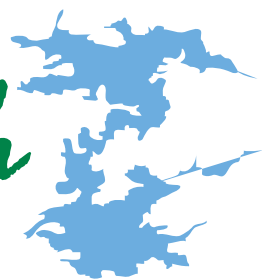


Lake Wah-Wash-Kesh

CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

- FALL 2016 NEWSLETTER -



President's Message

After a lovely spring, then one of the best summers we have seen in a long time, came a gorgeous fall with many lovely sunny days with warm temperatures. This trend continued up until past the middle of November and, even now, there is no difficulty in walking through the bush. The lake has kept slight level above the dam and the warning boom has been removed this fall to protect it from the ice and logs that roar down river in the early spring.

There are several articles of interest in this edition such as an update on the proposed ice-fishing on Lake WahWashKesh, an update on the website, a financial report, and a report by Peter Disley on a proposed project and the corn roast.

Please also see Mike Maceina's water quality report; lots of reading!

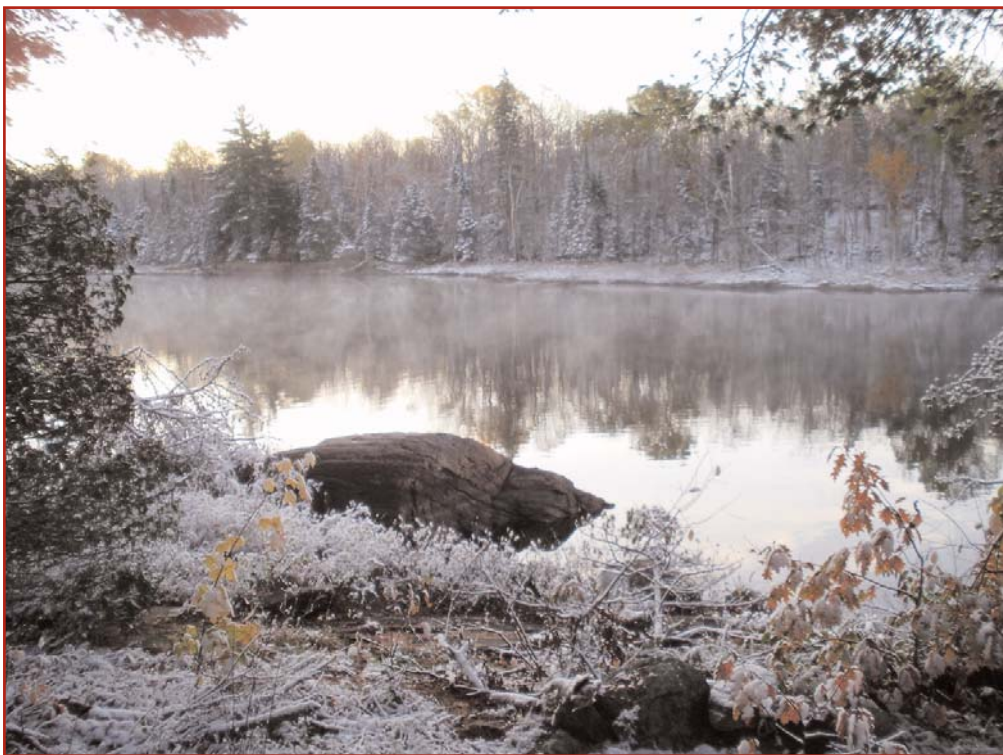
The first snow fall at the end of October turned the landscape into a picturesque kaleidoscope of colours as some trees still had yellow leaves on them and yet they were covered in white snow!

Best wishes from your Executive for a wonderful holiday season and a healthy and happy 2017!

Don Comrie

WEBSITE UPDATE

After over a year of searching for someone reliable to rejuvenate and update the Lake



WahWashKesh Conservation Association's website, the Executive decided to hire a lady and her associate to perform this work for the Association. The lady lives near Maple Island so is familiar with the area and its concerns and has done website work for several years. I had hoped to announce in this newsletter that the website was rejuvenated and updated but hope to announce this before Christmas. The new format will contain many new pictures and will emphasize current conditions at WahWashKesh so both people planning to visit and seasonal residents can find out current conditions at the lake. This will also make it much easier to communicate quick information such as the cancellation of a Corn

Roast due to weather as happened this year. The website will also have the Membership/Permit Purchase form on it so all can easily renew for 2017.

Don Comrie

Shoreline Project for 2017

I'm looking forward to serving as a Director with the Association this coming year.

