

Lake Wah Wash Kesh

CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

– FALL 2014 NEWSLETTER –



President's Message

Welcome to fall! In many ways, so far fall has been the nicest season we have had so far this year. Many days of beautiful sunshine, still mosquitoes, but cooler temperatures make WahWashKesh just a beautiful place to be!

Your Executive have been very busy this fall. Inside you will see many reports outlining the results of the All-Candidates Meeting which was held in Dunchurch on September 27. Hopefully you all will receive this before voting time. I encourage you to be well-informed and exercise your vote!

If you are eligible to vote and have not received your voting package from the Municipality by October 10, please contact the Municipal office at (705) 389-2466.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone and a safe, healthy, and happy fall!

Don Comrie

MRWA/POWR MAG Report

As indicated at the AGM, the Executive, in spite of reservations about POWR MAG, felt that it was better for the Association to have representation at the POWR MAG table than to

have no representation at any Magnetawan River association. Tim Abbott has agreed to be the representative from the Association to POWR MAG but when it came time

to complete the application for membership this fall, a review of POWR MAG's website revealed that they had no activities planned for the river this fall and especially not west of Highway 11.

The Executive agreed that we might as well wait until spring to join thereby saving us the \$50 membership fee for this year. We will have an update for you in the spring.

Don Comrie



A special "Thank you" to the volunteers who came out on June 28 to clean up Straub's Beach

Fish Enhancement

Committee Report

Very little has happened since Ken Taylor reported at the AGM. The OMNR are still working on drawing up a complete list of the spawning bed work the Association has done over the years and will add it to a regional list of activities done by all lakes. The Committee plans to meet this fall to complete our list so it can be compared to the OMNR's list. We are also still waiting for the OMNR to develop a monitoring program for spawning bed work so we can measure the effectiveness of the Committee's efforts. Anecdotally I have been



Relocation of WahWashKesh Road has begun... - see inside for more photos

told that it was a very good year for pickerel and bass with many pickerel caught and released. Thank you to the many volunteers who have helped with our programs.

Ken Taylor (Chairman), Ed Bennett Sr., Mike Maceina, Don Comrie

The LWWKCA Bursary

There have been some questions raised as to what happened to the bursary that was in effect

several years ago. The short answer is that since no-one applied for it for a couple of years, there appeared to be no interest in it. If there are Association members or their immediate families who are entering a first-year environmental studies course in September 2015 who wish to apply for this small grant, please contact me and I will provide complete details. We plan to put further information in the spring newsletter since the deadline for applica-

tions is July 1, 2015.

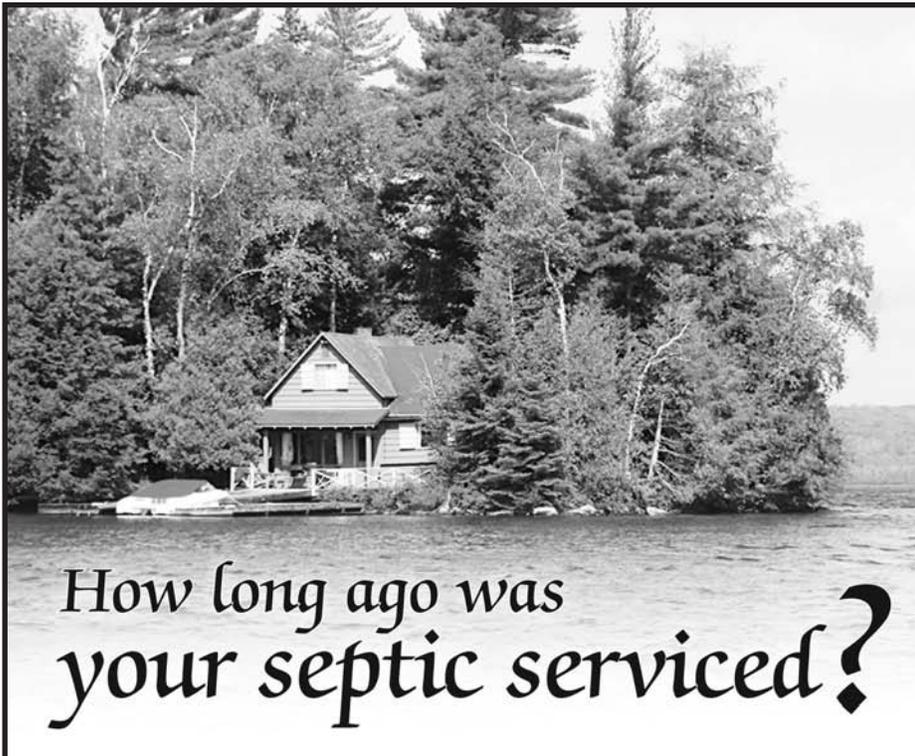
Don Comrie

Proposed Helipad Site Update

Much has transpired in regards to the helipad site since the AGM. At the AGM I said that I expected a positive answer from the OMNR around the middle of August. I anticipated that this would be good news since it seemed all the hurdles had been cleared and the OMNR were just waiting for the senior individual in charge of the file to come back from holidays.

