

# Wolfe Lake MAGAZINE

A publication of the Wolfe Lake Association, Westport

Summer, 2023

**WLAW anniversary 2023**  
35 years of impact

**THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS**  
**PAST & PRESENT**  
We always need helping hands!

**Wolfe Lake by the Numbers**  
**WLAW timeline**

**WOLFE LAKE HISTORY**  
Indigenous Peoples

**The excitement of fishing**

**FLASHBACK | 66 Years and**  
**Counting**





Putting in a new dock this summer? **We can help.**

**alk** Here's How.



Available at;

**HERLEHY**

**alk Home building centre**

10062 Perth Road South, Westport

Ph: 613-273-2052





# Wolfe Lake MAGAZINE

Wolfe Lake  
Association  
WESTPORT, ONTARIO

**ON THE COVER**  
A mesmerizing view of Wolfe Lake by Marti Hansell, taken from her property, high up on the south end of the lake, combined with festive confetti.

Summer, 2023

## Contents

# Feeling festive!

## WE ARE CELEBRATING OUR 35<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY

This issue of the Wolfe Lake Magazine offers you a festive collection of stories about the history of our lake association, its founders, volunteer leaders, and the members who have helped oversee our impressive evolution, caring for the environment of Wolfe Lake.



Wolfe Lake Association Westport | wolfelake.org

### 10

#### FOCA Achievement Award Goes to WLAW's Let's Get the Lead Out Program

The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association (FOCA) awarded its 2022 Annual Achievement Award to the Wolfe Lake Association in recognition of the Lead Fishing Tackle Buy Back Program / "Let's Get the Lead Out" initiative that works to protect wildlife from the dangers of lead poisoning.



### 13

#### WOLFE LAKE HISTORY Indigenous Peoples

The story of Wolfe Lake is fascinating. Of course, Indigenous Peoples lived here long before our cottages and homes were built. Chris Chisamore explores the history of the lands around Wolfe Lake.



### 25

#### The excitement of fishing WOLFE LAKE A family love affair

Bill Hutchison reminisces about his family's love affair with Wolfe Lake. His dad came to fish in Wolfe Lake in the late 1940's and Bill went with him for the first time in 1957. Bill and his wife Jane are WLAW members since 2001. So, lots of stories to share.





## 9 THE START OF THE ASSOCIATION

Charlie Wiseman, one of the founding fathers of the WLAW looks back on those early years and tells how a serendipitous eagle's nest started it all.

## 11 THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

Recognizing all Wolfe Lake Association's volunteers. A long list with the names of so many who have made a difference over the years.

## 14 FUN 'DID YOU KNOW' FACTS

Looking through older Newsletters, we found some pretty cool fun facts for you, starting with a private conservation easement, to what a spring-fed lake means, a poet laureate and much more.

## 17 TIMELINE WLAW: OUR STORY

We have put together a timeline of the WLAW, our activities and achievements from the very beginning to this year.

## 18 ROY'S CHISAMORE ICE OUT INFO

Roy Chisamore has not only taken care of our buoys since 1977 (!), he has also done some serious ice-out tracking over the years.

## 29 CLEAN AND SAFE LAKEWATER

The findings of last year's water quality testing are looking good.

## 30 LATEST UPDATES FOR ANGLERS

Exciting outings in new fishing season.

## 32 WILDLIFE: TRUMPETER SWANS

A remarkable comeback story of these magnificent creatures.

## 36 VOLUNTEER: HELPING HANDS

Wolfe Lake needs more helping hands to get things done, so, sign up!

## 39 QUAIN LANDMARKS

Once typical waterfront landmarks along the shores of Wolfe Lake, the small wood-frame cottages previous generations viewed as the perfect summer escape are gradually disappearing. The Bresee family looks back and forward.

## 49 TURTLES ARE VITAL JANITORS

Turtles play a vital role in maintaining wetlands. If you find a turtle that is sick or injured, here is what to do to help.

### Other news

- 5 Helping loons and cheers to a festive year.
- 6 Wolfe Lake Magazine colophon Disclaimer & WHAT'S INSIDE
- 7 35 YEARS OF IMPACT
- 8 WOLFE LAKE IN BRIEF
- 15 Wolfe Lake By The Numbers
- 16 It's all about Wolfe Lake
- 19 The need for communication
- 20 Transformation of the website
- 21 FINANCIAL REPORT
- 22 AGM 2022 went market style
- 23 AGM 2023 ANNOUNCEMENT
- 26 Share your correct email address
- 27 Checking in with Seamus Cowan
- 28 Three lots for sale at Camp IAWAH
- 33 WLAW project updates
- 35 Our awesome shoal marker men
- 37 WTC: Fibre where feasible + Starlink
- 38 Update 'Let's get the lead out'
- 41 Nostalgia: Bresee memories
- 42 PICTURE TIME winners 2023 contest
- 46 GREETINGS two mayors
- 47 KIDS' PAGES
- 47 Ellel Ministries are expanding
- 55 Vegetated shoreline important
- 57 Linda Hanna's home-made gifts
- 58 Practice responsible lake recreation
- 59 Lisa's super sub sandwich recipe
- 60 KIDS' PUZZLE solutions
- 62 THANK YOU local advertisers
- Did you know fun facts**
- 14 How to preserve the family property
- 23 Wolfe is a spring-fed lake. Why?
- 35 Boating licences needed since 2002
- 38 Moose spotted in Wolfe
- 43 We once had a poet laureate
- 53 Many AGM locations
- 54 The tricky tornado of 2003



# Wolfe Lake Association Westport

## PROTECT | PRESERVE | PLAY

The Wolfe Lake Association Westport works for you, to ensure good governance and to shape and conduct all our initiatives keeping the association’s objectives in mind. Our main goals are to maintain and enhance the natural beauty and pristine state of Wolfe Lake and its shoreline and to provide information on the environmental aspects of cottage life, including measures to improve our environment and the quality of our lake water. The Wolfe Lake Association Westport is headed by a volunteer executive, elected at the Annual General Meeting. We inform you about water quality and invasive species, such as Eurasian water milfoil. We encourage our members to prevent and reduce pollution in all its forms, including noise pollution. We offer advice to anglers, with tips and tricks to improve fishing and to maintain a healthy habitat. We keep in touch with our members by publishing our annual Wolfe Lake Magazine and by distributing our email News Flashes with brief updates and news to be shared throughout the year. We frequently update our website and we have two Facebook community pages. Feel free to get in touch with us: [treasurerwlca@rideau.net](mailto:treasurerwlca@rideau.net) or [com-wolfelake@outlook.com](mailto:com-wolfelake@outlook.com).

### Our 2023 team

- PRESIDENT | Chris Chisamore
- VICE PRESIDENT | Bill Garland
- PAST PRESIDENT | Brian Manthey
- TREASURER | Larry Arsenault
- SECRETARY | Erin Derbyshire
- COMMUNICATIONS | Anna Rijk
- WEBMASTER | Donna Garland
- FISHING | Margie Manthey
- WATER QUALITY | Gordon Moore
- SHOAL MARKING | Roy Chisamore
- MEMBERSHIP | Lisa Arsenault
- WOLFE LAKE REP | Bill Hutchison
- WOLFE LAKE REP | Greg Wetmore



Wolfe Lake Association Westport | [wolfelake.org](http://wolfelake.org)

### Our 2023 volunteers

Bill Blaney, Wayne Derbyshire, Sean Garland, Marti Hansell, Betty Jo MacDougall, Bruce Maynard, Tom Myatt, Lorraine Pellerin, Daniel Spitzer, Thamar Spitzer, Cathy Thompson, Paul Thompson, Val Tait, and Helene Wach. **THANK YOU!**  
**YOUR NAME could be printed here next year! Give a helping hand, read page 36 and sign up to become one of our volunteers.**

# HELPING WOLFE LAKE’S LOONS

## Woods Bay’s Hilton fully booked 😊



Bruce Maynard and Helene Wach shared this picture earlier this spring, showing off the guest on their home-made loon nesting platform. For a third year in a row this platform – christened the Woods Bay Hilton – has been used by Wolfe’s loons. Donna and Bill Garland have been floating their loon nesting platform as well, to offer our loons a helping hand.

### Cheers to a festive year



This is a festive year, and - oh, yeah! - we’re celebrating with a beautiful anniversary logo (designed by Marti Hansell) and a social media campaign (designed by Anna Rijk), just to remind ourselves how lucky we are to be at our happy place, pristine Wolfe Lake. You’ll find a few examples of the campaign throughout the Wolfe Lake Magazine (and they are posted on our Facebook page).

# Wolfe Lake Magazine

EDITOR Anna Rijk

## CONTRIBUTIONS (in alphabetical order)

Marilyn and Harvey Ambler, Larry Arsenault, Lisa Arsenault, Kent and Karen Bandy, Duane Bresee, Ryan Burton, Sue Carstairs, Chris Chisamore, Kevin Christy, Seamus Cowan, Joe Delorme, Erin Derbyshire, Julie Files, Donna Garland, Linda Hanna, Marti Hansell, Arie Hoogenboom, Bill and Jane Hutchison, Jason Kervin, Meg King, Christine and Tom Langan, Jennifer Lamoureux, Betty Jo MacDougall, Margie Manthey, Haley Matschke, Matt Mills, Jeftha Monster, Gord Moore, Laura Petryshen, Anna Rijk, Daniel Spitzer, Thamar Spitzer, Ron Vandewal, Ken Vissers, Gary Vogle, Helene Wach.

COPY EDITOR Betty Jo MacDougall

PROOFREADER Val Tait

SPECIAL DESIGN PROJECTS: Marti Hansell

## DESIGN, PRODUCTION AND PUBLISHING

Anna Rijk Communications, Ottawa

PRINT Cielo Print Inc., Printing and Reprographics, Ottawa

## PHOTOS (in alphabetical order)

Lisa Arsenault, Ryan Burton, Canva, Peter Carty, Seamus Cowan, Ellel Ministries, Julie Files, Farmhouse Home-made Gifts, FOCA, Donna Garland, Sean Garland, Lianne Huiskens, Bill and Jane Hutchison, Meg King, Klunk family, Betty Jo MacDougall, Bruce Maynard, Loretta Moore, Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre, Laura Petryshen, Shutterstock, Anna Rijk, Michiel Spitzer, Township of Rideau Lakes, Township of South Frontenac, Simon J. Vandervoort, Helene Wach, Watershed Canada, WTC's Neil & Brady.

## ICONS & ILLUSTRATIONS (in alphabetical order)

Camp IAWAH, canva.com, dreamstime.com; flaticon.com; freepik.com, Canva.com, gluedtomycrafts.com, goodstuffnononsense.com, iconlibrar.com/ icon/fox-icon, kidsactivitiesblog.com, freefree-icon-ontario.ca, rainbow.com, tc.gc.ca and Watershed Canada.

## CONTENT SOURCES (in alphabetical order)

Lanarkcountyneighbours.ca/chief-shawinipinessis-petition-115, Watershed Canada, whatsonwestport.ca.

## Contact us

EMAIL [com-wolfelake@outlook.com](mailto:com-wolfelake@outlook.com) or [treasurerwlca@rideau.net](mailto:treasurerwlca@rideau.net) or

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK Wolfe Lake Association Westport ON

VISIT OUR WEBSITE [wolfelake.org](http://wolfelake.org)

## Disclaimer

While the Wolfe Lake Association Westport makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of information in this magazine, it cannot accept responsibility for errors and omissions. Readers are urged to obtain professional advice before acting based on the material contained in this edition of the Wolfe Lake Magazine. Any advice given is intended to provide general information only. The Wolfe Lake Association Westport does not accept liability for damage or injury resulting from reliance on the information.



## WHAT'S INSIDE | Celebrating our lake!

Hi everyone!

In 1988 several cottage owners around Wolfe Lake came together to protest a plan for commercial development on an unspoiled section of the lake. That initial activity led to the creation of the Wolfe Lake (Westport) Association. Now, 35 years down the road, we have become a solid lake community that cares, a community that helps to preserve, protect and enhance the natural beauty of Wolfe Lake. And that progress is thanks to you, the backbone of the Association over the years, and thanks to your ongoing membership and support of the work that we do!

The founders of our Association were determined to protect the lake's environment. They fought legal challenges and made an appeal against the Bedford township's bylaw to permit a subdivision at the shores of Wolfe Lake. Eventually it all resulted in stopping a major development in the bay behind Fox Point. Read Charlie Wiseman's recollections on the start of our Association on page 9. In the 35 years since, our association and its members have worked consistently to promote, preserve, and protect our natural environment.

In that time, we have grown from zero to an active group with close to 110 members. In 2019, the Association's name was changed slightly to the Wolfe Lake Association Westport (WLAW), and the old loon logo was replaced by a more modern looking version, including a bald eagle.

WLAW kicked off its 35th anniversary celebrations earlier this year when our Lead Buy Back Program was honoured by the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA). On March 4, Margie Manthey and Donna Garland received the FOCA 2022 Achievement Award for their initiative (see page 10). Donna and Margie accepted the award from Tony Lepine, Chair of the FOCA Member Services and Benefits Committee at FOCA's AGM, held in person in Toronto and by webinar.

We look forward to celebrating our birthday with all of you at this year's Annual General Meeting on July 29 (see the announcement on page 23). We will be cutting a festive anniversary cake and announcing several celebratory activities planned for this summer.

The WLAW is proud to recognize the history of the Wolfe Lake community. By exploring our past, we can see how far we have come as a lake and cottage organization and our enormous potential going forward. Clearly, our strength comes from all our volunteers over the years. We have tried to list each and every one, but apologize for those we have missed – our archives, unfortunately, are not entirely complete! See pages 11 and 12.

The Wolfe Lake Magazine has put together a fascinating infographic on "Wolfe Lake By The Numbers" on page 15 and a WLAW Timeline on page 17 showing our Association's most significant milestones.

Wishing you a good read and warm-weather magic this summer!

Anna Rijk, on behalf of The Wolfe Lake Association Westport Team





**35 YEARS  
OF IMPACT**

Such a  
**Memorable  
Journey**

This year the Wolfe Lake Association Westport (WLAW) celebrates its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary. To mark this milestone, the Wolfe Lake Magazine offers you a festive collection of stories about the history of our lake association, its founders, volunteer leaders, and the members who

have helped oversee our impressive evolution, caring for the environment of Wolfe Lake and protecting its waters and nature so that our children and grandchildren can enjoy the lake and play safely here with friends and family for many years to come.

**PROTECT | PRESERVE | PLAY**

[www.wolfelake.org](http://www.wolfelake.org) | Facebook: Wolfe Lake Association Westport Ontario



## WOLFE LAKE | IN BRIEF

Wolfe Lake's latest quick news snippets, with updates on what's **happening** around our shores.

### NEIGHBOURS SAVING NEIGHBOURS

South Frontenac Paramedics in partnership with Queen's University clinician and researcher Dr. Steven Brooks recently started a program aiming to increase survival rates for those who suffer cardiac arrest in any area of Frontenac. Folks around Wolfe Lake can also sign up as a volunteer.

Volunteers will be trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the safe and proper use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) by Frontenac Paramedics. Once trained, volunteers will be equipped with an AED, and alerted by 911 dispatchers when a possible cardiac arrest emergency is happening nearby. This is all about learning new and better ways to save lives when seconds count.

The program is free for participants. No experience is required.

For more information and to apply, visit [Frontenac Neighbours Saving Neighbours cardiac arrest response | EngageFrontenac.ca](https://www.frontenac.ca/engagefrontenac)

### SHORT TERM RENTALS WASTE MANAGEMENT BYLAW

To address one of the common complaints associated with short term rental properties the South Frontenac council recently approved automatic monetary penalties for

violations of the Waste Management bylaw. This will include a clause where the owner of the property has a duty of care to ensure that users of the property do not breach the bylaw. If unpaid, fines associated with this bylaw can now be directly applied to the offending property's tax roll.

### NEW SEPTICSMART HANDBOOK

There is a new and handy SepticSmart handbook! It's everything you've ever wanted to know about different types of septic systems, how they're used and how to maintain them to maximize their function and lifespan.

You are responsible for the operation of your septic system and it is in your best interest to take good care of it from a health, financial and environmental perspective. Although it's from the City of Ottawa, we found the info also valuable for us. Go to [www.ottawasepticsystemoffice.ca/septic-handbook](https://www.ottawasepticsystemoffice.ca/septic-handbook) to download your own copy.

### AGM MARKET PLACE MEET & GREET

Come celebrate the WLAW's 35th anniversary, and join us for a festive and informal AGM. You'll meet the WLAW team and fellow members in a relaxing outdoor setting and hear about our current activities

and projects from our volunteers at various stations/tables.

Stay for just half an hour or opt to be there for the entirety of the event. Come on Saturday July 29 from 10am till noon. We will be cutting the WLAW birthday cake at 11:00am. For more details, go to page 23.

### WOLFE LAKE ASSOCIATION AT ECOFEST

A brand new outdoor event called "EcoFest Westport: Doing Better Together" was held last June on the lawn at Soho's, 43 Bedford Street, Westport.

EcoFest was hosted by the Better Together Circle, a local group of committed people who wish to "encourage hope and optimism, and to inspire action."

The event highlighted what individuals and groups in the area are doing to help the environment. There were demos, workshops, displays, talks and several vendors offered a variety of wares including goatmilk soaps, heirloom plants and veggies, and rustic items built from repurposed materials, to name just a few.

The WLAW's Donna Garland and Margie Manthey attended EcoFest to promote the Lead Fishing Tackle Buy Back Program (lead fishing tackle is directly responsible for the poisoning deaths of aquatic birds like loons, eagles, herons, swans and diving ducks).





# The chance issue that led to our Association’s creation A serendipitous eagle’s nest

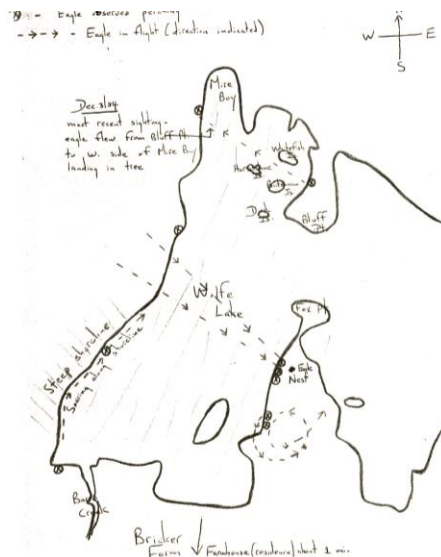
By Anna Rijk

The Wolfe Lake Association Westport, formerly known as the Wolfe Lake Westport Association, was created in 1988 by a small group of concerned community leaders who came together to fight a proposed subdivision on the west side of Wolfe Lake. Today, it is a thriving organization that supports our ever-growing community around Wolfe Lake. Charlie Wiseman, a long-time cottage owner on Wolfe Lake and one of the founding fathers of the Association, looks back on those early days.

As we talk, we look at a map and correspondence from Don Collison. It is his first eagle observations to the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), February 26, 1985. According to Charlie Wiseman, the idea of forming a group to speak on behalf of everyone on the lake wasn’t so much a long-thought-out plan as it was an urgent need to oppose the creation of the proposed subdivision on Fox Point.

### Subdivision approved by Bedford township

Charlie is digging deep in his memory: “My recollection is from the summer of 1987 or 1988. I was approached by Aubrey Gray about a subdivision that had received approval by the Township. He felt it was not good planning as too many cottages had been approved and the land being developed was too close to the eagle



nest. I think there were something like 11 to 15 lots in the subdivision, with some on the waterfront and some behind the lake lots, but having lake access.”

“Until then I was not aware of eagles on the lake. As I recall, the nest was shown on the map Don Collison drew. I believe that, as a result of Don’s action, the tree where the nest was and the surrounding land was purchased or expropriated by the province to provide a preserve for the eagle. It may have been a radius of 100 or 200 metres around the nest.”

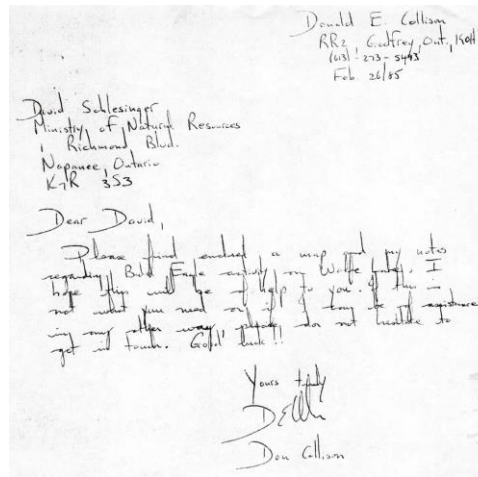
### The first meeting of the association

“Following Aubrey’s visit, he arranged a meeting of interested people,” Charlie continues. “I believe those in attendance

included Don, Aubrey, the owner of the land where the nest was and Aubrey's brother-in-law. There probably were others. I recall some of the early members of the association, but do not recall who else was in attendance. This meeting was the real start of the association, although the actual decision to form an association probably came later."

