are also BRLA members.

Club Agreement to Use Cow Island

The Rideau Lakes Club is now in its third year of directing children's and teen's programs on Cow Island. An Agreement with BRLA gives the Club non-exclusive rights to use the island in exchange for property maintenance and facilities' improvements. It mandates an effective joint working committee to oversee the island and includes the expectation that Club members will also become members of BRLA.

The Offer

Last winter and early spring, BRLA offered to use its ability under its job creation program to place two staff positions with RLC at no cost to the Club. These would have covered all the major labour responsibilities of the Club's programs as well as its obligations under the Agreement. The Club did not accept this offer and opted to carry on as it had in the previous two years.



Current BRLA Membership Expenditures on Social and Recreation Programs

Looking at the breakdown of **actual expenditures**, based on anticipated membership revenue of \$23,000, here is the Association's current measure of support in this area:

1. **Cow Island** expenses, including taxes and all applicable insurance charges - \$3,600.00 or 16% of dues
2. **Fireworks**, including materials, labour and insurance - \$4,750.00 or 20% of dues
3. **Support** costs for the above, including *Driftwords* portion, and not counting staff salaries - \$2,500.00 or 11% of dues



Summary and Other Core Expenditures

The effective BRLA share of support for social, recreation and fireworks this year totals \$10,850, or **47% of membership dues**.

Given other essential expenditures for shoal markers, facilities, communications, administration and other insurance - and subtracting credits for overhead expenses from external funding for environmental programs - there remains a significant shortfall from membership revenues. Thus, the necessity to scramble for other revenue sources. **It must be noted that no membership revenues are spent on staff salaries.**



The Bottom Line

So the only way to spend more on social and recreation programs within membership revenues is to **increase the number of members!** Or - finance the fireworks separately and free up almost \$5,000. In consideration of the Motion, the question for the future is, what more can the Board do for social and recreational programs **within** membership revenues?

Footnote: Environmental Funding External to Membership Dues

All dollars for environmental staff, programs, research and overhead is covered outside membership revenues in three ways:

1. Voluntary donations through Rideau Lakes Environmental Foundation (RLEF)
2. Support from 18 other partner organizations through Rideau Lakes Environment and Information Centre (RLEIC)
3. A wide range of grants and subsidies from a variety of government and private sources, **all of which are designated for specific environmental programs**

These programs enhance the value of the whole lake and its watershed, as well as protect the various investments of all lake users.

Other Outside Support for Social and Recreational Activities

Beyond membership dues and within the framework of approved externally funded programs, BRLA this year has facilitated:

- ◆ Staff support for necessary administration of Cow Island and the fireworks.
- ◆ A variety of recreational interpretation programs for all ages at eight different locations around the lake.
- ◆ Social and recreational components at such special events as BioBlitz; Discover Boating; Rideau Ferry Day; and *Sun, Sand, Wind and Water Fair*.

Strict Accountability

We should appreciate the necessity to follow strict accounting and **accountability for all external funding**. All expenditures must be consistent with the purpose for which they were granted. Last year, for example, all the renovations at Dry Dock, which were designed to facilitate the implementation of environmental programs, came from the designated building reserve fund for 30 Colborne St. This fund was built up over five years from **voluntary donations** through RLEF.

Littoral (Shoreline) Inventory Update

by Chris Benton

July marked the end of the first phase of data collection for the shoreline inventory (littoral) program that began in late May. Six littoral technicians have been thoroughly mapping and recording shoreline information for three different data fields: the structure of the lake's shoreline substrate (lake bottom), spawning beds and nursery areas of the lake's fish population, and the location of logs and stumps along the shoreline.

Our unusually cool spring resulted in a slow beginning to the program for observing fish. In many areas of the lake, especially in the western half, fish spawning began much later than usual. For example, bass below Rideau Ferry were spawning weeks before those around Sheldon's Bay/Kish Point and some colonies of sunfish were still spawning in the Portland Bay area in mid-July. The spring weather and constant winds created a challenge for the identifica-

tion of fish species and mapping of their spawning areas. Despite these difficulties, valuable information was collected and preparations for the continuation of fish data collection have already begun for 2003.

