



West Carling Association Spring 2017 Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

By Pam Wing

Hello everyone! Welcome to our very first digital newsletter. If you know someone who has not given us an email address, please encourage him/her to do so. The newsletter can also be found on our website at westcarling.com. We would also ask that you print a copy and have it at your cottage this summer for your children and guests to read and as a gentle reminder of what is going on with your Association.

I do believe winter is on its last legs; although, last fall before the ice came in, we had some exceptionally strong winds and that means there may be some docks damaged. Now, very little snow is left; much of it disappeared during the mild weather in late February. Our backyard waterfall was roaring down for a few days and hopefully all the melt went into the bay to keep our high water level. It has not been an especially snowy winter or extremely cold. The snow blower sat forlornly on the deck and the deer have been up and down the road as if it were their own private highway. None-the-less, the winter seemed to drag on longer than I would have liked.

But signs of spring are here. I heard some Canada geese overhead this morning and a couple of new birds have come to the feeder - the grackle and the red-winged black bird - and I saw a chipmunk filling his little cheeks. Little green shoots are peaking out of my garden mess. There is work to be done there and everywhere. The ice is shrinking and cracks and fissures are appearing daily. It is difficult to tell what the water level will be like but I know you are all anxious to hear the predictions and Bill Bialkowski's article has information on that.

What does your WCA have planned for you this summer? With the Carling Recreation Centre permanently closed and the new one not yet built, we have had to find a new location for our AGM. It will be held in the Carling Council chambers on July 30, 2017. As well, our Annual Picnic will be held on Saturday August 5th at the beach in Fitzgerald Bay. This will allow you to come by boat or by car. Should you come by car, make sure you have your municipal parking pass with you. The picnic should be a fun time for all. I would ask for volunteers to assist with the day. Please let me know. We would love to hear from you on any matter – if you think there is an event we should have, or any ideas or concerns.

As you know, this is Canada's 150th birthday and we are planning a celebration for July 1st. We will keep you posted on the details as soon as they are completed. After our very rained-on event last July, maybe the sun will shine for our big birthday.

The Snug Harbour Lighthouse transfer from the federal government has been finally completed over the past few weeks. To date there are no concrete plans on what will happen with it. I will continue to follow up to see if there are any opportunities for WCA.

The latest issue of GBA's *Update* is now available. It has many interesting items and I would recommend you go on line and review it. On April 1st Marc Cooper and I attended the AGM for the Georgian Bay Association (GBA). It was a very interesting and informative meeting – you will find most of the information on the GBA website. A couple of items I would like to mention specifically.

The results of the survey that was sent to all members were presented. Although there was not a large response from WCA members, over all the response was good. The survey outcome is that for now there will be no change in the newsletter. It will continue to be sent out by mail three times a year. GBA will be pursuing other communication avenues to get information to the younger generation who prefer this type of digital communication.

The Trump budget's threat to cut funding for the program that addresses water quality and environmental threats in the Great Lakes were discussed and what this could mean to Ontario. This has worried not only

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Ontario, Canada but also the eight Great Lakes states. They have written letters asking for continued funding. There is more information on the GBA website.

Lastly, there is word that Ontario has amended the Public Lands Act so that most docks and boathouses may not require work permits for construction or land use permits. Regulations are required and must be approved by Cabinet. This will take some time so if you are in dire need of a new dock this year, start working on the current permitting process just to be safe.

Looking forward to many warm sunny days to enjoy our beautiful Georgian Bay and to raise a glass with family and friends. I hope to see many of you during the summer.

Enjoy!

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**Remote Access and new Fire Apparatus
By Don Clement**

Don Clement asked Gord Harrison, West Carling's Fire Chief, about the township's purchase of a new "Mimi Pumper". What follows is excerpted from the Fire Chief's response.

As part of the 2016 Fire Department Budget deliberations the Fire Department recommended the purchase of a "Mini-pumper" to add to the Apparatus line-up. The proposed date for this purchase was in 2017. A "mini-pumper" has a full-sized pump with 330 gallons of water on a Ford 550 frame. This allows for a fire attack apparatus that is not much larger than the average pick-up and would enable us to access every property in the township that has road access.