I met with the supervisor and the senior specialist and they said they are in favour of the helipad site but were concerned about the glidepath for the helicopters which the ORNGE representative in the spring had marked off. The concern is that we would have to cut down trees in a swampy area which "potentially could be rattlesnake hibernation habitat". Apparently, and this was unknown to me, rattlesnakes hibernate under swampy areas in the winter. Mike Maceina and I walked the bush and with his GPS hand-held unit marked the four corners of the helipad and recorded the coordinates for us and the OMNR. When Mike and I walked the glidepath area, there was no doubt this was a swampy area. It had not rained for a week but there were still small pools of stagnant water sitting in the bush. Mike and I discussed this and agreed that we would likely lose that argument with the OMNR.

We then walked to the other side of Indian Narrows' Road and walked back in the bush. This area is high and dry right back to the hydro cut. The senior specialist told me that if we could get ORNGE to approve the change of glidepath from the swampy area to the northern side of the road, they would give us the land-use permit to establish a helipad. In the meantime the relocation of the WahWashKesh Road was proceeding rapidly. It was suggested to me by Ed Bennett Sr. that we try to get the excess land fill from the road relocation site



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dumped on the helipad site which could then be used to expand and level the site when it is approved. We were successful in getting a "provisional land-use permit" to do this but with the provision that if the helipad site is finally denied, we would have to remove the excess fill from the helipad site. I have spoken to the site foreman for Gratton Construction who are doing the relocation of the road and we inspected the helipad site together. He said he would get us as much fill as we need and might be able to level and expand the area if we can get the permits this fall.

I contacted the rep from ORNGE who we dealt with in the spring but he has left ORNGE. With Ken Corbett's help I contacted ORNGE in Sudbury but am still waiting for an inspector to contact me. The plan is to arrange a site visit with the OMNR (they have agreed to this), me, and the ORNGE rep. If we get approval for the glidepath change, they can issue the land-use permit quickly.

I know I keep saying that I think success is imminent and I realize I have been saying that for over 4 years. I guess I'm either naive or an absolute optimist! We will keep you informed.

Don Comrie

2015 Lake WahWashKesh Conservation Association Calendars

Sales of the 2015 calendars has gone well but we still have lots left for Christmas presents! Thanks to all who have supported the Association by purchasing a calendar. Currently they are for sale at Bennett's Store until the end of Thanksgiving weekend; after that, they will only be available at Don Comrie's cottage at 120 WahWashKesh Road or by mail.

Please be advised that if you order them delivered by mail, we will charge you for the packaging and postage since these costs have risen exorbitantly.

Conservation Association Planning & Building Committee

Less than 15 years ago, Lake WahWashKesh was part of an unorganized Township. If at that time you wanted to obtain a building permit, there was no way to get one.

With the Incorporation of the Municipality of Whitestone in 2000 and the passing of the Whitestone Building By-law in 2005 and the Zoning By-law in 2006, there are now rules governing building projects on the lake.

Before obtaining a building permit, a determination has to be made that the project complies with the Zoning By-law. The Zoning By-law contains many requirements including minimum setback from the waterfront for main cottages and exceptions for other buildings and structures. It also governs things like minimum lot widths for waterfront property, numbers and types of permitted buildings permitted etc.

You can view a copy of the by-law and associated schedules and maps from the Whitestone website (the easiest way to find it is to Google "Whitestone Zoning Bylaw").

As the number of cottages on the Lake becomes greater, it is more important than ever that the Zoning By-law be adhered to if we want to protect the beauty and environment of the lake we all love. At this year's Conservation Association AGM, several members expressed concern that projects were proceeding without permits and/or in contravention of the by-law and also that some severances were allowed which may not comply with Zoning by-law requirements. A motion was passed to form a *Building & Zoning Committee* to help address these concerns.

The purpose of the Committee is threefold:

- 1. To educate Lake property owners of the by-law and the requirement for a building permit prior to starting a project,***
- 2. To engage with Municipal Officials responsible for enforcement, to confirm projects underway have a permit and where a permit has been issued and zoning by-law requirements do not appear to have been enforced, request information on the basis upon which the application was approved, and***
- 3. With the approval of the Association Executive, represent it at Municipal Council meetings and Committee of Adjustment Hearings which deal with building, zoning or planning matters affecting Lake WahWashKesh.***

The committee is Co-chaired by John Mallovy (jmallovy@rogers.com) and Helen Mallovy Hicks (helen.m.mallovy@ca.pwc.com) and members are Claudia Fieder, Pat Cimek and and Jeanne Derber.

