

**RIL LAKE**  
**THANKSGIVING WEEKEND 2002**  
**NEWSLETTER**

What a view! Sitting here watching the morning mist rise from the lake as a pair of red-headed mergansers fish off the end of our dock. They're getting ready for the trip down south for the winter, just as many of you are getting the cottage closed up and winterized before you head back to the city, with only memories to remind you of the pleasures of cottage life in 2002.

The mergansers are in just about the area where I happened to step on (bare-footed, of course) a large sucker this year, nestled in the weeds I had to get through to retrieve a snagged lure. I never knew a fat person like me could jump so high or move so quickly-made it back to the dock in no time at all!! It's amazing the things your mind can conjure up at times such as this. The only person I saw move quicker was a person floating about in the bay who realized that the rock beside his Styrofoam lawn chair was actually the back of a large snapping turtle floating along beside him. Talk about "walk on water!"

Went down the forest access road last week- noticed that people are still using it as a dump site for brush and vegetation. Last year the MNR requested that we stop doing this due to the increased fire hazard it was causing. Why not turn it into wood chips instead and use it as mulch on your property?

Hydro outages have been pretty bad this year. You might want to consider a generator as the big family Christmas gift this year. We had ours on several times, nice to still be able to function when the grid is down. Don't you just hate it when you phone in the outage and all you get is a recording that tells you to call back later? If you do get a generator, make sure it has enough power to look after all the things you hook into it. (Bigger is better). If you decide to wire it into the cottage, have a qualified electrician do it. Otherwise, you could end up killing a line repair person or watching your cottage go up in flames.

Don't want to cook the turkey this year? I believe both Birch Haven 767 3354 and The Four Oaks 767 3609 are taking reservations for Thanksgiving dinners.

James Myers has been good enough to set up a Ril Lake web page. [www.rillake.ca](http://www.rillake.ca) He is just putting the final touches to it. Please check it out.

Have you sent in your Lake Plan Survey form yet? If not, please get it in ASAP to James.

Had a good annual Association meeting this year. Lots of discussion with, hopefully, positive end results. Several people got up and raised issues that were of concern to them and were in turn given feedback from others on the lake. No changes to the executive. Les Penzvalto, Pres. 767 2245, Vern Fallows, Vice. 767 2325, Rita Fallows, Secretary, 767 2325, June Crittenden, Treasurer, 767 3677 It's not too late to pay your \$10.00 membership fee.

Moose and deer hunting season is coming. Keep that in mind if you are up after the Thanksgiving weekend.

Have a safe trip back to the city. If you are taking your boat home, make sure that it is securely tied down. I saw a guy lose a big one on Hwy 11 a few years ago by Bracebridge. What a mess! Forgot to make sure the front end was tied down.