At the time of the deliberations we had the following apparatus:

Pumper One: Front-line Pumper with 1000 gallons of water.
Pumper Two: Tanker with 1600 gallons of water
Unit 3: Medical Response Truck.
Remote 1: Ford 250 with 150 gallons of water.

The recommendation to Council was to move to the following line-up of the apparatus.

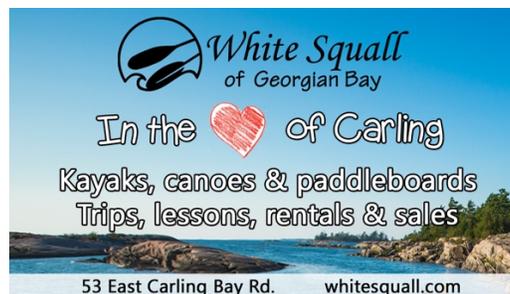
Pumper One: Front-line Pumper with 1000 gallons of water.
Pumper Two: Front-line Pumper with 330 gallons of water.
Tanker Three: Tanker with 1600 gallons of water.
Rescue Four: Ford 250 with 150 gallons of water and Medical Response.

There were two reasons for adding the "Mini-pumper" to the fleet.

1. By adding a smaller, less expensive truck, that still qualifies as a Front-line Pumper to the fleet we would be able to change our apparatus replacement schedule and keep our current Pumper One for 30 years instead of the recommended 20 years.
2. There are a number of very small roads that Pumper One would have difficulty accessing; a "Mini-pumper" can get anywhere a pick-up can go. In the past we have always accessed these difficult areas but it often takes longer to get operations under way.

Due to a significant breakdown of our old tanker, Council gave the Fire Department permission to move ahead with the purchase of a Mini-pumper this year with the added benefit of a used tanker that is in very good condition being included at the price of a new "Mini-pumper".

I trust this explanation will answer any questions you may encounter. If you have any other questions or concerns please give me a call.



Tennis Anyone? A Tale in Retirement
By John Rohr

I don't know exactly what keeps bringing me back to the game of tennis. It's something I played on public courts informally with school friends in Northern Ontario, and then again while working abroad in Asia; it provided relief from the stresses of work and a young family in the early 1980's. As our daughters grew up, I tried to share the poetry of the game with them from time to time on the public courts near our home in the centre of Toronto. More of an outing than a competition. The "Raising a Family Years" where career survival, cottage life, and vacations proved to be the primary focus areas, seemed to fly by leaving little time for extra curriculars such as tennis and the ever-confounding game of golf.

Fast forward to early retirement in our mid fifties (a mixed blessing and a challenge to reinvent oneself). We took the plunge and built a year-round home on Georgian Bay, an idea that flowed naturally from our years of cottaging in the Muskokas. All the planning and physical sweat equity kept us very busy over the first few years; however, those absolutely beautiful snow-covered winters soon proved a little too quiet for these urban refugees.

Solution: The last ten winters we have spent happily mangling the ancient Spanish language in the beach communities of Western Mexico. Now, my wife Peggy has found her second life, largely in the media of oil paint and print art but I, among the less gifted, happily rediscovered the tennis courts, both clay and hard court surfaces. There's a natural circle of friends that comes with both our pursuits; although, we seem to rarely mix the two groups.

Tennis "the game" has a lot of attractions for me. First, I find the gym or jogging too much like work: tedious and repetitive. Yes I need exercise like all of us with aging bodies but I still enjoy the challenge of the competition and improving my game. Also the longevity of this game is attractive, as I see many people playing well into their seventies and eighties. With age we play smarter rather than hit harder! Experts believe it's a cognitive game as each shot you make is different. When you are faced with opponents positioned uniquely, the brain is constantly computing. I like to think tennis is like Bridge or Chess with exercise thrown in as a bonus. And finally, my golf game never seems to improve, which drives me nuts!

