

# MARY LAKE

Association

Photo by Bruce Hay

2023 SPRING NEWSLETTER

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

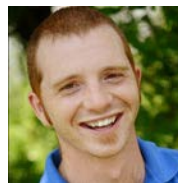
Mary Lake is, for many, a destination, a respite from busy life and for many it's memories, nostalgia and heritage. For my family, many memories have been made on, near or beside the lake. Mary Lake has made an indelible impression on us; we have made new friends, enjoyed time together and even buried loved ones whose lives were brought together around the lake. For that I am deeply grateful. This past spring and winter has been rather quiet for the board, but not easy. Many of you knew Jack from the Mary Lake Marina, and his wife Monique has suffered the loss of not just her husband but also her father. These events have been difficult, but also an example of the community around Mary Lake coming together in support of one of our own. It has been impressed upon me not to take each other for granted, and with the board changing this year, it is my hope that the community continues to be one of support to one another.

The board is changing, losing some people and gaining others in the process. In particular, I have sought out a replacement for myself and I am pleased to announce that Ed Morgan has agreed to succeed me in the role of President and Chair of the Mary Lake Association. This transition will be undergone by the end of this year, as I am being pulled in too many directions at this time to give the energy to the board that it deserves.

Additionally I want to recognize Jennifer McLellan and Doug Morrison for their time of service. Jennifer will continue to assist our water quality sub-committee, but will be stepping away from the board. Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to you for the time and energy you have given to the preservation of the lake.

New board members are also joining, and we are excited to welcome Dean Smales and David Simm to the board. We look forward to the skills they bring to the table.

Lastly, thank you to the members who shared their feedback to the board through our members survey. It is clear to us that the big priorities are Threats to Water Quality and Shoreline Erosion. The board will be discussing strategies and high payoffs we can engage in on these topics. We are grateful for the feedback we have received and look forward to seeing many of you at our AGM.



Sincerely,  
**Josh Laverty**  
President  
Mary Lake Association

**NEXT AGM**  
**Saturday July 8th @ 9:00am**  
**Port Sydney Community Hall & Zoom**

[www.MaryLakeAssociation.org](http://www.MaryLakeAssociation.org)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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# MEMBERSHIP UPDATE!



**MEMBERS IN 2018**



**CURRENT MEMBERS**

As you can see we have almost doubled our association membership in the past 5 years... We are always looking for new members and the best way is for all of us to talk to our neighbours and encourage them to join us.

**With your help we will grow even further.**

## Update on MBC Communications Tower

As reported in an email to members in January, Huntsville Council voted in favour of a 40 metre monopine communications tower to be constructed on the Muskoka Bible Centre property.

Rogers' proposal for a taller (50 metre) steel lattice tower was rejected.

Rogers has since confirmed that construction of the monopine tower is going ahead, with construction occurring this spring/summer. This is a very positive outcome. The tower will deliver improved cell phone service to our community, while the tower itself will be as unobtrusive as

possible, preserving the stunning views around Mary Lake.

This positive result is directly attributable to the overwhelming support from the community for a monopine tower. Thank you to all MLA members that wrote letters supporting the monopine tower. That input from the community was crucial in swaying this decision.

And thank you to Councillor Jason Fitzgerald, and several other Huntsville councillors, who spoke in favour of the monopine at the January council meeting in January, and voted for it.

**Linda Kangas**

**Monique Heemskerk**

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# From the Editor

As Newsletter Editor and Board Member, I would like to thank on behalf of all of us, the one person who makes our MLA newsletters possible, Greg Crawford, our volunteer graphic designer. His enthusiasm, talent and deep connection to Mary Lake comes out in the work he has done voluntarily for us over the past few years.

The theme of this newsletter is Boating on Mary Lake. The Newsletter team want to thank all of the writers for their contributions on this theme and the Board members for their informative reports that mark the work and concerns that have passed through the minds and hands of our volunteers. We would also like to thank members and friends of members for contributing to the photo page.

**Writers:** Board Members: Josh Laverty, Ryan Kidd, Ted Johnson, Monique Heemskirk, Linda Kangas, Angus Laurie, David Simm, Susan Tovee.

**Guest writers:** Edward Gledhill, Hayden Simm, Andrew Foxcroft, Olivia Leguia,

**Photo contributions;** Nico Byl, Angus Laurie, Wendy Ophelders, Nancy Siepers, Lynn Thomas, Dana Rippon, Winston David Schwartz, Mariana Leguia, Bruce Hay, Cestnick and Sarah Fennema.

All the voices of our contributors sing of the passion, love, and concern they have for this beautiful place.

*Thank you for sharing and thank you for caring.*

Nancy Laurie

## Bugs in the Mud Update

Last year a hearty group of all-age scientists braved the extreme UV conditions to perform the precise task of isolating microscopic Bugs (benthic invertebrates) from the Mud (lake bottom sediments). We received these



encouraging words from the District biologist: "It was a great group of friendly and genuinely interested people. I am happy to see Mary Lake Association continually participating in the program each year, and there were lots of new faces to help count this year!"

After summarising the results from our sampling event, she also noted: "Observing changes in these numbers over time is more important than the individual numbers themselves every year." So once again, we will be calling on you, our loyal members, to help out with counting the bugs that tell us about our lake health.



**Please join us this year, we could use your help!**

**Date:** August 12th or 13th (to be confirmed via e-mail)

**Time:** 10 am to 12 noon

**Location:** Gazebo at Port Sydney Beach

Contact information for details and to RSVP:

**Angus Laurie**

anguslaurie@hotmail.com



# STUDIES LINK WAKE BOATS TO BLUE-GREEN ALGAE BLOOMS AND SHORELINE EROSION:

It was a perfect August day. The lake a blue and white mirror, was heavy and still. Looking out from the dock, I watched my children play on our Lily Pad with a group of their friends, their noise the perfect soundtrack for a summer day on Mary Lake.

This idyllic Muskoka moment was interrupted by the low drone of an engine, and the sound of Drake blaring from a stereo system. A wake boat rounded the point just to the north of our cottage, slowly plowing its way parallel to the shore, dragging a surfer in its wake. Phone in hand and filming the surfer, the driver steered his boat within 10 feet of my Lily Pad, my children and their guests. As the boat passed, two of the younger boys stood, yelling, and shaking their fists, indignant of the reckless driving. The boat's four-foot wake toppled the boys into the water. The swells rolled on until they crashed onto the soft shoreline of our property, dragging sand and topsoil back into the lake.

A few minutes later, the boat was back for a second pass, retracing the same line. On the third pass, the wake surfer fell directly in front of our place. The two boys on the lily pad returned to their feet, performing their best rendition of Antoine Griezmann's "L dance" from the 2018 World Cup final. Terrified of the bullying directed at them by an 8- and 13-year-old, the overly-sensitive Gen-Z pilot and passengers quickly helped the surfer back into the

boat, and raced off to find a less hostile set of neighbours whose shoreline they could erode. "Good riddance," I thought.



Beyond my anger at this reckless driving, the incident made me want to learn more about the impact of wake boats, and to find out what potential solutions, if any, are needed to mitigate these impacts.

## What are wake boats?

While the Muskoka lakes are no strangers to power boats, the wake boat is a more recent phenomenon. While ski boats are designed to create a minimal wake, wake boats do the opposite. They are designed to create large wakes that boarders can jump, or that surfers can surf behind. Some boats have ballast tanks that can draw in as much as 5,000 pounds of water, enabling the boat to sit lower, and create a larger wake.

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## What is the impact of wake boats?

With greater wakes come greater impacts on our lakes' ecosystems and shorelines. Two Canadian studies conclude that wake boats cause significantly more damage to the marine environment than traditional motor boats. This is for two reasons.

Firstly, wake boats stir up more phosphorous than other boats. As wake boats sit lower in the water than other boats, their propellers and hulls are closer to the bottom of the lake. Moreover, they do not only displace water laterally, but also send waves downwards towards the lake bottom. As a result, wake boats can stir up sediment and phosphorous from up to 15 feet deep, muddying the waters, and potentially causing blue green algae blooms.



