



SSCA Update - Apr 2021 Newsletter

Vol 4, No. 4



April 10, 2021

Photo courtesy of - Anonymous

Greetings!

The ice is out and some very lucky members have already been to their cottages. Under Province wide COVID guidelines most Marinas are open serving boat owners needing to access their property. Be sure to call before you go. With the province wide lockdown until May 20th and the number of new cases starting to trend downward we are cautiously optimistic that we will have more activities going on than last year. We also hope we will see our American neighbours this summer. One step at a time.

We are working on the production and mailing out of the 2021 SSCA Directory with some improvements over last year. So if you have updates you want to make or haven't paid your 2021 dues, the deadline is May 7th.

Enjoy this month's Newsletter.

Stay well and safe.

Eric

Eric Armour - President, SSCA

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Ellen Pearce Is. - B.324

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Book Club News



The Covid situation in Ontario is not good at this time and so there is still much up in the air about this summer. As well, many of us won't be fully vaccinated until July or August. All things considered, we should plan at this point, for our meetings to take place via Zoom.

The dates for our meetings are: July 6th, July 20th, August 3rd and August 17th.

Libby- libbystratton@outlook.com.

The Book List for 2021

Hamnet and Judith (also titled Hamnet) by Maggie O'Farrell reviewed by Janet Burt. Date-TBA

All the Devils Are Here by Louise Penny reviewed by Jacquie Green. Jacquie will also lead a discussion about Louise Penny. Date-TBA

The New Farm by Brent Preston. Irene Chambers has arranged for the author to speak to our group about his family's journey from big city life to a farming life. Date-TBA

Charlotte, the owner of Parry Sound Books, has all of our books at her

Brand Cottage Rental

This season the SSCA is offering to members at a fair price weekly rental of the recently renovated Brand cottage, located at the south end of the SSCA property. We have heard from members that this arrangement could benefit them when extended family members wish to spend a week and space is limited at their cottage.



The cottage is available from June through to September 2021. Bookings are on a first-come basis for SSCA members only. An open house will be offered to view the cottage when present COVID restrictions expire. We are hoping to do this on the May long weekend.

Members interested in renting the Brand Cottage, please contact Michael Ugarenko, SSCA Property Committee Chair - mike.ugarenko@gmail.com

Flashlight Readers

Summer 2021 Reading Challenge!

Kids: Grades K to 8

The SSCA [Flashlight Readers](#) kid's book club invites you to participate in our Summer Reading Challenge! The program launches the first week of summer! Please see the below chart for the challenge details of your age group and number of books needed to complete each award level. Once you have completed an award level (eg. Quartz), please send an email to sscaprograms@gmail.com. You will be given a clue to find a hidden treasure box on the SSCA property. The treasure box is stocked with lots of fun prizes for the cottage - Louisville slugger mini bats, swim goggles, spray chalk paint, light-up deep divers, ice cream cone coupons for LeBlancs, etc.

Get ready to start your summer reading adventures!!!

Book Level	Quartz	Mica	Granite	Gold
Board Books and Readers (~grades K-3)	7	7	7	7
Beginning Novels (~grades 2-4)	2	2	2	2
Novels (~grades 4-8)	3	3	3	3

The late November storm last year on Georgian Bay and the quick spring ice retreat caused much damage to many properties in our area.

Unfortunately, the SSCA property sustained damage as well, to the shoreline decking and floating finger docks. Presently, the ramp way to the shoreline decking is attached and secure. Dock anchor chains have been adjusted to reflect the present water level.

The finger docks, closest to Henry's, have taken on water and are not stable or safe for use. So we ask members to not anchor there. Further, areas of the shore deck are not safe as they have lost supports and should not be walked on. We will be putting up caution tape in these areas.

The front edge of the stone patio covered by decking in front of the old Dock House has crumbled. It may be unsafe, so please keep back one metre from the front edge. We hope to have it repaired soon.

The large stone monument to La Salle is unstable and not safe to approach. Please stay away until the repair is completed and warning signs removed.

This May, there will be maintenance to the pathway by the lower and upper tennis courts. The work is not expected to take very long and will only interrupt that area temporarily. We have also found damage to the boathouse structure and dock platform, which was attached to it.

All of this is being assessed and we will update members on progress.

The schoolhouse washrooms and fitness building will be cleaned and open for the May long weekend. We will post on the SSCA web site confirmation of this several days in advance of the long weekend. The sports courts will be available for use by that date or sooner.

In closing, we are still looking for one more High school student to do some part-time maintenance this coming season. If you are interested, please contact me for further information.

We encourage our members who use the property to follow provincial guidelines for keeping safe and limiting the spread of the Covid 19.

Michael Ugarenko
SSCA Property Committee Chair
mike.ugarenko@gmail.com

Boat spotters take note: Miss Buzz still an elegant lady after 87 years



Submitted by Chris Phillips

When we spend sufficient time in Sans Souci, many of us track the comings and goings of our friends and family simply by the boats we spot traversing the main channel. Boat-spotting is more difficult these days, but some boats will never be confused with others.