We have Top Lake and Narrows representatives but also require one or two from the Big Lake. *If you are interested in participating or if you have any questions, please send an e-mail to John or Helen.*

Water Quality and E coli Update for WahWashKesh Lake

In the summer of 2014, sampling for E coli or Escherichia coli, a bacteria that can cause human health problems, was initiated. E coli is found in the lower intestine of mammals (including humans) and can be an indicator of septic or sewage discharge into water bodies. High concentrations of mammals such as beavers can also cause E coli levels to be high. E coli is measured as the number of Colony Formation Units of CFU in 100 millilitres (ml) of lake water. The standards for Ontario include 0 CFU/100 ml or no E coli in drinking water and at a 100 CFU/ml, swimming beaches are closed. Nearly all natural waters contain some E coli.

Two areas of concern were sampled in 2014. The first area was Shanty Bay where a cottager indicated illness from ingestion of lake water from washing food. The second area was where the Magnetawan River enters WWK Lake at Lovesick Rapids. Sampling with the water quality meter also showed potential water quality issues at both these sites. Sampling for E coli started in late June and continued into early September. Straub's Beach was chosen as a reference site to also sample as water quality in this region of WWK Lake was considered good. I

checked for E coli a total of 6 times during the summer and each time sampling took place, 12 samples were taken.

Overall, E coli concentrations during the summer averaged 7 CFU/100 ml at Straub's Beach, 8 CFU/100 ml in Shanty Bay, and 14 CFU/100 ml at the Magnetawan River. These average values were relatively low and in many instances almost no E coli was detected. However, at times, E coli concentrations were elevated in Shanty Bay and where the Magnetawan River enters WWK Lake. Highest concentrations were generally found in July and August when water temperatures are the warmest. E coli formation is generally greater as water temperatures rise.

Water quality monitoring continued in 2014 with the YSI water quality meter. Cooler air temperatures and greater rainfall in 2014 compared to 2013 influenced these readings. In 2014, water temperatures were lower, the acidity or pH of the water was slightly lower, and the amount of dissolved ions in the water was also slightly lower than in 2013. Lower pH was likely due to greater amount of runoff from the streams, rivers, and land where leaf and organic matter leach tannins and ligands into the water causing a

natural decline in pH. Lower dissolved ion concentrations in 2014 were due to dilution with the higher rainfall amount. In 2014, water quality problems in the Magnetawan River at Lovesick Rapids were not detected, but issues did occur in 2013. Low oxygen levels associated with low water temperatures were found in Shanty Bay in both 2013 and 2014. In 2014, water quality readings were taken in Toronto Bay, in the Top Lake. Similar to Shanty Bay, extremely low water temperatures and oxygen levels were recorded in Toronto Bay. I suspect in both Shanty and Toronto Bays that large amounts of ground water enter these bays and there is a lack of circulation with the main body of WWK Lake which caused these natural differences in water quality. Overall, the water quality in WWK Lake remains very good.

Mike Maceina
Water Quality Coordinator and Director

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Thank you

At this year's AGM, three members were honoured and thanked for their significant contributions to the Association over many years.

Jacqueline Morgan was presented with a picture of their cottage behind Deadman's Island taken in March 2014. Jackie has expressed her gratitude for the picture because she has never been to their place in winter nor has she seen it. Jackie was a director for three years and contributed greatly to the rebuilding of the Association's archives.



annual corn roast there every August.

Lesley Hugill has been creating the Lake Wah-Wash-Kesh Conservation Association Newsletter for over 21 years. The newsletter started as



a one-page document and is now at least 12 pages and published twice annually. Lesley does an amazing job of taking various articles and advertisements and mocking them up to make a newsletter that is welcomed by all members.

Thanks to Jacqueline Morgan, Nancy and Mike Busenhart, and Lesley Hugill for all their efforts for

the Association.

Thanks also to Ed Bennett Sr. and Jim Grant who took the pictures in March 2014.

Don Comrie

Nancy and Mike Busenhart were presented with a picture of the "cliff house" taken in March 2014. The Straub's and Busenhart's have allowed cottagers and campers to use Straub's Beach for camping and recreation for over a hundred years and the Association holds their



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Bea Berry has been a cottager on Lake WahWashKesh for most of her life. Her family suggests that Bea at 91 years of age is likely one of the oldest cottagers on the lake. She is in good health and enjoys staying at the "Shamrock" established in the 1970's at the end of Chutes Bay.

Bea's father Hank Stuckey (1876 – 1955) came to the WahWashKesh area with relatives who homesteaded on Highway 520 near Edgewood

road. Edgewood road was probably named after a similarly named street in East York in Toronto where Hank lived.

Hank built a cabin on the Edgewood road in the 1920's and later built a cottage out in Whitestone Bay in the 1950's. Three more generations of Bea's family cottage there today.

