



The Buck Lake Association Inc.

Box 36, INVERARY, ON K0H 1X0

www.bucklake.ca

email: [Buck Lake Information](mailto:BuckLakeInformation)

"To enhance people's enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations"

Buck Lake News – November 2020

Board of Directors

The Buck Lake Association Board of Directors met on Sunday September 18th. The first order of business was the election of officers. The current list of officers is:

President:	Gillian Lash	
Vice-President:	Don Young	
Treasurer:	Cheryl Savery	
Recording Secretary:	Cheryl Dawson	
Archivist:	Kathy McDonald	
Directors at Large:	Ria Berry	Cathy Ottenhof
	John Curran	Nora Lapp
	Randy Ruttan	Crawford MacIntyre
	Martha Scheinman	

In addition, members of the board were elected to the various committees:

Communications

Martha Scheinman (lead)
Cheryl Savery
Kathy McDonald
John Curran

Friends of the Lake

Martha Scheinman (co-lead)
Gillian Lash (co-lead)
Nora Lapp

Community Outreach & Social

Ria Berry (co-lead)
Cathy Ottenhof (co-lead)

Government Relations

Randy Ruttan (lead)
Nora Lapp
Crawford MacIntyre

Nominating

Gillian Lash (lead)
Don Young

Member Services

Cheryl Savery (lead)

The next directors' meeting will be held on Sunday November 29th via Zoom. Note: All Buck Lake Association members are always welcome to attend any board meeting. If you are interested, please email bucklakeassoc@gmail.com for more details about how to attend/access any forthcoming meeting.

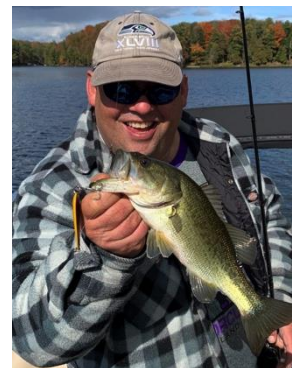
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Introducing the Newest Members of the Buck Lake Association's Board of Directors

The Buck Lake Association is excited to announce the addition of three new directors who were elected at the Annual General Meeting on September 15th. We thank them all for volunteering to serve on the board and helping to support our community. Here are their stories.

John Curran

John and his wife Jugjit More-Curran own a South Branch cottage off Roost Lane. They recently moved back to the area following 17 years in Yellowknife, NWT. John grew up spending his summers just across the lake from where they are now – where his parents own a cottage built by his grandfather. John's maternal side of the family, the Graves clan, has seen six generations enjoy life around Buck Lake having been on the lake since about 1930. The family now holds title to 11 waterfront lots in locations all around Buck Lake. John is a third generation Board member with the association.



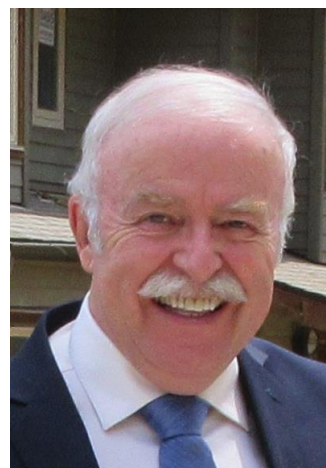
Nora Lapp



This is Nora & Jon's 3rd summer on Buck Lake (North Branch - Frye Lane) and are loving it. Their cottage nickname is "little cottage", as it is small and cozy, but still has plenty of welcoming charm and most importantly a great view. Nora & Jon are very familiar with the area. Both are Queen's grads and Jon's grandparents used to have a cottage on the St. Lawrence in Brockville. Both are semi-retired and live in Oakville when not spending all their free time at the cottage. Nora works as per diem Crown at the Brampton courthouse and was formerly Senior Crown Counsel with the Public Prosecution Service of Canada. They have 3 grown children, with son Anthony living in Ottawa and closest to "little cottage". They love canoeing on the lake, hiking the local trails and visiting Westport. Nora looks forward to being on the board and contributing positively to keeping the lake and the surrounding environment healthy for present and future generations.

Don Young

Don Young recently retired and is now focusing on golf, art and other low stress pursuits. After graduating from RMC, his first career was as a helicopter pilot in the Royal Canadian Air Force. He then undertook a second career at St. Lawrence College as a School Dean, Faculty Dean and Vice President. His third career as President of a global education company was cut short by the COVID-19 pandemic. Don and his wife Shirley have a four season cottage at the South branch narrows.



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FOCA

Join or renew your membership in the Buck Lake Association on-line and automatically become a member of FOCA!