The Corn Roast was a great success again even though we had to use propane as there was a complete fire ban. It was a bit of a challenge but a great time was had by all. A big thank you to all the people that helped.

- continued -

I've been asked to redo the video taping of the shoreline of Lake WahWashKesh. The last time it was recorded was 1993, so we felt it was time to for an updated version. The reason being the committee felt we should have a current record of the condition of the shoreline. This will be completed in August to be consistent with the previous filming.

I'm looking forward to a great winter with lots of snow so we can enjoy the snowmobile trails as they used to be.

Hope to see some of you at the lake this winter.

Peter Disley



Ice Fishing Update

Unfortunately we have no new information about this issue since the Annual General Meeting in July. The OMNR+F (Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry) is reviewing the status of several lakes in the area which are currently closed to ice fishing.

This review has been prompted by the healthy return of lake trout stocks in some lakes. Not only is it felt that lake trout stocks in Lake WahWashKesh have not significantly improved but there is also no documented proof of any increase in lake trout stock. The OMNR+F have stated that they will develop a policy for all lakes and then once a proposal is put forward, public consultation will take place. The Executive is aware that many members have strong feelings about this issue and will keep all informed of any movement on this issue.

Don Comrie



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Jalapeno Poppers

I am asked to bring these poppers to most family functions. They are simple to make, and did I mention delicious?! Please note, my measurements are not exact, the amounts vary based on how many you want to make!

Ingredients

- 12 Jalapenos
- 12 strips of bacon (I like to use the standard grocery store variety of bacon as I find it stretches better, as opposed to butcher bacon)
- 4-5 Italian sausages (casings removed)
- 1/2 Cup BBQ sauce (your favorite variety)
- 2/3 Cup Corn Flake Crumbs (optional)

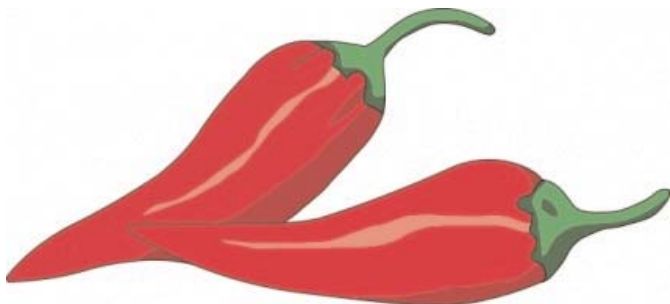
Directions

- Wash and cut jalapenos lengthwise, clean out seeds and membranes (the seeds are where the heat is, so if you like a little spice leave some in).
- Mix together Italian sausage, BBQ sauce, and corn flake crumbs.
- Fill each jalapeno half with the meat mixture, pressing into the pepper.
- Cut raw bacon strips in half, wrap each pepper tightly with the bacon.
- Set filled and wrapped peppers on a cookie sheet lined with parchment paper.
- Bake poppers for approximately 40 minutes at 350°, until the bacon begins to get crispy.

Once removed from oven, I like to set them on paper towel to soak up any extra fat and juice.

Enjoy as an appetizer or a late night snack on the dock!

Jeanine Ferris



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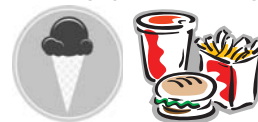
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\$ \$ Treasurer's Report \$ \$

Once again, I am happy to update everyone on the status of our association's 2016 finances. As of the end of October, the Association's cash position was \$18,054.90. Allowing for additional expenses incurred in November, the forecasted 2016 year end cash position is expected to be just over \$17,000.

Revenues, including membership and various permit fees continue to exceed expenses this year, so I am expecting an overall positive year end position. Of special note, we were very thankful to receive a donation from the Talen family in memory of Dr. Kathryn Cook. The donation was utilized to cover the costs to construct a loon raft for Lake WahWashKesh. Special thanks to Don Comrie and Mike Lewis for their efforts on this project!

Notable expenses this year include the \$250 Duncan Robertson scholarship paid to Pat Merritt. In addition, new batteries were required for the Hobo Link monitoring system for the lake. The existing batteries were purchased in 2012, and while long lasting, do require replacement every 4 or 5 years. Expenses for newsletters continue to decrease due a shift in members wishing emailed newsletters.

Thank you all for your continued support of the Association! It's the end of November and a beautiful sunny day here at the lake! Life is good!

Barb Cribbett

2017 MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS

Link to membership form:

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/b1b8b954df2aa486ae2bed308/files/WWK_Membership_Form.pdf

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For those that are comfortable with interact electronic transfers or payment via PayPal, you can use these two approaches to transfer money to the association via treasurer@lakewwk.ca
However, you would need to also send an email to tell us you what specifically the money is for.

