

# Pike Lake Post

*Special Canada 150 Edition Summer 2017*

*The Pike Lake Association turns 50  
on July 2, 2017*



*Something to sing about  
This lake of ours!*

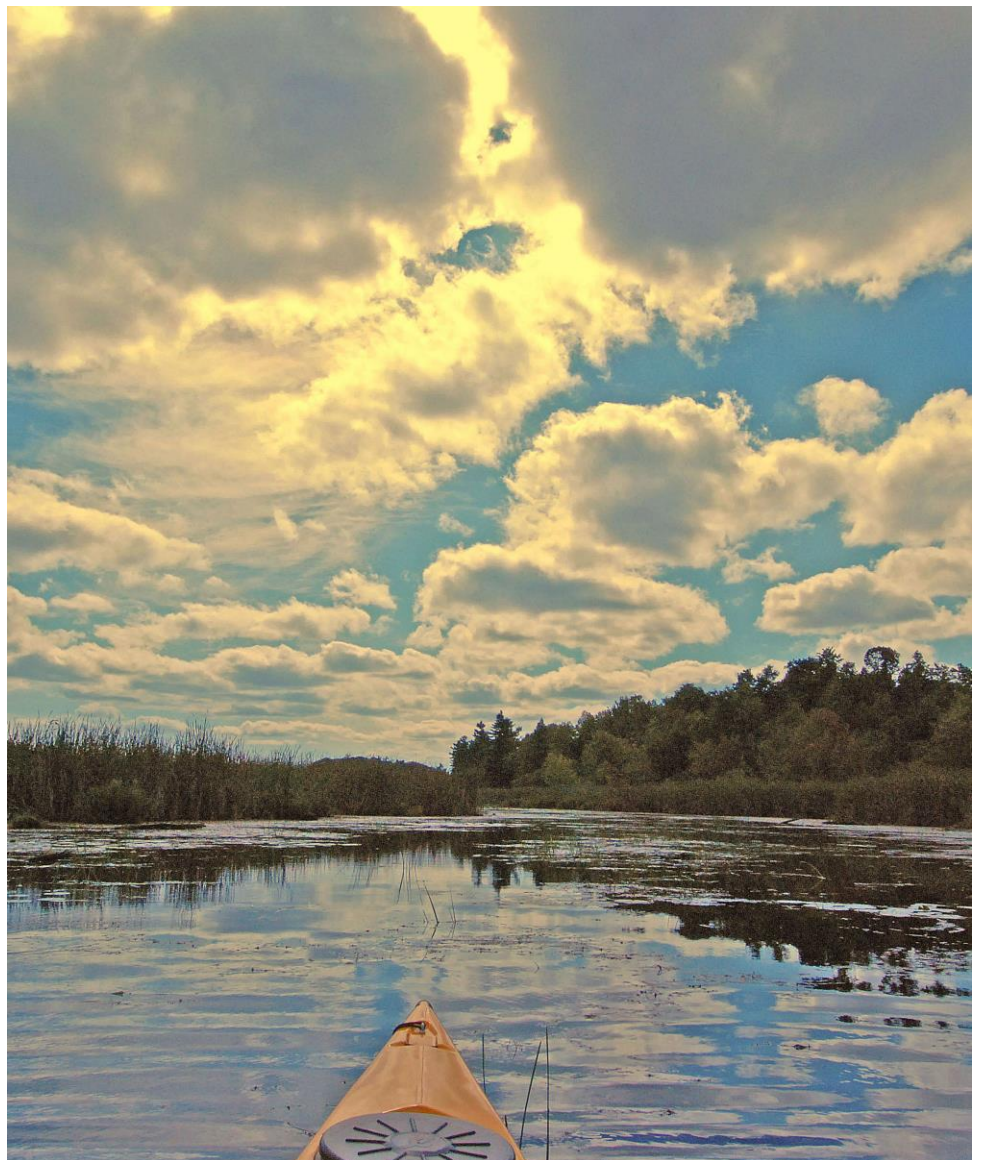


- *Let's Celebrate BBQ*
- *Snapshot of Pike Lake's History*
- *The Lure of the Lake*
- *Legacy Cottages*
- *Photo Memories*



**CANADA 150**

*Keep up-to-date about  
Pike Lake at  
[www.pikelake.ca](http://www.pikelake.ca)*



**Entering the Marsh by Gord McCallum  
Winner of the Pike Lake Photo Contest**

## NEWS FROM YOUR PIKE LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

### Your PLCA Board for 2016 - 2018

*Working to keep Pike Lake healthy for all.*

**President** Adrienne Fowlie Larocque

**Past President** Terry Kimmel

**Vice-President** Linden Davidson

**Secretary** Brenda Arthur

**Treasurer** Marty van Gaal

**Membership** John Duguid

**Lake Steward** Eric Minglinckx

**Communications** Suzanne Forget

**At large** Jack Anderson

**At Large** Cheryl Fosbery

**At large** Kristine Martin

### Achievements & Actions 2016 - 2017

- ✓ Developed a draft new constitution & policy manual which will be put forward for approval by members at this year's AGM; see p.4
- ✓ Purchased liability insurance; see p.4
- ✓ Investigated improvements to the boat launch & the feasibility of marker buoys, see p.4
- ✓ Supported MNRF's assessment of Pike Lake's walleye spawning bed enhancement project; see p.10
- ✓ Undertook water quality testing & analysis through RVCA's Watershed Watch Program; see p.7
- ✓ Participated in the Canadian Lakes Loon Survey; see p.7
- ✓ Over 100 people attended our 5<sup>th</sup> annual *Let's Celebrate Pike Lake Boatilla & BBQ*; see photos pages 8-9

### Financial Summary 2016

Balance December 31, 2015 \$16,156.43

Balance December 31, 2016 \$15,169.86

### Submissions for the 2017 Pike Lake Post

Poem by Grace Ekholm, photo collage by Kate Brian & painting by Mila Petrovic, all young Pike Lakers, on p. 9. We received a wealth of fab photos – 120 in all – from 18 Pike Lakers. A selection is sprinkled throughout the *Post*.