A second impact is shoreline erosion, and property damage. A study, from the University of Quebec in Montreal, found that wake boat waves are 1.7 times larger on average than wakes made by other power boats. The resulting energy from these wakes causes an accelerated erosion of the shoreline. While Canadian boating regulations require boaters to drive further than 30m from shore, wake boats continue to have a considerable impact on shorelines from over 100m from shore.

A third impact is that wake boats chase traditional non-motorised users like swimmers, kayakers, and canoeists off the lakes. Paddling a canoe through any wake is infuriating, but canoing through a wake boat wake can be dangerous, putting paddlers at risk of swamping.



## Potential Solutions:

The NIMBY solution to wake boats is to ban them. This is how some communities in the USA are dealing with this issue. However, if your neighbour just bought a \$200,000 wake boat, how would they feel about no longer being able to use it.

As it turns out, there is a solution that would allow wake boarders and wake surfers to enjoy their sport on our lake without creating algae blooms, eroding the shoreline, and most importantly, without fear of reprisal from my children. To prevent shoreline erosion and particle suspension, the University of Quebec in Montreal recommends restricting the activities of wake surfing and wake boarding to AT LEAST 300m from shore. At this distance, the force of the wake

will have dissipated before hitting the shore, or before reaching the sediment at the bottom of the lake. Mary Lake is roughly 2km wide, and over 6km long. If wake boats were to stay at least 300m away from shore, they would still have most of the lake to enjoy their activity, while everyone else can rest easy knowing that our properties are not at risk of being washed away.

In conclusion, if you have a wake boat, go have fun, but do so in the middle of the lake where your activity will not negatively impact your neighbours or your lake.

**Angus Laurie**

1. <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/6801170-S%C3%A9bastien-2015-English-U-of-Laval-1.html> p. 19
2. <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/6801168-Canadian-Wake-Boats-1-English-UQAM-1.html> p22.
3. *ibid*



# TIPS FOR TAKING GREAT SUMMER PHOTOS

## CAMERAS AND EXPOSURE

What better time to make memories than to spend some time at the lake? Mary Lake of course, and perhaps you enjoy the lake by going to the beach, boating on the water or relaxing at the dock; no matter the location - capturing those memories can be a lot of fun. We've got some tips and tricks for you to brush up on your snapshots to keep some of those memories alive once you leave the lake.



The first thing is to have confidence that you don't need a professional grade camera to get great photos. Many cellphones have more than enough capability to capture great images, and it really comes down to knowing how to use your camera, the environment and cooperation of those involved.

The best camera to take a picture is always the camera you have, so don't be shy about using a cellphone, many great shots are taken with them. Cellphones have powerful autofocus abilities and the convenience of being easily at



hand. My big working cameras are distinct primarily because they give me more control over the variables, they aren't magic wands, in fact they rely more on me and my skill instead of working it out for me, and I don't always get it right! DSLRs, Medium format and Mirrorless cameras are powerful cameras, but not necessarily the best tool.

What has replaced the film negative in digital cameras is an electronic sensor, measured in megapixels. The primary purpose of the sensor is to collect light, and generally speaking the more light the better. As a



photographer, you require light.

Light has all kinds of properties that can be manipulated, but unless you have a lot of equipment, your primary light will be the sun. If you're taking portraits of people, direct sun is not the most flattering, so here's a pro-tip - Photograph people in the shade, this way they're not squinting into the sun and the light will be evenly distributed on their features. Here's something to try, If you can find manual settings in your photo app, put the sun behind the person so that their face is in the shade side, and increase the exposure in the camera app so that their face is properly exposed. This can be done by adjusting the "exposure value" (+/-EV) or changing the



shutter speed, aperture or iso setting. As you adjust these things, a cellphone will show you the effect. The background will likely be overexposed, but that's okay, the results are often more interesting that way with the light highlighting their edges.



There are many “rules” of composition; for example, rule of thirds, the golden mean and leading lines. All of those help us understand why a photo works, but the most important rule of composition is actually the easiest: “Photograph what is of value to the customer”. If picking up snapshots for yourself then you are the customer - but remember that the results may be great to you and not others. I really love old cars and boats, but I know some people who are totally bored by them. So the key here is being willing to take photos that other people find interesting as well as for yourself. When you do that, then sharing photos with others becomes a lot more fun.

### **Here are some fast hacks to try in making great photos this summer:**

#### **Fill the frame:**

Remember that part about what's important? Fill the image with that, everything else is there to support that thing. If you're photographing people, don't let there be a bunch of empty space above them that isn't important.

#### **Anticipate what will happen:**

Situational awareness is key to getting great candid moments and expressions. You may want to remember a family member, not just what they look like, but how they make you feel. Do something fun, have someone make them laugh, and take lots of photos. Then delete all the awkward ones and keep 1 or 2 that show the emotion in a positive light.

#### **Try new things:**

Digital Photography is a ton of fun if only because you aren't limited to 36 exposures. Try new angles, get high, get low, move around and most of all have fun!

Take lots of images to get the right one - but in the interest of showing love to those around you, delete lots of images too. Keep only the best.

**Josh Laverty** is a commercial photographer based out of Port Sydney ON  
You can see more of his work at [www.joshlaverty.com](http://www.joshlaverty.com)



# Steam Ships On Mary Lake

## THE PHEOBE

It was August 22, 1949 and the 48 foot long Phoebe was backed slowly out of its boathouse just above the locks in Huntsville. This was to be her last trip down to Port Sydney where she would be taken by truck to Lake Erie. In 1914 the ship had been built by the residents of Lake Muskoka as a gift for Professor Brasher in recognition of his friendship and humanitarian work. It was named after his wife. From then until it was sold to Cameron Peck in 1920, it sailed out of Beaumaris on Lake Muskoka. Cameron Peck, an American boat collector, brought it to Mary Lake where it was used for day excursions on the four accessible lakes.



As the steam powered Phoebe almost noiselessly moved towards the locks that day in 1949, crowds lined the shore and clambered over Cottrill's mill to witness this conclusion of a great period of commerce on the lakes.

The Phoebe slid out of the locks on its last trip. In 1947 the locks had been closed because of deterioration resulting from years of heavy use by boats and the log rafts that had been pulled through it to the mill by tugs. The special reopening in 1949 was to let the Phoebe through. Just south of the locks the Phoebe ran aground on a gravel bar even though she only drew four feet. The crowd was



The Phoebe Under Steam

enlisted to help pull her. Extra water was let out of the lock and the propeller churned up the gravel. Soon afterwards she resumed her trip down river with a long blast from her steam whistle.

As the Phoebe pushed out onto Mary Lake, one of the guests remarked how shallow the water was for a long distance on the north side of the channel. The boat's engineer pointed out that the shallow area there was once a spit of land and part of the Seely Farm that jutted out into the lake before the lake level was raised. While the Phoebe glided down the lake at a speed of ten knots, her steam whistle echoed from the surrounding forested hills. The only break in the trees ahead was the four cabins run by Bill Jennings. Situated at West Point Sands, they were called the Jenora Bungalows.

The trip of the Phoebe marked the end of a colourful period of steam ships on Mary Lake. At their heyday they made Port Sydney a busy centre of commerce much larger than Huntsville. The haunting echo of the steam whistles is but a memory. There were many sister boats of the Phoebe that have long since disappeared. Boats like the Swift, the Nymph and the Niad served the people at the top of the lake. Other famous lake boats are shown on the next page...



