



The Buck Lake Association Inc.

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"To enhance people's enjoyment of Buck Lake now and for future generations"

Buck Lake News – 2011 December

President's Message

As is the custom, I will attempt to bring you up to date with the activities of your Buck Lake Association board. We are people from the lake, like you, who endeavor to effect necessary actions on behalf of all of us. We meet monthly in one of the directors' homes and produce minutes to remind us what was accomplished and what needs further attention. We are all volunteers and, **by design, we try to appoint people** who represent all constituencies of the lake including permanent and seasonal residents as well as longtime residents and relatively new arrivals. We can always use more interested people so please feel free to contact me any time. Perhaps the most important project that has been undertaken on behalf of our lake is the "Lake Report" by the Friends of the Lake committee led by Wayne Myles. This has been a work in progress for several years and is now at a stage where it can be promulgated and used to launch initiatives that can only enhance Buck Lake, its water and environs, its flora and fauna, and our quality of life. For the report to have real meaning it must be embraced by the majority of us. Unfortunately, only about a third of us, about 165, are actually members of the BLA and have paid the \$25 annual dues per family. **I would like to increase that number** to have an association that one would say truly speaks on behalf of all Buck Lakers. I therefore encourage you to join us if you haven't already done so. Let's make Buck Lake the envy of other lake associations.

Among the initiatives we are following for our mutual benefit is bringing high-speed internet service to all members. Some of us are fortunate to have line-of-sight to one of the two Xplornet towers in our area but many more are forced to use satellite or dial up; these latter solutions are unacceptable in this day and age. But more of concern for me is the lack of cell phone coverage in our lake area and along most of the length of Perth Road to Kingston. I am working on this issue with local politicians with the hope we will see a solution in the nearer term.

Other than these issues, life is great on Buck Lake. I think I golfed 10 times in November! Reine and I got out in our canoe at least as frequently. Bring on global warming!

In conclusion I would like to wish all of you a wonderful Christmas /holiday season, shared with family and friends. I encourage everyone to consider how fortunate we are to live in such a wonderful country where we can enjoy the pleasures of our lake and many amenities in Kingston without sacrifice. There are, of course, too many people in the world who can only think of where they can get their next meal. So let us be grateful and make the very best of our good fortune while sharing to the extent possible with those less fortunate.

Best wishes,
Peter Dawe



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YEAR END SPECIAL for Buck Lakers: You pay \$210 we pay the tax AND free installation next spring.

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Friends of the Lake Committee

In the last Buck Lake newsletter the Friends of the Lake committee introduced you to the concept of a lake plan and provided you with the first section from the social history of Buck Lake.

The second section, which is include here, explains the original mapping of the area and the families that settled around the lake. The names may be familiar to you and trigger memories of your time on the lake. They still appear on many road signs and mail boxes today.

The history committee along with the friends of the lake are moving forward with their goal of creating a Coffee Table History Book, of Buck Lake and the surrounding areas. It is a large task that will take many hours and many volunteers to complete. The first step in the process will be for the committee to learn how to best gather and present this history.

The social history, as presented in the Lake Plan, is one step in this journey. We hope you enjoy part two and feel free to contact the Buck Lake Association with comments, suggestions or stories of your own.

The Lake Plan Social History-Part Two Mapping the area 1860 to1878

H.F. Walling produced the first map that depicts the area well in 1860 (fig. #1). On this map we can see 10 lots that have been patented to various individuals or families, roughly as far north as where Norman Lane is today. The following names were included on the 1860 map: P.

Woodcock, S. Shibley, E. Davis, J. Silver, Mrs. Ennis, C. Smith, W. Baternore, I. Brook, M. Connolly, and C. Knowlton. The map also shows us that some of these landowners had already constructed buildings at the time of the mapping.