### Free Pike Lake Map with Your Membership

Available at the AGM & the BBQ

### Thank You to Members of the Pike Lake Community

- ✓ John McNamee who shared his father's notes about the founding of the Pike Lake association
- ✓ All who served on the Board from 2014-2016
- ✓ All who helped make our 2016 *Let's Celebrate Pike Lake Boatilla & BBQ* a big success
  - Brenda Arthur & John Duguid, our five-time hosts, & Brenda for baking the Canada Day cakes
  - Mathew & Steven Arthur for helping with the boats & BBQ
  - Mark Godby & Doug Sinclair, our BBQ'ers
  - Peter Lidington, our photographer
  - Mandy Berikland, Tom Braithwaite & Kelda Sinclair, our judges
  - Heather Gauthier for the display of old-time toys & games for kids
  - Frank Roy, Friends of the Tay Watershed, for the informative display
  - Freda Godby, our general helper extraordinaire
- ✓ Jane Lindsay for facilitating our Town Hall Meeting in August
- ✓ Naomi Fowlie, Mark Godby, Kathy Noxon, Bart Poulter, & Anne Ruggles plus Board members Cheryl Fosbery (chair) & Kristine Martin for their work to draft a new constitution
- ✓ All who shared their views on our proposed new constitution
- ✓ Richard Cormier for reviewing our 2016 financial records
- ✓ Trisha Paul Carson for preparing refreshments at the 2016 AGM & the Town Hall Meeting
- ✓ Sandy Alexander, Betty Bone, Linden Davidson, Bev McParland, & Doug Sinclair – our diligent Pike Lake "Loonies" who counted & tracked loon pairs & chicks
- ✓ Walter McNamee & Jack Anderson for escorting the RVCA for water sampling
- ✓ Bill Sibbit, Morgan Sibbit, & Theo, Mathis & Dalelle Mensour for undertaking the annual island & campsite clean-up
- ✓ Dan Trottier for his ongoing assistance with the walleye spawning bed enhancement assessment
- ✓ The Volunteer Fire Fighters for putting out the fire on Big Island on July 7
- ✓ Trisha Paul Carson, Cathy Cameron, Audrey Cook, Aili Kurtis, Gord McCallum, Nick Mulder, Bart Poulter, Kay Rogers, & members of the Board for delivering the 2016 *Pike Lake Post*
- ✓ Joanne Laucius & Kay Rogers who produced the 2017 Special Edition of the *Pike Lake Post*

**Pike Lake Community Association  
Annual General Meeting**

**Saturday July 15**

Coffee & Registration at 8:30

Meeting 9:00 – 11:30

BVM Hall

Stanleyville

Between Stanleyville Rd & Narrow Locks Rd

- ✓ Meet Your Neighbours
- ✓ President's Report
- ✓ Vote on the Proposed Constitution & Policy Manual
- ✓ Treasurer's Report for 2016 & Proposed Budget for 2017
- ✓ Lake Steward's Report
- ✓ Marker Buoy Project
- ✓ Tay Valley Township Updates

*You can find the following on the PLCA website:*

- ✓ the 2016 AGM draft minutes
- ✓ the 2017 AGM agenda
- ✓ the proposed constitution & policy manual
- ✓ the 2016 financial report & 2017 proposed budget
- ✓ Officers reports

For more info visit [www.pikelake.ca](http://www.pikelake.ca)

***Let's Celebrate Pike Lake +  
Canada 150!***



***Eric's Famous Pig Roast***

***Old-time Games for Kids of All Ages***

- ✓ Prizes awarded to kids who submitted entries to the Pike Lake Post
- ✓ Presentation of Legacy Cottage Plaques

***4-7 PM Saturday August 5***

*At Eric & Danielle's*

*4389 Scotch Line at Country Lane*

*Drive or Dock on Grants Creek*

***Purchase Your Tickets by July 30***

***Tickets available at the AGM & from  
Board members***

*Adults: \$10; kids 6- 18: \$5; kids 5 & under: free*

***We hope to see you & your guests there!***

***Rain date Sunday August 6***

***Boat-in***



The Fowlie & Sibbit families invite you to the 6<sup>th</sup> annual boat-in movie night. Join your neighbours for this family-friendly event at sundown **Saturday August 5** (rain date Sunday August 6). Look for the big screen on the boat house on Route 17A.

Over the past year, your Board has followed up on a number of issues discussed at the 2016 AGM as well as continuing with our annual initiatives.

**Proposed New Constitution** Over the past two years, members of the Constitution Committee held two Town Hall Meetings & conducted a survey with the goal of obtaining the input of members of the Pike Lake community on the proposed new constitution. The committee also reviewed the constitutions of neighbouring lake associations. In drafting the proposed new constitution & policy manual, the committee followed the Ontario Government format for constitutions, as well as the most current version of Robert's Rules of Order as the final authority on parliamentary procedures.

We hope the proposed new constitution & policy manual reflect your collective vision for the PLCA. These documents will be available on our website [www.pikelake.ca](http://www.pikelake.ca) by June 21. Voting on both documents will take place by ballot by registered members at the AGM on July 15.

**Liability Insurance** The Board purchased Commercial General Liability Insurance, & Directors & Officers Liability Insurance at a total cost of just under \$1,000. Given the inherent risk of running an organization such as the PLCA, the Board felt it appropriate to seek protection for the Association, its members, volunteers & directors. Eighty percent of FOCA's member associations have this type of insurance protection.

**Boat Launch** The Board discussed the option to improve the boat launch with the Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry (MNRF) who told us that the boat launch was built to accommodate boats that could safely navigate Grants Creek. Specifically, it was designed in accordance with MNRF guidelines for creek access & built to accommodate watercraft no bigger than a 16 foot boat with a 25 hp motor. The MNRF does not want to make any changes to the boat launch that would not be in keeping with this original intent.

We are in discussions with MNRF about the possibility of installing parking signs with the hope that better signage would help ensure that user parking practices take trailer turning areas into account.

### Marker Buoys

The Board consulted lake associations with marker buoy programs, the Coast Guard & Transport Canada (TC), the department that establishes regulations governing marker buoys.

#### Our key findings

1. Liability insurance is a must for any lake association considering implementing a Private Marker Buoy program.
2. It is imperative that all Private Marker Buoys placed on a lake adhere with TC approved Private Marker Buoy specifications. This applies to associations as well as to individuals. Hence, for example, if you wanted to place a Private Marker Buoy in front of your property, you would need to follow all TC regulations under the Canada Shipping Act, 2001 Private Buoy Regulations, which outline the size, construction & anchoring requirements for buoys.

If an individual or an organization does not respect these regulations, it could be found negligent if a non-legal buoy causes or contributes to a boating accident. Detailed information can be found on Transport Canada's web site under "An Owner's Guide to Private Buoys".

[www.tc.gc.ca/Publications/en/TP14799/PDF/HR/TP14799E.pdf](http://www.tc.gc.ca/Publications/en/TP14799/PDF/HR/TP14799E.pdf)

3. Marker-buoys that meet TC regulations cost an average of \$350.00 each.

The Board recognizes a Private Marker Buoy program would contribute to increased safety on the lake. However, there are costs & volunteer hours required by for a successful program as well as liability issues to consider.