The pictures are of Bea August 2014 at the Shamrock and in 1939 at age sixteen after a paddle to WahWashKesh lodge.

Cathy VanVolkenburg



Just a Few of My Favourite Things

This year marks the 62nd year of my family being owners on WWK. As most of you know, both of my parents, Bill and Muriel Small, have passed on.

My Dad played the bagpipes at sundown during the summer months, almost every evening for close to 40 years. I can still hear him play and he is very much part of the history of the lake.

Some of the very first people my parents started meeting in 1952 were the Hayward family, the McLennans, members of the Robertson family, and then as the years went on, Mrs. Mary Little who started the MiaKonda girls camp on Birch Island, the Sticklands who owned the store in Whitestone, 'Joe' the boat man in Ardbeg, along with the 11 original families around Harrison's Landing, from the Stutts' to the Scotts' and all of us in between.

Many, many stories and fun times are memories to cherish. Watching man land on the moon on a black and white TV at the Hayles; musical jam sessions with the Haywards; Chelsea buns; trips to the Whitestone store for ice cream cones; the bears at the dump; carrying firewood; fixing the dock....; fishing off my fishing rock; canoeing; bonfires and sing alongs at Miakonda; The Milky Way (the one in the sky); Aurora Borealis: blue, green and white fingers of light shooting up into the sky; water skiing..... Massive Lightening and Thunderstorms.....

" just a few of my favourite things" .

Lake WahWashKesh is a very special place to and for many of us. A beautiful escape, a place of peace, rejuvenation, spirit, a slower pace of life.

My prayer is to keep it that way."

Anna Small



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Relocation of WahWashKesh Road

Construction started in earnest right after Labour Day Weekend and has continued at a great pace ever since. Most of the trees were removed from the site before Labour Day so the first picture shows the surface dirt and tree stumps gone.

The blasting started around the middle of September and as you can see from the pictures, much has been done. A lady who lives on Amorak Trail reported that her dishes rattled in her house during some of the blasts. My log cabin on a concrete pad in Paddy's Bay in the Big Lake has shaken several times with the blasts. Nevertheless I am amazed at the progress they have made this fall. Enjoy the pictures!



1 *This picture was taken Sept. 7, 2014 at the beginning of the relocation.*



2 *Beginning of relocation section three weeks after start and after much blasting!*



3 *The blasting pads on the top of the hill. Much blasting still to be done!*



4 *One culvert in place. This picture was taken behind the Trailer Park.*



5 *Past the Trailer Park on the way to Bennett's. Note blasting drill holes with plugs...and lovely fall colors!*



6 *This is where the relocation meets up with the old road near Bennett's. Entrance to Bennett's house in right upper quarter.*

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Saturday, September 27, 2014
1 0:00 AM Dunchurch
Community Center

Because of the large number of candidates present at the meeting (2 for mayor and 2 for council although 2 council candidates were absent) there was limited time for each candidate to express their platform. The meeting started promptly at 10am and was chaired by Larry Samis who opened with meeting rules. Mr. Samis also informed the meeting that the order in which candidates spoke was predetermined by a lottery system.

Each candidate had two minutes at the beginning to express their views and most expressed the need for transparency in government, accountability, and better communication with the ratepayers. There was then a question and answer period with a final one-minute recap by each candidate.

MAYORAL CANDIDATES

• **Allan Ladd** is running for the position of Mayor. In his remarks, Mr. Ladd said that as Mayor he would be totally accountable to the ratepayers and that the major issue facing the Municipality in the future is the issue of Policing. Mr. Ladd did not get into specifics on the solution to this problem due to time shortage.

• **Chris Armstrong**, the incumbent, is seeking re-election to the position of mayor. Mr. Armstrong highlighted several of the achievements in the past four years such as road improvements and the renewal of the Official Plan for the Municipality. Mr. Armstrong concluded by saying that the average tax bill in the Municipality has decreased 19% in the last 8 years while he has been Mayor.

COUNCIL CANDIDATES

• **George Comrie** is running for council and proposes to protect and enhance the community if elected. Mr. Comrie stated that he is a certified management consultant and he feels sure that his previous experience will enable him to make a positive contribution on council. Mr. Comrie also stated that Council needs to do a better job of managing its human resources.

• **Joe McEwan** is running for council. He has lived in the area for 39 years and has been a School Board Trustee and has been on the school board for many years. Mr. McEwan feels that employee relations are a priority along with budgetary accountability. Mr. McEwan concluded by saying that he will serve with integrity and conscience if elected.

• **Joe Lamb** is running for re-election to council. Mr. Lamb said he is a fiscal conservative and is in favour of decreasing taxes. Mr. Lamb is concerned about the added costs under the new OPP policing policy. Mr. Lamb is in favour of a results-oriented management system and would consider mandatory recycling. Mr. Lamb would negotiate an agreement with the Union, re-introduce the council report card, and improve communication.

