



# MACA NEWS

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

## YOUR MACA EXECUTIVE

**President:** Andy Mosher  
**Vice President:** Peter Dilworth  
**Treasurer:** Virginia Vranckx  
**Secretary:** Susan Rohricht  
**Past President:** Mike Giza  
**Lake Steward:** Tim Hagarty

### Directors:

Dave Ewart  
John Ewing (*Roads*)  
Susan Hay  
Haden Heathcock  
Kay Hubbard  
Susanne James (*Newsletter*)  
Janine Lacoste  
Phyllis McCulloch (*Membership*)



Miskwabi Lake, April 2019 - Photo: Susanne James

## 2019 MACA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Spring Cleanup:**  
Sunday, May 19th

**AGM:**  
Saturday, July 6th

**Wine and Cheese:**  
Saturday, August 24th

*Further details inside*

## President's Message

*Andy Mosher, MACA President*



As I write this, it is May 4th and there is still ice on Miskwabi Lake! This is the latest I can remember ice on Miskwabi dating back to the late 1990's – but I'm sure there may be folks who remember even later ice-outs – or perhaps unusually early ones. Have you kept any notes on "ice in/ice out" dates on your lake over the years? If so, **our Lake Steward Tim Hagarty wants to hear from you!** Tim is compiling data to try to put together a picture of the historical patterns on our lakes. You can send any notes you have to Tim at [jthagarty@bell.net](mailto:jthagarty@bell.net).

A sure sign of spring is the return of the loons; on Miskwabi Lake they have already occupied the floating nest at the east end of the Lake, and pairs will likely be nesting on the other lakes soon (if they haven't already). If you are out on the water, a reminder to **please stay well away from the loons if you see them near their nests.** Startling them may cause them to abandon their eggs.

# OUT WITH A BANG

## Dysart Introduces New Bylaw Restricting Fireworks

On April 23rd, Dysart council voted unanimously to adopt a new fireworks bylaw.

The new bylaw will prohibit the use of fireworks, except on New Year's Eve, and the weekends of Victoria Day, Canada Day and the August Civic Holiday.

For years, MACA has been asking the Municipality to impose stricter regulations on fireworks.



When property owners were surveyed for the *Miskwabi Area Watershed Plan* in 2012, almost 80% of respondents identified "night skies" and "peace and quiet" as either "important" or "very important". Nearly 100% said "forest fire prevention" was "important" or "very important".

In addition to causing noise, fire hazards, and harm to wildlife, fireworks pollute lakes and air with sulfur-coal compounds, heavy metals and other toxic chemicals including ozone, sulfur dioxide and nitric oxide.

The new law will also ban so-called "Chinese lanterns" – flying paper balloons with flames – which are an extreme fire hazard and have been banned in many other areas including parts of the US, Australia and Europe. One such "Chinese lantern" caused the worst-ever fire in the British Midlands, causing over \$10 million (6 million UK Pounds) in damage.

In a letter to Dysart councillors on March 8th, MACA again called for strict regulation of fireworks, and a total ban on the use of "Chinese lanterns".

MACA is pleased that Dysart has taken action on this issue, and will support the bylaw through education and signage where appropriate.

## County Considers Development Charges

Haliburton County is looking into the possibility of introducing "development charges".



Development charges are typically one-time fees charged to land owners, developers, or home builders when they build or develop land.

The fees are intended to help offset the costs to Municipalities resulting from increased development and population growth.

Haliburton is one of the few remaining areas in Ontario that does not impose any development charges.

The fees could potentially be collected at the upper-tier (County) or lower-tier (Municipal) level.

The first step in the process is to conduct a study, which will be done this year. After that there will be a consultation process, including mandatory public meetings.

## Shoreline Protection Bylaw to be Expanded

Haliburton County's Shoreline protection bylaw is being revised and strengthened.



The existing Shoreline Tree Preservation Bylaw was introduced in 2012.

It restricts cutting of trees in "shoreline areas", which are defined as anywhere within 30 metres (approximately 100 feet) of the high water mark.

The proposed new bylaw would incorporate the existing bylaw, but also protect native plant species within the 30 metre shoreline zone. It would also regulate site alteration within the shoreline area.

Existing structures within 30 metres of shore could still be altered, but owners would be required to ensure that any development does not disrupt shorelines.

The County will ask for input on the proposed bylaw from Dysart and the other lower-tier Municipalities.

