

S E P T - O C T  
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# RIVER TALK

RIVER SAFETY

ENVIRONMENTAL  
AWARENESS

COMMUNITY SUPPORT



*Founded in 1934*



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# President's Message

Peter Fitton



The Last days of summer and the first days of fall – September has arrived and there is a quiet on the river as nature starts to reclaim her sanctuary.

The garden may be winding down, but there's still plenty left to do! **Labour Day Gardening Tips** provides you with the Almanac's list of gardening chores to be done around and after Labour Day. Time to harvest the bounty and preserve the harvest, plant trees, and divide perennials, and even plant cool-season vegetables to mention a few.

Thanks to the production team of Doug McLellan and John Street, the July 23, 2022 AGM Meeting Videos are now up on the TIA website under the **Annual General Meeting Archives** where you can view speaker presentations by Calder Schweitzer, TIWLT, Laura Eggleston, STR, and Jana Moore, TIA Student Environmental Co-Ordinator

educating the audience on the Thousand Islands Watershed Last Trust, Polystyrene Pollution, and TIA environmental programs from Turtles to Sea bins. Thank you to Director Alec Turner, AGM Chair, and his team of volunteers for organizing the waterfront breakfast at the Playhouse Theatre and for making the return to this river social event such a success!

In July, TIA alerted the river community about the Cataraqui Conservation (CRCA) initiative of proposing updates to its regulatory guidelines document affecting what you can and cannot do with your waterfront property. Based on feedback received, the CRCA will be holding a public virtual engagement session anticipated to take place in mid-September to review the proposed updates and answer questions from the public. Once a specific date is confirmed, those who provided input will be notified directly and further details will be posted on the **CRCA website** – go to the “News” section of the home page. We encourage all property owners and stakeholders to monitor this next step and participate.

On August 20, TIA partnered with Save The River for a first time bi-national river clean up to promote environmental preservation and awareness. Under the combined efforts of TIA and STR, selected shoreline areas of the St. Lawrence River on both Canadian and American sides were cleaned, collecting garbage, plastic, and anything else not belonging there. Thank you to the organizers and volunteers. **Read more in this issue.**

Enjoy the remaining days of summer!

## Allison Burchell-Robinson

Finally, the day arrives and the key is turned. Another glorious summer in the Thousand Islands has come to an end. Happy memories with a few curses about the low water (let's not go down that water levels road again right now) will carry us through until the cycle begins anew.

This edition of River Talk covers September and October. It would be remiss not to wish any and all a very Happy Canadian Thanksgiving.

Do enjoy the article about Mallorytown, a charming town with a fun annual fair. Stuart Arnett once again adds to our learning curve with his article about Loons and Blue Jays. Another thought provoking article is Orm Murphy's about the border and ArriveCAN. I, my family and friends all find that the border crossing this year has been quick, friendly and efficient. We've not heard one complaint about completing the ArriveCan app. What's your experience? Should ArriveCan be abolished or does it ease the border crossing? Your comments are appreciated as are your thoughts and comments about any topic River Talk covers. We welcome your suggestions for other topics and invite you to submit an article of your own.