• **Melinda Ongaro** is running for council; she has resided in the area for 15 years. Ms. Ongaro stated she cares about the Municipality and she is a business owner who believes information is a positive source for change. Ms. Ongaro feels that there should be more fundraisers to help local causes and she would establish a communal farm where local youngsters

could learn about farming and growing healthy food.

• **Cyndi Culbert** is running for council and believes that honesty and transparency are essentials. Mrs. Culbert would hold economic forums if elected. Mrs. Culbert stated the municipality needs businesses and employers. Mrs. Culbert concluded her remarks by asking if a 6-figure salaried CAO is necessary in the municipality.

• **Collette Deacon** is running for re-election to council. Ms. Deacon wants the municipality to get all roads back to standard and use the asset management plan. Ms. Deacon also wants to protect the tourism industry and stick to the Official Plan of the municipality. Ms. Deacon also stated that council needs ratepayers input.

• **Caroline Ferry** is running for council. Ms. Ferry's goals are teamwork and communication if elected to council. Ms. Ferry has a degree in communications and feels the municipality should plan for the future. Ms. Ferry also expressed a concern that the nursing station is "overbooked" and this needs to be dealt with.

• **Tom Sutcliffe** is running for council. Mr. Sutcliffe feels that the municipality needs better management of its landfill facilities and that part of the solution to this is better communication within the Municipality. Mr. Sutcliffe has been on the Parry Sound Area Planning Board for 20 years and has been a volunteer on the Whitestone Fire Rescue Team.

• **Rebecca Green** is running for council. Mrs. Green enjoys working in the community and is in favour of obtaining as many infrastructure grants as possible to upgrade the

municipality. Mrs. Green would like to find ways to allow seniors to stay in their homes as long as possible. She also wants to encourage businesses to locate in Whitestone. This will help to develop the municipality.

• **Susan Hicks-Green** is also running for council. Mrs. Hicks-Green believes the municipality should focus on the future and start fresh, start over. Ms. Hicks-Green said that the municipality should work with its employees and she would be honest and transparent in her dealings if elected.

SCHOOL BOARD TRUSTEE

There were also presentations by two candidates for the position of School Board Trustee for the Near North District School Board. There were **Colleen Goupil** and **Corine Green**. Further information about the Near North District School Board Trustees can be found at:

<http://www.parrysound.com/news-story/4870346-school-council-member-runs-for-nndsb-trustee/>

Both candidates expressed the need for better representation from local trustees to the Board.

After the candidates expressed their platforms there was a period of questions and answers. The first question involved the new OPP Policing model and was followed by questions on increasing the powers of the Provincial Ombudsman in order to deal with municipal complaints. There were also questions about short-term cottage rentals, staffing levels within the Municipality, and the road grant protocol.

For a complete summary of the questions and answers, please visit :

<http://www.parrysound.com/news-story/4895560-whitestone-candidates-answer-residents-questions-candidly/>

In conclusion, I cannot urge eligible voters strongly enough to vote. For complete information about the candidates, how to contact them and voting procedures for this election, please visit the Association's website at www.lakewwk.ca.

Remember that the better informed you are about the issues the Municipality and platforms of the candidates, the better your voting decisions will be and the better we all we be represented for the next four years.

Thank you for voting!

Don Comrie

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These glasses are particularly good to have outdoors where you don't want broken glass. The 16 oz. glass (which comes with a “Veritas” or “Lee Valley” logo) with the lid is good for the cottage keeping a coffee or tea hot. And since the tumblers feature “sealed, double-walled construction” the sides of the glasses don't sweat with cold drinks.

Pocket Survival Tool

www.leevalley.com

Hikers, campers, cottagers and others who enjoy the outdoors will be interested in this versatile, inexpensive tool. This *Pocket Survival Tool* from Chestnut Tools features the following: can opener, knife edge, screwdriver, ruler, bottle opener, 4 position wrench, butterfly wrench, saw blade, sundial, 2 position wrench and lanyard hole. And while you wouldn't want to depend too much on the saw blade, most of the tools in this survival tool could come in handy.

The *Pocket Survival Tool* mea-

sures 6.9 cm by 4.5 cm (2-3/4” by 1-3/4”) and is made of stainless steel. It weighs approximately an ounce and comes with a pouch and diagram of where to find each feature along with instructions for the sundial.



Eco-Friendly Soap – North Hill Soap Company

www.NorthHillSoap.com

I'm always looking for products that use natural ingredients and that are good for the environment and I found some with the *North Hill Soap Company*. Located in Bolton, Ontario this company makes hand-crafted artisan soap using “natural, sustainable ingredients, and 100% post-consumer recycled packaging.”