"The decision to oppose the subdivision was made at that or a subsequent meeting. The appeal against the township's bylaw had to be submitted by a landowner. The person on whose land the nest was located appealed the bylaw. The appeal was held at the then Bedford Township Hall in about November of that year, 1987 or 1988." Charlie was the lawyer acting on the appeal. "A collection was taken up to pay

legal fees, to which I contributed I believe \$100," he says. "The bylaw to permit a subdivision was struck down by the Ontario Municipal Board and the developer proceeded with a smaller number of lots, established by severance. Interestingly, within a year or two, the tree that housed the bald eagle's nest fell down and the eagle moved to an island."



Charlie admits he doesn't recall the moment when the association was officially formed, but it was in 1988. "Don was the founding president; I was vice-president and Warren Snelling was treasurer. In addition to those I mentioned, some of the other early members were Jim Kennedy, Bev Snelling, Jim Buchner, Doris and Murray Belknap, Tom Pynn, Peter Mumford, Roy Chisamore and Eric Ash."

## WOLFE LAKE ASSOCIATION WESTPORT RECEIVES FOCA'S ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

By Margie Manthey

**Big news! On March 4, 2023, the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association (FOCA) awarded its 2022 Annual Achievement Award to the Wolfe Lake Association Westport in recognition of the Lead Fishing Tackle Buy Back Program / "Let's Get the Lead Out" initiative that works to protect wildlife from the dangers of lead poisoning. FOCA represents 525 lake associations and 50,000 member families within the province. Margie Manthey, WLAW fishing director and co-manager of "Let's Get the Lead Out," accepted the award in person on behalf of the WLAW during FOCA's AGM and Spring Seminar at the Bayview Golf and Country Club in Toronto.**



During her acceptance speech, Margie shared a few program highlights, along with some information on how lead fishing tackle is poisoning loons and other aquatic birds. Past WLAW President Brian Manthey also attended the event in person; Donna Garland, WLAW's director of web Services and co-manager of "Let's Get the Lead Out," attended online and conversed with other online lake reps about the program. Several expressed an interest in learning how they might



get involved, so the event has really helped to raise awareness.

Margie: "It is an incredible honour to have been selected as the latest recipient of FOCA's Annual Achievement Award, and we at the Wolfe Lake Association Westport are sincerely grateful to FOCA for recognizing and supporting our efforts to keep toxic lead fishing tackle out of the environment where it endangers wildlife and threatens water quality."





# Thank you, **volunteers!**

Over the years, many, many Wolfe Lake Association Westport members have contributed on a voluntary basis to numerous Association projects, in an effort to make our lake an even better place. Thank you for the incredible volunteer work you have done! The WLAW owes its success to you.

## OUR **AWESOME** VOLUNTEERS

### From 1988 to the present | A - Z

**Larry Arsenault**, Treasurer 2020-present  
**Lisa Arsenault**, Membership Director 2021-present  
**Eric Ash**, Director-at-Large 1991-1996  
**Eric Behre**, Director-at-Large 2017-2018 and 2021-2022, Membership Director 2019-2021  
**Doris Belknap**, Secretary 1991-1992, Director-at-Large 1993-1994  
**Murray Belknap**, Director-at-Large 1991-1992  
**Bill Blaney**, Shoal marking 2011-2021  
**Richard and Marilyn Brown**, Directors-at-Large 2003-2009, Treasurers 2005-2006, Treasurers & Membership Directors 2007

**Jim Buchner**, Water Quality Director 1993-1999, Treasurer 2003-2004, Director-at-Large 2007-2016  
**Ann Buff**, Director-at-Large 2003(?) - 2009  
**Rosanna Bylsma**, Director-at-Large 2009-2013  
**Sharon Carr**, Director-at-Large 1998-1999, Newsletter 2002-2004, Director-at-Large 2012-2014  
**Valerie Charnish**, Lake Steward 1993-1996  
**Barry Charnish**, Director-at-Large 2002-2010  
**Roy Chisamore**, Shoal marking 1988-present

**Chris Chisamore**, Shoal marking 2021-present, President, 2022-present  
**Don Collison**, President 1991-1992, Past President 1993-1995, Director-at-Large 1996-2005  
**Mike Conrad**, Secretary 2018-2020  
**Marilyn Crawford**, Green Lake representative 2012-2014  
**Wayne Derbyshire**, Boat-launch monofilament stations 2017-present  
**Erin Derbyshire**, Secretary 2022-present  
**Ike Doornekamp**, Director-at-Large 1999-2005 (?)  
**Paul Droll**, Director-at-Large 2004, Environmental Director 2005-2006

The list of volunteers is long, reflecting a vibrant lake community and individuals with a voice and leadership, organizing activities and programs to meet the needs of its members and keep Wolfe Lake clean and pristine.

**Maureen Edge**, Director-at-Large 2005-2006, Secretary 2007

**David Edge**, Director-at-Large 2007-2008(?)

**Glen Ewen**, Director-at-Large 1994-1994, Secretary 1995-1998, Vice President 1999-2000, President 2001-2003, Past President 2004-2005, Water Quality Director 2007-2008, Interim President 2011-2014, Secretary 2014-2016

**Shirley Ewen**, Secretary 2003-2007, Newsletter 2006-2016

**Jeff Friesen**, Director-at-Large 2009-2016

**Adriana Gambarotta**, Secretary 2017-2018, Director-at-Large 2019-2021

**Harold Garland**, Director-at-Large 1993-1995

**Bill Garland**, Director-at-Large 1993-1995, Vice President 2012-present

**Donna Garland**, Webmaster 2020-present

**Sean Garland**, Photographer and videographer 2021-present

**Sandra Gray**, Director-at-Large 1991

**Aubrey Gray**, Secretary 1991-1992, Vice President 1993-1995, Director-at-Large 1993-1995, Fishing Director 1997-2000

**Marti Hansell**, Graphic designer, logos and infographics 2019-present

**Roger Harris**, Newsletter 1999-2001

**Jane Hutchison**, Secretary 2008(?)

**Bill Hutchison**, Director-at-Large 2007-present

**Jim Kennedy**, Shoal marking 1993-1992, Director-at-Large 1991-1992, Treasurer 1993-1995, President 1996-1998

**Manjit Kerr-Upal**, Green Lakes representative 2007-2011 and 2015-2016

**Les Kom**, Membership Director 2017-2019

**Slavka Leigh**, Director-at-Large 1996-1997, Membership Director 1998

**Richard Lenz**, Fishing Director 1993-1995, Vice President 1996-1997

**Harold Lyon**, Director-at-Large 1998-1999(?)

**Amy MacDougall**, Photographer 2017-present

**Betty Jo MacDougall**, Secretary 2009-2014, Proofreader Wolfe Lake Magazine 2021-present

**Duncan MacDougall**, Water Quality & Fishing Director 2001-2010, Director-at-Large 2010-2016

**Scott MacDougall-Shackleton**, Contributor Wolfe Lake Magazine 2017-present

**Brian Manthey**, Fishing Director 2012-2017, Director-at-Large 2018, President 2019-2021, Past President 2022-present

**Margie Manthey**, Fishing Director 2012-present

**Anne Margerum**, Director-at-Large 2002-2003(?)

**Bruce Maynard**, Pheromone lure packages and loon nesting platforms 2017-present

**George McCulloch**, Director-at-Large 2014-2016

**Jim McVey**, Director-at-Large 1991-1992

**Gordon Moore**, Director-at-Large 2011-2012, Treasurer and Membership Director 2013-2016, Director-at-Large 2017-2020, Water Quality Director 2021-present

**Peter Mumford**, Director-at-Large 1991-1991

**Tom Myatt**, Pheromone lure packages (Lions Club and Devil Lake Association) and Lead Buy Back Program 2020-present

**Peter Neve**, Treasurer 2017-2019

**Arlene Noonan**, Director-at-Large 1995-1996, Membership Director 1997-1998

**Lorraine Pellerin**, Lead Buy Back Program 2021-present

**Kelly Petrunka**, whatever is needed 2018-2022

**Tracy Philips**, volunteer 2018-present

**Ron Pollard**, Director-at-Large 2003-2007

**Tom Pynn**, Director-at-Large 1991-1992

**Norman Reside**, Treasurer and Membership Director 1998-2002

**Anna Rijk**, Communications Director and Editor Wolfe Lake Magazine 2016-present

**Betty Roch**, Secretary 1992-1993, Newsletter 1993-1999

**Walter Rosser**, Director-at-Large 2009

**Bob Smyth**, Vice President 2002-2003, President 2004-2005, Newsletter 2005, Treasurer 2007-2008, Past President 2009-2010

**Warren Snelling**, Treasurer 1991-1992, Membership Director 1993-1995, Treasurer 1996-1997, Vice President 1998, President and Water Quality Director 1999-2001

**Bev Snelling and Warren Snelling**, Treasurers 2003-2009

**Daniel Spitzer**, Water Quality Director 2015-2020

**Thamar Spitzer**, Wolfe Lake Magazine 2017-present

**Roy Sunstrum**, Director-at-Large 2007-2009, Vice President 2009-2010, President 2011-2015, Past President 2015-2018, Director-at-Large 2019-2022

**Cathy Thompson**, Treasurer and Membership 2009-2013

**Paul Thompson**, Water Quality Director 2011-2014, President 2015-2018, Past President 2019-2020, volunteer 2021-present

**Paul Thorp**, Fishing Director 2010-2012

**Michael Touw**, Webmaster 2000-2005(?), Director-at-Large 2009-2010

**Bob Vandenberg**, Director-at-Large 1999-2007, Treasurer 2007(?)

**Helene Wach**, whatever is needed 2017-present

**Greg Wetmore**, Director-at-Large 2022-present

**Glen Wiggins**, Director-at-Large 1998-2004

**Charles Wiseman**, Vice President 1988-1992, President 1993-1995, Past President 1996-1998

**Dwight Whitaker**, Shoal marking 1993-present


#### PLEASE NOTE

We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of these volunteer listings and apologize in advance for any inadvertent errors or omissions. If you have been a volunteer for WLAW but your name has not been included, please send a note to [com-wolfelake@outlook.com](mailto:com-wolfelake@outlook.com) to help us update our records for future reference.



# WOLFE LAKE HISTORY | Indigenous Peoples

By Chris Chisamore

 “The story of Wolfe Lake is a fascinating one, and I am sure there are many more pieces of it yet to be discovered.” Chris Chisamore was born and raised on the shores of Wolfe Lake. As an adult, he worked outside the province for some 25 years. A few years ago, he and his wife Isabelle moved back to Wolfe Lake. Since then, Chris has been fascinated by the history of our lake.



## The Algonquin

What do we know about the Indigenous Peoples in this area? The history of the Algonquin (Omamiwinini) Peoples in what is today the Ottawa Valley dates back in time to 10,000 years before the first contact with Europeans. French explorer Samuel de Champlain travelled up the Ottawa River and encountered Algonquins in 1613. Champlain quickly realized that friendly relations with these peoples would help protect the French from the powerful force of the Five Nations of the Iroquois (Haudenosaunee) and would also establish important trade routes across the Ottawa River Valley and Lake Nipissing to Georgian Bay and the Great Lakes system. These lands were typically used for hunting and gathering, and were home to various Algonquin settlements. They included what we now know as Wolfe Lake, Bobs Lake, Burridge Lake, Crow Lake, Canoe Lake and other lakes in our region.

## European influences

Over the next two hundred plus years, through the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the history of this region and the entire shape of eastern North America and the Great Lakes changed dramatically as a result of European influences and contact. Major events such as the destruction of the Huron-Wendat Nation in the 1620s, the ‘Great Peace of Montreal’ in 1701, the French and Indian War in 1754-59, the

American Revolution in 1775-1783, and the arrival of the United Empire Loyalists fleeing the Revolution all radically changed the landscape for the inhabitants of this entire area.

## General James Wolfe

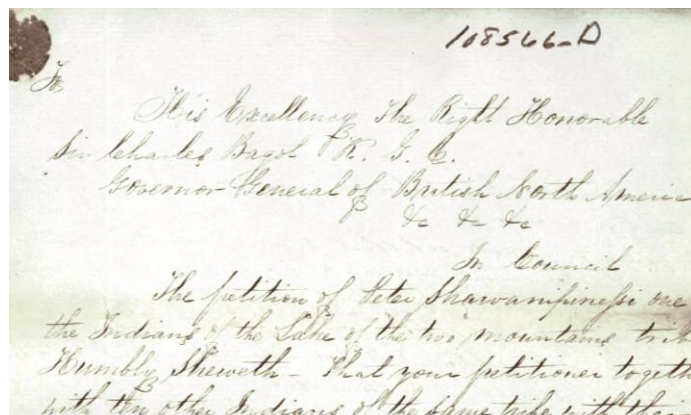
As a result of these new settlement pressures, lands and townships were laid out, surveyed and distributed to British colonists. This process slowly made its way north as more and more lands were required. At some point during the course of the surveying and settlement expansion, the name of our lake was changed from West Rideau Lake to Wolfe Lake, in honour of British General James Wolfe. While all of this was occurring, Indigenous Peoples were under increasing pressure to leave many of their ancestral lands and/or congregate in designated areas. If particular lands remained unsettled and ‘unfavourable’ in the eyes of the British, Indigenous Peoples were free to stay. While the Canadian Shield lends itself to beautiful landscapes (and cottage life), it made for poor soil, lots of rocks, and difficult farming.

## Mississauga Peoples

An 1824 survey map of the newly created Bedford Township (posted on our WLAW website) shows the creation of nineteen 144-acre lots for Indigenous Peoples. It is believed that these were intended for the Mississauga. At this same time, the Mississauga were also being encouraged to settle in the Belleville area at the Christian mission on Grape Island. However, by the early 1830s, these people were looking to return to lands in this area and a more traditional way of living.

In 1842, Algonquin Chief Shawinipinessi (of the Sharbot Lake area) petitioned the government for a 20,000-acre parcel of land in Bedford, Oso and South Sherbrooke townships (the ‘Bedford Reserve’), which included the land between Bobs and Wolfe Lakes. While this parcel of land was granted, other pressures were growing, in particular from the timber industry.

Below: part of the petition documents: (Source: [www.lanarkcountyneighbours.ca/chief-shawinipinessi-petition-115.html](http://www.lanarkcountyneighbours.ca/chief-shawinipinessi-petition-115.html))



**British Navy**

The Rideau Canal waterway system was completed in 1832 in response to the War of 1812 and the threat of American invasion. While originally military in nature, this route was quickly used for the shipping of goods. White pine trees were harvested throughout this area to make masts for the British Navy (Westport Road/Salem Road is, in fact, also known as the Mast Road). Later, timber of all kinds was taken and shipped south (primarily via the Rideau Canal and Bedford Mills or via the Ottawa River) to markets in the United States. Sawmills and lumber camps pushed settlers deeper and deeper into the wilderness, putting pressure on the Indigenous Peoples trying to make this area their home.

By 1861, the government had reclaimed some of the land, and began selling surveyed plots to settlers. Maps from the 1870s begin to show a patchwork of lots and parcels with family names attached. The Indigenous lots previously set aside had disappeared. One small parcel labelled 'Indian Reserve' was still shown at Judy's Pond, near modern-day Camp IAWAH. It has been reported that various Indigenous artifacts have been discovered there over the years.



**Gerald Stinson and Fox Point**

The last few decades of history on the lake have also proved interesting in terms of the formation of the Wolfe Lake Association and the current Algonquin land claim encompassing what is known as Fox Point. Local (and recently deceased) Bedford historian Gerald Stinson explained that, while the 'Indigenous Lots' of the 1824 survey still existed as settlers moved into the area and began claiming land, a nominal payment to the Department of Indian Affairs was enough to transfer ownership at that time.

The story of Fox Point was a very personal one to Gerald, as he recounted:

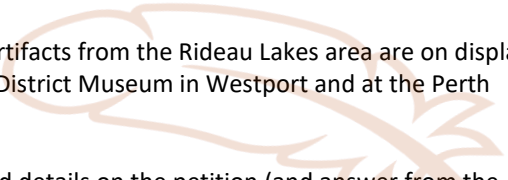
*"To the left of the lot line there was a road roughed out from Lee Road to a proposed building site. I had the job of clearing out trees where the cottage was to be built. Part way through I was shut down by the government because an eagle had a nest in a nearby dead*

*elm tree. At that time eagles were in trouble because their eggshells were not good [because of DDT poisoning], but this nest was one of five in the area that was able to raise young. The owner was given a lot of equal value somewhere else, and I was given \$500 and told to stay out. My understanding was that this and some other land around Bobs Lake was given to Indigenous peoples by the government, in the form of a settlement."*

Because of the location of the eagle's nest (which, ironically, was abandoned by the eagles several years later when the weight of the nest broke a limb off the tree), the government did in fact purchase the land. This purchase came about not only as a result of pressure from the Ministry of Natural Resources, but also in response to pressure from the first real association of cottage and homeowners on Wolfe Lake, who had organized to protest the development. As a result, the land was purchased and has lain vacant for all of these years. It is now part of the Algonquin Lands Claims in Ontario.

**FASCINATING WOLFE LAKE STORIES**

- History buffs can find many more details and stories on the fascinating history of Wolfe Lake at [wolfelake.org](http://wolfelake.org). Just click on 'our lake' and the 'history of our lake' section.
- Indigenous artifacts from the Rideau Lakes area are on display at the Rideau District Museum in Westport and at the Perth Museum.
- More info and details on the petition (and answer from the Superintendent of Indian Affairs at the time) can be found on [www.lanarkcountyneighbours.ca/the-petitions-of-chief-shawinipinessi](http://www.lanarkcountyneighbours.ca/the-petitions-of-chief-shawinipinessi).



Celebrating Wolfe Lake with fun facts

*Did you know?*

**A FAMILY PROPERTY ON THE NORTHWEST SHORE IS SAFEGUARDED FOR THE FUTURE**

The MacDougall family has established a private conservation easement on the northwest shore of Wolfe Lake to protect their property from development for generations to come. If you or someone you know is interested in ensuring that the land you love remains in a natural state not only for as long as you own it but forever, you too may want to consider a conservation easement.

A conservation easement is a legal agreement, registered on title, that creates a partnership between a landowner and a conservation or governmental agency, and establishes a set of mutually agreed-upon restrictions on development. You continue to own and manage

the land, and can sell it or pass it on to your heirs, but everyone who ever owns it will be bound by the same restrictions in perpetuity - generally defined as 999 years. Do you need more details? For more information on conservation easements, visit

the Rideau Valley Conservation Foundation's website at: [www.rvcf.ca/ways-to-give/land-donation](http://www.rvcf.ca/ways-to-give/land-donation), and [www.landandtitle.ca/all-blog-posts/understanding-conservation-easements-in-ontario](http://www.landandtitle.ca/all-blog-posts/understanding-conservation-easements-in-ontario), or call RVCA at 613-692-3571 or 1-800-267-3504, ext.1.



# Wolfe Lake by the Numbers



**15** fish species

Walleye; Smallmouth Bass; Largemouth Bass; Northern Pike; Yellow Perch; Rock Bass; Black Crappie; Pumpkinseed; Bluegill; Brown Bullhead; Whitefish; Burbot (Ling); White Sucker; Emerald Shiner and Central Mudminnow



**44° 44'**  
LATITUDE  
**76° 30'**  
LONGITUDE

**10.1 km<sup>2</sup>** SURFACE AREA

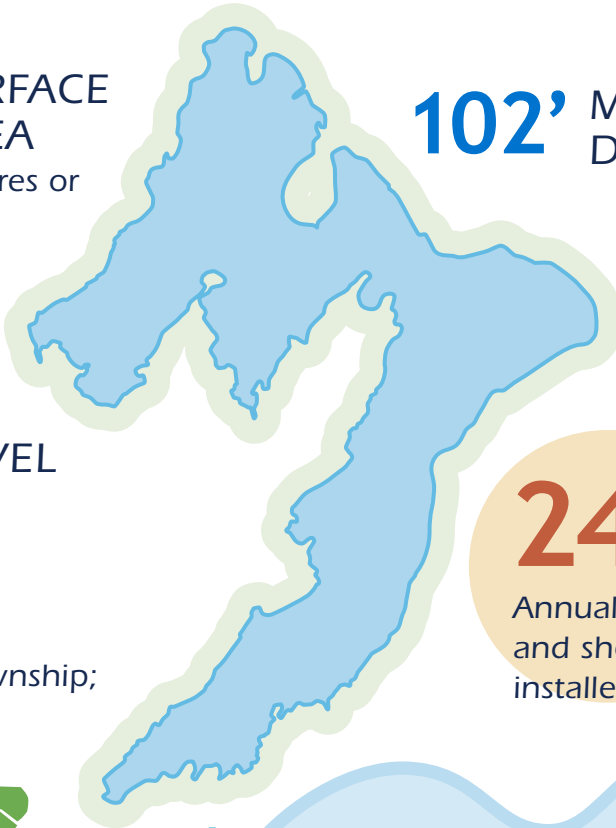
Equivalent to 2507 acres or 1014.5 hectares

**102'** MAXIMUM DEPTH

**34'** AVERAGE DEPTH

**30 km** PERIMETER

**447'** ABOVE SEA LEVEL



**24** buoys and markers

Annually a total of 24 buoys and shoal markers are installed to guide boaters.

**3** public boat launches

Two in Rideau Lakes township; one in South Frontenac township.