1860 Walling Map of Loughborough Township

Curiously by the time of the next mapping in 1878 by the Meachem Map Company (fig. #2 note the very distorted sizes of the North and South Branches on both the 1860 and 1878 maps), very few of the names from 1860 were still evident in the area. The 1878 map shows people living all around both the North and South Branches of Buck Lake, including a concentration of residents along Perth Road from Buck Lake past Devil Lake. The names on this map include: David Sears, H. Sears, William Sears, Henry Green, William Green, Jabez Stoness, N. McCallum, William See, Benjamin Aykroyd, I. Cobett, James C. Darling, Joseph Darling, C.W. Darling, Joseph Harris, George McFarlane, George Teepell, Thomas Votrey, Thomas Galliger, George Ennis, John Ennis, James Hamilton, John Richardson, John Buck, S. Hartman, H. Scott, S.W. Davis, W.E.M. Davis, S. Ennis and James Rutledge. There is one particularly dark story from these early settlers. Elijah Vankoughnet murdered John Richardson in 1881 at his home on Buck

Lake. For the murder, Vankoughnet entered the history books as the last man hanged in Frontenac County. At this point a small amount of land was still controlled by the Canada Company, a large private British company established in 1825 to aid in the colonization of Canada. The Green Family was among the first settlers of the area, having arrived from either Ireland or Chicago. The Green Family was made up of hunters, trappers, fishermen, and guides. An old Green family cemetery still sits on Roushorn Road and direct descendants of the original settlers still live on the lake.

1878 Meachem Map of Loughborough Township

As hinted to earlier, the major drivers of commerce in the area were logging and mining and the biggest entrepreneurs around Buck Lake were the Tett and Chaffey Families. In the 1860s the combined operations of John Chaffey and Benjamin Tett were milling as much as 7,000,000 board-feet per year, making them one of the biggest mills on the entire Rideau system. A substantial amount of logging occurred around Slide Lake, and the logs were slid into Buck Lake and floated up to either of the Tett or Chaffey mills. The largest concentration of logging activity occurred around Lake Opinicon, where there were three mills, owned by James Hunter, Charles Gildersleeve, and the Tett-Chaffey operation. Initially, many of the mills were sawing boards for settlers to construct houses, but as the lumber business grew, wood was being floated down to Kingston or up to Ottawa. As part of this endeavour, John Chaffey built 44 boats, tugs, and barges at Bedford Mills. Many of the logging entrepreneurs also helped open up the back country to farming. After a lot or a section of lots had been logged, they could be sold as farmland.



FIG #1 Buck Lake Map-HF Walling 1860 1

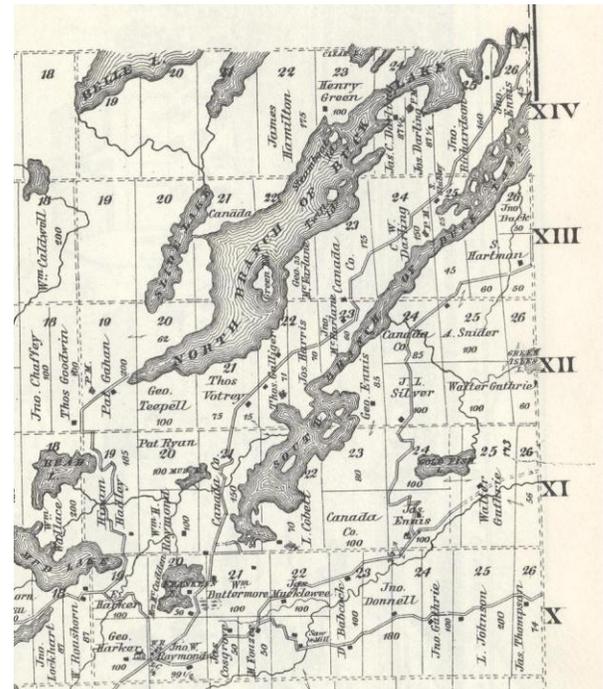


Fig. # 2 Loughborough Township 1878 1

BLACK ICE



Traffic reports often make mention of black ice during the colder weather. It can certainly sound ominous, and it's often very dangerous. But what exactly is black ice? Black ice is a thin coating of ice that forms on roadways and other surfaces. It often occurs from freezing drizzle, wind-blown snow or freezing condensation. Because black ice is so thin, the ice appears to be the same color of the surface material beneath the ice. Therefore, on asphalt roads, the ice can be nearly invisible and black in color hence the name. Unlike snow or ice that is readily visible, black ice is very hard to see, which makes it very dangerous for motorists. Drivers should treat wet-looking roads with caution during the cold weather. What may appear to be water is often black ice. Traction is limited on ice, so spinouts and accidents may occur if the driver is not careful.

