

THE LOON CALL

Official Newsletter of the Lake Weslemkoon Conservation Association
Editor: Derek McDermott, 50-6453 Colborne St., Niagara Falls, Ontario L2J 1E7

SPRING - SUMMER
1983

Backgrounds

The Country North of Belleville

Bush land scrub land -
Cashel Township and Wollaston
Elzevir McClure and Dungannon
green lands of Weslemkoon Lake
where a man might have some
opinion of what beauty
is and none deny him
for miles -
Yet this is the country of defeat
where Sisyphus rolls a big stone
year after year up the ancient hills
picnicking glaciers have left strewn
with centuries' rubble
backbreaking days
in the sun and rain
when realization seeps slow in the mind
without grandeur or self deception in
noble strubble
of being a fool -
A country of quiescence and still distance
a lean land
not like the fat south
with inches of black soil on
earth's round belly -
And where the farms are
it's as if a man stuck
both thumbs in the stony earth and pulled

it apart
to make room
enough between the trees
for a wife
and maybe some cows and
room for some
of the more easily kept illusions -
And where the farms have gone back
to forest
are only soft outlines
shadowy differences -
Old fences drift vaguely among the trees
a pile of moss-covered stones
gathered for some ghost purpose
has lost meaning under the meaningless sky
-they are like cities under water
and the undulating green waves of time
are laid on them -
This is the country of our defeat
and yet
during the fall plowing a man
might stop and stand in a brown valley of the
furrows
and shade his eyes to watch for the
same
red patch mixed with gold
that appears on the same

spot in the hills
year after year
and grow old
plowing and plowing a ten-acre field until
the convolutions run parallel with his own brain -
And this is a country where the young
leave quickly
unwilling to know what their fathers know
or think the words their mothers do not say -
Herschel Monteagle and Faraday
lakeland rockland and hill country
a little adjacent to where the world is
a little north of where the cities are and
sometime
we may go back there
to the country of our
defeat
Wollaston Elzevir and Dungannon
and Wesimekoon lake land
where the high townships of Cashel
McClure and Marmora
once were -
But it's been a long time since
and we must enquire the way
of strangers -

From CARIBOO HORSES by Al Purdy by permission of The Canadian Publishers, McClelland and Stewart Limited, Toronto.



Camping under canvas at Weslemkoon c. 1918.

Second from the left and on the right are Wright Buckley and Howard Buckley, the latter not yet graduated from medical school. Can you help the editor with the other three campers?

No one has yet supplied the editor with an answer to last issue's quiz item on Camp Ananias.



Place Tanglewood Marina

Date Saturday, July 30, 1983

Time 10:45 a.m.

As much as possible, travel to the meeting by 'BOAT POOL' and bring your own chairs.

Association Business

Lake Weslemkoon Conservation Association, 1982 Annual Meeting Lake Weslemkoon Marina - July 30th, 1982

Notice of the meeting having been sent to the membership and a quorum being present, the meeting was deemed to be duly constituted. Mr. Paul Lee, President, opened the meeting.

Paul welcomed everyone and thanked the membership for attending. The 1982-1983 Board of Directors was introduced by Paul to the members.

Moved by Jack Hatton that the minutes of the 1981 Annual Meeting be accepted. Seconded by Harry Thompson. Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Harry Thompson presented his financial report which he had previously distributed to those attending. Moved by Hillman Dickinson that the Financial Report be accepted as presented. Seconded by Karl Austin. Carried.

WATER QUALITY

Derek McDermott discussed the report from geologist, Dr. Bill Schiltz, who had spent five hours testing the lake. Derek has the complete report if anyone wishes to study it. It was discovered during Dr. Schiltz' inspection that the lake is 70 ft. shallower than previously believed. Dr. Schiltz plans to return in the Fall for further studies of the lake.

GARBAGE

Stan Duvall asked the membership to note that the major item of expense on the Financial Statement was 'Garbage'. He repeated the old plea, 'Please put garbage in plastic bags and tie securely'. He also suggested that fish entrails be buried or, if put in the garbage, placed in plastic bags and tied.

In order to keep the garbage cribs at the Marinas tidy, Stan asked that all members assist 'the cripples' who cannot seem to toss their garbage bags to the back of the crib.

FISHING

Karl Austin reported that the lake had been stocked with 7500 lake trout approximately 4" to 5" long. The lake was not stocked with bass but he will ask for a survey in 1983. Karl suggested that for fishermen not having much luck, they shorten their lines because now it is realized that the lake is not as deep as previously believed, they must be dragging bottom.

ORDER OF COCKEYED LOONS

Grand Icheophagic Loon, Don Mackenzie, presented Order of Cockeyed Loon certificates to:

BARBARA WIPOND
WALTER MACKINNON
PAUL LEE
KARL AUSTIN
GORD GREER

with appropriate gestures.

NEWSLETTER

Bram Reed has resigned as Newsletter Editor and a vote of thanks was made to Bram for our very interesting and informative newsletter over the last several years.

Derek McDermott will now take over as Editor.

If you have a change of address, will you please send it to:

Glenn McConkey,
P.O. Box 758,
Trenton, Ontario
K8V 5W6

FIRE PUMPS

Paul Armstrong advised that the fire pump at Tanglewood Marina has been given a complete overhaul. This was cheaper than purchasing a new one. Other pumps on the lake are maintained by Gord Caruthers, Russ Massey and Weslemkoon Marina. These pumps are

privately owned.