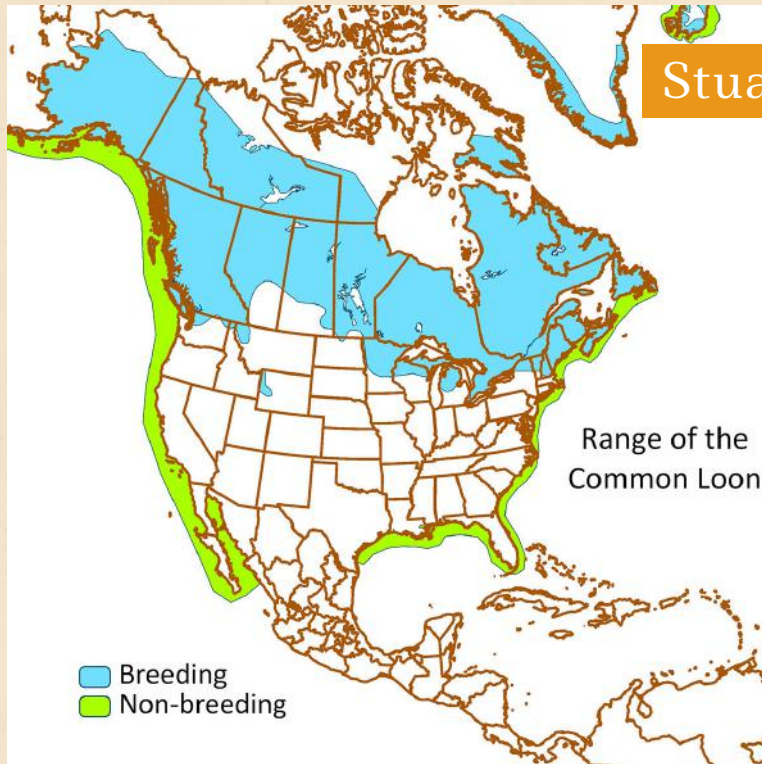
### *From the Editor*

When there is still daylight, although waning, at 7:30 pm but dark by 8:00 pm, you know that summer is coming to a close. You don't need to see the color of the leaves, turn the calendar page to September or feel that first morning nip in the air. You know because you've been here before. Suddenly Labor Day has gone as have many boats. There are empty slips in the marinas and fewer cars in the streets. There are those who close up and go home after Labor Day and there are the die hards who remain through October but the majority makes their way home during September. Lawn chairs, kayaks and canoes are stored away, screens and flags come down, flower beds are covered with more than just prayers, and the list goes on. Inside moth balls and Bounce are inserted in drawers, between mattresses, in cupboards. Does it really keep the mice and minks away? Ask anyone who has been confronted with the damage done to their cottage by these winter residents and they will tell you "try any and everything".



# Birds of a Feather Flock Together

Stuart Arnett



As much as we don't want to admit it, there are signs that summer is starting to come to a close. One of those signs is the fact that several bird species are starting to group together in preparation for their fall migration.

One such grouping is the Blue Jay. These iconic Canadian Jays start to become more active in the fall when the harvest is good. Jays eat mostly seeds, nuts, grains and insects. Family gathering is also part of the Blue Jay migration and these groupings tend to stay together throughout the winter. These large groups provide better protection against predators, and are constantly communicating about food sources which help this year's fledglings to learn and prosper.

The Blue Jay migration is typically several hundred kilometres south of its summer location, which means that large groups of Blue jays will winter in the mid United States.

Our Common Loon is another bird that we will start to see forming small groups out on the river. These groups, sometimes call rafts, are formed in the fall with scientists thinking that this helps in their feeding ability and probably replacing some of their fat stores. Over the summer, loons are focused on raising their young and need to replenish their energy in preparation for their flight to their winter destination, on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts as well as the Gulf of Mexico. Typically the adult loons will start to migrate in late September, with the bulk of them leaving the Islands in October while the chicks remain until early November. The juveniles are able to find their way to the ocean without the guidance of the adults.

Yes, the loon has the best life, summers in the Thousand Islands and winters in the Gulf of Mexico.



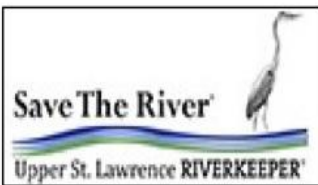
# Did You Miss TIA's AGM ?

[Click Here to View it online anytime !](#)

Enjoy our Invited Speakers at your Leisure on TIA's YouTube Channel



**Calder Schweitzer, Executive Director of  
Thousand Islands Watershed Land Trust  
“Land, Life, Learning and Legacies”**



**Lauren Eggleston, Assistant Director of Save the River  
“Polystyrene Pollution”**



**Jana Moore, TIA's Environmental Summer Intern  
“Turtles to Seabins”**

Other Videos Feature ... TIA President Peter Fitton's Message and  
a Big TIA SHOUT OUT to TIA's Admiral Sponsors.

