

## A message from the Editor

A major activity of the FLPOA over the past year has been Lake Management Planning, ably directed by Gail Graser and Monty Doyle. We appreciate the input received from the Association membership, too, both at the AGM and at the August workshop. A status summary is included in this newsletter. Your interest and support are gratifying and important.

We've been quite successful in publishing two newsletters per year. Hopefully the two issues reflect your interests. If you have anything you wish to comment on, or contributions you would like to make, we can always include letters to the editor! Thanks for your continued interest.

And finally, thanks to all of the road representatives who distributed materials in advance of the LMP workshop.

## Lake history booklet

We estimate that the Lake History book will be ready for printing by the end of this year. We extend our thanks to all who contributed anecdotes and photographs. It will be bound in an 8.5 x 7 inch format with some type of spiral binding for reasonable longevity. There will be about 110 pages, of which some 10 will be of colour photos. Judging by a test printing at the time of publishing, we expect a no-profit cost of about \$15.00 per copy. It's marginally possible that a limited number will be available at the May, 2010 AGM, pending our ability to find a printer that can meet our maximum selling-cost criterion.

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## 20 YEARS AGO

Cottage Life is a new magazine of special interest to the cottage owner. Having trouble with your pump, dock, catching fish, identifying birds, etc.? Future issues of Cottage Life will help you out. The March issue will include a guide for opening day, dealing with everything from mildew to scratches on sailboats...All this for only \$14.75 for 14 issues!

Of great sadness to us all is the recent death of Gerry Morris. One of the original "settlers" on Farren lake, Gerry was known for his interest in everything to do with the lake. He gave generously of his time to the activities undertaken by the association and was very kind to many of our young people...we will miss him very much.

Flora and Fauna around the lake



Wild columbine  
 Aquilegia canadensis  
 Flowers April-July; 1 to 2 feet high  
 Red flower, yellow stamens  
 Habitat: rocky, wooden or open slopes



Cleft-foot amanita  
 Amanita brunnescens  
 White/brown cap, 3 to 15 cm.  
 July-October  
 Habitat: dry deciduous woods, esp. oak.

Lake stocking (info courtesy of J. Stapledon)

**Splake** were again re-stocked at Farren Lake, in May of 2009.

The restocking was done in two stages, with 10,000 in the first and about 18,000 in the second.

A photo of a typical splake fry shortly after stocking is shown below, courtesy of Martin Hiltz. This fish was found near the shore, not in good health.

(Splake are stocked, as they combine characteristics that make them more successful than either brook trout or lake trout alone, particularly in smaller lakes where the habitat might otherwise be unsuitable. They prefer water that is relatively cool all year, with a clarity of at least 5 meters.)



Loon Chicks

Alert cottagers observed that we had one loon chick this summer. It has been about three years since the last chicks were seen. A few other lakes reported more chicks this year but that unfortunately loon platforms were used have apparently not significantly helped.

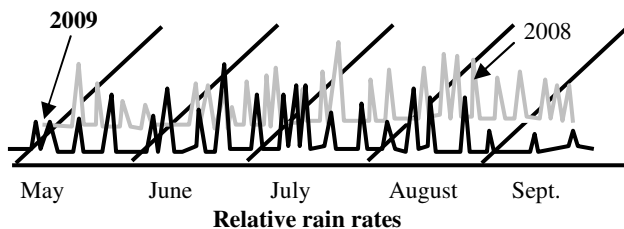
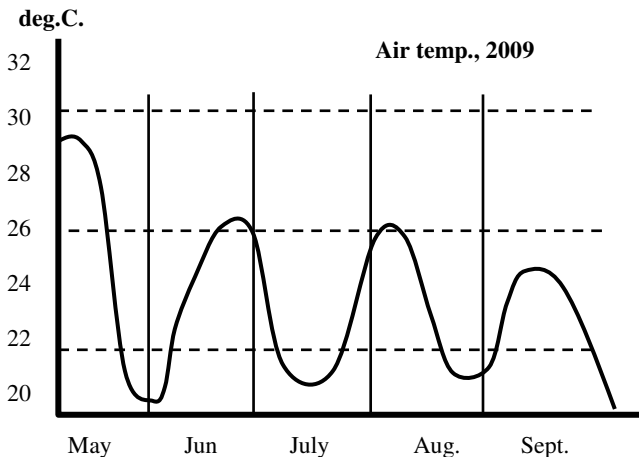
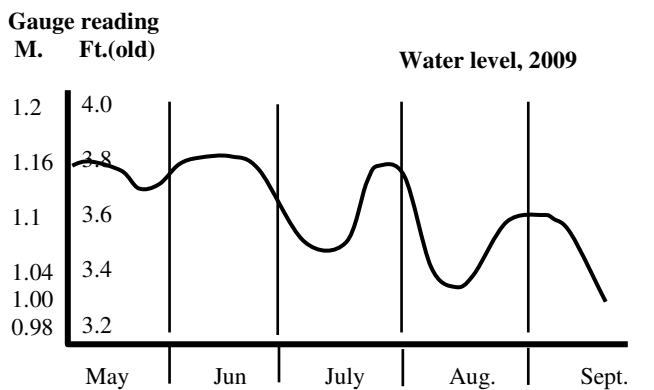
Wet summer

Everyone will agree that this has again been one of the wettest summers that we have seen for many years. (Year 2008 was somewhat the same though, according to local records.)