Okay, so back to our beautiful Georgian Bay and the separately beautiful game of tennis. The archeologist in me has discovered a scattered history of the game in the Parry Sound area but I find on mainland, one has to excavate (figuratively at least) under layers of hockey rinks to find evidence of a tennis culture locally. This is at a time when Canada as a tennis country has had the best showing on the world tennis stage, ever, in the past five years, in both men's and women's tennis. Sadly, the best facility in the area, the former Inn at Manitou, has suffered from financial problems. Parry Sound itself has three rather basic asphalt surface courts available: two behind the high school and the unfortunately undersized court next to the Bobby Orr Centre where my group of active retirees play five mornings a week from spring through the fall months.

Now some private courts do exist around Parry Sound, and the odd court can be found at resorts such as the former Jolly Roger in Seguin and at the Inverlocky Resort on Deep Bay. Also there is and was a history of tennis on a number of the larger islands on Georgian Bay, many private, as well as active clubs to our south on Frying Pan Island in San Souci, and at the Ojibway Club in Pointe Au Baril to our North.

If one searches hard enough, one can find the old ruins of the courts left behind from the long-abandoned youth camp on southern Franklin Island near Regatta Bay.

Finally, what I have discovered with tennis over the years is that it can play an important role in building a broader and more inclusive community, often bringing people together who wouldn't otherwise meet except for the common interest in this beautiful game. Given the facilities, nearly everyone can afford to and learn to play tennis on some level. Also if our Parry Sound area intends to compete for active retirees and/or young

families to boost our recreation-based economy, I personally think we could benefit greatly from supporting public facilities like tennis courts, that most communities elsewhere take for granted.

So allow me to conclude with an enthusiastic: TENNIS ANYONE??!!

Tree Talk
By Alex Davidson

I know it ain't too profound or nothin', but I love trees. I always have. I've lost count of the number of trees that I've planted and nurtured to adolescence over the years, particularly while at the cottage on Georgian Bay. So when I tuned in to Steve Paikin's TVO program *The Agenda* some time ago, I perked up when he introduced his guest Peter Wohlleben, a researcher and German forester who has at times been referred to as the Tree Whisperer. Mr. Wohlleben is the author of a recently published and surprisingly popular book called *The Hidden Life of Trees: What They Feel, How they communicate – Discoveries From a Secret World*. What ensued was a fascinating and at times incredible interview with the author. His book promised insight into the passage of life by an organism that is far more complex than most of us can imagine. I immediately ordered it online.

The book is wide sweeping in its content and an easy read. For the purpose of this article, it is too comprehensive in its discussion of a tree's life to allow anything more than a brief commentary upon a couple of highlights. Tim Flannery, a scientist, author and conservationist provided a good forward to the book, which I've drawn upon.

One of the reasons we fail to understand trees is that they live on an entirely different time scale from us. A tree may just be entering its prime of life at 150 years of age. In fact, several Bristle Cone Pines native to California are more than 4000 years old while a particular spruce in Sweden has been dated at more than 9000 years. During their long lives, measureable electrical currents pass slowly through the roots of all trees. It is through these electrical impulses that trees communicate with each other. By means of a partnership with soil fungi, trees' roots provide an astonishing 'Wood -Wide Web' among their fellow forest members that serves to share social information important to their health, safety and propagation. Soil fungi operate like a network of fibre optic internet cables. One teaspoon of forest soil contains many miles of these 'hyphae'. Over centuries, a single fungus can cover many square miles and network an entire forest. Through this network, trees are able to support and care for members of their community who have been sickened by disease, damaged, or even chopped down. When informed of a member's distress, fellow species of trees may take action to keep it alive by feeding it nutrients and sugars, sometimes for centuries. But only some stumps are nourished. These nourished stumps are believed to be the parents of the trees that make up the forests of today. That's incredible!

