

*Talpines*  
*Property Owners Association*  
*Newsletter*

*March*

*2016*



*Are you Ready? (Taken August 2015)*

**Welcome** all to a new year! I must say, this has been a very different past winter with quickly changing temperatures and intermittent snow then within a few days, warmer weather and showers. To those who love winter activities, this has been a disappointing year. Hopefully the coming summer will not result in dropping water levels, an abundance of insects and a loss of trees, shrubs and perennials because of the mild & fluctuating temperatures.

**The Great Lakes** have come through one of the scarcest ice covers on record. This resulted in numerous “Lake Effect” snowfalls containing very little moisture and unstable, minimal ice-cover for winter fishing. According to reports, ice cover this past winter overall on the Great Lakes has fluctuated between 5% and 13%. This is definitely out of normal for most years that would vary between 50% and 90% coverage.

**Water Levels** so far have been rather close to the usual normal “over winter” decline, BUT what will happen this spring will depend on the quantity of rain we receive as most areas have very little snow to melt and frozen ground has been minimal most of the winter.

**Water Sampling** will begin again this year for Recreational purposes about mid to late June. Again, we will sample at the same locations on our Talpines area shoreline & notify our members (and those who request to be added to our e-mail list) after we receive the results from the Lab Analysis the next day. If at any time, you would like a sample from your specific beach, get in touch with us. The only cost will be the \$11.00 Lab charges. (Recreational Purposes only) Tap water is a little different and costs vary depending on what information you wish to obtain.

*“Preserving our Heritage....Protecting our Future”*

**In case you are wondering**, The Duck Bay Road Bridge construction finished up in early December and has been open to traffic ever since. Although that project may not have had much effect to many of our members, this year may be different as construction is to begin this spring to re-construct Pine Street from Highway 12 to just north of Coldwater road.

**Our Councillor**, Cate Root has been keeping busy on several different committees over the winter months. She invited me to a Phragmites Workshop in Midland in December. I attended but found it more to inform municipalities how to organize to eradicate Phragmites rather than the actual technique for removal. We met again in January to discuss some of the things in the wind for 2016. Among the items was the **Tay Bike Day Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup>** at Bridgeview Park, Waubaushene. We will again have an Information Table at the event and member Steven Clift has become one of their appreciated volunteers involved with the Scavenger Hunt. We also discussed the continuing of Talpines Beach restoring at Pine Street this year and a date will be arranged to carry this out in the near future. As well, Tay is having a **Phragmites Workshop** at the Oakwood Community Center in Victoria Harbour **Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup> from 1-4 pm**. All are welcome.

**The Tay Horticultural Committee** invites anyone interested in a day long bus trip to Niagara Falls to tour the Parks, Floral Showcase, Butterfly Conservatory and Botanical Gardens **June 23<sup>rd</sup>**. You can get more details & make arrangements by contacting Alison Thomas [athomas@tay.ca](mailto:athomas@tay.ca) or call her at 705-534-7248 ext. 240.

**Provincial Politics** certainly seems to want everyone living in the big cities. Between items like escalating Hydro rates, downloading services onto Municipalities that effects Property Taxes, amalgamating Rural Schools, earmarking what and how much development can be allowed in rural Ontario and now major cut backs in services provided by smaller Hospitals and Nursing Homes, the benefits for living anyplace but in bigger cities is slowly wearing thin. It seems Government would rather move patients by Helicopter to the big cities rather than offer services in even communities of several hundred thousand residents. This action removes people needing care, from their homes, family, friends, and makes the return home a costly endeavor not usually covered. *I have to think*, this contradicts their efforts to reduce “Green House Gas” emissions. I’m not sure how much a Helicopter produces but I suspect it is way more than my Lawnmower! Our local Municipalities have been working hard to convince the Government that Rural Communities need their Hospitals and their services. Rushing someone 50 or 100 miles to have a baby is ridiculous! Yes, Midland & Penetang Hospitals both are in danger of becoming nothing more than Medical Centers and a Point of Accumulation for Helicopter Transfers! Not a good omen for the abundant summer tourist trade in our Region.