### Fire Safety at the Cottage

The Board sent a personal thank you note & plaque featuring the article in the Perth *Courier* about the fire on Pike Lake to the volunteer fire department along with the annual donation of \$100. The article on fire safety at the cottage on page 5 provides info on response times & what each of us can do to reduce the risk of fires.

#### **Your Input Welcome Year-Round**

The PLCA welcomes your comments, suggestions & questions. Speak to a Board Member, e-mail us at [info@pikelake.ca](mailto:info@pikelake.ca), or write us at Pike Lake Community Association, RR3 Perth ON K7H 3C5



### Fire Safety at the Cottage

Summer is vacation time, but fire doesn't take a vacation. The *Pike Lake Post* asked Fire Chief Greg Saunders, whose jurisdiction includes Tay Valley, for tips about preventing & controlling fires.

Q What equipment should every cottage have?

A Every cottage should have working smoke alarms on each level of the cottage & a carbon monoxide alarm if a fuel-burning appliance is being used. If you have a bunky used for sleeping, it should also have an alarm. A fire extinguisher to provide fire suppression is also useful. Cottagers should know their road name, lot number, geographic location, & township when calling 911.

Q It must be difficult to get a fire truck down a cottage road. What's response time like in Tay Valley?

A Some private roads create issues for emergency vehicles. We recommend that you keep the brush cleared a minimum of four feet on each side of the road & 20 feet high for the big trucks to access. If a fuel truck or propane truck can access your property then we should be able to access it. However, we are bringing a lot more vehicles at once. As for response times, they will vary depending on road conditions. Fire response to Pike Lake is from our fire hall in Perth at 14 Sherbrooke Street. We can usually respond out of the hall within five minutes from the time of the alarm, but arrival time depends on how far away you are.

Q What do you advise cottagers to do about controlling or extinguishing a fire while waiting for help to arrive?

A If you have the means to control a fire using a fire extinguisher or hose & it is safe to do so, that's fine. However, don't put yourself in danger. Just get out of the building or area & wait for help to arrive.



*Fire on Pike Lake July 7, 2016 caused by campers who did not douse their campfire sufficiently. Photo by Cathy Squires.*

Q Cottages tend to have older construction. Are there any measures to help prevent fires?

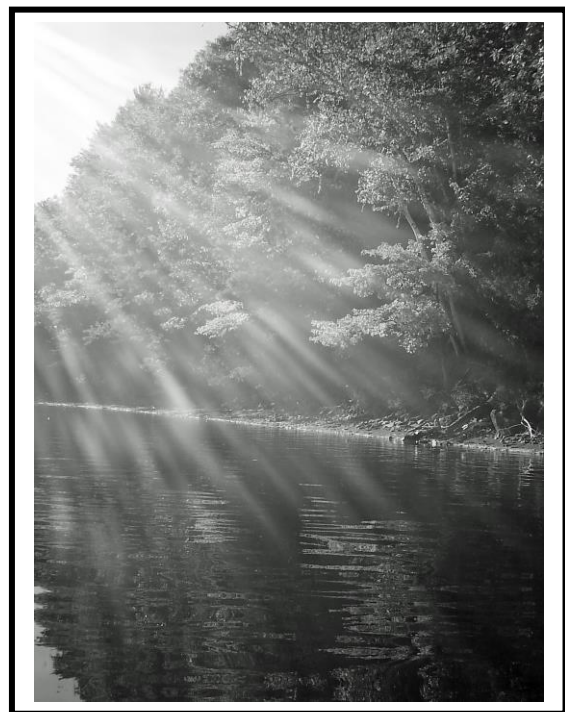
A Make sure you have a working smoke alarm(s) & CO alarm. Check for damage to electrical wiring from mice, or have it checked by a professional. Have heating systems checked annually, especially chimneys. Clean combustible materials such as leaves & pine needles from cottage roofs. This will help if a bush fire is close to the cottage.

Q: We have had a few island fires on Pike Lake. What can be done?

A: Island fires happen once every few years in our area. The main cause is an unattended camp fire or improperly extinguished fire after a party or camping. It's hard to police this issue, as most islands are on Crown land. If you see an island fire, call 911 as soon as possible. The best thing to do is try to accommodate the fire department with a boat, as we will need assistance getting there.

### Your Submissions Welcome!

The PLCA invites Pike Lakers to submit tall tales, photos, poems, & stories for the 2018 *Pike Lake Post*. Speak to a Board Member, e-mail us at [info@pikelake.ca](mailto:info@pikelake.ca), or write us at Pike Lake Community Association, RR3 Perth ON K7H 3C5



Owl & Sign by Cheryl Fosbery.

Aerial View of the Cook Cottage by Glenn Cook.

Streaks of Sunlight by Karen Hyndman.



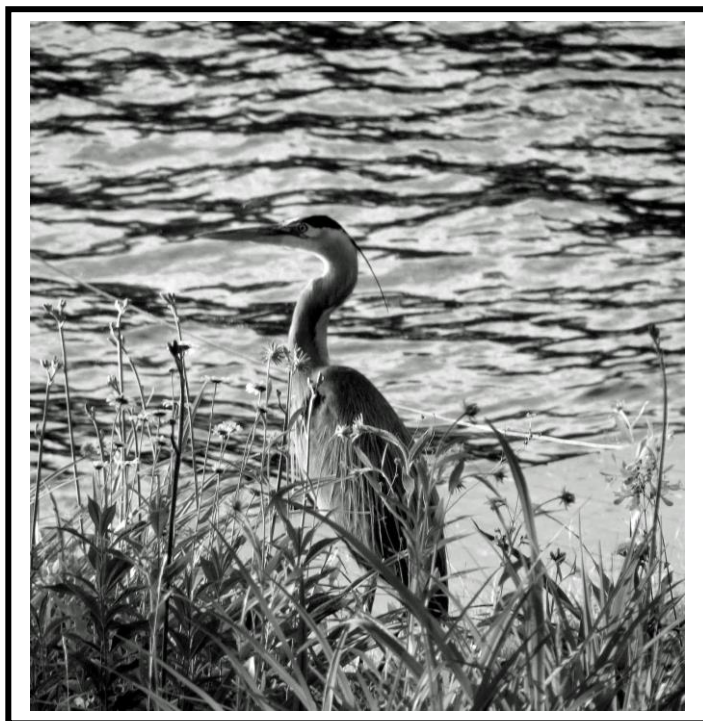
Aili Kurtis enjoying the clear frozen surface of Pike Lake by Victor Konrad: a winning photo.

