

# Clear Lake Newsletter

Winter / Spring 2022

## *Highlights*

*Highlights—Pg. 1*

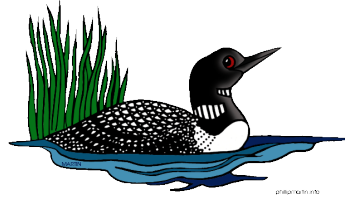
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*Clear Lake Property Owners Association*

P.O Box 271, Emsdale, ON, POA 1J0

[www.clearlakepropertyowners.com](http://www.clearlakepropertyowners.com)

[info@clearlakepropertyowners.com](mailto:info@clearlakepropertyowners.com)



## *Important Numbers*

Emergency—911 (Know  
your Civic Address)

Ontario Provincial Police  
888-310-1122

Huntsville Hospital  
705-789-2311

Poison Info Centre  
800-268-9017

Forest Fire Report  
888-863-3473

Hydro (No Power)  
800-434-1235

MNR Bear Report  
866-514-2327

## Call out: Historical Photos

This year the CLPOA is looking for historical pictures from around the lake for this years calendar.

Do you have a photo of a historical event from the lake? An old sign? Or even just something interesting? Send it to [info@clearlakepropertyowners.com](mailto:info@clearlakepropertyowners.com) and see it in this years calendar.



## Presidents Message

Lake Lovers , seems like groundhog day here as we are almost 2 years in and still a crazy world out there with this ongoing pandemic so hoping everyone is keeping safe, I want to first thank all participants who attended the remote AGM in 2021 being our first was a little challenging but we had a great attendance and a great response to the online voting portal we will have to see what this summer will bring us hopefully we can meet in person.

Early spring and summer brought us dryer than normal weather which resulted in lower lake levels than expected however mother nature did her thing and replenished levels to what we would call normal by freeze up and will be a wait to see what spring brings us this and if there will be any beaver activity to tend with, we are also monitoring and recording levels going forward so that we will have some real time data going forward not that we can actually control levels but the data is always good to compare year after year for comparisons.

As everyone has likely noticed property values have increased significantly with the demand for waterfront property and this has also stemmed backlot or other property development around the lake we monitor this and are able to attend rezoning meetings and weigh in to ensure decisions are in the best interest of lake residents.

We have realized some of the best water testing results in many years and appreciate all residents doing their part in keeping this improvement going forward the one thing we still seem to have is foreign sand being dumped into the shoreline although this is not against the law the Ministry condones this and we recommend it doesn't happen , we also had a contaminated bilge pump out at the boat ramp this summer luckily the fire department was able to contain and clean it up at the shoreline ramp so with this the Association has purchased a spill kit container in case this happens again that will be mounted this spring with signage not to empty bilges on the ramp.

We would ask that members update their home address's and e mails so that we have the most current info for communication , you can do this when sending your 2022 Membership fee's (\$40) the most effective way is by e transfer to [in-fo@clearlakepropertyowners.com](mailto:info@clearlakepropertyowners.com) please be sure to update your info in the message box as well as the your lake address before remitting payment , or if by regular mail in writing.

Looking forward to seeing you on the trails this winter, enjoy and be safe!

Cheers

Ken Core



## What's Happening in Our Bay

One of the things we enjoy about having a cottage on Clear Lake is that folks on the lake care about the lake water quality and they keep an eye open if something doesn't look right in terms of water conditions. These folks are good lake stewards.

Case in point was what occurred this summer when a cottager noticed a kind of black 'muck' pushed on to the shoreline by the wave action in their bay. The cottager reached out trying to understand what this muck was all about and why was it happening on their beach?

When we do our annual water quality testing, we define the testing sites by the bay's we take water samples from and this particular bay where we saw the evidence of the 'muck' has long been known as Golden Anchor Bay, it's at the south west corner of the lake.

How do you get a handle on something like this?

We had some photographs of it but we really had no idea what it was, no one had seen this occur on the lake before. Where did it come from and does it affect swimming and drinking water quality?

We started investigating the situation. We checked the other bays and shorelines where we noted that none of the other bays had similar conditions appearing on their shorelines.