<https://foca.on.ca/product/buck-lake-association/>

As a FOCA member you have access to member only webinars and other resources on its website. There are lots of other perks to being a FOCA member.

- * information on rural property issues (septics, taxation, land use planning, mining, energy and utilities, ...)
- * follow all FOCA's advocacy files and policy updates.
- * environmental programs: Lake Partner Program water quality data; prevent the spread of invasive species
- * Cottage Life Magazine only \$24.95 annual rate: www.cottagelife.com/foca
- * Separett Waterless Toilets offers a 5% discount from Canadian ECO Products (code=FOCA2020)
- * Action First Aid 18% discount on Phillips Home Defibrillators (AEDs)
- * DockinaBox 10% discount on dock frame systems or boat lifts
- Canadian Canoe Museum 30% off any Membership (code=FOCA19)
 - New! Sawmill Structures will donate \$350 to your cottage country food bank for each bunkie/shed purchased during COVID-19. Mention FOCA to access the offer.

And a final word from FOCA . . .

"We are proud of FOCA's Elert subscription list, which is over 10,000-strong and growing.

Will you help us achieve our next ambitious goal of increasing that list to 50,000 subscribers? We know there are lots of other folks out there who love waterfront Ontario as much as we do. Please encourage fellow members of the BLA and waterfront neighbours to sign up for monthly e-news from FOCA.

The Elert is FOCA's free monthly e-newsletter, filled with cottage country updates on waterfront living, environmental and policy developments and much, much more."

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Get on the Elert list – subscribe here: <https://bit.ly/FOCAelert50K>

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COVID-19 at Buck Lake

Out on my morning walk, I couldn't help but rejoice in the advantages of being 'self-isolating' here at Buck Lake. Despite the forecast of showers later in the day, the sun was shining, nothing but a gentle breeze, the temperature just right for walking the lanes, and not another soul to be seen, bar one neighbour I saw in the distance leaving his blue box as I approached the recycling platform on Norman Lane. I did see another later; she passed me in her car at about the same place some 45 minutes later as I was returning home. As I walked along I was reminded of a dream – a nightmare really – from which I awoke a couple of months ago. I rarely remember dreams but this one remains quite vivid. I was quarantined in a high-rise apartment somewhere, too high up realistically to use the stairs, having to book an elevator to get out and then only to walk streets crowded with people, each wondering which of the others around her or him, especially those not wearing masks, could be one of the dread SARS-CoV2 “super-spreaders” to be given the widest possible berth. The contrast, dream-world to real world, could hardly be more stark!

To make the real world even better, I have a new partner. Teddy, my family's 3-year old yellow Lab, has come to live with me temporarily until Polly, their older dog, recovers from some surgery. Teddy is not only good company. He is a reliable spur against any back-sliding in my daily walking habit, although recently as the weather has become more 'iffy', I have noticed that he is decidedly keener on shorter walks when it's raining. In that he's a kindred spirit.

As, sadly, we climb the ramp up phase II of the COVID-19 pandemic in Ontario let's all of us resolve to do our parts to lower its slope just as we did 7 months ago to “flatten the curve”. We did very well here in Kingston, Frontenac, and Lennox & Addington thanks to the leadership of our Medical Officer of Health (and others) and to our genuinely working together, adhering to the easy and sensible guidelines to impede the spread of the virus. Wash your hands at every opportunity and use hand sanitizer when there's no soap and water available. Keep your hands at the end of your arms, away from your face. Keep your “bubble” of family members and friends as small as possible and made up of others who are also aware of the very infectious nature of SARS-CoV2 and do everything they can to avoid close contact with anybody who may have been in contact with an infected person. Wear a mask, washed and dried frequently if it is made of cloth, whenever you are closer than 6 feet from anybody, especially if indoors, who is not a member of your bubble. And rejoice in the ease and the pleasure of your self-isolation here in our idyll at Buck Lake. We may be a little short on broad-band but we're certainly long on the many other things that make living here such a privilege.

Duncan Sinclair



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The Year(s) of the Gypsy Moth!

One of the most talked about topics this year with our Buck Lake neighbours (at a social distance) is the gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar*) outbreak in our trees. My own wakeup call came over dinner in our screened porch when the gorgeous sunset was almost obscured by swarms of moths. My neighbour sadly reported that her five large oak trees had been completely denuded – removing an important source of shade from her deck. Many cottagers described infestations of the caterpillars on decks, docks and patio furniture.

Considered an invasive species (native to Europe) this defoliating insect feeds on a wide variety of trees. Host species include oak, birch and aspen, sugar maple, beech and sadly even eastern white pine and Colorado blue spruce. Outbreaks occur every 7-10 years with the first Gypsy Moth detected in Ontario in 1969, widespread defoliation did not occur until 1981.