Loon pair & chick about to enjoy fresh fish by Michael Bowkett.

The only Sail Fish ever caught in a fresh water lake (Aug. 1999).

Photo courtesy of Roly Hawkins. *Editors' note: clearly the recipient of the humour award.*





Snowy Owl by Richard Murphy” a winning photo.

Baby Snapping Turtle in hand by Cathy Cameron.

Adult Snapping Turtle by Naomi Fowlie.

Great Blue Heron by Linda McGuirl.

# CANADA 150 QUIZ FOR THE FAMILY

## Canadian eh?

- What is Canada's oldest city?
  - Quebec, Quebec
  - Halifax, Nova Scotia
  - Ottawa, Ontario
  - St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador
- The name "Canada" comes from the Iroquois word "Kanata" which means what in English?
  - Maple leaf
  - Village
  - Coast
  - Land of the free
- Canada is the world's second largest country by land mass
  - True
  - False
- Which Canadian city is the only city north of Mexico that still has fortified walls?
  - Montreal
  - Halifax
  - Quebec City
  - St John's
- Which of the following was not invented by Canada's First Nations or Inuit?
  - Goggles
  - Snowshoes
  - Skiis
  - Tobaggan
  - Kayak
- How many time zones stretch across Canada's vast landscape?
  - 3
  - 6
  - 8
  - 1
- Alert, the northernmost permanently inhabited place on Earth, is located in which Canadian territory?
  - Yukon
  - Nunavut
  - Northwest Territories
- What was the name of the secret routes & safe houses used by 19th-century slaves, led by Harriet Tubman, in the United States to escape to Canada?
  - The Underground Railroad
  - The Highway to Freedom
  - The Great Canadian Escape Route
  - The Freedom Tunnel
- Who wrote the popular novel *Anne of Green Gables* in 1908, which has since been translated into 15 languages & inspired two films & a musical performed in Charlottetown every year?
  - Lucy Maud Montgomery
  - Margaret Atwood
  - Alice Munro
  - W.O. Mitchell
- Canada has a large population of the world's biggest land-based carnivore (meat-eating animal). It is the:
  - Grizzly bear
  - Brown bear
  - Black bear
  - Polar bear

The questions were taken from the Citizen & Immigration Canada website *How Canadian are you eh*  
[www.cic.gc.ca/english/games/how](http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/games/how)  
There is a different set of 20 questions every time you play.

## Answers

- St. John's Newfoundland & Labrador (1583), Quebec City (1608), Montreal (1642), Halifax (1749).*
- Village*
- True. Russia is the largest country by land mass; Canada is second largest closely followed by China & then the USA.*
- Quebec City is the only city north of Mexico that still has fortified walls. Quebec's entire historic district has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site.*
- Skiis. Around 1850 artisans in Telemark, Norway invent the cambered ski. The Inuit developed bone, antler & ivory goggles to prevent blinding snow glare while they hunted. Snowshoes for winter travel were almost universal among Aboriginal people in Canada outside the Pacific & Arctic coasts. The first toboggans were used by hunters to carry furs & meat after a hunt over snow & ice. The original animal skin covered kayaks were long, narrow covered boats used to hunt seals & walrus across the frigid arctic waters.*
- Six time zones. From west to east, the time zones are: Pacific, Mountain, Central, Eastern, Atlantic, & Newfoundland.*
- Nunavut. Alert is the northernmost permanently inhabited place in the world, at latitude 82°30'05" north, 817 kilometres (508 mi) from the North Pole*
- The Underground Railroad*
- Lucy Maud Montgomery*
- Polar bear (Ursus maritimus) Inuit poetry refers to the polar bear as Pihogahiak, "the ever-wandering one." Polar bears spend many months of the year at sea hunting seals, their main dietary staple, & can swim & run long distances. Adult males normally weigh 350 to 600 kilograms. Adult females normally weigh 150 to 295 kilograms. Scientists usually refer to how tall bears are by measuring them at the shoulder when on all fours. Adult polar bears are typically 1-1.5 meters tall. An adult male may reach over 3 meters when standing on its hind legs. Rapid loss of sea ice is the primary threat to the polar bear's long-term survival.*



## SUBMISSIONS BY YOUNG PIKE LAKERS



### Pike Lake

By Grace Ekholm

Pike Lake is great, I'm not gonna' lie.  
When I come here, I joyfully cry!

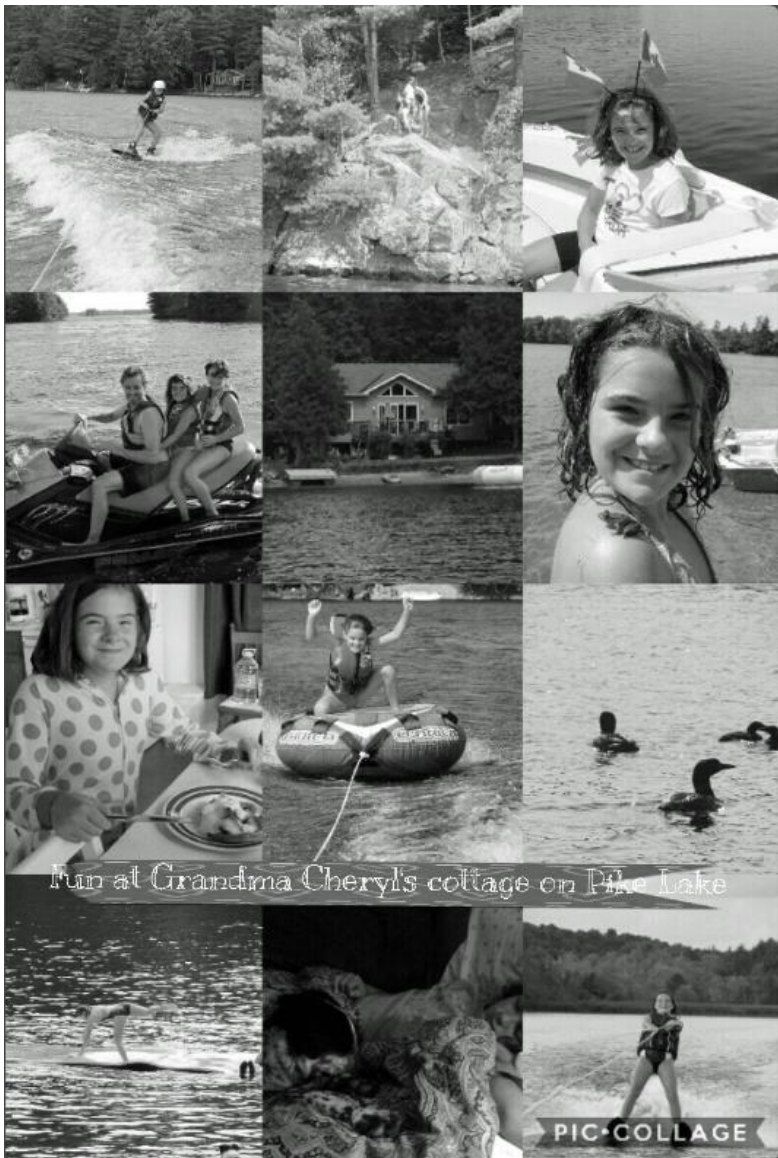
I like the water, I like the land.  
I like to play, in the soft sand.

