



Association du bassin versant du lac

En onde BLUE SEA *Shorelines*

The Blue Sea Lake Watershed Association Bulletin Issue No. 9 – September 2013

AGM 2013

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Blue Sea Lake Watershed Association took place Saturday, July 27, at the Municipal Hall in Messines.

In his report, the President covered a number of important topics, several of which had been previously reported in "Shorelines".

During the question/discussion period, a number of concerns were raised. These included: the current condition of the dam on Blue Sea Creek, the spread of Eurasian milfoil, the presence of beaver dams at Lac à Riopelle, the problems posed by the influx of non-resident boats, and access to Blue Sea Lake in the winter.

For more information, please refer to the "[Events](#)"¹ page of our website and to the [AGM 2013 documents](#)² which include the draft of the minutes to the meeting.

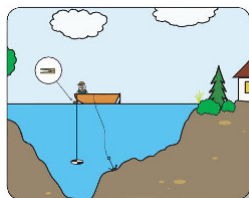
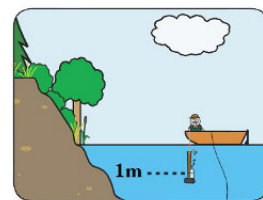
The issue of visitor boat access to Blue Sea Lake generated the most discussion. As a result, the Association will closely monitor the Lac Cayamant boat rinsing project which began at the end of June. For more information about this project, please [click here](#)³.



From left to right, Paul R. Ouimet, Francis LeBlanc, John Turnbull (Treasurer), Bernard Asselin, Marlène Thonnard (Secretary), Denis Nadeau, Robyn Saunders et Donald Karn (President); absent, Dick Ryan (Vice-President).

RSVL Protocols: Water Samples, Transparency Measurement, and Periphyton

Once again this year, the Association has been very busy monitoring the health of the watershed by taking monthly water samples in four of our lakes – Beaudry (Allard), Grant, Laverdure, and Profond; by performing biweekly checks of the transparency of the water of these four lakes and Blue Sea Lake; and by measuring the growth of periphyton at 15 different locations on Blue Sea Lake. Periphyton is the slippery slime that you see on submerged rocks and is a clear indicator of excessive nutrients in the water.

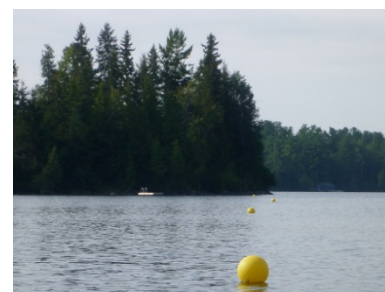


As the 2013 sampling/measuring season is just about over, we would like to thank our volunteers - Paul and Pierrette Dénomme, Dean Ducharme, Gilles Galipeau, Gord Hutchison, Lucie Joanis, Don Karn, Sophie Thonnard-Karn, Samantha Thonnard-Karn, Joe Parsons, Bart Ryan and Dick Ryan - for their excellent work. The 2013 testing results will be published on our website next spring. To find out more about the RSVL protocols and the importance of these tests, please visit the "[Water Quality](#)"⁴ page of our website.

Yellow Buoy Project

To help reduce the spread of Eurasian milfoil on Blue Sea Lake, the Association has begun to mark beds of this invasive plant with yellow buoys. To date, 17 such buoys have been anchored at five spots around the lake. Although it was near the end of summer when we were finally able to do this work, we felt it was worthwhile to proceed with the project in order to gain experience for next year and to see how the buoys do over the winter period.

Boaters are reminded that they are to avoid areas infested with Eurasian milfoil. If one must proceed through such an area, please stop your motor and



row or paddle through the bed. Be sure to remove any segments of milfoil from your boat/motor and dispose of them well away from the shoreline.

As local knowledge is key to the selection of those milfoil beds that should be marked with yellow buoys, please contact us at info@associationblueseas.org if you know of a large bed located in an area frequented by boaters.

Many thanks to Robyn Saunders, Bernard Asselin, Dave Maclaren, and Dick Ryan for their assistance with this project. A special thanks as well to Kevin Boushey at Marina Messines for the loan of a pontoon boat.

Theft and Vandalism of Association Property

It is with profound regret that we must report that three of the Association's Eurasian milfoil marker buoys were stolen shortly after they were positioned just north of Pointe Cayford. Also, on the day of the AGM (ie: 27 July), one of the AGM notification "sandwich" boards was taken from in front of the Blue Sea Municipal Hall. In addition, the information kiosk at the Messines boat launch was vandalized sometime in late August.



We would ask anyone with information regarding these thefts/damage to notify us at info@associationblueseas.org. We would also ask members to keep an eye out for perpetrators of such acts and advise us should they notice any future damage or loss of association property.



New Members of the Board of Directors

Robyn Saunders

Robyn Saunders is a nurse by profession and a long-time resident of Rigaud Québec. However, her heart really resides at Blue Sea Lake, and in particular, on Big Island - "Grosse Isle" - where she and her family have been active cottagers and property owners for four generations. As Robyn puts it: "I've changed jobs, men, towns, and municipalities but my attachment to Blue Sea and Grosse Isle is the one thing in my life that won't change." Her family were active members of the Big Island Association which has existed since 1911 and has always been, she says, "all about ecology." It is therefore not surprising that Robyn has been an active supporter of the Blue Sea Lake Watershed Association since its inception. Since joining the Board, she has got right into things, helping with the Eurasian milfoil buoy project and bringing the islands' perspective to our deliberations.



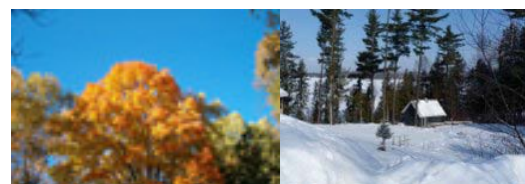
John Turnbull

Born in Noranda and a Certified General Accountant by profession, our new Treasurer, John Turnbull, was an audit principal at Office of the Auditor General of Canada at the time of his retirement. John lives in Gatineau but considers his cottage at Blue Sea Lake as a little piece of paradise for him and his family. "We have been cottagers at Blue Sea Lake since 1960 and, well before that, from the time I was five years old, I remember coming to visit my grandfather Turnbull, he says. Before the formation the Association, John knew and worked with Antoine Grégoire in his battle against the arrival of blue-green algae in Blue Sea Lake. John believes it is vital that we continue to protect our lake and that we encourage our children and grandchildren to take over from us.



Fall and Winter Tips

As the days start to get shorter, it's time to start preparing our homes/cottages for the cooler weather ahead. For some excellent ideas on how to get your place ready for fall and winter in an environmentally appropriate manner, please check out the "[Seasonal Tips](#)"⁵ page of our website.



¹ www.associationblueseas.org/en/events#130727

² www.associationblueseas.org/en/minutes_2013

³ www.associationblueseas.org/en/events#130628

⁴ www.associationblueseas.org/en/water_quality

⁵ www.associationblueseas.org/en/tips