Miss Buzz is one of those easy marks. Her low-slung silhouette, cartoonishly long bow deck, and silky smooth, wake-cutting profile is immediately unmistakable. She is a native to Parry Sound where she was built in 1934 by the Croswell Brothers Boat Works for lifetime cottager Elmer I. Phillips of Totten Island, my grandfather. He named *Miss Buzz* after his eldest daughter, Deborah Phillips.

For many in the Sans Souci area, *Miss Buzz* has been a familiar and comforting sight. The authors of *Island Odyssey* wrote, *“What she lacks in speed, she more than makes up in elegance and style, reminiscent of a day when getting there was at least half the fun.”*

[Read More](#)



Township of the Archipelago Ward 4 Update, April 2021

Councillors David Ashley, Alice Barton & Rick Zanussi

Happy Spring! It is our pleasure to submit this report to the Ward 4

Associations. Here are a few of the things we have been working on in 2021.

- **Environment**
- **Planning**
- **Taxes**
- **Internet**

Environment

The TOA continues its work with the Georgian Bay Biosphere and our West Parry Sound partners to **combat climate change** through ICECAP (Integrated Community Energy and Climate Action Plans). Having completed our first milestone in 2020 (establishing the Township's baseline emissions), the TOA is moving forward in 2021 on setting emission reduction targets and developing corporate and communication actions.

On March 31 the Township together with Georgian Bay Forever hosted the "Invasive ***Phragmites*** Road Management Webinar, Greater Georgian Bay Area", with speakers from the Invasive Phragmites Control Centre, the Ontario Ministry of Transportation, the Georgian Bay Land Trust, as well as the TOA and GBF. The webinar was recorded and is available in two segments on YouTube.

Following that webinar, in recognition of the important role of roads as vectors for *Phragmites* transmission, Council resolved for the Township to implement best practices in the early detection and in management of *Phrag*, to work closely with our neighbouring municipalities on *Phrag*-busting, and to continue lobbying the provincial government to contribute appropriately financially and with boots on the ground. The Township also provides financially to Georgian Bay Forever specifically for their great work on *Phragmites*.

[Read More](#)



Disposal of Old and Wayward Docks

A reminder to residents that you are encouraged to responsibly dispose of/or recycle your old docks.

Docks destined for disposal need to be dismantled into manageable sized pieces and disposed of at the Devil's Elbow, Sheep Head, Crane, Woods Bay or Healey Lake transfer sites in the southern portion of the Township, as well as the Site 9 Landfill site in the north Archipelago. Containers for the disposal of dock materials are generally in place at the above mentioned sites during the summer construction season, while materials are accepted year round at Site 9. To encourage responsible disposal of dock materials, disposal is FREE to residents. Note: this exemption does not apply to contractors.

Construction materials must be separated (metal, wood, foam etc.) prior to

disposal.

The Township does not provide pickup and disposal services for old or wayward docks. If you encounter a navigational issue with a wayward dock you are encouraged to report it directly to the appropriate authority (OPP, Coast Guard/DFO).

Georgian Bay News



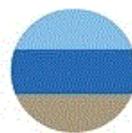
New Private Member's Bill Aims to Reduce Microplastic Pollution

On April 19, 2021 MPPs Ian Arthur and Jessica Bell introduced a Private Member's Bill to further protect our waterways from microplastic pollution. Bill 279 will amend the Environmental Protection Act to prohibit the future sale of washing machines that are not equipped with microplastic filters.

The most prevalent type of microplastic pollution comes in the form of microfibres which can be shed from synthetic clothing through washing. These contaminants infiltrate our water system and are harmful to drinking water, wildlife, and the environment. Georgian Bay Forever has been studying the impacts of microplastics in Georgian Bay and how these washing machine filters are critical to reducing microplastic pollution. Through their Divert and Capture research initiative volunteers who installed microfibre filters on their washing machines collected over 20kg of synthetic materials.

Read more about the bill [here](#).

**GEORGIAN BAY
FOREVER**



Call for High Water and High Winds Stories

Good afternoon,

As people make it to their cottages this spring to see how their home away from home survived the winter winds and high water ; I want to ask you once again on behalf of Georgian Bay Forever to have your cottage neighbours share with us their stories of dealing with the high water and high winds of the past two years.

GBF and the GBA will hold a symposium in the fall that will focus on the impact that extreme weather plays on cottage country and ways in which we all can adapt moving forward.

