



December 2014

Founded in 1934

## President's Message December 2014

Somehow this summer was...different. The water was higher all summer. It rained more than most of us remember and the swimming was a bit brisk to say the least.

Now it's fall and the water has dropped to levels we all expect and most of us have packed up and left for home...the other home.

Our Annual General meeting was held Saturday, July 19th this year with a record of almost 300 River lovers attending for the usual scrumptious breakfast and a great speaker. Our municipal, provincial and federal representatives all found time to join us and to say a few words of support.

Our speaker this year was Tom Weldon, The general manager or Singer Castle on Dark Island. Tom provided a very interesting account of some of the castle's more intriguing aspects. I won't tell you more because you just need to go and see for your self. If you are Canadian don't forget to check into customs on the way.

At the AGM I stepped into a very big set of shoes vacated by Orm Murphy who did a remarkable job of steering the association into deeper financial waters. He managed to nudge membership up a bit but more importantly, he reinforced a culture of giving to our great river. Thank you Orm for the fantastic job you did. Because of Orm's hard work, many people have and continue to support the association with generous donations either by sponsoring a shoal-marker or just plain giving. All, of course eligible for tax receipts.

Our most important objective over the next two years is to increase membership so that membership dues alone cover all our ongoing costs. The donations will still be very much appreciated and accepted until that time and beyond!

We are still trying to find ways to add value to membership and we hope to have a plan in place for the next AGM. For those of you who like to plan ahead our next AGM will be held on Saturday, July, 25<sup>th</sup> at the 1000 Islands Playhouse starting at 8:30am.

The TIA has a very dedicated group of volunteers who meet regularly all year to keep everything moving along smoothly. One of our small successes is the new website which has helped us more than we thought by providing members with a place they can see what is happening on the river, check the newsletters, and most importantly, pay their memberships! We also believe that social media can play a role in helping us find younger members. So if you are savvy in these things we would truly like to hear from you, as we need help in this area.

As the world changes around us I personally find solace in knowing that the rhythm of the river will always be there and will not, for the most part, change. That comforts me. I look forward to it. As long as I can return to the river I can endure change in other areas.

Have a pleasant winter while dreaming of hot lazy summer days surrounded by the breathtaking beauty of our little corner of paradise in the Thousand Islands.

Cheers

*Thornley Stoker*



**TIA Business Members:** When you are shopping, or looking for services in the area, please remember our business members who support us each year. Their support is critical to our sustainability

1000 ISLAND ANTIQUE BOAT MUSEUM TRUST  
 1000 ISLAND TOWER  
 ARTHUR CHILD HERITAGE MUSEUM  
 BICKERTON BROKERS ONT. LTD.  
 BLACK CREEK BUILDERS  
 BRENNAN MARINE LTD.  
 BUTTERNUT BAY ASSOCIATION  
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 COMFORT INN GANANOQUE  
 DANIEL ROBERT COTTAGE RENTALS  
 GANANOQUE BOAT LINE  
 GANANOQUE CHEV OLDS  
 GANANOQUE FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOC.  
 GANANOQUE HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE  
 GEORGINA RATCLIFFE , CHESTNUT PARK REAL ESTATE  
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 MARSHALL'S CLEANING SERVICES  
 McCLEMENT ELECTRIC  
 McLELLAN MULTIMEDIA GROUP CORP.  
 MERKLEY APPRAISALS  
 MOBILE KITCHENS CANADA  
 PARKWAY PEST CONTROL  
 REDMOND REALTY LTD.  
 RIDEAU BOAT TOURS  
 ROCKPORT BOAT LINE  
 SLEEPY HOLLOW BED AND BREAKFAST  
 SPENCER'S RIVERFRONT COTTAGES & BOAT RENTALS  
 ST. LAWRENCE CRUISE LINES INC.  
 TACKABERRY & SONS CONSTRUCTION CO.  
 THE ENERGY CENTRE  
 THE SAM GROUP LTD.  
 THOUSANDS ISLANDS INK  
 THOUSAND ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK  
 TRIDENT YACHT CLUB  
 UNCLE SAM BOAT TOURS, INC.  
 VILLAGE QUAY MARINA

We had many prominent people at our AGM Breakfast July 19th, (almost 300 !), but the 3 to the right represent the Canadian Thousand Islands at the Leeds and Thousand Islands Township Council. Frank Kinsella is the retiring mayor, Jeff Lackie returns to council after giving the last 4 years a pass and Joe Baptista is the new mayor. Their presence is an indication that the River community is important to them.



Members often ask if they can help the organization somehow. There are not many tasks that can be done on an ad hoc basis. Our next "Big Thing" will be TIA's entry on Face Book. Our problem is that none of the executive have any idea how this works. We know that it must be a work in progress and kept up to date. We need help with this very important project if we are to remain current and relevant.

The TIA AGM was a huge success this past July. Each year the breakfast grows, the speakers get better and the speeches more meaningful and shorter! This year, we served 285 breakfasts served by the tireless volunteers provided by Jane Curtis from the Curling Club and John Peter of the Gananoque Lions Club. Thanks Guys!