The littoral program is now in its 2nd phase, surveying the lake's aquatic vegetation community. Technicians will be mapping and identifying the different stands of vegetation along the lake's shore. This vegetation data will provide important information on the status of habitats for a variety of wildlife. Protective cover, feeding areas, nesting and nursery areas can all be identified with this information. In addition, during the vegetation survey, invasive plant species such as Purple Loosestrife, European Frogbit and Eurasian Milfoil will be located and recorded.

The shoreline inventory has been a success, both in the collection of data and in meeting lake users and

landowners. At this time over 60% of Rideau Lake's shoreline has been inventoried and we expect completion of this phase by October. After this time, data collected will be entered into and analysed in a Geographic Information System (GIS) and planning will take place for the completion of all phases in 2003. This information will complement a variety of existing and future projects including fisheries to protect **spawning habitat**, nursery and cover areas, as well as other **wildlife** projects. It will also identify areas of concern, such as **erosion** along the shoreline. Moreover, this information will help in **planning for sustainable use** of lake resources.



Project Turtle

With growing concern for the health of Ontario's turtle populations, the *Centre for Sustainable Watersheds* has begun a watershed-wide turtle project in cooperation with Dr. Michael Rankin of the *Ontario Museum of Nature*. This project is comprised of several components including a trapping and tagging program. The turtles collected will be tagged and marked, enabling us to monitor and document populations, movements, and species distributions. If you happen upon a trap on the lake please do not disturb it; none of the traps used cause harm to the turtles and each trap is checked daily.

FREE Shimano Rod & Reel!

FREE Shimano hat!

FREE Cash!

If you are a bass angler and happen to catch a bass this summer with a yellow tag on its back please call the BRLA at 613-272-5136 or 613-272-3629. If you provide the T-tag number and whether you kept or released the fish and in what general area the fish was caught, you will automatically receive a Shimano hat (\$35 value) and a monetary thank you, and your name will be entered to win a Shimano rod and reel. And you will also significantly help this year's study. If you are an avid angler and would like to receive a Bass Card to fill in as you catch fish, please call one of the above numbers.

Loon Monitoring

by Nelson Amaral

Our annual loon monitoring program is about to wrap up. The biodi-



versity crew and LoonWatcher volunteers have been identifying nesting loon pairs and taking observations since early May. Every bay and island in Rideau Lake was visited many times in the hopes of finding a previously

unidentified loon pair or newly hatched chicks from well-hidden nests.

This year 24 pairs of nesting loons were identified and observed. Of these 24, 18 pairs successfully hatched 30 downy young. As of the end of August, 23 chicks had survived - this is the highest number of chicks observed in the last 12 years!

There were 9 pairs of loons that did not nest. Reasons for not nesting could be one of many possibilities, such as lack of adequate nesting habitat, water level fluctuations, the inability to hold a territory, human disturbance, predation, or they are young adults that have not yet mated though

they possess adult plumage. In any event, we will continue loon monitoring through to their migration. So enjoy their calls, and enjoy their beauty, but remember they are wild, so keep your distance.

Thanks again to all LoonWatcher volunteers. If you would like to become a LoonWatcher, please contact us at (613) 272-5136 or via Email at brla@brla.on.ca



Aquatic Research

by Geof Hall



The *Centre for Sustainable Watersheds* has created an Aquatic Research Group to conduct research and monitoring of the many sub-aquatic factors that can affect the health of



Native Clam encrusted with zebra mussels

the Rideau Lake watershed. The Aquatic Research Group has the capability to perform complex aquatic surveys and studies on the biological, physical and chemical components of the watershed, while at the same time documenting all studies and projects through underwater video and photography.

The Aquatic Research Group is undertaking several exciting projects. For example, our invasive species research focuses on the ever-increasing population of zebra mussels in Rideau Lake. This project looks at densities and spatial distributions throughout the lake as important indicators of the population spread. In addition, the fate of native clams and mussels are a high priority, and the Group will address this issue using a variety of surveys and long-term monitoring. Also, fisheries related studies include assessments and surveys of

lake trout spawning shoals in an effort to identify the health and viability of present spawning sites and the characteristics which may support rehabilitation.

The Aquatic Research Group continues to work through the fall.