Only in late August and early September did the frequency of rain-storms abate.

Here are rough data collected for this cottage year.

These data are not correlated with any official source.



Watershed Watch (Rideau valley Conservation Auth.)

Watershed Watch is an intensive monitoring program on the 35 key lakes in our valley. The result will be a reliable and accurate set of baseline data to act as an early warning system to identify trends or problems in water quality.

The five water quality indicators to be tested are:

- bacteria (*E.coli*)
- total phosphorus
- nitrogen
- suspended solids
- dissolved oxygen and temperature profiles.

The 2009 results for Farren Lake for E. Coli, Nitrogen, phosphorus and dissolved oxygen are:

E. Coli: mostly 2.0 CFU per 100 mL \*

Total Kjeldahl N.: 360 µg/L, avg.

Total phosphorus: 8 to 11 µg/L in 9 samples, with one anomaly at 41 µg/L.

Oxygen: from 1.26 mg/L at 10 metres depth, to about 6.6 mg/L between 6 m. and the surface.

\*The May/08 newsletter contains an extensive summary of the measurement units for all tests carried out.

FOCA – phosphorus article summary

FOCA, in their 2008 Lake Partner Program, note that many lakes now have sufficient data to detect long-terms trends. For the most part, the average of lakes shows no clear trend toward increased phosphorus levels, even though the levels can be highly variable. Much depends on whether a lake is located on or off the Canadian shield, what were the yearly rainfall rates, what is the nature of the land use around lakes, the size of the contributing watershed, how well and/or continuously the lake is flushed, and even when during the year measurements were taken.

There can, as a result, be wide variations year-to-year.

The Lake Partners article can be accessed at: [www.ene.gov.on.ca/en/water/lakepartner/docs](http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/en/water/lakepartner/docs)

Township highlights

From the web site: <http://www.tayvalleytwp.ca/>

WASTE DISPOSAL FEE INCREASES

Over the past several years the cost to the township for hauling and processing of scrap metal has increased significantly. As well a comparison study of fees charged by neighbouring municipalities indicated that an adjustment was needed to bring ours in line. As a result of these and other factors a decision was reached in 2008 to increase fees.

STORM INTERNET \* (Public Meeting Notice)

As part of the Broadband Outreach and Awareness Program of Storm Internet's contract with Lanark County, Storm hosted a series of public information meetings.

The purpose of these meetings was to allow Storm to advise the public on the progress of their project as well as permitting an opportunity for members of the public to ask Storm service related questions. It also provide an opportunity for anyone wishing to sign-up for their service to do so.

\* STORM Internet is intended to provide high-speed wireless internet service to almost all of Lanark County through a series of appropriately placed radio towers and "micro-nodes."

Gypsy moth trap counts, 2009

As an indicator of the prevalence of gypsy moths, here are the counts of moths found in Cooper-Mill traps at points around the lake, with averages also shown:

	<u>Barker</u>	<u>Marshall</u>	New Bolingbroke
Trap #1:	32	16	<u>Estates</u>
Trap #2:	27	24	(19 traps set out;)
Trap #3:	30	31	lowest count 31
Trap #4:	43	27	& highest 72.
Trap #5:	60	34	
Totals	192	132	771
Average/trap:	38	26	41

The averages per trap in 2008 were: 102, 43, and 45 respectively for the 3 reporters.

FLPOA executive

- Eugenia Flett, President
- Jackie Stapledon, Secretary
- Ron Fitzgerald, Treasurer
- Lea Barker, Newsletter editor/publisher
- John Ficner, Web site manager
- Gail Graser, Director
- Jim Marshall, Director
- Martin Hiltz, Director
- Calvin Thompson, Director
- Monty Doyle, Director

Highlights of most recent meeting:

- moneys approved for the State of the Lake consultant's fees (\$1680 incl GST).
- updated and expanded Treasurer's report tendered by Ron Fitzgerald.
- discussed that it might be necessary to raise the FLPOA membership fee
- Dale McClenaghan of MNR still wants FLPOA input to a new Dam Management Plan.

Mining issues

Over this past summer the FLPOA and individuals have made submissions to the Standing Committee and MPPs on Bill 173. It's now reported that the Act was passed by the Legislature on October 21.

