



MACA NEWS

Serving property owners on Long, Negaunee, Wenona and Miskwabi Lakes

YOUR MACA EXECUTIVE

President: Peter Dilworth
V.P./Past President: Andy Mosher
Treasurer: Virginia Vranckx
Secretary: Susan Rohricht
Lake Steward: Tim Hagarty

Directors:

Elizabeth Cloutier
 Steve Dyce
 Dave Ewart
 John Ewing (Roads)
 Mike Giza
 Susan Hay
 Haden Heathcock
 Phyllis McCulloch (Membership)



Miskwabi Lake, September 2019 - Photo: Susanne James

2020 MACA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Spring Cleanup:
 Sunday, May 17th

AGM:
 Saturday, July 11th

Wine and Cheese:
 Saturday, August 29th

President's Message

Peter Dilworth, MACA President



At this year's MACA AGM, Andy Mosher announced that he would be stepping down from the role of President after four extremely successful years leading our organization. Under Andy's leadership we made great progress, including completion of the Love Your Lake program and helping to influence important municipal decisions that will help protect our environment (e.g., the septic inspection program, the fireworks by-law, etc.). On behalf of the Membership and the Executive, I would like to thank Andy for four fantastic years as President.

Fortunately, Andy has agreed to stay on as Vice President, which will provide continuity and valuable overlap as I now take on the role of President. While I understand that there are large shoes to fill, it is a privilege for me to act as the 8th President of MACA and the very first from Long Lake. MACA is a terrific organization supporting a wonderful and dedicated volunteer board of directors that care deeply for our lakes and our environment. I look forward to working with all of them as we continue to support our membership with a variety of events and programs.

2019 Annual General Meeting



MACA's 45th Annual General Meeting was held on Saturday, July 6, 2019 at the "Airport Strip" across from the Jerry Strickland Boat Launch on Trapper's Trail Rd. Approximately 80 people attended.

President Andy Mosher welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. He mentioned that we are just 5 years away from our 50th anniversary, so we will have to start thinking about marking that occasion soon.

Andy said our membership numbers are excellent: this year we had the highest-ever number of registrations for the early bird draw. He thanked the volunteers for the road side clean up in May. Around 40 people pitched in making it one of the biggest turnouts in recent memory.

Andy introduced MACA's Directors, and thanked them for their work. He said a special thanks to Kay Hubbard and Susanne James who are stepping down. Susanne will continue to help out with the newsletters. Janine Lacoste is also resigning as director but will continue to help with water testing on Negaunee Lake.

The following people were up for re-election this year: Andy Mosher, Peter Dilworth, Phyllis McCulloch, Haden Heathcock, Dave Ewart, Tim Hagarty and Susan Rohricht. In addition, Steve Dyce and Elizabeth Cloutier stood for election.

Andy announced that after four years, his term as President is now ending. Vice President Peter Dilworth has agreed to take over as President. Andy expressed confidence that Peter will make an excellent President, and also noted that he will be the first-ever MACA President from Long Lake. A motion was made and seconded to accept the slate of Directors. All were in favour, none opposed.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Peter Dilworth introduced **Pat Kennedy, Deputy Mayor Dysart et al** and **Larry Clarke, Councillor, Ward 2.**

Larry noted that septic re-inspections are currently wrapping up in the Kennisis Lake area; our lakes are scheduled for between 2025 and 2027. He reminded everyone that there is a list of approved inspectors on Dysart's website. Pat said that 450 septic inspections have been completed in the Kennisis area. 28% of systems required some kind of remedial work, but in many cases the remedies were relatively minor.

Larry said that by 2021 the Haliburton Landfill will no longer be a landfill site but will change to a transfer station. Pat will tour other Municipal transfer stations to see how they work. There are currently no changes for us at this time for normal household garbage and recycling – however that may eventually change.

Pat said that the bill for OPP service is the biggest item in the budget at \$2.1 million. The budget for roads is around \$1.1 million. Work will be done this year on a portion of Miskwabi Lake Road.

