



West Carling Association Summer 2018 Newsletter

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PRESIDENT’S LETTER

By Pam Wing

HAPPY CANADA DAY!

Sitting on the deck this past weekend with my daughter and her fiancé, I realized that summer is really here. The water was a “balmy” 21 degrees. I thought I might have a swim but once the temperature reached 28 degrees, I knew it was definitely going to happen. It was lovely and we all continued to swim every day.

This newsletter will give you the information you need on what WCA has planned for the summer and some of the work we have been doing during the off season.

Your AGM will be held on July 22nd at the Carling council chambers. We will have an update from the municipality on what has been happening this past year. Also, the Executive Director of the West Parry Sound Health Centre Foundation will tell us how we can keep our “hospital in cottage country” an amazing health care facility.

Increasing our membership has been a focus and I am pleased to let you know that we now have in place an associate membership category. Any member of a family residing at the same property as a full member can become an associate member. This will allow our children and grandchildren to become aware of our organization and interest them in becoming full members. They will receive our email newsletter and have access to our website and receive the GBA Update three times a year. I look forward to meeting some new associate members.

I look forward to seeing you at the AGM and our other events this summer. Please feel free to contact me anytime especially if you would like to volunteer. We are currently looking for area reps to assist us in reaching all out potential members.

Wishing you all the best. Have a happy and safe summer on the Bay!

Pam Wing

Upcoming Events

July 22, 2018	WCA Board Meeting and AGM	Town Council Chambers	10:00 AM
August 4, 2018	WCA Picnic	Fitzgerald Bay Beach	1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
August 5, 2018	WCA Picnic Rain Day	Fitzgerald Bay Beach	1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
August 18, 2018	WCA/GBBR Children’s Water Festival	Fitzgerald Bay Beach	10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
August 26, 2018	WCA Board Meeting	President’s house	9:00 am

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SATURDAY AUGUST 4TH WCA PICNIC & REGATTA

Fitzgerald Bay Beach - 1PM to 4PM

Please join us for an afternoon of fun and a great chance to meet your fellow West Carling residents. The event is open to all; members and non-members and of course your family and visitors are welcome to come. Please bring a chair if you like and a towel, life jacket and your own watercraft if you will be participating in any of the events.



**Activities for the
whole family!**

BBQ:

**Hot dogs and
Sausage \$2
Pop and Water \$1**

Activities Include:

**Sailing
Rowing
Paddle Boarding
Kayaking
Swimming**

RAIN DATE

Sunday August 5th, 1PM to
4PM Fitzgerald Bay Beach

West Carling Association

www.westcarling.com

CHILDREN'S WATER FESTIVAL

Saturday August 18, 10am- 12pm

Fitzgerald Beach

31 Fitzgerald Bay Road , Carling Township

Join the West Carling
Association and the
Georgian Bay Biosphere
to learn about the waters
of Georgian Bay!



Explore Georgian Bay history, plants, animals, and
conservation with activities for kids ages 6-12.

Contact Donna Tucker to register:

tucker6493@gmail.com



*This is a rain or shine event.
Activities will not include swimming.
Participants are encouraged to bring
drinking water, snacks, and dress for
the weather.*

A Frenzy of Kayaks
By Bruce Davidson



The

English language has some pretty amusing names for groups of animals or birds, such as a *murder of crows*, a *congress of baboons*, a *sleuth of bears* or a *surfeit of skunks*. Having participated in White Squall's *Franklin Challenge* in June, with eighty odd paddlers champing at the bit on the start line, I would like to submit a *frenzy of kayaks* as a candidate expression for such an animated grouping. Notwithstanding the organizers repeated assurances that **this is not a race**, just try convincing a bunch of testosterone charged youths that lazing down the river on a sunny afternoon is the way to go. No chance.