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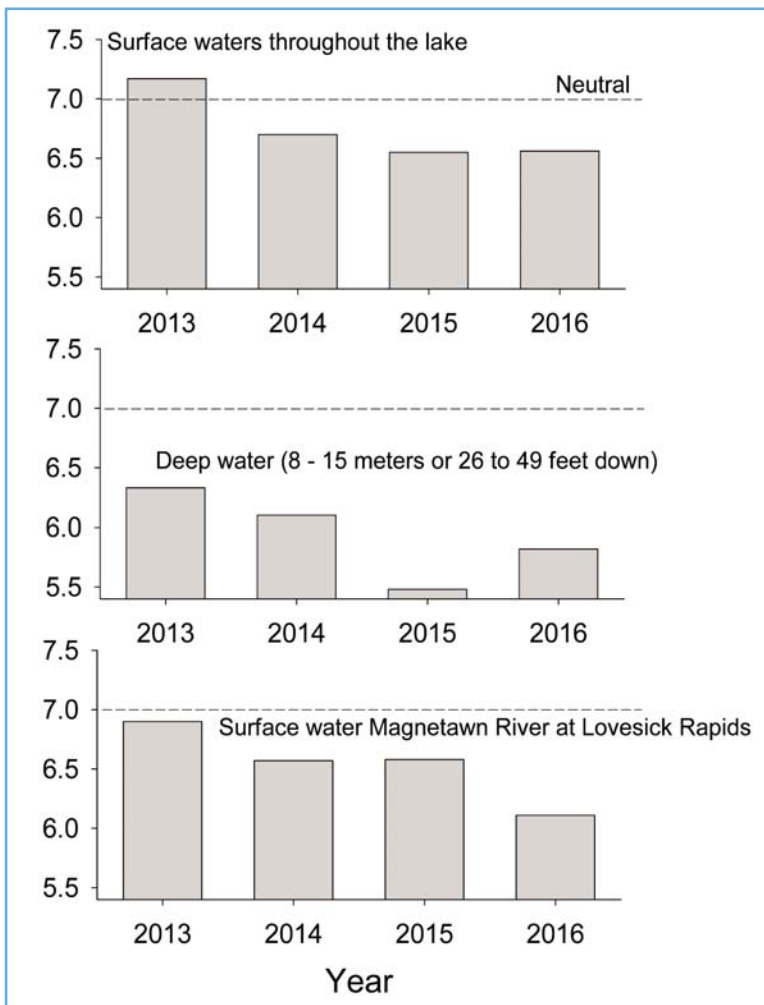
THE CURE FOR COMMON COLD SPOTS

Water Quality Update for WahWashKesh Lake

Water quality monitoring continued on WahWashKesh Lake during the summer in 2016 with the water quality meter. Terry Tweed and I sampled three times in June, July, and August and readings were taken at 11 stations throughout the lake. Measurements were made at every meter of depth from the surface to the bottom of the lake unless the bottom exceeded 30 meters (98 feet).

Overall, water quality remains good in WahWashKesh Lake. Oxygen levels throughout the lake and in the deeper portions of the lake remained unchanged over time. From these readings, there is no evidence that our lake is receiving too many nutrients and becoming eutrophic (poor water quality and lower water clarity). One trend that has occurred since we started sampling in 2013 is that the pH of the water has declined during the past four years. The surface water pH averaged 7.17 in 2013 and declined to 6.55 by 2015-2016 and this decline was evident at nearly every site we sampled. A pH of 7.00 is neutral and as pH declines, the water becomes more acidic. In some lakes in North America, pH levels as low as 4.0 to 4.5 have been measured. In Wahwashkesh Lake, this decline may not seem much, but the pH scale is similar to the Richter scale which measures the force of an earthquake. Thus, the acidity of the water is 10 times greater at a pH of 6.0 compared to 7.0. The major problem that some lakes face is that at low pH, metals such as mercury at the bottom of the lake become mobilized and can enter the aquatic food chain. All lakes contain metals at the bottom as these are found naturally in the surrounding water shed. The source of mercury even in remote areas such as WahWashKesh Lake is still under debate.

The trend in pH levels from 2013 to 2016 can be seen below (Figure 1).