Trees also use the senses of smell and taste to communicate. For example, spruces, beeches, and oaks all register pain as soon as some creature starts nibbling on them. When a caterpillar takes a bite out of a leaf, the tissue around the site of the damage changes. The leaf tissue then sends out an electrical signal, just as human tissue does when it's hurt. However, unlike in us, the tree's electrical signal travels at a snail's pace of a third of an inch a minute. It may take an hour or more before the signal reaches the host branch, but when it does, the tree releases a toxin that is pumped to the leaves that spoils the caterpillar's lunch. Not only are trees able to release these toxins, but also, from the saliva of the insect they are able to identify the exact type of pest they are dealing with. Indeed, the match can be so precise that the tree can release pheromones (a scent) that attract specific beneficial predators. The beneficial predators in turn are expected to devour the insects that are bothering the tree. For example, elms and pines call upon certain parasitic wasps that lay their eggs inside caterpillars. As the wasp larvae develop, they in turn devour their caterpillar hosts from the inside out. Not a pleasant thought but very effective. Trees certainly appear to have their own built -in pharmacies.

These are just two of the fascinating facets of tree life. If you find the subject matter as interesting as I did, you should probably buy the book. Alternatively, if merely a lukewarm piquing of interest is registered, it may be better that I just present a few more excerpts in a future newsletter. If there is no interest, I'll likely be so informed by our editor. At any rate, enjoy your walks in the woods this summer; be sensitive to what you say around the trees, and don't nibble on the leaves.

**Water Levels update
By Bill Bialkowski**

Water levels have been under discussion on Georgian Bay since 2003, when extremely low water had persisted for the fifth year in a row. I had just retired from an engineering career involving much mathematical modelling, had just bought a cottage on Georgian Bay, and was immediately recruited by Mary Muter, then with the GBA, to help investigate what was wrong with water levels. In essence, the Detroit and St. Clair rivers had been dredged repeatedly to allow ever-larger ships to navigate until 1962, when the 'Seaway' was completed and all channels were finally dredged to allow 27-foot draft ships to navigate.

The accepted practice by the American and Canadian governments, the International Joint Commission (IJC) and US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), was to install compensation structures after each dredging to slow the water flow and prevent the upstream lake level from dropping. The Detroit River was compensated for past dredging. Compensation was designed for the St. Clair River in 1970 – a set of sills or 'speed bumps' along the bottom, and in 1977, the foundations were installed. BUT just then, water supplies to Lake Michigan-Huron (MH) increased dramatically, and water levels kept rising, until the all-time high was reached in 1986. Great damage was done by the high water, especially along the southern shores of Lake Michigan, where beaches and bluffs were eroded and houses actually toppled into Lake Michigan. Some southern Lake Michigan interests were so upset about the USACE compensating sill design for the St. Clair River, which would raise levels even higher, that they sued the US Army Corps. The sills design was abandoned, and the money approved by the U.S. Congress was rescinded, even though the original authorization was left to stand 'on the books'. The IJC had calculated that the level of Lake Michigan-Huron had been permanently lowered by 16 inches, due to the lack of compensation.

So in 2003, Mary Muter of the GBA convened a water levels committee including engineers, Jeremy Gawen, Bill Bialkowski and several other people. Initial modeling revealed that there were unexplained issues in the St. Clair River. It was time to perform a professional study by respected hydrologists, and Mary Muter persuaded the GBA Foundation to fund an independent study by W. F. Baird and Associates.

The resulting Baird Report in 2004 uncovered previously undetected erosion of the St. Clair which was triggered by the last dredging and which had lowered Lake MH by another 5 inches for a grand total lowering of 21 inches. During the prolonged period of low water from 1998 to 2013, Lake MH hovered at or near chart datum, or 176 metres above sea level. Had compensation measures been in place, the level would have been 21" or 50 cm higher, and we all would have been very happy.

The IJC convened the International Upper Great Lakes (IUGLS) study in 2007 to investigate the Baird allegations. Dr. Eugene Stakhiv, an ex-USACE executive, who was against any form of St. Clair River compensation, headed it. He was heard to say, "Nothing will happen in the St. Clair River in my lifetime". The study agreed with Baird that erosion had occurred in the St. Clair, although not as much as claimed by Baird. Nevertheless it recommended that NOTHING BE DONE. Was it a coincidence that at this time the USACE was being sued by a southern Lake Michigan group about the compensating sills?