## 2019 MACA Events Schedule

### SPRING ROAD CLEANUP

**Sunday May 19th, 11am**

#### Meet at Miskwabi Boat Launch

Please remember to bring gloves, bug spray/jackets and sunscreen. Garbage and recycling bags will be provided. Invite your guests, kids, or grandkids to pitch in, the more the merrier! Thanks to our members who pitch in every year to keep our roadsides clean!

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Saturday July 6th, 11am \*RAIN DAY SUNDAY\***

#### Meet at "Airport Strip" (across from the Miskwabi Boat Launch)

Guest speakers including your local politicians, directors' elections, and raffles. Please remember to bring chairs and sunscreen and/or umbrellas. BBQ to follow.

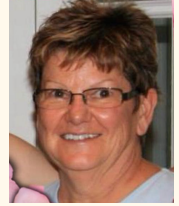
### WINE AND CHEESE

**Saturday August 24th, 2-5 pm**

Hosts: Susan and Keith Hay, Wenona Lake – 1128 Argillite Road on Wenona Lake (stay left at the first fork at Wenona Lake Road). Please bring non-perishable donations for the Haliburton Food Bank.

## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

*By Phyllis McCulloch, Membership Director*



Once again many of you are taking advantage of the option of on-line Membership renewal. So far this year 140 people have used this option – it's quick, easy and secure.

If you have not completed your renewal, all you have to do to take advantage of this option is:

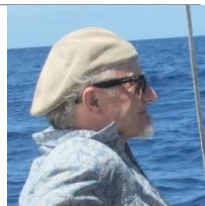
- Go to [www.mymaca.net](http://www.mymaca.net)
- Click on "Membership" and then click on "Join/Renew".
- Complete the required information (name, lake, home address info, cottage address, and your credit card info).

Our membership fee is still only \$30!

Please watch for a special notice coming out soon with details on how you can get your "MACA MEMBER" sign.

If you have any questions please send me a note: [phyllis.mcculloch058@sympatico.ca](mailto:phyllis.mcculloch058@sympatico.ca).

## Lake Steward's Corner



*by Tim Hagarty, MACA Lake Steward*

We have received our lake testing results and I am pleased to say that we continue to be in good shape. Have a look at the results on our website. Thanks to Peter Dilworth, Haden Heathcock and Janine Lacoste who are continuing their testing roles again this year.

We would like to gather data on the "ice in and ice out" data for our lakes. I am sure that some of you may do this already and as such I am asking if you have any data to please forward to me at [jthagarty@bell.net](mailto:jthagarty@bell.net) so I may populate our database.

The Love Your Lakes program is publishing a document with the data (and more!) for all the lakes they tested. Each lake tester will receive a copy and we will have a few at the Board. We will have copies for review at our Annual

meeting in July. This document will be available for purchase and we will let you know the details as soon as we receive them.

The new signs are up at the Wenona and Miskwabi boat launching sites. We were the first to work with the Municipality on these signs and think the result was worth the effort. We hope that they will be effective in encouraging boaters to "do the right thing".

The importance of healthy shorelines is ever-important, so please ensure that your shoreline supports a healthy lake, and we do have brochures that could be passed on to those who may need a hint. If you would like some, please contact me or there will be copies at the AGM. The county and municipality are on board and are looking at shoreline bylaws to give us all some punch.

There have been complaints about geese on our lakes, they are not very tidy! The best way to make sure that geese do not intrude on your property....do not invite them! An open shoreline, grass cut to waters edge, is an open invitation for them. If you have a healthy shoreline as we encourage, the geese will go elsewhere.

Have a great and healthy summer.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual MACA Photo Contest

This year's theme:

### “Wildlife at the Cottage”

Go to <http://www.mymaca.net> to submit your favourite waterfront photos.

Deadline for entries is Aug 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Judging will take place at the Wine and Cheese Aug 24<sup>th</sup>.

Winners will be announced in the fall newsletter.

Winners receive: 1<sup>st</sup> \$50; 2<sup>nd</sup> \$30; 3<sup>rd</sup> \$20



### *A Few Great Entries from Last Year's Contest:*



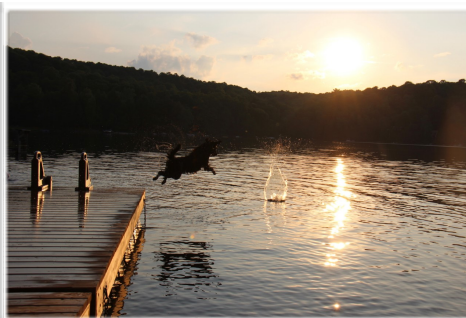
*Gordon Gibb*



*Marlene Wiseman*



*Sherrie Le Masurier*



*Karyn Bugelli*



*Kathryn Hunsberger*



*Ron Owtrim*

### NATURE NOTES: "Natural" Isn't Just For Shorelines

One of the best ways we can help keep our ecosystem healthy is by "re-wilding" our landscapes. We understand that natural shorelines are necessary to keep our lakes healthy but we also need to think about how our landscapes are supporting our birds, our pollinators and other critters who live here. Lawns don't support life.