**4** beautiful bends in the winding road on the south end of Wolfe Lake—picturesque and a great spot for villagers to jump in after a workday.

**#237** Fox Point

A parcel of land identified in the negotiations of the Algonquin Land Claim. The completion of negotiations is expected in 2024. One of the identified parcels in the agreement is #237, a beautiful piece of land at Fox Point on Wolfe Lake.

**2** significant tornados



crossed over Wolfe Lake, one biggie in August 2003, and another one in 2021. Both tornadoes caused damage to many cottages around the lake and uprooted numerous trees.



PROTECT | PRESERVE | PLAY

# WOLFE LAKE ASSOCIATION: PROTECT | PRESERVE | PLAY

## It's all about celebrating our lake



By Anna Rijk

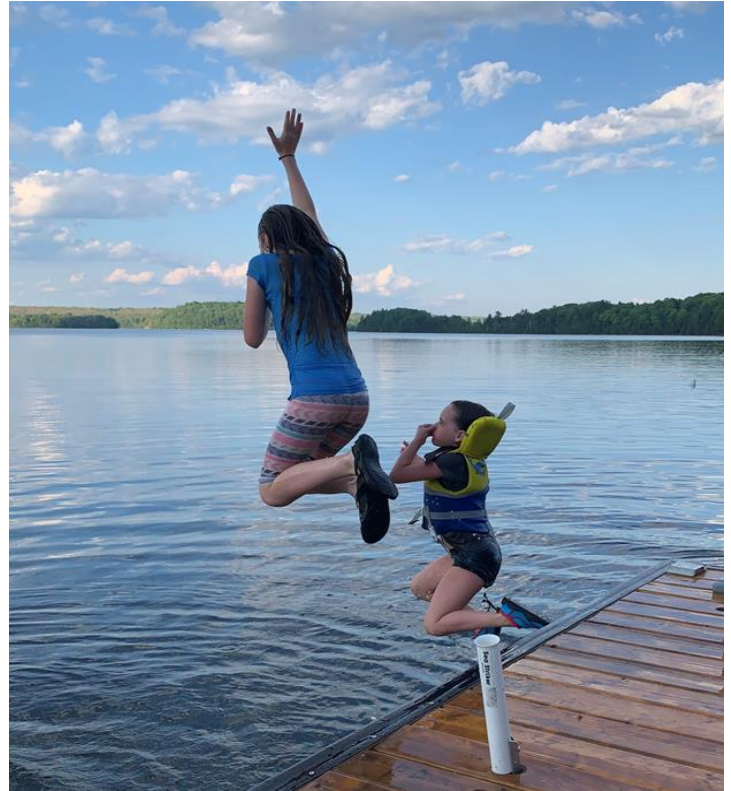
**Wolfe Lake is our special place, our unique piece of paradise, where we relax, swim, fish, boat, sail and so much more. Our lake is our anchor and our greatest asset. It is unspoiled and we want to keep it that way. And that is exactly what the Wolfe Lake Association Westport has been trying to do since it was founded in 1988.**

and pristine state of its shoreline and water. It is our heartfelt wish that our children, grandchildren, and a multitude of generations to come will be able to enjoy our beloved lake as much we do. We continue to work towards that goal, trying to keep Wolfe Lake and its environs as close to a natural state as possible, through small but meaningful projects, activities and advocacy.

### It's all about our members

Our mandate is to protect Wolfe Lake's natural areas and enhance the natural beauty

Our members share a deeply felt appreciation for Wolfe Lake. Some live here full-time, while others come to the



Wolfe Lake Association Westport | [wolfelake.org](http://wolfelake.org)

cottage for vacations, to relax, enjoy the scenery and escape from the stress of everyday routines. We are all well aware of the fragility of the lake environment that means so much to us all. Our success as an Association is attributable to the efforts of our loyal membership.

### It's all about our community

Our lake community is only as strong as its individual members, but WLAW continues to reach out to our wider community, not only to maintain the Association's positive image but also to

identify new sources of support and promote future opportunities for cooperation. We have established long-term partnerships with respected community-backed organizations, including Camp IAWAH, the Westport Lions Club, the municipalities of Westport, Rideau Lakes and South Frontenac, the local public libraries, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority, FOCA, Parks Canada, and many more stakeholders, and built support from a wide range of local businesses.



# Wolfe Lake Association Timeline

**1988** The Wolfe Lake Association Westport was founded by a small group of visionaries, who saw the need for a 'lake voice' to oppose the creation of the proposed subdivision on Fox Point.

**1991** The board decided to create a newsletter for distribution to members of the Association. Twelve years later, in 2003, the newsletter was made available to all potential members, i.e., everyone living on and enjoying the land surrounding beautiful Wolfe Lake. The same policy remains in effect today.



**1993** Our very first Secchi disk measurements were reported. The Wolfe Lake Association Westport began working with the Ministry of the Environment and local conservation authorities.

**2003** The WLAW executive team organized its first membership survey (see 2004 newsletter). The next survey was conducted in 2009 (see 2010 newsletter).



**2010** The first annual corn roast was held on the Camp IAWAH beach following the AGM. The tradition continued for a number of years, and provided a great opportunity for conversation among fellow WLAW members.



**2015** The Wolfe Lake Association set up a Facebook page for Wolfe and Green Lakes. That has since been changed to a group page, 'Wolfe Lake Association Westport', where we can all post pictures, share comments and ask questions.

**2018** Three much needed monofilament stations were built and installed at the Wolfe Lake boat launches to encourage anglers to recycle their fishing lines.



**2020** Two loon nesting platforms were built and installed on Wolfe Lake in the spring to promote loon nesting success. In addition, the WLAW sank bundles of used Christmas trees to expand fish habitat.

**2021** The WLAW organized its first and only virtual AGM because of the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic. A year later, in 2022, we held our very first marketplace-format AGM.

Millions of spongy (formerly gypsy) moth caterpillars were working their way through the trees in our area, with sometimes devastating results, defoliating many trees. Our members, as well as the Westport community, benefited from a project offering an effective solution to fight off these bugs - pheromone saturated elastic bands.



**NOTE** A long version of the WLAW timeline is posted on our website [wolfelake.org](http://wolfelake.org). Learn more about our volunteer members who are initiating various activities for the association. Their names are added in the WLAW long version of the timeline.

1988

**1990** Membership fees were first introduced. Members paid \$20 annually. Fees remained the same until 2014, when they increased to \$30. Yes, that's right: they've gone up only once in 33 years!

**1992** The familiar bald eagle logo was introduced in the summer of 1992, symbolizing our dedication to preserving the beauty of Wolfe Lake. The majestic bird is still reflected in today's logo!



The Association conducted its first loon survey, collecting data from people living around the lakes, based on their answers to questions such as: How many nesting pairs have you seen? Where are the nests located? and more.

2000

**2000** The Association's very first website was online by the end of 2000. Our new updated website, [wolfelake.org](http://wolfelake.org) has recorded close to 7000 visits since 2019.

2010

**2006** A Constitution was drafted and approved at the 2006 AGM. This document was updated in 2021.



**2013** The Association felt it was important to determine its vision for the lake and describe the environment of Wolfe and Green Lakes, and present a framework for action. A decade later, that Lake Vision continues to help the WLAW board further carry out its mandate.

**2017** The newsletter became the Wolfe Lake Magazine. Members began receiving emailed News Flash updates, and invitations to participate in an annual photo contest and a fall walk.

2020

**2019** The Scanlan Creek Walleye Spawning Habitat Restoration Project and the Scanlan Creek Twin Culvert Upgrade were launched with the help of numerous volunteers and partner organisations.

Wolfe Lake made it into the scientific press. An article about the application of modern satellite earth observation technologies for monitoring methane was published in the Proceedings of the 2019 Energy & Resources for Tomorrow Symposium, Windsor (ON). In early 2018, the Association was able to buy an underwater camera, with a grant from the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations (FOCA). The camera was used for part of the research.

The Association introduced a new logo and a new WLAW website on a different platform, including many more pages, buttons and pictures.

**2022** The WLAW announced a lead fishing tackle buy back program to encourage anglers to replace their lead fishing tackle voluntarily with environmentally friendlier alternatives. In addition, two turtle crossing signs were installed on roads near the north shore of Wolfe Lake.



2023

**2023** The WLAW is celebrating its 35<sup>th</sup> birthday, with plans for a festive AGM this summer.



## ROY CHISAMORE MONITORS ICE-OUT DATA

### What his trusty old notebook reveals

By Chris Chisamore

**Roy Chisamore has not only taken care of our buoys and shoal markers since 1977 (!), he has also done some serious ice-out tracking from 1980 on. Every spring he notes the date when the ice melts - 'ice-out' - in a tiny notebook. Until his son, WLAW President Chris Chisamore, took all those numbers and compiled them in a spreadsheet, few of us were aware of Roy's private 40+ year research project. Here is what that trusty old notebook reveals.**

Ice-out occurs when the entire lake is clear of ice. The method of determination may vary. Roy declares ice-out only when every vestige of ice is gone on the southern part of Wolfe Lake. According to Roy, "it means that the major part of the lake surface is navigable."

#### Ice-out

By googling ice-out, we learn that these are important records, and other lake associations are currently gathering similar data on an annual basis. Scientists now recommend recording ice-in data as well.

#### Ice-in

Ice records are important for understanding lake water quality and as indicators of climate change. Ice-in occurs when the entire lake surface is covered with ice. Ice-out occurs when the entire lake surface is free of ice and can be navigated from one end to the other without impediment. Ice duration extends from the ice-in date for a given year to the ice-out date for the following year.

#### Why Does It Matter?

Spring is an exciting time of year, and an important one for lakes. We see signs of spring as the days get longer, temperatures rise, and the ice begins to recede on our lake. Daniel Spitzer, a WLAW member and environmental scientist, explains why Roy's data can be important. "Ice formation, coverage duration, and thaw onset depend on air temperature, cloud cover, and wind. Throughout the winter, rain, snow, and snowmelt affect the length of time a lake is frozen. Keeping an ice record is important for understanding lake water quality in an individual year as well as over time, and, increasingly, a few of my scientific colleagues are interested in ice-in, ice duration, and ice-out data as an indicator of the health of the lake."

"The changes in ice cover can affect the physics and chemistry of a lake. For instance, exposed water or ice-free lakes will absorb and retain heat that would be reflected if it was ice. The timing and duration of ice cover



## 43 YEARS OF ICE OUT DATA | ROY CHISAMORE

1980s	Date	1990s	Date	2000s	Date	2010s	Date	2020s	Date
1980	April. 7	1990	April. 11	2000	March. 26	2010	March. 30	2020	March. 31
1981	April. 1	1991	April. 7	2001	April. 16	2011	April. 10	2021	March. 30
1982	April. 23	1992	April. 23	2002	April. 11	2012	March. 21	2022	April. 13
1983	April. 13	1993	April. 17	2003	April. 21	2013		2023	April. 15
1984	April. 16	1994	April. 19	2004	April. 11	2014	April. 25		
1985	April. 16	1995	March. 30	2005	April. 14	2015	April. 18		
1986	April. 3	1996	April. 20	2006	April. 4	2016	April. 1		
1987	April. 5	1997	April. 20	2007	April. 19	2017	April. 10		
1988	April. 18	1998	April. 4	2008	April. 17	2018			
1989	April. 15	1999	April. 10	2009	April. 4	2019			

on lakes also affect spring turnover, a crucial process that redistributes oxygen and nutrients throughout the water column.” Daniel explains: “Longer periods where the lake is thermally stratified (divided into sections based on temperature) can increase oxygen

depletion in the bottom waters of the lake. Lower amounts of oxygen can lead, in the worst case, to fish kills and, due to the release of phosphorus from sediment at the bottom of the lake, algae blooms. Also, longer periods of stratification and warming temperatures are threats to lake trout and

other aquatic species.” Roy’s data show that full thawing of Wolfe Lake’s ice varies over a period of almost 5 weeks. This is quite remarkable. Modern satellite observation technologies can provide valuable information to confirm and complement Roy’s meticulous records.”

## THE NEED FOR COMMUNICATION

### Building a **strong** community

In a WLAW Newsletter from **2004**, Bob Smyth, who was president at the time, wrote this: *“One area that I would like to expand upon here is the need for all cottage owners to be involved in the Association by becoming a member. As a member, we are better able to contact you on issues that could come up at any time of the year. At this time, we only communicate with you by way of this newsletter. However, in this day of rapidly changing events, we would like to be able to contact as many of you as possible through other means, such as email and our website. The results of the 2003 Survey indicate that cottage owners would welcome additional ways of communication from the Association. In fact, the need for ‘communication’ came through quite strongly”* Since then, a great deal has changed!



Anna Rijk, our current Communications Director: “Effective communication is one of the most important features of any group. By enabling easy communication, you unlock collaboration and make it easier for members to find out what the Association stands for and the work that it has done.”

“Over the 35 years of the WLAW’s existence, the most important means of communication has been the **Newsletter**, which numerous volunteers have put in many hours to produce and deliver to your doorstep. A long list of names is attached to the production of it. I’ll name just a few here. The Bald Eagle logo was designed by Susan McBride in 1992. In 2004 and 2005, the newsletter was designed and produced by Herb Buehler, of Rideau Valley Marketing in Perth and coordinated by Bob Smyth. Since then, many more of our volunteer members have assisted in producing the newsletter. Shirley Ewen handled this responsibility for a decade, from

2006 till 2016. Our first **Website** set up by Micheal Touw, at the very end of 2000. That web link and web design has changed a number of times using different software, when that became available to the association. Our great current website, **wolfelake.org**, built and maintained by Donna Garland, was successfully launched in 2019”

Around 2015, the WLAW set up a **Facebook** page for Wolfe and Green Lakes. The Facebook page was changed a few years ago to a group page under the name **Wolfe Lake Westport Ontario**, where we can all share and post news, pictures and stories. Margie Manthey, Donna Garland and myself are

administrators for the Facebook page, but it is Margie who has been responsible for most of our postings. We would like to see our membership posting pictures, sharing news, and informing our group about what is happening on and around Wolfe Lake. Some do, but it would be great to have more members providing material. It just brings more excitement to the content.

The Facebook group page now has close to 250 members.” (On a Facebook group page, anyone who “likes” the page is described as a member, rather than a friend.)

Anna introduced the **News Flash** in 2017. “These are email messages distributed to all our paying members when there is a need to share information. All members who have provided us with their email addresses

receive these messages. At the same time, the good old newsletter was transformed into the **Wolfe Lake Magazine**. I have chosen the current content and format to build a strong community.”

Anna adds: “It is noteworthy to mention that the Wolfe Lake Magazine is distributed to all cottages and homes around the lake, and to close neighbours as well, as an outreach tool. This has been done since 1992. It was announced by membership director Warren Snelling.”

“Our members not only read the magazine from cover to cover, but keep it on their coffee table for ages, and pass it along. This means that each copy of the magazine is enjoyed by an average of 4.5 readers. The Wolfe Lake Magazine is available at all rental

cottages around the lake, at a number of local businesses, and in three local libraries, Westport, Perth, and Newboro. The Magazine is also available on our website as a PDF file, which you can download at any time.”

The masthead (the large title on the cover) of the Wolfe Lake was designed by Marti Hansell in 2021.

Marti also created the new WLAW logo in 2019, the logo for the Buy Back Lead program in 2021, as well as the logo to celebrate the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Association. To top it off, she did the graphic design for both the Wolfe Lake infographic (Wolfe Lake By The Numbers) on page 15 and the WLAW timeline on page 17.

## THE TRANSFORMATION OF OUR WEBSITE

By Anna Rijk

**Our first website was created in late 2000 by Michael Touw, and online in 2001. Over 225 hits were recorded at the old wolfelake.cjb.net link in the first six months! Another link, rideau-info.com/associations/wolfe, was created in 2004, and was still in use in 2011 and beyond. Shirley Ewen did much of the work on that website. In 2019, our website underwent a digital transformation to provide visitors with information based on their communication technology preferences (mobile, desktop or tablet). Donna Garland became our webmaster.**

Donna: “A website is one of the premier channels of communication. Communities rely heavily on having digital access anywhere, anytime, to engage.”

“Our website serves to deliver timely and relevant information efficiently and cost effectively. This tool allows us to communicate our values, promote transparency, increase engagement, expand our reach to other communities, preserve our history and create a positive user experience.”

“In 2022, we expanded the website to include fishleadfree.ca. This tool has allowed us to communicate with multiple communities, key government offices, both federal and provincial, and media outlets, and to call other Lake Associations to action. It has allowed us to speak to



the needs of our target audience and ensured a clear and unified message for the program.”

“Our website embraces our brand. The inclusion of the “Wolfe Lake Association Westport Ontario” logo and the text that goes with it: PRESERVE | PROTECT | PLAY, as well as the ‘Let’s Get The Lead Out’ logo, have resulted in a strong brand identity. They also represent our culture and personality. Leveraging the talent in our Wolfe Lake community, we thank Marti Hansell for all her hard work and spectacular results.”

“All in all,” Donna concludes, “our website is an important tool because good communication is a subtle force that will open doors. Total visitors to the site since go-live is 6781. That is quite a different number from those in the early days of our digital web platform.”



# WOLFE LAKE ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT | 2022

## Main source of net income comes from our members

By Larry Arsenault

Larry Arsenault, as treasurer of the Wolfe Lake Association Westport, has put together another financial report to monitor where our money comes from and how it is being used. Larry: “The Association’s finances became slightly more complicated than in the past with the introduction of our very successful Lead Buy Back program, which added both new revenue sources and expenses. Overall, revenue exceeded expenses, allowing our reserve to grow. I would like to thank all of our members who continue to support our activities through their annual membership fees.” Here are his findings for last year.



### Wolfe Lake Magazine and advertising

Local businesses continue to support the publication of our full-colour magazine through their advertising and we are truly grateful for this support. Although the cost of publishing last year’s magazine was higher than in the past, revenue from advertising more than offset the increased cost, leaving the magazine in a net positive cash flow position.

### Membership

Our main source of net income continues to come from membership dues; your continuing support is thus both necessary and appreciated. Together we can work to ensure the ongoing health and vitality of our beautiful Wolfe Lake. Members of the Association continued to support the Association through their annual membership dues, with revenues

approaching pre-Covid levels.

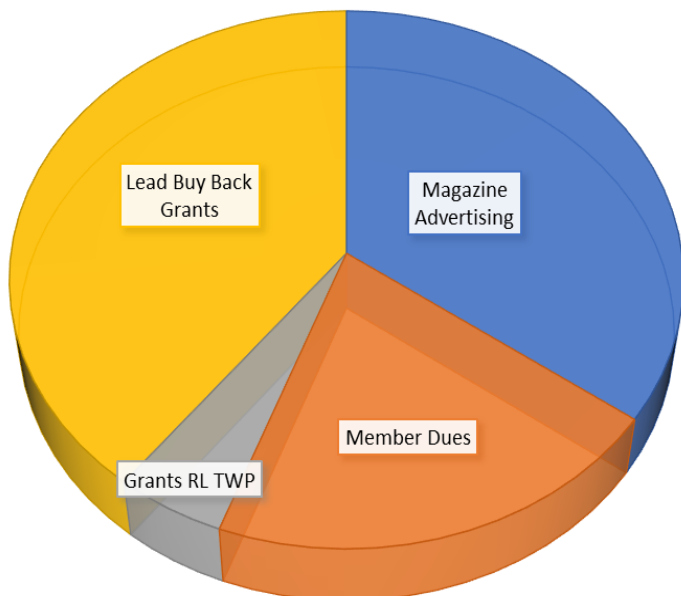
In addition to these revenue sources, we also received grants from Rideau Lakes Township.

### Lead Buy Back Program

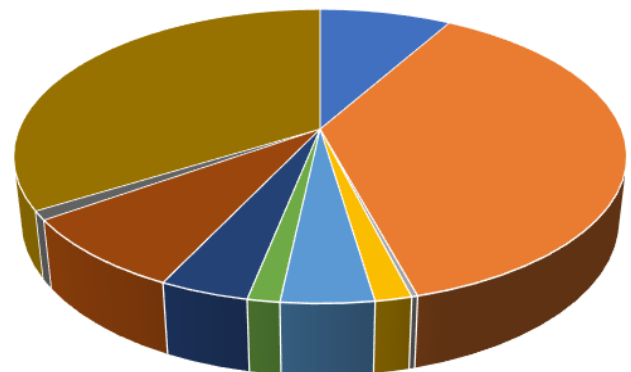
The Lead Buy Back Program received a large grant from the Township of South Frontenac, as well as grants from the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, the Westport Lions Club, and Bobs Lake Association. These grants allowed us to promote the program with both signage and printed materials, and to reimburse participating retailers.

Expenses remained consistent with past years, with one exception, in that we rejoined FOCA.

### REVENUE



### EXPENSES





# Our first market style AGM (2022) was successful THIS YEARS' AGM CALLS FOR A CELEBRATION

# AGM

By Anna Rijk

In 2020, the AGM of the Wolfe Lake Association Westport was cancelled as a result of the pandemic. In 2021, members met virtually in a Zoom meeting, just to keep everyone safe. We missed face to face contact with our members during the COVID-19 global pandemic and we were hesitant to organize an in-person, indoors AGM meeting. So last year (2022), we decided to do something completely different: we set up a Wolfe Lake Market Place, outside, on the grounds of the Westport Lions Club. And it worked really well. Our active volunteers manned individual booths, informing WLAW members about what's been happening within the WLAW, our current projects and other lake-related topics. So, this format will be repeated. To top it off, this year's AGM will be a festive occasion to celebrate our 35<sup>th</sup> birthday!





