

Talpines
Property Owners Association
Newsletter

September

2014

Summer of 2014 is almost over (in two weeks by the calendar) and then fall will be here! I'm sure many wonder, *did summer come this year?* And others would ask *which day was summer?* Well, according to the statistics, our summer was right here with average temperatures. It seems rainfall was a little above normal and all were pleased with the increase in our Lake water levels. There appeared to be more boating activities this year and fishing was reported to be very good. The cooler Lake water temperatures attracted more good sized and healthier fish being caught in Sturgeon Bay as well.

Sturgeon Bay experienced an abundance of strong winds through the summer but the wave action didn't seem to affect weed growth much. Late August, our eastern shore started getting more than our fair share of "weed mats" being washed onto our shore. Regardless of the winds, our water seemed to clear fairly quick after the windy days (perhaps aided by the higher water level) and our recreational test results were fairly respectable.

Recreational Water Tests were done again this year by our people commencing late June until early September, approximately every two weeks and analysed by the Central Ontario Analytical Lab in Orillia. Our Eastern shore was tested in 6 locations (fairly equally spaced) but, the Western shore was only done periodically in 2 or 3 locations. Several sites in the earlier tests would have been designated as "swimming Advisory" areas had they been done by the Board of Health but by the latest round of tests, all sites were exceptionally good (10 or less e-coli / 100 ml of water). Incidentally, water temperatures only fluctuated between 17 degrees c. and 22 degrees c. from June to Sept. this year.

Tay Shore Trail has been busy in our area (regardless of the mosquitoes) although the several hot, humid days saw users very scarce. Other than several locations with broken asphalt, the Trail has been well maintained throughout the summer. Although motor bikes and dirt bikes are still being seen, this problem seems to be decreasing in many areas. There is however, still a major lack of respect by bicycle riders for stop signs at road crossings and a lack of courtesy to warn walkers when they being are approached from behind.

Pine Street Beach saw the beginning of improvements to return it to its original glory this summer. Although the expanding weed growth (made possible by wave delivered weed mats over the years) has yet to be tackled, Tay staff spent 1½ days cleaning the beach area, cutting the brush along the bank and along the pier and trucking in new sand. Being a tourist area, our beaches are an asset that should be restored and maintained, not only Pine Street but also McKenzie in VH. Your start at accomplishing this is much appreciated Tay!

Construction at the bridge over the Sturgeon River is finally now complete as is most of the Highway 12 repaving.

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Pine Street Beach after improvements in 2014.

Waubaushe has seen several sidewalks re-done this summer. Other construction of note is the beginning of renovations to the Duck Bay road bridge. Pier work is to begin this year and the next phase will see it replaced to be able to withstand more serviceable load limits. Plans are (due to costs) that it will still be a one lane structure. As well, word is out that next year, Pine Street will be re-done from approximately the Gazebo Park to the Fire Hall.

Municipal Elections are this October. If you are owner & spouse of seasonal property, you qualify to vote in Tay as well as your home municipality. Be sure you are listed on the “Voters List” by going to www.tay.ca & follow directions on the home page to check. Tay will be **Voting by Mail** this time and without being on the election list, you will not receive your “Vote by Mail Kit”. Not sure how to use the “Kit”, contact athomas@tay.ca or drop into the Tay office or take your “Kit” to the only Poll on Election day at the Tay Office. Election Day is October 27th. Your vote should be mailed in by the October 17th to be sure it is on time.

Ward 3 at present has 2 people contending for our 1 councillor position. Registration ends Friday September 12th after which, we will send out to our members, a list of who is competing in our Ward and a brief report of their platform. At present our current councillor, Heinrich Naumann & opponent, Catherine Root have registered for Ward 2. Mayor Warnock and Deputy Mayor Rawson to date are unopposed.

All Candidates Meeting for Tay is being held September 30th, 2014 at the Port McNicoll Community Center commencing at 5:30 pm. It is being hosted by the Southern Georgian Bay Chamber of Commerce who will moderate the meeting and ask your pre-supplied question to their choice of participating contenders for a response.

There are a number of internet sources for you to keep track of what is going on in Tay & area. For everything municipal, go to their web-site, www.tay.ca ; to receive important notices by e-mail, go to vfindlay@tay.ca and enter “ratepayer communication” on the subject line to register; by e-mail from tay.residents@bell.ca; or subscribe to the tayreport@rogers.ca , a weekly independent publication regarding most things Tay by John & Cathy Cole. Of course, there is our Talpines Quarterly Newsletter and (we have put our web plans on hold) a Face Book page we are setting up (Talpines Property Owners Association).

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Although our Annual Meeting was poorly attended this past June (possibly due to the late backward spring) our Guest Speaker, Alison Thomas did an admirable job of demonstrating and answering questions regarding the “Mail In Voting” procedure to all as this will be the means of voting in the fall Election.