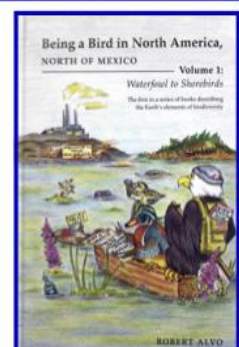
[CLICK HERE to View any of TIA's 2022 AGM Feature Videos](#)

## 2022 Membership Drive Prize Winners



**Our Grand Prize Winner of a  
Print “1000 Island Sunfish”  
by Wildlife Conservation Artist  
Stuart Arnett, AFC  
is Dan Stevens of Tremont Island**

**Our 2 Runner Up Prize Winners of a book  
“Being a Bird in North America” by  
Conservation Biologist, Bird Expert and Author  
Robert Alvo are:  
April Vuletich & Carolyn Coad**



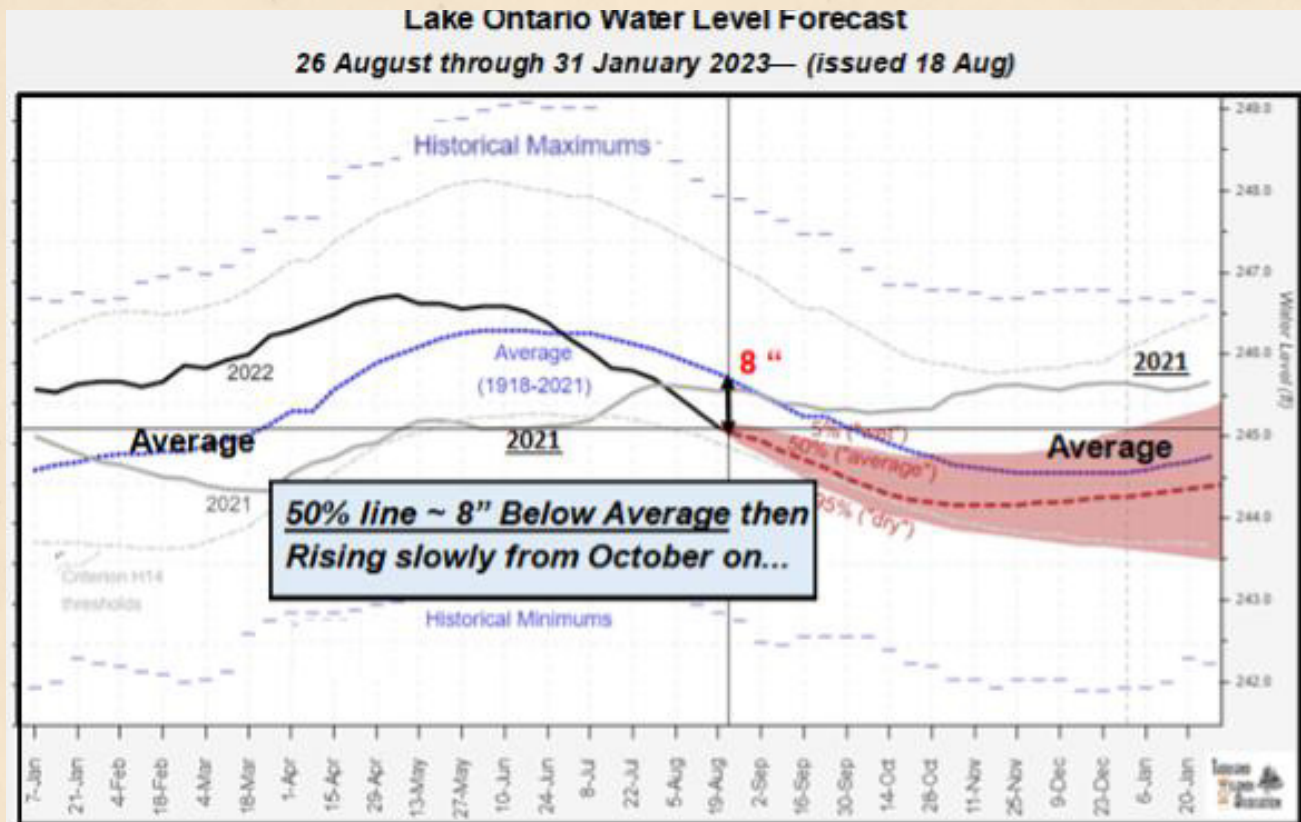
**Congratulations to our Lucky Prize Winners !!**