Shoreline Water Quality on Rideau Lake

By Erika Kiss & Barbara Robbins

You may have seen the Big Rideau Lake Association's (BRLA) pontoon boat around your shoreline this summer and wondered what we were up to.

A successful fund raising campaign by Rideau Lakes Environmental Foundation, along with a Trillium grant to our Upper Rideau Lake Association partner, made possible the purchase of a YSI multi-parameter water quality-testing unit this spring. This unit has enabled us to expand our testing sites and collect water quality data along all the shoreline.

To assess the health of the aquatic environment and recreational use of the lake, we measure the trophic status (the level of nutrient supply) through determination of total phosphorus



(TP), algae densities (via chlorophyll concentration), and water clarity (secchi depth). A strong relationship exists amongst these three parameters and we have noticed some interesting results from testing chlorophyll concentrations around the shoreline with the YSI unit. We have noted that some of the higher chlorophyll readings appear in front of residences with altered shorelines, where native vegetation, trees, and shrubs have been replaced by landscaped lawns. The maintenance of such lawns usually requires the application of fertilizers and/or pesticides. Some of the phosphorus found in

chemical fertilizers run off, increasing concentrations in the water and contributing to increased weed and algae growth, thereby decreasing water clarity. Over the winter, we will be analyzing the data to determine the connection between shoreline practices and chlorophyll concentrations.

You can have a green, lush lawn without the use of fertilizers and pesticides. **Here are some 'Great Grass...the Natural Way' lawn tips:**

1. Water your lawn deeply in the early morning or late evening. Shallow watering may result in shallow root development making the lawn very susceptible to damage during dry periods.
2. Mow your lawn to a height of three inches. This height will help shade out the weeds that prefer more sunny and open locations. Taller grass also shades soil, keeping it cool and moist.
3. Sharpen your lawnmower blade frequently. Dull blades tear and stress grass blades, thereby increasing the potential for diseases and pest infestations.
4. Mulch your lawn with grass clippings for a natural lawn fertilizer. Use a mulching mower/blade that distributes the clippings evenly throughout the lawn.

5. Overseed your lawn each spring and fall to introduce hardy, pest-resistant species into the lawn.
6. Minimize your lawn and plant drought tolerant species!

Come to Dry Dock and pick up a Pesticide-Free Naturally Action Kit to learn more about growing a beautiful garden that won't harm the lake. Or you can book a



visit through our new *Healthy Lakes Shoreline Home Visit* program. One of our staff will be happy to walk around your lake residence and discuss ways to protect and restore the health of your property. We will work with you to develop a site plan and provide the tools and followup information necessary to carry out the projects. Each property owner will also receive a Pesticide-Free Naturally Kit, a low-flow showerhead, and a sample of an ecologically responsible household product. Please call Barbara Robbins at the *Centre for Sustainable Watersheds* 613 272-5136 or email robbins@sustainablewatersheds.ca for more information or to book a visit.



Osprey Monitoring

By Chris Heffernan

Along with the Loon and Great Blue Heron, the Osprey is one of the most endearing birds on our lake. Each summer many of us look forward to the return of these large raptors. Osprey numbers have been increasing in the last two decades due to bans on harmful pesticides like DDT and the use of artificial structures for nesting. Fortunately, the numbers of Osprey in our watershed have increased to the point where it has become difficult to monitor their population. We need your help in ensuring that our Osprey continue to thrive and prosper. Below is a map of all Osprey nests that we are aware of.

If you know the whereabouts of any additional nesting sites, and would like

to help in the monitoring process, or are interested in any additional Osprey or bird related programs or information, please contact Chris Heffernan by email: barred_owl2002@yahoo.com.

Please remember, though Osprey are very tolerant of human activities, they still need their space, so please respect this when approaching the nesting sites of these birds.