All the photos in this Newsletter were taken by Pete & Janice Medcalf

If you are an active and knowledgeable Facebook user, and would be willing to donate some spare time, we need your help. Please contact us directly or via our E-mail.







**Graham (Skip) Armstrong**

**Graham Armstrong** retires this year after nearly 40 years on the board of TIA!

Graham is a past president and has held the post of Vice-President/Secretary Treasurer longer than recorded history. Time for a well deserved rest.

Thanks Skip.

**Orm Murphy** has just finished his second term as President. He was called back to help TIA remain solvent because of dwindling membership. After his 3 years, we are once again financially healthy.

Thanks, Orm.



**Ormond Murphy**

### **Thousand Islands Association Donors for 2014**

TIA thanks the generous donations from the following Members. Without their support we could not continue the programs we have to help keep us all safe on the River.

IMOGENE S. AUGSBURY  
TERRY & GRETCHEN BAMBRICK  
JAMES & JANE BERNIER  
HANS BLEEKER  
DONNA & DWAYNE BOUCHER  
LOUISE COOKE  
MICHAEL & ELAINE DAVIES  
MARJORIE DAWSON  
HANK & CARY DEAN  
GORDON & MARILYN DOWSLEY  
GEORGE DUKE  
PETER & TORI FITTON  
STUART & BETTY FOSTER  
GANANOQUE BOAT LINE  
GAN CHEV BUICK CADILLAC/ DEWIE & JAMIE HALL  
GANANOQUE FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOC.  
DOUG GIRVIN  
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WALTER & GEORGINA RATCLIFFE  
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DAN & MARTHA TACK  
GARY TRANMER & MONICA HEINE  
TOM TINNEY  
UNCLE SAM BOAT TOURS INC.  
RAY & NELCY VENTRICE  
SUSAN WAYWELL  
MARGARET WHITFIELD & GORDON CROWE



## Membership Fees

**Single Membership:** \$50.00 (Includes one Breakfast)

**Couple Membership:** \$75.00 (Includes two Breakfasts)

**Family Membership:** \$100.00 (Includes Breakfasts for 2 adults and 2 children under 18)

**Business Membership:** \$100.00 (Includes two Breakfasts)

Memberships run for a calendar year. Reminders are sent in the April Newsletter with your Boat Decal. If you haven't done so already, please send your membership fees or pay on-line with PayPal to avoid being dropped from the mailing list. We need your continued support to maintain and improve our programs.

### NEW INFORMATION PLEASE READ

Any current TIA member (to include singles, couples, family, and business members) who renew their memberships via the TIA website with PayPal, before April 1 of any given year, can do so at a 10 percent discount off of the prevailing membership fee. New Members most welcome.

Canadian Address	U.S. Address
P.O. Box 274,	P.O. Box 718
Gananoque, Ontario	Wellesley Island,
K7G 2T8	NY, 13640

## TIA Executive 2014—2015

### Officers

Thornley Stoker— President

Ormond Murphy - Past President

Marilee Chisamore Secretary-Treasurer

### Directors

Allison Burchell-Robinson - Membership

Bryan Jones - AGM Coordinator

George Kittredge - Membership

David Orr - Shoal Markers/Newsletter

Paul Regan Jr. - Heritage Foundation

John Taylor - Environment, Membership

Ken White - Shoal Markers

Bruce Wilson - Parkway Clean-Up

Emeritus: Graham Armstrong

William Hale

Rebecca Keyes of the Gananoque Thousand Islands Boat Museum is continuing the boat-building partnership with the Gananoque Intermediate and Secondary School grades 11 and 12 and they plan to build 3 Optimist Sailboats this semester. The object is to school the students in the River heritage of the region, and the hands on art of boatbuilding. The students get experience, the museum gets the boats to be used by local kids learning to sail. The Opti is a single-sail boat designed for one person up to 90 pounds (41kg) made of plywood. Last year the students built a perfect St. Lawrence skiff for the museum.

## Give someone "Your Own Shoal" for Christmas !

A TIA Fundraising Program will give someone bragging rights to their "Own Shoal" For a modest, fully tax deductible, \$500, TIA will designate the "ROCK" marker that you indicate as a gift for someone special as their own personal shoal for a period of 5 years they can tell their friends, "I Own a 1000 Islands "ROCK" Marker!"

Every "Own Your Own" Shoal Marker participant receives a framed picture of their "Own Rock" and a collectable "T" shirt and know they are helping keep boaters safe in the Thousand Islands!

See our web site [1000islandsassociation.net](http://1000islandsassociation.net) for all the details.



**Sail Boats racing** back in Gananoque again? Not since the '50s\* have there been organized sail races in front of Gan with young racers from the area showing their skills in the St. Lawrence in front of town. \*Derek Innes hosts annual races west of Gan. See pictures, next July issue of TIA Newsletter.