I like the frogs, I like the fish.  
Seeing them all, is my only wish.

I like tubing, I like water skiing.  
When I'm here, happy I'm being.

I like having fireworks at our cottage  
home.  
When I'm here, I'm never alone.

I like the lake, I like the pond,  
All these things, are things that I'm fond.



Top left: photo of 10 yr. old Grace Ekholm  
taken at the 2016 *Let's Celebrate Pike Lake BBQ*.

Left: *Fun at Grandma Cheryl's Cottage*, a photo  
collage by 10 yr. old Kate Brian.

Bottom painting by 3 yr. old Mila Petrovic  
who described her painting as *Quinn's cottage  
house with a pink window & d purple door, the lake I  
see a frog in, a tree where Birdies sing songs in the  
morning time & rainbows. I LOVE rainbows!!!*

### Loon Survey

Pike Lake was again home to many common loons, with the first reported observation being on May 13 in Jamieson Bay. Five pairs were reported, but unfortunately we did not watch any chicks fledge – no young were observed in 2016.

However, over the course of our common loon surveys, other species of water fowl were observed. Of particular interest, on May 22, an aquatic bird family with five chicks was reported. The common loon has a clutch size of 1-2, & they nest in late May/early June with hatching 26-29 days later. Therefore, it was unlikely to have been a loon family. Experts at Bird Studies Canada thought this was likely a family of mergansers (fish-eating diving duck).

On June 19th, a loon pair was observed swimming with a smaller loon with grey-brown & white colouring (rather than black & white). The common loon is territorial, so you won't see pairs of them swimming together (other than mates); however, they will swim with other loon species. This smaller loon was likely a red-throated loon on its migration back north.

Pike Lake's survey report was submitted to the Bird Studies Canada Canadian Lakes Loon Survey program, & will contribute to a long-term data set of loon populations on Pike Lake specifically, & in Canada more generally.

We are always in need of "loonies". If you would like to volunteer, please email the PLCA at [info@pikelake.ca](mailto:info@pikelake.ca).



A pair of Common Mergansers enjoy the open water the day the ice went out: May 13, 2107,  
by Gerry Greenslade.



Common Loon by Gord McCallum.

### Assessment of Walleye Spawning Bed Enhancement Project

With the assistance of the PLCA, the Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry (MNRF) is assessing the effectiveness of the walleye spawning beds enhancement project on Pike Lake.

In 2013 the PLCA received a \$4,000 grant from the MNRF's Fisheries & Wildlife Involvement Program to enhance existing walleye spawning beds on Pike Lake. PLCA volunteers placed clean round river rock of a specific size & shape in a V shape out from the shore of two existing spawning beds selected by MNRF.

PLCA Lake Steward, Eric Mingelinckx, is surveying walleye spawning beds on Pike Lake to inform the MNRF's assessment of the project's effectiveness. Eric is following the MNRF "Walleye Watch" protocol to count the number of walleye observed on the spawning beds during the spawn. The date of the walleye spawn is dependent on the temperature of the water; hence, surveys are done every second evening from the time water is about 5 or 6C degrees to 7 or 8C. Unlike many other fish, walleye eyes reflect light. Therefore, surveys are done in the evening when they are most easily observed. The number of fish observed will indicate the degree to which the spawning beds are being used. Survey results will inform the MNRF's recommendations on next steps for the project at Pike Lake.



### Algae & Aquatic Plants: Research Study Findings

*From the report by Dr. Jesse Vermaire, Institute of Environmental Science, Carleton University, 2016*

#### Take aways

- ✓ Invasive species & nutrient enrichment are factors we can try to control to help reduce the volume of plant material
- ✓ We can build ecological resilience to protect the water quality by maintaining conservation efforts

#### Help reduce nutrients from entering your waterbody

- ✓ Create a natural shoreline buffer to prevent nutrient runoff.
- ✓ Make sure you have a properly working sewage disposal system.
- ✓ Eliminate the use of fertilizers on your property especially those containing phosphorous.
- ✓ Watch your wake while boating. Maintain the legal maximum of 10 kilometers per hour when within 30 meters of the shore.
- ✓ Try to keep organic matter like leaf piles & compost 30 meters from the water's edge.

For more info including the report, google [www.rvca.ca](http://www.rvca.ca) & follow the links to Algae Watch.

### Water Quality

Pike Lake again participated in the Watershed Watch Program, assisting the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) with its seasonal water sampling. The RVCA reports that Pike Lake water sampling results for 2016 are comparable to recent years; there were few samples with elevated nutrient concentrations & none with elevated E. coli samples. The only nutrient exceedances occurred at Site D (Donnelly Bay) in June. This site has previously been identified as having high nutrient concentrations & is likely influenced from the wetland area upstream. No invasive zebra mussel or spiny water flea specimens were observed. On account of the drought conditions, sampling did not occur in the fall as planned.

Programs to help property owners protect Pike Lake's water quality include RVCA's Shoreline Naturalization Program.

### Shoreline Planting

RVCA's Shoreline Naturalization Program will be planting more than 5,000 native trees & shrubs along waterways this spring. These new plants will help protect water quality, reduce erosion & enhance wildlife habitat.

Want to get in on the action? Program staff can help you design your own shoreline naturalization project. Custom planting plans, native plants & assistance with planting are all available through this program. Subsidies are available for plant material & labour. Contact Meaghan at 613-692-3571 ext.1192 or [meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca](mailto:meaghan.mcdonald@rvca.ca) for more information.