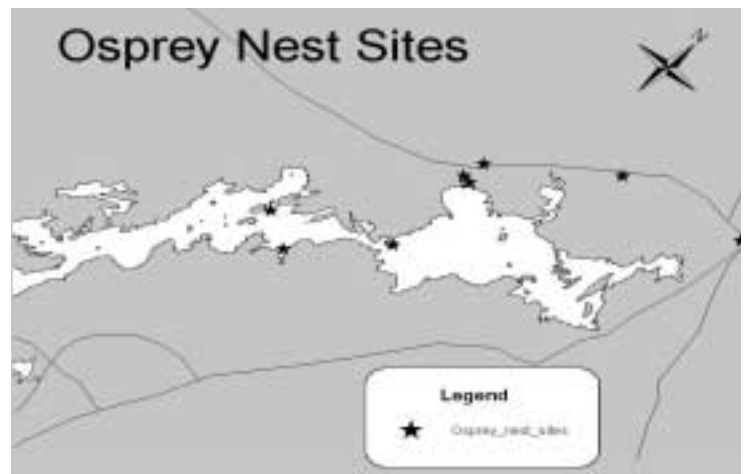
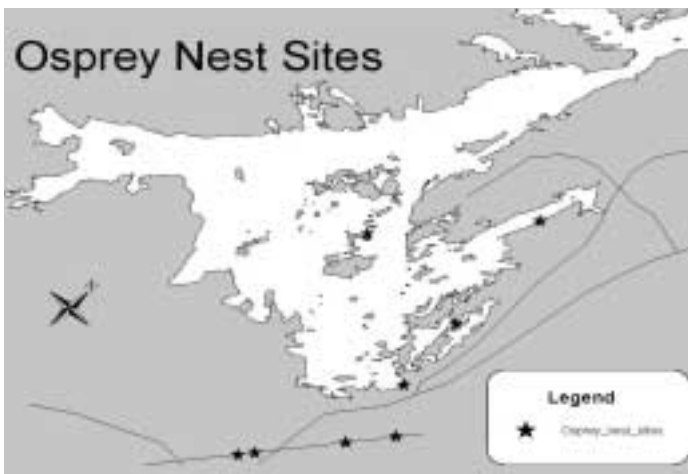


Retirement, continued from page 1

from these events, for he was soon promoted to Vice-President, Administration. The driving force behind the purchase of the current BRLA headquarters at 30 Colborne, Mr. Mowat was considered the administrative glue of the Board by its members and staff alike. In fact six presidents over 13 years have relied on his loyalty, perceptiveness and wealth of local contacts, which were so important in developing the operations base in Portland. Mr. Mowat's heartfelt speech concluded with thanks to the late Bob Sterling, a man with "a great deal of vision" and a continuing inspiration to Mr. Mowat.

BRLA wishes Mr. Mowat and Mr. Peart the best for the future and hopes they continue to be involved. Indeed, Mr. Mowat has already mentioned an interest in "special projects".

Thank you both!



Call for Volunteers

Of particular interest to us are **Stories and Articles for *Driftwords***

If you would like us to publish your story or article (200-600 words) please email it to brrla@brrla.on.ca

If you would like to volunteer for any of our programs or have any suggestions please call us at 272-3629.

BRLA Fireworks 2002

By Jim Sneyd

Saturday June 29th at around 10:00 pm the annual fireworks display began with its usual bang! Another great show directed by our fireworks supervisor, Mike Fraser. Mike had some new tricks and techniques this year to keep the audience sitting on the edge of their seats - or their gunwales - with anticipation. Using both ends of Cow Island, a light show, a few powerful explosions and some very large displays were all new additions to this year's show.

We estimate around 4000 people watched the fireworks from land and water this year! The number of boats

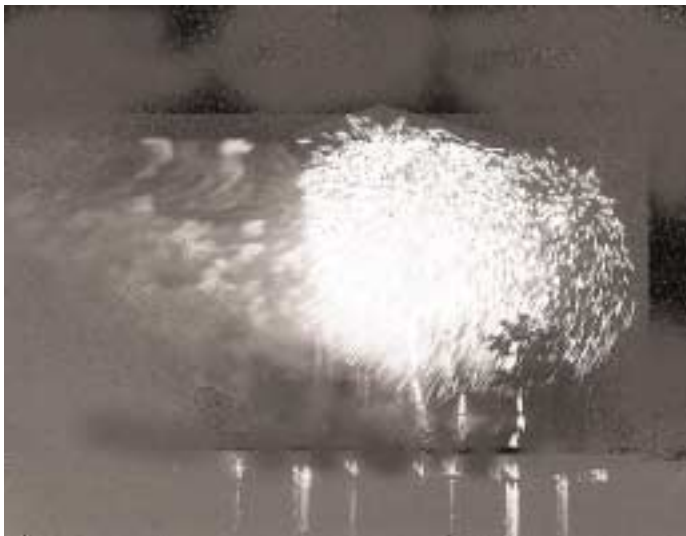
donations from the boaters. We had people collecting in town from the crowd and containers in five different locations. Even with the large audience, this collection force was only able to bring in around \$900 of donations.