Recently I tried three of their soaps and was impressed with all of them. If you enjoy a beer at the cottage you can get clean with their “Oatmeal Lager” soap that features lots of natural ingredients and Creemore Springs Premium Lager. This soap lathers up well and I've used it for shaving.

Two other soaps that I'm enjoying

are their “Happy Hippy” (those who enjoyed the sixties will like this) soap which features patchouli and hemp and their “Earth Goddess” soap that has lavender and patchouli.

The bars are quite large so I cut them in half so they will last longer.



German Safety Goggles

www.leevalley.com

It is always wise to protect your eyes. These cool looking goggles (like the ones the invisible man wore in the movies as well as the minions in *Despicable Me*) have safety features that include clear lenses that are “shatterproof laminated glass”, “cup-style aluminum eye pieces” and “shielded side vents to prevent fogging”.

These goggles are comfortable. If you work outdoors you can get a pair of tinted lenses (sold separately). Since the tinted lenses are not made of laminated glass they must not be installed in the eye-pieces on their own and must always be installed in front of the clear lenses.

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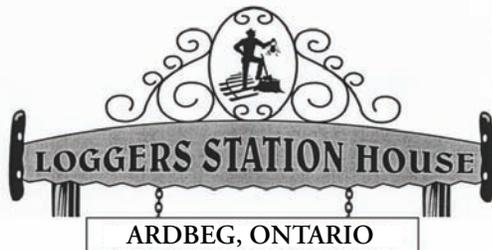
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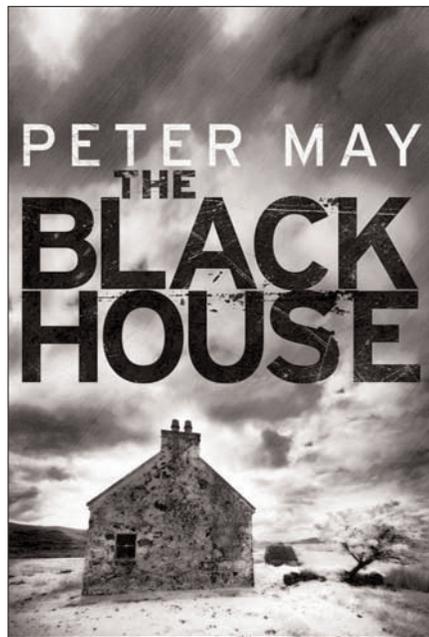
Book Reviews by N. Glenn Perrett

Modern Nature-Inspired Quilts

Bernadette Mayr, photographs by Sabine Munch
Fox Chapel Publishing
2013, 128 pages
ISBN: 9781574218602

If you enjoy quilting or want to learn how to quilt you will be interested in *Modern Nature-Inspired Quilts* by Bernadette Mayr in cooperation with Irmgard Stangl. The book has sections on materials, techniques and cutting shapes before featuring 25 quilting projects “inspired by modern outdoor motifs” as well as “15 step-by-step tutorials teaching free-hand cutting techniques”. Lots of illustrations and photographs complement the text.

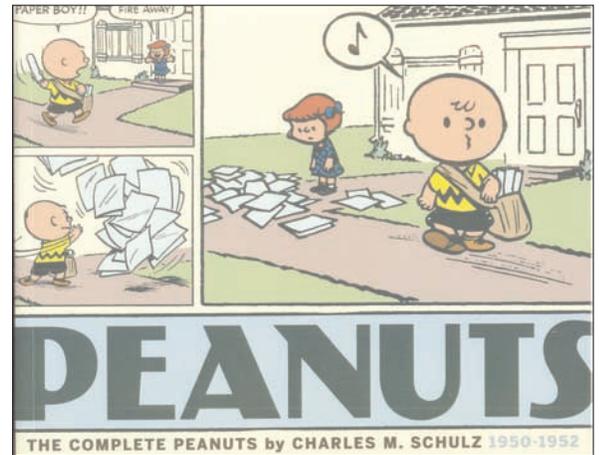
The projects will appeal to both quilters and those who appreciate nature. I found the designs of the “Spruce Plantation”, “Limestone Landscape”, “Wintry Night” and “Winter Wonderland” quilts particularly nice. “Colors of the Fall” and “Meandering River” are also striking quilts.



Crime Novels by Peter May

The “Lewis Trilogy” is an exceptional series of crime novels by Peter May. The first book, *The Blackhouse* (Quercus Publishing, ISBN: 9781623659998) has Edinburgh detective inspector Fin Macleod return to where he grew up on the Isle of Lewis in Scotland’s Outer Hebrides to investigate a gruesome murder. As he reconnects with old friends he remembers both happy memories and dark events that he must deal with. May’s storytelling, characters and descriptions of the beautiful, harsh, desolate island make for compelling reading.