We are fortunate that we have someone in our corner who could help us figure out what we were dealing with. We have been using Near North Laboratories to do the microbiological testing of lake water for well over a decade. Located in North Bay, Ontario, Near North Laboratories is an independently owned and operated environmental testing facility that does testing for hundreds of lakes in Northern Ontario. We received some good advice.

- Take some samples off the shoreline of the 'Muck'.
- Dry it out and then study the material under a microscope or a very good magnifying glass to see what it consisted of. If you could see definitions of vegetation in the material then it was organic material which is better than material like oil residue from bilges of water craft.

With this help we were able to determine from several samples that the 'muck' consisted of organic matter. With this determination we gathered some additional information.

- The material is a sediment called "Detritus" which is decaying vegetation that washes up on shorelines from time to time.
- It's most often aquatic material or plant matter that falls from trees into the lake which decomposes and then washes up on the beach. It's not harmful but we shouldn't let kids play in it because it's a little yucky.
- The 'detritus' that occurred during the summer could be the result of adding nutrients into the lake water that stimulated aquatic plant life which then died off and was pushed on to shoreline by wave action. If you want to understand what is happening on one particular piece of shoreline observe how prevailing winds are blowing.

**Continued on next page.**



## What's Happening in Our Bay Cont.

The 'detritus' could be the result of shoreline activities that add to the nutrient load in lake water,

- It could be coming from fertilizer runoff from cottage properties,
- It could be the result of new sand being used to build up beaches because often new sand comes loaded with nutrients and that is why property owners are prohibited by law from doing this.
- It could be that the shoreline is being disturbed by lake property construction and erosion controls are not working as they should, that will definitely add nutrients to the lake water.
- It could be affected by water levels and warm weather would also tend to stimulate aquatic plant life.

The "detritus" occurred in only one bay on the lake but it's something we have to watch for.

We will be monitoring the situation going into next summer but if we want to take concrete steps to prevent a recurrence we have to ensure that all of us collectively don't put fertilizer or coated lawn seed on the properties around the lake.

Our reality is that we inhabit a lake with a watershed characterized by fairly steep shorelines consisting of gravel with a very thin covering of sand and with the heavy rainfall that occurs in this area any sort of fertilizer, insect control chemical or commercial lawn products we put on the green spaces around our properties is going to run off into the lake.

My suggestion if we want to prevent an occurrence of this 'detritus' in one of our several bays is limit the use of these products on your property and if you see your neighbour using these products on their properties consider being a good lake steward and participate in some outreach. Let them know that they shouldn't be using these products on their property. Send them a copy of this article <https://foca.on.ca/shoreline-owners-guide-to-healthy-waterfronts/>, from the Federation of Ontario Cottage Associations (which the CLPOA is member), it makes for good reading.

Written by Brian Isard





## Night Skies at Clear Lake by Glenn Iverson

It's almost the middle of January 2022 under a balmy sun of -30c at mid-morning, YIKES!

Snowmobiling will be getting off to a late start as we are suffering from a large lack of snow, & I'm sure everyone including myself with a sled are itching to get out.

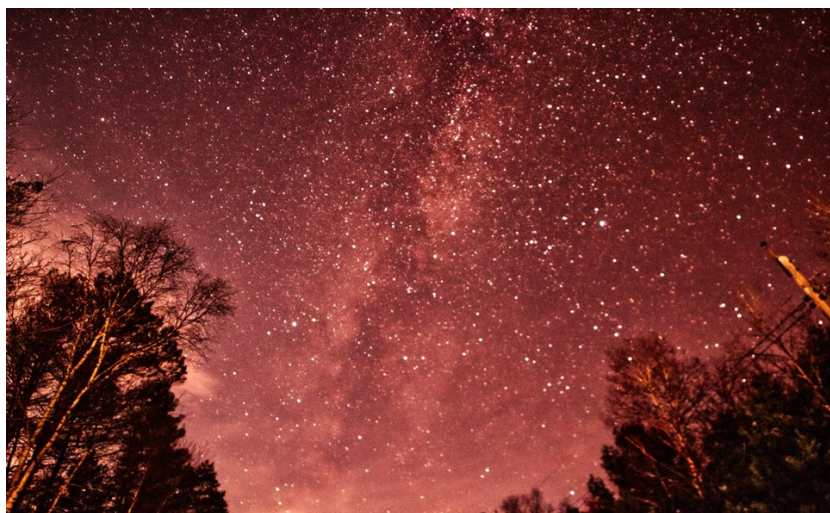
One of the first things I noticed when moving up here are how majestic & unpolluted the night skies are. Clear Lake area is situated in a rather dark sky zone which makes it attractive for astrophotography.

