

The Blue Sea Lake Watershed Association Bulletin Issue No. 3 - July 2012

2012 Annual General Meeting (AGM) - Don't Miss It!

All Association members are invited to attend the 2012 AGM which will be held at the Messines Municipal Hall at 10:00 a.m. on July 28 (doors will open at 9:30 a.m. for registration and coffee). A light lunch will be served at noon. New this year: a panel of experts to answer your questions. This panel will comprise Roch Carpentier - Deputy Prefect, MRC de la Vallée-de-la-Gatineau; Annie Parent - a biologist with the Société Sylvicole de la Haute-Gatineau; Giorgio Vecco - Director of the Agence bassin versant des 7 (ABV des 7); and Kimberly Mason - Director of Environmental Services, MRC de la Vallée-de-la-Gatineau.



The Future - including that of our Lakes - Belongs to Them!

On May 31st, the Association held its first Youth Awareness Day; it was a tremendous success. Approximately 70 students from the Gracefield, Blue Sea and Messines schools had an amazing day. [Click here](#)¹ to find out more about that initiative.

Our Membership Keeps Growing

As we publish this issue, 257 people had renewed their membership in our Association. Please note that a permanent, laminated card is now issued to all members. This card is "reactivated" annually upon payment of one's membership dues.



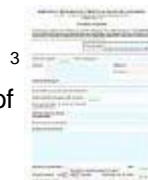
"You Hold the Key!"²



"You Hold the Key!" is the title of the Association's latest initiative to help curb Eurasian milfoil, an invasive plant species that spreads through fragmentation (eg: when chopped by a boat's propeller or turbine propulsion system). Our volunteers will go around the lake, leaving a floating key ring and a plasticized information card on each dock. Thank you for helping us fight this invasive species!

On-Line Complaints

Citizens are encouraged to notify their municipality and/or the MRC of any violation of the new shoreline regulations. An electronic version of the MRC complaint form is available on-line through our website; simply [click here](#)⁴ to access it.



Your Board of Directors

Meet your 2011-12 Board of Directors! We thought you might enjoy finding out more about the people who represent you on the Association's executive. With two of the nine positions becoming vacant this year, why not consider becoming a member of the Board?

Marc Grégoire, Chairman



Father of twin daughters, this sports enthusiast and nature buff has been enjoying Blue Sea Lake since he was a young child. Marc strongly feels that the lake is one of the most beautiful jewels of the Outaouais: "I love my lake, that is quite clear!" This retired Marketing Manager first came to Blue Sea in 1958 as a very young cottager; he's been a full-time resident with his wife Nathalie since 2012. A gifted painter and great admirer of his long-time friend and author-composer-singer Stéphane-Albert Boulais, Marc has been very active in protecting and enhancing Blue Sea Lake and its watershed for current and future generations.

Denis M. Côté, Vice Chairman



Originally from Northern Ontario, Denis M. Côté fell in love with Blue Sea Lake when he met his life partner, Élisabeth. Their three sons also consider the lake a major part of their lives. A psychologist by trade, Denis had a very successful management career in the federal public service. He enjoys spending the summer season and weekends throughout the year at his country home at Blue Sea Lake. A landscaper and horticulturist at heart, as well as a dedicated volunteer, he loves water sports, cycling and cross-country skiing. In addition to being an active member of the Association, Denis organizes socio-cultural events for the enjoyment of local residents.

Marlène Thonnard, Secretary



A French-speaking immigrant with Belgian roots, Marlène has been living at Blue Sea since 1981. Retired after 34 years of dedicated service in the education sector, Marlène literally fell in love with Blue Sea Lake when she first came to the Gatineau Valley 35 years ago. Her only option was to settle here and raise her three children with her much loved husband. To her, Blue Sea is paradise, something she realizes even more when she travels to other parts of the country and the world. Marlène is very concerned about the evolving health of the lake and is determined to protect it for generations to come - for her children and for her future grand-children. Marlène loves to walk along the shore of the lake and to paddle its waters in her sea kayak.

Lucie Joanis, Treasurer



Born in Maniwaki, this Messines resident was the local grocer from 1985 to 2008. Now that she has more time on her hands, Lucie is happy to be involved with the Watershed Association, a cause that is very dear to her. Mother of two daughters and grandmother to a little boy, Lucie loves walking and cycling, two activities she enjoys doing along the beautiful bicycle path that borders Blue Sea Lake.

Donald Karn



Born in Woodstock, Ontario, this retired teacher has been living beside Blue Sea Lake for over 30 years. His active participation in protecting our watershed is almost legendary. He has been a member of the "Comité du bassin versant de la rivière Gatineau", now known as "ABV des 7"; a member of "Les amis du ruisseau" committee; a member of the "Sauvegarde du lac Blue Sea" group; and a member of the "Comité intermunicipal pour la protection et l'amélioration de la qualité de l'eau du lac Blue Sea". In addition to being a member of the Association's Board of Directors, Don is Chairman of "Action Plein-Air Haute-Gatineau" which, together with the "Fédération québécoise du canot et du kayak", organizes the annual Upper Gatineau Whitewater Festival.

Nicole Lacroix



Born in Blue Sea, Nicole comes from one of the area's founding families. After spending 35 years in Gatineau, this retired public servant returned to her hometown where she has been living for past two years with her husband Pierre. Mother of two daughters, a nature buff, sports enthusiast and baker extraordinaire, Nicole cherishes the area. She is very concerned about the health of the lake and its environment. In addition to her work as a member of the Association's Board of Directors, Nicole is very active in the community.

Francis Leblanc



Originally from Nova Scotia, Francis has been a cottager since 1992. Introduced to Blue Sea by his wife Marlene - whose family has owned a property on the lake since 1947 - Francis quickly became very attached to the lake, the region, and its people because they remind him of rural Cape Breton where he grew up. This former Member of Parliament and federal public servant volunteers for many different causes, one of which is the long term environmental health of our watershed. He has recently rediscovered a childhood passion, that of the arts and painting, which he hopes to pursue at

Blue Sea in the years to come.

Denis Nadeau



Born in Danville, in the Eastern Townships, Denis has been coming to Blue Sea for 40 years and has been a permanent resident for the past two years. Denis is actively involved in the community through his volunteer work. A member of the Board of Directors for a year, Denis is adamant about the importance of preserving the health of our lake. A music lover, he is married to Marie-Paule Tremblay from Blue Sea. Together, they have three sons and six grand-children. Denis enjoys participating in various sports throughout the year.

Dick Ryan



Born in Ottawa, Dick has been coming to Blue Sea Lake for over 63 years. He has been a full time resident of the area since 2005. Having served as an Air Force Officer for 32 years, Dick felt that it was only natural for him to join an organization whose mission is to help protect and preserve this part of our magnificent country. Dick thoroughly enjoys the Blue Sea area all year round. He kayaks when the lake is free of ice, and curls and snowshoes when it's not. In between, Dick and his wife Rose do a fair bit of traveling both "locally" to visit their daughter in Ottawa and their son in Newmarket, and further afield to enjoy

the scenic beauty and culture of other lands.

Shorelines is a production of the Blue Sea Lake Watershed Association.

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1. http://www.associationblueseas.org/en/awareness_day
2. http://www.associationblueseas.org/sites/default/files/files/Feuillet_myriophylle2_en.pdf
3. http://www.associationblueseas.org/sites/default/files/files/ABVLBS_Form_plainte_120612_en.pdf
4. <http://www.associationblueseas.org/en/regulation#complaints>