Native plants have deeper root systems, stabilize the soil, absorb more nutrients and moisture and are more tolerant of extremes of climate. They also provide food and habitat for living creatures. "Messy is best" when it comes to supporting our ecosystem.



Leaving fallen leaves, re-naturalizing areas of your property by planting more trees and shrubs or by just letting your grass grow long and letting nature reclaim it is the best way to support our ecosystem.

- Susan Hay

### Looking for plants to help re-naturalize your property this spring?

Check out the **Haliburton County Master Gardeners annual plant sale**, happening in Head Lake Park, downtown Haliburton village, on Saturday, June 1st.

Be sure to arrive early for best selection! Arrive at 9 am, take a number, and browse the plant selection. Plants are then sold starting at 10 am, on a first come/first served basis, until they're sold out.

Some plants available include ones that are native to the Haliburton Highlands.

The best part about this plant sale? The wealth of knowledge provided by the Master Gardeners themselves, who are on hand to answer any questions you may have.

For more information, check out [www.haliburtonmastergardener.ca](http://www.haliburtonmastergardener.ca)

- Susanne James



Beside Miskwabi Boat Launch - Photo: Susanne James

### Tim Hagarty New Canoe FM President

Congratulations to MACA Director and Lake Steward Tim Hagarty on his election as president of the board of directors at Canoe FM.

Tim has been a volunteer and on-air staple at 100.9 Canoe FM since 2010. He was voted in as new president in November.

Canoe FM has been Haliburton's community radio station since 2003.

Congratulations, Tim!

**MACA FLASHBACK! 35 YEARS AGO**



Miskwabi Area  
Cottagers' Association  
Incorporated

Here's what was making news in the MACA Newsletter from May 1984

*It's that time of year again! The snow is gone, the roads are open, some cottagers are dying to try out their new cars on the cottage route, the air is brisk and clear, the water's cold, the black flies are out. We're starting another cottage season!*

*Further to the article in the last newsletter on Hydro rates for cottagers, we are including in this newsletter a follow-up article entitled "Cottage Hydro Rates, How They Work". We now have a new title, "Intermittent Occupier"... Gadzooks!!*

*"It's Neat to Pitch In!" That is the slogan for Ontario's 1984 Pitch In campaign to be held during May. Keeping Ontario beautiful is a responsibility that we all share. The annual Pitch In campaign has encouraged thousands of Ontarians, both young and old, to voluntarily clean up the unsightly litter that frequently accumulates during winter months. Pitch In '84 is sponsored by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, and it is endorsed and supported by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment. This year cottage associations are participating for the first time. Complimentary garbage bags are available to participating non-profit organizations while supplies last.*

*Late Bulletin: We have been informed that Bell Telephone are working in the area with a view of having service available in 1985. We requested a report from Bell as to their plans and will advise you accordingly as soon as more is known.*

**We're always looking for great recipes to share with our members. If you have any to pass along, please send them to [susanne@century21granite.com](mailto:susanne@century21granite.com).**

**Cottage Cook's Corner**

*Favourite Recipes Shared by MACA Members*



**MAPLE BOURBON PUMPKIN SEED BRITTLE**

*Contributed by: Susanne James*

Herald the arrival of spring by using delicious local Haliburton maple syrup in your recipes. This rich and buttery brittle is gluten-free and nut-free. A candy thermometer makes it easy to prepare.

**INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup local Haliburton maple syrup
- 1/4 cup bourbon
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1 cup pumpkin seeds
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/4 tsp salt

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Line a baking sheet with parchment.
2. In a large saucepan, heat sugar, maple syrup, bourbon and butter over medium heat, stirring to combine, until mixture comes to a boil.
3. Attach a candy thermometer and continue to cook without stirring, until mixture reaches 300°F, approx. 20-30 minutes. Trust your candy thermometer, and watch the temperature when it gets close to 300°F - it can burn quickly. Turn off heat and quickly stir in pumpkin seeds, baking soda and salt. Pour onto prepared baking sheet and spread evenly. Be careful – mixture will be very hot.
4. Cool until hardened and break into pieces.
5. Store in an airtight container.