



Summer, 2022

Marcus Beach Cottage Owners Association

Volume 14, Issue 1

## Inside This Issue

<i>President's Message</i>	1
<i>Owner's Survey</i>	2
<i>2022/2023 Board Members</i>	2
<i>Internet Update</i>	3
<i>Resources</i>	3
<i>Dog Parks</i>	3
<i>Did You Know?</i>	3
<i>Linda's Team Report</i>	4
<i>Marcus Beach Clothing</i>	5
<i>Friendly Reminder</i>	5
<i>Giving Back</i>	5
<i>Victoria Railway</i>	6
<i>Save the Date</i>	6



Photo courtesy of Larry Murphy  
Taken near Minden March, 2022

## President's Message

It seems 2022 has been a very eventful year and it's just over halfway through! I'm sure you all share my eager anticipation of getting up to Marcus Beach this summer to relax and enjoy some cottage time. For my family and many other long-time owners, packing up for the cottage has become a ritual that we enjoy. For new owners – a hearty welcome and we hope you will enjoy our property as much as we do.

Our big event this year, of course, was the departure of our long-time property manager, Lori Roberts. Lori worked tirelessly for almost 15 years to keep Marcus Beach in prime condition. Although the Board was a bit anxious about finding a replacement for someone as dedicated, we're extremely pleased that Linda and Bill have joined us as a new property management team. They bring a terrific combination of hospitality experience, a customer service focus, and the benefit of a fresh pair of eyes. Already we can see that they are going to be a great fit for our property and for our owners. I hope each one of you will take a minute to stop by this summer and introduce yourselves to Linda – she will be in the office most days.

We have always been fortunate in having interested and involved owners, and this year is no different. We are very pleased that Barbara Metaxas, an owner for many years, has joined the Board, making us seven people strong.

In addition to ensuring we have the right people in place for the future, the Board has also been overseeing several projects. They range from large (the replacement of fridges, stoves and sofas) to small (the ability of owners to order Marcus Beach clothing). One project that we haven't yet rolled out is the introduction of a Facebook page for Marcus Beach owners. More details will follow in the next few weeks, but the intent is to have a private spot for owners to chat and share ideas, perhaps set up a volley-ball game, recommend a restaurant or suggest a day trip. Stay tuned for that one!

Finally, I want to take a moment to thank Linda and all the staff and cleaners for keeping Marcus Beach the wonderful spot we cherish.

On behalf of the Board, I wish you all a happy and healthy summer.

**Paul Geukers,**  
**President,**  
**Marcus Beach Cottage Owners Association**

Office  
marcusbeachmanager@gmail.com  
705-457-9600

2459 Kashagawigamog Lake Rd.  
Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0

**Marcusbeachcottages.ca**



Carefree  
Shared Cottage  
Ownership



# Cottage News

## Meet the New Management



Linda Scott

Although we were sad to see her go, I know all Marcus Beach owners wish Lori all the best in her retirement and hope she enjoys having a little more time to spend with her family.

After Lori told the Board of her intent to leave in April 2022, we immediately started an extensive search for a new Property Manager. We were happy to see the number of excellent candidates and feel that we've chosen a superlative team to manage the property in the coming years.

Bill and Linda Scott co-own a small property management company. Linda comes to Marcus Beach with many years of experience in hospitality management while Bill owns a custom home construction and landscaping firm.

The unanimous decision to hire Linda and Bill was made about a month before Lori left, so we had a few weeks of overlap and transition. Now they're a bit more settled

in, and Linda will be in the front office most days while Bill will help manage the various construction and cottage maintenance activities (painting, roofing, etc.).

If you haven't met Linda yet, please take a moment to introduce yourself the next time you are at Marcus Beach. If you want to reach out, the best way to contact Linda is via email at [marcusbeachmanager@gmail.com](mailto:marcusbeachmanager@gmail.com).



James Allison

The Board also welcomed James Allison to the role of Maintenance person last November. James was born and raised in the Haliburton area and brings many years of relevant experience to the role. James has many talents and interests – he is also a registered PGA Golf Professional!

Once again Brian McGroarty will be giving us a little extra help for the summer. Brian has been extremely valuable in helping ease the transition between maintenance staff and has been an enormous help in staying on top of the maintenance activities during the very busy summer months.

If you see James or Brian please take a moment to say hello.



Brian McGroarty

## Owners' Survey

We'll soon be issuing our annual Marcus Beach owner satisfaction survey for 2022.

Please take a few minutes to complete it and help your Board of Directors understand your concerns, issues, and thoughts.