## LET'S CELEBRATE PIKE LAKE

Winning Boats  
identified by a  
"blue ribbon"





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*BOATILLA & BBQ 2016*

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## THE LURE OF THE LAKE

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An Excerpt from *At Home in Tay Valley*, Kay Rogers, Editor

*It was a summer full of camping, fishing, boating, & all round fun, the kinds of summers experienced by youngsters in Ontario lakelands where families of country, town & city found relief from work-day life. A Boy's Country Diary, 1904.*

In the decades immediately following Confederation in 1867, a convergence of developments fostered the emergence of summer cottages & the arrival of tourists on our lakes & rivers: the notion that “nature” was a wholesome place to be preserved & visited; a growing middle class with sufficient disposable income to afford a vacation; & modern transportation in the form of railways & improved roads.

Big Rideau Lake was the first in the area to boast cottages. Fancy Free, the oldest cottage still standing, was built for the Washburn family of Smiths Falls in the late 1870's. Contrary to images of stern Victorians, early photos show people happily at play in the water around the cottage in canoes, rowboats, skiffs, sailboats & graceful wooden boats – with small new-fangled gasoline powered motors.

Another early cottage was built on Christie Lake in 1892, by R. J. Drummond, manager of the Bank of Montreal in Perth. By that time, people were already enjoying Christie Lake, or Christy's Lake, as it was called. In *Arden Blackburn's Mail Route*: John McKenty writes: “Drawn by the beauty of the lake & its plentiful fishing, as early as the 1880s, Perth's professional & business elite had begun to arrive at the lake in their horses & buggies. While some chose to camp in makeshift tents on the shore of Gravelly Bay, others chose to stay at the boarding house of Alexander & Isabella Palmer. . . “

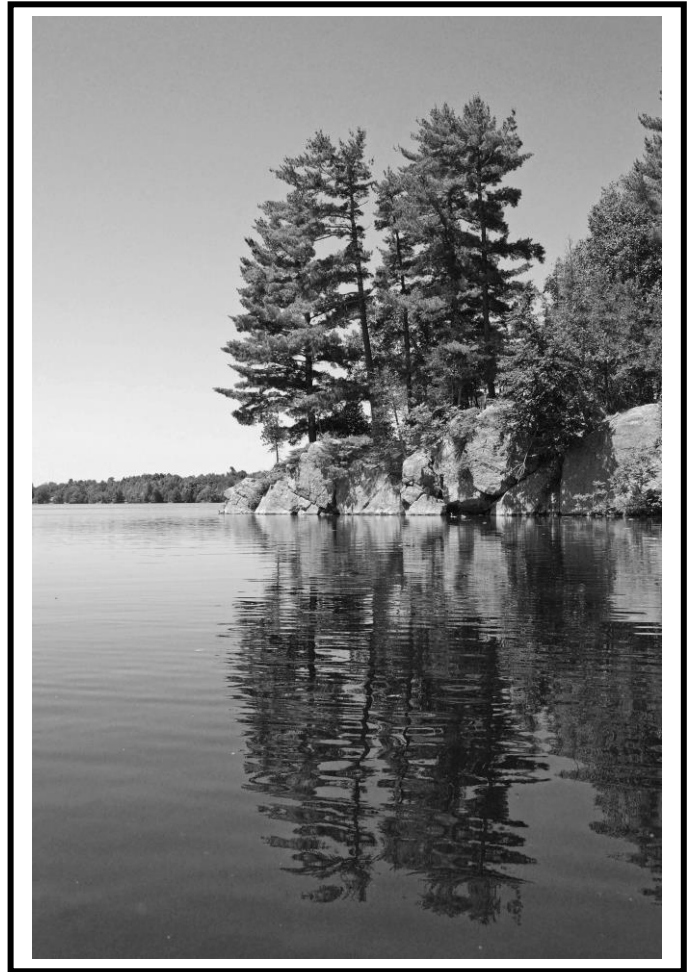


Photo by Gord McCallum.

“Ho! For Christie's Lake on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May. One hundred & fifty people are expected at the Christie's Lake summer resort on above date to participate in yachting, boating, angling, or a swing in the hammock ... A first class dance hall is convenient for those who may wish to indulge in a trip of the light fantastic.” (*The Perth Courier* May 17, 1895.)

Nearby, at the northeast end of Otty Lake, George Kerr, owner & operator of the Perth Bottling Works, built a cottage in the late 1880s, closely followed by the Farmer cottage which remains in the family to this day. By the 1920s, there was a lively scene surrounding the Otty Lake Park (also known as the Connaught Hotel or Bungalow Inn), where Perthites went for picnics, boating, swimming, baseball games, & Saturday night dances featuring well-known bands of the era.

Over at Pike Lake, Mary McGlade & Michael McGlade of Smith Falls built their cottage in 1890; Ravensdale remains in the McGlade family to this day. Cottaging was slower to develop on Pike Lake than Otty or Christie lakes. It was another three decades before there was a second cottage: Fiddies Retreat was built at the other end of PL in 1919 by Bill Cameron. Then, in 1931, John & Lena McParland sold land for a cottage on route 11 to Robert & Lena Jamieson



for whom Jamieson Bay was named. That same year, Bob Hudson built a cottage on Route 7. He also introduced pickerel into the lake. A few years later, in 1936, Sylvester & Carmel McNamee built the first of their rental cottages.

The two decades following the Second World War proved a boom period for cottages on Pike Lake & in Tay Valley Township more generally for three key & interrelated reasons. First, introduction of the five-day work week in the 1950s, together with two weeks' paid vacation for most workers mandated by the Canadian government in 1951, allowed people more leisure time. Second, higher wages & disposable incomes meant that more people could afford to purchase an automobile & could, therefore, drive to cottage country. Third, farmers realized people were interested in buying their waterfront land for family cottages, rental cottages, marinas, & lodges. Today, few parcels of vacant land remain on our lakes & rivers.

Since the beginning of this century, two major changes have occurred in cottage country. One is the trend among retiring baby boomers to convert their cottages into year-round residences. The other is increased awareness of the unfortunate, & undoubtedly inadvertent, negative impact human activity has had on our lakes, as well as the potential impact of climate change. Episodes of excessive weed growth, invasive species, & more recently, incidents of blue-green algae have served as calls to action for waterfront property owners, as well as to Tay Valley Township, the conservation authorities, & others. As the story about putting a frog into a tank of warm water & gradually increasing the temperature tells us, there is a tipping point beyond which it is too late. In response, many lake associations in Tay Valley & other municipalities across Ontario have developed lake stewardship plans to protect the health of their lakes & their surrounding environment for present & future generations.