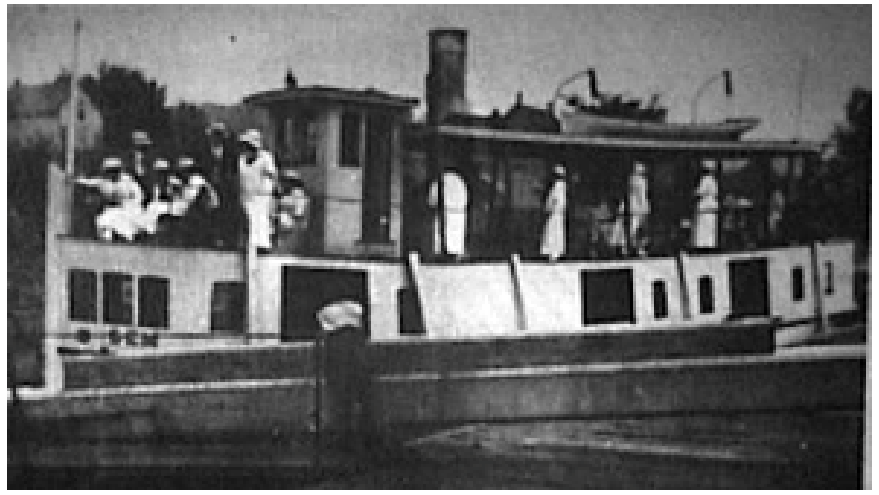
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Two of The Various Gem



The Northern It was the first steamship..from 1873 - 1896



The Ramona at Belleview Dock



The Attigamig (Fast Runner) owned by the Clarke Family

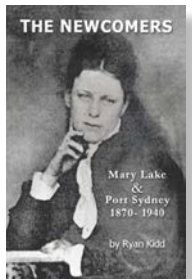


The Northern was built and owned by Captain Alfred Denton. She was launched at Port Sydney in 1877 and was the first steamer on the north Muskoka lakes. She had a hinged smoke stack so that she could pass under the original Huntsville bridge which did not swing until 1889. She carried passengers and freight to Huntsville and Hoodstown. She was replaced by the Erastus Wiman which was built in 1890. The Northern spent her last days as a tug. She made her last trip in 1893 (The Steamboat Era in Muskoka vol. 1) and was dismantled in 1897. (By Steam Boat and Steam Train).



The Joe at Clyffe House Dock

*This excerpt is from "The Newcomers"  
written By **Ryan Kidd**  
and is available in local stores and  
from Trafford Publishing*



# CHOOSING A SAILBOAT FOR MARY LAKE

For us - and many other families around the lake - cottage time is sailing time!

With a seemingly crowded market, however, which boat to choose? Here are some thoughts about choosing a sailboat specifically for Mary Lake and some recommendations across various categories. For a range of boats, Fogh Marine is a good supplier in Ontario.



## The adult social and racing winner: The Albacore

If you are an experienced sailor, or racer, you will already have views about the boats you like to sail, but on Mary Lake you would definitely want to consider the Albacore, a two-person dinghy that suits a wide variety of crew weights.

Since the 1960s, the Port Sydney Yacht Club has been racing Albacores on Mary Lake every Saturday afternoon in the summer, so it's unsurprising that, for us, not much can beat it! The obvious advantages of investing in an Albacore on Mary Lake are that there is an established community of people here who sail and race them. Racing takes sailing to a different level, bringing out the competitive spirit at all levels of experience, whilst enabling a busy social calendar in the form of weekly sailing parties.

The modern Albacore typically has a fibreglass hull (although beautiful and lovingly-maintained "Woodies" exist), with a mainsail and jib. It's quite user-friendly for beginner to intermediate sailors, with no spinnaker or trapeze to worry about, but when sailed right can be a speedy racing class, making it a good all-rounder. The Albacore is powerful enough to move well in the typically light summer breezes on Mary Lake, but still easy to handle in all but the windiest conditions. There is also a good second-hand market in Ontario, as the class is widely-sailed and boats are available at a variety of price points.

Other, more economical boats in the same broad bracket would be the CL-14 and CL-16, which are still available new and on the second-hand market. If you are not interested in potentially racing on Mary Lake and money is no object, an RS Quest is a great two-person boat for adults to learn on. It also has an asymmetric spinnaker for those looking for a bit more speed downwind.



## Single-handed sailing for adults and older teens: the Laser

For single-handed sailing on Mary Lake, the best all-round choice is probably still the classic Canadian-designed Laser. (Confusingly, a trademark dispute means that as of a few years ago functionally-identical boats have also been produced called ILCAs.)



The Laser can be sailed with a choice of three rig sizes, making it a very versatile boat across the range of sailor weights and wind range.

The Laser is a tippy boat and has its quirks, but there are reasons it has become the most popular singlehanded adult racing boat worldwide, by far. Because they have been sailed in Canada since they were first built (in Quebec, in 1972), they are widely available on the second-hand market here and spare parts are also widely-available.

For a less tippy and easier to rig boat, aimed at the beginner/younger market, the Laser Pico (singlehander) or the newer RS Zest (can be sailed single- or double-handed) would be great choices.



### Young sailors' pick: RS Tera or RS Feva

There is an ever-increasing number of kids' sailing boats, which makes it difficult to choose an overall winner for this category. One universal pick is tricky, too, because kids grow quickly and ideally parents want to buy a boat that their kids can grow into and enjoy over a number of years.

Lots of the different RS classes work well for younger sailors. They come in different configurations and sizes and are beginner-friendly: very robust and straightforward to rig.

Specifically, the RS Tera singlehander for younger kids and the RS Feva double-hander, for older pre-teens or younger teenagers, are very good candidates. The Tera is comparable - in size and shape - to an Optimist, the well-known children's racing class, but much easier to rig and more robust. If you have a committed racer who wants to travel to regattas, then the Optimist would be your choice, but for learning to sail on Mary Lake, the Tera is a better bet.

The RS Feva is primarily a two-person boat, but also works well in lighter winds as a single-hander with just the mainsail. It has an optional easy to manage asymmetric spinnaker for the more advanced sailors. Whilst on the topic of younger sailors, we highly recommend Lake of Bays Sailing Club's (LBSC) summer sailing programme as a first port of call for kids learning to sail and making new friends. They have a very good range of boats and instruction available throughout the summer.

Once you have your shiny new (or not so new) sailboat, or if you want to find out more about sailing on Mary Lake (or discuss boat choices), please get in touch with

### Edward Gledhill,

Commodore of Port Sydney Yacht Club

[comms@portsydneyyachtclub.ca](mailto:comms@portsydneyyachtclub.ca)

or visit our website for more info:

[portsydneyyachtclub.ca](http://portsydneyyachtclub.ca).



## CALLING ALL SAILORS!

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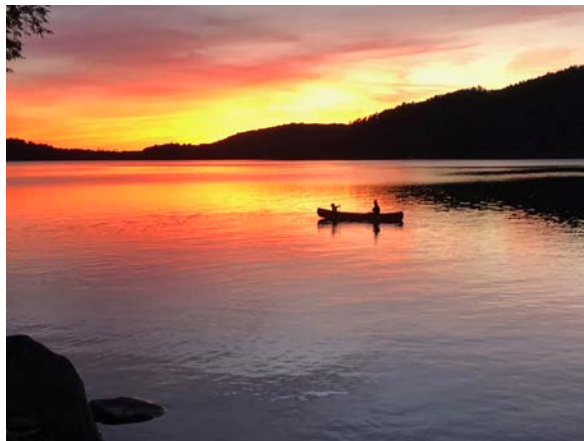
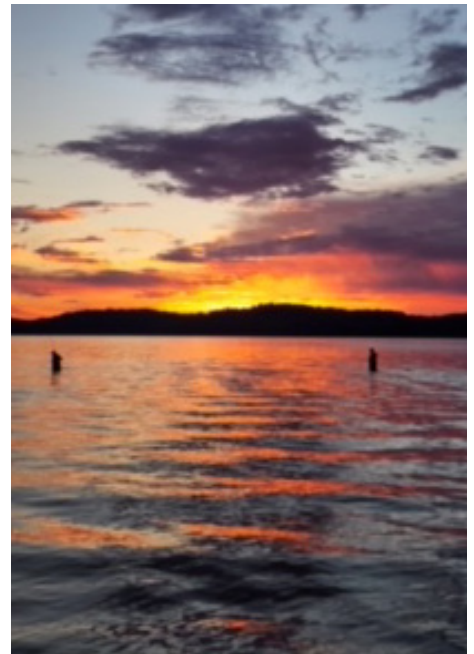
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# THE JOYS OF BEING





# ON MARY LAKE





# THE WOODEN LAUNCHES

Like many of the lakes of Muskoka, Mary Lake was home to a number of fine wooden watercraft in the early to mid twentieth century. Their history parallels the growth in popularity of the summer cottage.

