



THE KEY EXCHANGE



From the President

Hi Everyone,

Here it is the first day of summer, and my procrastination on news of the North, has I'm sure driven Anne to the brink. Has anyone else noticed that as the whole world tries to make life easier, there seems to be less time to "smell the roses". Well, The Key has had a great start to the summer this year, with the ice going out in March, and nice warm weather to travel the river, and Bay. Water levels are down from last year, and we can only hope that the pressure that is on our Governments to address the St Clair river situation, will fall on those willing to take action. The fishing this spring has been plentiful according to the locals, and I seem to have missed the black flies this year. Was that just good planning, or just horseshoes?

You will not want to miss this year's presentation! The KRAA is busy planning our AGM, and this year we are going to have a discussion on Wind Farms with a guest speaker. I feel really pulled in two directions on this, as wind power is what we need to help green our planet, but I just don't want to see our view of the Harbour outlined in the background with Wind Turbines. We need to hear from you, our associates on this matter, and attending the AGM is a great way to exchange ideas as a group.

During long weekend in August we will have the Annual Fishing Derby on the Saturday, and the AGM and Picnic on the Sunday. Thanks again to the Key Harbour Lodge for allowing us



all to gather for these events on their property. These are the occasions that we can get to know each other, and discuss matters that are going to affect us all, or already have made an impact on our time on The Bay. We know your time is valuable, especially cottage time, but please try to make that extra effort to participate in the weekend's events. It is important to future generations on Georgian Bay that we stay good stewards on this special place, your voice counts, and we want to hear from you.

Lastly, I want to thank all the people who make our Association tick, as there is a lot of work performed by many that goes on without recognition, and we could not carry on without their help and support.

Well that's all for now, and as my Canoe Group who enjoy The Key every spring say, "MAY YOU PADDLE THROUGH LIFE WITH THE WIND AT YOUR BACK, AND YOUR FRIENDS BY YOUR SIDE!" Hope to see you all over the summer,

Best Regards,

Bob McDonald

KRAA Financial Report 2009

	2008	2009
OPENING BALANCE	20,921.95	25,178.34
Archives Donations	35.00	43.00
Channel Improvements (Buoys) Donation	503.00	180.00
Fire	182.00	55.00
Fish Donation	232.00	93.00
Fishing Derby	-	30.00
GBA Membership Dues	1,920.00	2,120.00
Helipad Govt Grants	3,500.00	-
Interest	-	121.32
KRAA Membership Dues	1,943.00	1,841.00
Newsletter Ad Revenue	50.00	-
Newsletter Donations	174.00	273.00
Other Donations	726.00	607.00
Social	25.00	58.00
US Exchange	0.80	92.20
Water Quality Donation	134.00	169.00
TOTAL INFLOW	9,424.80	5,682.52
Annual Picnic Exp	210.73	-
Bank Charges	78.24	43.45
Buoys Exp	0.79	884.97
Fish Derby	200.00	175.00
GBA Annual Fees	1,960.00	2,080.00
General Expense	20.07	244.74
Helipad Expenses	-	150.00
Insurance	847.80	874.80
Mail & Newsletter Exp	888.57	726.12
Meeting Expenses	962.21	175.00
TOTAL OUTFLOW	5,168.41	5,354.08
OVERALL CHANGE	4,256.39	328.44
CLOSING BALANCE	25,178.34	25,506.78

Treasurer's Report

Some highlights from 2009: cash position as of Dec 31 2009 (including a GIC valued at \$18,112.07) is \$25,506.78 (up \$328.44 from 2009), unlike previous years we did not receive \$3,500 for helipad support from the Ontario Air Ambulance Service Corporation, we have 88 members (down from 96 in 2008), 64% of the membership are also members of the GBA. Killarney reimbursed our 2009 spring buoy maintenance expenses of \$1,175 (in 2008 the expense was \$590 – this past spring almost all the markers had to be relocated). This fall we incurred further buoy expenses of \$884.97 to address the spring marker relocating problem and implement a system to reduce future maintenance costs. I hope we can recoup this cost from Killarney when we submit

our expenses in 2010.

Your support and contributions are greatly appreciated. **Special thanks to all those who mailed in their dues as soon as they received the annual membership form.** It helps me do my job more efficiently!

Thanks for your support. Scott Lorriman

Channel Marker spring maintenance issue and how we are trying to address the problems:

Each spring the channel markers are moved by the spring runoff. The following is a summary of the problems encountered and how we hope to eliminate them.

The main problems are:

- The channel markers have too much buoyancy and surface area. In the spring when the water in the river rises and the current is fast, the markers have enough buoyancy and resistance to cause the anchors to "walk", many get tangled together.
- Every spring a team of people (five to six) spend several hours, using Edwin's tug, lifting the markers and their anchors to reposition them. This usually needs to be done at a time when there is a shortage of people and the weather is miserable.
- It is hard to find the manpower or resources to maintain the markers every spring.
- Some of the people who have helped reset the markers are no longer able to do the job (which requires reaching into the cold water and lifting 250 lb anchors).
- Edwin's tug, used in the past, has been sold and is no longer available

This past fall (2009) we have taken the following actions to address the problems

- Developed a system to replace all the channel markers in the fall with yellow "Shrimp Floats" to mark the location of the anchors. The floats will serve as "small" channel markers during the off season. They have low buoyancy and surface area and are unlikely to cause