You can see in the top graph the decline in surface water pH over time, but readings were the same between 2015 and 2016. In the middle graph at deeper water depths, pH declined between 2013 and 2015, then increased slightly in 2016. At deeper water depths where we measured (26 to 29 feet down), lower pH values in deep water typically occur in all lakes. An explanation of why pH levels fluctuate can be found at <http://www.lakeaccess.org/russ/ph.htm>

Finally, the pH of the water entering the lake from the Magnetawan River at Lovesick Rapids has also declined over time (see bottom graph) and these levels were generally lower than found in the main body of WahWashKesh Lake. Right now, the cause of the decline in pH is not known and may be due to climatic variation and/or differences in runoff in the watershed. Currently, pH levels do not present a problem or threat to the food chain. In 2017, water quality will continue to be tested and any changes documented. If you have any questions or water quality issues, please feel free to contact me.

Mike Maceina
maceimj@auburn.edu,
Water Quality Coordinator and Director

Figure 1. pH levels over time in WahWashKesh Lake

- The top graph represents pH levels in the surface waters throughout the lake.
 - The middle graph represents pH at deep sampling sites at water depths between 26 and 49 feet down.
 - The bottom graph represents pH of surface water of the Magnetawan River where it enters the lake at Lovesick Rapids.
- The dashed line represents a pH of 7.00 which is neutral; pH values of 6.00 are considered slightly acidic.

The Jackpot on Turkey Island

David and Yarinka Berto provided some historical material from Turkey Island with an introductory letter by Lynn Diffenderfer Gauss, daughter of Wallace Diffenderfer, 1906-1981.

"Diff", an employee of U.S. Steel in Pittsburg, vacationed at lake WahWashKesh from 1930-1981, except one summer during W.W. II due to gas rationing. About 1965 he wrote his "WahWashKesh Journal". The Journal contains the following story, illustrated with pictures, which will be entered for safe-keeping in the Association's archival notebooks in Bennett's boathouse for the year 1965.

The Jackpot

To "Jack the Healer" from Elizabeth. Merry Christmas.

About fourscore and seven years ago our forefathers brought forth on Turkey Island a new privy conceived of rough lumber and dedicated to the proposition that all men should use it and not just go behind a tree. We are here today to learn if that privy, so conceived and so dedicated could long endure. But the days of all privies are numbered, the average being three score years and ten, plus or minus a few years depending on the depth of the hole and the wear and tear on the seat. And so it was inevitable that the old privy was soon doomed after having served faithfully for so many years.

Now there was in the land of Boastburg a woman called Elizabeth, the wife of Jack the healer. This woman had on many occasions used the old privy and had deplored its terrible condition and since she was quite cunning, she conceived a plan to get a new one.

There was a wise man named Ben from the tribe of Lerew in the land of Hummelstown. Elizabeth sent for this wiseman and saith unto him, "Oh wise man, on Turkey Island there is an old privy and there's no room in the pit, it's walls leaneth, its roof leaketh and it smelleth. Could you cast a spell on it so that it would collapse and then you could build me a new one that I might give to my good husband, Jack the Healer, for a Christmas present."

Now this wiseman, contacted an old wiseman named Harold from the tribe of Byers in the land of Ruddintown. Harold's great, great grandfather, famous throughout the land for his fine privies, was known as "Old Sh—House John". To this day privies are still called "Johns".

The two wisemen saith unto Elizabeth, "If God made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is therein in six days, we could build you a new privy in six days, provided that we had a blank check". The woman foolishly gave them a blank check and the project began.

On the first day, the wisemen cast a spell on the old privy and on the 21st day of August 1976, the old privy did totally collapse. With pick and shovel a great opening appeared in the earth. The wise men looked at it and

were amazed and exclaimed, "That's one damn big hole!" On the second day the wise men, remembering that the foolish man built his house upon the sand, decided to build the privy on solid rock with 6x6 timbers for a foundation so that if floods came and winds blew it would not fall. On the third day the two wise men erected the walls, the door, the ceiling and roof timbers. When the erection was over they took a break for Molson Golden Ale.

On the fourth day the roof was finished and the privy was very dark. Since there was no bright star to guide the wise men, they installed a window. Guests came bearing gifts, not frankincense, but deodorant, toilet paper and magazines. One shepherd, Buck, from the desert sands of Straub, brought a toilet seat, used, but repainted.



By the end of the sixth day, the privy was completed and the grounds around it landscaped with fir and cedar tree and sweet ferns. The two wise men looked at it and were well-pleased. Harold said to Ben, "That's the finest privy I have ever seen. I think we've hit the jackpot!" "That's it," said Ben, "it shall be called THE JACKPOT!"