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Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Buck Lake Rider Cup organizing committee, please accept our sincere thanks for your generous donation to this community tournament.

As you know, it is an event that enables our Buck Lake neighbours to get together for a fun afternoon of golf, camaraderie and a great dinner, while raising money to support worthwhile causes, such as the Easter Seal's "Camp Merrywood -Send a Kid To Camp" project, or the Rotary Boys and Girls Club, to name two.

We appreciate your ongoing support of this tournament and look forward to another great year.

Sincerely, Sandra Rider, Marilyn O'Connor, Boyd Barr, & Gord McLellan

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HYPOTHERMIA

DEFINITION: Hypothermia is a condition which occurs when the body loses heat faster than it can generate it. It can affect a person gradually over a period of time such as enjoying a winter activity or suddenly such as falling into a stream of open water. Hypothermia can cause death and should be treated in its earliest stages.

SYMPTOMS: As the body's core temperature begins to drop, the first symptom will be when a person begins to shiver. Most of us have experienced this stage getting a last run on the ski slopes or watching an outdoor sport. Most of us also make the error of doing some kind of physical exertion to warm up. This just saps the body of needed energy. After the uncontrollable shivering, a person will begin to slur their words, and stumble. The victim's brain is not functioning to capacity and is not giving the vital organs the instructions needed to do their jobs properly. As the brain activity continues to slow, the victim will become incoherent and make unrelated statements or declarations. At this point a hypothermic person cannot make any decisions to help themselves. The next symptom is when a person wants to rest more often and even sleep. If a hypothermic person is allowed to sleep at this point, the person will in all probability never awake. Death will follow.

TREATMENT: If you are alone, then you must make decisions before it's too late. Act rapidly. Get yourself warm somehow. Start a fire. If you have fallen into open water, time is critical. If possible, locate a home or cottage nearby. If no one is home, break in and get a fire going. **DO NOT FALL ASLEEP!** Get out of your wet clothes. Wrap yourself in blankets. Get

warm beverages into yourself. Never drink alcohol. Get help if any is available. Report the intrusion as soon as practical.

If you are not alone, the cardinal rule is to believe what you are seeing and not what the victim is saying. Do not believe when a victim tells you "I'm fine. Just let me rest a little". Take charge and make decisions for the victim. Get them out of the wet clothing. Share some of your clothing with them. Start a fire! If a blanket or sleeping bag is available, get the victim in it. Join them and share body heat. Do not let the victim sleep. Get warm liquids into the victim. Do not give them alcohol. If a bathtub is handy, submerge the victim in warm water. Get help.

Ross Trudel, Wilderness Survival Instructor

The "Walk On" program for this fall started the week of 31 Oct., and will end on March 30, 2012. There is no schedule of activities, people merely turn up and walk inside Perth Road Public School, where it is dry & comfortable. The building is open for "walkers" from 5pm to 6pm on Tuesday and Thursday each week, provided that there are school classes held that day. The "walk" is run by volunteers, and is a friendly and relaxed time, where you are able to participate at your own pace, for a short stroll, or the full hour. For further info, please contact Volunteer Muriel Kuhn @ 353-1690.

Latest Winter forecast

November 28, 2011 — the winter of 2011 / 2012 will be a 'typical' one across much of the country. Canadians can expect a similar winter to last year with the re-emergence of La Niña. Find out more as The Weather Network meteorologists release their outlook for December 2011 and January and February 2012.

Ontario

Wintery weather will be off to a later than average start in southern sections. Temperatures will be above normal extending east of Lake Superior through the Nickel-Belt and Ottawa valley and south across the Lower Great Lakes. Near normal temperatures will be felt elsewhere and the entire province can expect near normal precipitation. Southern sections will likely have more frequent than usual changeovers from snow to rain, especially during the first month or so of winter. Such changeovers can bring an increased risk of freezing rain.