**YOU ARE INVITED!** | We are looking forward to seeing you!

**Saturday July 29**

From 10am - noon

**Wolfe Lake Association AGM**  
at the **Lions Club Beach**  
Celebrating our **35<sup>th</sup> birthday**

Our meeting will be informal and certainly festive! Not only will we be celebrating 35 years of the Wolfe Lake Association Westport, but we will also be setting up a Wolfe Lake Market Place, outside, on the grounds of the Lions Club Beach, 52 County Rd 36, Westport.

This year's AGM will be a great opportunity to reconnect with other members, to chat, to share your thoughts and concerns, and to vote. John Finlayson will be selling a few bird houses, a butterfly box or two, and even some wood duck boxes.

Also, bring us your lead fishing tackle, such as sinkers and jigs, and get a \$10 coupon to redeem at participating lead-free tackle retailers in the area and be entered into a draw for a prize to be awarded at the AGM.



WOLFE LAKE ASSOCIATION WESTPORT

**AGM**

**JULY 29 2023**

**10AM-NOON**

Lion's Club Beach  
52 County Rd 36  
Westport

VENUE IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

**SAVE THE DATE**

Celebrating Wolfe Lake with fun facts

*Did you know?*

**WHY IS WOLFE LAKE DESCRIBED AS A SPRING-FED LAKE?**

Most of us have heard that Wolfe Lake is spring-fed, but we may not know exactly where water enters and leaves the lake. In fact, there are a number of feeder and outlet creeks. The creeks running into Wolfe Lake are:

- Scanlan's Creek on the south shore (off Westport Road/Highway 12),
- Barr's Creek on the west shore (towards the end of Belknap Lane),
- the creek that flows from Green Lake to the northwest shore of Wolfe Lake (near Burr ridge Road),
- a smaller creek flowing into Mire Bay near the northern tip of the lake,
- another creek on the southeast shore (near Dale Derbyshire's cottage),
- and a final creek on the southeast shore (near Pinecrest).

The only place where water flows out of Wolfe Lake is through the dam at the west end (near the Bresee cottages), where it feeds into a stream that runs to Mary Jane's, into Sand Lake, the Westport Mill Pond and eventually into the Upper (Little) Rideau. There are also a number of springs or artesian wells, mostly on the Wolfe Springs and golf course shore. A few are located close to Wolfe Springs Resort, and one is just below the golf course parking lot. In addition, there are numerous springs bubbling out of the sandy bottoms along the same shore.





Anchor here for fresh craft beer  
& tasty bites!

## WESTPORT BREWING CO

41B MAIN ST. WESTPORT, ON

613-273-BREW

WWW.WESTPORTBREWINGCOMPANY.CA

  
AWARD WINNING BREWERY



Chris Clifford, Founding Partner

# Compassionate

## Bergeron | Clifford

INJURY LAWYERS



[www.bergeronclifford.com](http://www.bergeronclifford.com)

Call: 866-384-5886



## WOLFE LAKE

## The excitement of fishing



## FLASHBACK | 66 Years and Counting

## Bill Hutchison: "My family's love affair with beautiful Wolfe Lake"

By Bill Hutchison

My family's love affair with beautiful Wolfe Lake, Westport, and with Canada spans 75 years. My father and a group of his work colleagues began coming to fish in Wolfe Lake in the late 1940's. They stayed at Myer's cottages near Green Shingle Lodge. I recall them returning to Central Pennsylvania on early June Sundays with what seemed to a small child countless huge fish, especially pike. I began fishing about age five for trout, perch, catfish, panfish and river carp.

#### Green Shingle Lodge

I kept asking Dad if I could go with him on his trip. My age and frankly my eating habits precluded that, and an eight-year-old was too young for a fishing trip with a group of my Dad's colleagues. The week of July 4, 1957, following my Dad's spring fishing trip, he found us an opening at Green Shingle Lodge and so my adventures at Wolfe Lake began. Dad, Mom, and I headed to Canada for a week's fishing and exposure to what would become major part of my life. In the late 50's, the interstate highway system had not yet been constructed, so a trip from central

Pennsylvania to "another country" took over 20 hours, with the New York Thruway from Waterloo, NY, to Syracuse the only 4-lane section (81N had not yet been built).

The excitement of driving down the 10th Concession dirt road and seeing Wolfe Lake for the first time is a vivid memory to this day, and one I cherish. What an adventure for a 10-year-old - swimming in the cool clean lake, learning to fish from a boat, buying and using fireworks (not legal in Pennsylvania), and talking to other fishermen at the dock.

#### Woods Bay

Dad and I fished a lot that week, usually after dinner in Woods Bay, mostly using minnows, June Bug Spinners, Jointed Pickies, Heddon River Runts and Daredevils. We only went there two times a week as it was a long trip with a Johnson 5.5 motor. Most of our fishing was in front of Green Shingle Lodge and over to Pinecrest, in front of Zimmerman's cottages, along Trainer's shoreline and sometimes from Pinecrest up along Sandy Bottom. This annual routine continued until I graduated college and was the highlight of the summer, even providing a respite

from summer jobs while I was in college. Wolfe Lake and Green Shingle Lodge were my version of a summer home

**First trip together**

Soon after graduating college, going to work, marrying my beautiful wife, Jane, and adopting her childhood dog, we made our first trip to Wolfe Lake. She learned how to fish, and I recall her landing a walleye on cast number one with a Yellow Bucktail near the old gray boat house to the right of the Derbyshire home site, directly across the lake from our current summer home. Over the ensuing years, we made many trips “north”, evolving into two or three trips per summer.

Some of our favorite memories include purchasing bread at Blair’s Market to feed the bass behind the Cove and ice cream cones at Gord’s Dairy Bar. I also recall, in earlier days, purchasing gasoline where Northern Lights is currently located. Eventually I began making a spring trip to the lake with a friend from work, looking forward to decompressing physically and mentally from a nearly annual labor negotiation I was involved with. In the early 80’s a group of 8 fishermen from my company began going north for a long weekend right after Memorial Day. This venture continued until my retirement in 2001.

**My dad**

My memories of Wolfe Lake are too many to count and the stories are legion. One very strong memory is of my Dad, who had a serious stroke in the fall of 1984. I brought him and my mother to the lake in June of 1985 for his final trip. The weather was inclement all week, but Dad wanted to fish all he could despite the poor conditions. He passed away in September and that final trip I will always cherish, together with the memories dating back to our first trip in 1957.

**Finding a cottage**

As my first professional career retirement approached (after 32 years with Union Carbide in Human Resources), Jane and I decided to purchase a small cottage on Wolfe Lake, since we were well aware that Bill and Anna McCulloch’s remaining years operating Green Shingle Lodge were numbered. Finding a cottage that suited our needs became a difficult task. We opted to build on what was known as Trainer’s shoreline, a favorite fishing spot of mine for many years.

**Theme From A Summer Place**

Jane and I, along with our various four-legged fur kids, are now into our 21st wonderful season in our own piece of Heaven, named after the popular 50’s song “Theme From A Summer Place”. I was recently asked what has changed about Wolfe Lake since 1957, and the answer is, actually, very little. The fishing is not quite as good, there is significantly more development, Green Shingle and its wonderful food is gone, but serenity, beauty and peacefulness still abound. We never kept an accurate count but I am certain our “trips north” have now exceeded 200. What was once a 20-hour trip now takes about 8 hours, but the reward at the end of the journey is the same. Time spent on and looking out over Wolfe Lake, watching the sunrise, hearing the loons, spending time with friends and neighbors and walking our fur kids are favorite pastimes, as are the hours spent on home and property maintenance. The excitement of each spring’s arrival is the same today as it was in 1957. My original goal on that first trip was to catch a huge walleye. Sixty-six years later that goal still eludes me. The largest I have ever caught was 7½ pounds, which means that the monster I have been seeking still swims freely in our beautiful Wolfe Lake.

**BILL & JANE HUTCHISON**  
**Long time WLAW members**

Bill and Jane Hutchison split their residency between Wolfe Lake, Newtown, CT, where they have lived for 42 years, and Morgantown, WV, where Bill (or Jane?) worked or taught at West Virginia University for 21 years.

In 2004, Bill was invited by Maureen and Tim Edge to join the Wolfe Lake Association as a Director at Large. Bill was a driving force in the most recent Wolfe Lake Association survey, which identified the issues of priority importance to lake residents and created the platform for the development of the Lake Association plan that was presented to both townships, the RVCA and eventually FOCA.

Bill has been a strong voice on fishing activities and water quality issues over the years.

**ARE YOU RECEIVING OUR NEWS FLASH UPDATES?**

**Ensure we have your correct email address**



All Association members receive our News Flashes,

unless we do not have your email address or you have chosen to unsubscribe. In other words, if you haven’t received any News Flash

updates recently, we no longer have your correct email address. We are currently seeing an increasing number of emails bounce back after we hit the send button.

The Wolfe Lake Association Westport has been emailing

occasional News Flashes to all our members since 2017. It’s one of our tools for staying connected and sharing essential lake news and updates.

Stay connected and ensure we have your updated email address, so that we can keep you informed of announcements, news, and



Your contact information is confidential and will never be shared with anyone else.

other important information as the need arises.

**Please send your current email address to [com-wolfelake@outlook.com](mailto:com-wolfelake@outlook.com)**



# FOUR QUESTIONS | Checking in with **Seamus** Cowan

The Cove Country Inn is a beloved fixture in Westport. There probably isn't a visitor to the village who hasn't been to The Cove for lunch on their patio in the summer, or a dinner show featuring an awesome musician or group. Mary and Terry Cowan, hosts at the 150-year-old inn since the 1980s, are beloved fixtures themselves, turning guests from all over the world into old friends, supporting multiple local organizations and responding to international humanitarian crises with fundraisers featuring some of Canada's finest musical artists. Their son Seamus Cowan (a talented musician himself) is now taking over the reins from his parents and carrying on their tradition of community service, while keeping the Inn bouncing with fresh ideas, amazing eats, local drinks and tunes in the air.

## 1 HOW IS YOUR WORK RELATED TO OUR REGION?

I have been in the hotel business here at The Cove Inn since I was a kid, growing up as a transplant from Alberta. The tourism industry is everything to me, my family, my friends, our guests and staff. My folks taught me at a very young age to be hospitable, gregarious and curious. I have had my hand in almost every facet of the business. It's helped me to be well-rounded and respectful of all of the roles! The Cove rolls with the seasons. We follow this roller-coaster of ebb and flow, cold to hot, slow to busy, crazy to wild. It's a ride! It's an extremely rewarding place to work as we connect with all the travelers who converge at our crossroads. We meet all walks of life on a daily basis. We base our existence on our community and the reciprocal support we crave. It's truly a dream to live here, though! After all, people come

here to plant their roots. Aren't we lucky to live in a place where people come to get away!

## 2 HOW DO YOU CHILL OUT AT OUR LAKES?

I usually jump in as soon as I get there! I don't have as much time in the summer so I value it more and more, the times in and on the water. Life on the Rideau has been in my blood since my great grandfather Jefferson built a cottage in 1919 on a little island called Innisbeg in Bellows Bay on the Big Rideau. Ever since, it's been a homing beacon for our family and one of the eventual draws for my family to return to this area and settle down. We used to travel from out west to vacation for a couple of weeks at the cottage. Storybook-like stuff, right? We learned to appreciate a simple, slow pace of life. Even when I was just out of diapers.

## FOUR QUESTIONS

Highlight friendly folks who are making a difference in the wider Westport community.

Something about instilling those values of spending quality family time together at such a young age. I'm really fortunate to have grown up with family and friends on the shores of this place. I know this! My favourite place to chill by water these days is our local Lions Club Beach on Sand Lake and of course, the cottage, when I get there!

## 3 WHERE ARE YOUR MOST FAVOURITE PLACES IN OUR REGION?

I just love touring anywhere when the time is right. The best times for me are sliding local steeples with my wife and boys on a bluebird day or hitting the glass-covered Westport Pond when the season freezes it before snow or melt. In summer, I just love getting out on the Rideau lakes to enjoy the open air and find true relaxation.

## 4 WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT FOR YOU WHEN THINKING OF THE FUTURE OF OUR LAKES?

The lakes are our source. It's the people and places that tell the story of our area but it's



the lakes that the stories rest upon. We don't know how lucky we are to have them. They really give us joy, peace and life... I think most people who come to the area understand this

quite quickly. I think they develop a profound respect for the lakes and want them to stay the same year after year. They give us all so much. Their beauty lies in their simplicity and

tranquility. I'm hopeful that we continue to care for them ecologically and spiritually from the top of the system down.

*Seamus Cowan*

## The Camp IAWAH Vision | Looking to the future with Ken Vissers

### THREE LOTS SEVERED ON SOUTH SIDE OF THE CAMP

By Anna Rijk

As many of you know, Camp IAWAH has recently decided to sever three lots. IAWAH is a non-profit charity heavily dependent on donations (all its summer programs are subsidized to help more kids experience camp), and the pandemic reinforced its need for a more strategic approach to securing its future. "These lots are nested in an area of our land that is rarely used and away from the centre of camp," says Ken Vissers, executive director of IAWAH, who was more than happy to explain the reasoning behind the decision to sever the lots.

Camp IAWAH's extensive grounds cover 220 acres and include a breath-taking lakefront with over 2500 metres of shoreline. Ken knows all too well how expensive it is to run a camp and maintain such a large property. "For example, this coming fall, IAWAH will begin the transition from several old septic beds scattered around the property to one newly designed, highly efficient system far from the lake's edge, for a net positive environmental impact. Large infrastructure development projects, although necessary, are also costly.

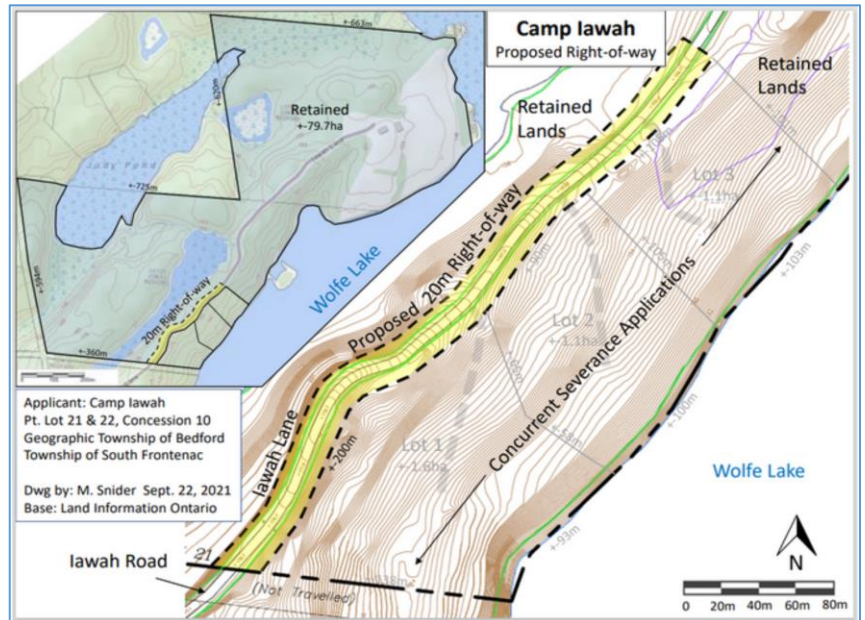
"Therefore, these severed lots are part of our strategy, giving added security toward greater sustainability," Ken says. "It's still undecided as to what we'll do with these lots, but we do know the outcome will always be in line with the original and still current vision of the organization."

#### Derbyshire family

Ken explains that the past few years, while challenging in many ways, have also given many organizations the opportunity for re-evaluation in response to a need to pivot."

"IAWAH is no exception. As many in the area know, the property was purchased in 1956, after Charlie Leach shared the vision for the future use of the Derbyshire farm. We are extremely grateful to this family, who understood the need at that time to provide a place of refuge for young people from the demands of urban environments. Sixty-seven years later, the need hasn't really changed."

"Vision and mission for any organization act as a foundational guide for future growth. Although methodology must change in reaction to the ever-changing culture as a matter of survival, the heart of the organization remains the same. As we move further away from the peak of the pandemic and look back at the necessary changes, we too realize that our vision – although worded differently – is still that which was



If you're out on the lake close to the shores of camp IAWAH, just south of Derbyshire Island, you can't miss the area where the three lots have been severed.

shared with the Derbyshire family so long ago: developing resilient young leaders to impact their world."

#### Defining who we are

"Defining identity through a simple vision statement not only sets the path for strategic growth, defining who we are, it also informs us who we're not. IAWAH is not a resort, not a hotel nor a cottage rental facility. Although we most certainly support any such business that brings economic stability and an opportunity for many to gain a greater appreciation and respect for the beautiful environment in which we have the privilege to live and work, these ventures simply don't align with our vision."





## CELEBRATING A CLEAN AND SAFE LAKE

### So, jump in and enjoy!



By Gord Moore

Another year has come and gone! I don't know about everyone else, but I found that the 2022 boating season flew by in no time. In 2022 we returned to some semblance of normalcy, as RVCA was once again able to send their team to join me in the boat for water testing for the first time since the start of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Admittedly, it was nice to get back to old routines, being your water quality director.

As I have mentioned in past reports, I am also involved in water testing for the Lake Partner Program, which is done in conjunction with FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations) and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

During the period 2019-2021, Water Quality Index scores for Wolfe Lake came in at "GOOD", with a score of 88.4. WQI index is not normally based on a single year's results but I have been informed that last year's figure would probably be indicative of a "GOOD" to "VERY GOOD" score.

#### Total Phosphorus (TP) levels:

(measured in mg/l)

Our TP levels last year were consistent with previous years. They ranged from 0.002mg/l to 0.012mg/l, whereas the provincial guidelines like to see levels below 0.02mg/l, so we are well within that range.

Phosphorus itself is an essential nutrient for organisms and the aquatic systems they inhabit. Collecting water samples and testing for phosphorus helps us track lake conditions over time, as increased phosphorus can stimulate excessive plant and algae growth, which can

have negative implications for aquatic environments, such as decreased water clarity, decreased oxygenation, and increased likelihood of algal blooms, including the potential for blue green algae.

#### Calcium: (measured in mg/l)

As I mentioned in last year's report, the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority is keeping a close eye on other studies evaluating calcium levels in lakes, including a number in the Muskoka area, where there has been some evidence of declining calcium concentrations. We do not appear to have that issue, as our levels are good. In comparing our results to 2021, I noted that one of the two calcium tests actually increased this past year.

Upon consultation with RVCA, I was informed that one of the results from 2021 may reflect a reporting error. It could also be the result of a change in a geological formation in the lake, which could affect the amount of calcium entering the lake. The general consensus, though, is that it was probably just a sampling error. Either way, we will continue



to monitor calcium levels. RVCA has assured me that they don't see any issues. Calcium is a vital nutrient for many organisms, including crayfish, water fleas and mollusks.

Many years of logging and acid loading have led to declining calcium levels in many Ontario shield lakes. This has not been an issue on Wolfe Lake to date, but we will continue to test and keep track of levels.

#### **Dissolved Organic Carbon (DOC):** (measured in mg/l)

DOC levels in Wolfe Lake this past season increased slightly but RVCA assures me that they are similar to those in other lakes of our size and structure within our watershed. RVCA tells me that DOC is heavily influenced by the natural conditions in the lake, such as an increase in the breakdown of organic matter or an increase of DOC from upstream systems, including wetland areas. These influences can change from year to year.

#### **E. Coli:** (measured in cfu/100ml)

Our E. coli levels in Wolfe Lake continue to be extremely low, almost non-existent. There was a small increase this year near the culvert in Fermoy. Once again, though, even with this small increase the test results were so far below the provincial guideline as to be of no concern. E. coli testing is done primarily in shallow areas and the area by the culvert in Fermoy is just downstream from a wetland on the other side of the culvert. RVCA has informed me that the slight increase in the reading may be attributable to wildlife in the wetland area.

## Notes from your Fishing Director

By Margie Manthey

**There's nothing so optimistic as an eager angler anticipating a new fishing season. Exciting outings and BIG fish await! In the meantime, here's a look back at the past year's fishing report based on my observations and those from area anglers.**

Early season walleye were caught casting swimbaits and suspending jerkbaits but, as I don't troll, my bite fizzled as the fish moved deeper through summer.

Some anglers echoed this observation while others had success trolling Rapalas on weighted line, boating both slot-size\* keepers and larger-sized fish through early fall. Sketchy ice conditions kept many anglers off the lake over the winter, but some ventured

out and found walleye. One angler reported a "late but great start" to the ice season, with several large fish caught early on, followed by a bunch of slot-sized keepers and wrapping up with assorted-sized fish.

Most reports revealed that the majority of fish fell either within or over the slot range. Another angler observed a complete absence of under-sized fish and remarked that walleye fishing was better the year before last.