On the seventh day they rested, as ordained by the scriptures. They drank a few toasts to the new privy and filled in the blank check.

Thank you to Jackie Morgan for preparing
this for the Newsletter

Scroggie's Island

My family's cottage is on the Top Lake on Scroggie's Island (Island G).

Back in the 1890's a logging company purchased the island from the Dominion of Canada, built a log framed cabin for the Foreman to be able to oversee the spring log drive down the Magnetawan River to Georgian Bay. That original cabin is still standing and has undergone several renovations over the years.

The island was then purchased in the early 1900's by Reverend Ketchum & his wife. He conducted weekly services on the island in the summer months. They also erected a cook shack and a small boat house to store boats.

Later they purchased a different property on the lake. The boat house (a favourite of Mrs. Ketchum's) was skidded across the ice in the winter to it's present location on Ketchum's island at the mouth of Taylor Bay in the Big Lake. It's still in use to this day!

The next owners of Island G were from New Jersey, they owned the island until 1934. They built onto the cook shack, a two story building with a grand stone fireplace. The rocks were hewn from the island and surrounding shorelines.

My grandmother Louise Scroggie (nee Von Gunten) was a Red Cross

Nurse in France during WWI, and befriended a Mrs. Childs, the daughter of the family that owned Island G. They stayed in touch, writing about their marriages, children and life.

My mother Mary Scroggie was the oldest of four siblings, Evelyn, George and Jean residing in Hamilton Ontario.

When my Aunt Jean was a toddler she became very ill. The Doctor prescribed fresh air as the cure for her ailment. As Hamilton was an industrial city plagued with coal smog.

Through correspondence with Mrs. Childs, an offer was given to rent their remote cabin on WahWashKesh Lake for the summer to aid in the recovery of Jean. In the offer it was stated that because of its isolation not to expect anything much more than peaceful solitude and abundant fishing!

In the start of summer 1930 the Scroggies hired a cab to drive them to WWK. A 16 hour journey. The driver stayed for a few days, fishing and enjoying himself. He came back a few days before driving back to Hamilton at the end of the summer.

Mrs Childs parents died and none of her siblings wanted the island, so it was then offered for sale. My grandfather George Scroggie purchased Island G for \$25.00 in 1934.

My mother and her brother and sisters spent their summers on the Lake from then

on.

Life had it's challenges in those days. Dry food was purchased through T. Eaton Co. and shipped via rail to Ardbeg. Guy Hayward (Ken, Jean & Donnie's father) would deliver the goods to the island. Local farmers provided access to milk, eggs, poultry and meats.

They rowed down the river to Porcupine Spring, located near the the present day portage into Porcupine Lake, for fresh drinking water

Refrigeration for the spoilables was not available except for an Ice Box. Ice was cut from the lake in the winter, hauled up to the Ice House, covered with sawdust to help preserve it until the end of summer.

My Grandmother was an excellent baker using her wood stove (still in use) for bread, cakes and pies. She knew the right amount, size and type of wood to get the proper temperatures for baking in the oven.

As the third generation on the Island my siblings and I went to the cottage the day that school ended in June until Labour day weekend.

I have fond memories of summer life on the Island. Oil lamps for light, gas powered ringer washing machine, hand pump for water and later a gas powered pump, the fishing and of course the swimming.

Currently the Island is occupied by the third and fourth generation of direct descendants from George and Louise Scroggie, and hopefully for generations to come.

Norman Lock

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I've recently used and been impressed by these items available from Lee Valley and which would be useful camping, for emergencies and at the cottage (www.leevalley.com)

Kelly Kettle

According to the Lee Valley web-site, Kelly Kettles, which are made in Ireland, were "first used over a century ago by Irish travellers and Irish fishermen". The appeal of the kettle (besides looking cool) is how quickly it can boil water. This efficiency can be achieved in just a few minutes due to the aluminum kettle's construction of being "essentially a double-walled chimney with the water contained in the chimney's double wall."

After filling the kettle with water you create a small fire in the base and put the kettle on the base. Lee Valley says to "drop additional fuel (twigs, leaves, grass, twists of paper, etc.) down the chimney" and to not boil the water with the cork in (read the instructions carefully before using).

When we tried out the large Kelly Kettle (item 45K17.85) we were able to boil water in a few minutes with a small fire. Nice item for camping or for emergencies. Comes in large (50 oz. capacity) and small (20 oz. capacity). Also comes with a bag.

VitalGrill Camp Stove

Another good product for camping or the outdoors is the VitalGrill Camp Stove (item#GB304). Made in Canada this portable cookstove weighs only 1.6 pounds and packs down to only 8" x 5" x 1.75".

