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the

Salerno Lake Sentinel

SALERNO/DEVIL'S LAKE COTTAGERS ASSOCIATION

Message from The President

On the 26th of September Chris Whittemore, (Recording Secretary of the SDLCA) and I attended a Lake Stewards Meeting sponsored by the Coalition of Haliburton (Cottagers) Associations (CHA). This was a half-day event held at the Fish Hatchery on County Road 1 just south of Haliburton. I'll get to the meeting in the next newsletter because it was excellent but I have to say that the Fish Hatchery itself was a really pleasant surprise. (www.hhoa.on.ca/hatchery.html)

The Visitor's Centre is well-kept, clean and bright and in the main exhibition space, the animal dioramas were fascinating and although they had all been shunted aside to allow for our meeting, their power to fascinate was undeniable.

Throughout the meeting one would occasionally get the feeling that there were animal eyes watching you - the mother bear especially as she rears up sniffing the breeze while her cubs are tumbling underfoot. There are all manner of indigenous species; a fisher, a marten an otter, owls, hawks, on and on./ - we so seldom see them in the wild that it is wonderful to be able to study these creatures closely. From my amateur perspective I'd say that the quality of the specimens was excellent.

The next time you have a bunch of bored youngsters on your hands because the rain pelting down rather than an afternoon of shoot 'em up video games or Hollywood blockbusters - I suggest that you grab the kids and drag them to the Hatchery. There are free tours Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 6:00 pm. I'm sure that once in the door, the most jaded young speed-texting cynic will be slack-jawed.

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Look for the re-launch of our new and improved website, coinciding with the next issue of The Salerno Lake Sentinel.

Welcome to New Members!

We would like to welcome a number of folks who have joined our Salerno Lake Community. Please do your best to make the acquaintance of these new cottagers.

Philippa and Jeremy Bridge-Cook
on Salerno Lake Road.

Marilyn Howes, Susan Biggar and Maureen McDaniels
on Hand Drive.

Jenny and Raymond Kennedy
from London who have settled into a new lot on Grandpa's Trail overlooking the lovely small lake.

Diana and John Lima
on TumbleDown Rock Drive.

Carol and Jack Angle
on Twist Lane.

And a special hello to the newest arrivals on the lake; the Durante twins, **Mason and Jonah**, born September 1, 2009. The **proud parents** are **Mike and Jen Durante** whose cottage is very near the Boat Launch.

A Remembrance Day Project

The following article about an important Haliburton area initiative seems very appropriate for a November newsletter. Find out more at www.mindenculturalcentre.com

Roy McGregor, The Globe and Mail,
November 2, 2009

Only three letters, but such repercussions. "Yes."

These are the ones who said "yes" in 1914-1918 and "yes" again only a generation later. They are the soldiers of Haliburton County - the rolling hills of Central Ontario - and the only difference between them and young soldiers from a hundred other such communities across the country lies in the fact that these ones cover all four walls of a large room in the Minden Hills Cultural Centre.

The walls are papered with the Attestation papers signed by all who joined up. They list their names, their age, their birthplace, their occupation, their parents - and then they come to the one question that those of us lucky enough never to have had to fight spend far too little time considering: *"Are you willing to serve in the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Forces?"*

They all answered "yes." There is no hesitation in the writing, no crossing out, no "maybes." Two things are instantly striking in this simple, powerful exhibition: One is the penmanship - *do schools no longer teach handwriting?* - and the other is the age of those who held the pens. Those who died for saying "yes" also have their pictures on the wall.

Herbert Baker, died Aug. 10, 1918, age 25. Alexander (Mack) Scott, died Oct. 11, 1918 - one month before the war was over - age 25. Two brothers, one tall and tousle-headed, one short with a part like a rifle sight: Harry and Charlie Welch, sons of James and Sarah Welch of Halls Lake. Charlie died Jan. 17, 1917, age 22. Harry died May 19, 1917, age 19. Imagine for a moment what it was like in the Welch household that spring day when the second telegram arrived.