## 2022/23 Board of Directors

Once again, a huge thanks to all owners who volunteer to help manage Marcus Beach.

This year your board members are:

**Paul Geukers** (President)  
**Stewart Dean** (Treasurer)  
**Alan Dick** (Secretary)  
**Bruce Miller** (Operations)  
**David Lee** (at Large)  
**Barbara Metaxas** (at Large)  
**Brett Boudreau** (at Large)  
**Peter Symons** (Past President, ex-officio)

A special thank you as well to all the owners who help out with the many special projects!





# Cottage News

## Internet Update

In the last year Marcus Beach has moved to high speed internet / VoIP phone service, provided by North Frontenac Haliburton Telephone Company (NFHTC).



A tower has been built on the road that borders the soccer field to receive the signal from across Kashagawigamog Lake.

From the tower there is dedicated fiber going to every cottage (and to the office).

You will notice that there is a new tower base that has been built beside the existing tower. NFHTC was not satisfied with the quality of work that was done on the original tower by the sub-contractor and is rebuilding the entire structure to a much higher standard. The original tower will be removed.

All this work is being done at no cost to Marcus Beach.



Waiting for Volleyball to begin....

Photo Courtesy of Suzy Goh

## Resources

There is so much to see and do in Haliburton! Here are a few resources to help you:

Highlander Newspaper:  
[The Highlander](#)

Tourism site with suggestions:  
[My Haliburton Highlands](#)

County of Haliburton official site:  
[Haliburton County](#)

Hiking Trails:  
[Haliburton Hiking Trails](#)

Fishing Regulations  
[Zone 15](#)

## Dog Parks

As owners know, all pets must be on a leash when outside the cottage. Owners have occasionally asked about creating an "off leash" dog park on Marcus Beach property. The Board (and previous boards) have not followed this path

for a variety of reasons including cost, insurance and legal concerns, and lack of suitable space.

For owners interested in off-leash parks, you may be interested to know that Haliburton has opened a small off-leash dog park located on the Rotary Beach side of Head Lake Park. The park is open from dawn to dusk daily.



## Did You Know?

Did you ever wonder why our cottage community is called Marcus Beach?

This was one of the questions that was asked at the AGM this year. Marcus Beach (and our other four sister properties Chandler Point, Tory's landing, Williams Landing, and Group of Seven) were planned and developed by John Puffer and Joe Giglio.

Joe Giglio's first grandson is named Marcus and was born around the time Marcus Beach was created.

So, Joe and John fittingly decided to name our community Marcus Beach!





# Cottage News

## Linda's Team Report

Thank you everyone for making me feel at home these last couple months. Your visits to the office, your kind emails and phone calls are much appreciated as I take on this new endeavour. I look forward to meeting all of you over the summer.

James and I are still getting to know this amazing property, so if you any suggestions or concerns please stop by the office or email me at [marcusbeachmanager@gmail.com](mailto:marcusbeachmanager@gmail.com).

We are looking forward to a great summer and the rest of the year ahead.

### The Clean Team

Our cleaners worked extra hard this spring during maintenance weeks, and you will be very pleased with the outcome.

### Operations

We have had lots going on with new stoves, new fridges, and new sofas!

There are still lots of supply chain challenges so we are waiting on the final two fridges but 17 out of 19 are delivered and installed.



The new stoves have a glass top—there are cleaning instructions posted in each cottage. Please let the



team know if you have any questions regarding the new appliances/furniture.



Nine cottages were re-stained to make up for the lack of staining that occurred during the Covid period (a shortage of available painters). Not all the

work could occur during the maintenance period so we thank everyone for their patience!



The re-roofing program continued with an additional three cottages receiving new shingles. Thankfully, all of the roofing work was able to be completed during the maintenance weeks.

This summer we are undertaking a third party site survey. The goal is to assess whether there are any “emerging problems” that may cause us grief down the road if they are not promptly addressed.

The new sofa/hide-a-beds have arrived and are installed in all of the cottages.

The previous couches, at least those that still were in reasonable condition, were donated to Habitat for Humanity.



### Handy Tip



All cottages have a ventilation fan (usually in the bathroom) which will exchange all the air in the cottage (not just the bathroom) in about 20 min. Just hit the “On” button and the ventilation system will recycle all the air and then automatically shut off.

If your cottage has been unoccupied for a week before you arrive or if you have been cooking aromatic food this is a great way to exchange all the air!