This small stove is fuelled with leaves and twigs and can generate considerable heat due to its built-in fan which "blows air from below the fire basin to accelerate combustion." The fan can operate

for up to 40 hours using two AA batteries. The stove also features an airflow regulator which can adjust the flames.

We easily started this camp stove with surprisingly little fuel (some small twigs) and it produced a surprising amount of heat! Comes with a bag.

Silky Pocketboy 170M Saw

The Silky Pocketboy 170M Saw (item# 60T60.13) is a sharp, handy little saw. Being just over 8" long when folded, this saw is easily carried when I walk around the property. When I notice a dead branch near, or come across, a trail that poses a problem I can conveniently remove it as the saw is in my pocket. The very sharp blade makes quick work of branches that are up to 2-3 inches in diameter.

The rubber grip is comfortable and the saw comes with a plastic storage case that can clip to a belt. This little saw is handy around the yard, at the cottage or to take camping!





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Book Reviews *by N. Glenn Perrett*

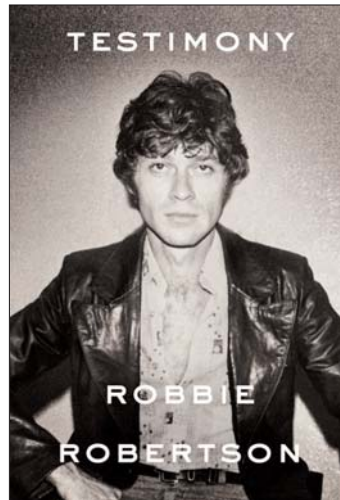
Testimony

Robbie Robertson
Alfred A. Knopf Canada
2016, 501 pages
ISBN: 9780307401397

An interesting, well-written memoir, *Testimony* looks at the early career of songwriter/guitarist Robbie Robertson as well as the music scene – particularly during the 1960s and into the 1970s. The book begins with Robertson, at only 16 years of age, travelling from his home in Toronto to Fayetteville, Arkansas where he tries out for Ronnie Hawkins and the Hawks – which he makes. Reading about his time playing with Ronnie Hawkins, Levon Helmand and Rick Danko while in this band is entertaining. Ronnie Hawkins and the Hawks often toured southern Ontario playing in places such as Grand Bend and Stratford as well as Toronto.

You will also read about his family as well as his meetings and friendships with many musicians including George Harrison and the other Beatles and Van Morrison. But a large portion of the book is given to The Band and his fellow musicians Levon Helm, Rick Danko, Richard Manuel and Garth Hudson. Not only are The Band's successes covered but so are many issues associated with the group's various members – issues that eventually resulted in Robertson suggesting that The Band perform a final concert. Their final concert was incredible and is known as "The Last Waltz". Guests at this famous concert included Ronnie Hawkins, Dr. John, Paul Butterfield, Muddy Waters, Eric Clapton, Neil Young, Joni Mitchell, Neil Diamond, Van Morrison and Bob Dylan.

If you are looking for an entertaining, well-written book about an interesting person and incredible musician check out *Testimony*. Numerous photos complement the text.

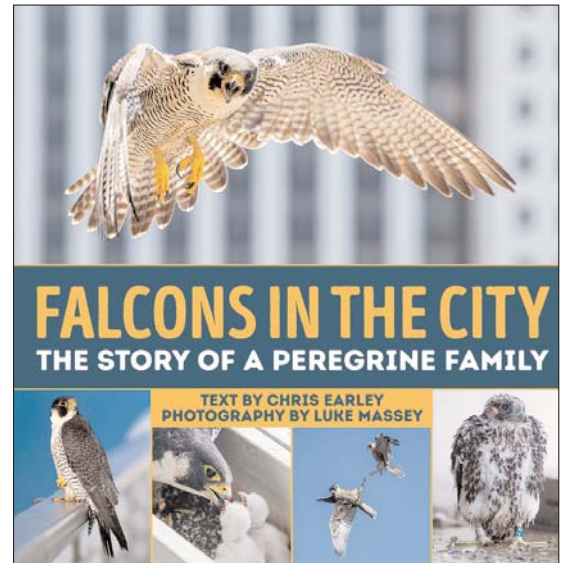


Falcons In the City: The Story of a Peregrine Family

Chris Earley, photography by
Luke Massey, Firefly Books
2016, 48 pages
ISBN: 9781770858039
ages 9+

Kids who want to learn about nature in general and peregrine falcons in particular will want to read *Falcons In the City: The Story of a Peregrine Family*. Written by Chris Earley with photographs by Luke Massey this book educates the reader about these incredible birds while following a family of them living on the 28th floor of an apartment in Chicago.