Beginning tomorrow, area schools will be able to visit this simple, powerful exhibition that has been a year in the works. They will read about those who signed up, see photographs of those who paid the highest price and hear talks about the wars and the young soldiers who headed off from the streets and back roads they themselves live on today. They will, hopefully, pause at one large photograph of the 109th Victoria and Haliburton Battalion posing on the Gull River Bridge in 1916. They will see how very young these soldiers are, how proud; and they will be told that some of those standing there never returned to this spectacular landscape.

When they come back across that same bridge from the community centre, they should stop in at the Crowne Gallery on the river's edge, where owner Marc Shroetter has a crazy project under way that just might help them connect the young soldiers who fought and died in the two world wars to the young men and women who are still fighting and still sadly dying in Canadian uniforms today.



Mr. Shroetter is working with the local Legion and hopes, eventually, to deliver 4,000 postcards to Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan.

What he has done is reverse the usual order. Art throughout the ages has always recorded the carnage of war - A.Y. Jackson, who painted landscapes in these same hills, was a war artist - but instead of bringing disturbing images home Mr. Shroetter hopes to send comforting images over.

The 55-year-old artist has put out a request for other artists - professionals, amateurs, schoolchildren - to paint a small scene of "home" that can be sent in bulk to Afghanistan and dispersed randomly. The soldiers wouldn't know who has sent the card; the artists would not know who has received their card.

So far, he has collected original postcards from the area and some from out West. There are cards showing farms being plowed, sap being collected in a sugar bush, fall colours in the Canadian bush.

"They're rough," Mr. Shroetter says, "but they're not hokey. It's kind of like hanging your kids' pictures on the refrigerator door."

Almost invariably, the postcards come with a message on the other side: "Stay safe." "You are appreciated."

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President's Message

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I could list all the animals on display there but I'd rather say that if you can think of an Ontario forest animal you are curious to see, it's here for you to enjoy and only a short drive from the cottage. Oh yes, and while you're driving there look for the camels on County Road 1. If you think I'm kidding, I'm not. That's all I will say but herein lies photographic proof.



Then there is the Hatchery itself, the fish-growing operation which we had the distinct privilege to tour with David Flowers, a Fisheries Biologist with the Ministry of Natural Resources and a most eloquent and informative host. The hatchery itself is a spotless, dare I say professional operation, raising very distinct and beautiful strains of fish such as the Haliburton Gold, a lake trout specific to the Highland Lakes. . Although the hatchery was built by the Feds and is supported by the Ministry of Natural Resources, it is run and maintained by volunteer members of the Haliburton Highlands Outdoor Association. This is an awesome achievement. It's not like you can put fish in a file drawer and leave them for a few weeks (as I do with my responsibilities with the SDLCA) - these little swimmers have to be tended to three hundred and sixty five days a year. One mistake could be devastating. So hats off to the Haliburton Highlands Outdoor Association for their fine stewardship.

REMEMBRANCE

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"Please know that you are always on our minds and that we wish you a safe return to your family and friends."

*None are signed,
which in an odd way seems
to make them as personal
as possible.*

Mr. Shroetter is hoping hundreds more of the painted cards and messages will be sent to him at the Crowne Gallery, 115 Main St., Suite 102, Minden, ON K0M 2K0.

He also plans to have his website, which crashed last week, up and running again soon. Through the Legion and Defence Department connections, he hopes to be able to deliver the cards in bulk on special days throughout the year, beginning with Christmas - until it's over.

"Afghanistan," he says, "is an unfortunate thing to have to happen. I wish they weren't there. I don't want to have to consider it a necessary evil, but I do accept that there has always been war and there always will be war until humans figure out some better way to resolve their differences."

And so long as there is war, he continues, there will be hurt: "Troops have always come back with a lot of damage - and not just physical.

"And since artists have always been used for military purposes, this way they could become a small part of the healing process."

Who could not say "yes" to that?

Flashing Green – What does it Mean?

In Ontario - and in all of Haliburton County - a flashing green light on a vehicle means a volunteer firefighter is responding to an emergency in their personal vehicle. While the majority of firefighters will respond to the firehall to get the 'big red truck' or other appropriate fire department vehicles, some may go directly to an emergency scene depending on the nature of the call.

The Highway Traffic Act allows the use of green flashing lights, and only firefighters may use them. The Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM) has a comprehensive statement on the use of flashing green lights as part of its Public Fire Safety Guidelines, available at www.ofm.gov.on.ca.

