



BNIA

Fall/Winter Newsletter
2014 - 2015



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE- KATHLEEN KIDD

It's almost Christmas as I write this and that has got me to thinking about the spirit of the season. I believe that "good will to all" should be the basic message at this time of year and throughout our lives all the time. In keeping with this I hope that we can set aside our differences and remember what we share – a love for the beautiful area of Canada that we call our summer home. My grandmother always corrected me when I spoke about loving food or flowers. She said that you couldn't love inanimate objects. Of the 28 definitions of love in the dictionary, most were about love of people but the one I liked was: "to need or require; benefit greatly from: *Plants love sunlight.*" When it comes to the cottage, I'm like a plant and the sunlight is the place, the people, the activities, the feeling we share whether we have been coming for ever or for a short time.

While thinking about people who have been cottaging in Bayfield-Nares for ever, I am sad to report that Rob Thomson passed away in September. He was one of the oldest, living Nares cottagers and was best known for being the owner of the "old" paddle tennis court. He will also be lovingly remembered for bequeathing his property to the Georgian Bay Land Trust. There will be more about him and his legacy in the Directory/Yearbook.

Water levels continue to be an area of concern although not as immediate as in the recent past. The BNIA will continue to provide information on this and other topics on a regular basis on our website: www.bnia.ca. Please note the ink on this website to a CPR demonstration from the American Heart Association. I would also refer all members to the GBA website which has excellent information. If you are currently an Associate member, you do not receive updates from the GBA. Please consider becoming a full member. You will not be disappointed.

While on the topic of membership, now is the time to renew your membership. We would also ask that you encourage family members or neighbours, who are not members, to join. The 2015 Membership form is either attached to the newsletter or available on the website (under forms) depending on your method of distribution.

Most of you paid your dues last year by PayPal. You will be getting a reminder from PayPal regarding the 2015 dues. For those of you who did not use PayPal last year, please consider it for this year. It is easy, saves you and the Association money (eliminates bank and post charges) and helps us efficiently keep track of the membership.

As a special incentive, there will be a \$5 reduction in the dues for everyone that uses PayPal this year.

Regardless of how you pay, please do so by February 7th. This deadline may seem early but we want to get the list finalized for the Directory as soon as possible.

Happy 2015 to Everyone.

OUR NEW CHALLENGE: PHRAGMITES – JOHN MCMULLEN

This summer, many Georgian Bay cottagers became more aware of how to identify invasive phragmites and the problems phragmites can cause in their communities. Many are now asking what they can do to get rid of this plant from their properties. Colin Dobell has been in touch with a number of GBA member associations regarding the phragmites issue, and several associations have set up committees to look into it. Colin has also

approached the GBA, with a request that the GBA collaborates with him. If your association is looking into this issue please let the GBA (John McMullen or Anne Stewart) know as they would be glad to pool resources with you. The GBA is setting up an ad hoc committee that will include members of the GBA's Lands and Forests Committee and participants from member associations. The mandate for the committee is (1) to be a liaison for GBA with other organizations that are working on the phragmites issue (these organizations include Stop the Invasion, Georgian Bay Forever, Sierra Club, Ontario Invasive Plant Council, the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ministry of the Environment & Climate Change), and (2) to help develop educational materials and best management eradication protocols to guide owners of properties along the eastern and northern shores of Georgian Bay.

There was an article about phragmites in the fall issue of GBA's Update newsletter (<http://www.georgianbayassociation.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/GBA-Fall2014-revised-FINAL.pdf>) In this article it was noted that "GBA is working with the experts on future Phragmites eradication and management protocols. In the short term (i.e. this Fall) we recommend that our Members look for Phragmites on their property and use the PhragSpotter app to map it. But **do not disturb the plants at this time of year** as you may unwittingly spread the seeds. Watch our web site and email blasts this fall and winter for next steps."

Phragmites Ad Hoc Committee

Committee Mandate: To investigate and advise the Board about Phragmites on the Bay. To be a liaison for GBA with the other organizations, including but not limited to Stop the Invasion, GBF, Sierra Club, Ontario Invasive Plant Council, and the MNR, to help develop educational materials and eradication protocols for property owners along the eastern and northern shores of Georgian Bay

Accountabilities: To conduct background work that clarifies best management practices around the identification and management/eradication of Phragmites on Georgian Bay. To work with and partner with other like-minded organizations in order to accomplish this goal. To remain current on all legislation, existing and new, that is explicit to the eradication of Phragmites on the eastern and northern shores of Georgian Bay. To present recommendations for Board action, together with rationales based on the research.