I have a telescope that I recently converted for astrophotography, it allows me to photograph deep sky images that our naked eyes cannot see. For off season I have a modified camera & a tracker that's allows me to do the same thing on a smaller scale when I don't want to take the time to set up your scope on a cold night.

Astronomy is not new to me but astrophotography is so there is a big learning curve that I must accept before I can really show you some night sky gems. . Currently the Andromeda Galaxy is high in the sky & the Orion Nebula & the Pleiades star cluster are at their best to view & photograph.



Waning moon crescent & full moon July 2021



Milky way November 2021

Continued on next page.

If you see a ray gun like white object in the park at night with red lights blinking, before you call the police, it's likely myself imaging a night sky target. As the weather gets better & my skills improve, I will share more photos with you.

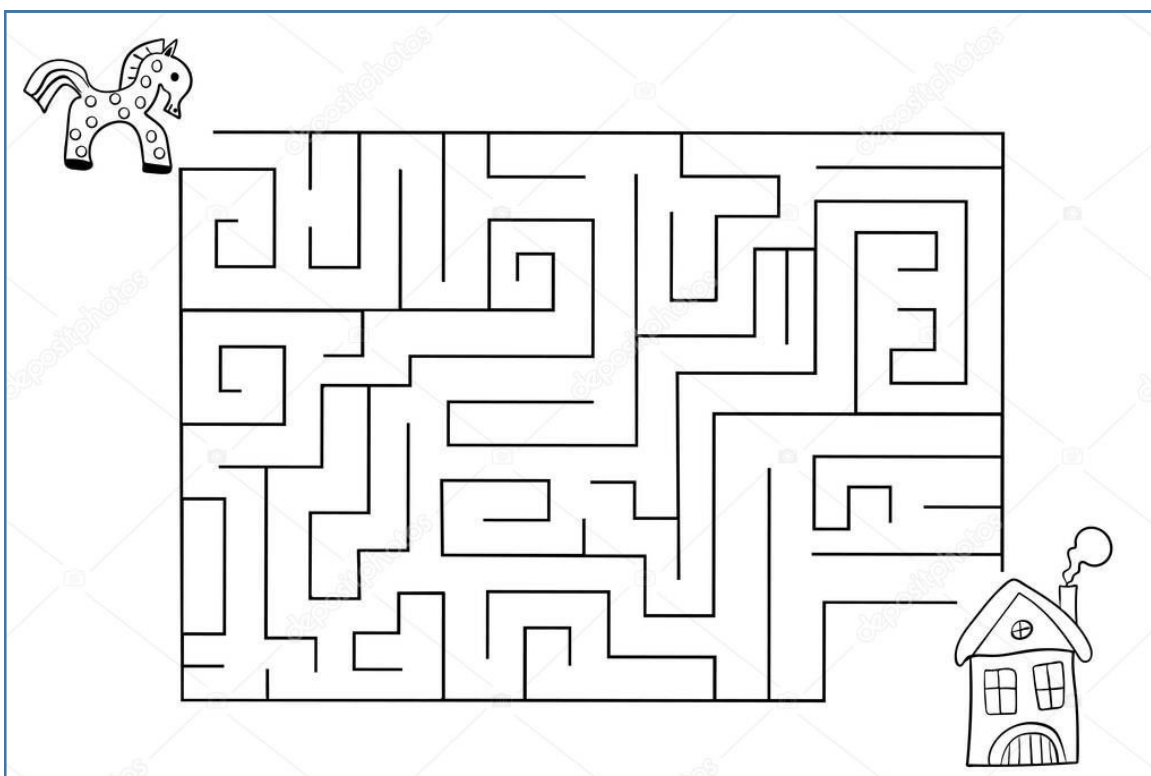
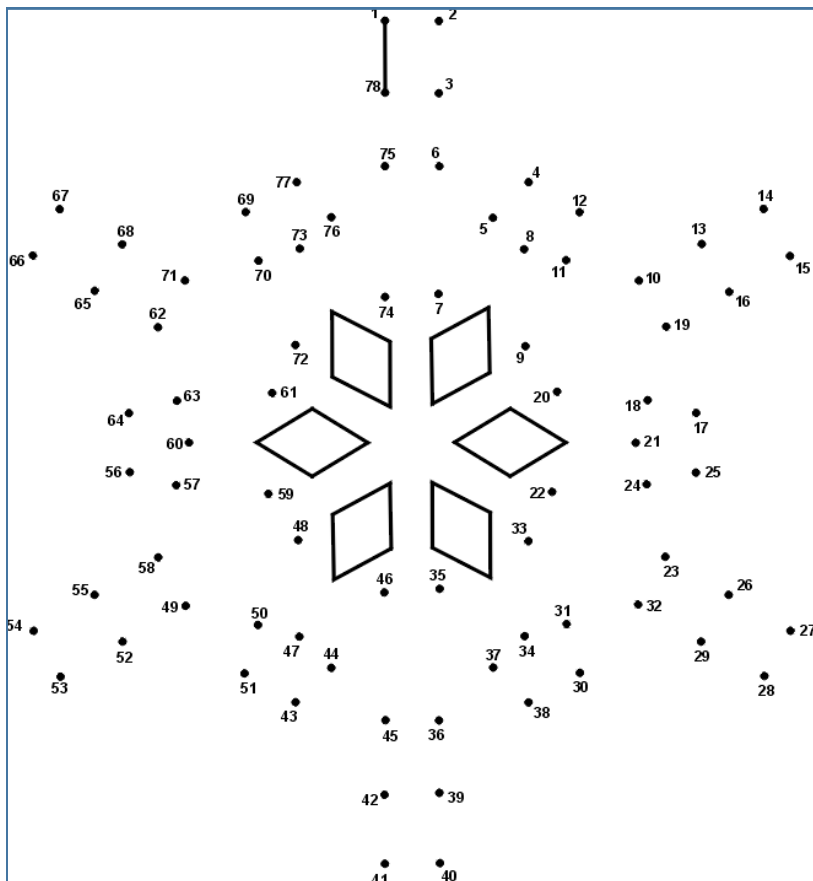