#### **Total Nitrogen (TKN):** (measured in mg/l)

Overall, TKN levels on Wolfe Lake fall within the recommended guidelines, with the exception this past year of a single reading which was SLIGHTLY high. While the guidelines call for under 0.50 mg/l, one reading at Barr's creek was slightly over in September, at 0.54 mg/l. Upon inquiring with RVCA, I was told that, as Barr's Creek is a wetland environment and wetlands are known to be natural sinks and sources, it is possible that we are just seeing a release of nutrients from the sediment in this environment and a resulting increase in TKN levels. RVCA prefers to focus on long-term trends at nearshore sites like this one, as they are heavily influenced by the environment on the day of sampling. They have made a note and will keep a close eye on the comparative results we get at the site for 2023.

#### **Secchi Depth:** (measure of water clarity and/or turbidity in the lake)

The Secchi reading in 2022 decreased from 2021. According to RVCA, the same trend has been observed across the watershed and would suggest an increase in suspended sediment, biomass and/or phytoplankton within the water column. It may be attributable to the large decrease over the last few years in zebra mussels, which had previously clarified the water by consuming the phytoplankton in the water.

The fact that the peak of the infestation is now over and fewer zebra mussels are therefore feeding on the phytoplankton may be causing the water clarity to decrease to a level a bit closer to our pre-infestation figures. These changes could also be a sign of increased algal growth within the water column. The root cause of this trend and change remains unclear.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Haley Matschke of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority for her generous contributions to this article, as well as her help each year with water testing and generally being my support person at RVCA. In addition, I want to give credit to the 2022 Lake Stewards Newsletter from FOCA, upon which I also relied heavily in writing this article!

#### **In summary**

Overall the results are very good. I look forward to seeing many of you at the AGM on July 29th!

**FISHING  
UPDATES**

Some local anglers would like the MNRF to consider stocking walleye in Wolfe Lake. Wolfe Lake appears to be maintaining a healthy bass fishery. Opener through fall, good-sized smallmouth catches were reported along with some quality largemouth.

**\*Per Ontario fishing regulations, only walleye measuring between 40-50 cm / 15.7–19.7 inches may be harvested.**





representing an up-and-coming class. Chatterbaits, spinnerbaits, crankbaits, jigs and soft plastics are all good tackle choices for targeting either species, and drop shotting can be especially effective for smallmouth. Surface baits are an exciting way to catch bass, but I found the topwater bite was somewhat sluggish overall.

Plenty of northern pike were caught throughout the year, the majority being small to medium-sized fish. Is anyone catching larger pike? Spinnerbaits often elicit “snot rocket” strikes, but chatterbaits, jerkbaits, jigs, spoons and even topwater baits can trigger aggressive northerns to attack. To help avoid losing pricey lures to these toothy fish, use steel or fluorocarbon leaders when fishing

in weedy areas -- and while lost tackle may hurt your wallet, it’s deadly to wildlife.

I spent some pleasant afternoons fishing for panfish and perch, trying out some new lead-free (tin) micro jigs which proved very effective. Such fun on ultralight gear! The fish were vibrant and feisty, although I continue to experience lower perch catches, as do others.

One angler, using an underwater camera through the ice on Lee Bay, observed seeing lots of perch but none were biting. Studies reveal that yellow perch and walleye populations are often intrinsically connected, as these two species interact in various ways, including predation and diet overlap. Something to keep in mind as we contemplate

Smaller bass were also caught, hopefully potential catch trends for both perch and walleye.

There was a brief mention of whitefish caught through the ice along the lake’s north shore and some decent ling fishing on Lee Bay.

In other fishing news, the Westport Area Outdoor Association (WAOA) canceled its annual Wolf Howl ice fishing derby again this year due to risky ice conditions. On a positive note, as of this writing, the WAOA plans to hatch and raise walleye fingerlings at the Westport Hatchery in the spring.

Please take advantage of the WLAW’s monofilament/braided line recycling receptacles and lead fishing tackle collection units located at the lake’s three public boat launches. Big thanks to Tom Myatt from the Westport Area Outdoor Association for constructing the lead tackle collection units! Together, let’s commit to protecting our natural resources and aquatic wildlife communities by properly disposing of broken line and lead tackle, and by retrieving any tangles of line or lost lures seen on or around the water. Ongoing thanks goes out to WLA volunteer Wayne Derbyshire for maintaining all the collection units and for keeping the grass and weeds trimmed at the public launches. We appreciate you!

As an avid lifetime angler and a passionate conservationist, I encourage anglers of all ages to fish lead-free to help protect wildlife. Lead toxicity is very real and very concerning. Lead poisoning is the leading cause of death for loons and trumpeter swans in some regions. Over half of all bald and golden eagles tested exhibited lead exposure. Please visit [fishleadfree.ca](http://fishleadfree.ca) to learn more, including where you can exchange your lead tackle for a \$10 coupon redeemable on safer, lead-free options. You’ll also find a comprehensive list of retailers that sell lead-free tackle. Thank you for helping create positive change. Together, “Let’s Get the Lead Out” of fishing!

Wishing you many enjoyable days on Wolfe Lake in the year ahead. Tight lines! Feel free to share your fishing stories or observations with me at:

[manthey.margie@gmail.com](mailto:manthey.margie@gmail.com).





## FOCUS ON WILDLIFE AROUND OUR LAKE

### Trumpeter swans: a comeback story

By Margie Manthey

**After indiscriminate hunting erased them from the landscape over 200 years ago, trumpeter swans are being successfully restored to eastern Ontario in a remarkable comeback story.**

The swans got a second chance in the 1980s when Harry Lumsden, a biologist with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, started a provincial program to reintroduce and reestablish trumpeters to their former range. The Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre joined the crusade, in which trumpeter swan eggs collected from Alberta were placed under mute swans (a related species). In 1990, a captive breeding pair of trumpeters raised their first cygnet, named Pig Pen. In 1993, Pig Pen and her mate became the first wild nesting pair of trumpeter swans on Wye Marsh in over two centuries! Eventually, the swans increased and began dispersing naturally, and by 2002, Ontario had a self-sustaining, steadily increasing population of trumpeters. At least 150 trumpeter swans inhabit Wye Marsh today, representing a significant portion of the province's wild population.

In more recent times, our community members have observed trumpeter swans on Wolfe Lake, albeit rarely at first -- but the sightings

are increasing with each passing year. Some folks have even shared their swan photographs on the WLA Facebook page. It's wonderful to see these magnificent birds reclaiming a place their ancestors inhabited centuries ago. As with our resident bald eagles, what a privilege to have trumpeter swans return to Wolfe Lake.

Adult trumpeter swans have snowy-white plumage and long, elegant necks. They are our largest native waterfowl, tipping the scale at over 25 pounds, with an 8-foot wingspan. To get airborne, these massive birds need a lengthy runway of around 100 metres. As they lumber along, they pound the water with powerful wings and huge feet to gain sufficient speed for liftoff.

Trumpeter swans require fresh, clean and spacious bodies of water. They breed on isolated wetlands in Canada, Alaska and the northwestern U.S. and spend the winter months on coastal inland bodies of water that remain free of ice. Surprisingly, winter can be one

WILDLIFE  
AROUND  
WOLFE





of the best times to observe trumpeter swans as they begin gathering and interacting in larger flocks – a swan soirée, if you please! In spring and summer, mated pairs are busy hatching and raising their offspring in more secluded areas. Pairs share a loyal bond and are protective of their brood. In fall, while parents are teaching the cygnets to fly, single swans are focused on foraging aquatic plants and eating as much as possible before migration. Due to their habitat and feeding

behaviours, trumpeter swans are highly susceptible to lead poisoning through the accidental ingestion of lead ammunition and lead fishing tackle. In fact, lead poisoning is a leading cause of trumpeter swan mortality.

You can help protect swans and other vulnerable wildlife by sporting lead-free (learn more at [fishleadfree.ca](http://fishleadfree.ca)).

If you should observe seven swans a-swimming (or any number thereof) and think they might be trumpeters, please contact the good folks at Wye Marsh at [wymarsh.com](http://wymarsh.com) or call 705-526-7809.

Many trumpeter swans have leg bands and prominent yellow wing tags with a 3-digit code. If it's visible, relay the code; and any observations - - such as location, number of swans, and behaviours -- are appreciated. Helpful tips for distinguishing trumpeters from tundra and mute swans are available on the Trumpeter Swan Society website: [trumpeterswansociety.org](http://trumpeterswansociety.org).

Credit Photo(s): Simon J. Vandervoort

## WLAW Project Updates | 2023

# This is what is keeping your association busy

By Margie Manthey

The WLAW is actively engaged in various initiatives that work to protect and preserve a healthy lake ecosystem. As always, we strive to keep the lake community up to date on these endeavors by providing an annual summary of recent and ongoing projects.

### Loon nesting platform: baby on board!

Last spring, a pair of loons adopted the WLA nesting platform, which was placed on the lake after ice-out by Bruce Maynard and Bill Garland. Although the nest produced two chicks, one disappeared right after hatching. The remaining chick grew fast and was often seen swimming alongside one or both parents. By late summer, it could dive for longer periods of time, and the youngster fledged later in the fall on its maiden migration to the Atlantic seaboard. The WLA invited its Facebook community members to post name suggestions for the chick. Steve Thomas's entry was randomly selected, and the little loon was christened "Moonshine." Of the three active loon nests on Wolfe last year (two of which were

natural sites), the nest platform produced the only surviving chick. Bruce and Bill floated the raft again earlier this spring, and we will build another to be placed on the lake in spring 2024. Loons have a low reproductive rate and face numerous threats, both natural and human induced. Our lake community shares a responsibility to protect nesting loons and their vulnerable chicks. Therefore, please:

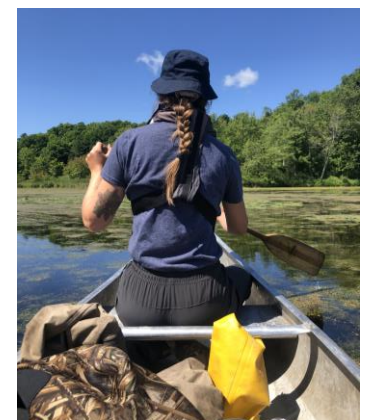
- 🌀 boat and jet ski with caution - slow down, be vigilant, and avoid repeated circling and creating large wakes which swamp nests and drown chicks;
- 🌀 fish with lead-free tackle, especially sinkers and jig heads;
- 🌀 retrieve any broken fishing line and lost tackle you find;
- 🌀 don't cut line or leave tackle inside a fish you release because loons swallow prey whole;
- 🌀 leave loons plenty of space.

### Invasive plant species sampling

On July 14, 2022, Margie Manthey met with Amanda Lange, an Aquatic Resource Technician with the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA), and Burke Willson, an Invasive Species Summer Technician assisting the RVCA through the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH), to undertake *invasive plant species sampling* on Wolfe Lake's two major tributaries -- Barr's and Scanlan Creeks. Sampling was done by canoe, guided under Amanda's experienced eye for invasive aquatic plants.

When an invasive species was identified, Burke noted its location coordinates and photos were taken of the plant. The survey began in the lake's western corner

on Barr's Creek, where three invasive plant species were identified: *Eurasian Milfoil*, *European Frogbit* and *Purple Loosestrife*. Next, the canoe was launched along the lake's southeast shoreline on Scanlan Creek, where five invasive plants



were observed: *Common Buckthorn*, *Curly Leafed Pond-weed*, *Eurasian Milfoil*, *European Frogbit*, and *Honeysuckle*.

Margie coordinated the initiative through Haley Matschke, the RVCA's Acting Surface Water Quality Coordinator. Earlier this year, Haley forwarded a sampling report that included a listing of the invasive species we identified, their coordinates, and corresponding photos. The data will provide a baseline for future invasive plant monitoring on Wolfe Lake. This was an educational endeavor, as well, as Margie can now recognize several invasives plants and teach others. The WLA is grateful to the RVCA and OFAH for assisting with this project and for sharing Amanda and Burke with us!

### “Let’s Get the Lead Out!”

The WLA’s Lead Fishing Tackle Buy Back Program promoting lead-free fishing is underway, now in its second year and growing strong! We are pleased to share that in its first year (March 31, 2022 – March 31, 2023), the initiative collected 210 pounds of lead! We remain committed to protecting loons, swans, eagles and other wildlife from the



preventable tragedy of lead poisoning. Read more about this dynamic grassroots initiative on Page 10 and 38.

### Scanlan Creek: waiting for walleye!



At this early writing, the WLAW’s walleye spawning habitat restoration site on Scanlan Creek is in excellent condition for the spring spawn, according to property owner and WLAW volunteer, Bill Blaney. Some walleye are beginning to enter the creek. Joff Côté, Management Biologist with the MNR, cautions that an ideal spring freshet typically hinges on heavy &/or prolonged spring rains to produce suitable spawning conditions – and all the better if the rain is in combination with good snow accumulations. While not the case in recent years, the weather conditions leading up to this year’s spawn may produce a better walleye recruitment on Scanlan. Interestingly, some fish were also observed swimming through Bill’s newer, wider twin culverts which were lined with stone; and while identification wasn’t possible at the time, perhaps they were walleye traveling upstream to spawn, as it was seemingly too early for the

### Sunken wood “grows” fish habitat

On June 20, 2022, Margie Manthey and Gord Moore, met with Jennifer Lamoureux, Aquatic & Fish Habitat Biologist Manager at the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA), to monitor the sites where Christmas tree bundles were sunk back in 2019 to enhance fish habitat. Aden Burton, grandson of WLAW directors Bill and Donna Garland, assisted the volunteer crew aboard Gord’s pontoon.

A specialized camera was employed to take 15-minute underwater video footage around four shallow wood sites. Upon reviewing the camera’s SD card, various fish species were documented as using the trees for habitat including sunfish, bluegills, perch, and emerald shiners (a highly valuable forage fish).

At one site, footage was obtained of a largemouth bass guarding its nest alongside one of the sunken trees.

### Showing turtles some love

Recognizing that turtle populations are at serious risk from numerous threats, Wolfe

Lake Association volunteers will begin constructing turtle nesting guards this spring with plans to have at least a few available at our AGM on July 29th. (Did you know that snapping turtles suffer a 90% nest failure rate, mostly due to predators, and that less than 1% of nestlings make it into the population?) You can also purchase turtle nest protectors from the Ontario Conservation Centre: [www.ontarioturtle.ca/get-involved/turtle-nests-and-nest-protection](http://www.ontarioturtle.ca/get-involved/turtle-nests-and-nest-protection). Learn more about turtles and the significant risk they face on page 49.



To alert drivers, last year the WLAW purchased two turtle crossing signs which were installed by Rideau Lakes Township staff near a wetland on the lake’s north shore.



# OUR AWESOME SHOAL MARKER MEN

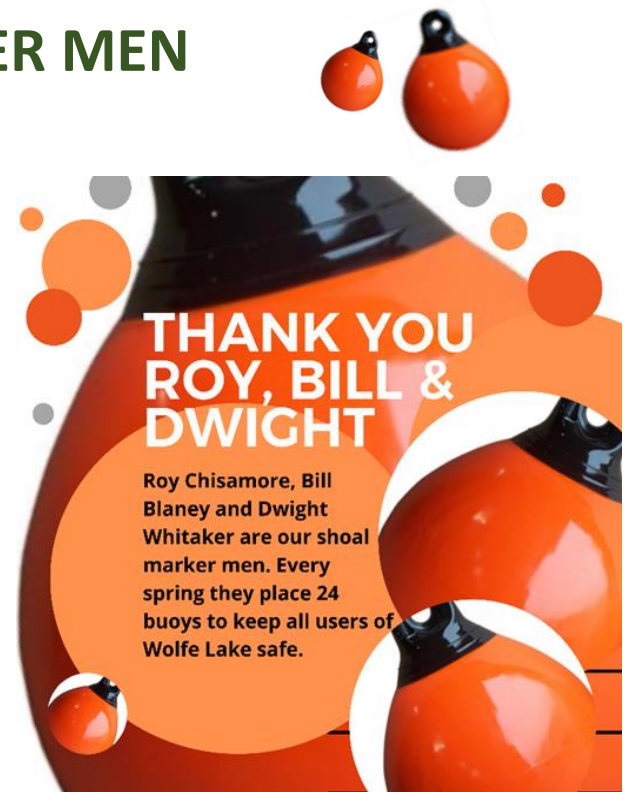
By Anna Rijk

Many thanks to Roy Chisamore, Bill Blaney and Dwight Whitaker, for placing, monitoring and retrieving the orange shoal markers on Wolfe Lake. Every season we all feel safer on our lake, thanks to the boating safety services provided by these three awesome gentlemen.



Way back in time, towards the end of the seventies, Roy Chisamore started putting out 17 shoal markers each year. Currently, he and Bill Blaney mark 24 potential hazards each spring using private buoys. Dwight Whitaker takes care of the three markers around Woods' Bay/Island. All these

volunteers use the familiar orange hazard buoys, along with a few older yellow ones in the bays at the south end of the lake, and they use them for one purpose only: to keep every boat on Wolfe Lake safe. For most of us, Roy, Bill and Dwight are totally invisible. It's only through their work that we know they're around – but their work makes them indispensable to us, and we are all grateful for it.



## YOU NEED A BOATING LICENCE TO OPERATE A MOTORBOAT

Celebrating Wolfe Lake with fun facts

*Did you know?*

It seems like a no-brainer, but there are still folks around who do not have a boating licence and drive their motorboat on our lakes. Boating licences have been required in Canada for operators of certain boats since 2002. We found the announcement, published in the Newsletter of the WLAW in 2003. So yeah, we should all know 😊.

### Boat Certification Courses - 2003

As of 15 Sep 2002 you are required by law to have your "Pleasure craft operator card" with you if you are operating any boat with a motor under 4 m in length. Avoid apprehension by the water police, get your certification ASAP! Courses will be given this summer 14 June, 12 July, 23 August and 13 September. The 14 June course will be given 9 am to 3 pm at the Bedford District Community Center at a cost of \$35.00 for the course and the exam. Contact Robbie Hughes at [robbiehughes52@msn.com](mailto:robbiehughes52@msn.com) to register or for further details.

As of September 2009, ALL boat operators of ALL ages must have a Pleasure Craft Operator Card (boating licence) to operate ANY type or size of pleasure craft (boat or personal watercraft) equipped with a motor, even an electric motor. In the early days you had to attend a course, at a cost of \$35. Today the process is simpler.

Anyone (there is no minimum age) can take the course online and pay \$20-\$50, depending on the provider, to take the exam. No stress - it's multiple-choice, open-book and repeatable! Once you pass, you'll receive your official boating licence. The card is good for boating in all Canadian provinces and never expires.

For more information, go to [www.tc.canada.ca/en/marine-transportation/vessel-licensing-registration](http://www.tc.canada.ca/en/marine-transportation/vessel-licensing-registration).



# VOLUNTEERING IS FUN | Sign up this summer

## Wolfe Lake needs **more hands** to get things **done!**



There is a ton of stuff you can do to help the Wolfe Lake Association Westport. Think of helping with our admin, building a turtle nesting guard or loon nesting platform, or monitoring bald eagles, ospreys, ducks and loons. Or you can check the lake for floating trees and logs that could be dangerous for boating and tow them to shore.

Watch the logs at the dam and report your findings, or organize a Eurasian Milfoil Pull Party, maybe followed by a small get-together. Keep our environment clean by picking up litter whenever you're out for a walk, or organize your own crew for a clean-up day. The Wolfe Lake Association is also considering creating a Pay it Forward crew for jobs that a cottager or permanent resident may need unexpected help with - cutting a tree, lifting a dock, cleaning up a yard - cool and kind emergency-type situations.

Chris Chisamore, WLAW president, has a long list of volunteering tasks. Contact him today, or talk to him at the AGM on July 29<sup>th</sup>, and find out what you can do to help keep Wolfe Lake pristine.

**HELP US TO PROTECT & PRESERVE WOLFE LAKE !  
in our WLAW team this summer and help out, even for just a day!**

[chrischisamore@hotmail.com](mailto:chrischisamore@hotmail.com)

## Volunteering connects you to others!





# WTC | High-speed internet services at Wolfe Lake

## Outside Plant Manager: “Fibre where feasible”

By Anna Rijk

Some of us – just a few living close to the shoreline at the end of Hanna Road – already have high-speed DSL internet! Most Wolfe Lakers will need more patience before this service is available around the entire shoreline. Kevin Christy, Westport Telephone Company’s (WTC) Outside Plant Manager, already warns that it may not be feasible everywhere because of the diverse and challenging layout of Wolfe Lake.

Kevin Christy: “In 2023, WTC hopes to continue to expand access to fibre around the south shore of the lake. We are actively working to place and splice cable to realize more fibre-ready households in this area this year. We continue to investigate the feasibility of fibre in other areas on the lake but do not have additional build plans that we can share at this time.”

### 30 km of diverse shoreline

WTC’s Outside Plant Manager explains further: “Wolfe Lake represents approximately 30 km of diverse shoreline with a wide range of accessibility. WTC has served residents on the lake with a variety of communications solutions over the years by deploying various technologies designed to suit the uniquely varying density and accessibility of the wide range of residences on the lake.”