The Perth Road Store is publishing a newsletter that has items of interest happening in our neighbourhood. If you wish to receive the newsletter, you may sign up by sending Faye your email address. The link is below.

Perth Road Store Newsletter perthroadstore@xplornet.ca

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Thank you to Ron Matthey by Crawford MacIntyre:

On Sunday, November 27, a group of us met at the site of the Buck Lake Hamlet; where there is now in position an attractive sign marking this historical spot. A brief ceremony took place to commemorate the new sign and to acknowledge its significance to us as the current community of Buck Lake.

We spoke of how the concept of the sign was initiated by the Buck Lake Association. We recognized how we were indeed a community, best represented by our commitment to Camp Merrywood and Easter Seals through the annual Boatilla event. And finally, we recognized what a significant role our Ron Matthey had in all of this.

For some time now, Ron and I have been trying to connect so that I could get material from him to write his profile for this newsletter. As it turns out, this profile coincides with his leaving the Lake for a new stage in his life further north. It is now a "Cheerio" and a message of thanks to him for the contribution he has made.

Ron was born in London, England, and after missing by one spot in the 25 students allowed to go to grammar school following his 11 Plus exams, he trained and apprenticed as a printer pressman. He joined the RAF at 17 just before WWII ended. (Ron claims it's no coincidence that Hitler committed suicide just after Ron joined the war.)

On his return to England he was remustered to the RAF Police and assigned to Paris for two years. He later concluded his apprenticeship, and over the years worked for every London newspaper on Fleet Street.

By the time of the Hungarian Revolution in 1956 and the Suez Crisis, Ron and Maureen had two sons. Concerned about further hostilities involving Britain, Ron and Maureen looked to Canada to move their family. They were impressed with Lester Pearson's peacekeeping initiative in the Middle East, and thought that if this is the way that Canada approached things, that's where they wanted to be. He and Maureen and family immigrated to Canada in 1957.

Ron commenced working in the print business in Winnipeg, eventually becoming president of Local 35 of the Printers Union. He later applied for and secured a position with the Federal Department of Labour as an Industrial Relations Officer. He rose through the ranks, eventually becoming Director of the Great Lakes Region.

Ron retired in 1988 and found his home for the next 23 years at 7373 Perth Road. Around 1996-97 Buck Lake was subject to many break-ins and thefts, attributable particularly to one young man known unaffectionately as "Brain-Dead". Rick Smith raised the idea of a Community Watch and Ron volunteered for this and organized its start. He became the voice of the Buck Lake Watch over these many years.

Ron and Maureen had always believed in putting as much as they could into their community. Maureen joined the Perth Road Crafters, and eventually served as president. As a group they raised funds for an extension to the Community Hall. Ron built the kitchen cabinets

and supported the crafters for many years. He and Maureen joined a Kingston seniors association. He found that he had a talent for writing, and eventually became the leader of its writers' group. He then took an interest in wood carving and helped in researching the history of Perth Road Village.

When the crime issues settled down around the lake Ron suggested to his Watch Committee that they turn their energies to doing something else for the community—the Boatilla was thus created, and Ron has been the figurehead for this since 2005.

When the BLA decided to erect a sign to mark the site of Buck Lake Hamlet, Ron volunteered to design and craft it. It looks great! It sits on top of the concrete wall at Ken Young's home on the west side of Perth Road.

Two years ago Ron was honoured by South Frontenac Township as "Volunteer of the Year". It is not only that Ron has volunteered and contributed so much, it is that he has done this with so much dignity, style and class. People that have never met him feel that he is their friend—because that's how he comes across when they read his Buck Lake Watch missives. He values tradition and history, and each year represents all of us at the Remembrance Day Services in Sydenham.

When you do meet Ron he usually has a twinkle in his eye, and has an avuncular manner that instills warmth, trust and friendship.

So Ron—this sign you have made is obviously staying at Buck Lake longer than you are going to. Whenever I look at it as I pass, I will see it as a symbol of our community here, but it will also make me think of you. Thank you for all that you have done for us. [Crawford MacIntyre](#)