The fireworks are an important part of many families' experience at the Rideau. Unfortunately the donations collected do not come close to covering the cost of putting on a fireworks display. This year's total cost was \$4750.00 and is hard-pressed to be covered by membership fees given the many demands on membership dollars. We want this tradition to continue year after year but we need a better method of financing the show. If any of our readers have any suggestions please contact me.

Thanks go out to Mike Fraser, John Delaney and their crew for volunteering their services on set-up, firing and clean up. Thanks also go out to all of



you who support the fireworks through your donations. If you haven't yet made a donation, please drop it in at Dry Dock or mail it, marked for 'fireworks'.



around Cow Island was near 500. The BRLA's Pontoon boat was anchored and four aluminum boats collected

Thank you to all members who sent in their surveys!

The BRLA would like to thank all of the members who sent in the survey that was part of the June *Driftwords*. Some of the main concerns identified were development, zebra mussels, fisheries health, water quality, loon safety, and increased aquatic vegetation.

These issues will influence planning for next year's programs.

One great mention - **100% of respondents enjoy reading *Driftwords*!**

Congratulations to **Robert Kercher**, winner of the draw for a BRLA shirt.

Live Release is NOT Enough...

WHERE are the bass dropped?

The Ridgway/BRLA/MNR Study (1996-99) proved largemouth bass have a very small home range and if displaced more than 8km from their



point of capture, will not return home. In fact more than half displaced within 8km do not return!

In the past, tournaments would drop up to 400 bass a day in **one** location. Over time this upsets the natural balance of bass distribution throughout the lake.

These recently published findings are beginning to be taken seriously by tournament anglers. Tournament anglers with two of the Kingston clubs this year took special care afterwards to distribute their own fish widely around the lake.

The 68 team Chevy-Mercury tournament in August took the biggest single step ever on this lake by dropping its fish at **10 different locations**, from Portland Bay to below the Ferry bridge. Two release boats were used, with a combined capability of 6 separate holding tanks.

Credit for this remarkable turnaround rests with the indefatigable efforts of Stacy McLean, who has worked with tournament groups over the past 24 months to get the important release/distribution message across. Co-operation and support among tournament anglers is continuing to grow.

In the absence of provincial regulations for tournament angling, the best we can do to protect the natural bass population distribution on a large lake like the Rideau, is to work with the tournaments to develop a strategy for widespread redistribution.

Intelligent practices that ensure live-release is the important first step. **Where** the bass are released is most significant to maintain healthy population distribution.

Among the celebrity anglers at the big tournament, Bob Izumi expressed special interest in the BRLA studies and will be publishing an article in his magazine, *Real Fishing*.



Update on 2002 Bass Survival Studies

June *Driftwords* introduced and explained the scope of this work and the Winter edition will report on the results.

During the first two tournaments in mid-July, staff performed **40 surgical implants** of radio transmitters. This enables us to monitor survival and movement of a large number of bass dropped in one location, which follows the old-style tournament release practice.

Of all the bass caught at the tournaments, 763 were **double tagged** by staff before their release back to the lake. Subsequent reporting by anglers if any of these fish that were recaptured and whether or not released, is a crucial component of this study. Essentially, the disappearance of tags in any given season is a way to monitor survival. To date, more than 50 fish have been reported by anglers.

BRLA staff was busy during the hours of the tournament weigh-ins, because in addition to the double tagging, they also weighed, measured fork and total lengths, took scale/spine samples for aging and checked stress levels.

BRLA would like to thank all the tournament clubs for their participation, Shimano Canada for their donations, John McLaughlin from Safari Marina for letting us set up on his property, to Gary Ridout from Harkness Laboratory of Fisheries Research, the OMNR's Protection and Enhancement Fund for financial assistance and to all staff who gave up weekends to help out in this study.

