



Anstruther Lake Cottagers Association *Spring Newsletter*

March 2023

Upcoming Dates

Regatta Planning Meeting: Date before April 30th TBD based on volunteer availability

Regatta: August 5th and 6th

ALCA Annual General Meeting: August 7th

Corn Roast: September 2nd

ALCA Executive Members 2023

President- Chris Johnstone

Vice-President and Membership Director- Doug Murray

Past President- Doug Wellman

Secretary- Denyse Jeffrey-Janusc

Treasurer- Mary Coleen Shanahan

Bob Burgis (Water Testing)

Mike Bates (Navigation Lights)

Ilean Tait

Bill Medland

President's Message

Welcome to all new and returning ALCA members and fellow cottagers. On behalf of the ALCA executive, I hope that each of you had a safe and enjoyable winter, and we wish each of you all the best of health and happiness in 2023.

Frank and Helen Trembl are my OMA and OPA, they built their cottage in 1958 on Anstruther Lake. As a child I had the privilege of spending many weekends each summer with my family and friends on the lake. Ashley and I are fortunate to that we can pass the generational experience to build friendships, spend time with families, and enjoy adventures at Anstruther Lake with our three children Liam, Aubrey, and Caden. Time spent at the cottage provides varied opportunities for learning, exploring, and making memories. Some of my fondest memories as a child involve evening bonfires, fishing in the rain, excursions to North Kawartha spaces of interest on neighboring communities and by some small miracle I now get to relive these memories as an adult with my family.

The cottage is a place of history and a place full of stories. When I was a small child a pen and ink line drawing hung in the washroom at OMA's cottage dated August 1983. Depicted in the drawing a man wearing a night cap was diligently pursuing a bat with the vacuum cleaner attempting bravely to capture the intruder to assuage the fear of a lady in a night gown trembling with worry and concern. Although I wasn't there when the event happened, OMA and OPA shared with me many times the story of the night a bat snuck into the cottage late in the evening. This memory was captured in

art by our dear family friend Mr. Wally Gregg. These types of stories and mementos that remain to tell the history time spent by family and friends in this special place are what makes each of our cottages the special places that they are. I hope to hear stories of your cottage in the summer to come and welcome any anecdotes and stories that you would like to share through our newsletter.

I feel privileged at the opportunity to serve you as president of the ALCA and welcome dialogue with each of you as the executive works in collaboration with members to ensure that we fulfill our mission to act as stewards of the lake, promote safety, and promote social opportunities for cottagers.

Please don't hesitate to contact me directly if you have any questions or would like to discuss our lake, or matters pertaining to the governance or operations of the ALCA.

Chris Johnstone

Kurusu.jonsuton@gmail.com

Membership in the ALCA

Doug Murray continues to coordinate our Membership Dues payment and Renewal. We recognize and share appreciation with Doug for his work in promoting membership payment and maintaining our membership list to facilitate communication throughout the year. We currently have 166 families who paid the membership fee in 2022. This represents 60% of cottage owners.

What are membership dues used for?

Each year, ALCA Membership dues are used to pay costs associated with:

- annual membership fee to Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA)
- purchasing insurance through FOCA
- water testing including:
 - o Bi-annual water quality testing
 - o Bi-annual water clarity testing
- repair, replacement, and maintenance of navigation lights

If you have not yet done so, please pay membership dues for the 2022 season. We are now also accepting payment for the 2023 season. Membership dues remain \$35.00 per year and are payable in two ways:

1. Cheques made out to **A.L.C.A** can be mailed, along with your Membership form, to:

Doug Murray
86 Cambridge St N.
Lindsay, ON, K9V 4E2

2. EMT - Electronic Money Transfer: A bank EMT can be sent to douglas.murray3@sympatico.ca. Please also note the 911 number you are paying for in the 'Comments' box with the bank's e-transfer.

Regatta 2023

The 61st Anstruther Lake Regatta is scheduled for August 5th and 6th, 2023 hosted at the Anstruther Lake Marina. If you are interested in working with the ALCA executive to plan and volunteer time at the regatta, please complete the Google Form linked below. We are seeking new ideas that will complement traditional regatta events and revitalize participation at our annual gathering. Thank you to all volunteers and anyone interested in joining the planning committee.

[2023 Regatta Planning Committee](#)

Once again this year Lee is designing the annual Regatta T-shirt. T-shirts can be pre-ordered at the marina beginning (Insert Date).

Update on Lake Levels from the Coalition of Equitable Water Flow

The weather this winter has been a bit up and down. Each week the CEWF Chair, Ted Spence, has been in touch with TSW management to review our reservoir lake conditions.

He reports that “all levels and flows are near normal. Snow pack has been variable. So the TSW is monitoring the snowpack, weather, and lake levels, and will make adjustments later in winter if they become needed.

Navigation Lights

Once again ALCA executive member Mike Bates is kindly ensuring that Navigation Lights are in place to support safe navigation in low light conditions. Please join me in extending our appreciation to our Light Steward, Larry Mittelstaedt, who, at the time of writing, has removed the light at the rocky point on the south shore across from the Marina to ensure it is not damaged by ice and rising lake levels during spring thaw. This light will be replaced when the ice has melted and risk to damage has subsided.

Information of Interest

As spring approaches so does the mating and nesting season for the symbolic cottage creature: the common loon. We are fortunate to have a population of resident common loons at Anstruther Lake. Many of you, like me, may be interested in what we can do to limit the impact that our activities have on the natural habitat of this iconic bird. The link below is to Episode 6 of the Cottage Life Podcast.

[E6: What's going on with the loons?](#)

This fall, the Cottage Life channel will be airing a fascinating documentary, “Loons: A Cry from the Mist,” all about the mysterious state of the loon population in cottage country. Michelle chats with filmmaker Julia Nunes and Dr. Doug Tozer from Birds Canada about the doc and about what cottagers can do to help the loons thrive. Then, we hear an essay from David Zimmer about one of his favourite sounds of summer.

- Cottage Life Podcast. <https://cottagelife.com/exp/podcast/> Retrieved March 26, 2023

Facebook

A reminder that ALCA members can receive updates about upcoming ALCA matters, follow, post, and interact with our ALCA member community through the ALCA Group on Facebook. This is a private group kindly administered by Blair and Louise Reid.