As you read about this one peregrine falcon family, which is an entertaining story, you will also discover fascinating facts about these birds including information on identification, flight (they can fly over 200 miles per hour!), courtship, nest, eggs, hunting, feeding, play and lots more. Complementing Earley's informative text are Massey's excellent photographs. *Falcons In the City* makes a good addition to a young naturalist's book collection.



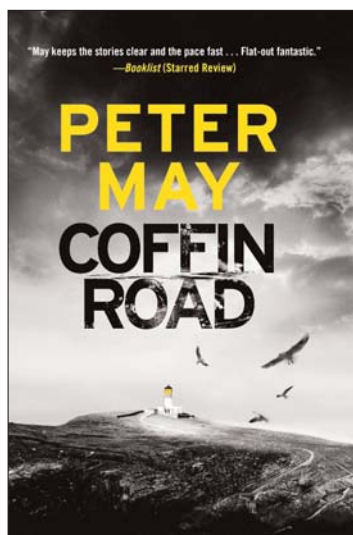
Coffin Road

Peter May
Quercus, 2016, 307 pages
ISBN: 9781681443898

Some of the murder mysteries that I look forward to reading the most are those by Peter May. His Lewis Trilogy is particularly good. Another good book by May is the recently published *Coffin Road*. And like the Lewis Trilogy, *Coffin Road* takes place in the harsh and isolated Hebrides. The story begins with a man washing up on a beach. Not only is he injured and freezing, but he has lost his memory. Even when he is able to return to where he is staying, there is nothing there to indicate who he is or what he does for a living. There is a map of the island indicating an old path called Coffin Road.

When a man is found murdered at a lighthouse the man who has lost his memory becomes a suspect. Even he thinks that he might have done it, but he can't remember. Associated with all of this activity is an important, and interesting, experiment involving a vital environmental issue.

Coffin Road is a good suspense novel set in a fascinating place.

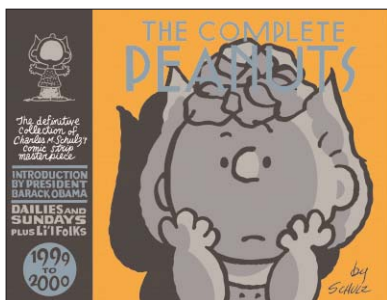


The Complete Peanuts: 1999 to 2000

Charles M. Schulz
Fantagraphics Books
2016, 316 pages
ISBN: 9781606999134

I've enjoyed reading Charles M. Schulz's wonderful Peanuts comic strips that Fantagraphics Books has published in beautiful books. Each book has an "Introduction" by such people as Walter Cronkite, Bill Melendez, Lynn Johnston and Diana Krall. I was looking forward to reading The Complete Peanuts: 1999 to 2000 for several reasons. Not only does this book contain the last year of Schulz's beloved comic strip, but the Introduction is by President Barack Obama. And since Schulz's last comic strip appeared on February 13, 2000 the rest of the book features Schulz's comic strip "Li'l Folks" that he did prior to Peanuts. The "weekly single-panel comic Schulz produced for his hometown paper is available here for the first time outside the collector's market!"

The first thing that I read was President Obama's Introduction. While it is brief, it is well written and describes the positive impact that this comic strip has had on the lives of people. Those who enjoyed reading Peanuts often continued to do so throughout their lives. As President Obama



papers reaching more than 350 million readers.

I enjoyed reading the final couple of years of Peanuts. Charlie Brown and the gang are still playing baseball...badly. Snoopy also figures prominently in many of the comic strips – including some with Woodstock. Snoopy's siblings Andy, Olaf and Spike also appear.

When you are done reading the final Peanuts comic strip you can enjoy Schulz's "Li'l Folks" comics that ran from 1947 to 1950.

There is something reassuring about reading Peanuts which lasted for approximately half a century. And these wonderful comics are nicely preserved in a series of books from Fantagraphics Books which make good gifts for those who appreciate the humour of Charles M. Schulz. For this review I'll give the final thought to President Obama from his Introduction.

"In his final

says, "Like millions of Americans, I grew up with Peanuts. But I never outgrew it."