### Current technologies

“The technologies WTC currently uses on the lake are at various degrees of maturity. Some residents have enjoyed the increased internet speeds provided by upgrades we’ve made over recent years to our High-Speed DSL service. This service has been upgraded with the installation of new

remote cabinets closer to subscribers and is an excellent solution where the existing copper lines will support it. WTC has also upgraded our fixed wireless equipment serving the lake recently to improve performance and increase coverage as much as possible.”

### Fibre where feasible

WTC recognizes that some homes and cottages cannot receive service from the solutions described above because of location and are therefore limited to older technologies. Kevin Christy: “Where it is logistically feasible, WTC is working to install fibre optic service to our customers. Where geography and technology permit, we will prioritize upgrading customers on legacy technologies first. Due to the diverse and challenging layout of Wolfe Lake, a fibre-to-everyone strategy is not viable. We continue to replace older technologies with updated ones where we can and install fibre where it is feasible.”

Picture: Neil and Brady, two of WTC’s outside technicians.



This article is not meant to promote Starlink per se and is certainly not an advertorial. Wolfe Lake Magazine has received a number of requests from our members for more information on this satellite dish service, and the kind of experience people in our area are having with it. It is an attempt to inform you of a reasonable alternative in case you cannot wait for WTC.

Wolfe Lake Magazine has identified a number of happy Starlink customers in the South Frontenac and Westport areas, some of them on Wolfe Lake. They have chosen this technology because they need high-speed internet now and cannot wait for

## Starlink | A high-speed internet alternative

Internet access is clearly one of the essentials of modern life. If our local telephone company cannot service your special spot on the lake because of geographical challenges, or if you cannot wait for WTC’s high-speed fibre cable to reach your side of the lake, then Starlink may be a feasible alternative.

WTC to reach their cottage. “Once WTC comes to our place, we will switch back to WTC,” several stated. Starlink is a satellite internet constellation operated by Elon Musk’s SpaceX, providing satellite Internet access coverage to rural Ontarians in need of a better internet connection.

“I have to say it’s been fantastic. It’s been way better than any service we had before,” one Starlink customer in our area stated. “All in all, a very reliable service, and awesome download speeds (82 megabytes per second)”.

Local customers report that the installers work quickly and setup is easy. However, most likely you can do it yourself. The current dishes are small, about the size of a dinner plate, and can be placed almost anywhere on your lot,

provided there is a clear view of the northern sky.

Pros include unbelievably high upload and download speeds for rural areas; low latencies that allow for video calling and gaming; no bandwidth cap (unlimited); and easy installation and setup.

As with everything else, there are Cons as well. Some users experience regular connection drops due to system maintenance and coverage gaps. In addition, it is unclear how the

network will be managed in the future (e.g., will there be data caps, throttling or price increases?). Finally, the system can't match the performance and consistency of a cable or fibre connection. On the whole, however, the

customers we spoke to were impressed with its performance.

**The cost** of the kit and monthly plan increased in March 2022 as a result of 'excessive levels of inflation.' The customers we

talked to are paying \$140 per month.

There is a one-time charge of \$795 for the hardware (dish), and possibly a shipping fee as well.

**Interested?** Visit [starlink.com](http://starlink.com), or join the private Facebook Group

'Starlink Ontario Canada' and 'Starlink Technical Issues & Discussions Canada,' where folks discuss the pros and cons, with some raving about the product and others expressing complaints.

## WLAW's Lead Fishing Tackle Buy Back Program collected 210 pounds of lead

In its first year, the WLAW's Lead Fishing Tackle Buy Back Program collected 210 pounds of lead (*that's a lot of lead!*) and garnered interest and support from several regional lake associations, including Bobs and Crow, Chaffey & Area Lakes, Charleston, Otter, and the Upper Rideau, as well as from other groups across the province such as the Kawarthas, Sudbury, the Algonquin Park region, and Temagami.

Valuable partnerships were formed with the Westport Area Outdoor Association, the Westport Lions, and various retailers. Recipient of the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association's (FOCA) 2022 Annual Achievement Award, the initiative was also featured in Cottage Life and Ontario Out of Doors



magazines, was the subject of a Lake 88 Radio interview, and covered on Global News, Kingston. The program has received endorsements from Mayors Ron Vandewal, Arie Hoogenboom and Robin Jones, as well as from Scott Reid, M.P. for Lanark/Frontenac/Kingston. Now in its second year, the Lead Fishing Tackle Buy Back Program continues to grow in scope and support and was recently recognized by



Birds Canada, and featured on Lawrence Gunther's Blue Fish Radio podcast. The news is spreading that lead tackle poisons wildlife and that together we can make positive change!

**Visit [fishleadfree.ca](http://fishleadfree.ca) to learn more.**

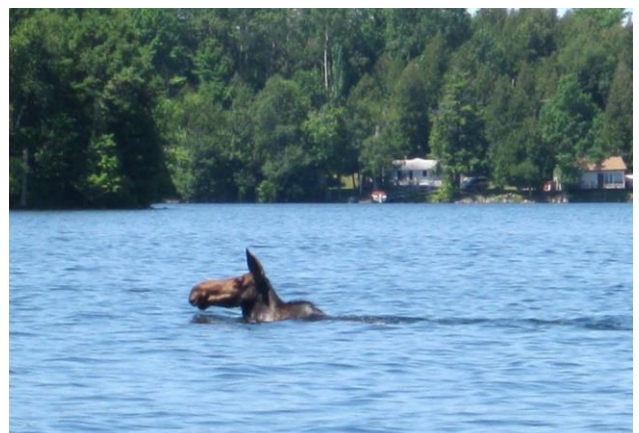
Celebrating Wolfe Lake with fun facts

*Did you know?*

## MOOSE SPOTTED IN WOLFE

Although they are among the largest mammals in Canada, moose populations are threatened by habitat loss and degradation. As development moves deeper into

wilderness areas, it breaks up the large tracts of the moose's habitat. The moose population is abundant in some areas of Canada such as New Brunswick and Newfoundland but is endangered in mainland Nova Scotia. We don't see them that often in our region. This super cool picture was shot in July 2010 by the Klunk family from Pennsylvania, who were vacationing at Wolfe Lake, and was published in the Westport Review Mirror that summer.







## BRESEE COTTAGES | QUAINT LANDMARKS ON OUR LAKE

### Going forward without Alan and Donna

By Anna Rijk

Once typical waterfront landmarks along the shores of Wolfe Lake, the small wood-frame cottages previous generations viewed as the perfect summer escape are gradually disappearing. A few, however, are still fully-functional and successful businesses, including the cottages owned by the Bresee family. Nestled by the dam on Wolfe Lake, the original Bresee Cottages are completely booked every summer. Until 2022, these rentals, like the neighbouring farm, were owned by Alan and Donna Bresee. Sadly, both passed last summer within a few months of one another. Duane Bresee, their oldest son, has taken over the farm and the cottage rental activities, together with his stepbrother Joe Delorme. He looks back on their parents' achievements over the years, on old times and good memories.

I first met Duane Bresee and Joe Delorme last fall during one of my favourite walks along Lloyds Lane. I thought they were contractors, with their standard work boots, paint-splattered hoodies and well-worn caps. They gave me a friendly wave as I walked by to have a look at the Wolfe Lake dam, and I decided to introduce myself. When I learned who they were, I offered my condolences, although I doubt that I succeeded in finding the right words to express the magnitude of their loss. How painful it must be to lose two parents in such a short span of time. But after a few difficult moments, we began speaking about Alan and Donna Bresee's legacy, their sons' determination to keep the property they have now inherited, and their hopes for a bright future for their five waterfront cottages and the farm.

#### The only place like home

"Not for millions of dollars, we won't sell," says Duane Bresee, his eyes twinkling. "We've decided to keep the farm. It's been in the family for so many years and it's about the only place that always felt like home. I

was born in Brockville in 1971, and every summer we would be out on the farm, camping on the lot where the Langans built, so we could clean cottages and do chores and haying." Both Duane and Joe just love the lake, the open skies and the mesmerizing sunsets.

Let's go back to the beginning. Duane is more than happy to dive into the past. He loves the history of his family and the farm: "My grandparents Lloyd and Jean (Myers) Bresee bought the farm in 1949 from my grandmother's uncle, Gordon Myers, and the cottages already came with it. Lloyd and Jean added one more cottage, the one right next to the dam, which they built with Howard Myers, who was a carpenter."

Tourism began to increase in the fifties, and with it a desire on the part of city folks to relax and summer on the lake. The extra income helped with a growing family. Life on the farm was good, but it meant hard work. Duane remembers stories of the workhorses used on the farm, until the advent of tractors around 1949-50. "They bought their first



tractor, it was a Farmall C. It's amazing that the old Farmall C is still part of the farm. It still runs smooth and is reliable every summer."

**Alan**

"My dad, Alan, wasn't born on the farm, but at Kingston General

Hospital in 1946, just after the Second World War. He grew up in Westport, went to the small schoolhouse across from Palmers' Berry Farm, and went to Rideau District High School before going to college in Brockville to become a mechanic. Working as a mechanic, he dedicated his life to this region. He loved Westport and Wolfe Lake and, above all, the farm." Duane recalls that his parents initially raised dairy cattle before switching to beef in the early seventies. "That was when the milk cans went out and the big bulk tanks came in. Alan married Donna Delorme later in life, but when he was young, he married my mother, Shirley Allaby, in 1969. Together they had three children: I was born in 1971, Kevin arrived in 1973 and my sister Deborah was born in 1976. When my grandmother fell ill - she passed in 1992 to cancer - my dad decided to move back to the farm to run the farm with Gramps." Duane reminisces that it became clear that his father was a Westport farmer at heart, with the added advantage that, as a mechanic, he was able to do all the machine repairs himself. "Ma stayed in Brockville and drove back and forth until she retired and worked the farm as well. Looking back, we had a wonderful childhood. Living so close to the St. Lawrence River in Brockville was great. Brockville was a small town, excellent for growing families. But the best part of all was coming to the farm and to Wolfe Lake." Duane does admit that, as kids, they didn't always appreciate the mandatory chores. "On a farm, there's always something to do," he says with a big grin. Duane continues: "It was sad to see the mayhem around mad cow disease. My parents sold off the beef cattle, but kept about half a dozen head for themselves." Eventually his dad's farm changed again, this time to a crop farm. "Later in my dad's life, towards the end, it was mostly hay. My dad never stopped farming right up till last year. He still took all the hay off himself. Big round bales now, but he did it all!"



**Expanding family**

"Donna came into our life when she married my dad. She brought her son George - who always goes by Joe - into our family. My stepmom loved living here, and put all her energy into the farm and into the upkeep of the cottages. She loved the lake community and enjoyed the Wolfe Lake Magazine. Donna and Alan let Anna [our editor]

room around on their cottage properties to shoot pictures, and one was even published on the front cover of the magazine in 2019."

**Steep learning curve**

"Over the years the cottages became more important as a source of income. They were regarded as nice locations to spend a week or two in the summer months. Alan loved to talk to his renters, who came from all over the place, and he built up personal relationships with his clients. Many of them became our regulars."

Alan's boys admit they had a lot to learn. For them it was all new. "Dad knew the ins and outs of the cottages, but Joe and I had to learn how to advertise and contact clients and previous customers who want to continue enjoying our lake and cottages. Joe and I had to learn on the job right after our parents passed. Last year wasn't easy. Basically, we were just thrown into it. We had to learn fast because it was already summer. The cottages were fully booked.

Most of our clients would break down when they heard the news of their passing. We made the very first flyer and put ourselves on Facebook. The cottage business suddenly became part of our lives."

Duane is grateful for the support he has had from his partner, Sherri, and from Joe and his partner Kim. "They've played a huge part in helping me through all of this, from doing up the flyers to painting and renovating the cottages, and updating our Facebook business page. Together we're in the process of refurbishing all the cottages.

Great fun, and we work well together. Even my stepchildren Tyson and Taylor and Joe's kids, Jessa and Jayden, help, and are also starting to love it out here. We try to bring our kids and get out as often as possible."

**BFF Lucy**

For many years, Lucy Tobin-Brunette assisted Alan and Donna on 'cottage change day' and still helps out. Duane: "Lucy is way more than just our Saturday girl! She is literally part of the family. Lucy helped out around the farmhouse. Donna and Lucy went shopping together. Lucy was Donna's bestie and one of dad's best friends as well. She was with us right to the end of their lives. She was our third emergency contact at the hospital for both of them and helped us take care of them until their very last days. Joe and I are so grateful and are glad that Lucy is still with us and will continue to be part of the Bresee Family."

**Reliability and pride**

Duane, his partner Sherri, and his stepbrother, Joe Delorme, have taken over the family-managed business. They are continuing their parents' work, making sure their customers are happy, and offering them a memorable vacation on the shores of Wolfe Lake. Watching the next generation at work, updating and refurbishing all five cottages, it's clear that their passion, reliability, and pride in work well done are unquestionably in the genes.





# NOSTALGIA | BRESEE MEMORIES & FRIENDSHIPS

Remember those little wood-frame cottages, the cute waterfront rentals our grandparents built to enjoy the lake or as summertime rentals for city folks wanting to spend some time on the water? We still have many of them on Wolfe Lake.

We all enjoy seeing those simple vacation structures from the past. And keeping the old-time cottages in operation has some real value as well. They awaken a sense of nostalgia in younger

people, who find them much more fun than vacationing in large modern lake houses that are more like the homes where they grew up or where they now live. Small is beautiful! And renting a small cottage is a closer-to-nature experience, more like being outdoors than in. It's almost an earlier version of what people now call 'glamping', but with a real roof over your head and sturdier walls. Two regular renter families and a neighbour share their memories.



## 1.

"Alan and Donna were two wonderful people. We have wonderful memories and are still in the process of coming to the full realization that they are no longer with us." Christine Langan and her husband Tom, currently residing in Pleasantville, NY, have known the Bresee family for almost 40 years.

"We first rented from Lloyd and Jean. Over time the landlord changed and for about 30 years Alan and Donna were our landlords and friends. We first rented for one week, then two weeks, and finally three weeks to have as much of Wolfe Lake as possible. Each summer, we enjoyed meals together, time with their family and their animal family too. We had a surprise call from Alan about 18 years ago, when he asked us if we would like to be his neighbour. We became closer ever since. So many good times and great memories and then the sad times came. We were worried and frightened as Alan went through testing and then finally the horrible diagnosis. Alan's death left a gigantic hole in our memories and history of our times at Wolfe Lake. Then Donna was going through the same process and diagnosis, and went to join Alan within two months - a staggering change for everyone."

## 2.

Marilyn and Harvey Ambler were longtime neighbours and friends, living down the road. They took it hard when Alan and Donna passed last summer. Countless stories and memories are stored in their minds, but one stands out.

Harvey: "Although I lived my whole life at the lake, I never ever went fishing. As a farmer, I didn't take the time to go out on the lake and enjoy that kind of thing."

Alan loved fishing, and after he came back to the farm, after living in Brockville for years, he did use his fishing rods frequently. He went out on warm summer nights, but also loved the sport in the wintertime.

About twenty years ago, Alan invited me to his ice fishing hut on Wolfe Lake. His warm and cozy ice hut was the place where our friendship evolved and grew stronger. It was a perfect spot for us to slow down and relax, and a great place to share stories, discussing farm issues and finding solutions, and just having a good time. When we caught a decent fish we took it home, and shared it at our dinner table or his, together with Donna and Marilyn. Hard to comprehend we will never do that again."

## 3.

Gary Vogle, a machine operator from Rochester, NY, is a third-generation renter of the Bresee Cottages. He visits Wolfe Lake annually on the third weekend of June and the first weekend of September, staying for a week each time.

"My family has been staying here for 70+ years. Alan and Donna were wonderful people. They would do anything for you, to help make our visits the best they could be. The Bresees made many improvements to the cottages over the years, with the biggest being removing the woodstoves and adding electric heat. Alan would and could help you if you had outboard motor, boat or even car problems."

Donna was always a joy to talk to. One of the final conversations we had was reminiscing about my father's visits and how she would be so excited for the vegetables and peaches he would bring up for them from his garden.

I consider the Bresees to be part of my extended family and they will be deeply missed. Thankfully, Duane and Joe will continue Bresee Cottages and I look forward to spending time at the lake with them and their families in the future."

## PICTURE TIME CONTEST | Wildlife captured [and framed]

**Winner 2022  
Julie Files**

Some words from Julie about this photo: “I especially love the dragonflies gathered over the shallow water. I would call the picture Dragonfly Party. I guess all contestants are amateurs and for all of us it does come naturally to capture moving, living creatures. I am an annual cottage renter from Syracuse, NY and am way over 18!”

### What makes it a winner?

Julie’s photograph features several bluet damselflies in their natural habitat, exhibiting natural behaviours like resting on vegetation or sticks around water. The image is clear, and there is a nice contrast between the in focus, colourful insects and the more muted lakebed with its subtle hues. These damselflies can shine in all their glory thanks to the lovely light, and the ripples on the lake create more visual interest.

Congratulations to Julie, who will receive a \$75 gift card from Norris’s Live Bait & Tackle, which generously sponsored our 2022 contest.

**Congratulations, Julie!**



### Second Place:

‘Friendly Frog’ | by Laura Petryshen

### Why we love it

Although Laura is not especially fond of frogs, this cutie pie captured her interest as it peeked out from some wet rocks along the shoreline.

“This year’s theme was a great target to work on,” Laura shared. At the family cottage, her hunt with the camera was often focused on the waterfront – which we agree is a great place to spot and photograph wildlife – and she did a great job “capturing” this colorful little northern leopard frog, which happens to be the only leopard frog species found in Canada.

**Congratulations, Laura!**





## Third Place: ‘Regular visitor’ | by Meg King

### Why we love it

Meg King had a regular visitor last summer – an old snapping turtle that liked to hang out under her dock. It came by every evening around cocktail time and spent a few hours relaxing.

Meg’s photo offers a cool perspective on the turtle, especially its shell that looks like a bright green shield due to the aquatic plants clinging to it. Meg also shared some neat facts with us: “Snapping turtles spend most of their lives in water. As you can see here, they prefer shallow waters so they can hide under the soft mud and leaf litter with only their noses exposed to the surface to breathe.

The snapping turtle is unable to fully retract into its shell when threatened, which is why it snaps its jaw as a defense against predators.”

**Congratulations, Meg!**



## Honourable Mention: ‘Cowabunga’ | by Ryan Burton

### Why we love it

Here, thanks to a fascinating photo, we get to see a secretive moment in the life of a snapping turtle.

This female snapper is laying her eggs in a hole she dug. Ryan: “I patiently waited for the right split second to take this picture. I call the picture Cowabunga, which is an expression used to express delight or satisfaction.” Needless to say, we’re definitely delighted and satisfied with Ryan’s creative photo and are happy he shared it with us!

**Congratulations, Ryan!**

Celebrating Wolfe Lake with fun facts

## WE ONCE HAD A POET LAUREATE

*Did you know?*

In 1993, the WLAW had its own resident poet, Richard Lenz, who was also chairman of the fishing committee. One of his poems, titled ‘The Capture of Old Moss Back’, was published in the 1993 newsletter. Here are the first verses.

### *The Capture of Old Moss Back*

Myself and the girls were whoppin’ it up  
At the cottage late one night.  
We’d had a few, I’ll admit to you,  
But we soon got straight, and now I’ll relate.  
A most gruesome tale of shock.  
For out of the depths of our placid lake  
Came a monster to our dock.  
It began that day in the usual way,  
When I caught a fish about nine.  
So I kept hum alive and he nicely thrived

Off the dock, on the end of a line.  
Later on I went back to carve him up for a  
snack, but all that remained were some  
fishy brains,  
Two fins, and a lonely eye.  
  
What manner of thief could perpetrate  
So dastardly a deed?  
An otter, a mink, a loon or a snake?  
It was evidence we’d need!

So I fashioned a lone from some chain and  
twine, with a hook as big as they make,  
Then I baited it up with old fish guts,  
And I heaved it out in the lake.  
  
The innards did their work quite well,  
We hadn’t long to wait. For very soon, by  
the light of the moon, the dock began to  
quake.  
**Read the full account in the 1993 Newsletter on  
page 4. You’ll find it on our website: wolfelake.org**

# Eye-catching Wolfe Lake Vistas | PICTURE TIME 2023

## Send us your postcard-perfect scenes!



## A chance to win a gift card for \$75 from the Pinecone

Get those cameras out for our 7th annual PICTURE TIME photo contest! The success of our photo contest is remarkable evidence of how much Wolfe Lakers are inspired by the people, places and events that shape their lives in this wonderful part of South Frontenac. This year the theme is 'Wolfe Lake Vistas.' We all love beautiful views of our pristine lake, and our Facebook pages indicate that this theme is a favourite of many shutterbugs. What postcard-like scenes have caught your eye and made you reach for the camera? Water, waves, shorelines, canoe rides, even fall colours are possibilities (and the deadline is not until the end of October). So keep your camera or smartphone handy, catch the right moment and send us your favourite Wolfe Lake postcard-worthy photo!

### Enter today, be creative and have fun!

To be eligible you must have a strong tie with Wolfe or Green Lake and be 18 years or older.