My first opportunity to look like a clown came early in the proceedings when I found myself on the wrong side of the flotilla heading like gangbusters into the open Bay through the narrow channel at the Snug Lighthouse. For reasons that I will simply attribute to a senior moment, I had to get to the White Squall safety boat through the onrushing mass of kayaks, as I imagined, in a huge hurry. Why in a hurry? I have no idea—it just seemed imperative in the heat of the moment with everybody flailing away trying to catch their neighbour. Fortunately, I have driven in roundabouts in both London and Paris, and thus have some familiarity with vehicular anticipation, intimidation and aggressive intrusion tactics. I expect the lateral arabesque manoeuvre that I deftly executed caught some of the young 'uns by surprise, but hey, whatever it takes.

Things settled down somewhat thereafter to the extent that I could actually spare the time to steal a glance at my surroundings—what a luxury. Alas, the moment was fleeting, as any slacking inevitably meant that that damn blue sea-going craft that I had fought so hard to keep up with was rapidly slipping away. Worse still, the conversationalists and the party animals actually had the temerity to steal my hard wrung position in the pack. What ignominy!

The truly humorous moment of the day for me came after an hour or so into the fray when a couple of guys in a *Nigel Dennis Explorer*, the Ferrari of the kayak world, came alongside my craft and said as politely as they could manage “What’s that, a chopper?” Now up until that moment, I had imagined myself as a pretty cool dude, notwithstanding my septuagenarian status, perched atop my bright red *sit-on-top Wilderness Tarpon*. Think Dennis Hopper and Jack Nicholson in *Easy Rider* and you have a fair idea of my mental comport. Now at one fell swoop I had been unmasked as a novice interloper in a craft straight out of Wally World in their eyes. I did manage to muster a laugh as I sat sprawled out like some kind of beached whale...giving an unconvincing explanation that it was all about comfort.

Corbman Point is the most northerly tip of Franklin Island and a designated check in location. As we had a fairly brisk north wind that day, the half mile paddle into the teeth of it after a couple of hours already under the belt was bracing to say the least. Taking dead aim at the big white war canoe, White Squall’s 10 person Blackfly II, already ashore in the distance I summoned the last vestiges of strength and dug in to cross the choppy waters. Gratefully I hauled my sorry backside out of my watery prison in anticipation of cookies and a surreptitious beer carefully concealed in an insulated holder. You can imagine with what mixture of horror and amazement I observed the kayak behind me (yes, there were a few) calling out its numbers and continuing on. No pee break, no cookies, no refreshments, nothing but back to business. Who were these animals? Had I mistakenly signed up for the *Carling Company of Masochistic Adventurers* instead of the *Franklin Challenge*?

This disturbing new development completely destroyed my enjoyment of lunch as I worriedly observed several others pull the same stunt and continue on. Was this some kind of evil conspiracy to take down the would-be pretender from Wally World? Was everybody hiding around the corner ready to yell **SURPRISE!** when I gullibly bought into their trickery? Not able to afford taking the chance, I wolfed down my peanut butter and banana sandwich, gulped down the last of my beer, grabbed a couple of cookies from the cheerful greeter and staggered back crablike to subject myself to the next episode of self-flagellation.

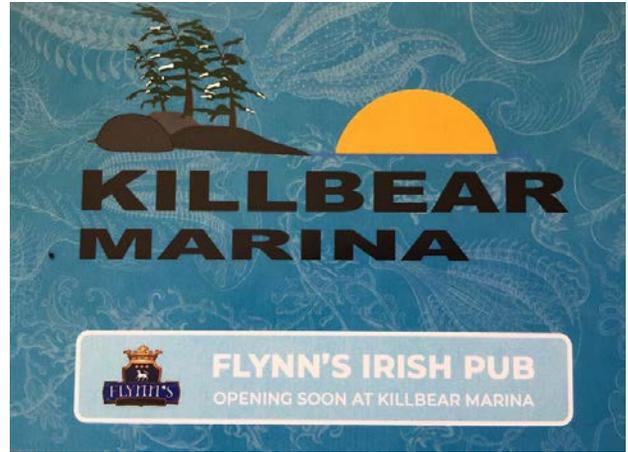
While the return leg was supposedly downwind, I had many years of golf under my belt and was very familiar with the peculiarity of that sport where it is entirely possible, indeed likely, that you can play all 18 holes into the wind and yet end up back at the clubhouse. Fortunately that was not the case on this particular day as I finally allowed Mother Nature to do the heavy lifting as I sauntered on home.

