

**CITATION FOR TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FRONTENAC
VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR
BEDFORD DISTRICT 2005**

George Jones has dedicated the last 20 years of his life to the sport of Sprint Canoe/Kayak. He was a part of the 1980 Olympic Team that was to participate in Moscow, Russia but fell short of fulfilling that dream when the Games were boycotted by Canada. Since then George has devoted his time to fostering the development of the sport in the youth of South Frontenac and Kingston. In the late 90's he coached kids on the water of the Cataraqui River as part of the Cataraqui Canoe Club. When the club disbanded Sprint Racing, George brought it to Sydenham. Since 1997 to present, George has worked and coached at the Sydenham Lake Canoe Club without compensation. He drops everything he is doing when kids ask for his help. George repairs boats that are damaged at home and at the club, and often encourages the kids to help. This way he can teach them to appreciate the craftsmanship and time it takes to keep the boats water-worthy.

George is an unselfish man who drives thousands of miles a year, towing boats and getting kids to regattas. If the kids have set goals, George is there to help them achieve their goals. He spends many hours in the water fixing and tweaking the lanes and setting up buoys. From the spring through the fall the man does not stop with his devotion to the sport. During the winter he sets up training exercise programs that the kids can take part in if they choose. Ask any parent if their child hasn't learned sportsmanship, goal setting, history and love of the outdoors under the tutelage of George.

George is a family man with a loving understanding wife, and two grown girls attending university. They also have a love for the sport. I guess you could say that it's a family affair. Being a family man also has responsibilities, and aside from the 50 hours he volunteers to the club a week, he also finds a way to put another 50 hours in the construction trade to earn a living.

George Jones EATS, SLEEPS & BREATHES the sport of Canoe/Kayak and does this in his spare time and usually at his own expense. The youth of South Frontenac should be aware of how lucky they are to have a volunteer as genuine as George Jones.