The winning photo will be awarded a gift certificate valued at \$75 kindly offered by the Pinecone, in Westport. The Pinecone offers all kinds of neat stuff for your own lake house or a friend's cottage, from cool gifts to body-care products, garden decorations, and much more.

### Winning pictures

- The first-prize winner will receive a \$75 gift card from the Pinecone.
- The top 3 photos will be published in the 2024 Magazine; every year we select an 'honourable mention' as well.
- We are looking forward to receiving your pictures. Please upload your best shots directly to [facebook.com/Wolfe-Green-Lakes-Westport-Association](https://facebook.com/Wolfe-Green-Lakes-Westport-Association) or e-mail to [com-wolfelake@outlook.com](mailto:com-wolfelake@outlook.com). The deadline is October 31, 2023.

For more information and the official contest rules, please visit: [wolfelake.org/picture-time](https://wolfelake.org/picture-time).

JOIN PICTURE TIME | 2023 PHOTO CONTEST





*Visit the outdoor kitchen  
and BBQ specialist at Embers.*

63 North St., Perth, Ontario | 613-264-0878 | [www.embers.on.ca](http://www.embers.on.ca)

 Life is Good logo and a bicycle basket with a blue bag hanging from it.
 

14 Bedford Street  
Westport, Ontario  
613-273-8292

[www.lifeisgoodwestport.com](http://www.lifeisgoodwestport.com) 🔍

### The Horse Effect

Come experience personal discovery at the side of an equine gentle giant.

 Two horses in a green field.
 

Book your FEEL {Facilitated Equine Experiential Learning} Session - all horse encounters happen safely on the ground - no riding involved.

[thehorseeffect@gmail.com](mailto:thehorseeffect@gmail.com) \* 613-770-5114  
[thehorseeffect.ca](http://thehorseeffect.ca)

## MAYOR ARIE HOOGENBOOM | GREETINGS

### Township of Rideau Lakes



On behalf of the community of Rideau Lakes, I gratefully acknowledge the Wolfe Lake Association for its efforts to save our legendary loons and other wildlife through the initiative to buy back lead tackle. Because Rideau Lakes Township is home to 37 lakes and over 800 km of shoreline, preservation and conservation of our waterways is incredibly important for our future.

We can all contribute by going through our tackle boxes and “Getting the Lead Out”. I have done this and encourage you to take part!

In 2023, residents and visitors to Wolfe Lake can enjoy the recent upgrades to the boat launch at the end of Tenth Concession Road, representing an investment of \$80,000. Recently, we have seen more changes in property values, which continue to cause some concern among residents because of their impact on annual property tax rates, which are set based on market values. With this in mind, Council delivered on a comprehensive 2023 budget and worked hard to keep local property tax rate increases below inflation. This resulted in a combined tax rate increase of 4.35 percent (when combined with the County and Education rates).

Council continues to support lakefront property owners with private road grants, a Township grant of \$968 to the Wolfe Lake Association and guaranteed access to services by renewing the Recreation Agreement and the Fire Services Agreement with the Village of Westport.

The Rideau Lakes Lake Association Committee (RLLAC) continues to meet quarterly and provide input to Council on issues of relevance to waterfront property owners. Two examples include the new Official Plan and the Sustainable Drainage Project to enhance environmentally sustainable development along the water. Special thanks to Margie Manthey and Greg Wetmore for volunteering as representatives for the Committee.

In closing, have a safe and enjoyable summer on the water. If you have questions at any time, feel free to contact your Mayor and/or Ward Councillors.

*Arie Hoogenboom*

mayor@rideaulakes.ca | 613-323 0901 (M) | [rideaulakes.ca](http://rideaulakes.ca)

## MAYOR RON VANDEWAL | GREETINGS

### Township of South Frontenac



It's been 25 years since the former townships of Bedford, Loughborough, Portland and Storrington amalgamated to form South Frontenac. Since the early days of amalgamation, our strength has been community and we are now stronger together as one municipality. We are pleased once again this year to be able to support community projects through grants like

our Community Grant Program, Private Lane Upgrade Assistance Program and Lake Ecosystem Advisory Grants. I'd like to congratulate the Wolfe Lake Association on being selected recipient of the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Association's 2022 Annual Achievement Award for its Lead Fishing Tackle Buy Back Program. This was one of the first projects funded by South Frontenac under the Lake Ecosystem Advisory Grant Program. The work you are doing to raise awareness about the hazards of lead fishing lures and offering anglers an incentive to switch to lead-free fishing tackle is being noticed and making a difference. Thanks to your association and all your members involved in this important initiative.

With the busy summer months ahead, I hope you have downloaded our South Frontenac Recycles app. It's terrific for seasonal residents who aren't as familiar with our collection schedules and practices and even

has a handy waste wizard where you can see if items can be recycled or not.

Summer is also a great time to get out, explore and attend special events. Whether it's attending Canada Day celebrations, our popular Music in the Park series, shopping local at one of our village shops or the Frontenac Farmers Market on Friday afternoons, I hope you'll explore all our beautiful region has to offer. In 2023, we will update two important documents in the Township, our Strategic Plan and Official Plan. We invite all residents to share their vision for the Township and how we will develop and grow on our public engagement site, [engagefrontenac.ca](http://engagefrontenac.ca). If you haven't read it yet, be sure to review the Comprehensive Roads Needs Study on the site that looks at the state of roads in the Township. The site is also your hub for road construction projects happening over the summer months in South Frontenac. Finally, I invite you to check out the new Our Lakes section on our website with resources for lake associations, and our new Guide to Preparing a Shoreline Naturalization Planting Plan which we developed in conjunction with Watersheds Canada. Have a wonderful summer on the lake and enjoy everything South Frontenac has to offer!

*Ron Vandewal*

rvandewal@southfrontenac.net | 613 376 3027 ext. 2236  
[southfrontenac.net](http://southfrontenac.net)



# KIDS' PAGES | Come and play



Hey, Wolfe Lake kids, we have put together puzzles and much more. Enjoy!

Do you have suggestions for next year's KIDS' PAGES? We are looking forward to hearing your suggestions. BTW, the answers for this page can be found on page 60.

## Animal poetry | Write a haiku poem

Haiku is a simple style of poetry that originated in Japan.

Haiku is traditionally written about nature, so it's perfect for budding Cottage Kid poets! While haiku poems are short and don't rhyme, they do have a specific format. Each haiku must have three lines total, with five syllables in the first and third lines and seven syllables in the second line: 5-7-5. Here's a haiku poem we wrote to get you started. As you read it aloud, count the syllables in each line on your fingers.

Now it's your turn. Choose an animal or other nature subject that inspires you – the possibilities are endless -- and have fun writing your own haiku poem! Just remember: 5-7-5.

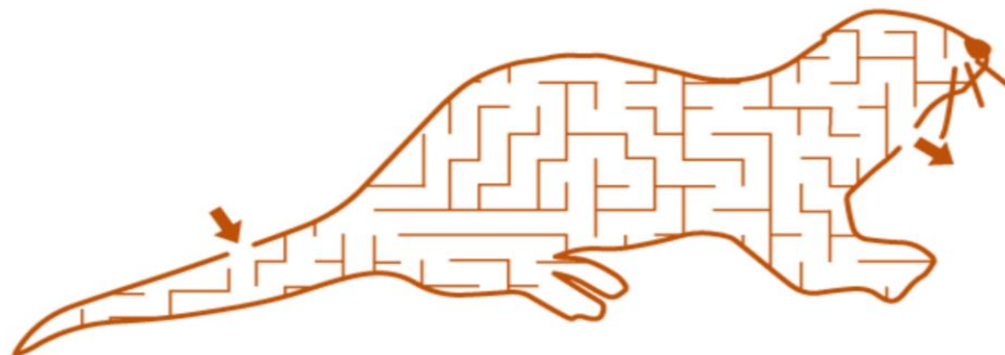
*Otter*



*Sleek and swift diver*

*Whiskery face popping up*

*Crunching on a fish*



### Otter maze

Hey, can you find your way through the body of this otter? This guy would feel a lot better when you do so!

## Critter riddles 'n giggles

- A. Why did the otter cross the lake?
- B. How do bears keep their dens cool in the summer?
- C. Why do hummingbirds hum?
- D. What is a fox's favourite fast food?
- E. How do frogs warm up on chilly nights?
- F. Why do bees have sticky hair?
- G. Why was the baby ant confused?



## Who am I?

Can you guess the answer in five clues or less?

1. I use my sensitive paws to help me learn more about my environment.
2. I make lots different sounds: purring, chittering, growling, screeching, mewing and more!
3. Some say I'm a bandit because I'm active at night, have a dark mask and may steal food.
4. I'm super smart and can open doorknobs, latches and even jars.
5. My long tail has dark-coloured rings along its length.

# Wolfe Lake Kids | Let's paint rocks!



Painted rocks look great on a windowsill or in a flowerpot. They make special keepsake gifts for parents, grandparents and friends. You can also hide your painted rocks somewhere where others will discover them and smile.



## HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED

- Small rocks – smooth, round or oval ones work well, but any shape will do!
- Acrylic craft paint in assorted colours
- Small & medium sized paintbrushes (different tip shapes come in handy)
- Jar or other container with water to rinse paintbrushes
- Paper towels for wiping brushes and hands
- Optional – googly eyes and sparkles from the craft or dollar store

## THIS IS WHAT YOU DO

Try painting the sweetly simple ladybug rocks shown here, found online at [easypeasyandfun.com](http://easypeasyandfun.com).<sup>\*</sup> Other fun ideas include bumblebees, birds, fish, woodland animals, flowers, fruits, hearts, rainbows and goofy faces. Maybe an unusual rock will inspire your creation. Let your imagination be your guide!

<sup>\*</sup>Tip: for the ladybug, paint the entire rock red and let it dry before adding spots, eyes and other details.

## AT THE COTTAGE | Word Search

Words can be found in any direction (including diagonals) and can overlap each other. Use the word bank below.

**BIRDS | FISHING | HAPPY | WATER  
SUNSHINE | BOOKS | PANCAKES  
FAMILY | LAZY | COTTAGE | DOCK**

## Knock-knock! 😊

Who's there?  
Howl?  
Howl who?  
Howl you know unless you open the door?

## Sheep – Sheep - Sheep

A farmer has 19 sheep on his land. One day, a big storm hits and all but seven run away.  
How many sheep does the farmer have left?







## Vital janitors of wetlands around Wolfe Lake Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre helps sick and injured turtles get back on their feet

By Sue Carstairs



Turtles play a vital role in keeping wetlands healthy by eating plants and dead fish. We can think of them as the janitors of our wetlands - the wetlands that keep our water clean for drinking, fishing, and swimming. Last summer, Gord Moore spotted a turtle with a broken shell close to his cottage. “So sad! If I had known about the Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre, I might have been in a position to save it by bringing the poor turtle to the turtle centre, located close to Peterborough”. Gord recently contacted Dr. Sue Carstairs at the OTCC, who was happy to introduce the OTCC and its important work to our readers.

It doesn't matter where you spot a turtle, alive or injured, on the way to the cottage or as you're travelling. We all can help the turtles we see on the road. By taking action, we contribute to the conservation of this ancient and precious species.

Sue Carstairs is executive and medical director of the OTCC. She and her team are doing amazing work with sick and injured turtles. Sue: “Turtles are extremely robust, and can often survive run-ins with cars. Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre staff and volunteers rehabilitate injured turtles at the Turtle Trauma Centre so they can be returned to the wild. The centre operates from 8 am to 8 pm, seven days a week during the summer, and works with rehabilitation centres all across the province. They are the best call to make no matter where you are in the province.”

### Turtles vital for wetlands

Sue explains that turtles represent a significant biomass in our wetland ecosystems and play a vital role in keeping them healthy. “Vibrant, functioning wetlands are not only essential for turtles, but are also important to human health, as these ecosystems act as the filtration system for our water sources.”

In Canada, all eight native freshwater turtle species are now listed as Species at Risk by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). Threats to Ontario's turtles are all human-related. Habitat loss and fragmentation, road mortality, boating mortality and fishing by-catch, as well as poaching, are all producing significant population declines.”



### Staggering statistics

The Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre is a registered charity, with a multi-pronged approach to turtle conservation and various programs to mitigate all these threats. Sue Carstairs offers some pretty staggering statistics: “Our turtle hospital admits, treats, rehabilitates, and releases turtles injured on roads from across the province and beyond. We admitted almost 2,000 turtles in 2022! Since many of these turtles are females carrying eggs, we collect these eggs to incubate, so they are not lost to the population. We incubate about 8,000 eggs a year, and the hatchlings are then released back to their mother’s home wetland. Our hospital is the only College of Veterinarians of Ontario accredited, dedicated wild turtle hospital in Canada.”

“Our field work entails tracking a group of Blanding’s turtles hatched at our centre, alongside a group of wild-hatched turtles of the same size, at the same site. In this way, we can ensure that what we are doing is working, and learn how to improve outcomes even more. Our education program reached over 11,000 people in 2022 with specific presentations, to help motivate stewardship activities that are helping turtle populations across the province. We also utilize the extensive data we collect, and publish the results to ensure our findings help other conservation initiatives globally.”

### Turtle Taxi

Sue informs us that the OTCC relies on a great many committed volunteers across Ontario for all this to happen. “We have approximately 1000 turtle taxi volunteers from across the province who

help to transport injured turtles to our hospital in Peterborough and to release rehabilitated turtles back to their home wetlands. We also have a network of approximately 40 ‘First Responders’ across the province. These are generally veterinarians who help us to ensure turtles receive timely emergency care before being brought to our hospital.

“Working with our many conservation partners, we have developed a variety of educational brochures and resources available to the public. In addition, OTCC, in partnership with Parks Canada, has established the Ontario Turtle Conservation Network (OTCN). The network facilitates sharing of turtle conservation knowledge among nonprofits, businesses, educational institutions, and grass roots organizations. With the number of injured turtles admitted to our facility having increased significantly over the years, we have clearly outgrown our current space. With an energetic and generously supported capital campaign, ‘Where Community and Conservation Connect’, and a benevolent living legacy gift of land, OTCC is pleased to be breaking ground imminently to begin to build our new state of the art turtle hospital and facility. Our capital campaign is still ongoing as we aim for additional funds to help the facility to reach its full potential.”

### What if I can’t travel to the OTCC myself?

The OTCC is located in Selwyn, near Peterborough. If you can’t drive an injured turtle to the OTCC, call 705-741-5000 to arrange transport through its Turtle Taxi Volunteer program. If the turtle needs immediate help, they will connect you with one of the 35 licensed First Response Centres located throughout Ontario, where the turtle can receive lifesaving care before coming to the OTCC.

### Interested in donating to OTCC?

100% of your gift will protect and conserve Ontario’s native turtles and their habitat. If you would like to donate, you will find a form at [ontarioturtle.ca/donate](http://ontarioturtle.ca/donate).

### How to help an injured turtle

1. Carefully place the injured animal in a well-ventilated plastic container with a secure lid (turtles can climb!), and no water. (Note: Most turtles can be picked up carefully with two hands. When handling snapping turtles, keep a safe distance from their head, as they will snap at you if they feel threatened. You may want to use a shovel or board to lift the turtle. Watch our video clip for more tips for handling turtles.)
2. Note the location (road, major intersection, kilometre marker) where the turtle was found to ensure it can be released according to provincial regulations.
3. Call us at 705-741-5000. If we don’t answer, leave us a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible. (Note: DO NOT EMAIL with information about an injured turtle. An injured animal needs medical attention as soon as possible.)
4. Do not offer the turtle water or food, and do not try to treat the turtle in any way.
5. Wash your hands after handling the animal.
6. If you have to keep a turtle overnight, leave it in the well-ventilated container. Place it in a location that is dark, quiet, room temperature, and away from pets.







**HONEST FOOD.  
GREAT MUSIC.  
QUAINT ROOMS.**

613-273-3636 | [www.coveinn.com](http://www.coveinn.com)

@thecoveinn @thecoveinn



**MANY THANKS TO ROY CHISAMORE, BILL BLANEY AND DWIGHT WHITAKER** FOR SETTING OUT, MONITORING AND RETRIEVING THE ORANGE SHOAL MARKERS ON WOLFE LAKE.

**Every season we all feel safe on Wolfe Lake thanks to the provided boat safety services of these awesome gents.**



**ROSEBUSH**  
**Energies**

**Heating Oil • Propane**

**613-272-2200**

Newboro

**LIKE OUR UP-TO-DATE FACEBOOK GROUP**

where you can directly share your Wolfe Lake stories, pictures and relevant lake community news.

Find **'Wolfe Lake Association Westport ON'** in the Facebook search bar and register if you haven't done so already.

Questions? Email

[com-wolfelake@outlook.com](mailto:com-wolfelake@outlook.com).

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER WITH OUR ASSOCIATION?**

People choose to volunteer for a variety of reasons. For some it offers the chance to give something back to the community or to make a difference to the people around them. For others it provides an opportunity to develop new skills or build on existing experience and knowledge. So **why not volunteer with our association?** Step up to the plate and contact us by emailing [com-wolfelake@outlook.com](mailto:com-wolfelake@outlook.com) or [chrischisamore@hotmail.com](mailto:chrischisamore@hotmail.com) (see also page 36). Looking forward to hearing from you!

# For All Your Home Heating and Cooling Needs



\* Your home. Your biggest investment.  
 The place you want to be safe and comfortable  
 \* WE CAN HELP \*  
 \* High Efficiency Heating and Air Conditioning  
 Systems backed up by 24/7 Service Contracts  
 and local, fully licensed technicians



## THAKE

HOME COMFORT CENTRE *Working hard to guarantee your comfort for over 60 years*

### 613-273-2062

[www.thakehomecomfort.com](http://www.thakehomecomfort.com)



FURNACES  
HEAT PUMPS  
AIR CONDITIONING  
GEOTHERMAL  
RADIANT HEATING

**PROANE**  
Delivery, Tanks and Supplies

## Barker Willson

Barristers and Solicitors  
Professional Corporation

Real Estate (Purchases, Mortgages, Sales),  
 Wills & Powers of Attorney, Estates,  
 Personal Injury, Litigation and Family Law

- John R. O'Connor B.A. LL.B. S.
- Craig Halpenny B.A. LL.B.
- Scott B. Hughes B.Math., B.A., LL. B.
- Michael P. Reid B.A.(Hons), LL.B.
- Sarah J.S. Stewart B.A.(Hons), JD.
- Amy A. Mintah, B.A., JD.
- Chris Clifford B.A. LL.B. (Counsel)



<p style="margin: 0; font-size: large;"><b>613.273.3166</b></p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: small;">25 Main Street E. Westport, ON K0G 1X0</p>	<p style="margin: 0; font-size: large;"><b>613.267.2800</b></p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: small;">31 Foster Street Perth, ON K7H 1R8</p>
--	--

[www.barkerwillson.com](http://www.barkerwillson.com)



Gravel, Sand, Washed Aggregates

Trucks & Equipment Rentals

with Operator

## SWEET'S SAND & GRAVEL

Westport Quarry | 5303 Salem Road  
 613 – 387 3838 | Seeley's Bay  
 Head Office Athens 613 – 924 2634  
[www.tackaberryconstruction.com](http://www.tackaberryconstruction.com)



# ELLEL MINISTRIES IS EXPANDING | BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

## The Centre will accommodate 45 guests upon completion

By Kent and Karen Bandy

**Kent and Karen Bandy have been running Ellel Ministries on the east shore of Wolfe Lake since early 2007. Many of us have noticed recent building activity there, so we asked them what’s going on. After all, we’re a curious bunch!**

Kent, the Centre’s director: “In 2006, long-time Wolfe Lake residents Elwyn and Beverley Derbyshire sold their family home to Ellel Ministries. At the time of purchase, Elwyn and Ellel requested permission from the local planning department to convert the existing garages into guest accommodation. Permission was granted, and the sale of the home was completed in early December 2006, but the expansion would take years to become reality.” His wife Karen adds: “Very few changes were made initially by Ellel before we opened our doors to the public as a place for people to find help dealing with trauma, depression and anxiety, addiction, marital issues, and other real-life challenges.” Ellel held their first retreat on Wolfe Lake in March of 2007.

### Building on land and waterfront

“Before the garage conversion could begin, additional land was purchased from next-door neighbours Steve and Nikki Bresee in 2014 to accommodate a larger septic field farther from the lake,” Kent continues. “Then, in 2015, the retaining walls around the boat house gave way. We wanted to save our waterfront, so new retaining walls and a boat house were completed in 2016 on the same footprint as the former one. In September 2019, new water run-off management was added to prevent erosion. The new expanded septic system was installed in the field above the facility in 2020. At long last the stage was set for the garages to be converted.”

“Demolition of the garages began at last in October last fall. The project includes converting the 12 garages into 11 accommodation suites and a commercial



kitchen. New guest parking was roughed in with the septic in 2020 and will be part of the changes being completed. Volunteers provide the labour during and around Ellel events to complete the project as the weather permits, with hope of having it finished this fall.”

“Once complete, the expansion will raise capacity to 45 overnight guests. It represents some desperately needed space for guests, which we feel the need for on most of our events. We have often juggled waiting lists and the challenges of being unable to respond to people’s needs, so we’re looking forward to being able to offer space more readily for guests to enjoy the peaceful surroundings of beautiful Wolfe Lake.”