A flashing green light may be a rotating dome on a dashboard or roof, and on occasion it's a green strobe mounted inside a windshield.

Volunteers are not permitted to have sirens on their personal vehicles; so many firefighters will beep their horns in conjunction with having the green lights.

The flashing green light is meant to help other users of the road to recognize a firefighter enroute to an emergency. As such, other drivers as well as cyclists, runners and walkers should yield the right-of-way to allow safe and unobstructed passage. Of particular concern are those who walk or run with earphones on who may not hear a honking horn and then wonder what the heck just went by them!

Unfortunately, there are many incidences of drivers either ignoring the green lights, or not

understanding their significance and then reacting inappropriately. There are even a handful of firehall stories about drivers who, for whatever reason, have tried to 'play cop' by weaving in the lane, slowing down, or riding the centre line in an attempt to prevent passage. This is unsafe for all involved.

Firefighters' personal vehicles are not emergency vehicles, and a green light doesn't provide any exemptions under the Highway Traffic Act.

Excitement and adrenaline are natural elements of emergency response, and while the green light doesn't provide

permission to exceed the speed limit, the enthusiasm of firefighters may occasionally get ahead of them, especially when a call involves a child.

If you want to know more about how your volunteer fire department operates, contact your local Fire Chief. In the meantime, keep an eye out for those flashing green lights and when you see them, pull over first and ask questions later.

Article written by

Carol Moffat

*Algonquin Highlands Councilor and
wife of a volunteer firefighter*

\$45,000 Fine For Illegal Shoreline Work

Lindsay, Ontario.

On October 20, 2009 William Michael Montgomery and Frances McQuestion were fined a combined total of \$45,000 after being convicted at trial for a violation of Section 35 (1) of the Fisheries Act which the judge found "did cause the disruption of destruction of fish habitat".

The offence occurred on Kennisis Lake in the Township of Dysart et al in the County of Haliburton. In addition to the fines, Her Worship D.I. Jackson also ordered the removal of a shoreline structure known as an aerodrome or ramp and associated construction materials as a part of restoring fish habitat.

In 2002 Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) launched an investigation after learning that an aerodrome was built on Kennisis Lake in a manner that destroyed fish habitat. Having previously entered into discussion with the DFO on 'fish friendly' designs, the defendants then built the aerodrome in a manner that caused an infill of fish habitat.

At the request of DFO, Her Worship Jackson ordered that \$40,500 of the fines be directed to the Kennisis Lake Cottagers' Association for the purpose of carrying out fish habitat improvement projects within Kennisis Lake.

Prior to undertaking any work in or around water DFO encourages the public to ensure they have all the necessary permits and approvals from municipal. Provincial and federal agencies and authorities.

SDLCA CANOE RACE RECORDS

BEST TIMES EVER

Eric Orschel & Sean Ruppel

1st mens in 2000 56:56

Bill Lawson & Robert Wilson

2nd mens in 2000 58:07

Bill Lawson & Dan Wilson

1st mens in 1983 1:01:42

JUNIORS → 1996

Ian Crossan & Robert Wilson 1:08:17

SENIOR MENS → 1995

Peter Maher & Jon McKee 1:05:23

SENIOR WOMENS → 2009

(new category 2007)

Susan Thompson & Chris Whittemore

1:21:36

WOMEN → 1995

Mary Mitchell & Ella Russell 1:12:00

MIXED → 1996

Eric Orschel & Jean Orschel 1:03:12

MENS → 2000

Eric Orschel & Sean Ruppel 56:56

OPEN → 1996

John Cowan & Dan Wilson 1:02:50

KAYAK WOMENS → 2007

(new category 2007)

Julie Lock 1:09:41

KAYAK MENS → 2009

(new category 2006)

Brian Kerr 1:12:30

JUNIORS (2 canoes)

Jason Pifer & Alex Schiller 1:34:43

SENIORS WOMEN (2 canoes)

Susan Thompson & Chris Whittemore

1:21:36



Pictured above: **Paul and Mike Morin** going over Furnace Falls in the oddest and slowest craft ever entered in the SDLCA Canoe race!