The final Peanuts comic strip has Schulz explaining his retirement and saying "Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Linus, Lucy...how can I ever forget them..." Schulz died on February 12, 2000 literally hours before his final comic strip would appear in more than 2600 news-

strip, Charles Schulz wondered how he could ever forget the Peanuts gang. Thanks to this groundbreaking series of books collecting all of Charles Schulz's Peanuts strips, the rest of us never will – and we can share our love for the gang with our children and grandchildren for decades to come."

The Best of Archie Comics: Deluxe Edition

various authors
Archie Comic Publications
2016, 416 pages
ISBN: 9781619889552

The Best of Archie Comics: Deluxe Edition is a nice "hardcover collector's edition of the first volume of Archie's best-selling anthology" which celebrates "the American teen experience over the past 75 years." The comics have been recoloured and remastered and features popular Archie comics from the 1940s to the present. Complementing the comics is information about the comics and their creators. It is interesting to see how the characters and illustrations change over the decades – particularly how the characters are portrayed in the 1940s. Reading these Archie comics is a fun way to revisit your childhood and this particular book is a nice collector's edition.

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LOON NESTING RAFT UPDATE

The ice went out of Lake WahWashKesh on April 26 and 27, 2016 and the raft was launched and put into place on April 30. Pairs of loons could be seen flying overhead and they also swam around the raft in the spring and summer but no-one took up residence!

By the fall, the old logs from the dam boom had soaked up enough water that the surface of the raft was barely above the water, so then the waves washed the nesting grass off the surface.

Before freeze-up this fall, I need to get the raft out and put it on a trailer donated by the Cribbetts. Then in the spring, the raft will need more flotation and a new layer of moss which the Brennans have volunteered to supply. On other lakes which have put in loon nesting rafts, the loons usually do not adopt the raft until at least the second year so we are very hopeful for the coming year.



Photo by Tracey Hays

Thanks to everyone for staying away from the raft during the spring and summer so if loons were interested they would not be frightened away.

Don Comrie



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IN MEMORY OF *Donald Derber*

Donald William Derber, 91, passed away on May 9, 2016 in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Don was born on August 15, 1924 to Harve and Bonnetta, "Bonnie" Hart Derber, the fourth of six children. He, along with siblings Dave, Russell, Bob, Richard and Mary, was raised on their truck farm south of Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

After graduating from Oshkosh High School in 1942, he worked at Timken-Detroit Axle Company. At age 18, he proudly joined the United States Army and entered as a Private in May, 1943. He served his country in the 99th Infantry Division, also known as the Checkerboard Division, during World War II. Don was captured the first day of the Battle of the Bulge in December, 1944 and remained a German POW until the war's end on May 25, 1945. After the war, he returned to Wisconsin and attended Oshkosh Teachers College.

On June 6, 1947, he married Virginia Ruth Burdick, a former high school classmate. On the G.I. Bill, he attended the University of Wisconsin and in May, 1947 he earned a degree in Agriculture; with honors. In 1952, he earned a second degree in Civil Engineering. He was a member of the Tau Beta Pi; an honorary fraternity. During college and after graduation, he worked as a research engineer at the University's Agricultural Engineering Department in Madison.

In September, 1952, he was recruited by the Marketing Development Division of U.S. Steel. He moved his family to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where he worked for 28 years for U.S. Steel and had risen to become the manager of the Machinery

Marketing Department. For his outstanding management skills, U.S. Steel sent him to the Executive Development Program at the Graduate School of Business of Cornell University.

Don enjoyed spending summers with his family at WahWashKesh Lake in Ontario, Canada. The family stayed in a Bennett Cabin and later; from 1966-2013, at what was commonly called the Cliff House. There, they enjoyed fishing, swimming and other water sports. Don was famous on the lake for his legendary fish fries on the beach. The family made life-time friends with many of the other cottagers at the lake.

At age 55, he and his wife Ginny retired to Newberry, Florida. There, they operated a 240 acre ranch and had 100 head of cattle for a cow and calf operation which he maintained until he was 89 years old. Son Dale also helped with work on the ranch. Don was active in the local community, serving as County Director for the North Central Florida Cattlemen's Association. He proudly served as President of this association also. Here he became a tried and true fan of the Florida Gators! Don enjoyed working with wood. He had a wood shop where he built items for the home and children. He also enjoyed gardening.

He is survived by his sons David and Dan and daughter Jeanne, 7 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren, his brother Richard and sister-in-laws Marie (Richard) and Betty (Bob). He was preceded in death by Ginny, his wife of over 50 years, his son Dale, brothers and sister-in-laws: David and Lois, Russell and Marcella, and Bob; sister and brother-in-law Mary and Charles Ross.

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