### Considerate

For anyone concerned about the impact of Ellel’s expansion on Wolfe Lake, Kent stresses

that Ellel cares deeply for the beauty, cleanliness, and quiet of our lake community. While construction noise does carry across the water, they are careful to abide by local noise bylaws and exercise consideration for their neighbors and community, making every effort to keep noise to a minimum. Most work is concentrated off-season and mid-week, rather than on weekends, with few exceptions.

During their events, most neighbors would be unaware that anything is happening at Ellel, except of course for a few people misled by their GPS asking directions, new faces walking or jogging on Hanna Road, a bit of singing around a campfire, or a few more canoe and boat trips from their waterfront. Of course, if anyone has a concern, they are welcome to contact the ministry directly or stop in for a visit.

Celebrating Wolfe Lake with fun facts

*Did you know?*

## MANY AGM LOCATIONS

Over the years, the Annual General Meeting of the Wolfe Lake Association Westport has taken place in a wide range of locations: originally at the homes or cottages of WLAW board members, and later at Westport’s Royal Canadian Legion Branch 542, at Camp IAWAH, and at the Westport Lions Club, in their hall and outdoors on their porch.



Celebrating Wolfe Lake with fun facts

*Did you know?*

## THE GREAT BLACKOUT AND A POWERFUL TORNADO IN 2003

Cottagers around Wolfe Lake have had to deal with some serious storms in recent years, but on August 26, 2003, Wolfe Lake was hit by a powerful tornado.

Eric & Eleanor, from Hillside Lane, reported on the twister in the 2004 WLAW newsletter, with photographs by Peter Carty. The photos show an absolutely chaotic scene. Trees down everywhere, and emergency crews helping cottagers clean up the damage. Another significant tornado happened in 2021.



## THE GREAT NORTH AMERICAN BLACKOUT 2003

Shortly after 4 p.m. on August 14, 2003, more than 50 million North Americans found themselves without power. Vast swaths of Ontario, including our own region and the entire area from Windsor to Ottawa, along with much of the northeastern United States from the Atlantic coast to Chicago, came to a standstill, as traffic lights, office buildings, subways and airports shut down. Fortunately, the 2003 blackout was short-lived, and power was restored in most regions the next day. The

Province of Quebec was not affected because its power supply was not part of the Lake Erie transmission loop, a system of lines circling Lake Erie. Some folks wonder whether eastern Ontario has become a tornado hot spot in recent years. Since 2018, there have been at least 9 confirmed tornadoes in the region. In a given year, Ontario typically sees 12 to 13 tornadoes, mostly between Windsor and Barrie, with some in eastern Ontario as well. However, Environment Canada meteorologists say it's

hard to be definitive about whether the region has seen an increase in tornadoes. Environment and Climate Change Canada does not include our recent regional storm in their annual Top 10 Weather Events. (Source: [cbc.ca](http://cbc.ca) and [Canada.ca/environment-climate-change](http://Canada.ca/environment-climate-change)).





# THE SCIENCE BEHIND VEGETATED SHORELINE BUFFERS

## Why the **Ribbon of Life** Matters

By Anna Rijk

We all love our shoreline, our access to the lake. Wolfe Lake seems to have fairly healthy shorelines, thanks to the efforts and protective measures undertaken by so many of our members, cottage owners and year-round residents alike. But it's an issue we need to keep on top of: protecting our shorelines is tremendously important for the health of Wolfe Lake. Here's why.

Watersheds Canada is a national charitable organization committed to providing programs to communities across the country that work to engage and help shoreline owners enhance and protect the health of lakes and rivers. It has recently published a report entitled 'The Science behind the Ribbon of Life.' The 'Ribbon of Life' is the natural shield protecting our freshwater lakes, rivers, and streams. It is what mitigates erosion, protecting the beauty and property values of waterfront properties. It is a haven for wildlife. It is a key natural feature increasing resilience to climate change for people and wildlife.

Watersheds Canada's survey of nearly 200 Ontario freshwater stakeholders found that the science of inland water ecosystems was the least understood area of shoreline stewardship.

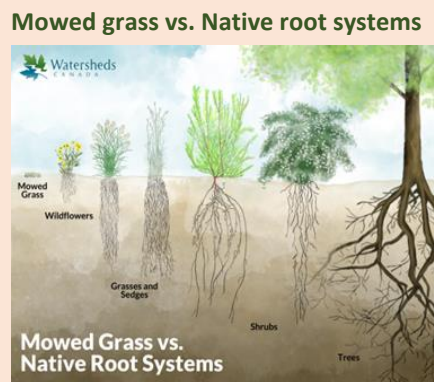
By restoring shoreland vegetation, creating opportunities for environmental net gains, and promoting sustainable development practices, the 'Planning for our Shorelands' program, led by Watersheds Canada, highlights natural climate solutions to common waterfront challenges.

Vegetated shoreland buffers, a.k.a. the 'Ribbon of Life', are essential to the health and sustainability of Canada's freshwater. According to numerous scientific studies, vegetated shoreland buffers:

- o naturally protect the water quality of lakes, rivers, and streams by intercepting harmful pollutants;
- o mitigate erosion;
- o provide food and shelter for wildlife, including many at-risk species;

- o contribute to the beauty and economic value of waterfront properties;
- o protect freshwater ecosystems from the impacts of climate change.

By maintaining or restoring native vegetation, we can help achieve holistic protection for waterfront properties and ecosystems.



The root systems of native trees, shrubs, wildflowers, grasses, and sedges reduce the erodibility of soil beneath the ground through the aggregation of soil particles and their attachment to organic materials produced by the plants and nearby fungi (Mitchell & Hirschi, 2012). In areas with low to moderate wave action, vegetated buffers will reduce the risk of bank destabilization and erosion over time.

On properties where mowed lawns extend to the water's edge, the root system below the soil is extremely limited, contributing to destabilization of soil and higher rates of runoff that make it to the water. This changes when native trees and shrubs are introduced or maintained, as their root systems are significantly deeper and denser than mowed and manicured lawns.



## Quick Science!

**I.** *Nutrients and other pollutants bind to sediments in the soil and are carried by runoff towards a body of water (Goharrokhi et al., 2021). Sediment entry into lakes or rivers from shoreline erosion not only affects water clarity, but can also contribute to pollution and eutrophication. In some situations, shoreline erosion can contribute up to 10% of a waterbody's total nutrient load (Hewlett et al., 2014).*

**II.** *The way in which shoreline erosion is mitigated or controlled has significant impacts on aquatic ecosystems. In a 2020 study of Big Rideau Lake, Dr. Auston Chor et al. (2020) discovered changes in aquatic species communities and a significant decrease in woody debris and macrophyte (aquatic plant) richness on shorelines armoured with riprap or retaining walls.*

Why not check out Watersheds Canada's report on "Planning for our Shorelands" to learn how Ontario waterfront communities are implementing this initiative.

The Watersheds Canada document includes useful infographics to help landowners and decision-makers make sustainable land use decisions during the development process. You can find the pdf on our website: [wolfelake.org](http://wolfelake.org) or go to: [watersheds.ca/planning-for-our-shorelands/](http://watersheds.ca/planning-for-our-shorelands/)

Source: [watersheds.ca](http://watersheds.ca)

Pinecone is located in a quaint 19th century general store, in the heart of cottage country in picturesque downtown Westport.



### Cottage, Home & Garden



We feature decadent bodycare products, a vibrant collection of hand-picked home and cottage lines, contemporary fashion and accessories.

Come and explore our backyard secret garden with its rustic and offbeat assortment of garden art and other outdoor accessories

23 Church St, Westport (613) 273-7788  
www.pineconewestport.com

## RIDEAU LAKES RADIO



JOHN L. PRINGLE  
STATION MANAGER

JOHN@RIDEAULAKESRADIO.FM

613-893-4099



RIDEAULAKESRADIO.COM

**Westport**  
 **Home**  
 hardware  
 4 Church Street  
 613-273-3142  
 Paint, Plumbing, Electrical

### It is time to renew you MEMBERSHIP



The Wolfe Lake Association Westport offers secure online payment through Paypal. Or pay by eTransfers. Visit the website and look for the 'membership' option.  
www.wolfelake.org

## Scott Blair Construction



Licensed and Insured

- New Homes • Renovations
- Decks • ICF Foundations

R.R.2 Westport  
ON. K0G 1X0

C. (613) 561-6484  
H. (613) 273-9161

ScottBlairConstruction@gmail.com



# Linda Hanna is a **passionate** crafter

## A CREATIVE DOER KEEN ON SERVING HER COMMUNITY

By Anna Rijk



Linda Hanna loves crafting gifts for others - with her sewing machine, with paper and glue or even with wood. Although she has a job that keeps her busy 24/7, she has managed to turn her craft hobby into a successful small business, called Farmhouse Home-made Gifts. Whenever she has a moment, she escapes to her well-stocked 'she-shed' on Hanna Road, just south of Wolfe Lake. "For me, it is a perfect escape to get my mind off our day-to-day stuff, and it relaxes me."



"I have always been crafty, but really got into sewing and making crafts when we had a young family. I sewed a lot of their clothes and did many crafts with them after school. Doing it inspired me to look for more challenging craft projects for them. In those days, finding ideas was different than it is now. I would go to libraries, watch what other crafters in our area did, and browse through craft magazines. Nowadays, there is the internet," she confesses with a big smile, "which makes it so much easier and less time-consuming to find ideas for my own unique gifts."

"I am confident about my craft ideas and turn them into small treasures for my customers." Farmhouse Home-made Gifts offers a wide variety of gift-wrapped small items for teachers, family, school bus drivers and loved ones, including holiday-themed gifts for Halloween, Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Easter. She has



even developed her own line of gifts for your favourite pooch. Linda sells her products from home, at craft fairs from Kingston to Sydenham and Perth and, of course, in Westport.

### Farming

Linda grew up in Prescott, and spent some time in Westport as a child. Later, she came back to the village, where she met her husband-to-be Don

in 1977. She began as a farmer's wife, living and working in our fully functioning farmhouse and helping with the farmwork on their dairy farm. At one point she and Don had 110 head of cattle.

After they sold their dairy quota and cows in 2003, Linda and Don turned to raising other people's children. "We have been fostering for more than twenty years now. It's a very fulfilling occupation, but it means that crafting always comes in second place."

"My days are typically fully booked. Usually I get up really early, at around 5:30 a.m., prepare for the day, wake up the foster kids at about 7, and get them dressed. After the morning routine of breakfast and getting them set up for the day, I drive the older ones to school, mostly in the Kingston/Brockville area. I come back with the little ones and organize play time. I like to spend a lot of time outside. And there are weekly scheduled appointments and therapy sessions for the kids to attend. All

to explain that I can only work on my crafts when I can find some time between all the daily tasks and activities."

### Future

When asked where she sees herself in 5 years, she doesn't have to think twice: "My dream is that, when I retire from fostering, I would like my small craft and gift business to grow, and use my craft hobby to keep busy." She does not currently offer courses but, when the time comes, she would be eager to provide opportunities for customers to learn more about different crafts, sign-making, quilting and other fun sewing projects, or preparing for holidays or birthdays. Her she-shed is large enough to host small groups.

### Farmhouse Home-made Gifts on Facebook

Linda uses her Farmhouse Home-made Gifts page on Facebook to share her cute and meticulously crafted gifts for kids and grownups alike. Her goal is to make her gifts available to family, friends, neighbours, and the greater Westport area. She even has customers in Ottawa. Parents, caregivers and teachers buy her crafts as mini gifts for their groups and classes. Many friends purchase her gifts for major holidays, but she also gets many requests to make gifts for birthdays and private events, and can easily personalize them. Contact Linda by private message on her Facebook page. She will go out of her way to assist you with your gift needs.





## SPLASH DOWN | Celebrate the lake, but be safe Let's practise responsible lake recreation

We all love Wolfe Lake. It's our pride and joy! We fish, boat, watch wildlife and so much more. Although every lake changes naturally over time, human activities can dramatically affect the health of a lake. That's why we need to respect ours. There are many things we can do to reduce our recreational impact on our pristine lake to ensure it remains healthy and safe for everyone to enjoy in the years to come.

### Boating

- Know the speed limit! Keep boat speeds under 10km/hour within 30 metres of the shoreline and follow posted speed limits.
- Keep your wake small near swimming and high-use areas.
- Enjoy motorized sports far from shore to prevent erosion and protect nests. Many birds nest along the shoreline, including our lovely loons, a species at risk.
- Keep music and boat noise to a minimum.
- Refuel your boat away from the water or use a spill control device if filling your tank on the water. Be prepared to clean up a gas or oil leak if it occurs.
- Clean, drain and dry your gear after visiting another lake to avoid spreading invasive species and diseases.
- Pull the plug. Remove the drain plug while transporting your watercraft—it's the law!

### Fishing

- Handle fish with care and minimize the time they are exposed to air. Practise your fish identification skills. Be a responsible angler.
- Follow Ontario Fishing Regulations to help ensure the sustainability of the fishery and to increase the survival of fish that are caught and released.
- Make sure to remove ice-fishing shelters before the end of the season.

### Other smart tips

- Lead kills wild birds. Stop using lead fishing sinkers and jigs. There are environmentally safe, lead-free alternatives available to sportspersons, non-toxic products made from steel or tungsten-nickel-iron blends.
- Dispose of human and animal waste properly when enjoying recreation on or near a lake.
- Do not swim or wade (or allow your pets to swim or wade) in any areas where blue-green algae (cyanobacteria) are visible. Luckily, blue-green algae are rare in Wolfe Lake.
- Leave plants, waterfowl and other wildlife where you find them.



# SUPER SUB SANDWICHES | Always a hit!

## Dagwood meets Submarine ☺

By Lisa Arsenault



Lisa Arsenault loves to be busy in the kitchen. This time around, she explains how to make a great super sub: “When you’re entertaining a crowd, this is always a hit. Think Dagwood meets Submarine! Prepare at least 3 hours early, the day before is best. If you ask me, sandwich-making can be elevated to a whole other level. A really good one can brighten up a dock lunch, make friends, and maybe even win over those neighbours you don’t often see.”

### WHAT YOU NEED

A baguette, long and narrow, at least 20 inches long  
Try to pick one that’s nicely rounded

#### Side One

Swiss cheese, don’t overlap  
Hot salami slices, double layer and overlapped  
Thinly sliced onion rings  
Sliced green olives, enough for colour

#### Both Sides

2 tbsp olive oil, divided  
Oregano  
Cayenne

#### Side 2

Swiss cheese, don’t overlap  
Roasted red peppers, halved not strips  
Thinly sliced green peppers for colour (or else sandwich is too thick)  
Thinly sliced tomatoes, single layer

### WHAT YOU DO

1. Halve the loaf lengthwise and hollow out the centre leaving a shell ½” thick. Discard the centre or conserve for another purpose.
2. Drizzle both hollowed shells with oil and season with the oregano and cayenne.
3. Layer each side with the ingredients as listed above.
4. Press together and wrap tightly in tin foil. Place in fridge with a board on top and weighted down with some tin cans for 3 hours or overnight.
5. Slice with a serrated knife to serve. Magically, the sandwich holds together.

## #BeWake Aware

The shoreline and the people on it often bear the brunt of the energy a wake produces. Thank you for being mindful of the wake your boat produces!

### DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE

I MAKE CUSTOM MAGAZINES, MEMORY BOOKS, FOR FAMILIES, COMPANIES & OTHER GROUPS



I CAN HELP YOU WITH MANY COMMUNICATION PROJECTS

anna-rikk@outlook.com



Let's meet up in Westport



For Wolfe Lake cottagers and residents Westport is the 'go to' village for just everything. It's packed with tons of charm and shop after shop of unique finds, a well-stocked grocery store, lots of great restaurants, coffee shops, craft beer bars and ice creameries.

The local shop owners and businesses not only make this town a gem but are also graciously supporting the Wolfe Lake Association Westport.

Want to know what is going on this summer?

Find out on [www.whatsonwestport.ca](http://www.whatsonwestport.ca). It's all about community and local business coming together to share, promote and support the events that will be happening this summer.

8 Concession St. Westport 613.273.2075

# Rideau Insurance

PROTECTING PEOPLE'S INTERESTS SINCE 1967

**PARTNERS FOR A REASON.**

[www.rideauinsurance.com](http://www.rideauinsurance.com)



**PUZZLE SOLUTIONS | Kids' pages**

Hey guys, did you get stuck on this year's puzzles at all? If so, here you'll find the solutions to Critters Riddles and Who am I, as well as to Sheep Sheep Sheep on the KIDS' pages 47 and 48. Just turn the magazine around to find them.

**CRITTERS RIDDLES AND GIGLES:** A. To get to the other side! B. They use bear conditioning! C. Because they forgot the words! D. A rabbit! E. They drink hot croak-o! F. Because they have honeycombs! G. Because all his uncles were ants! **WHO AM I?**—A raccoon. **SHEEP SHEEP SHEEP:** The riddle says all but seven run away, meaning there are seven left who didn't.







**WATERCOLOUR**  
**WESTPORT**



## NEW HOMES FOR SALE IN WESTPORT

Live in cottage country year round in Westport. Bring an end to the cottage commute and enjoy the beauty and tranquility of a cottage style home in Watercolour.

Until the construction of Watercolour, living in the village boundary of Westport was reserved for a fortunate few. In Watercolour, Land Ark Homes has been delivering on its promise of quality, exceptional service and innovation. As its tenth community and over 30 years experience in residential construction, Land Ark is setting a new standard in Canada for environmental stewardship in home building and land planning.

Every home in Watercolour Westport is Net Zero Ready - ready for solar panels to make it fully Net Zero. Each home is equipped with a cold climate air source heat pump for heating and cooling, hybrid hot water heating, triple pane windows, electric vehicle charging station rough-in and a roof that is solar panel ready. Battery backup technology can also be installed for peace-of-mind resiliency to energy disruptions. Living in Watercolour saves on energy costs and reduces damaging greenhouse gas emissions from the home.

Start enjoying a home year round in cottage country within walkable distance to the harbour-front, Sand Lake beach and all the village amenities. You can simplify in cottage style and still have the gathering place for your family and friends to build memories you will always treasure.

Come and see the beautiful interior of our model home or take a virtual tour on our website.



Connect with our sales team 343-944-4849 or visit [WatercolourWestport.com](https://WatercolourWestport.com)



# Lyons Goodfellow FURNITURE



BEDROOM  
SPARE ROOM  
DINING ROOM  
LIVING ROOM  
BEDROOM  
SPARE ROOM  
DINING ROOM  
LIVING ROOM  
BEDROOM  
SPARE ROOM  
DINING ROOM  
LIVING ROOM  
BEDROOM  
SPARE ROOM  
DINING ROOM  
LIVING ROOM

Sales Staff Available for Appointment: 613-273-2064

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY



51 Concession Street Westport, ON  
lyonsofwestport@gmail.com

# WESTPORT MARKET

ARTISTS, MAKERS, FARMERS

SATURDAYS  
MAY-SEPTEMBER

38 CONCESSION ST. WESTPORT

WHATSONWESTPORT.CA

## THANK YOU | 2023 LOCAL ADVERTISERS

Herlehy Home Building Centre (2), Westport Brewing Co (24), Bergeron Clifford (24), Embers of Perth (45), Life is Good Genuine Neighbourhood Shoppe - Jake by the Lake (45), The Horse Effect (45), The Cove Country Inn (51), Rosebush Energies (51), Thake Home Comfort Centre Heating & Cooling (52), Barker Willson Barristers and Solicitors (52), Tackaberry Sweet's Sand & Gravel (52), Pinecone-Cottage Home & Garden (56), Rideau Lakes Radio (56), Westport Home Hardware (56), Scott Blair Construction (56), IDA Westport Village Pharmacy (59), Kawartha Dairy (60), Rideau Insurance (60), Norris's Bait & Tackle Inc. (60), Lyons Goodfellow Furniture (62), Westport Market (62), Watercolour Westport (61), Foodland LCBO & Beer Store Verona (63), and LD Powersports (64).



*Your One-Stop Shop!*

7 days a week • All summer holiday weekends

# FOODLAND<sup>®</sup>

LCBO

BEER STORE

Full Service Grocery • Bakery • Deli • Fresh Produce  
Butcher • Liquor • Spirits • Domestic & Craft Beer

Find us on Hwy 38, Verona, ON • 613-374-2112







*SunChaser*

WINTERIZATION  
& STORAGE

PICK-UP & DROP OFF AVAILABLE



**STIHL**



**BIG DOG**  
— MOWER CO. —

**HUSTLER**



8109 Road 38, Godfrey, ON  
(613) 374-5604

**LD**  
POWERSPORTS

ldpowersports.com

@ldpowersports

YOUR POWERSPORTS STORE

**MERCURY**

WE SERVICE ALL  
MAKES AND MODELS

**ARCTIC CAT**



**LUND**



**SEGWAY**  
Powersports Canada



**FREE**

Pick Up or Drop Off of any Unit for Service

Valid until January 1, 2024

Offer valid for any service work estimated at over \$100.  
Limit 1 coupon per customer.

**LD**  
POWERSPORTS

8109 Road 38, Godfrey ON  
(613) 374-5604  
sales@ldpowersports.com