SENIORS MEN (1 canoe)

John Leonard & Rob Stuart 1:17:27

WOMENS (5 canoes)

Mariah Witham & Brenna Thompson

1:18:08

MIXED (7 canoes)

Ryan Blair & Julie Locke 1:13:16

MENS (7 canoes)

Todd Mansfield & Corey Witham

1:10:36

OPEN (5 boats)

Bill & Jacob Bayard & Eric, Sierra & Tyler Orschel

1:09:28

KAYAK WOMEN (1 boat)

Kim Field 1:45:14

KAYAK MEN (6 boats)

Brian Kerr 1:12:30

TOTAL BOATS → 36

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SDLCA CANOE RACE GAMES

RUNNING

3 & under
Murray Russell, Eric Howes

4-6 years
Kai Patterson

7-9 years
Patrick Wing

10-16 years
Mitchell Binnie

HOP RACE

3 & under
Daniel Stimers, Eric Howes

4-6 years
Robert Field

3 LEGGED RACE

7-9 years
Alex Rich & Maya Bridgecook

10-16 years
Beau & Mitchell Binnie

BUBBLE BLOWING CONTEST

Adam Spragg

SHOE KICK

4-6 years
Cory Danyshyn

7-9 years
Madeleine Manzo

10-16 years
Connor McQuilken, Adam Spragg

ADULT SHOE KICK

LADIES 1ST Eve MacArthur
MENS 1ST Scott Field

BALLOON TOSS

CHILD
Adam Orschell & Tyler Spragg
OPEN
Adam Orschell & Tyler Spragg
ADULT
Scott Field & Jean Orschell

EGG TOSS

CHILD
Beau & Quinn Binnie / Madeleine
Manzo & Sydney Patterson
OPEN
Adam Orschell & Tyler Spragg
ADULT
Eric Orschell & Bill Bayard

SDLCA CANOE RACE RESULTS continued...

JUNIORS (2 canoes)

Jason Pifer & Alex Schiller 1:34:43
Colton MacDonald-Katsuras
& Connor McQuilkin 2:18:40

SENIORS WOMEN (2 canoes)

Susan Thompson & Chris Whittemore
1:21:36 * Ella Russell & Deane Stuart
1:48:11

SENIORS MEN (1 canoe)

John Leonard & Rob Stuart 1:17:27

WOMENS (5 canoes)

Mariah Witham & Brenna Thompson
1:18:08 * Jess Hamblin & Heather
MacLachlan 1:25:18 * Sarah Keenleyside
& Chloe McCloskey 1:26:05 * Kay
Armatage & Sarah Lerchs 1:30:48 *
Emily & Katie Pryse 1:41:40

MIXED (7 canoes)

Ryan Blair & Julie Locke 1:13:16 *
Aaron Witham & Laura Mayes
1:16:55 * Alana Rodger-Jacobson &
Luke Rodger-McQuilkin 1:22:08 *
Katie & Ryan Knowler 1:25:08 * Jill &
Gerry McElwain 1:29:02 * Diane &
John Macdonald 1:31:34 * Robin
Gupta & Lily Wong 1:34:16

MENS (7 canoes)

Todd Mansfield & Corey Witham
1:10:36 * Brendan & Jim Rayburn
1:11:52 * Jesse Boyer & Tim Millan
1:14:40 * Rob Macdonald & Craig
Ortwein 1:26:45 * Connor Joeran &
Colin McLennan 1:36:40 * Eric Dagg &
Kyle McNeil 1:41:55 * Mike & Nick
Schiller 1:52:05

OPEN (5 boats)

Bill & Jacob Bayard & Eric, Sierra
& Tyler Orschel 1:09:28 * Courtney &
Brian Hardy (tandem kayak) 1:18:28 *
Morgan, Peggy, Logan & Roman
Boehm 1:23:09 * Jacklyn & Brett
Proud 1:40:01 * Mike & Paul Morin
(1st ever tube) 4:18:00

KAYAK WOMEN (1 boat)

Kim Field 1:45:14

KAYAK MEN (6 boats)

Brian Kerr 1:12:30
Kyle Woodard 1:14:27
Colin Macdonald 1:15:12
JP Morin 1:29:0
Michael Field 1:45:09
Doug Rodger 2:02:23