While several steam-powered launches such as Albert Sydney-Smith's commercially operated Lillian graced our lake at the turn of the twentieth century, the advent of small gasoline engines made it easier for cottagers and lake-dwellers to own and operate a small launch. The earliest of these were built in the US or in Toronto, Hamilton or Brockville. Rev. Herbert Johnson (the author's Grandfather) owned a cedar planked white-hulled open hulled runabout in the nineteen twenties. Built in New York State, she was powered by a two-cylinder gas engine. Several like her could still be seen in the early fifties pulled partially up along the shores of the lakes and river upstream toward Huntsville, pathetically rotting slowly away.

By the twenties, a number of fine craftsmen were building boats in Muskoka for cottage owners throughout the District. Today some of their boats are owned by collectors from Lake Tahoe to Florida and of course on the lakes of Muskoka. But many of them have not survived, having been abandoned decades ago. They were high-maintenance and the arrival of easily maintained fibreglass watercraft in the fifties sounded the end of an era.



Muskoka boat builders were meticulous craftsmen. This 1925 twenty-five foot long-deck launch was built in Gravenhurst.

Perhaps the first of the cottage launches was 'The Three Graces' introduced to the lake at the newly built Stockford cottage in 1913. About 23 feet long and very slender, she was housed in the green boathouse that still stands about two hundred meters east of Moodies' Point. Her name derived no doubt in part from the biblical reference to faith, hope and charity, but also from

the fact that three women in the Stockford/Moodie clan at the time were named Grace. Gliding along in The Three Graces past the almost uninhabited shoreline of our lake on a Sunday afternoon cruise must have been a very special delight.

The peaceful solitude was broken by the arrival of the McLaughlin family and their ear-splittingly high-powered speedboats the 'Deuce' and the 'Limit'. They inhabited a cottage and boathouse a few hundred yards east of Clyffe House, and according to old timers the sound of the two behemoths would often break the early morning calm. The McLaughlin boathouse subsequently caught fire (surely there's no suggestion of arson by the neighbours?) but the two boats were pushed out into the lake,



By the early nineteen thirties designs became more streamlined. The engine moved toward the rear, hulls were faster. This 1931 runabout was built by Greavette Boats in Gravenhurst



# OF MARY LAKE

along -legend has it- with a case of Champagne. The fate of the boats and the Champagne is unknown.

By the late twenties, as the economy boomed, cottage launches became aquatic works of art. White paint and cedar morphed into African mahogany and high-gloss varnish. Muskoka-built launches became much sought after.

In 1928 an elegant twenty-seven foot long-decker was acquired by the Hall family. The 'Hallcroft' was built by Clive Brown of Bracebridge, whose shop paid great attention to detail and is said to have produced only one boat per year. Mr Hall Sr replaced her original engine with a more powerful Lycoming. She could be seen flying up the lake in a cloud of spray in the early morning, with him alone at the wheel - a ritual he would insist on before anyone could come aboard.

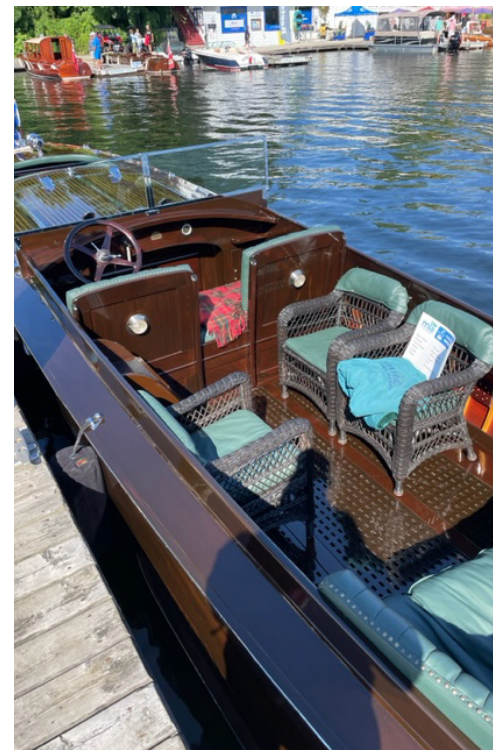
In 1935 Rev Johnson traded in his cedar planked launch for a 21-foot mahogany long-decked classic built in 1916 by Bert Minett of Bracebridge. Referred to in the family as 'The Old Girl', she was seen regularly on an after-dinner cruise around the islands, often carrying several of the black-habitted Sisters of Saint John the Divine from their summer retreat 'Ballycroy' located on the shore south-east of the Town Dock. The Old Girl survives today at a cottage on Lake Joseph.

Island owners needed reliable seaworthy craft to ensure they could get back and forth in all conditions. The Crown family of Crown Island in the mid thirties acquired a twenty-four foot mahogany beauty eponymously named 'Crown'. Built by Earl Barnes of Bracebridge, she could be seen into the nineteen fifties taking well-dressed weekend island guests to dinner at Muskoka Lodge. She remains in good shape today and occasionally shows up at the Grace and Speed antique boat museum in Gravenhurst. Crown island was also served by an eighteen foot lapstrake Duke Utility runabout named 'Miss Behave'. Still on the lake in the fifties, her subsequent fate is unknown.

The Demericks of Isle o' Pines were friends of the owners of Crown Island and also chose an Earl Barnes launch. The eighteen foot 'Lady El' had an advanced streamlined design with a sloping stern and slanted chrome-framed windshield. She returned to the lake for a brief visit, looking like new, about ten years ago.

The Atkin family owned Forrest and Snowshoe Islands and settled on a Greavette, built in Gravenhurst. The 'Riveraire', with its high freeboard, served them well in all weather into the nineteen sixties before she disappeared from the lake.

Another Greavette, a twenty-one foot Streamliner named 'Quandary' was built in the early fifties and incorporated many advances



"The interior of Muskoka-built launches were often quite comfortable, facilitating picnicking and sightseeing."

including rounded, almost cigar-shaped sides. She belonged to the Furneaux family whose cottage overlooked the lake from the hilltop above the Town Dock. She too can be seen from time to time at Grace and Speed.

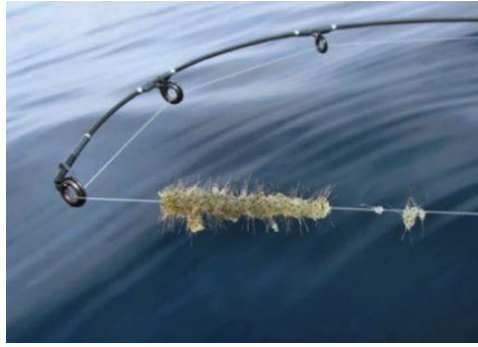
With the advent in the nineteen fifties of low-maintenance fibreglass the mahogany beauties began to be shunned. Most of the mahogany craft built in Muskoka were abandoned, scuttled or left to rot in farm fields. A fraction of the total produced have survived but it is fascinating to note that a disproportionately high number of the ones that appeared on Mary Lake are still around, albeit in other locations. Perhaps this is a testimony to the discriminating good taste of Mary Laker.

**Ted Johnson**

# TESTING FOR SPINY WATERFLEA

Thank you Nancy, as well the Mary Lake Association for this opportunity to further instill the importance of water quality testing and analysis of our lake to ensure a healthy water system can continue to contribute to our heritage, daily life and future.

