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The Seasons
of Lake Manitou
You Have Got to
Love Them All

#### **Message from the President**

Welcome to Spring??? Southern Ontario and Manitoulin have had their winter in the last 6 weeks (March & April).....Snow, Cold & Rain! I hope all of you had a good winter and we look forward to seeing you this cottage season.

#### Some Reminders as you Open your Cottage

- 1. If you have not pumped your septic tank in the last 3 years, it's time now this year.
- 2. Use Phosphorous-Free Soap for all your cleaning (dishes & laundry).
- 3. Hydro prices are climbing a lot. Consider changing all your lighting to LED bulbs.
- 4. Do NOT fertilize your lawn. Let it grow naturally.

**Food for Thought** - Every cottage should have an outhouse. When you have a lot of guests, an outhouse can help the life of your septic system and the lake. If you use your cottage occasionally in the winter for a few days and you drain your water system, the outhouse gives you a system you can use. A hand wash system at the side of the outhouse is quite handy for these occasions, winter and summer.

<u>Stay Tuned</u> - We are in discussion with Manitoulin Streams on a Lake Manitou Riparian Restoration Project.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Let's keep our lake great"

#### Kids' Section: Poison Ivy

Itch, itch! Scratch, scratch, scratch! Do you have red bumps on your arm or leg that you just can't seem to stop scratching? Then there's a good chance you came in close contact with poison ivy, one of nature's peskiest rash-causing plants.

If you've spent more than a couple summers around Lake Manitou and haven't ever gotten a poison ivy rash, consider yourself lucky! Poison ivy is most plentiful in Canada in a geographical line from the north shore of Lake Huron to North Bay, with Manitoulin Island smack dab in the middle!

Poison ivy is easily identifiable in the wild. It can grow anywhere from a few centimetres to as tall as 60-90 centimetres (2-3 feet) depending on access to light and water. It has a woody stem



that holds the plant upright, and in the spring the plant sometimes produces small white flowers. The plant is best recognized by its leaf structure. On all poison ivy plants three leaflets are grouped together off each branch; ask any hiker or park ranger how to spot poison ivy, and they'll say "Leaflets three - let it be!'



It's very important to 'let it be' as poison ivy can cause an irritating and painful rash. All poison ivy plants possess an oil which is toxic to human skin, and coming in close contact with this oil causes a reaction in most people. Though reactions vary, a person's skin usually produces a series of reddish, fluid-filled bumps wherever the skin has come in contact with the oil. The rash can last anywhere from a few days to a few weeks, depending on the severity of the reaction.

The rash can be spread by oil that is left on clothes, tools, and even pets. If you see poison ivy in your

yard, be sure to tell your parents! They can remove it by digging the plant up or spraying the plant with herbicide.

So be sure on your next hike, walk, or game of hide-and-seek in the forest you keep an eye out for poison ivy. Forget to watch out for 'leaves of three' and you could spend the next few days itching and scratching instead of playing and hiking!

Submitted by Chris Sailus

### LAKE MANITOU AREA ASSOCIATION Twenty-Second Annual General Meeting

July 11, 2015

10:00 a.m. Sandfield Schoolhouse

Call to Order: President Mike Costigan called the meeting to order.

Consideration of the Agenda: It was moved by John De Chastelain and Dave Rutherford to accept the agenda as presented.

Motion carried.

First time new member attendees were welcomed and local community events announced. LMAA Information Night will be August II1, 2015. Manitoulin Streams has invasive species ticket sales available.

Directors and committee chairpersons attending were introduced: Mike Costigan, Mark Harvey, Steve Mann, Paul Moffatt, Alex Lochead, Don Payne, Effle Williamson, Pat Costigan, and Mary Lochead. A lot of the directors and attendees have been attending these meetings for twenty-two years.

Minutes of the July 11, 2014 Annual Meeting moved by Jan Arnold and Charlotte Edington to be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

#### **Reports of the Officers:**

Vice-President's Report: Paul Moffatt

Paul gave us an update on Manitoulin Streams, which has been doing lake and river restorations.

Their accomplishments to date include repairing aquatic in-stream habitat, enhancing riparian habitat, installing 4,000+ metres of fencing, planting 43,000 trees and native shrubs, installing 8 nose pumps, 10 watering ramps and

stocking 40,000 brook trout eggs. Their funding for 2015 amounted to \$500,000 +. They merged with the Stewardship Council and they brought \$40,000 with them.

Projects for 2015: The Kagawong Enhancement Strategy recommended 20 sites along the Kagawong River. They are completing 3 of these sites this year. They will be doing some restoration work on Grimesthorpe Creek. Manitoulin Streams will work with Lakeview School Grade 8 class from M'Chigeeng to restore a portion of the stream and conduct a shoreline and stream cleanup.

Manitoulin Streams is also involved as invasive species liaison working across the Island through community events and focusing on Phragmites. They are the community resources stewardship liaison doing a hunter and trapper education course and invasive species awareness, etc. They are mapping all of their restoration efforts from 2000 - 2015 and creating their new website and interactive map for the public to see. They act as tourism coordinator giving education tours etc.

Mike thanked Paul for all the work that he and Manitoulin Streams do.

#### Treasurer's Report: Don Payne

Don's report showed a minor operating loss and last year there was a net operating surplus but our finances are in good shape. Don submitted his report. He stated that only 53% of the members have sent in their membership fees.

Merchandise sales are down from last year. LMAA books were audited by Marlene Dewar and Betty Heis.

Moved by Murray Arnold and Joe Ricketts to accept the financial statement. Motion carried.

**Director and Newsletter Editor**: Mark Harvey

Mark thanked Dave Anderson for his article on dragonflies, his son in law for the article on red squirrels and all the others who submitted articles, reports and recipes. Very special thanks to Jenn Sailus and Jen Harvey for editing and compiling our 2015 Editions of Wind Swept.

#### **Education Committee Report**:

Mike Costigan gave the report on behalf of Dave Anderson as Dave is on his farm haying. Helke Ferrie is donating her Lyme Disease book to the libraries in Little Current, Mindemoya and Manitowaning. She also gave us one to donate as a prize. Information Night will be August I l, 2015

### **Report from Website Administrator:** Stan Salisbury

Stan gave us an update on our website and suggested that we should be going into the site by using our own profile and log in. You can add photos through your own profile. The website is <a href="lakemanitouarea.ca">lakemanitouarea.ca</a>. Stan will send out more information about the website. His Email address is: <a href="sasalisbury@cox.net">sasalisbury@cox.net</a> and his phone number at his cottage is 705-3777-4982. Pat Costigan thanked him for all his work getting our website done.

#### Report from President: Mike Costigan Sr.:

Mike reported that the lost float was found at One Tree Island. He thanked everyone that is involved in putting the shoal markers out in the spring and taking them out in the fall. He also thanked Rob and John Coulter for doing the water samplings of our lake. Mark Harvey has taken over as the Editor of Wind Swept.

Mike tries to keep our annual general meetings to less than one hour and fifteen minutes. We have also been able to keep our fees at \$20.00 as a result of good management and our current members recruiting new members. Mike thanked everyone for their participation. For all the help setting up the meeting venue and cleaning up

after the meeting. Special thanks to the ladies in the kitchen

#### **New Business and Discussion Period:**

Peter Hutchinson voiced concern that the water levels were too high in the Manitou River also there are rocks ready to fall into the lake from the dam. He feels the Ministry keeps moving the lake level up. He said the work done by Manitoulin Streams was destroyed. Brenda Edington also voiced her concern. Mary Lochead also felt there was a great fluctuation in the water levels. Suggestion made by Brenda Edinton to organize a group that shows they can manage the dam better than the MNR. Motion put on the floor that a committee be formed to approach MNR.

Moved by Carl Mihalyfi and seconded by Mary Lochead. Majority of those attending the meeting voted in favor.

LMAA to contact the Ministry and Brian Riche by email.

Alex Lochead said that the dam has been a problem for the 22 years that LMAA has been in existence.

Mike Costigan pointed out we are only a volunteer group.

Estelle Payne — Election Chairperson — nominated by Alex Lochead

President Mike Costigan Sr,'s term is up. Paul Moffatt nominated Mike for President, seconded by Dave Rutherford. There were no other nominations and nominations declared by Ann Moffatt. All in favour. Mike accepted.

Director—Rob Chown's term is up. Paul Moffatt nominated Rob for Director, seconded closed by Dave Rutherford, seconded by Pat Costigan.

There were no other nominations and nominations declared closed by Don Payne, seconded by John De Chastelain.

All in favour. Rob accepted.

Alex Lochead urged us all to keep trying to recruit new members.

Door prizes — names drawn were Kaitlyn Williamson, Dave Rutherford and Jan Arnold. Prizes were picked out.

Effle Williamson and Carl Mihalyfi moved that the meeting be adjourned. All in favour.

### Let's Keep Our Lake Great Challenge Spring 2016

Let's continue the **LMAA Wind Swept** challenge to Keep Our Lake Great!

#### We can do this by

- 1. Keep the kids involved, invite them to the LMAA information night and raise awareness about lake issues.
- 2. Plant a tree or shrubs near the shore.
- 3. Let the grass, weeds and shrubs grow high and wild in a 1 2 meter band along the shoreline (a riparian buffer strip). This will help to discourage the geese and prevent erosion and contaminants from getting into the lake.
- Support a Lake Manitou and/or Manitoulin Streams project.
- 5. Clean up the shore line, and never ever throw garage overboard.
- 6. Maintain your septic system.
- 7. Reduce or eliminate fertilizer use.
- 8. Use phosphate-free soap. Dispose of soapy dishwater at least 60 meters from the shore line.

9. Challenge and encourage one another to keep our lake great!



#### \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ Interested in how your **property taxes** are calculated?

Have they increased and you wonder why? Do you wish to appeal your taxes? Check out this summary from the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations.

#### FOCAs' position on the Ontario residential property tax system

"Downloading" by the Province onto municipalities, and hence property owners in Ontario, is higher than all the rest of Canada. This inordinate local funding burden amplifies the unfairness inherent when property value is the sole determinant of how much an individual pays for a lengthy list of municipal obligations. FOCA believes the provincial government must hasten and broaden the provincial role in

financially supporting social services through provincial income taxes, which has only partially been addressed in the recommendations of the 2008 Provincial Municipal Fiscal and Service Delivery Review.

The use of current value assessments (CVA), as a means to calculate property owners' payments for municipal services received, continues to unfairly distribute social costs. There are precedents in other North American jurisdictions for a fairer process, acknowledging that there are municipal services that should not be paid for solely on the basis of the value of one's property. To use pure CVA to calculate tax obligations amounts to a tax on unrealized capital gains.

Failing to address the shortcomings within the current process will contribute to instability in many Ontario communities, forcing the untimely disposition of family assets. This is only one unfortunate if unintended consequence from the current unstable and unpredictable property tax system. It is FOCA's contention that the Province must forthwith take concrete steps to address the instability and unpredictability of property taxation in Ontario.

#### Your property taxes are affected by:

- the education tax rate (set by the Province)
- the municipal budget (established by your Municipality)
- the municipal tax rate (set by your City/Municipality)
- your property's assessed value (determined by MPAC)

#### What can you do about your property taxes?

- 1) Prevent an increase in your municipal tax rate.
  - Municipal governments across Ontario are currently formulating and approving their annual budgets. NOTE: the tax bill you receive early in the calendar year is based on an INTERIM rate, but this will change, pending municipal budget decisions. Read more about MUNICIPAL BUDGETS and how to get involved in your local budget-setting process by following the link at the end of this page.
- 2) Challenge your MPAC assessed value.
  - The most recent MPAC notices showing your property's assessed value at January 1, 2016 will be issued to property owners beginning in April 2016, and will be used to determine the 4-year phased-in assessment values starting with the 2017 taxation year. The value to be used in 2017 can be challenged, if you commence that challenge before the RfR deadline date. To do so, you must develop a rationale as to why you believe your property has been overvalued as at January 1, 2016 NOT what may have transpired since.

Deadline this year for a challenge to your property tax assessment (RfR) on Manitoulin Island is August 23, 2016.

If you do wish to investigate your property taxes further or launch a reconsideration, start by visiting these web sites:

https://www.mpac.ca https://www.aboutmyproperty.ca

## **Bill 100** What's the Fuss and How It Affects Trails on Manitoulin Island Trail and Conservation Easements

Easements are legally recognized agreements between two parties that become part of the property title. One party, the servient tenant, owns the property and the second party who benefits from the easement is the dominant tenant. When the property changes hands the easement goes with the sale.

Easements can be placed on properties for many reasons but utility corridors running across a property are one of the most common.

If there is an easement for a power line on your property it means the power company can run the power cables across your property and do maintenance and clearing on the power lines. The easement will likely be for a very long time, sometimes in perpetuity or 999 years. The size of the easement will be listed and restrictions called covenants listed.



# There are 2 types of easements that might interest LMAA property owners

#### **Trail** Easements and **Conservation**

Easements. What has made a bit of a stir on Manitoulin Island this winter is a new type of easement that is being debated in the Ontario Legislature for <u>trails</u>. This includes snowmobile, bike, hiking trails and more. The law that is being created to formalize trail easements is called "Bill 100" Supporting Ontario's Trails Act. Many recent articles can be found in the

Manitoulin Expositor and online for and against Bill 100.

It has been reported falsely that a trail club could place an easement on private property where a trail currently runs, without the land owner's consent and signature on a modified land title. The truth is both the trail organization and property owners have to agree in writing to the terms and conditions in the easement agreement. There is a legal process for setting up a trail easement; it doesn't just happen over night. The terms of the easement agreement can be custom made for each easement.

The problem that has arisen from proposed Bill 100 is that some land owners panicked and have or are threatening to close trails fearful that when Bill 100 becomes law they will be forced to have a trail easement placed on their property against their wishes. This is not true and this misinformation has led to some trails on private property having been **shut down**. This is disrupting trails, especially snowmobile trails that have been in use for many years.

How might this effect life on and around Lake Manitou?

Trails such as the Cup and Saucer hiking trail that cross private property have been in use for



Do you envision a Lake Manitou and surrounding area with these types of opportunities?

decades with much success. Trail organizations and property owners have maintained written agreements for many, many years. These for the most part have been working well although a change in land ownership terminates the agreement and can lead to trail use disruption. The property owners have the right to rescind trail use permission. When trail use is rescinded the volunteers who maintain and build many of these trails must find an alternate route or close the trail. That is often very difficult and is one reason the government has proposed Bill 100.

The 64,000 kilometers of trails operating in Ontario add billions in economic benefit to the economy and stimulate positive wellness and health. Many thanks to trail supporters, both property owners and volunteers, for supporting the local economy, GOOD HEALTH and for their cooperation, dedication and very hard work.





Trail use across private property relies on private land owners' cooperation and permission is contingent on trail users

## Respecting private property owners' rights.

Building fires, cutting trees, littering, leaving gates open and going off the designated trail corridors can be cause for concern and has understandably led to landowners closing trails on their property. Working within the proposed Bill 100, a trail organization and a land owner can work out an agreement for an easement. This can protect both land owner and trail organization. It defines the boundaries of the trail and trail use restrictions and helps ensure the trail will remain intact even when the property ownership changes hands. A trail easement is referred to as "Going with the Land". That means when the property is sold the easement goes with it and the trail is protected from closure. When land owners and trail users work together, trails can be a great success and be an important component of a vibrant, progressive community development program.

Understanding easements can be somewhat complicated and misconceptions are common as witnessed this year with "Bill 100". The information outlined here should not be construed as "legally accurate". It is just a brief primer on the topic with the possibility of some inaccuracies. Legal advice from a lawyer or referring to a land trust organization is strongly recommended before moving ahead with the creation of an easement including conservation easements.

## Conservation easements ARE AN EXISTING FORM OF EASEMENT that

can ensure that a land owner need not worry about land use changes once they no longer own the property. It can be used to conserve the values you hold so dear, your legacy. There are also some positive tax implications to the cottagers/landowners. If you have a lovely hardwood forest on your property and you wish to ensure it is maintained in its current state after you no longer own the property, then the conservation easement will provide this opportunity.

Conservation easements are rapidly gaining popularity as land donations to conservancies in both Canada and the US. There are some properties on Manitoulin Island that are now owned by conservancies. It is difficult to find an exact number of acres owned by conservation land trusts or that are in conservation easements. In the United States there are tens of millions of acres in both land trust ownership and conservation easements. Our neighbouring state of Michigan has a multitude of these entities. The idea of conserving our legacy for our children and grandchildren is catching on in Canada too. Creating a trail easement or conservation easement or donating land to a conservancy is another way we can help to

## make Lake Manitou and surrounding area great.

For further research and information about easements and land trusts, consider looking at these links:

http://olta.ca/land-trust-members/nature-conservancy-of-canada-ontario-region

http://landtrust.org

http://www.nature.org/about-us/privatelands-conservation/conservationeasements/all-about-conservationeasements.xml

written by Mark Harvey

#### **CULINARY DELIGHTS**

#### Beef Chop Suey (or Chicken or Pork)\*

1 1/2 lb. meat cut in thin strips

1/4 c. oil

2 T. soya sauce

2 t. salt

dash pepper

3 c. celery cut in inch pieces

2 large onions chopped

2 T. molasses

2 c. beef broth

2 c. canned bean sprouts (or fresh)

3 T. cornstarch mixed in 1/4 c. water

Fry meat in oil for about 3 minutes.

Add soya, salt and pepper.

Remove meat from drippings.

Add celery, onion, molasses and broth. Simmer for approx. 19 min.

Add bean sprouts, meat and cornstarch mixture to thicken the sauce.

Serves 6

#### **Submitted by Estelle Payne**



## Lake Manitou Goat Cheese Stuffed Pork Tenderloin with Wind Swept Wine Sauce

2 medium pork tenderloins, centre cut

Salt and pepper to taste

3/4 cup goat cheese, crumbled

2 tbsp pesto

2 tbsp fresh basil, chopped (optional)

3 tbsp olive oil

Butcher twine or wooden toothpicks to hold the meat together.

- 1. Preheat oven to 395 F.
- 2. Use a sharp knife to "butterfly" the pork tenderloin, by making an incision mid-way through the length of the tenderloin (so it opens like a book). Be sure to leave the loin with at least ½ inch uncut at the base. Repeat with remaining loin.

3. Season both sides of the loins with salt and pepper. Cover loins with plastic wrap and use a rolling pin gently pound on the meat until the surface is flat. Do not over pound.

- 4. Mix the goat cheese, pesto, basil, 1 tbsp olive oil and pepper together, gently.
- 5. Remove the plastic wrap from the meat and spoon the cheese mixture evenly over the centre leaving a 3/4-inch border. Roll up to make a nice compact even roll. Repeat with the remaining loin.
- 6. Use butcher twine or wooden toothpicks to secure the rolls.
- 7. Rub 1 tbsp of olive oil all over the loins, season to taste with salt and pepper.8. Set a large oven proof skillet (I use a cast iron pan) over medium high heat, add 1tbsp of olive oil and allow to heat for 30 seconds. The pan should be hot, but not smoking.
- 9. Place the loins in the skillet and allow them to cook until a deep golden brown. Turn and repeat until both loins are golden brown. Place the skillet in the preheated oven and allow them to cook for another 20 to 30 minutes. Internal temperature should reach 160 F.
- 10. Remove from the oven, place the loins onto a plate and tent with foil. This will allow the meat to rest and give the filling a chance to firm up.
- 11. Using a sharp knife, slice into 3/4 inch slices, drizzle with Wind Swept Wine Sauce. Serve immediately.

#### **Wind Swept Wine Sauce**

1 tbsp minced shallot or onion
1/2 cup red wine of (your choice)
1/2 cup chicken, beef, or vegetable stock or water, warmed
2 tbsp softened butter (optional)
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

- 1. Pour off all but 1 to 2 tbsp of the cooking fat (if there are any dark, non-fatty juices in the skillet leave them in there).
- 2. Turn the heat under the skillet to medium-high. Add the shallot and the wine to the pan and bring to a boil, scraping any pieces of pork off the bottom of pan and stirring them into the emerging sauce.
- 3. Cook, stirring and scraping, until most of the wine has evaporated (reduced to approximately 1/3 cup), the shallot is soft, and the bottom of the pan is clean.
- 4. Add the stock and repeat, when there is just under 1/3 cup of liquid, turn off the heat.
- 5. Add the butter, a little at a time, stirring well after each addition to incorporate it.
- 6. Taste and season if necessary with salt and pepper.
- 7. Pour the sauce over your perfectly cooked tenderloins just before serving.

Inspired by Jenn Sailus, submitted by Jen Harvey

#### Art on the Lake

Peter and Audrey Bering have spent their summers since 1972 on Manitoulin Island. Since Peter's retirement in 1993 their second home has been on Lake Manitou.

Surrounded by nature, studying nature, and portraying nature has been Peter's passion. Many of his experiences evoke spiritual connections that he records with visual and/or word imagery. Manitoulin Memories #1 Painting #441---HUNTED HUNTER—WOLF IN RED If you sometimes feel the negativity of our modern society and you feel you are in a 'red zone', think of the wily wolf. he not kept out of his 'utopia' by the



Painting by Peter Bering, seasonal resident, storyteller and artist, Lake Manitou

ls

constant intrusion of humanity? Does he not deal with reduced hunting grounds, poison, fences, guns, and lack of food, shelter and peace? Years ago, there was a widespread rumor about a farmer on Manitoulin Island who organized a wolf hunt with his farmer friends. Evidently, he lost two calves in early spring. (The government gives compensation for such losses.) They surrounded the pack of thirteen by their lair north of 'Townline Road' and eradicated all but one. A few years after the extreme cull, we were inundated with squirrels, raccoons, porcupines and deer. The irony of this imprudent intrusion on nature was a hard lesson for the local farmers. There was much crop damage. Notably, I heard that because of the raccoon plague, the organizer of the hunt himself lost most of his crop of sweet corn and his contract with some retailers. Aware of their plunder, some of the farmers were going to gather 'live-traps' to re-introduce wolves on our side of the lake. A verbal war [with physical threats] erupted around Green Bay when the farmers of our 'East Side' wanted to relocate wolves from the 'West Side'. Needless to say, this imprudent idea did not materialize. Eventually the young 'West Side Wolves' discovered the rich hunting grounds of the 'East' and replaced the predator vacuum. Our squirrel and raccoon plague has subsided, but I still have a nine foot fence around my organic kitchen garden to keep out the deer. My neighbors tease me relentlessly because I entertain my deer with music, and only I have 'dancing deer'. I'm actually keeping them out of Audrey's flowers with motion detectors. [One of my detectors has a

<sup>&</sup>quot;Let's keep our lake great"

radio attached and the other is synchronized with an old shaver.] They do work! My inventor instincts are still active because sometimes I hear music in my sleep.

Many thanks to Peter Bering for sharing his painting and insightful story with Wind Swept Readers.

#### Member's Notice Board

- 1. AGM Sat. July 9, 2016 at 10 a.m. Sandfield School House
- 2. Information Night Tuesday, Aug. 9. 2016 at 7 p.m. Sandfield School House
- 3. Wind Swept readers are reminded to check out the **LMAA web site**. It's very informative and many thanks to Stan Salisbury. Try this link <u>lakemanitouarea.ca</u>



Painted turtle laying eggs.

Many thanks to all the contributors to Wind Swept Spring 2016.

Please have submissions (pictures, cottage or camp stories or favourite recipe) for Wind Swept Fall 2016 to Mark (editor) by Friday October 28, 2016.

See Directors, Committees and Lake Stewards Roster below

<sup>&</sup>quot;Let's keep our lake great"

President: 20 Muskoka Court 186 Franks Rd W.  Mike Costigan, Kitchener ON N2B 3M2 519-576-1912 RR1 Site15 Comp 3
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