# Cottage News



## Marcus Beach Clothing

A recent email was sent to all owners letting you know that you can now buy clothes with your favourite cottage location printed right on it! You can order Marcus Beach themed t-shirts, sweatshirts, or hoodies from Haliburton Lake Wear.

To order, go to Haliburton Lake Wear's website [here](#).

Under 'shop', choose the type of clothing you would like to order, and the website will guide you through sizing. The three Marcus Beach designs are #189, #190 and #191. Choose your design location (choice of 1 or 2 locations, on front and/or back of t-shirt) and colour.

Once you complete the checkout process, the items you order will be shipped to your home (shipping fees may apply).

Please keep in mind that although the Board has approved the use of our logo on the clothes, it has no other involvement in your purchase so please deal directly with the company if you have questions about your order.

## Friendly Reminder

### Check-In Time

Please respect your check-in and check-out times. If a renter is at the cottage check-out is **1 hour earlier**.

### Recycling

The recycling rules at the cottage are likely different from your home. Please do become familiar with the local rules (which are posted).

Our maintenance team would like to avoid touching garbage and recycling – thank you in advance for all your help!

## Giving Back

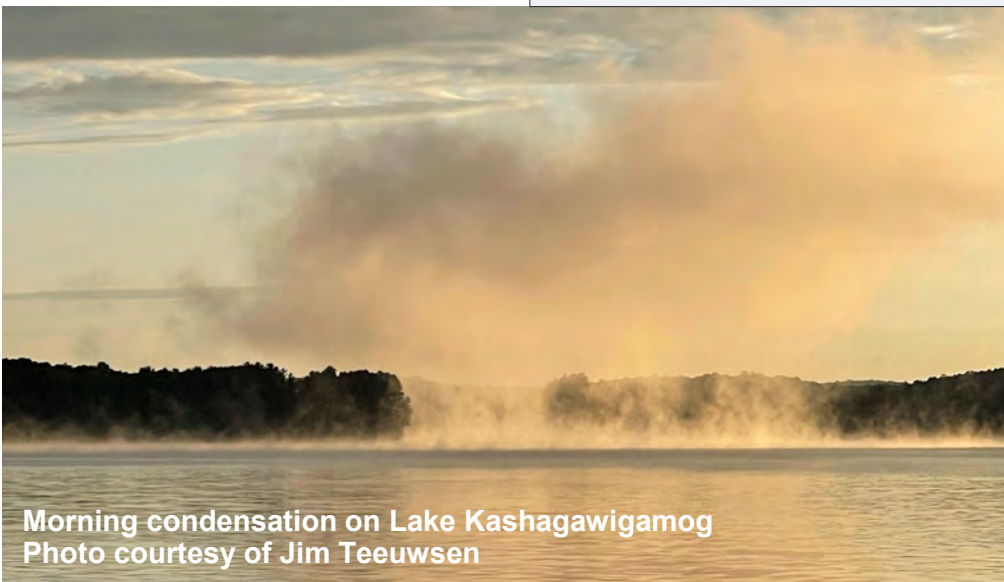
The County of Haliburton has a thriving arts community, lots of natural beauty, and is a wonderful place to spend our cottage weeks.

However, while sitting on a dock looking out at the lake, it's easy to forget that the area is very dependent on seasonal jobs and has been particularly economically hard hit by Covid over the past few years.

If you've ever wondered how you might give back to the community we all enjoy, here are some simple ideas:

- Shop local. Next time you come to the cottage, consider bringing just a few essentials and do your grocery shopping here. Enjoy the local markets in the summer. Visit a restaurant or two. Check out local theatre. Visit a local boutique. And never forget to pick up some Kawartha Dairy ice cream!
- There are over 1,000 people registered with the Haliburton food bank, over 40% of whom are children. It's easy to donate, with bins at all local grocery stores which accept food and household essentials.
- When deciding which charities to support, keep Haliburton in mind. The Food Bank, for example, has registration for annual or monthly donations.

How do we already help? Since 2017 whenever our bottle recycling shed is getting full, James contacts the local Lions Club. They send volunteers to empty the shed and return the bottles, keeping all proceeds.