As a young boy my spotty seasonal introductions to the Muskoka Lakes were short lived each year from extended family members offering an opportunity to stay at their cottage when they were not using it. Whether it was star gazing at night, watching the tall pines sway in fall breeze, or jumping into chilly waters that washed over sparkling granite shorelines I had found a place I truly connected with. I was grateful every time I had the opportunity to be here. Those times ignited memories that are still embedded within me today and created a lifelong love for the area. Fortunately, in the



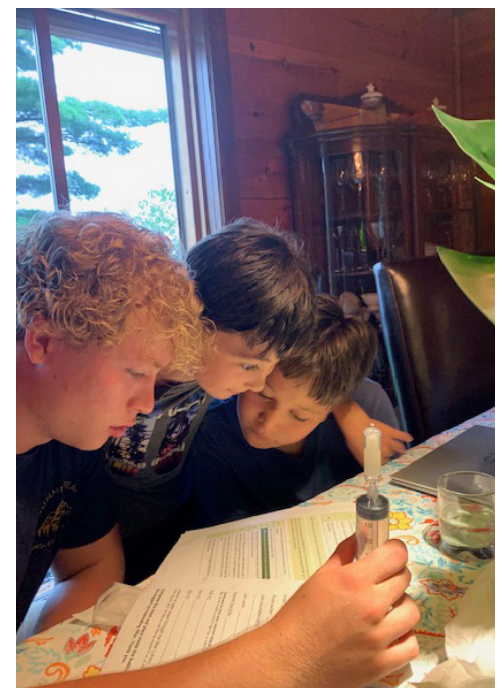
90's my parents retired and took to seasonal residency perched high on the North shore of Mary Lake. I have not missed a season since. On the eve of a milestone birthday my wife and I, along with our 4 boys were blessed to strengthen our relationship with the region and long-time members, healthy lake advocates Gaetan (Patch) & Lorena Laferriere. An opportunity to purchase their home here on Mary Lake needed little discussion. With a newly ignited passion for our piece of paradise and a nudge from Patch we too became proud members of the MLA.

When the opportunity arose to gather data and promote healthy lake awareness, I was pleased to have a multi-generational group, led by our eldest son Hayden who is enjoying the Biology program at McMaster University in Hamilton. With all of us in great spirits and in search of algae(s) and the "Spiny Water Flea" we set course for 3 primary locations;

1. Port Sydney Boat Launch
2. Our deep basin – adjacent Deadman's Island
3. Windward way for the day – near MBC

Using a drag net (see inset photo) each location generated unique samples with many visible organisms showing having residency in our lake – one sample included the infamous Spiny Water Flea. All water samples were properly preserved as directed and sent away for further analysis. We can look forward to these results when they are available.

We all have reasons to be proud parents, grandparents and the like. Seeing inspired youth understanding our relationship with the environment and advocating for preservation is admirable. Asking Hayden to contribute his thoughts of the day and study of Mary Lakes water quality he offered. "Participating in the water sampling effort was quite an experience for me. Being a biology student, I took great interest in connecting what

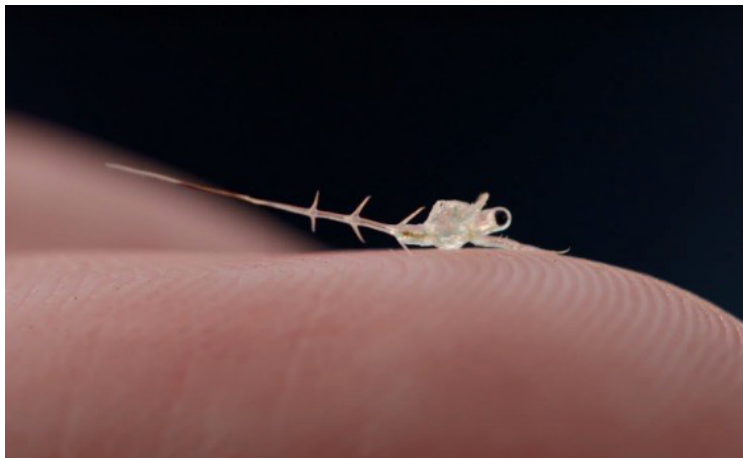




I learn in the classroom with my passion for the outdoors. Alongside a boat full of family, the collection process was not only straightforward but also a ton of fun. I found these aspects vital for the engagement in conservation and think they have fuelled a dedication to protect nature in my younger brothers.

Conservation efforts are critical for preserving the wilderness of Mary Lake and I hope that we can all be inspired to do our part to ensure that we can continue to experience the natural beauty of this place."

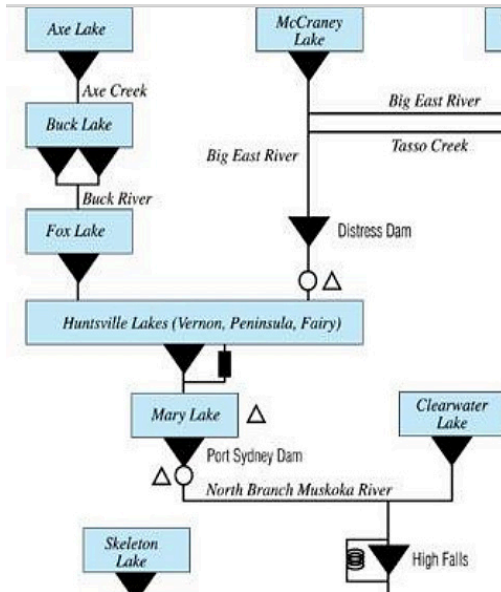
Cyanobacteria (Blue-Green Algae) has become an annual occurrence in Mary Lake in recent years, we learned last year at the annual meeting with the help of Dr. Peter Sale that algae(s) have a consistent and significant role of a healthy lake including supporting and feeding the plant and fish in our lake. However, late summer or fall blooms can have us avoiding contact with the water including, swimming, showering, and drinking for us and our pets. It is complicated



It is also an important addition to consider that all our water originates in Algonquin Park, however as it travels past many towns, communities, fields, and lawns on its way into our lake it is subjected to change and run off.

So, as we pull out dock furniture, have boats delivered and prepare for a season of friends, family and loved ones sharing in this magical place, I encourage that our intentional or unintentional relationship with the Mary Lake and the edges surrounding be initiative-taking and outspoken. Let us be supportive for newcomers and continue to be insightful for those who have become complacent. Mary Lake is ours to enjoy today, and a remarkable gift for those who will enjoy it in the future.

- we learned not to suggest any one cause for these annual occurrences but must remain aware that blooms are manifested from excess nutrients in warm water. Primary sources of excess nutrients can be lawn fertilizers and antiquated or not properly maintained septic systems.



David and Hayden Simms





# FABRICARE

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[www.FABRICARE.ca](http://www.FABRICARE.ca)

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Voted "best laundry services" for over 15 years  
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## The MLA WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE TESTING EQUIPMENT for 2023

### Secchi Depth Measuring

Secchi Disks are used to measure water clarity. Water transparency is an indicator of changes in the lake, measuring water transparency is one of the descriptors used to assess lake eutrophication.

Learn more at:

<https://www.nalms.org/secchidipin/monitoring-methods/the-secchi-disk/what-is-a-secchi-disk/#:~:text=A%20Secchi%20disk%20is%20an,the%20transparency%20of%20the%20water.>



The availability of light underwater is important because algae and other aquatic plants need light for photosynthesis. Therefore, the productivity of a lake (how much plant and animal life it can support) is in part dependent on the clarity of the water.

### Fluorometer

is a device used to measure parameters of visible spectrum fluorescence.

Its intensity and wave length distribution of emission spectrum after excitation by a certain spectrum of light

Learn more at:

<https://www.comm-tec.com/library/tutorials/ctd/faq%20fluorometric%20chlorophyll%20analysis.pdf>



Algae blooms are a considerable concern in freshwater lakes. Chlorophyll a (Chl-a) fluorometers are widely used for rapid assessments of algae biomass.

### Spiny Waterflea

Last season, the MLA Water Quality Committee tested the lake water for this aggressive species and yes, it was found!

Learn more at:

<https://www.invasivespeciescentre.ca/invasive-species-awareness-and-monitoring-program-for-lakes-education-in-ontario/>

Notify Invading Species Hotline at [1-800-563-7711](tel:1-800-563-7711) if you see one in ML



These invasive zooplankton critters outcompete native species for food so the ecosystem of the lake gets drastically altered.

They come into a lake or river mostly by clinging to the bottom of water craft. Please clean off the underside of your boat and motor before launching.