Pictures and stories can be sent to me,

John McAllister



Life in the Biosphere Webinar Series

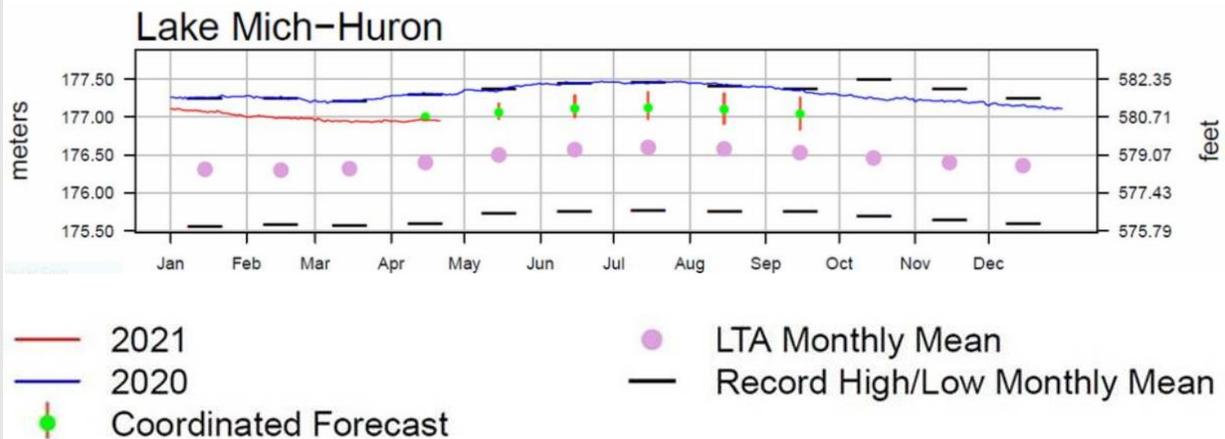
The [Georgian Bay Biosphere](#) is pleased to launch the Life in the Biosphere Webinar Series! Along with our partners, we'll explore many different aspects of living in a UNESCO biosphere, from cultural teachings to gardening to invasive species and more!

Take part in the annual Native Plant Sale...: [Native Plant Fundraiser](#)

Webinars will continue to be scheduled throughout the year. Mark your calendars and [bookmark these events](#) here for the following events.

- **Best for the Biosphere: Gardening with Native Plants** -Thursday May 6th, 2021 10:00 AM EST (Webinar)

GBA Water Levels Report - April 25, 2021



Month to date accumulated precipitation is 55-71% of average for Lakes Michigan, Huron, Erie and Ontario, whereas Lake Superior is at 154% of average.

Water levels continue to be well above average and near record high levels.

Lake Michigan-Huron continues to be below the level it was at this time last year – see first graph below. All the lakes are now lower than they were at this time last year.

From a month ago the water levels on Lakes Superior, **Michigan-Huron**, St Clair, Erie and Ontario are **up 4, 0, 2, 1 and 7 inches** respectively. Lakes Superior, **Michigan-Huron**, St Clair, Erie & Ontario, are lower by 5, **14, 15, 17 & 28 inches**, respectively, than they were at this time last year. Lakes Superior, **Michigan-Huron**, St Clair & Erie are 9, **22, 19, & 15 inches**, respectively, **above their long term April average**, whereas Lake Ontario is 9 inches below.

All the lakes are now well below their April record highs.

In a month's time, the levels for Lakes Superior, St Clair, Erie & Ontario are expected to be up 2-5 inches with **Lake Michigan expected to be up 4 inches.**

[More Info](#)

GBLT LANDMARK Speaker Series



Our virtual LANDMARK Speaker Series returns for 2021 with monthly presentations from 10:00 - 11:00 AM on conservation and Georgian Bay topics. Mark your calendars with the dates below, and register to attend each session [here](#).

- April 17th: **Fish of Blackstone Lake** with Andy Metelka
- May 8th: **Shipwreck Tales of Georgian Bay** with Cris Kohl & Joan Forsberg

[Register here](#) to attend.

P.S. Did you miss any of last year's LANDMARK talks, or would you like to share them with others? Recordings of all past presentations are available to watch anytime on our [website](#) or [YouTube channel](#).

Quicklinks



TOA Fire Rating: Moderate

SSCA

- [Become a SSCA Member](#)
- [SSCA Website](#)
- [SSCA Events Calendar](#)
- [SSCA Instagram](#)
- [SSCA Webcam](#)
- [Water Levels](#)
- [Weather](#)

Area Resources

- [Township of Archipelago](#)
- [Hydro One Outages](#)
- [Recycling Guide](#)
- [Septic System](#)
- [Waste Transfer Site](#)
- [Transfer Station Hours](#)
- [Large Item Pickup Days](#)
- [FIRE Rating Legend](#)
- [West Parry Sound Health Centre](#)

Other Info

- [Lyme's Disease](#)
- [ToA Official Plan](#)
- [Canadian Safe Boating Guide](#)

GB4

[Georgian Bay Association](#)

- [Newsletter](#)
- [Safe Boating Guide 2018](#)
- ['Update' Subscription](#)
- [Wiiky Settlement Update](#)
- [Water Levels](#)

[Georgian Bay Forever](#)

- [Biodiversity](#)
- [Threats to wetlands](#)
- [Chemicals of Mutual Concern](#)
- [Phragmites](#)
- [Phrag Identification](#)
- [Phrag Management 2018](#)
- [Asian Carp](#)
- [Identifying 4 Carp Species](#)
- [Stopping Asian Carp](#)

[GBLT](#)

- [Landscape - Summer 2018](#)
- [Visitor Guide to properties](#)

[GBBR](#)

• [2017 Summer Update](#)

• [State of the Bay](#)

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