Landfill costs have increased by \$200,000 this year. Dysart currently has five landfill sites and that number may need to be reviewed.

Pat also reminded attendees about the tree cutting by-law, affecting tree cutting within 30 meters of shore. A new, stronger bylaw will be coming into effect soon that will further restrict removal of native vegetation within 30 meters.



L-R: MACA President Peter Dilworth; Dysart Deputy Mayor Pat Kennedy; Ward 2 Councillor Larry Clarke; MACA Past President Andy Mosher. (Photo: Susanne James)

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Photos by: Susanne James

Pat noted there have been discussions of Municipal amalgamation. The County is studying the idea and will now hire a consultant. Currently in Dysart property owners pay \$655 in property taxes per \$100,000 of assessed value; by comparison Highlands East pays \$820 per \$100,000. There is concern that amalgamation may result in higher taxes rather than lower.

Pat would like feedback on the new by-law restricting fireworks. Reports or complaints can be filed online at Dysart's Web site.

Pat also noted that increased Broadband Internet service is being worked on, with an emphasis on wireless technologies for areas that are still under-served. There are currently 6,500 permanent residents in Dysart, and that number triples when cottages and seasonal residents are included.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Treasurer Virginia Vranckx reminded the group that she always files an income tax return for the Association. Our fiscal year begins in November. Virginia reviewed the financial statement which was distributed on the back of the Agenda.

Virginia said the new method of renewing memberships online through our Web site is proving extremely popular. She noted the General Admin entry for 2018 which includes the cost of new cheques and the website fee that is paid every two years, as well as photo contest expenses.

Cash on hand at the end of 2017 (\$6024.00) was in line with previous years. Cash on hand at end of 2018, November, was \$6537.96. Cash on hand as of July 7, 2019 is \$8595.72. There are still expenses for this year to come out of that amount.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the financial statement. All in attendance were in favour to pass the motion.

Lake Steward Tim Hagarty gave an update on water testing. He says our readings are what we want them to be. Phosphorus is 6-7 which is very good. Calcium is in the 12-14 range which is a great result. A calcium reading of less than 2 indicates a lake is in trouble, and currently around 10% of the lakes in Haliburton are showing readings of less than 2.

The Provincial government has cut the budget for testing for invasive species. We will continue to do this testing ourselves, with help from the Coalition of Haliburton Associations.

Tim reminded everyone of the importance of healthy shorelines. We have around 80 properties on our lakes that were deemed "ornamental" by the Love Your Lake assessments. Tim encouraged members to re-plant shorelines with shrubs such as ninebarks.

Membership Director Phyllis McCulloch reminded the group to tell new neighbours about the association. Membership numbers are excellent: 134 members renewed by February 28th, to qualify for the early bird draw. As of July 7th we had 230 members.

Phyllis announced that MACA will be distributing new membership plaques that will be attached to each member's 911 sign. Each year there will be a renewal sticker to attach to the sign. There was positive feedback from the group to the new initiative.

Roads Director John Ewing thanked Nigel Hollings of Long Lake for his help in evaluating the roads in the spring. John said there are three culverts on Trapper's Trail Road north of the mailboxes that will be changed to larger culverts due to the past winter weather. Grading continues on Wenona Lake Road on the west side of the lake. A portion of Trapper's Trail at the Causeway has deteriorated; the Municipality will be adding a slurry seal on the side of the road.

John noted that night-time visibility is difficult at the intersection of Highway 118 and Trapper's Trail Rd. He will discuss this with the MTO in Huntsville.

FLEMING COLLEGE WETLAND PROJECT

Peter Dilworth gave an update on MACA's continuing partnership with Fleming College to study wetlands in the area. The program gives students the opportunity to gain valuable field experience and do good work for the community. Last year, a group of students, along with their teacher, studied the South Negaunee wetland for 3 days.

This September, they will be studying the Miskwabi north wetland area. Peter Dilworth and Mike Giza will be MACA's point people for the project.