# THE MLA WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE TARGET TESTING FOR 2023

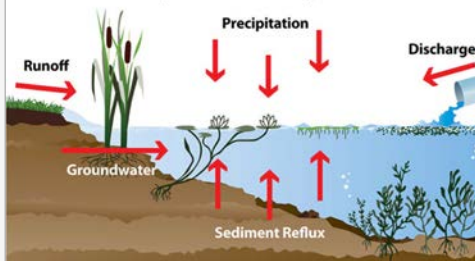
## PHOSPHORUS CONCENTRATION

Phosphorus is an essential element for plant life, but when there is too much of it in the water, it can speed up **eutrophication** (a reduction in dissolved oxygen in water bodies caused by an increase in mineral and organic nutrients) of rivers and lakes.

Learn more at:

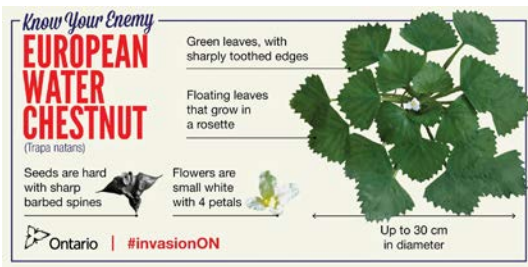
<https://ccme.ca/en/res/phosphorus-en-canadian-water-quality-guidelines-for-the-protection-of-aquatic-life.pdf>

Sources of Phosphorus Loading



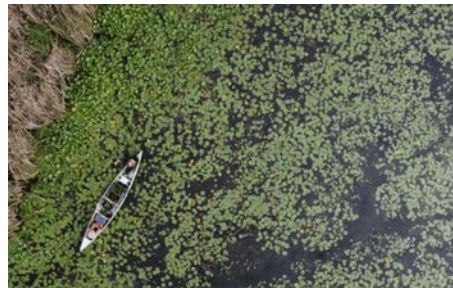
Rain or snowmelt will pick up pollutants as it flows over the land and eventually discharges into a body of water.

Too much nitrogen and phosphorus in the water causes **algae** to grow faster than ecosystems can handle. Too much algae will decrease the oxygen the fish and other aquatic life need to survive.

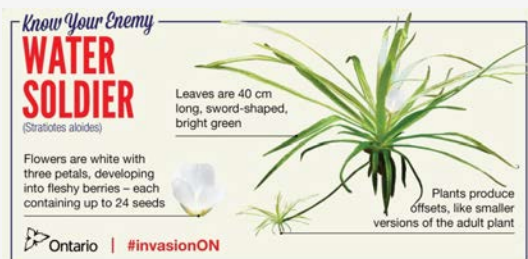


Learn more at:

<https://www.invadingspecies.com/invaders/aquatic-plants/european-water-chestnut-2/>



European Water Chestnut plants create large, thick patches of leaves on the surface of the water, which blocks out light, killing other plants in the Lake. It also leads to anoxic conditions, where there is no oxygen in the water, which leads to fish deaths.



Learn more at:

<https://www.invadingspecies.com/invaders/aquatic-plants/water-soldier-2/>



The dense mats that form crowd out other vegetation and alter water chemistry, causing decreased biodiversity of native aquatic species. Water soldier can be submerged up to 5 m but floats to the surface in summer. This poses a threat to summer recreational activities such as fishing, boating, and swimming. Boat motors can break up plants allowing them to spread and invade new areas.

# WATER LEVELS REPORT SPRING RUNOFF 2023

## COULD HAVE BEEN WORSE...

Back in March we were concerned about the threat of a flood. The moisture content of the Algonquin Park snowpack was well above average and the risk of heavy rain or a sudden hot spell had us a bit on edge. The District of Muskoka shared that view, and in early April issued a flood warning for our watershed.

In the event the snowpack melted relatively quickly because of a substantial warm spell and by April 20th the lake and the river up to the locks had risen well over the typical dock and up the banks of the river, and had obliterated our beaches. But fortunately the ice had gone by mid-April and there were few if any reports of property damage.

By mid-May the level had dropped almost to the summer navigation season target and all seemed in order for a pleasant Victoria Day long weekend with Muskoka chairs on the dock and pleasure craft cruising.

But then something surprising and quite unnecessary happened. The lake rose quickly, well over many of our docks and boathouse decks. It has remained above target ever since although it appears to be trending back toward target levels for the navigation season.

## ...BUT COULD HAVE BEEN BETTER!

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), which has the challenging task of managing the twenty-nine dams across the Muskoka River Watershed, did a very good job of drawing Mary Lake down in March to a close-to-record low. This provided surge capacity for the inevitable runoff and contributed to avoiding disastrous floods on our branch of the river. They also got us back down almost to target within the long-agreed thirty days after the peak.

But they missed a putt in dealing with the mid-May rains. Environment Canada had forecast "rain, possibly heavy at times". But no adjustment was made to the logs at the Port Sydney Dam heading into a weekend. The lake shot up over many docks and shoreline erosion resumed in earnest. What with the weekend and holidays and all, it was four days before a few logs were removed and by then the Ministry was behind the curve.

We were in touch with the Ministry who recognized their problem and began to take action. As of mid-June the level is heading down but has been consistently well above target for at least three weeks.

We have reiterated to the MNRF our oft-repeated concerns about the erosive effect of long-duration high water on the shoreline of Mary Lake

and the River up to the Locks. Over half the lake shore and about ninety percent of the riverbank is soft and is highly vulnerable to erosion.



Taken around May 24, this picture shows shoreline erosion and resulting silting caused by prolonged high water and exacerbated by wind. The shoreline of Mary Lake and the Muskoka River up to the locks is predominantly soft and highly vulnerable.

We have, over recent years, found the Ministry open to our entreaties and aware of our concerns. But we feel the response could be more effective. It remains a fact that the primary driver of their water level management policy is hydro-electric power generation at the power stations downstream from us. Until that changes we have an uphill climb. (A review process has begun and the Mary Lake Association has contributed to it.)

Summer-ish weather has returned and with it the hope that water levels will return to navigation season norms. Best wishes to all for a pleasant season.

## Ted Johnson

On behalf of the Shoreline Erosion and Water Levels Committee



# THE BEGINNING OF A NEW RIBBON OF LIFE SHORELINE GARDEN FOR MARY LAKE

This is a small update on the natural garden planted last fall along my waterfront, having been supplied with plants by the Mary Lake Association and the Muskoka Watershed Council. Firstly, it would appear that these plants survived the winter and are flourishing despite traffic in the form of children (this area is part of a baseball diamond, football field and driving range), dogs and Canada geese.



Secondly, the spring's high water did undercut this section of shore line but not quite so far inland as the new plants. Hopefully their roots will in the future provide erosion resistance. Thirdly, it is evident that the stone wall along the shore, which was built by my grandfather, is in need of reinforcement to help protect soft shoreline and developing root systems.



My plan is to relocate more native plants from other parts of my property to bolster the root system. Thanks again for your support and encouragement in this project.

**Sue Tovee**



## PROGRESSIVE EUCHRE



New players are welcome to watch and learn

**WHERE:**  
Port Sydney  
Community Centre

**WHEN:**  
Every Thursday  
Starting June 29th

**COST:**  
\$5.00 per player

**TIME:**  
Doors Open at 7:00  
Cards Fly at 7:30

**SPECIAL NOTE:**  
There will not be a Euchre night on Thursday July 20th

For More Information Contact: Greg Crawford | 519-574-7057 | [greg.crawford@me.com](mailto:greg.crawford@me.com)

# CANOEING IN AND AROUND MARY LAKE

There is nothing quite like an early morning paddle. The calming sounds of water, and a bird song in the background is a wonderful way to start your day. Mary Lake provides some excellent opportunities for canoeists, and exploring by canoe is a unique and rewarding experience. Navigating rivers and lakes under your own strength and guidance creates a personal sense of accomplishment. Of course, many children may not want to be prided away from screens, but maybe the incentive of an ice cream at the General Store is a worthwhile reward for their (and your) hard work. I suspect they will thank you for the experience at the end of the day.