# Water Levels – Dropped 4” More than Predicted in the

## Last 6-Month Forecast

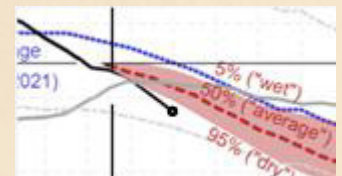
TIA Water Levels Committee (8/26/22) – by Barton, Stewart & White



<https://ijc.org/en/losrb/watershed/forecasts>

Edits by TIA

In the last month, levels dropped rapidly below 50%, beyond the low chance 95% "Dry" line. This situation has less than a 1% chance to occur. We're 8" below the 100 year average.



See the black line & round dot added to last month's graph

The actual level decrease went from the projected ~4" to ~8". The magnitude of this drop is better seen when August's changes are plotted on July's small forecast graphic above. **Given the amount of water that disappeared, it makes sense why folks are worried.**

There's a LOT going on right now, so we have chosen to write a full article with more graphics to keep our readers informed, but not worried.

Click [HERE](#) to view the **Full Article PDF** briefly covering the following discussion items:

- Great Lakes Precipitation graphics in the last 90 days & 30 days vs. 1 year
- Discussion of why outflows are so high when we want to conserve water
- How wind temporarily drove levels even lower – but gave the water back
- The impact of the recent drought relieving 3+ inches of rain August 21 – 26
- Vince's helpful definition of the 'high-highs' & 'low-lows' basis of Plan 2014
- How Plan 2014 seems to have overcorrected and made the low levels slightly worse
- How the GLAM Adaptive Management review of Plan 2014 recognizes this problem
- Downstream Lake St. Lawrence pix, where levels are barely enough for shipping

# In Case You Were Wondering...

Alec Turner & Dave McWilliam



Photo by John N Street

When is a boat considered noisy? The sound of boats is welcomed by some and distasteful for others. If you're a sailor, probably the wind in the sail or the water lapping off the hull is desirable. For the power boater the sound of an approaching craft brings back summer memories, or the thunder of the cigarette boat or the excitement of a poker run ignites your heart.

Depending upon whether you are looking for USA or Cdn. Regulations, noise allowed by a boat varies (1- USA). While current Cdn. legislation mandates all power-driven boats have a muffler, noise emissions have no specific performance limits at manufacture. In jurisdictions that prescribe decibel level limits, these are difficult to monitor and enforce. Transport Canada (TC) recently held online public consultations 3. They presented five options from making no changes to the regulations to the introduction of standards for manufacturers and vessel operators.

With so many options, what do the people want? Until TC releases their report, it depends how you view this issue.

Environmentalist, conservationist, manufacturer, regulatory enforcement, or user. Perhaps as one OPP representative stated, "Everyone deserves the right to enjoy the water", thus we need understandable criteria for all....

Then there's the impact of noise and motion on wildlife both terra and marine where high noise-emitting motorboats disturb small mammals, waterfowl and other aquatic life.

Research funded by the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada in 2018 indicates Canadian freshwater biodiversity is declining. Research suggests the importance of noise pollution mitigation on preserving biodiversity and aquatic life along with 11 other determinants such as climate change and microplastics 4.

Please investigate noise control measures in your area, and reflect on things we do with any boat to protect our river.

Even though your boat may be equipped with a Captains Choice, it's your choice whether you use it and remember your neighbours, both wildlife and human.

- (1) USA Boating Noise Regulations
- (2) Safe Quiet Lakes
- (3) TC Let's Talk Small Vessel Noise Emissions
- (4) Noise Research



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# Information on Border Crossing

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Photo by Andre Construction

W. Ormond  
Murphy.

It has recently been announced that CBS agents can admit a fully vaccinated traveler on a “once only” exemption. There has not been much publicity about this exemption and I do not know if it is being used.

Recently there has been a backlash voiced by some U.S. lawmakers. Elise Stefanik wrote the Canadian Ambassador calling the app “a glitchy impediment to travel with no public health purpose anymore.”