OTHER BUSINESS

Peter Dilworth announced that for the second year we will be holding a **photo contest** – open to all MACA members. This year's theme is "wildlife at the cottage". Rules and entry form are on the MACA Web site. Entries must be received August 14th, and will be judged at the wine and cheese on August 24th. The top 3 photos will receive cash prizes.

Andy Mosher thanked Dysart for implementing the new **fireworks by-law** and noted it was a good example of the Municipality responding to our concerns.

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A copy of the by-law can be found on the MACA website. MACA will monitor response to the by-law and may put up signage as a reminder. Violations must be reported to Dysart's bylaw officer, not the fire department. A member asked if retailers know about the by-law. Larry Clarke said stores must post the guidelines and dates allowed.

Andy also noted that the new **shoreline preservation bylaw** is going to be enforced under the Municipal Act, through a permit process – unlike the previous by-law, which was complaint-driven. Andy suggested that anyone contemplating shoreline tree trimming should call a certified arborist, who knows the by-laws.

Peter Dilworth reminded members who see **careless or dangerous boating** on the lakes to call the OPP non-emergency number. If possible, take a photo, and get the boat license number. The OPP have been good about responding.

Peter also reminded everyone to stay away from the loon nests on the lakes. Boats and personal watercraft have been spotted in the bay areas where the loon nests are.

Peter thanked the Taylor and Beadle families for once again allowing us to use their property for the AGM. He thanked Dave McCulloch and Chris Rohricht for barbecuing, and John Butt for storing the BBQ.

Peter thanked Andy for serving as President for the past four years. A framed photo taken by Steve Dyce, which was one of the winners in last year's photo contest, was presented as a gift to Andy.

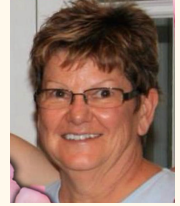
The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m. and most of the attendees stayed to enjoy a BBQ following the meeting.

Thanks to Susan Rohricht for taking the minutes at the AGM



MEMBERSHIP CORNER

By Phyllis McCulloch, Membership Director



We hoped that offering you the ability to renew your membership online through our Web site, www.mymaca.net would make things easier for everyone – and it appears it has! Of the 134 members who renewed in time for the Early Bird Draw in February, 90 renewed online. As of the AGM in July, we had 230 members, and since then our number has increased. Having you as a member makes it possible for us to get important news and information to you in a timely manner. Having a solid membership can make a difference – and having members from all of the lakes and roads give us a stronger voice.

NEW MEMBER SIGNS

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Peter Dilworth, Andy Mosher, Virginia & Michael Giza, Sue & Chris Rohricht, Keith Hay, Steve Dyce, Dave & Lori Ewart, Brian Williams and, especially, my husband Dave for their help getting our new signs up. The signs look great – and many have said it just gives a little more acknowledgement of our community. We will be developing a plan for getting the 2020 stickers to you – watch for details in the Spring.



KEEP YOUR 911 SIGNS VISIBLE!

It never occurred to us when we set out to add the Member signs to the 911 posts that we would have any problems. However we came across a few concerns that we thought important to bring to your attention.

The purpose of the 911 signs is to help first responders get to a location where a quick response may be needed. We found signs that were hidden by vegetation, or were bent so that the numbers weren't pointing in a direction that could be seen as you drove towards them. In winter, you should make sure that your 911 sign is cleared so that a snow drift won't hide it.

In an emergency, even a minute can make a difference. We urge you to check your sign regularly. Can you see your 911 sign as you approach the driveway? If not, take the time to clear any obstructions.

The actual sign, if damaged beyond repair, can and should be replaced. If your sign needs repair or replacement, new blades and posts can be ordered through the Haliburton County office in Minden, at 705-286-1333.

If you have any questions please send me a note: phyllis.mcculloch058@sympatico.ca.