The second book in the trilogy is *The Lewis Man* (Quercus Publishing, ISBN: 9781623658199). This equally entertaining novel has Macleod return to his childhood home having left his job as detective inspector. When the body of a murdered man is discovered in a peat bog, Macleod gets involved with the case which exposes hidden family secrets that go back more than half a century. The third book in the trilogy, *The Chessmen*, is due out in February.



Peanuts: The Complete Peanuts 1950-1952

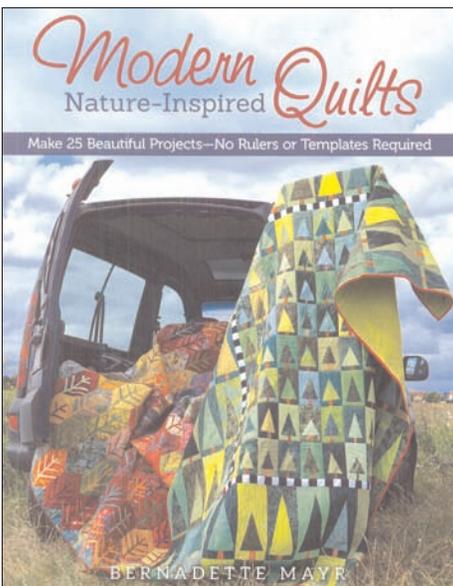
Charles M. Schulz
Fantagraphics Books
2014, 298 pages
ISBN: 9781606997635

Children of all ages like Peanuts and Fantagraphics Books has recently published *Peanuts: The Complete Peanuts 1950-1952*. These entertaining comic strips introduced Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Linus, Lucy and the others providing us with some humour in our lives. The gang in the early 1950s were a little different, including how they were drawn, but they’re just as entertaining. *Peanuts: The Complete Peanuts 1950-1952* is a good book for the cottage and it makes a nice gift for those who enjoy the cartoons of Charles M. Schulz.

Snoopy’s Organic Dog Biscuit Cookbook Kit

Snoopy and the Bubba Roses Biscuit Company, Cider Mill Press
2012, 47-page book, 3 cookie cutters
ISBN: 9781604332896

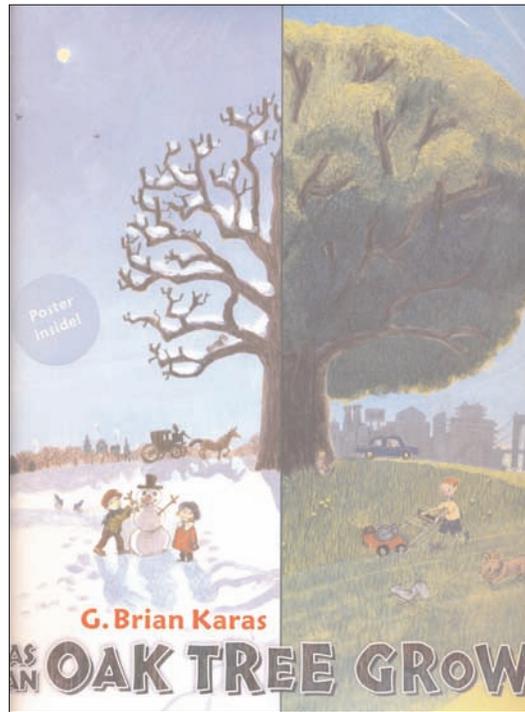
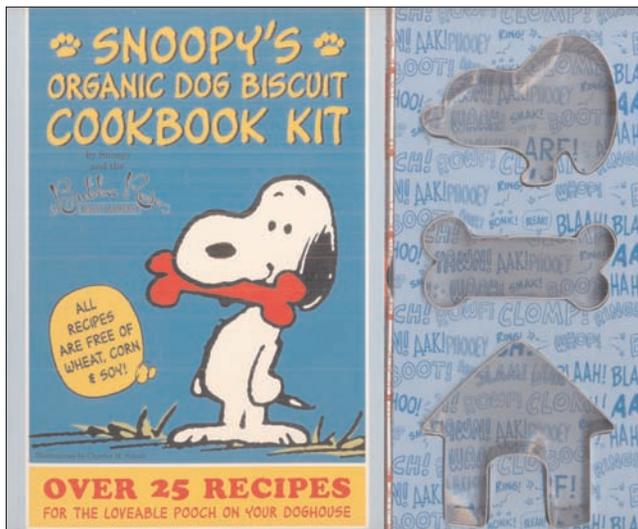
People are becoming more concerned about the quality of food they eat – and what they feed their families. This applies to



canine family members too.

Snoopy's Organic Dog Biscuit Cookbook Kit contains a recipe book featuring 27 of "Snoopy's favorite recipes" compiled by those with the Bubba Rose Biscuit Co. The treats cover a variety of tastes and ingredients such as Bye, Bye Birdie ("Chicken and rice treat good for sensitive tum-mies") and The Elvis which is "Bacon, peanut butter and banana treats fit for a king". Accompanying each recipe is a comic strip by Charles M. Schulz.