A single gypsy moth can eat one square metre of leaves in a season and while some trees are able to produce a second growth of leaves after defoliation, repeated outbreaks weaken the tree making it more susceptible to other pests and disease and can result its death.



What Can You Do?

- Learn how to identify the gypsy moth during its various life stages.
- Egg masses can be easily controlled by removing and burning or soaking in a soap and water mixture.
- A band of either burlap or other cloth product wrapped around the trunk will provide a place for caterpillars to hide during the heat of the day. Check these bands regularly and scrape hidden caterpillars into a container of soapy water.
- Keep your trees healthy and better able to ward off attacks. In urban areas, water trees during dry spells and protect their root zone. In natural areas, good forestry practices will ensure healthier trees that are better able to withstand stresses such as defoliation.
- Report sightings to the toll-free Invading Species Hotline at 1-800-563-7711 or email info@invadingspecies.com.

Excellent resources are available online:

- FOCA website
 - <https://foca.on.ca/invasive-species/>
- Invasive Species Centre
 - <https://foca.on.ca/invasive-species/>
 - <https://www.invasivespeciescentre.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/european-gypsy-moth-fact-sheet.pdf>

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Reminder: It's Almost Deer Hunting Season

Deer hunting season starts on November 2nd this year. With COVID-19, many of us are spending time hiking on the beautiful trails in the area. During hunting season it is recommended wearing high visibility orange clothing. **Be safe and be seen.**



Buck Lake's Barge Building Tradition

By John Curran

Nowadays all manner of watercraft can be found skimming across the waves of Buck Lake, but 60 or more years ago there simply weren't the same recreational vessels readily commercially available to cottagers.

Especially if you were looking for a back lake boat that could carry the family but wasn't going to break the bank, your options practically started and stopped in the same place. There were small wooden or aluminum boats – none of them had raised floors, most were tippy and without a proper trailer, the hull generally took more than a few extra knocks in transport and storage resulting in inevitable leaks.

On Buck Lake, however, another type of boat used to be a common sight, too. Known simply as “the barge,” the uncomplicated open design was a cottager's dream once complete. Equally at home trolling the main lake basins in spring or exploring the Massassauga Creek in late summer, it offered unmatched versatility at the time.

The Buck Lake barges were basically the pontoon boats of their day, but years before anyone ever dreamt of those – a shallow draft combined with a massive sitting area. Impossible to tip in any conditions and offering plenty of room for folding chairs, coolers and other creature comforts, these homemade barges were at one time the vessel of choice for trout fishermen and mica miners, alike. Plywood was introduced into the North American market in about 1865 and ever since then people have been building boats out of it. It wasn't until after 1928, when the first standard-sized four-foot by eight-foot plywood sheets were introduced, that the classic Buck Lake barge really took shape.



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A hair under 16 feet long, but a full eight feet wide with a flat yet slightly raised floor and almost 32 cubic feet of dry storage under a middle bench seat and another sizeable storage area in the bow, the barge wasn't just stable – it was built like a brick outhouse.

Dr. Leggett had built one in the 50s or so and he was a huge trout fisherman, there used to be several barges that you'd see out fishing for lake trout, according to my mother Susan Curran. She remembers Frank Feddigan, who was also one of the last active mica miners on the lake up until the summer of 1960, also built one and used it for years for fishing and shuttling supplies around between the mine and his cabin.

In the 1970s and then again in the 1980s, my uncle George Graves and grandfather Art Graves each respectively built what currently stand as the last two examples of these boats.



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Keeping the inside of a barge dry could be a little daunting at times. Uncle George actually covered his barge in aluminum after several years of use once it had developed a few leaks. I remember Grandpa using a waterproof glue as well as fiberglass and epoxy to cover all of the seams and screwheads on the bottom of his barge.



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Rudolph Run/Walk Fundraiser – November 21st

Submitted by Heather Keeling

Gather your family and friends (who are in your COVID-19 bubble) for the first-ever Rudolph Run/Walk, benefiting the Cataraqui Trail. The event runs from 10am to 1pm Saturday, November 21st. Our beautiful trail needs your support to keep it in good condition for all who use it.

It only costs \$35 to register a group/family of 5! All participants and volunteers receive a fabulous mask created by our own Perth Road Village Crafters!



You can choose from 2-kilometre and 5-kilometre options, or participate by just raising funds. Start times are staggered, with no more than 20 participants per time slot. You can choose a start time of 10 am, 11am or 12 noon. There are three start/finish sites along the Cataraqui Trail for participants to register under teams:

Napanee Teams: starting near the westernmost trailhead at Camden East (County Rd. 4).