Lake Steward's Corner

by **Tim Hagarty, MACA Lake Steward**

Our lakes continue to receive great results from our lake testing. We are fortunate to be at the headwaters of the Burnt River, clean healthy water, nothing coming in to



contribute to any water issues. Our everlasting goal is to keep it that way. In comparison with the other lakes outlined in The Lake Health Report, we are in the top 10 to 20% in all categories, with our calcium numbers a very healthy 15 (minimum is 2). Fish like us!

We conducted Invasive Species testing this summer on all our lakes. This program was dropped by the Provincial Government, but numerous Lake Associations banded together to get it done. Thanks to Peter Dilworth, Haden Heathcock and Tim Bider for doing the testing on their lakes. As soon as results are in you will know.

We still have work to do on shoreline preservation which is critical to our lake health. We have seen some success, but more needs to be done. The Love Your Lake Report noted that in total we had around 80 properties (17%) with shorelines that were "Ornamental" – some of which have been worked on since the report was issued. We need to do better and I encourage you to have a chat with your neighbour(s), if you note that their shoreline needs some restoration. We have plenty of information and data to share with you for that purpose, just let me know. I realize that some may not feel comfortable with this, but we all need to pitch in for our lakes to stay healthy.

According to phone calls and sidewalk discussions, boating continues to be an issue with property owners. Unsafe boating, huge waves and noise... sound familiar? We are working on a Safe Boating and Silent Lakes protocol. Your input will be appreciated.

Have a wonderful season ahead.

Tim can be reached at jthagarty@bell.net.

2ND ANNUAL MACA PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

We are pleased to announce the winning photos from MACA's Photo Contest. This year's theme was "Wildlife at the Cottage". In total we had 34 entries. A very impressive array of photos, including raccoons, deer, fish, snakes, butterflies, caterpillars, squirrels, turtles, a salamander and 5 kinds of birds.



1ST RON OWTTRIM (Wenona)



Tied 2nd ELI BASSAN (Long)



Tied 2nd LOGAN ROHNER (Long)

Final judging occurred at MACA's Wine and Cheese event held in August. Almost 80 ballots were cast. These four photos received the most votes. Congratulations Ron, Logan, Eli and George!



Tied 2nd GEORGE CONLEY JR. (Miskwabi)

**NATURE NOTES:
Butting Out at the
Boat Launch**



By Susan Hay

Living next to a boat launch gives me plenty of opportunity to see how many cigarette butts are left on the ground, waiting to be washed into the lake with the next heavy rain.

Watching any movie or TV show which features somebody smoking explains why this habit is so pervasive. It has become a cultural norm to grind out a cigarette with your shoe and walk away. But this habit is very damaging to our environment.

Cigarette butts are killing fish, wildlife and pets. The filters are mostly plastic, are not biodegradable and contain toxic chemicals. When they get into waterways, the nicotine and other chemicals create a toxic stew. When birds or animals bite the butt, the harmful chemicals are released.

I decided to keep track of the cigarette butts at the Wenona L. boat launch this summer. Between July 1 and Sept. 2, I picked up about 60 cigarette butts. In co-operation with Dysart et al, a sand-filled metal bucket with a sign was placed near the water at the boat launch. In spite of this, I found at least one cigarette butt each time I visited.

Please, if you must smoke, dispose of your cigarette butt in the ashtray in your vehicle or appropriate receptacle.

Cheers to the 2019 MACA Wine & Cheese!



L-R: MACA President Peter Dilworth, Susan Hay, Keith Hay, director at large and former MACA President Mike Giza. (Photo: Steve Dyce)

Thanks to **Susan and Keith Hay** for hosting this year’s Wine and Cheese at their home on Wenona Lake. It was a wonderful setting for the event, and approximately 100 members attended. A good time was had by all, and once again MACA is proud to have gathered generous donations of non-perishable food items for the Haliburton Food Bank. Thanks Susan and Keith!



Donations boxed up and ready to be delivered to the Haliburton Food Bank (Photo: Steve Dyce)

SPRING ROADS CLEANUP



On Sunday of the May long weekend, almost 40 people gathered at the Miskwabi boat launch (along with a few bugs) to undertake the annual MACA spring road cleanup. Several others who were not able to attend had previously collected garbage on several of the side roads.