Mayors of Canadian border towns have also voiced strong opposition to the app suggesting that it is limiting cross border travel.

The Canadian government continues to support the use of the app but has given no real justification for its continued use.

We shall see.

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**T**hroughout the summer I have inquired from our American friends as to their experience on crossing into Canada.

Although most have indicated that it has been relatively painless, the one common complaint has been the requirement to fill out the ArriveCan app.

It seems that many travellers did not realize that it was required and when they arrive at the Border they are sent “inside” to fill out the application.

It has been reported that the staff at Canada Border Services blame the ArriveCan application for slowing down the crossing and placing increased pressure on the Border personnel.



# Spotlight on Mallorytown



The Township of Front of Yonge lies east of Kingston and west of Brockville on the St. Lawrence River.

The largest village in the township, Mallorytown, now has a population of approximately 500 residents. Loyalist Nathaniel Mallory and his family were among the first settlers in Front of Yonge. They landed at Mallorytown Landing in 1784 moving inland around 1790. Several small hamlets can also be found in the township.

There are two public parks – Thousand Islands National Park and Brown's Bay Provincial Park along the river. Walk, bike, jog or run along the paved bicycle path that runs from the east end of the township almost to Gananoque or hike the several hiking paths at Jones Creek hiking area and at the Thousand Islands National Park area. Soon to open is a walking trail in the village of Mallorytown near the Recreation Park. Several campgrounds can also be found in the township.

Over the years, community efforts have paid off in Mallorytown. The Mallory Coach House has been revitalized as have the adjoining gardens. This two-storey fieldstone house was renovated for use as a local museum, archives, and meeting place.

Find information, pictures and artifacts about Canada's 1st glass works factory that was discovered near here as well as many other displays highlighting life in our township. Many events take place in the beautiful house and gardens over the summer including the Strawberry Social the 4th Sunday in June and the Blueberry Social 1st Sunday of August. Enjoy the beauty of the gardens and gazebo while enjoying live music on both these afternoons. The Mallorytown Station, beside the Mallory Coach House, is the newest addition with public washrooms and an information wall.

At the end of August watch for the annual Mallorytown Village Fair. This event has free activities for children including a magician, games, horse & wagon rides, and Mr. Bubbles. There are also historical demonstrations, vendors and artists, canteen, and live music to make this a fun, family-oriented day.

Mallorytown is home to a grocery store, pharmacy, cidery, and Canada's first solar-powered brewery.

Come, visit and explore our unique and friendly township.





# River Clean Up Day on August 20



On August 20th, 2022, members of the TIA and volunteers from the community worked together to clean various areas of the St. Lawrence River stretching from Grays Beach to Lansdowne Bay along the Thousand Islands Parkway, along with McDonald, Beaurivage and Gordon Island. The event proved to be extremely successful, where we collected over 10 garbage bags filled with trash and plastics, 3 tires, and an assortment of plywood filling an entire trailer! Thanks everyone who came out to clean the river, we couldn't have done it without you!

Enjoy some photos from the event:





# Meet Our Sponsors: Wavve Boating



Wavve Boating, a TIA sponsor, was founded on the St. Lawrence River and is now helping thousands of boaters across North America.

Wavve Boating was founded to make navigating the St. Lawrence easier by Gananoque resident Adam Allore. Since inception, the company has been promoted by Apple as a “New App We Love”, integrated into a third of BRP’s 2022 SeaDoo models, and used by thousands of boaters across North America.

So, what is Wavve Boating? it’s an easy-to-use, marine navigation app that helps boaters navigate and explore with ease, while connecting them to the growing boating community. It’s like Google Maps or Waze, but for boaters. Users can pinpoint marinas, restaurants, on-the-water-hazards, law enforcement, fishing spots and plenty of other useful points of interest for them and other Wavvers (Wavve users). You can also update your map’s chart data to reflect actual river levels, helpful during those low water level years of late.