This bill does bring closure to those with Surface Rights Only (S.R.O.) on their property. We hope that environmental assessment requirements will be part of a longer term effort to strengthen environmental needs. Unfortunately there has been no change regarding the role of municipalities with respect to mining.

We are much further ahead than we were a year ago. However, we must remain vigilant in the future and maintain our active participation in any efforts to bring mining requirements into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Lake Management Planning

On August 15, 2009, the FLPOA Lake Management Planning team held a Vision workshop at the ABC hall to discuss the State of the Lake report and to get property owners' input on the major issues and directions for the future of the lake.

Approximately 40 property owners attended the workshop, led by Mr. Gord Rogers of French Planning services. Gord has worked with many lake associations in the development of their management plans.

Over the course of the morning session Gord and participants discussed the most important values that people held for the lake. Not surprisingly water quality, peace and tranquility and healthy ecosystems ranked at the top of people's values.

The group discussed the State of the Lake report in detail providing further observations and insights on all chapters of the report. This data will now be incorporated as appropriate into the final version, which will be posted on the Web site. Finally, participants contributed their ideas towards a vision for the lake which is the collective view of the lake as we see it or want it to be in 20 to 30 years. Preservation of the heritage was the common theme emerging. Looking ahead to the new year, the Lake Management Plan team will put a report together of the August 15 input, and will be made available with the next newsletter and on the Web site. Following that the plan is to organize a number of workshops on a road by road basis in order to engage all owners in the discussion of next steps and the priorities for the future.

Obituaries

In 2009 we unfortunately lost 4 long time cottagers on Farren Lake.

Norman Douglas July 7 age 74  
 Norm was our FLPOA treasurer for over 14 years. He devoted many volunteer hours to our association and will be sadly missed. He is survived by his wife Janet, children Kristen, Tim, and Peter - 5 grandchildren.

Hans Stutz July 9, 2009 age 82  
 Survived by his wife Gertrud, daughters Eva and Heidi - 4 grandchildren

Wally Rank July 12, 2009 age 77  
 Survived by his wife Margaret, children Philip, Diane and Sue - 7 grandchildren

Shirley Tapp October 7, 2009 age 80  
 Survived by daughters Sharon, Leeanne, Cathy and Nancy - 4 grandchildren. A sister Arlene Jardine also has a cottage on Farren Lake.

Our sympathies go out to all the families.

Date for next AGM

For those who like to mark your calendars ahead, our next AGM and afternoon tea will be held on Saturday, May 22, 2010

Thanks to road representatives

Thanks for delivering State of the Lake report to everyone. Special thanks to Gail Graser, Janet Dowell and road reps: Monty Doyle, Janet Gray, Linda Olson, Martin Hiltz, Lea Barker, Greg Clark, Ruth Buckwell, Jackie Stapledon, Kris McDonald, Roy O'Halloran.

Invasive Species

Farren Lake was tested for Zebra Mussel veligers\* and Spiny Water Flea in 2008. Volunteer, Jackie Stapledon borrowed the equipment from Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters and did the required test. The lake is still free of these two invaders. To see the website and results for this, use the following: [www.invadingspecies.com](http://www.invadingspecies.com) and click on the 'Programs' tab to scroll scroll down to 'Invading Species Watch'. You will then find a list of lakes and Farren is noted on Page 23. In 2008, 125 lakes across Ontario were monitored. Unfortunately, spiny water fleas were discovered in 6 new areas, and zebra mussel veligers were discovered in 8 new areas.

\* A veliger is the larval stage of a mollusk.

Beaver dam

A very few beavers (there seem to be less than last year) have decided that now that the culvert on the dam canal has been removed, the narrowest point in that area would be a good place for a beaver dam. As of early September, here is the base of their dam, just below the water's surface:



Fire service contact reference

**Mail:** 14 Sherbrooke St. W., Perth, ON K7H 1A1 **Contact** Station Chief Greg Coleman  
**General Inquiries** Fire Hall (613) 268-2077  
**Hall location:** Hwy # 7 & County Rd. # 36  
**Emergency:** dial 911

FLPOA Web site

The website exists to communicate information about the Association to members. Any member is welcome to submit articles of common interest. This could include stories of family reunions, wildlife sightings around the lake, winter activities, and, of course, fish stories. We would like to hear about the ones that got away! And don't forget to include your pictures for the photo gallery. Send your materials to [j.ficner@sympatico.ca](mailto:j.ficner@sympatico.ca) and visit the site at [www.FarrenLake.ca](http://www.FarrenLake.ca) .

Each new issue of this newsletter will be posted on the Web site, complete with colour photos!

Articles, editorial assistance and photos for this issue submitted by:

- J. Stapledon, B. Stapledon
- L. Barker
- E. Flett
- M. Hiltz
- G. Graser
- M. Doyle



Farren Lake News is a publication of The Farren Lake Property Owners' Association Inc.  
 Contributions by members are welcome.  
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