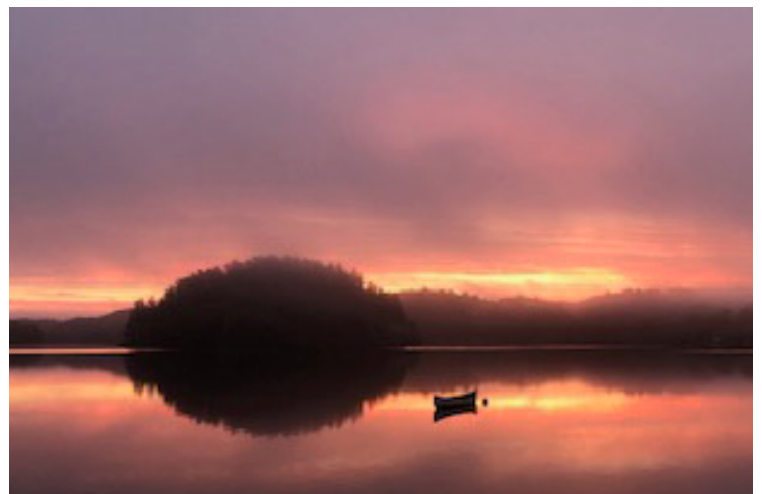
Huntsville 110km race in 2021; and Mary Lake was a pivotal turning point as we headed towards the finish line on Penfold Lake. As we pulled away from the Port Sydney docks (a final pit stop on the course), we were mesmerized by the setting sun to the West, and a full moon rising in the East. It was an incredible race,

and we were fueled by the support of our Port Sydney neighbors and friends, hollering out in the dusk or cheering us on from a riverside dock.

Mary Lake will continue to be used as part of the course for the upcoming Muskoka River X race this September. You may have already spotted folks training in the Muskoka river; learning the best locations to portage around a rapid or dam, and getting to know the course. This fall, Marathon paddlers will cruise south through Mary Lake on their way from Huntsville to Bracebridge. The canoeists will then turn east towards Baysville and finally navigate through Lake of Bays on their way back to the finish in Huntsville; an incredible 132.8 km journey.



Mary Lake is well connected to many other lakes and rivers in the Muskoka region, and all can be navigated by canoe. Over the past number of years, Marathon paddlers have also become quite familiar with the long stretches of lakes and rivers many of you call home. My wife and I participated in the Muskoka River X -





Of course, marathon paddling isn't for everyone. That said, recreational canoeing is a great way to learn more about the waterways that surround you. There always seems to be something different when you are out on the water. One morning you might see a beaver nose its way through a channel, or you might spot a heron stalking the shallows for lunch. Either way, canoeing is a great way to slow down and connect with the people and the world around us.

Our family has embraced single day and multi-day canoe trips as a way to come together and achieve a common goal. If you do choose to embark on a day trip there is plenty to do just on Mary Lake. As previously mentioned, paddle down to the "General Store" for a treat, or a quick peek in at



"The Wild Heart" to find some treasures. You could also portage around the dam and travel down river and get picked up at a predetermined location. Alternatively, if you were hoping to put in a few more kilometers, you could paddle up river and into the town dock for a well-deserved lunch and a cold beverage. Perhaps a car shuttle back home would be a good idea after that one.

In the end, whether you are enjoying a quiet morning, fishing in the afternoon, or racing your heart out, just getting out on the water is a great way to connect with nature and enjoy what Mary Lake has to offer. Canoe travel has a long history, and it's important to remember that our waterways were travelled long before us by the Anishinabek people.

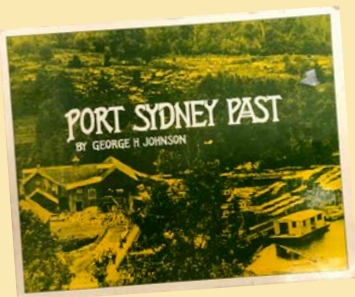
## SAFETY FIRST

Being prepared for a day on the water will greatly enhance your experience. Always check the weather before you set out and be mindful of the wind speed and direction. Here is a short list of some of things to remember:

- ❖ Safety Equipment (Throw rope with 15 m. of rope, bailer, whistle, and flashlight)
- ❖ Stay close to shore whenever possible, and especially in windy weather
- ❖ Water and snacks for the day (our favourite are "Eatmore" bars- yup, they can be purchased at our local Freshmart).
- ❖ Sunscreen, hats, and a first aid kit is never a bad idea.
- ❖ Map of the area (if you have one), children will enjoy looking over the map as you go.
- ❖ Properly fitted lifejackets are a must for all canoeists.

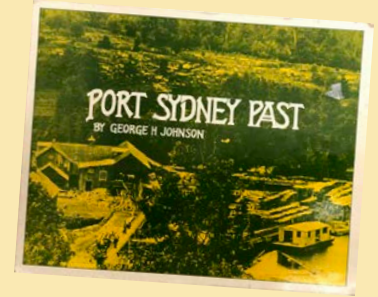
**Andrew Foxcroft**

Grade 6 teacher and Port Sydney resident



## A Fascinating Account of the Early Days in Port Sydney

Available at Dean's Hardware & Jamieson's Store



Written by George H Johnson

# PADDLING TO PENFOLD LAKE

A summer at the cottage brings out many traditions, like Sunday pancakes with the family, or swimming in the lake with my brother, but my favorite tradition is canoeing to Penfold Lake. It starts out as just another canoe ride, my paddle gliding along the waters of Mary Lake, beautiful trees in the background, and the lovely smell of nature. But once you get into Spider Creek, the landscape changes completely. Lily pads fill the water, and are joined by bone white waterlilies. The smell of fresh earth fills your nose, and there are cattails everywhere! In Mary Lake, you don't see much wildlife in the water. But in Spider Creek, and Spider Lake, there are blue herons that we followed and observed. Red winged black birds dart in and out



The water there was deep, so deep, that we could jump into the lake to swim!

In the distance, I could see a beautiful Victorian farm house surrounded by meadows and fields, different from Mary Lake. After a picnic on the rock, it was time to paddle back through Spider Creek into Mary Lake, and home.

from the bushes, and ducks paddle between the bullrushes.

There is a beaver dam which we had to portage over, and lots of frogs, that the herons eat. You really get a chance to see examples of the food web and the ecosystem flourish. Once we get to Penfold Lake, the water is royal blue and still, full of wild geese! We followed a family of geese, and they led us to a wonderful rock along the shoreline.



**Olivia Mae Laurie Leguia**





# Summer of 2023 Community Events

## JUNE

### **The Merry Merry Lakers**

EVERY Thursday Starting June 22  
1-4pm, at the Hall Cost \$2.00 -  
Socialize, Cards, Tea and Coffee,  
Annual Membership \$5.00

### **Progressive Euchre Nights**

EVERY Thursday Starting June 29  
(except July 20) at the Hall, 7:00 pm  
Cost \$5.00 greg.crawford@me.com

### **Yoga**

June 29 until July 27 - at the Hall  
from 10:00 am until 11:00am  
cost \$50 for the 5 week session –  
Advanced Registration Required  
Merry Mary Lakers 705-385-8989

## JULY

### **Parks & Rec Canada Day BBQ**

July 1st - at the Waterfront.  
In Memory of Cindy Burda

### **Canada Day at MBC**

July 1st - beginning at 4pm.  
We'll have a Golf Cart Parade, live  
music, BBQ, and activities for the  
whole family

### **Mary Lake Yacht Club**

July 1 to Sept 2 - Every Saturday at  
2:15 pm, followed by party. To join  
the club, please contact  
comms@portsydneyyachtclub.ca.