Kingston Teams: starting at the trail entrance on Highway 38 in Harrowsmith.

Sydenham Teams: Starting at the kiosk at the corner of Bedford & Portland, across from the Foodland.

If 5 people wish to volunteer, we could also run the event where the trail crosses Perth Road. If you are interested in volunteering, please email cattrail.fun@gmail.com

Registration is required and each registrant must be 18 years of age, although members of their group/family can be any age. Once registered, participants can raise funds for their team via the online donation page at www.crca.ca/rudolphrun. The participant who raises the most from each team (Napanee, Kingston, Sydenham) will receive a Cataraqui Conservation Annual Pass that will give them entry to Little Cataraqui Creek Conservation Area for one year.

All current COVID-19 pandemic protocols will be followed, including social distancing, and participants will be required to wear a mask where physical distancing is not possible and at the registration table. For further details and registration visit www.crca.ca/registration. To donate to a team, visit www.crca.ca/rudolphrun.



This event is made possible by The Friends of the Cataraqui Trail and The Perth Road Village Crafters. When not social isolating, The Perth Road Village Crafters, meet Wednesday morning at Harris Park Hall in Perth Road Village to quilt and create other crafts. The Friends of the Cataraqui Trail advocate for the sustainability, enjoyment, and stewardship of the Cataraqui Trail. To learn more about the Trail and the work of the Friends visit www.cataraquitrail.ca.

Looking forward to seeing you on the Cataraqui Trail Saturday, November 21st!

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Lake Links 2020

Watersheds Canada hosted its 19th Annual Lake Links Workshop, “Effective Engagement for Positive Action,” late last month. As the theme suggested, this year, participants in the event learned how to better engage with their lake, family, and lake community to discover ways to protect the lake environment and ecosystem. Presented this year as a free online webinar due to COVID-19, Lake Links has traditionally been an in-person conference and it will likely return to that format once the pandemic abates. Three presentations comprised the agenda and all are now available online for anyone who couldn’t attend the day of the event.

The first session was an update on a “Social Engagement study on Rideau Canal with Parks Canada,” and was presented by Isha Mistry and Christine Beaudoin, University of Ottawa, and Dr. Steven Cooke, Carleton University. It is available for viewing at https://youtu.be/SNPMh4x_X4U.

The second discussion centred around “How lake associations and organizations can use technology to stay connected and engage their members,” and was presented by Terry Rees and Michelle Lewin, Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations. It can be seen at <https://youtu.be/1Y2qbmpYfLA>.



Finally, “What families can do to stay connected to nature and the lake,” by Rebecca Whitman, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, rounded out the event and is online at <https://youtu.be/tAMg6QT9aT0>.

During the event, organizers also handed out the 2020 Gord Rodgers Memorial Award to Karen and Murray Hunt. This award is given to someone who engages their community, promotes stewardship by example, and goes above and beyond for their lake community. Karen and Murray have been long-time advocates and volunteers in the Otty Lake community and continue to help with a myriad of initiatives.

Organization and monetary support of this event is shared annually by a number of regional partner groups, including: Cataraqui Conservation, Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA), Friends of the Tay Watershed, Lake Networking Group, Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, S.M. Blair Family Foundation, and Watersheds Canada.

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Reminders:

The Buck Lake Community Directory

To be added to and receive the Buck Lake Community Directory, please email your contact information (name, lake address and up to 2 email addresses and phone numbers) to bucklakeassoc@gmail.com. Send updates ASAP to catch the August 2020 edition.

Buck Lake CALENDAR needs you ALL YEAR LONG!

Calendar submissions are closed for the 2021 edition but please send your amazing Buck Lake pictures in full resolution to Cheryl Dawson at dawson.cheryl13@gmail.com all year long... right when they happen. Please: no people in the photos.

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Facebook Group

We have a very active group on Facebook with 670 members. Please feel free to join. Remember to answer the questions when you request membership so that we know who you are!

Coming Events:

No regular planned events at this time due to COVID-19.

** Nov - April Please get out there and scrap off and gather the Gypsy Moth eggs from any trees that you can reach and burn them or soak them in soapy water. Do not let them stay on the trees or ground! Let's try to collectively prevent an even worse caterpillar event in 2021. **



July – April
Eggs

In order to promote the spirit of Buck Lake, we invite your comments and suggestions for newsletter articles or announcements. Mail to: [Buck Lake Information](#)

Renew your Buck Lake Association membership on line. A receipt will be emailed to you to confirm your payment. A service provided by FOCA: <http://foca.on.ca/product/buck-lake-association/>

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