



# NEWSLETTER

## Association des Propriétaires du Lac Papineau

Barb Brehn Langer, Editor

Winter 2020

### President's Message

The lake is quiet, the forest is greying and soon everything will be covered with snow. It's a beautiful landscape! You'd think everything would fall asleep for the winter... However, behind the landscape, this environment is not just a support for our activities... we are not always aware of it, but a lifetime unfolds there. Moreover, the abundance, the diversity of the fauna and flora that surround us is a sign of the health of our environment.

The other morning a young doe lay dead on the side of the road. I thought it was a shame and had a thought for her. When I told a friend about this, she said, "It's not fair, she lived peacefully in her environment, you live in her environment and she had to cross the road because someone was feeding her. »

It is true that it is not recommended to feed wild animals. It exposes them to the dangers of the road and makes them dependent on artificial food.

My friend told me that she had a dog she adored for 17 years. At the time of her death, and for several months afterwards, she was in great pain and could not recover. She told a lady about it. She did not know but the lady was a psychic and offered to contact her dog... The lady, who knew nothing of my friend, revealed to her facts that only the dog could know! The lady added: "Your dog is now here next to you, don't cry anymore because it will remain so." My stunned friend said, "But does that mean animals have a soul?" The lady replied: "Of course..." »

I confess that I don't look at animals in the same way any more. The other morning, when I came out of my house, a little fox was sitting in front of my driveway and looking at me. He said, "Hello sir, would you have anything to eat for me?" It's crazy, isn't it? Well no, he didn't talk to me but he was looking at me and that's what I understood. I felt that if I had had something, it would have come to eat from my hand. He was not fierce at all, as if someone had tamed him. I am on the road a lot and I hope I don't find him dead one morning.

I wish you a very happy holiday and don't forget to have a thought for the turkey and especially do not feed Santa's reindeer!

Robert Brès, President

### Know your board

President:

Robert Brès

Vice President

Jean-Claude Lecompte

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Daniel Zours

Secretary/Editor

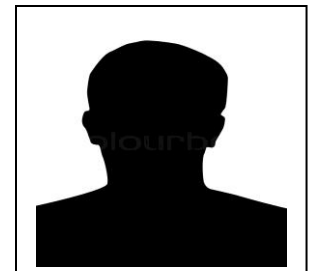
Barb Brehn Langer

Membership Director

Tom Brehn

Technical Director

Adam Finkelstein



## **Board Close-Up: Barb Brehn Langer, Secretary/Editor**

My Brehn grandparents first purchased their property on Chemin Paiement approximately 80 years ago. Around the same time, my mother's family also purchased a property on Chemin Paiement, next door to our current place at #4296. Since both families were coming up here from Montreal as children, it shouldn't be a surprise that my parents, George & Sheila, met at the lake, as did many other couples. I am happy to say that our grandchildren are the 5<sup>th</sup> generation of our family to be coming to this lake. My father was very involved with the original lake association for many years and was also the editor of this newsletter.

Before retiring 3 years ago, I had a career as an I.T. Project Manager, working mostly for financial and insurance companies. My husband, Dan, and I live in Lindsay, Ontario and have 2 children and 4 grandchildren. In addition to spending time with my family, I like to travel, read and work in my garden. Before Covid, I had also been volunteering 2-3 days every week at a local elementary school. Petit Lac Long is my 'Happy Place' and you will often see me, out in my yellow Pedalo in the 1<sup>st</sup> lake, reading a book and enjoying the serenity of the lake. I am proud to be a part of this community and this association and love every minute I spend here.

## **Is it a bird? Is it a plane?**

Do you know the difference between a seaplane and a floatplane? A seaplane takes off and lands on its' hull, whereas a floatplane uses pontoons for take-offs and landing. The most famous seaplane may be the Spruce Goose, built entirely of wood. It was intended for transatlantic flight transport for WWII but was not completed in time.

The use of bush planes (both with and without pontoons) was instrumental in opening up Canada's north

Years ago, we had a floatplane on the 1<sup>st</sup> lake but it has been gone for some time. Now, we have a new plane on our lake. This led me to think about safety issues and what we, as users of our lake, should know about a plane landing on our lake.

According to Transport Canada's website (TC.Canada.CA), planes, "when ready to land on water, must circle 3 times to assess wind strength and direction, check landing area for floating obstacles, boaters and submerged deadheads."

So..... for those of us in or on the water, if we see a float plane circling over our lake, we should make our way to the shoreline, so as not to impede the plane's landing. Let's all stay safe!