The IJC convened hearings after the IUGLS in 2012, and at Midland, 600 people attended, many wearing blue 'Restore our Water' t-shirts. The Canadian IJC Commissioner, Lyall Knot said at the end of the meeting: "We hear you loud and clear – Restore our water – Restore our water NOW". In 2013 the IJC finally recommended that the governments consider installing compensating structures in the St. Clair River,

but to do it in such a way that their impact could be removed during very high water. It took until 2017 for the Canadian Government to acknowledge and support the IJC recommendation. The US Government is still silent, and who knows what can happen under President Trump. No matter what happens, the first step towards implementing a solution must be the authorization and funding for the US Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a re-evaluation study. The only recognized engineering solution so far – the 1970 sill design - is known to raise water levels by 10 inches during both low and high water levels. This is unacceptable and goes against the IJC recommendation.

In January 2013 Lake MH hit a new all-time low water record at 17 inches below chart datum, yet by May MH was hit by a sudden huge increase in water supply, and the 15-year low water saga was over. Levels rose 50 cm and have remained relatively high ever since. This has taken the 'steam' out of efforts to solve low water levels issues. Yet we know that low water will return, and probably with a vengeance due to climate change.

Mary Muter's group has continued to press towards a solution of both low and high water. A compensation design 'in principle' has been put forward. It compensates for sustained low water levels by 20 inches, and also lowers extreme high water levels by 8 inches – hence it exceeds the IJC's recommendations, and should serve to keep the southern Lake Michigan groups satisfied. The design demonstrates that it is feasible to solve both problems simultaneously. It uses an efficient hydrofoil gate design to slow the water only when needed, and it uses previously designed IJC crises measures to lower high water levels as they approach crisis levels. Mary's group has also been active in Washington to educate US government bodies on this issue. In 2016, it was reconstituted as the Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation, and is dedicated to resolving the impacts of both low and high water in the Upper Great Lakes Basin, along with research into wetland health.

Modeling of the water levels and flows has continued, and Bill Bialkowski will be speaking at the International Association of Great Lakes Researchers IAGLR Conference in Detroit on May 15. The talk is on a variable conveyance routing model for the great lakes. Bill's hydraulic model of the great lakes accurately accounts for the ever-increasing conveyance of the St. Clair River, to the extent that it agrees almost exactly with USACE water levels and flow data. The model has been used to demonstrate alternative solutions for compensating for prolonged low water periods, without exacerbating extreme high water events such as the record high water in 1986. Bill has demonstrated this solution to both the IJC and the US Army Corps of Engineers, both with a high level of acceptance.

West Nile Virus By Adrian Crowe

With warming weather, we turn our thoughts to paddling and swimming, but also to mosquitoes and the menace they create! For Ontario cottagers, West Nile Virus (WNV) is a mosquito-transmitted pathogen of some interest.

The first Canadian case of human WNV occurred in Ontario in 2002. WNV is transmitted via the bite of a mosquito that has fed on an infected bird (most commonly crows, jays, magpies, ravens).

Symptoms usually appear within 2-15 days after infection. 80% of infected people will have NO symptoms! The 1 in 5 that experiences ANY symptoms will usually have mild disease with symptoms of fever, headache, aches, malaise, etc. Less than 1% of infected people will have serious illness (neurologic symptoms).

You cannot get West Nile virus by:

- donating blood
- touching or kissing a person with the virus
- touching nurses or others who care for someone with the virus

There are no specific treatments or vaccines for WNV, so prevention is the key. The best prevention is to avoid mosquito bites! Mosquitoes are most active at dawn and dusk, between mid-April and the first hard frost in late September or October.

