

**Executive Changes:**

After years of dedicated service, one of the founding fathers of COPKA has resigned as vice president. You may know Chris Bransfield as owner of MV Live Bait in Barry's Bay, and he has just become President of the Bait Association of Ontario, leaving him strapped for time. Chris will continue to be a source of strategic thinking, political savvy and of course, sense of humour.

Stepping into some very big shoes, is Patrick Cybulskie, our new vice president. Pat is well known in the communities of Killaloe and Round Lake as a hardworking contractor, coach and power walker. He has been on the Board from the start; in fact Pat was instrumental in COPKA's beginning. We know he will bring his steady confidence and wisdom to this job. And he knows how to fix the roof.

Dan Harrington of Killaloe Pro Hardware has joined us as Treasurer. Dan has lots of experience on boards, and has developed the monthly Killaloe Breakfast meeting, and he is a great addition to our team.

**Taser:**

The Killaloe OPP are using the Taser again in our communities.

Since the incidents of 2006, we have supported the OPP's restraint with regards to this weapon. In January 2008, we gave the Taser-carrying officers a detailed report on the risks associated with the Taser. We believed that they were not getting this information in their training or from the promoters of the weapon.

COPKA had repeatedly asked for a moratorium until completion of an independent safety study. The OPP's response has been that when Commissioner Fantino tells them to stop using it, or the laws are changed, they will no longer use the Taser.

In May, 2008, the Taser was used in two separate incidents (to our knowledge.)

COPKA is developing a new information package for the OPP on recent Taser safety research and our efforts on this important issue are continuing.

**We repeat our call for a moratorium on the use of the Taser until completion of an independent safety study.**

**Complainant Support Team:**

COPKA is developing a formal protocol to use when a citizen comes to us with a complaint. Our services now include:

- assistance in completing formal OPP complaints forms,
- going with a complainant to meet with the OPP Staff Sgt.
- speaking with the OPP Staff Sgt. or to the Community Policing Advisory Committee (CPAC) on the complainant's behalf.
- developing a database of incidents to track trends in the OPP detachment area.

OPP Staff Sgt. Colin Slight is aware of our complainant support program and has offered to meet informally with complainants, on or off police premises, with or without a COPKA representative.

Complaints are coming in.

If you would like to be part of this team, please call Genevieve (613) 757-3104

**Observer Network.**

COPKA's network of volunteer observers now covers the entire detachment area, from Round Lake to Quadeville, and from Eganville to Whitney.

When observers see a problem involving policing, they record the details and report to COPKA. We bring this information to the attention of the Staff Sgt. and CPAC, and if necessary, to the media.

We have seen substantial success in reducing cruiser speeding through built-up areas. If you would like to become a COPKA observer, or have an incident you would like to report, please call Genevieve or Brian (613) 757-3104

**Restorative Justice: Killaloe**

COPKA has raised funds and sent two people to facilitator training through the RealJustice program. Brian Tyrrell and Genevieve Jones are now both certified as facilitators. We are currently looking for opportunities for hands-on experience and mentoring in existing programs. As well, the Community Resource Centre of Killaloe has kindly offered their meeting room for our program's use.

Genevieve Jones has done a great job developing the program. She is looking for input from the community, so if you would like to see a program outline and give us your feedback, contact Genevieve (613) 757-3104. Your input will help us develop policies that will accurately reflect the needs of our communities.

(Restorative Justice: Killaloe, cont'd...)



Letters of support are coming in from social workers, a Probation officer, a minister, local business people, a community activist and the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards. The Crown Attorney has shown positive interest and our funding prospects look good.

### **New Brochure:**

We have released the “You and the Police: Rights and Responsibilities” brochure. It is in 40 locations throughout the detachment area along with “Welcome to COPKA”. So far, over 2,000 have been taken home by the public.

“You and the Police” answers the most commonly asked questions about police-public interactions and contains a list of legal contact information on the back. The brochure was developed and is constantly updated based on advice from lawyers, police services and community groups. It is accurate to the best of our knowledge at the time of printing.

If you would like copies of these brochures, or want to volunteer for distribution, call Genevieve (613)757-3104

### **Annual General Meeting**

Our 2008 AGM will be held September 9<sup>th</sup>, at the Community Resource Centre in Killaloe. The meeting will begin at 7:00pm.

All COPKA members are welcome, and memberships will be checked, renewed and sold at the door. A renewal or new membership costs \$20.

Come and meet your Board members, and find out how you can get involved in this thriving, creative citizens’ group. There will be cookies.

### **Your Board of Directors:**

Brian Tyrrell,	President
Pat Cybulskie,	Vice President
Georgia Steffan,	Director
Dan Harrington,	Treasurer

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Genevieve Jones: Secretary  
Program Coordinator for **Restorative Justice: Killaloe**