OUTINGS AND WORKSHOPS – MOLLY MULLOY

This past summer's Outings and Workshops were very well received, with a phenomenal crowd following piper Nick Eyles rock walking back in time on Painted Rocks, a beach-full (from babes-in-arms to grey hairs) enjoying Glen Caradus' puppet show and traditional games including blanket toss, a cheery roomful producing beautiful quill, birch bark, sweet grass brooches and hair clips under Tracy Pawis' sage guidance. 5 to 65 year olds kept our own pro Alan Stein busy learning reef sketching techniques. Mary Perdue's expert photography secrets and tips were much appreciated by inlets who now have the knowledge to take fabulous photos - don't miss this if she offers it again. And the ornithological team of Jayne Fry and Michael Perley again led a birding outing, somewhat hampered by strong winds. Many thanks to each of our events leaders!

Next year's offerings have yet to be finalized - any ideas are most welcome (please use my home phone # - the cell # is defunct). We are planning a repeat puppet show as well as a native handicraft workshop - both back by popular demand, a botany / wildflower outing, a sketching or painting session, yoga/chi gong on the

rocks, and possibly a dragonfly and butterfly photography outing. Also, Peter Frost is qualified and willing to do boat checks - please contact me @ molly.mulloy7@gmail.com or [613-967-7899](tel:613-967-7899) by March if you are interested.

PHOTO CONTEST - MARY PERDUE

The competition was fierce this year with many wonderful entries. The theme was *Macro Photography* and there was also a *General* category. The winning image in the *Macro* category was "Monarch Butterfly" by David Day. It is the lead photo on our website (www.bnica.ca) and will appear on the cover of the 2015 Directory. (There were so many wonderful shots of flowers that I will include a special page of colour photos in the Directory.) In the *General* category, the winning image was "Eastern Wolf" by Laura Lewis-Hassell, and can be seen on the cover of this Newsletter. This photo was shot on the Nares Inlet road not far from Springhaven Lodge. Isn't it remarkable to have a wolf so close! We really are privileged to spend our summers in such a pristine wilderness area.

I have been asked by several members to extend the deadline for submission of photos for the contest. The reason the deadline has been mid-July is that the judging is done the week-end prior to the Annual General Meeting so that the winners can be announced at the meeting. However, we will try a new system beginning this summer. The deadline will be mid-September, and the judging will be done in the fall. The results will be announced in the Winter Newsletter and the winning image will appear on the cover of the Directory the following year (as usual). So no excuses – you have the entire summer to capture breath-taking images from our picturesque scenery. And that is the theme for this year, *Amazing Scenery*. Also, please remind your youngsters that there is a special prize for photos submitted by those under 16 years of age. I am looking forward to an even more challenging judging event for the competition this year! (Any photos that were submitted in 2014 but not included in the competition, will be moved to the 2015 competition – so sorry Mindy!)

NARES INLET BOOK PROJECT – MARY PERDUE

This summer I am beginning a project to produce a professional book of photos and stories, "Cottages and Cottagers of Nares Inlet". I have been thinking about such a project for many years, but have been stimulated to action by the potential changes to come in the inlet with the sale of Springhaven Lodge and Marina. I want to capture this present time, and also include some photos and stories of the past. We now have a collection of material submitted for publication in our Directory. I want to include this material and more stories from the past. But I also want to record images of the cottages and their occupants in 2015. I will be beginning in June with the Scales and Springhaven. I will then move on to other cottages in the inlet. I hope to include all the cottages in Nares Inlet, but I need your permission to proceed. Please let me know if you agree to be included in the book by emailing me (perduemary@live.com), including your name, cottage number and civic address. Also please indicate the time of the summer that you expect to be at your cottage.

I am looking for volunteers to help me interview and collect stories – this will be a big job! Please contact me at the above e-mail address. In addition, perhaps there is my counter-part in Bayfield who will attempt a parallel project – if so let me know and we can aim for a BNIA-wide book!