## **Did You Know?**

- Sainte-Agathe is twinned with Lagny-sur-Marne, France since 1969 and with Saranac Lake, NY since 2002.
- North America's first ski lift was built in the Laurentians in 1931.
- A former railway bed is now the longest linear park in Canada. Le P'tit Train du Nord runs 143 miles from Saint-Jerome north to Mont-Laurier.
- Discover the Chemin du Terroir- inaugurated in 2010 – a signposted trail that takes you through more than 226 kilometres of country backroads and byways, with discoveries to make at every turn.
- Feel like a new hiking destination nearby? Try Parc de la Riviere Doncaster (Doncaster Park) in Sainte-Adele. Enjoy hiking and waterfalls during the summer, or snowshoeing/Nordic walking in winter. I can attest to the beautiful scenery! Visit at 4672 Chemin de la Doncaster, Saint-Adele. \$
- Don't forget about all the trails in Mont Tremblant National Park. Note: if you enter via the Saint-Donat direction, expect minimum of 35 kms of unpaved, very rough roads. Better to enter from Lac Supérieur. \$\$
- On the scenic route "Routes des Belles-Histoires", lays the former fish hatchery at Saint-Faustin. Before it closed in 1992, it was a great place to take kids to educate them on fish farming. The former buildings and fish ponds are still in place. Now, it is an ecotourism park, with marked trails and interpretive signs, where walkers can learn about aquatic ecosystems, wetlands and forests, while still respecting the natural environment. You can visit at 737 Pisciculture Street, Saint-Faustin-Lac-Carré.

"Did you Know" is a regular feature in our newsletters, sharing some of the information, trivia and history of Lac Papineau and the surrounding area. If you have some interesting information or history to share, please contact the editor.

## **ARE YOU MOVING???**

## **HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS??**

Don't forget to update the association with changes to your email address, or if you move away from Lac Papineau, so we can update your contact information.



**Don't forget to check out our website!**

[www.petitlaclong.org](http://www.petitlaclong.org)

## Thinking of buying a boat?

Before you buy a boat for Lac Papineau, please remember that our small lake does not easily support large, high speed, high wake boats. At its widest point, the lake is only 250M wide, with the majority of the lake being less than 200M wide and only 1 - 2 M deep in the 2 channels.

When using the lake, please remember to PAY ATTENTION, BE VIGILANT, and BE RESPECTFUL. Please take a moment to brush up on our Code of Conduct:

1. Always follow *Canada's Safe Boating Practices*. ([www.tc.gc.ca](http://www.tc.gc.ca))
2. Swimmers shall stay within 23 meters (75 ft) of shoreline, unless accompanied by a watercraft or a buoy.
3. No swimmers or vessels shall stop or stay in areas of boating traffic or in the narrows (passages) between the lakes.
4. No Motor Vessel shall be operated on the lake before 9:00 A.M., except for small watercraft, travelling at speeds of less than 10 KM/hour. After sundown, the maximum speed is 10 Km/hour.
5. No vessel shall be operated closer to the shoreline than 23 meters (75 ft), at a speed greater than 10 KM/hour, including the narrow passages of the two islands in the 2<sup>nd</sup> lake.
6. No motor vessel shall operate at a speed in excess of 70 KM/hour at any time.
7. Priority shall always be ceded to smaller or non-motorized watercraft. Avoid passing at high speeds or when producing significant waves.
8. Vessels shall not circulate in a repetitive manner or in circles in the same area. Use the full length of the lake.
9. Vessels shall not create waves intentionally to jump over or for other purposes. Be attentive and responsible of your impact on other watercraft, swimmers, the shoreline, docks, lake bottom and people on shore.
10. Residents are highly discouraged from launching wake/ballast boats on Lac Papineau and are not welcome, due to the inability to circulate at more than 100 metres from shore. The lake is too narrow.

When shopping for a boat, please consider the size of our lake and do not buy too big! If you have new neighbours, please pass on this information to them. Please tell them about our association and how to get in touch with us.

Everyone on your Board volunteers their time but we can't do it alone! We really appreciate the help we are given by volunteers around the lake.

**Many thanks to Mathieu Huppé and Hugues Raymond for their translation assistance. Without the help of volunteers, we couldn't issue this newsletter!**

**Thanks also to Raphael Gera, who has been giving so much of his time to perform the updates on our website.**

## Looking to buy or sell something?

I know that we have been promising residents someplace where they can post items for sale or looking to buy, etc. Unfortunately, we have run into a number of technical glitches which have slowed down our ability to deliver this to you. Please know that we are still trying to find the best solution for everyone, without inundating folks with email messages they don't want.

In the meantime, continue to use the Facebook group for these items.

## Don't forget!

Starting in 2021, we will no longer be offering the musky bounty. If you catch a musky and don't want to eat it, please do not release back into the lake.

## A familiar sight!



Our previous long-time President, Jacques Ecuyer, is still very involved with our lake association, acting as one of our consultants. In addition and even more importantly, he and his team work very hard every year to maintain, install and remove the aerators from the 3<sup>rd</sup> lake every spring and fall. Thanks for all your hard work, Jacques!

(Photo Credit: Richard Schmid)