Since the emergence of cottaging well over a century ago, generations have grown up spending at least part of the summer at the cottage & as a result, have built a treasure trove of memories of "camping, fishing, boating, & all-round fun" with their families, friends, & neighbours. Cottage living continues to lure people to the many lakes & rivers of Tay Valley Township.

As Canadian author & journalist Bruce Hutchinson wrote years ago,

Boats & cabins are among the few stable things left in a mad, reeling world to indicate the quiet abiding rhythm that endures beneath the outward disorder of our times.



Sunset on Pike Lake by Peter Liddington.



Look at me, I'm flying!  
by Maureen Cunliffe.

### **1816**

First settlers receive land on Pike Lake;  
most from County Armagh, Ireland  
Donnelly 1834  
McNamee 1839

O'Neil (later Andersons) circa 1846  
Bennett 1849  
McShane 1850's  
McParland 1916

Kerr 1840's; acquired land on PL in 1920's.

### **1850's**

William Allan builds dam in order that PL  
could serve as a reservoir for his mill.

### **1867**

Confederation of Canada.

### **1870**

Part of PL consumed by the Great Fire of  
1870.

### **1890**

Mary McGlade & Michael McGlade build  
Ravensdale, the first cottage on PL.

### **1936**

Sylvester & Carmel McNamee begin their  
cottage rental business.

### **1930's**

Pickerel, aka walleye, introduced into PL.

Horse-drawn stagecoach between Perth &  
Westport still operating; the stagecoach  
driver would stop at Watering Hole Hill  
(near PL Rte 6) to change his team of  
horses for the second half of the trip.

### **1958**

Cal & Donna Moodie arrive; establish a  
cottage rental business &, in 1965, open  
the marina.

### **1966**

Group petitions MNR to rebuild dam.  
MNR agrees on condition public access  
provided & lake association established.

At meeting on Sept. 3, property owners  
agree to form a lake association.



Artwork by Lewis Parker.

Long before the settlers arrived, this was the home territory & hunting grounds of the Algonquin. They generously shared their knowledge, showing the new arrivals how to make snowshoes, hunt & trap, forage for medicinal plants & herbs, build birchbark canoes, & produce maple syrup.



O'Neil, later Anderson, log home.  
Original water colour by Marguerite Anderson.

## *A SNAPSHOT OF PIKE LAKE'S HISTORY*

### **Interim PL Assoc. Committee**

Cal Moodie elected Interim President

Sylvester McNamee VP

John McParland Secretary Treasurer

Directors: Tom Donnelly, M. Lloyd, H. Pratt,  
Ted McParland, Howard Byrnes, W. Gibson  
Also present: Nork O'Reilly, & Paul Abbott;  
both their descendants still have the family  
cottage on PL.

### **1967**

July 2, PL Property Owners Association  
officially formed.

### **1970**

New dam completed; Grants Creek dredged;  
water level higher

Ted & Ella McParland, with the support of  
the Ministry of Tourism, set up the Pike Lake  
Trailer Park with space for 50 families.

### **1989**

Bill Nasi produced the first Cottagers Map.

### **1994**

Rob Bone published the first edition of the  
*Pike Lake Post*.

### **1998**

The Ice Storm was the largest national  
disaster to strike eastern Ontario & western  
Quebec since the Great Fire of 1870.

### **2001**

PL water quality testing results: grade D.

### **2011**

*Lake Stewardship Handbook* published &  
distributed to all properties on PL.

*Voices of Pike Lake* published with over 40  
contributors; nominated for the Ontario  
Historical Association award for local history.

Pike Lake Community Association adopted  
as the new name for our lake association.

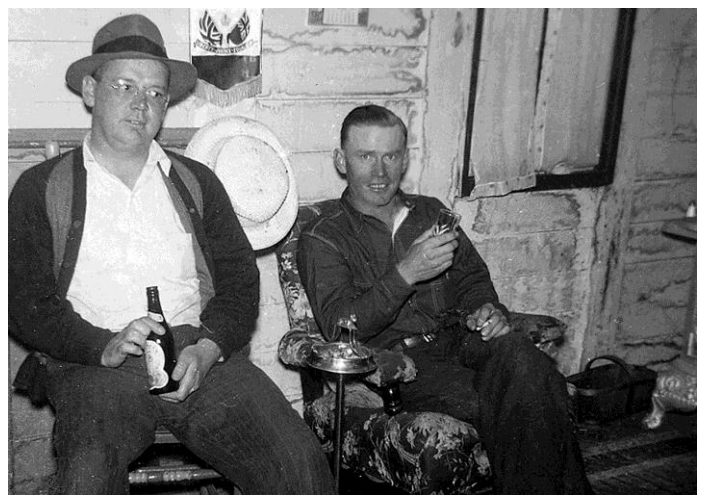
### **2013**

PLCA received the Outstanding  
Achievement Award from the Federation of  
Ontario Cottagers Association (FOCA) in  
recognition of many initiatives to protect &  
improve the health of PL.



Twin Oaks: The Third Cottage on Pike Lake

Jim Cuthbertson, John Cuthbertson, & John L McParland circa 1934.  
Photo courtesy of Barbara Cordukes.



Happy Gallagher & Sylvester McNamee at McGlades Island,  
1939: the oldest cottage on Pike Lake (1890). Photo courtesy of  
John McNamee.



Cal Moodie, Greg Murphy, Bob Nixon & Cliff Thompson (Game  
Warden) ling fishing January 1962. Photo courtesy of Donna Moodie.



## PIKE LAKE'S LEGACY COTTAGES

### Legacy Cottages A Lanark County Canada 150 Program

Lanark County, home to a multitude of lakes, rivers & creeks, wishes to recognize the contributions that members of the cottage community have made to our communities by honouring those families whose cottage has been in the family for 50 years or more by designating their cottage a *Legacy Cottage*. Unlike a heritage building, there are no legal restrictions associated with the legacy cottage designation – a *Legacy Cottage* designation is commemorative only.