The 3 mainstays of prevention are:

1. Insect repellent (DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus—not for children under 3y).
 - reapply when noticing mosquitoes biting.
2. Protective clothing/screens
 - Long pants, long sleeves, socks, etc.
 - light-coloured clothing (mosquitoes are attracted to dark colours)
 - Install or repair screens on windows and doors to keep mosquitoes outside.

3. Reducing mosquito habitats

Mosquitoes lay eggs in standing water (water that does not move or flow). Get rid of standing water around your home by draining old tires (even tire swings), rainwater barrels, flowerpots, etc. Clean eaves troughs regularly to prevent trapped water. Tip fishing boats and gear onto their sides to drain. Replace the water in outdoor pet dishes and birdbaths at least twice a week.

If you find a dead animal or bird, do not handle with your bare hands. Wear rubber gloves when touching any dead bird or animal, and report dead birds that you suspect have West Nile Virus (see contact information below):

CWHC Ontario/Nunavut Region
Pathobiology
University of Guelph
Guelph, ON N1G 2W1
Phone: 866.673.4781
Fax: 519.821.7520
Email: on-nu@cwhc-rcsf.ca



G & B McNabb Lumber Co. Ltd.
22 Seguin Street, Parry Sound, ON P2A 1B1
Tel. (705) 746-2147 • Fax (705) 746-2186
1-800-810-0156 • email: garymc@mcnabblumber.ca

Gary McNabb
Owner / Operator

- Open Sunday 10 am – 3 pm (during summer)

**"Well Doggone Me Anyway!"
Memories of Snug Harbour
By Bruce Davidson**

Those of us fossils who have been around for a few decades, recall a time when Snug Harbour was more of an outpost in the wilderness than the tourist hub that it is today. Driving here from Toronto was a tortuous trip through Gravenhurst and Bala before ending up on a dirt road north of Nobel which, in turn, became little more than a logging track running on bare rock for considerable stretches the rest of the way into Snug.

The relative isolation of Snug Harbour in those days goes a long way towards accounting for its colourful cast of characters over the years. Allow me to recount a brief history of some of the larger than life residents of the Snug from that time onwards.

As a kid in the early 1950's, I remember wandering around rusted old hulks of trucks, cars, wringer washing machines, propane tanks, water tanks, tires and plain old junk. These were the treasures of John and Marie Ladouceur, the early tenants of the cabin which remains today behind Terry and Sarah's house. John was an eccentric, but likeable sort who, in addition to his penchant for never throwing anything away, was famously remembered for forever saying in a moment of surprise "Well doggone me anyway!"

The neighbours to the west of the Ladouceurs were the Christies who had built a log cabin on the water near the present day store and the Grahams who moved to the mainland from the Mink Islands, having built both an icehouse and cottage at the entrance to Snug as a base for their ongoing commercial fishing operation.

The Ladouceurs were succeeded by Harvey and Agnes Wing, who opened a 'general store' in a tiny log cabin sitting on the peninsula where the boat ramp is today. As a trip to Town was a fair undertaking, we were delighted to be able to buy daily essentials like milk (in glass bottles with creamers) to take back to the cottage to bury in sawdust in the icehouse. Back in those days before electricity and telephone, my Mom was pretty isolated on Snug Island for the whole summer and, being an inveterate letter writer, hugely devoted to the daily mail delivery. Imagine her angst when Alex informed her one day that, yes he remembered having picked up some letters, but now couldn't figure out what had happened to them. Needless to say we were roused from our comic books and sent back to find them. After an hour or so of fruitless searching, the delinquent letters were finally found in the ice cream freezer of the store.

In 1952 Don and Elinor Christie, were flooded out in their little waterside cabin and decided to upgrade their home by purchasing the farmhouse on a property owned by the Hailstones in Carling. Don painstakingly took apart the hewn post and beams on site, numbered them in that hard laundry soap of the times, and brought them by sleigh to reassemble in Snug Harbour. Unfortunately, it rained hard in the middle of the proceedings and Don ended up with a huge pile of freshly washed notched beams with no clue as to how they all fit together. Eventually the pieces were sorted out and the Hailstone farmhouse was reborn at Snug to house canoes, fishing gear, gasoline and ultimately groceries on the ground floor with living quarters above. Around 1959 Don built the house where Terry and Sarah live today and acquired the lands to the east for boat storage. My favorite Don Christie story is the one where he and his buddy had landed a monster muskie which was thrashing about in the bottom of their small flat-bottomed rowing punt. Don's buddy stood up to deliver a stunning blow to the fish by way of an oar butt. Unfortunately, the butt skipped off the bony head of the beast and went clean through the bottom of the boat. And that's when the fun began.