Virtual Driftwords

If you would prefer to receive your *Driftwords* electronically please send an email to brla@brla.on.ca. Please indicate your name and phone number and the email address where you would like us to send your copies. Thank you!

Driftwords

This year it was decided to combine the summer and fall issues of *Driftwords* in a single issue. With the AGM delayed until early August, it meant the summer issue would not have been mailed until the week before or after Labour Day. The current publication will be in your hands well before the Thanksgiving weekend, rather than later October as is usually the case with the Fall issue.

For financial reasons, moreover, the treasury can effect a useful saving on postage and some printing costs. The core BRLA budget is under some stress this year, owing to the fact that **80 members from last year have not renewed their membership**. This alone would put us in a shortfall position of some \$4000 by year end.

Rideau Lakes Environmental Foundation

Look for RLEF's fall news bulletin and financial appeal to be mailed in later October, somewhat earlier than in previous years.

The workings of the RLEF Board have been enhanced by the presence and input from the two representatives of Upper Rideau Lake Association over the past year. The Board has had a couple of extra meetings this season and members have been doing more committee work with staff and BRLA, developing strategies and plans to:

- Facilitate more effective delivery of environmental programs for both lakes
- Enable other regional lakes to help themselves finance their own programs that will strengthen environmental protection in a wider area that will help us all
- Create an independent corporate structure that, while linked strongly with BRLA and RLEF, will serve the watersheds of Eastern Ontario from a base in Portland

Please consider a significant donation, within your financial means, to maximize your charitable tax receipt for 2002.

History of Rideau Lakes Township Lecture Series

presented by **Encore Brockville**
(St. Lawrence College) in
**Portland at Country Roads
Medical Centre**

*History of Transportation in
Rideau Lakes Township -
Doug Bond*

*Local History of the Area, 1800-
1850 - Neil Patterson*

*Slide Presentation & Walking
Tour of Delta -Paul Fritz*

*John By, Particular Reference to
Jones Falls - Dwight Purdy*

Social History - Sue Warren

*The Role of the Irish in North
Leeds - Borden Purcell*

Thursdays 12th Sept. to 24th Oct.,
from 10 am to noon,

To enrol call Doug Campbell 345-
0660 ext 3167 or Joan Bradley at
345-0660 ext 3561

Dry Dock and Welcome Centre Fall & Winter Hours

Dry Dock

Open 7 days a week through Thanksgiving Sunday: 9 am to 4 pm (except Sundays from 10 am)
Weekdays (Thanksgiving to Victoria Day weekend): 9 am to 4 pm

Do your Christmas shopping early with Dry Dock Specials, Books and Gift Packages!

Welcome Centre

Open Friday, Saturday and Sundays through Thanksgiving Sunday: 10 am to 6 pm

Lots of Sun and Fun!

The 2nd annual Environmental Technology Fair, otherwise known as Sun, Sand Wind and Water, was an excellent day of ideas sharing and learning, as well as some old-fashioned fun. Sponsored by BRLA and the Rideau Lakes Environment and Information Centre, their huge white tent, as well as the Queen's Solar Car, could be seen from Highway 15 – sure traffic stoppers. As with last year, the exhibitors were top notch – with 19 different stations **displaying environmental products**, services and technologies including composting toilets and septic alternatives, energy effi-

cient housing and heating, home-made soaps, Queen's Solar Car and Steve Lapp with his own personal gas-electric **hybrid Toyota Prius!** Attendance was estimated to be 300, not bad considering the competition from the Chevy-Mercury Bass Tournament being held in Portland that day (see Page 9 for story). A **Kid's Tent** entertained over 20 young fair-goers with crafts and face painting. There was also a licensed BBQ, and the toe-tapping, hand-clapping **tunes of Doug Healy and Randy Orr** for the enjoyment of all! Hope to see you all again next year!



Thank You, Thank You, One and All!

As the summer draws to a close, we can sit back and reflect on the activities and successes of the past year, and realize we couldn't have done it without the generous help of our volunteers. Thanks so much, and please, come back next year!!!

Adam Schizkoske, BioBlitz, Breeding Bird Atlas, Turtle Trapping and Frog Catching.