Guest MP Bruce Stanton also spoke briefly regarding the Trent Severn Waterway including changes to hours of service and possible Dredging of the channel to facilitate safer boating between Port Severn & Georgian Bay.

The meeting itself saw it passed to: continue with our Lake Partnership Program with the MNR (Thanks, Peter Davis), continue our Recreational Water Testing Program; also to periodically test the Albin Road Spring; continue our membership with FOCA; amend the Constitution under AGM day from “*the first Saturday of June to a Saturday in June*”; and add to our Constitution, a section “*to define the process of wrapping up the Association and disposition of chattels*” should TPOA ever cease to operate in the future.

Directors for the coming year are Christine Hurlbut, Vicki Lucier, Andrew Allan, Steven Clift, Clem Carelse, David Cornish.

Draw from paid up memberships for a “free 2015 Membership” won by Andrew Allan.

Executive for the coming year was chosen at our first Board of Directors Meeting with David Cornish being returned as President, Clem Carelse as Vice President, Christine Hurlbut as Secretary, Steven Clift as Treasurer and Tom Goetz remains as Past President.

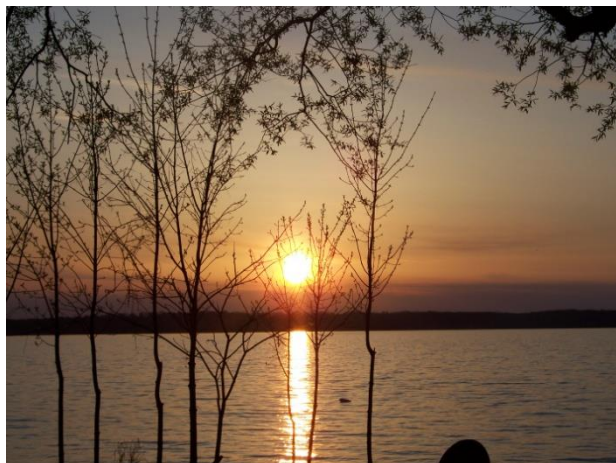
Another Election we must not forget was the Provincial “*Merry go Round*” in June. Congratulations to our local Representative Garfield Dunlop who is once again our MPP. Unfortunately for Garfield, the Liberals retained power in Ontario.

Giver Program from TVO was so successful last year with the development of “Sawmill Playground” at the Veterans Park in Waubauskene, Tay applied and was accepted for a similar project in Victoria Harbour this summer. The “Fire Station Playground” was built behind the Oakwood Park Fire Station. Well done Bryan ... could there be a “Three-Pete” in the future?

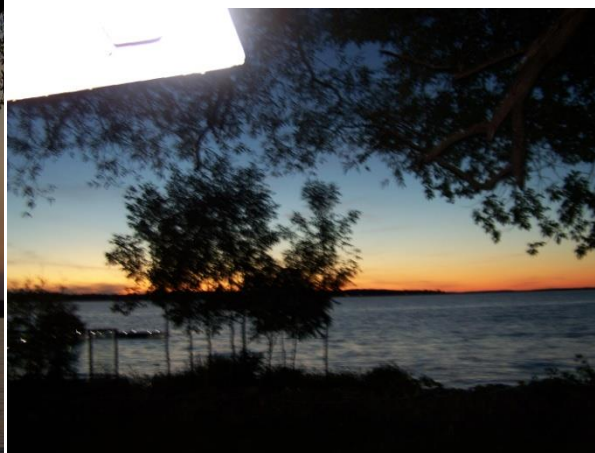
FOCA has been very helpful and supportive with our efforts again this year. You are a member of FOCA as long as your membership is up to date with Talpines. (What a deal ... our membership is less than theirs and you get both with us!) Remember, they only contact through e-mail. We share our membership e-mail addresses with them so if you are not getting their monthly letter (Foca Elert) e-mail either Talpines or info@foca.on.ca . Their sponsors offer a number of discounts on products that may be of interest to you.

Talpines is your organization. The Board of Directors could make Talpines a lot stronger with your help to bring your friends and neighbours into the Association. Numbers mean a lot when ever an issue (such as Trail Safety, Security, Beach Clean-up, etc) is discussed with those who control our local or provincial governments. Spread the word about how to contact us, what we are about and all the benefits they get for their \$30.00 membership fee due each year in spring.

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Looking forward to summer 2014
(May 18th, 2014)



Where Did Summer 2014 Go?
(August 28th, 2014)

Same location, 52 Lawson Lane

Phragmites have become the new “buzz word” in waterfront and wet land conservation circles. Seems, much like Purple Loose Strife, these plants will suck up our water and lay the area surroundings into waste land. Apparently, they are a distant relation to Bamboo & can reach heights of 20 feet. Aw, and (like Giant Hog Weed) they look so pretty!



Next Newsletter will be (shhhh) December.

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