As always, the area around the mailboxes was the worst – and way too many beer cans were collected from the “going out” side of Trapper’s Trail.

A truckload of garbage and recyclables was brought to the landfill. Many thanks to Peter Dilworth for this.

After the cleanup, folks were able to relax and say “hi” to cottage neighbours at the BBQ hosted by Susanne James and Andy Mosher.

Many thanks to all who turned out to clean up our roads for the cottaging season! If you haven’t before, please consider joining in next year, on May 17th.



Nuptials by Long Lake

Congratulations to Tyler Kukkonen and Lacey Barry, who were married July 13th, only a few feet from the lake they both love.

The Kukkonen family has been cottaging on Long Lake since the early 1960’s.



Hunting Season is Coming!

A reminder that autumn means hunting season arrives in Haliburton. For safety, please remember to wear your “hunter orange” clothing – and that goes for pets too. It’s a good idea to keep pets on a leash at all times and limit walking and hiking to main roads.

This year’s gun-hunting seasons in Haliburton are from **October 19th-25th** for moose, and **November 4th-17th** for deer.

As always, there are additional seasons for bow-hunting, and for hunting other species. For more details, visit www.ontario.ca/document/ontario-hunting-regulations-summary

MACA FLASHBACK! 25 YEARS AGO



Miskwabi Area
Cottagers' Association
Incorporated

Here's what was making news in the MACA Newsletter from Fall 1994

The beauty of Fall is upon us in all its glory. And what a wonderful summer it follows. Weather was great, caterpillars almost nonexistent, and economic news getting better every day.

Our meeting was held on the Miskwabi airstrip and we enjoyed a very good turn-out. Jerry and Monica Strickland were honoured for their exceptional service and dedication over the past twenty years. They were presented with a beautiful watercolour painting of their cottage which was the creation of artist Gary Chapman.

A member made an appeal for support for her efforts to get the TVO signal improved in our area. Many members signed the petition and promised to write letters.

Fire Chief Miles Maughan made a very good presentation on fire prevention. One of his feature recommendations was the use of smoke alarms. The Dysart Fire Department are selling a very good alarm for only \$10.00. They may be purchased from any local firemen and at the Butcher Block and Deli in Haliburton.

The issue of water safety motorboat speed signs was presented as a need for our lakes. Those signs have been made and installed. We certainly hope they are heeded by all boaters.

The Rotary Club of Haliburton has appealed to all property owners in the County to participate in a grand Spring Clean-up on May 7th, 1995. We have agreed to take part in our area. Let's all help to keep our lakes and land looking clean and beautiful.

Cottage Cook's Corner

Favourite Recipes Shared by MACA Members



Easy Stuffed Focaccia

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 pound store-bought bread dough
- 3 tablespoons olive oil, divided, plus more for greasing
- 1 cup ricotta, drained
- Couple of handfuls of Italian sliced meats, or sliced vegetables, or both
- 1 tablespoon chopped, dried rosemary leaves
- 1/2 teaspoon fresh ground pepper
- 1 cup grated mozzarella cheese (or your favourite Italian cheese)
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt

Directions:

Knead 2 tablespoons olive oil into the bread dough, and divide into two halves. Roll out each half on a floured surface.

Press one half of the dough into an 8-inch oven-proof skillet (a cast iron skillet works best) greased with olive oil.

Spread ricotta on top of dough, then distribute sliced meats or vegetables evenly. Sprinkle rosemary and pepper, then add mozzarella cheese.

Top with the second half of dough, and pinch sides together.

Pierce top of surface with a fork, and pour 1 tablespoon olive oil over the top.

Bake at 400 F for 30 minutes, or until golden brown. Remove from oven and top with sea salt. Enjoy!

We're always looking for great recipes to share with our members. If you have any to pass along, please send them to: andy_mosher@sympatico.ca