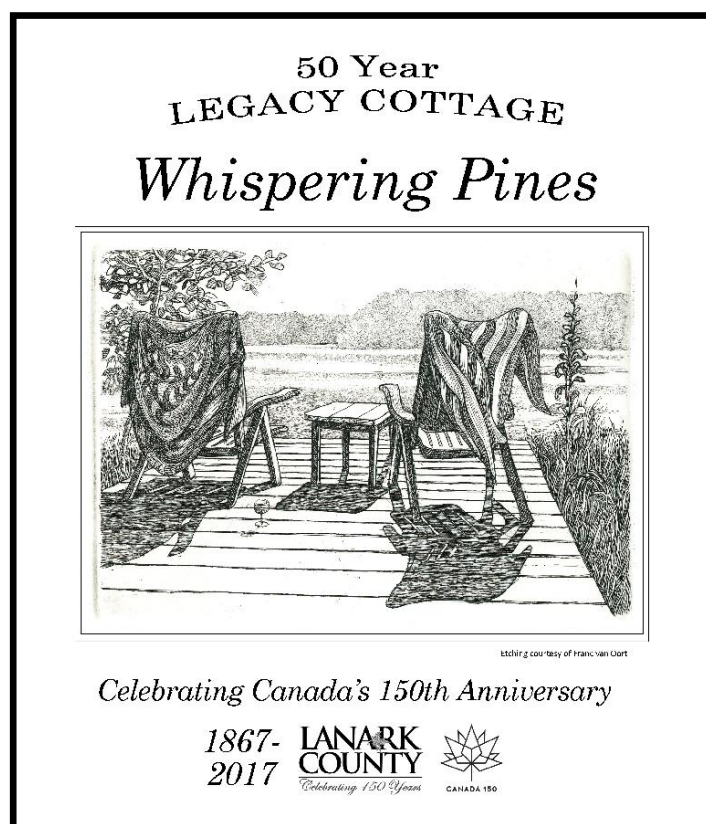
The Legacy Cottage plaque features an etching courtesy of Tay Valley Township artist, Franc van Oort.

### Presentation of Legacy Cottage Plaques

**Saturday August 5**

### At the *Let's Celebrate Pike Lake BBQ*

Keith Kerr, Tay Valley Township Reeve, Bill Dobson, Lanark County Warden, & Adrienne Fowlie Larocque, PLCA President, will present the plaques to Pike Lake Recipients.



### Congratulations to Pike Lake Recipients of Legacy Cottage Plaques

| Family Name                                    | Route              | Cottage Name                        | # Years |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Thomas McGlade & Katherine McGlade             | Island off Route 1 | <i>Ravensdale / McGlade</i>         | 127     |
| David Seabrooke                                | Seabrooke Lane     | <i>Fiddies Retreat</i>              | 98      |
| Phyllis (Everett) Hepton                       | Route 1C           | <i>The Hepton Family</i>            | 61      |
| Brenda Arthur                                  | Country Lane       | <i>Kerr</i>                         | 57      |
| Donna (Cal) Moodie                             | Route 13           | <i>Moodies</i>                      | 59      |
| June & Ray Audet                               | Route 11           | <i>Beechcrest</i>                   | 54      |
| Dave & Linda McGuirl                           | Route 1            | <i>Sunset Hollow / The McGuirls</i> | 54      |
| Grant & Naomi Fowlie                           | Route 17C          | <i>Fowlie</i>                       | 53      |
| Barbara (Bill) Cordukes                        | Route 11           | <i>The Cordukes</i>                 | 51      |
| Maureen Cunliffe, Cheryl Fosbery & Susan Niles | Route 17           | <i>Raymond Cottage</i>              | 50      |
| Brenda & Andy Kenny                            | Route 17A          | <i>Er's Place</i>                   | 50      |

## CATCH OF THE DAY & BEST PALS



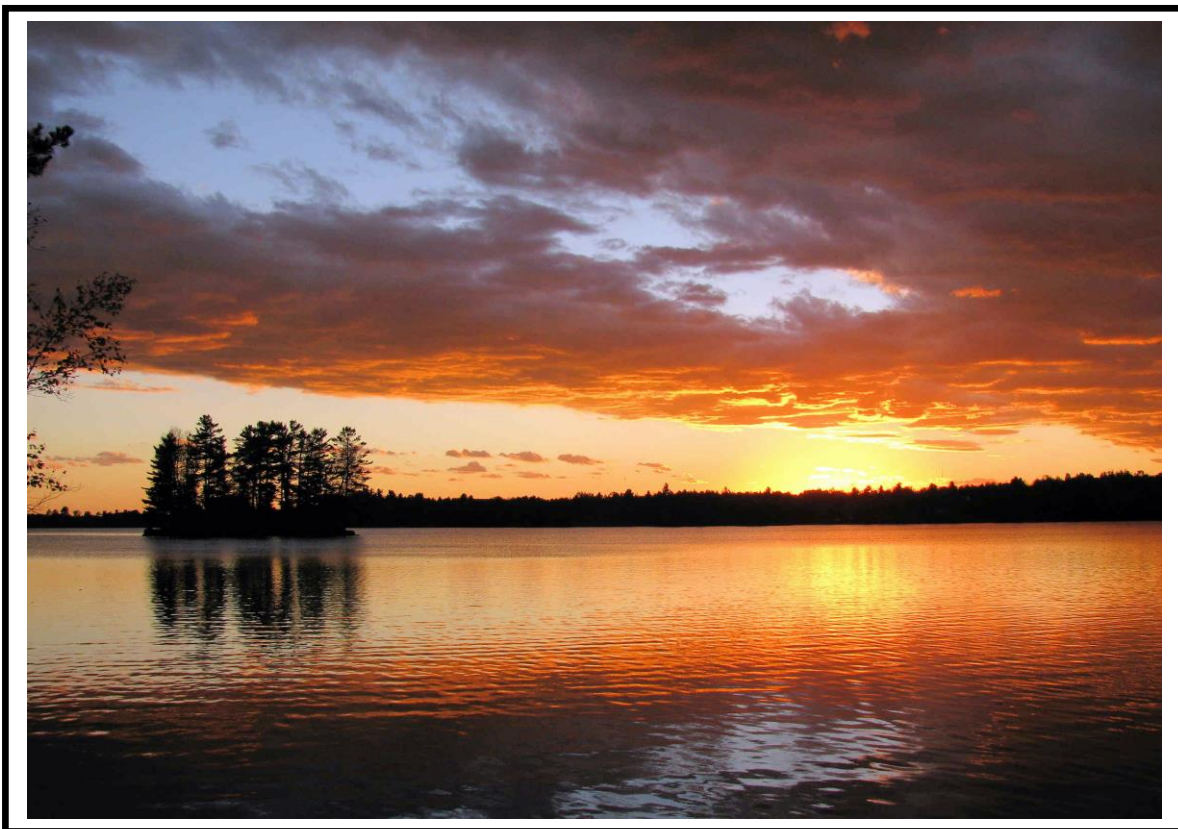
Top left & right photos courtesy of Phyllis Hepton. Top middle by Richard Murphy. Bottom by Carrie Innis.



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## SUNSET ON PIKE LAKE

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Winning photos by Heather Carriere & Linda McGuirl.