**Speaking of Health**, member Peter Davis had an unfortunate tumble this past month when a knee gave out & resulted in a fall & serious damage to his knee. After surgery, he has been confined to a bed and hopefully will soon be up and able to have therapy and return to action. Being our “man in the know” in our Lake Partnership sampling, we wish him a complete recovery back to normal. (He had just entertained the possibility of becoming a new Director with us last fall ... we’ll hold your spot!)

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Speaking off **the Lake Partnership Program**, we have just recently received the “comparison results” from our samplings of Sturgeon Bay for 2013-2014. Apparently 2015 has yet to be put into the system. Our higher water levels have increased our **Phosphorus Count** on several readings in 2014 compared to 2013 but over the entire season (June to October) the level dropped 2 points. Monthly fluctuations seemed dependant on rainfall.

2013 average 28.7 ..... 2014 average 26.7

**Clarity Readings** also improved with the higher water levels. Visibility in 2013 was 2.95 meters and in 2014 was 3.11 meters. These readings were taken in one of the deepest spots in our Bay (Roughly 13 feet or 4 meters).

The **reason for this Newsletter being a bit behind** was to accommodate a report from the March 5<sup>th</sup> FOCA AGM. Talpines was to receive an Honourable Mention Achievement Award.

Jack Lake Association won the Achievement Award (382 members) and 4 received the Honourable Mention Award; Wanapitei Lake Association (155 members), Chandos Lake Property Owners Association (752 members), Muskoka Lakes Association (2000+ members), Talpines Property Owners Association (34 members).



Deanna Panitz, FOCA Information, David Cornish, Pres. T.P.O.A.

*(Thanks to Steven Clift for driving and for taking the Pictures)*

Besides the Business Meeting, several interesting guest speakers treated us to their expertise. Dave Meslin talked about the importance of Community & Neighbours and how our culture and electronic gadgets have affected our lives. He also demonstrated how Municipalities and advertisers manipulate you with their word choices and displays.

Carla Neil, V.P Stakeholder Relations, MPAC spoke on the up-coming Assessment of Properties. She explained their new formula for calculating values, the revised time frame for sending the notices by MPAC to the people of Ontario and the proper protocol for reviews and appeals including time frames.

Both Guests were very interesting and did an excellent job of holding every ones attention throughout their presentations and question period. Thank you FOCA for your Choices!

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**Mark This Date** on your calendar. Talpines Property Owners Association **Annual General Meeting, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016**. It will be at the Legion Hall, Waubaushene and **doors open at 9 am** for Registration, coffee & meeting with fellow members. Meeting begins at **10:00 am**.

This is **your Association** doing your desires to improve our area for not only us but for our Community. Whether your concerns are Water Quality, Invasive Species, Dangerous Weeds, Trail Safety, Privacy Issues, Municipal Concerns or just Comradeship & Neighbourly Events, Talpines is for you! **Be a Director** and help make Talpines bigger & better!

**Membership** is reasonable at still only **\$30.00 per year** so invite your friends & neighbours to join as well. Our Membership year is June 1<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>. (Note: you must be in good standing before August 1<sup>st</sup> each year to obtain the benefits of the FOCA membership.)

Our Package includes our Quarterly Newsletter, and also a FOCA membership, Recreational Water Sampling & e-mail Analysis results, Special notices from time to time, and updates on issues of importance to our area from both the OPP and Tay Twp.

**Forward This Newsletter to your Family, Friends & Neighbours** to be sure everyone who uses or visits your cottage is also kept up to date.

**Other Sources of Information:**

Municipality of Tay Website : [www.tay.ca](http://www.tay.ca) or phone 705-534-7248

Ward 3 Councillor Cate Root: [croot@tay.ca](mailto:croot@tay.ca)

Midland OPP (Information): [susanjessop@opp.ca](mailto:susanjessop@opp.ca)

The Tay Report, John & Cathy Cole : [tayreport@rogers.com](mailto:tayreport@rogers.com)

**Contact us:**

Canada Post: Talpines P.O.A. P.O.Box 9, Waubaushene, Ont., L0K 2C0

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**Your Directors**

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*Newsletter & remarks by D.Cornish*

Your next Newsletter will be June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

*Watch for a Special notice regarding our AGM in May at which time we should have complete details for the meeting. There will also be notices of our coming projects when dates are set.*

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