Kudos to White Squall for raising around \$12,000 in support of the Franklin Island cleanup efforts which they organize several times each summer. And a special thanks to Emily Beirens for accommodating my idiosyncrasies. I expect to be on hand same time next year for another bout with the *frenzy of kayakers*, only this time with Aleve.

Killbear Marina Under New Management
By John Rohr

2018 marks the beginning of a new chapter for an important commercial establishment vital to West Carling's lifeblood.

The Reichenbacher family, after purchasing a small local marina in 1984, have through the hard work of two generations rebuilt and upgraded Killbear Marina into the first-class operation that it is today. A range of docking facilities, boat storage, a seasonal restaurant, as well as grocery and boat chandlery shops have been key to filling the needs of Carling residents, especially our island residents, and passing cruising clientele alike.



Walt Wachon –
General Manager

This Spring, new ownership was assumed by the Hindson Group who bring with them a proven track record from marina operations in Penetanguishene, Ontario.

We met last week with Walt Wachon who has worked for a number of years as a successful understudy to Ed and Will Reichenbacher and will now provide much appreciated continuity of service to Killbear customers as the new General Manager. Our congratulations to Walt, who we've learned is also a recent addition to Carling's Volunteer Fire Department.

Walt informed us that together with the new owners the intention is to provide West Carling boaters with a broader range of services and attempt to turn the marina into more of a community hub. New services now being offered to help complete this goal include a water taxi service, boat towing, and an increased commitment to in-house boat mechanics, boat repairs etc.

Another area of changing emphasis is the restaurant and grocery which have been subcontracted to the Flynn Irish Pub group that operate existing restaurants in Honey Harbour and Penetanguishene. These two operations just re-opened under the new manager, Paula Hannon who is sure to add some her authentic Irish charm to the new pub. A broad range of food on the menu available includes ribs, burgers, wings, wraps, Guinness battered haddock, and salads. Another new addition will be a takeout menu.



Paula Hannon
Flynn's Irish Pub

Please join us in welcoming the new managers of these key service operations to West Carling and we wish them all the success in their new endeavours.

Carling Community Centre
By Bill Bialkowski



I bumped into Kevin McLLwain while visiting the township offices, and he gave me a tour of the new nearly completed Community Centre. Here is an update from Kevin

Hi Bill,

Thanks for taking the time to chat today.

As mentioned, the community centre is coming along... a little later than originally hoped but given the spring we had, it is going well. There are still a number of items to decide but all indications it is on budget and should be an efficient, friendly usable space.

We are always looking for volunteers to take-on various programs and events. If anyone in your association has an idea for an event or program please encourage them to write or call us. Perhaps someone wants to hold cooking classes or have a weekly, monthly or annual social event for various groups like the West Carling Association. A card drop-in afternoon or rainy day activities, yoga nights or dance lessons etc.

Our Facility will have 4 options for size of rooms as the Large hall has a full dividing track wall:

- the smaller meeting room (28' x 20' - max 50 people)
- Entire hall (51 x 73 – max 300 people)
- 1/3rd hall (51 x 30 – max 125 people)
- 2/3rd hall (51 x 43 – max 175)

There is also a full commercial kitchen that is available.

We also have families that will rent the hall for Christmas, Thanksgiving, Easter, birthday, retirement and other celebrations. This makes having large family events a little easier in a facility like this compared to renting tents or squeezing everyone into your home or cottage.

Thanks again,
Kevin McLLwain
CAO - Clerk

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