Aileen Merriam, BioBlitz

Alex Macklin, Director RLEF

Andrew Inderwick, Loon Guardian

Anne Marie & Roger Sarazen, Loonwatchers/Guardians

Ann & Don Hutchings, Loonwatchers

Arlene & Jaffray Wilkins, Loonwatcher

Arlette & Fred Parkinson, Loonwatchers/Loon Guardians

Betty James, parking for the tournament and the Fair

Bob Evans, Director of Cow Island & Regatta BRLA

Cameron Sangster, assisted at a bass tournament

David & Audrey Bethune, Green Spaces Landscaping, Site Development Consultation

David Burns, Director RLEF

David Donaldson, Director RLEF

David John Payne, Loonwatcher

Don Burchill

Doug Moore, Stormwater study, Wildlife Guardian Coordinator

Doug Watson, Loonwatcher/Loon Guardian

Dr. Francis Cook, Amphibian Researcher

Dr. Mike Rankin, Reptile Researcher

Eric Beere, Loonwatcher

George Ingram, President, Upper Rideau Lake Assoc.

Graham Mowat, Director of Administration BRLA

Grey Merriam, BioBlitz

Harold Nichol, Littoral Inventory

Herb Weber, Promotional Photography

Ian Johnston, Rural Leeds 2000 EDC

Inez Winter, assisted at bass tournaments

Jack Clements, Loon Guardian

Jaffray Wilkins, Director RLEF

Jay Geneau, assisted at bass tournaments

Jim Sneyd, Director of Marketing & Special Events BRLA

John Delaney, Canada Day Fireworks

John McCluskey, Treasurer BRLA

John Peart, Secretary and Chair of Government Affairs Committee BRLA

Joyce Box, Loonwatcher

June Buckingham, BioBlitz

Lois Mowat

Lonnie Kelley, SSWW Fair

Mary Gordon, SSWW Fair

Mary Kilgour, Director of Membership BRLA & Loon Guardian

Mike Fraser, Canada Day Fireworks

Mike Wirths, Rod Wallace & Atilla Danko, Astronomy Nights

Molly Ellard, Director & Past President BRLA

Nicola Stone, Kid's Tent SSWW Fair

Noelle Caloren, Vice President and Chair of Environment Committee BRLA

Norman Tape, Director at Large BRLA

Pat Allport, Loonwatcher

Paul Gordon, SSWW Fair

Peggy Bond, Water Quality

Phyllis Rae, Loon Guardian

Richard Bradley, President BRLA/Shoal Markers

Robert Sneyd, Executive Officer BRLA, President RLEF

Robin Riles, Loonwatcher

Roger Barker, CSW development

Ron Lumsden, Littoral Inventory

Ross Walker, Treasurer RLEF

Stacy Lauzier, Kid's Tent SSWW Fair

Susan Brandum, Environmental Guest Speaker

Suzanne Halpenny, Loonwatcher

Tracy Ryan, Healthy Lakes Program Promotional

Tony Davy, Littoral Boat storage

Tom Houston, Secretary RLEF

We apologize for any names we missed.

Tip of the Hat!

Bob Flynn ~ for donating a 16' albacore dinghy

Mr. & Mrs. Teschke ~ for a generous donation of a Nikon digital camera

Rideau Hearth and Home ~ for the use of its BBQ at the AGM and Fair

Ed Heuvel from Holloway Farms ~ for native plant donations

Home Hardware Brockville ~ for 5 sheets of Plywood

Home Hardware Perth ~ for 3 cans of rust-proof paint

Zigman Metals Brockville ~ for steel tubing

Telus Mobility Calgary ~ for a laptop computer

Faye Kolodey - In-Kind Canada Toronto ~ for 5 computer systems & office equipment

Wills Transfer Smiths Falls ~ for free transportation of office equipment

Save A Centre Brockville ~ for food at AGM

M & M Meats Brockville ~ for food at AGM

Portland Community Hall ~ for tables and chairs at AGM & Fair

Portland United Church ~ for tables at Fair

Lanark Leeds Distributors Ltd ~ discounted snowfencing t-posts

Kudrinko's Freshmart ~ for food at safe boating courses and Rideau Ferry Day

Rideau Docks ~ for donating the use of a floating dock