In 1971, after having built or renovated close to 200 cottages in the area, Don and Elinor sold the business to recently arrived immigrants Manfred and Gerta, and retired to Fitzgerald Bay. In the summer of 1972 my mother and I were crossing the Big Sound in our wooden Grew when the pounding of the waves opened up a seam and we sank just off Killbear beach. I swam the boat to shore, hitched a ride to Snug, and borrowed a friend's boat to get my mother and tow our own sunken boat back. Manfred, new to the area, spotted me taking the Hume's boat and immediately phoned the police! So a couple of hours later, as Mom and I limped

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into Snug with boat in tow, I recall her innocently observing "Why is that nice looking OPP officer standing over there staring at us?"

In 1977 a couple of guys who worked together in Mississauga decided to pursue their dream of owning a business in cottage country. Rick and Ian were the new proud owners of the Marina, despite being landlubbers. A fine example of their learning experience was told to me by Rick. It was the occasion where his partner managed to put the big green machine into the Harbour up to its windshields. (The big green machine was an old school bus that got sliced and diced until it resembled an army truck on steroids.) Seems that Ian couldn't quite manage to get it into reverse in time, an unfortunate omission, as the machine had no brakes!

In 1983 Bryan and Renai Perks came into the picture and really put Snug on the map by deciding to open a restaurant. I have to confess that, while I kept my opinion to myself, I thought he was nuts. Who were the customers? There were only a handful of locals in the area, many with children, and going out for dinner was not at all a lifestyle. Needless to say, I totally missed the Killbear and Regatta Bay markets. My favorite story from Bryan's era concerned a headstrong young lady who ran the water taxi for the Marina. One evening a particularly obnoxious customer cast some aspersions on her handling of the boat, which was definitely a no no. She thereupon ordered him off the boat on the nearest uninhabited island and took off. Poor Bryan had to leave the kitchen in the middle of dinner and go rescue him in the pending dark.

Finally we come to Terry and subsequently Sarah, who bought the business in 2001. The focus was now fully on the restaurant, which underwent several facelifts and renovations. Outside staff were hired, menus updated and expanded. Today the parking lot is jammed most summer nights, with lineups common outside the restaurant. In addition to the restaurant activity, Snug Harbour now is said to rival Tofino B.C. as the busiest kayak launching facility in the country, with the result that the harbour is now a hive of activity most of the summer.

Quite the change in one lifetime from a sleepy old log cabin in the woods surrounded by a junkyard, to the bustling harbour it is today. Well doggone me anyway!



**What's on for 2017 for the West Carling Association?
By Sheila Tierney**

Directors Meetings:

May 28 (Sunday) @ 9:00 am at the home of Pam Wing
June 25 (Sunday) @ 9:00 am at the home of Pam Wing
July 30 (Sunday) @ 9:00 am directors will meet at the Carling Township Council Chambers
August 27 (Sunday) @ 9:00 am at the home of Pam Wing
Members are invited to bring any concerns to the attention of the Directors.

Annual General Meeting:

July 30 (Sunday) @ 10:00 am the Annual General meeting will take place at the Council Chambers.
Members and guests are welcome.

The Annual Picnic:

August 5 at Fitzgerald Bay (note the change of venue). Members are welcome to bring their cottage guests to socialize with their neighbours. More information will be found on the West Carling Association website.

Canada 150:

We are working on a plan to celebrate 150 years of Canada's Confederation July 1. For more information or suggestions please contact Sheila Tierney at tierneyes@gmail.com