What started as a project to help local St. Lawrence boaters has expanded considerably, now thousands of boaters of various experience levels are using the app across North America. One Wavve Boating user recently shared their story while navigating the Outer Banks in North Carolina. Jeanne-Marie, was on their way back from a day of island hopping and the prevailing current caused a delay in return time; forcing them to navigate the difficult waters at night. The navigation system they had on the boat was outdated and the situation became dire – “I was starting to panic” stated Jeanne-Marie. “Thankfully, I had just found and installed the Wavve app a few days prior... It literally saved us! We used the app to see where we were, the direction we were going, the path to the marina, and most importantly, where the channel markers were so we could stay between them. I stared at the screen and used the app exclusively to guide us in. If we hadn’t had that app, we would’ve been in a really bad place.”

You can find the Wavve Boating team testing their solutions in Adam’s teal Larson bowrider in the Admiralty and Navy group Islands throughout the summer months. Please stop to say hello if you do.





# Meet Our Sponsors: City Cruises by Hornblower



With so many options to choose from, we'll make your visit to Gananoque and the 1000 Islands a once-in-a-lifetime experience!

Your voyage starts at

[CityCruises.com/Gananoque](http://CityCruises.com/Gananoque) • 280 Main St,  
Gananoque, ON K7G 2M2

#ExperienceIt #CruiseTheCity | @CityCruises

City Cruises Gananoque, a Canadian Signature Experience, with ports in Gananoque and Ivy Lea, is the largest and oldest cruise company in the 1000 Islands. Set sail and experience the landmarks and beauty of the 1000 Islands, visit the magnificent Boldt Castle on Heart Island, discover the depths and history of the Lost Ships, or hop aboard a Sunset Cruise with breath-taking views. Before or after your cruise take home some souvenirs from the City Cruises Gananoque Gift Shop or grab a bite from the Dockside Restaurant or the Ice Cream Stand located on-site.



FROM THE BOARD OF THE  
THOUSAND ISLANDS  
ASSOCIATION



# TIA Thanks Our ADMIRAL Sponsors



Keyes Insurance Brokers

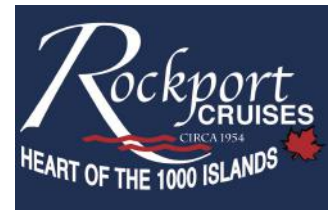


To learn more about any sponsor click on their logo





# TIA Thanks Our ADMIRAL Sponsors



To learn more about any sponsor click on their logo

## Captain Level \$150

- ❖ A One-Year Business membership to **TIA**
- ❖ A social media mention on **TIA** Social Media
- ❖ Your hyperlinked business logo on the **TIA** sponsorship webpage

## Admiral Level \$500

- ❖ A One-Year Business membership to **TIA**
- ❖ 1 or more social media mentions on **TIA** Social Media
- ❖ Acknowledgement during **TIA**'s Annual General Meeting
- ❖ Your hyperlinked business logo on the **TIA** sponsorship webpage
- ❖ Your hyperlinked business logo in our scrolling banner at the top of all **TIA** webpages
- ❖ Hyperlinked logo in all **TIA** River Talk publications (Our digital newsletter published 8 times per year)
- ❖ Invitation to submit an article about you, your business or your passion for the 1000 Islands for inclusion in a **TIA** River Talk Edition

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## TIA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

Sponsorship and Membership help support our Flagship program- the placement of nearly 200 Shoal Markers each summer in Canadian waters



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Individual \$50

Couple \$75

Family \$100

Scan Our QR Code To Renew Or Purchase Your Tax Deductible Annual Membership or Visit

[www.thousandislandsassociation.com/membership](http://www.thousandislandsassociation.com/membership)

Photo by John N. Street

# Thousand Islands Association (TIA)

Due to seasonality, varying water levels, vandalism and equipment failure, the Thousand Islands Association (TIA) disclaims any liability for the absence of any of its shoal markers from time to time.

The Thousand Islands Association (TIA) is a not for profit organization that is proactive in addressing safety on the river, promoting environmental preservation and supporting the interests of the Community for the benefit of the 1000 Islands region of the St. Lawrence River.

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## TIA's Three Pillars

River Safety

Environmental Awareness

Community Support

