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SKOOTAMATTA DISTRICT RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION



***SEASON'S GREETINGS
TO ALL S.D.R.A. MEMBERS***

December 1996 Newsletter

Dear Member(s);

Winter has finally set in, the boats and docks are away and the lake has taken on the serenity of a winter wonderland. For those members who have not experienced winter at Skootamatta, I highly recommend it, even once. If someone who hates the cold as much as I do can try it, anyone can !!

Your executive worked hard this summer to increase membership and collect late dues. I am glad to report that out of a possible 294 members we now have 192 paid 1996 members. We still have 11 members who last paid in 1995 and we hope to receive their dues when we send out a reminder as we are sure it is just an oversight.

On a serious note though, we do not wish to spend the whole summer as in the past collecting dues. These dues are required at the beginning of the season not at the end. We are therefore requesting that your dues be sent to the treasurer **NO LATER THAN MARCH 31, 1997. This will allow us to plan our events and expenses and be able to include them in our projections for the summer of 1997.**

Our year end account balance is currently \$1,524.12. We will be placing \$1500.00 into a 90 day GIC for a better return on interest.

We are pleased to advise that Mr.& Mrs. Robert Glecoff are now Honorary Members in recognition of their many contributions to our meetings and events. We look forward to their continued support from their IGA Store in Northbrook.

This summer was also busy spent maintaining the S.D.R.A. lands. Several trees were cut down that posed a danger . The horseshoe pits were completely rebuilt and the outhouses were painted and cleaned.

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Our Boat Ramp Donation box is not doing so well though. It was broken into once. Most of the traffic was from guests of Trails End Cabins and Loon Lake Lodge. However, we were unsuccessful in collecting more than the odd Looney from this traffic. We have spoken to the proprietors of these businesses and hope their support, and the box being at the ramp for the entire season, will increase donations this year.

This year alone we spent \$1,409 in maintenance costs alone for these lands. (\$ 658 Insurance/ \$ 136 Tree removal/ \$ 80 outhouse pumping/ \$460 Lawn/outhouse maintenance/ \$75 Horseshoe Pit).

This averages out to \$8.00 per member out of every \$15.00 collected, based on our current paid members.

The lease on these lands expires in 1998 and we have attached a survey regarding the continued use of this land by the association and ask you to return it with your dues.

Next season we will be introducing the following and ask that if any members have any comments about what we are proposing they send them with the survey.

1) For the 1997 season we must maintain the dock, ramp. We would like to get a quote as to encasing the existing concrete ramp with a metal basket with gravel added. If you know anyone interested in providing a quote please advise us by March 1, 1997. We also wish to accept applications for anyone interested in maintaining the Grass and outhouses. Please send your application and expected salary by March 1, 1997. Students welcome to apply.



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2) We would like to invite the members of surrounding lakes to our Regatta this year and to charge a \$10.00 fee to non-members and a \$5.00 fee to members. This will help with the trophy cost and eliminate us from using member dues for these events.

3) We would also like to charge a TWOONIE per player for the Horseshoe Tournament to also offset costs for the prizes and cost of childrens games/prizes.

4) We will also try not to crowd so many events into one day and try to avoid scheduling anything when the Blueberry Jamboree is held.

5) We wish to purchase reflecting rock markers. If anyone knows a reasonable distributor, please advise us.

6) We need a proper sign for our Donation Box with stronger wording.

7) We do not want to raise the cost of membership dues, however, we still had to just scrape by again for our Fireworks Display. This evening is more for the children, but adults seem to enjoy it just as much. Even if you do not attend, please consider this donation as the total monies collected goes entirely towards the purchase of the supplies. Remember, the children are the future of Skootamatta Lake and it's continued heritage. Once again we wish to thank Brian Rumbles for a *FANTASTIC SHOW!!*. We hope we can count on his support next year.

We also thank Skootamatta Marina and Loon Lake Lodge for making a donation to this event.

We feel it necessary to raise the ticket cost from \$10.00 to \$15.00 per family for this event. I'm sure you will all agree this is not excessive and is for a good cause.

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8) In our May newsletter we will be increasing our advertising campaign. Any local businesses wishing to advertise should have their advertisement requirements sent to us no later than March 30, 1997. The cost will be \$20.00 for members and \$25.00 for non-members. In addition anyone who is available to provide emergency medical services can advertise for free. We will also be introducing a classified section. This is where you can advertise to sell or advertise for something you want. Cottage rental advertisements, babysitting, propane delivery are just some of the few ideas we hope to attract. The cost for this is \$5.00 and the ad should also reach us no later than March 30, 1997.

Wishing you and your family a Happy Holiday and wishes for a prosperous New Year!

Your S.D.R.A. Executive

Bill Garnish; President

Lori Bessie; Vice-President

Lynn Garnish; Secretary/Treasurer

Bill Rahm; Director

Ron Nowell; Director

Reva Nowell; Director

Darrell Thompson; Director

Darian Kissman; Director

Kent Farrell; Director

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SURVEY FOR LAND USE

A) Renew the land lease in 1988.

Yes _____ NO _____

B) If Yes to (A)

**1) Continue with S.D.R.A. covering the maintenance costs
and raise the dues to \$ _____.**

C) OTHER OPTIONS

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MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS: