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What's your Manitoulin Story?

History of the Eagle's Nest Cottages

Many wealthy Americans came to Manitoulin for fishing and cooler summers. They established large, beautiful residences on the north shore bays of Lake Manitou.

Since they had interests in oil, they knew there was oil under the Island. As Mrs. Gordon told me, her husband helped to find it. The old wooden derricks were still standing in 1945 in a field just west of Manitowaning. Even though they found oil, the quantities were not enough to make it viable commercially.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gordon camped on the Island in front of the Trees home their first summer. The next summer they went to Cape Cod but Mr. Gordon wanted to return to Manitoulin the following summer. That resulted in them buying a point on the south shore where an eagle had a nest.

After establishing their home, Mr. Gordon would build a cabin each year for rental. He spent the winter in Parkersburg working in wholesale of southern fruit.

He had established this camp consisting of a large two-storey home and seven small cabins, each with furniture, bedding, dishes, etc. which he rented in summer months to American fishermen. Boats were stored in a large boathouse by a wide dock in a bay on the south shore of Lake Manitou.

Harry Gordon, the original owner, died in early 1945. After his death, his wife tried to carry on with the help of a former helper, Chester Williamson. When Chester joined the Navy, young lads from Parkersburg, West Virginia, drove Mrs. Gordon up for a few years, and spent the summer helping to keep the camp running for former renters. By the fall of about the fifth year, her health was failing. One of the former girls, named Ida, who had worked for the Gordons', helped Mrs. Gordon get back to Parkersburg, where she later died.

The camp, in her estate, was finally sold by a Trust Company to former renters. The summer the keys were turned over, each tenant was given permission to share in extra equipment in storage. The tenants all gathered one afternoon and many articles from the large home were distributed - including pictures, etc. Alan Sabine was given a large framed picture of Harry Gordon filling an outboard motor with fuel for a waiting fisherman on the dock. This picture is still in the Sabine cottage. When the cabins were sold to former American tenants, Bill Trestain of London bought the last one - he was the only Canadian.

Note: The new owners of the cabins included: Besudens, Wilsons, Fleischauers, Tredways, Meyers, Works and Trestains.

Written by Irene Sabine in London, Ontario, Sept. 23, 2005.

Irene celebrated her 100th birthday on July 3rd, 2005. She died in 2010 in her 105th year. Irene and her husband Alvin also built a cottage in Eagle's Nest. Their cottage is still being enjoyed by second and third generation Sabines!

Cabins at Eagle's Nest



Thank you very much to Jane Harding and Pat Costigan for finding this interesting historical account of the Eagle's Nest. The Eagle's Nest Bay is in Assiginack Township on the South East side of Lake Manitou and can be accessed by road off highway 6 south of Manitowaning.

CULINARY DELIGHT

Lake Manitou Cranberry Raisin Bread

2 cups all purpose flour

1 cup sugar

1 ½ tsp baking powder

Dash salt

½ tsp baking soda

¼ cup butter or margarine

1 egg beaten

1 1 /2 cups raisins

1 ½ cup fresh or frozen cranberries

3 / 4 cups orange juice

Sift flour, sugar, baking powder, salt and baking soda into a large bowl.

Cut in butter till crumbly.

Add egg and juice all at once. Stir till mixture is evenly moist.

Fold in raisins and cranberries. (you can increase the cranberries and decrease the raisins)

Spoon into greased 9 x 5 x3 loaf pan.

Bake 350 for 70 minutes (may take longer)

Recipe provided by Michelle Simmonds and Jennifer Harvey

"Let's Keep Our Lake Great"

LET'S KEEP OUR LAKE GREAT CHALLENGE WINNER

The winner of this fall's award goes to **Peter Edward**. Peter had a very significant impact on helping to maintain and improve the Lake and the quality of life for those who live on the shores of Lake Manitou. Peter was the visionary who promoted the founding of the Lake Manitou Area Association. He was the first president of our organization. Unfortunately, Peter is no longer with us, a great loss. Friends and family have kindly sent these tributes and kind words in honour of Peter who passed away this summer.

A Tribute to Peter D. Edward Submitted by Karen Edward and Charlotte Edington

Peter Edward passed away on July 2, 2017. He spent the last years of his life restoring the Blue Jay Creek which runs through his property on the Blue Jay Farm. This was a great gesture to the natural environment and a reflection of how much he cared for conservation on Lake Manitou. The following is a tribute to Peter, to his vision for a healthy lake and to remind us all of the importance to continue working together toward that goal.

Peter had a special connection to Manitoulin Island. It has been an integral part of the history of the Edward family for five generations. Over a century ago, his grandfather first came to Manitoulin to explore for oil. He was so impressed with the Island that for the rest of his life, he returned each year to camp and the Edward family continues to enjoy this tradition. Peter spent his childhood summers enjoying all aspects of outdoor life on the Island, developing friendships with families there and finding jobs with local farmers.

As a young man Peter had summer experiences on the Great Lakes Shipping Lines as cook's helper, in Quebec as a guide and in Alberta as a farm labourer.

He went on to get a BSc in Agriculture and Animal Husbandry at MacDonald College, McGill University in Montreal and established a chicken farm in the Sudbury area. He assumed ownership of the Edward Grain business and sold feed and grain throughout the mid north area of Ontario including Manitoulin Island. His love of the area brought he and his wife, Peggy, back and they built their own family camp in the early 1960's.

Over the years, Peter could see the need for active stewardship of the lake and watershed. In order to understand how to have a meaningful role in the protection of the lake and environment, Peter attended Federation of Cottage Associations (FOCA) meetings, sought information from other active Ontario Lake Associations, various provincial Ministries and educational Institutions. In 1993, the initiative was taken to establish the Lake Manitou Area Association (LMAA) together with Peggy, Doug and Mary Hutchinson, Alex and MaryLou Lohead and

John and June Edward as founding members. It was their vision to establish a lake stewardship program which would provide a forum to develop strategies for protecting the lake from overdevelopment and improper use. This group would be made up of property owners, farmers and ministry agencies that could come together to address concerns and to create plans that would preserve Lake Manitou's wellbeing.

Within a short period of time, the secchi disc readings assessing water clarity and water samples were being collected, membership solicitations were underway, a working relationship with the MNR was established, shoal markers were installed, and information/education nights open to the public were offered. During the first year the membership grew to 70 and the schoolhouse has seen interested property owners attend meetings increasingly since. The scope of the Association has broadened to include all of Lake Manitou and to be part of other conservation projects such as Manitoulin Streams.



Peter on his Blue Jay Farm by Blue Jay Creek

Peter's love and respect for Lake Manitou and its ecosystems compelled him to initiate the creation of the LMAA as a way of ensuring its quality and sustainability, to develop action plans to balance conservation and development and to facilitate the sharing of information and education to keep Lake Manitou healthy and safe for the next generations. What a legacy.

"Let's Keep Our Lake Great"

A Tribute to Peter Edward**Submitted by Alex Lohead**

During my early years in banking, I became acquainted with Peter Edward in Manitowaning. I was a teller at the Bank of Montreal there and Peter was helping with the operation of the Burns Wharf Roller Mill which belonged to the Edward Feed and Grain Co.

It wasn't until much later that I became better acquainted with Peter when we formed the Lake Manitou Area Association. Peter became our first President and continued in that position for ten years. He had a great love for the Lake and an uncanny knowledge of both the top and the bottom of it. It was always a real pleasure to take water samples and secchi disc readings with Peter. He would always point out some interesting happenings or facts of nature that I was unaware of as we travelled along.

Sometimes, my son-in-law Brad Sparks would come along with us and he was always amazed at how easily Peter could find the exact location to take the readings, even though he had no G.P.S.

On one occasion, Brad brought his own G.P.S. with him and recorded the readings of both spots where we took the samples and the secchi disc readings. When we went out the next month to collect samples, Peter directed the boat within ten feet of the exact spots again. When Brad took the readings on the G.P.S., he was amazed to find how accurately Peter had found the same location again.

Peter was indeed a true friend and a joy to work with.

Uncle Peter was a Mentor and Visionary Leader within our family.**Submitted by Brenda Edington**

Feelings of respect and endearment for him afforded me the opportunity to have a warm relationship and an appreciation of the influence my Uncle and the founding members have had in governing the protection of Lake Manitou.

During the 1990's as a family we embraced the vision and adopted a new way of thinking: manicured lawns were setback 20 to 50 feet from the shoreline and fertilizing was prohibited, septic systems were evaluated and upgraded, all grey water spillage ceased and gas transfers were closely monitored.

Dogs were no longer shampooed in the lake. God help you if the animal was afraid of the hose and for us humans bathing was curtailed. Restoration of the Manitou River and the Blue Jay Creek Farm were initiated.

"Let's Keep Our Lake Great"

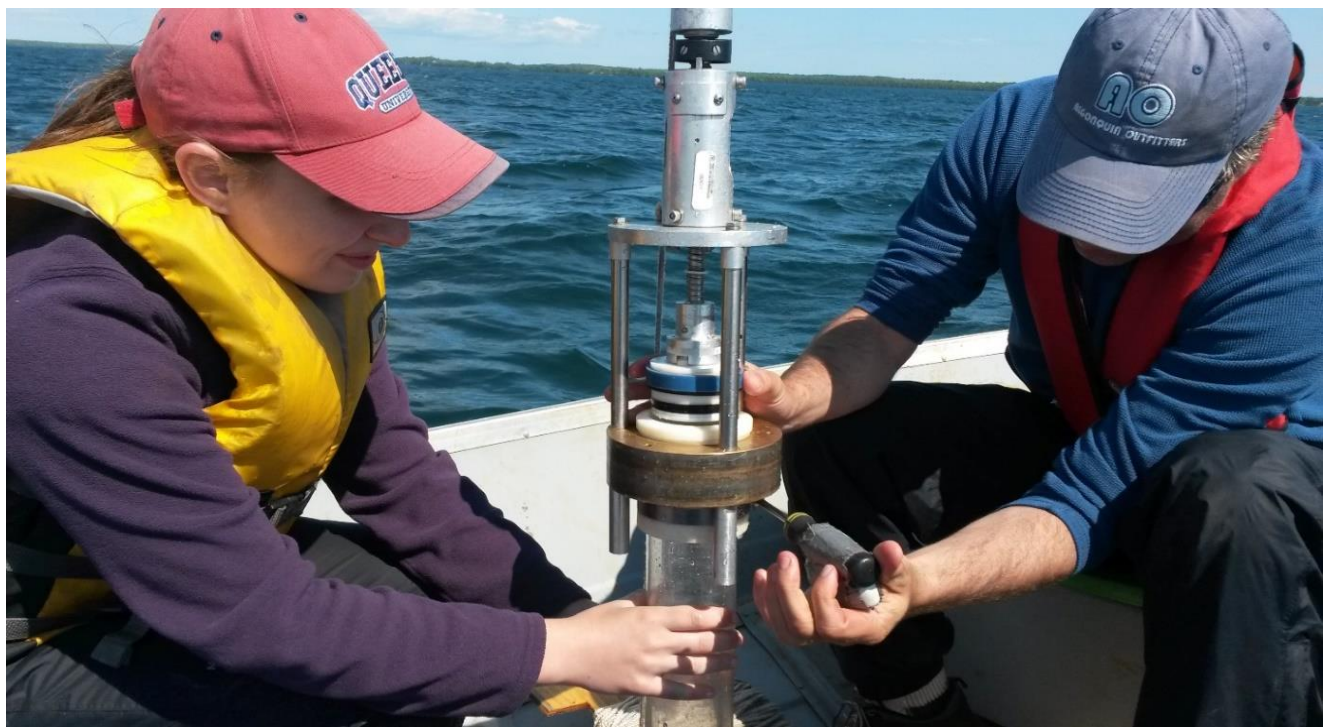
Mentors are in a category of their own. Acknowledging their role in our personal development with gratitude keeps us smart and grounded, shapes our intellect, interest and life. My mentor did just that.

Uncle Peter's visions and perspectives, along with his wealth of knowledge have given me the fundamental tools to be a good steward of the lake and land.

I sincerely hope that others will continue with this quest for many generations.

A Tale of Two Basins: Understanding Lake Manitou's Past

By Claire Nelligan PhD candidate, Paleoecological Environmental Assessment and Research Lab, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada
(<http://post.queensu.ca/~pearl>)



Claire Nelligan (left) preparing to lower the core sampler into Lake Manitou

Claire was the key note speaker at the 2017 LMAA Information Night. She also spoke at the 2016 LMAA Information Night. Below she has summarized her research to date. Claire is in the final stages of completing her work on Lake Manitou. This article should be treated as her final report. Thank you to Claire for her hard work and State of the Art Scientific Input into “Making Our Lake Great”.

The Lake Trout population of Lake Manitou is ecologically and economically important. Lake Trout require cold, oxygen-rich waters to survive and reproduce. However, between 2001 and 2007, deep-water oxygen conditions in Lake Manitou fell below the level needed to support juvenile Lake Trout, raising concerns for the future health of this fish population. Historical oxygen conditions in Lake Manitou are largely unknown as monitoring efforts prior to the 2000s were sporadic. My research aims to address this knowledge gap by examining past environmental conditions of Lake Manitou using lake sediments.

Lake sediments constantly accumulate material both from the surrounding landscape and from within the lake itself, providing a natural archive of past conditions. Scientists can use information preserved in this archive to better understand how environmental conditions have changed over long time-scales (years, decades, centuries, etc.). Information contained in lake sediments is valuable when long-term monitoring programs are absent (or sparse), as it can provide historical perspectives for present-day water quality concerns. For the Lake Manitou project, we asked: Are low end-of-summer oxygen concentrations a recent development? If so, are these conditions the result of a particular environmental stressor? How do the environmental histories differ between the East and West basins of Lake Manitou? Biological fossils that are preserved in Lake Manitou sediments can help answer these questions.

In 2015 and 2016, sediment cores spanning approximately the last two centuries of sediment accumulation were collected from the East and West basins of Lake Manitou. The cores were sliced into thin sections, and the age of each section was determined using radioisotopes. Once we knew how old the sediments were, we analyzed each section for fossilized remains of non-biting midges to provide information about past deep-water oxygen conditions, as well as fossilized algae to provide information on changes in nutrients and climate warming (two factors that can influence deep-water oxygen). The environmental preferences of many algae and midge species are well understood, therefore by examining changes in these communities through time, it is possible to infer past conditions. However, isolating, counting and identifying the biological remains from each sediment slice is a time-

consuming step that requires looking at hundreds of algae per sediment slice and picking each midge fossil out of the sediments by hand under a microscope. As a result, many hours were spent on a microscope looking at the very small “clues” buried in the mud of Lake Manitou that we used to describe past environments.

The sedimentary deep-water oxygen reconstruction indicates that oxygen concentrations are currently lower in both basins of Lake Manitou than they were

historically (i.e. pre-1900). Both basins underwent a reduction in deep-water oxygen in the late-1880s that is likely linked to land clearance of Manitoulin Island by European settlers. More recently, the basins have experienced slightly different trajectories in their deep-water oxygen histories. In the East Basin, oxygen decreased again after the 1950s with the lowest deep-water oxygen concentration observed in the most recent sediment interval (sediment deposited from the late-1990s to the present day). However, in the West Basin, oxygen remained low throughout the mid to late-1900s until the past few years when it has increased slightly.

The recent uptick in midge-inferred oxygen concentrations for the West Basin does not fully match recent monitoring data (that indicates oxygen has remained low during this period); therefore, further monitoring is necessary to determine whether this is a true improvement in oxygen concentration.

The analysis of sedimentary algae suggests that Lake Manitou is responding to both nutrient inputs and climate warming. The relative abundances of algae that prefer higher-nutrient conditions increase between the 1950s and the present in the sediments of both basins. Although a distinct cause for increased nutrients remains unclear; development, damming, altered land-use and re-suspension of nutrients from the sediment may all have contributed to the higher nutrient conditions today relative to the past. Furthermore, species that are favoured when the lake undergoes longer or stronger thermal stability as a result of climate warming are also present in higher abundances in recent decades. This change occurs earlier in the West Basin (1980s) than in the East Basin (late-1990s) and may indicate that the shallower West Basin is more sensitive to the influence of warming.

The goal of this project was to provide resource managers with historical information on Lake Trout habitat and how it has changed in response to environmental stressors. The sedimentary record suggests that oxygen was likely higher in the past (pre-1900) and that both nutrients and warming may be partially responsible for the lower oxygen conditions today. I know that many residents and cottagers are probably asking the question “what now”? Unfortunately, our historical methods cannot address this question directly, but I hope that by understanding long-term trends in deep-water oxygen and how these trends coincide with changes in nutrient availability and regional climate warming, decision makers can adapt their strategies to better protect the Lake Manitou Lake Trout population in the future.

News From FOCA

About the FOCA Cottage Succession Seminar Series

FOCA has been “on the road” with estate lawyer Peter Lillico for half a dozen years, bringing information to cottage owners about ways to keep the cottage in the family for the next generation. FOCA’s popular Cottage Succession Seminar Series encourages everyone to consider how they plan to **“Keep the ‘Family’ in the Family Cottage.”** Learn what you need to do NOW, to protect the family cottage for the future. Each session includes valuable information from estate lawyer Peter Lillico about:

- why to start the conversation NOW
- the importance of a cottage Sharing Agreement
- paying the Capital Gains Tax
- managing responsibilities and expenses to keep the cottage going once the next generation is in place

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/globe-investor/personal-finance/cottage-succession-often-no-vacation/article4263291/>

This is an important subject and one that some members of the LMAA can relate to. Refer to the above link for more information.

Member’s Notice Board

No Notices at this time. Important LMAA event dates will come out in the Spring 2018 Windswept and on the LMAA website.

Mike Costigan and Dave Anderson at LMAA Information Night, 2017



Dave Anderson thanking our guest speaker Claire Nelligan at the LMAA Information Night, 2017



WIND SWEEP

FALL 2017

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The editor and associate editor Mark and Jennifer Harvey wish all LMAA members and their families a *Healthy and Happy Merry Christmas.*



We encourage all members to attend LMAA functions and activities and to send us their Lake Manitou observations and experiences. We would appreciate receiving stories about how your family came to settle on the Island and what your Manitoulin home or seasonal cottage means to you. These stories will be added to the "What's Your Manitoulin Story?" section of the newsletter.

The LMAA web site link is <http://lakemanitouarea.ca/>.

The current and past issues of Wind Swept are available on this web site.

Please help to protect our lake and ensure that we continue to enjoy all that Lake Manitou has to offer.

"Keep Our Lake Great"

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