### **Kids Run Club at VK Greer**

July 3 - 14, for ages 4-11, a health  
and wellness program with a running  
focus. Interested families can email  
robin.mounstevan.oct@gmail.com

### **The Mary Lake Association - AGM**

July 8 meeting 9-12 at the Hall

### **Merry Mary Lakers- Yoga**

July 12 until August 16 - every  
Wednesday evening at the Hall, time  
to be announced. cost \$90 for the 6  
week session. Registration Required  
705-385-8989

### **150 years of worship in Port Sydney**

July 23 Anglican Church Celebration  
at 3 pm. 1873 to 2023. Special  
service will be conducted by  
Archbishop Anne Germond,  
Archbishop of Algoma Diocese.

## AUGUST

### **Parks and Rec Regatta & BBQ**

August 5 at the Waterfront.  
Volunteers needed.  
psparksandrec@gmail.com

### **Pig Roast**

August 5th at 5pm at MBC. Tickets  
are \$12/adult, \$6/youth (7-12yrs),  
and FREE for children (0-6yrs)

### **Annual Rubber Duck Race**

August 6 at 1:30 pm - Stephenson  
District Lions Club, Check  
Stephenson District Lions Club  
Facebook page for further info

### **Anglican Church Concert**

August 12th at 7pm - Youth  
Christian Worship Coffee House

### **End of Summer Dinner & Bike Parade**

August 26 - at the Community Hall.  
Parks and Rec program

### **Anglican Church - Concert**

August 27th - Suzanne Holmes  
Rutherford, composer, pianist and  
friends

## SEPTEMBER

### **Mary Lake Yatch Club Final race**

September 2nd - Year-end party to  
follow at Community Hall

### **Anglican Church Concert**

September 10th at Anglican Church  
Sharon Vardy Bacon, harpists, singer.

### **Turkey Dinner & Fireworks Display**

Sept 30th at the Community Hall.  
Volunteers needed! Parks and Rec.  
psparksandrec@gmail.com

## OCTOBER

### **Arts, Crafts & Vendor Market**

October 21 at the Community Hall  
Parks and Rec

### **Mary Lake Marathon**

October (Date TBA) Interested  
runners can reach Robin Mounstevan  
robin.mounstevan.oct@gmail.com  
for information.

## NOVERMBER

### **Making Spirits Bright Tree Lighting**

November 26 at the Community  
Hall. By Parks and Rec

### **FIREWORKS AT MBC!**

July 1st, August 5th,  
August 19th & September 2nd.

Join us at dusk on our  
Fellowship Centre Field.  
Bring a lawn chair and blanket!

Do you have a community event that  
you would like to share the the Mary  
Lake Association Members?

Send your event to...

Ryan Kidd

# FUELING YOUR BOAT 101 ON/NEAR MARY LAKE.

Properly fuelling a boat is easy but there are some dos and don'ts to keep in mind.

Not only does your safety depend on a proper fuelling job, the environment's safety does too.

The 2 big differences: closed compartments versus those with portable containers.

Boats with enclosed engine compartments are always at danger of fumes building up inside.

Run your blower after fuelling up but also any time you start the boat after it's been sitting for a while.

Boats fitted with a portable tank don't have this issue but a spill could happen to anyone and gas can spill onto upholstery or flooring.

The basic fuelling process is fairly straightforward as if you would be filling your car.....BUT.....there are no "do-it-yourself" gas stations on Mary Lake, therefore topping off your gas with a jerry can is probably your "thing"

Please invest in a little hand siphon pump or fuel transfer system, you can leave your jerry can on solid grounds and the pump system hauls the gas over into your tank, it will save your back but it for sure will save the environment.....at the end it will save you money too, that spilled gas in the water or on the ramp/dock won't give you good mileage.

Never overfill your tank, with many boats you can hear the fuel gurling up, it's time to stop.



## **YOUR NEAREST LOCATIONS TO FILL UP YOUR JERRY CAN OR YOUR PORTABLE TANK OR BOAT AROUND MARY LAKE WILL BE...**

### **SMITH'S ULTRAMAR**

21 Greer Road Port Sydney.

<https://www.ultramar.ca/en-on/find-services-stations/huntsville/21-greer-rd-41948/?latitude=45.26439191337305&longitude=-79.25525547847425>

### **ULTRAMAR GAS STATION**

9100 N Highway 11.

<https://www.ultramar.ca/en-on/find-services-stations/huntsville/9100-on-11-41973/?latitude=45.26439191337305&longitude=-79.25525547847425>

### **MARY LAKE MARINA**

North(west) side of Mary Lake open for gas Friday-Monday from 9am until 5pm AND you don't need all tips from above. Marine grade gas and an attendant will fill your boat and help you with a smile. Super handy and environmentally safe!  
<https://marylakemarina.com>

Portable tanks are easy to fill and all you need to do is to properly hook it back onto your motor, open the air vent and your boat is ready to go.

Know your boat, read the instructions. Is an oil mixture required or is there a separated oil container in the boat? You'd better find out or you will find out the hard way.

One final tip. Always be very careful to add the appropriate fuel to your boat. Using the correct marine fuel and oil in any boat's engine will ensure many seasons of reliable performance.

All current outboard, sterndrive and inboard gasoline engines are designated to operate safely on fuel with no more than 10% ethanol. The fuel system components of the boat and engine are NOT designed to tolerate the corrosive effects of an ethanol blend higher than 10%, Ethanol attracts water and can absorb moisture through the fuel tank vent system. Check the gas bar ethanol %, don't use the cheaper gas, you will save some money now but that clogged fuel system will end up with problems and the need of a mechanic to clean your system, and that invoice is yours to pay.

Have a safe and happy Boating Season.

**Monique Heemskerck**

with Tips from Discover Boating.



# Rules of the Road for Boaters

The Rules of the Road are governed by the Collision Regulations. They spell out which vessel is the **Stand-on Vessel** and which is the **Give-way Vessel**. They also explain actions to take for crossing, meeting and overtaking situations. **The Give-way Vessel must take early and substantial action to avoid a collision.** The Stand-on vessel must maintain course and speed.

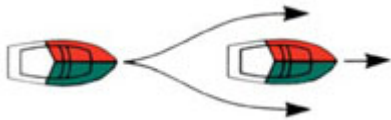
## Danger (Give-Way) Zone



The green sector on your boat, the sector defined by your green sidelight, is your **Danger Zone** or your Give-away Zone. This extends from the centreline on your bow (dead ahead) to 22.5° abaft the starboard beam, or 11.5° from the bow, along your starboard side.

When another skipper sees your green light, he has the right of way... **green for go**. When you have a boat in your green light sector you must take early and substantial action to avoid collision.

## Sound Signals & rules for Overtaking and Crossing



You are the Give-way Vessel when you want to over take another vessel/ that one now is the Stand-on Vessel. To signal that you want to overtake you must sound your horn:

### Give-away Vessel

2 short blasts to pass on Port

1 short blast to pass on Starboard

### Stand-on Vessel

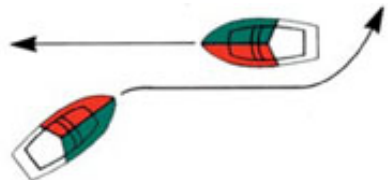
2 blasts to acknowledge ok

1 blast to acknowledge ok



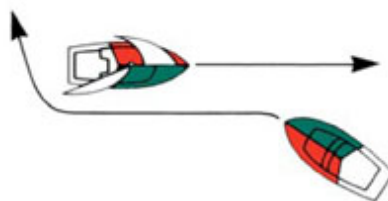
### Meeting: Head On

Since both must take action, they will give one short blast to indicate they will alter their course to Starboard so that they pass Port to Port



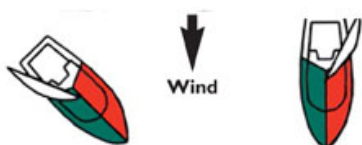
### Meeting: Crossing

In this diagram Vessel 1 is in the Give-way Vessel as it has the vessel on its right in its green sector.



### Meeting: Powerboat and Sailboat, Canoe, Kayak, Rowboat

The non motorized vessels are the Stand-on Vessel and the powerboat is the Give-way Vessel



**SAILBOATS** have their own rules and right of way over each other.

Check out these rules and more at: **Safe Boater Training Program:**  
<https://www.safeboater.com/learn-the-rules/rules-of-the-road.html>