## Emsdale Community Center

**NOTICE:** The Emsdale Community Centre is now CLOSED for public use in anticipation of the new Emsdale Community Centre/Library to be constructed on the same property. For additional information, please contact the Municipal Office.



# Kids Corner







## 2022 CLPOA Executive Members

Ken Core- President

Craig Evison- Vice President

Gina Newhall-2nd Vice President

Dan Laing -Treasurer

Glenn Iverson-Secretary

Sam Henschowitz- Communications & Social Media

Brian Isard-Water Testing

Ron Cox -Dam Control

Adam Grin

Kim Beemer

Geoff Pantling

George Voduris

Randy Bruder

## CLPOA Accepts E-transfers!



*CLPOA is set up to receive online transfers for payment of membership dues and donations.*

*Interac e-transfers can be sent to:*

*Please be sure to send a separate email with the security question answer. You can find the membership forms on the CLPOA website!*



*You can find us on Facebook! At "CLPOA Lake Lovers" this is an association run Facebook group. Please join to find out the latest information regarding the lake directly from the CLPOA!*

## Hope's Clover FARM (Novar) (705) 789-1777

*Monday 08:00 AM to 07:00 PM*

*Tuesday 08:00 AM to 07:00 PM*

*Wednesday 08:00 AM to 07:00 PM*

*Thursday 08:00 AM to 07:00 PM*

*Friday 08:00 AM to 07:00 PM*

*Saturday 08:00 AM to 07:00 PM*

*Sunday 08:00 AM to 06:00 PM*

*Our CLPOA website has relaunched! Please go and take a look at it.*

*[www.clearlakepropertyowners.com](http://www.clearlakepropertyowners.com)*