The beginning of the book has sections on organic products, the pantry list, substitutions, yields, tools of the trade, storage tips and more. And there are three cookie cutters in the shapes of Snoopy's head, a bone and a dog house. Nice gift for that special canine in your life!



As an Oak Tree Grows

G. Brian Karas
 Nancy Paulsen Books
 2014, 32 pages, ISBN: 9780399252334
 ages 3+

This educational nature book for children begins with a young boy planting an acorn in 1775. The story follows the tree after the boy moves away and the land is farmed (1800). As the area is developed and continues to grow so does the oak tree (1825 – 1875) right through the introduction of electricity and cars to the area (1900 – 1925). Even as airplanes fly overhead (1950) the tree continues to thrive providing homes and food for animals and shelter for people. The oak tree lives until 2000, when it is 225 years old, when a powerful storm splits the tree in two. Even in death the tree benefits many providing firewood, mulch and wood for furniture.

The life of an oak tree and its importance in the area where it lives. There is also a section on more information about oak trees as well as a poster that features a timeline of the tree on one side and activities for kids on the other.

As an Oak Tree Grows provides young, and old, readers with a glimpse into

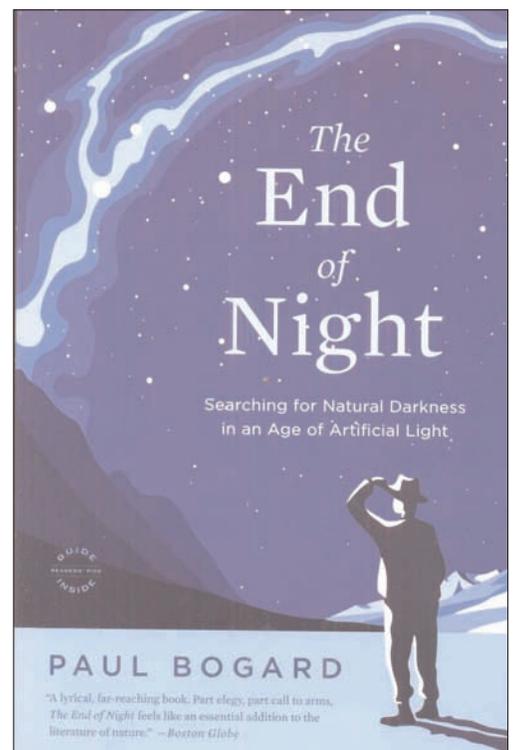
the life of an oak tree and its importance in the area where it lives. There is also a section on more information about oak trees as well as a poster that features a timeline of the tree on one side and activities for kids on the other.

The End of Night: Searching for Natural Darkness in an Age of Artificial Light

Paul Bogard
 Back Bay Books
 2013, 2014, 325 pages
 ISBN: 9780316182911

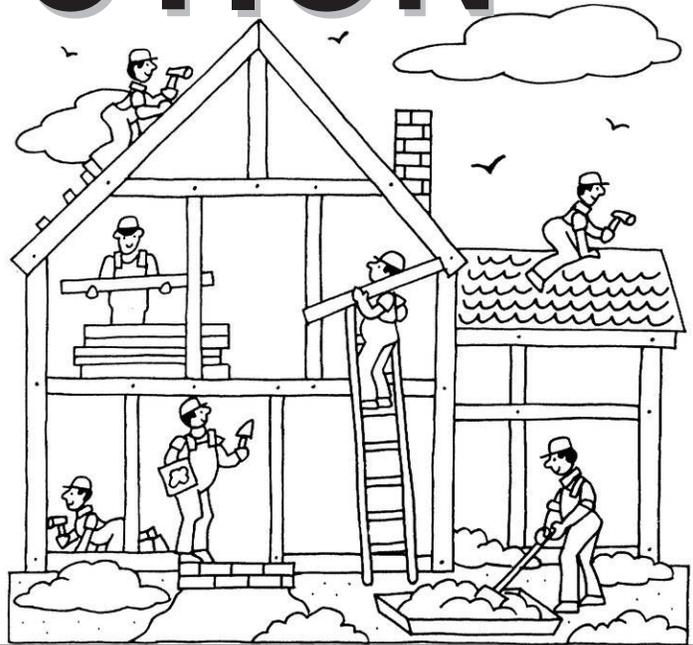
If you haven't had a chance to read Paul Bogard's important book *The End of Night: Searching for Natural Darkness in an Age of Artificial Light*, it is now available as a paperback.

One of the best, and most important, nature books that I've read in years, *The End of Night* contains interesting and vital information pertaining to the consequences of losing a naturally dark sky and the health concerns and impacts on wildlife caused by artificial light. Highly recommended.



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