A demonstration of operations of the fire pumps was given at the end of the meeting.

JUNIOR LOONS

Peter Sandiford (Camp No. 820) is now in charge of Junior Loons and Marilyn Nash will be assisting him. Please contact Peter or Marilyn for information and support.

LIGHTS AND BUOYS

The Association will supply a tank of propane to be used to maintain the Lighthouse from January 1st for the benefit of snowmobilers.

Paul Lee noted that Charlie Aide had once again been hired by the Ministry to maintain the water level of the lake.

Jack Hatton presented a list of C.B. owners and asked that anyone wishing to add Call Name and Camp Number to please do so. This would be made into an Emergency Help Directory for people who spend time alone on the lake.

The police have been inspecting boats on the lake and Paul advised that everyone make certain to keep equipment in boats.

A DIRECTORS' MEETING will be held at President Paul Lee's Camp at 10 a.m., Sunday, July 31st, 1983.

Moved by Gord Greer that the 1982 Annual Meeting be adjourned at 12:00 noon. Seconded by Ron Ericson. Carried.

At the last Directors' Meeting, it was suggested that owners who are going to be away from their cottages for extended periods of time, contact a neighbour who uses his cottage with some frequency and make arrangements for checking on the property.



Foot Notes

Walter MacKinnon reports that he has sold his marina.

The ice left the lake on Thursday, April 28th, later than usual because light snow this winter produced good, thick ice, and the swallows have returned.

Did you know that three varieties of orchids grow at Weslemkoon? Coral Root and Yellow Lady Slippers are found in the damp woods and Marsh Pinks grow in the green bogs.



COTTAGER POWER CAN COUNT!

Special to The Star, November 31st, 1982

Cottagers Throng To Polls

PORT CARLING -

Busloads of Muskoka Lakes cottagers have swamped three polling offices, resulting in the largest advance poll turnout in the township's history.

Returning office Ken Miller estimated that at least 95 per cent of the 1,993 voters who cast a ballot yesterday were summer cottagers.

In the advance poll for the 1980 election, only 275 people cast ballots.

Muskoka Lakes Association president, Jeff Shearer said the cottagers were urged to elect their own candidates to prevent the construction of more large-scale developments such as the \$30-million Muskoka Holiday Village Resort in Millford Bay.

The Association mounted a telephone blitz to get cottagers to go to Muskoka and vote in the advance poll.

· ENVIRONMENT ·

The following Minutes from a recent meeting of the Denbigh Council were reported by the Tweed News.

'Building inspector, Jack Pahl, acting building inspector, reported to council on a number of buildings which have been constructed without permits.

Moved by Don Wilson, seconded by Norman Inwood, that the clerk contact the township solicitor with regards to designating the township building inspector as a Provincial Offences officer for the purpose of enforcing the Ontario Building Code.

· ACID · RAIN

The Toronto Star, March 19th, 1983

The tide may be turning in American attitudes to the acid rain problem and Canadian demands for a 50% reduction in emissions by 1990 with the endorsement of resolutions to that effect at New Hampshire town meetings recently. Presidential hopefuls have to face these voters in the first primary. A task force started monitoring acid rain levels about 18 months ago and found that direct damage had been done to the ponds and streams that add so much beauty to the scenic rolling landscape of that State.

PREMIUM OIL NOT WORTH PRICE The Sunday Star, May 2, 1982

Except for the price, regular and premium grades of motor oil are virtually the same, according to chemical tests commissioned by Price Watch.

Although premium grades tended to have slightly different chemical make-up than regular grades, the differences were not significant enough to warrant some of the higher prices, our independent laboratory's chemical experts advised.

To determine the chemical composition of the oils, the laboratory used an infra-red spectrophotometer. This is a highly sensitive instrument which can chart the 'fingerprints' of the molecules which make up a substance. With this device, our chemists produced profiles of each of the test oils, superimposing the profile of the premium product over the profile for regular oil of the same brand.

'In all cases, the profiles were almost identical, indicating that chemically the premium oil barely differs at all from the regular,' the laboratory reported.

VERDICT: Technically, we could find very little difference between regular and premium grades of oil or, for that matter, between brands themselves. There may be some differences in the additives used in the various brands, but the differences do not seem significant enough to warrant some of the higher prices being charged. Our advice is to buy the lowest priced regular grade available in the category of oil you want, regardless of brand.

At the request of the Directors, the editor has prepared a 'welcome letter' for visitors to Weslemkoon touching on the history of the lake, the fishery, the Association's role on the lake, and most importantly, the issue of garbage and garbage crib cleanliness. A copy of the lake map is attached to the letter to make it more saleable. The letter will be distributed in quantity to the marinas.



Little
Mississippi R.

Aide
Creek

Figure 27.4. Bathymetry of Weslemkoon Lake. Dashed lines indicate traverse lines and heavy lines are locations of acoustic profiles reproduced as Figures 27.7 and 27.8. Samples are summarized in Table 27.1.

From: Subbottom Profiling of Canadian Shield Lakes (W.W. Shilts and L.E. Farrell 1982)

Otter
Lake



Bathymetry of Weslemkoon Lake
Contour interval = 4m
Sample location



K 161
Fraser
Creek