Morning condensation on Lake Kashagawigamog  
Photo courtesy of Jim Teeuwsen





# Cottage News

## Victoria Railway

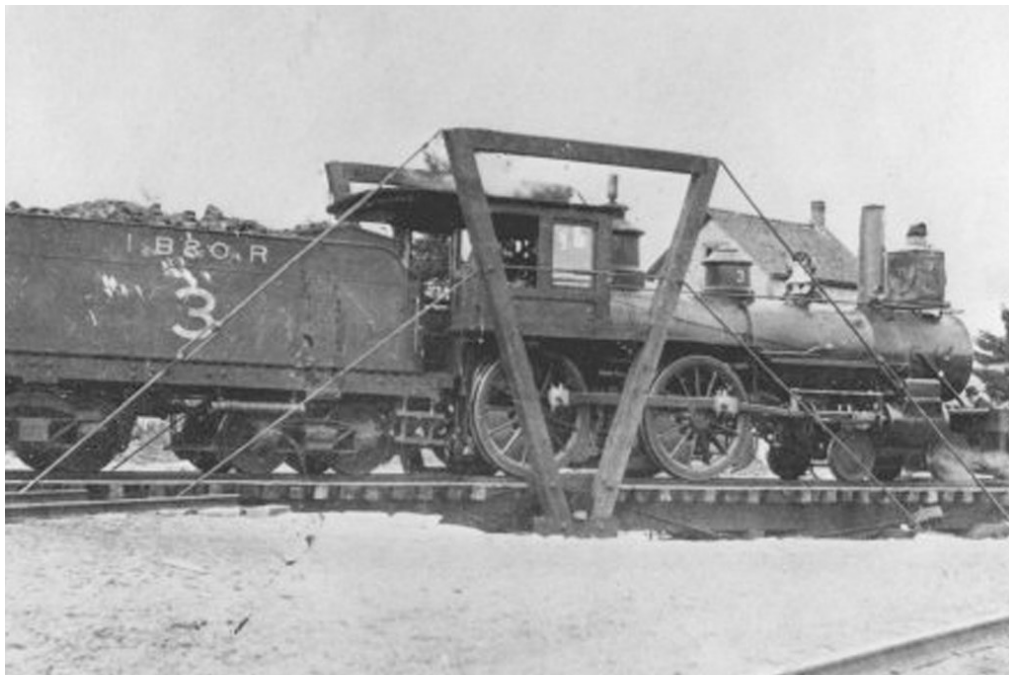
By Curt Halen

On your way to either Haliburton or Minden you will notice a 10 foot wide crushed-gravel path just south of Gelert Road. That's the Haliburton County Rail Trail (HCRT) operated by the county as a year-round path for hikers, skiers, cyclists, ATV and snowmobile drivers. For its entire length, this trail runs on the route of the defunct Victoria Railway.

The Victoria Railway construction began in 1874. It took four years of painstaking manual labour to clear a path through wooded wilderness and over rocky outcrops. Iron bridges had to be built across many rivers, creeks and swamps before steel rails could be laid on thousands of wooden railway ties. This amazing private enterprise involved hundreds of workers: skilled engineers, construction specialists, and gangs of labourers. The railway ran 90km from Lindsay to Haliburton.

The initial goal was threefold; to bring minerals from northern mines to southern processing sites, to entice farmers to the region, and to facilitate moving lumber to southern markets.

At its peak in the early 1900s, several trains ran south daily (from Haliburton to Lindsay and on to Port Hope) loaded mainly with lumber from vast northern forests, and some agricultural produce from the few successful Haliburton area farms. Northbound trains brought few new farmers to the area but lots of manufactured goods from Southern Ontario plants, as well as well-heeled summer guests for the



increasing number of magnificent new lakeside resorts, at a time when automobile ownership was still generally scant.

The Victoria Railway's passenger service was discontinued in 1961, while freight service continued until 1978. The line was abandoned in 1981 and the bulk of the unused steel tracks were torn up in 1983 and sold for scrap. The final small section in Lindsay was removed in 1992.

Today, a few vestiges of the Railroad Era are found in the Town of Haliburton:

- the former Railroad Station building (lifted & moved 20' west of its original location) is now the location of the Rails End Gallery & Arts Centre
- an original caboose (painted orange & sitting on the last remaining rails) is along the north side of York Street near the Town's Visitor Center.

For any owners interested in more information about this project, the Haliburton Town Library on York Street has an excellent book on the history of rail & trains in the County: "Haliburton by Rail" by Taylor Wilkins.

### Save the Date 2023 AGM

Mark your calendars! The next AGM will be held on Saturday, April 22nd, 2022 at 10am. The location, if in person, will be at:

**Hilton Garden Inn  
300 Commerce Valley Dr E,  
Thornhill, ON L3T 7X3  
(905) 709-8008**

Our Annual General Meeting is a chance for you to meet the Board and your fellow cottage owners, and one of your few opportunities to ask questions of the Board directly.